



ENGINEERS NEWS

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.

NOVEMBER 19, 1943

Cost of living key to higher wages; FDR orders probe

Living costs to be studied

Washington, D. C.—Organized labor's top leaders won President Roosevelt's promise to make a realistic determination of the increase in the cost of living with a view to possible upward revision of the "Little Steel" wage formula. This was announced by AFL President William Green after a two-hour meeting of the Combined Labor War Board with the President at the White House.

The President himself suggested, Mr. Green said, that a committee of three members of the War Labor Board investigate and examine the present methods by which the Department of Labor estimates living costs.

The labor leaders unanimously declared that these estimates are away off the facts. While the Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates an increase of only 6 per cent in the cost of living in the past year, organized labor has evidence showing that the actual increases are two or three times that much in many parts of the country.

It is assumed that if this can be proved by the new investigation, the President will agree to an adjustment of the "Little Steel formula" which will permit wide wage increases for most American workers to make up for the higher living costs.

Representatives of the AFL, CIO and Railroad Brotherhoods told the President at the meeting that the "Little Steel" wage formula is outdated, unworkable and untenable in the light of price increases.

They charged that the only portion of the nation's economic stabilization program which has really been put into effect has been stabilization of wages.

They asserted that no real progress has been made to date in rolling back prices to September 15, 1942 levels, as the Economic Stabilization Act requires. Instead, prices are still going up day after day.

President Green emphasized that the labor representatives especially denounced the exercise of veto power by Economic Stabilization Director Vinson, War Mobilization Director Byrnes or anyone else over wage adjustments voted by the War Labor Board and other Federal agencies.

The labor leaders particularly called the President's attention to Vinson's indefensible veto of the 8 cents an hour wage increase awarded to a million non-operating railroad employes by a special Presidential Commission.

"We did not call for the removal (Continued on Page 7)

Report 0.4 pct price rise

Washington—The cost of living for city workers rose four-tenths of one per cent between August and September.

Secretary of Labor Perkins reported that the latest index shows food prices, the most important part of the family budget, were only slightly higher on the average although there "were wide variations in different parts of the country."

The index was not immediately broken down into sectional statistics.

Food costs rose one-tenth of one per cent during the month, mainly because of higher prices for fish and eggs provided under OPA regulations. Eggs went up 6 per cent to become double the pre-war level of August, 1939. Fish prices rose 3.6 per cent.

The largest increase reported was in clothing where new fall lines were being introduced.

Reports to the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicated growing shortages of a number of important cost of living items, Secretary Perkins reported.

The slight rise, coming after a decline of 1.2 per cent during the previous three months, brought the Bureau's index of living costs to 123.7 per cent of the average for 1935-9. This was 5 per cent higher than September a year ago, 6½ per cent higher above the May, 1942 level and 22½ per cent above January, 1941, base date for the 15 per cent Little Steel formula for wages.

Other changes disclosed were: a seasonal decline of 2 per cent in fresh fruit and vegetable prices, sharp advances in prices of oranges, lettuce, green beans and carrots as cold weather set in, a slight increase in the cost of house furnishings, an average increase of 0.1 per cent in rents and a continuation in the steady increases of services and miscellaneous goods.

Prices of fuel, electricity and ice remained unchanged.

Strike losses are infinitesimal

Washington, D. C.—Only two-hundredths of 1 per cent of the number of man-days worked have been lost from labor causes, "all of which were of minor nature" on jobs with which the War Department has contact, according to James P. Mitchell, labor relations director of the War Department.

Summing up his experiences with labor's "no strike" pledge, Mitchell stated that such losses "were so small as to be negligible."

Vinson asks: up or down?

Washington—Fred M. Vinson, Director of Economic Stabilization, points out that the nation is at an economic crossroads, with the next few months likely to determine whether the cost of living soars or goes back to the September, 1942 level.

The cost-of-living index, Vinson pointed out, dropped from 125.1 between May and August of this year, only to begin rising again.

"If the cost of living should continue to move as it did in those months," Vinson said, "by next May the cost of living would be beaten back to 117.8, the level of September, 1942. That is the level chosen by the President and Congress as goal for stabilization of prices."

"On the other hand, if the cost of living were to begin rising again at the rate it did from September, 1942 to May of this year, the index would surpass 131 by next May."

The choice of direction, he stated, must be made by Americans.

"Events of June, July and August show that we can win," he said. "Events from September, 1942 to May, 1943 show that we can lose."

Full consequences of a runaway inflation cannot be estimated, Vinson declared. "Things move too fast once they are out of control," he added.

He urged the following program for fighting inflation:

- Buy only what you need and make what you have last longer.
- Pay no more than ceiling prices and buy rationed goods only by exchanging ration stamps.
- Put money to work fighting the war through taxes.
- Put money to work fighting the war and insure your personal future by buying War Bonds.
- Pay off old debts, avoid new ones.
- Provide for the future with adequate life insurance and savings.

Plane output hits new high

Washington, D.C.—Aircraft production in October exceeded all expectations and broke all previous records when it passed the 8,200 mark, the War Production Board revealed.

The news was all the more encouraging because September production of planes was only 7,598—fourteen less than August.

The big October gain once more placed the plane program within striking distance of the year-end goal of 10,000 planes a month.

Swanson reports on trip to AFL convention; vital court ruling in Geneva steel case

Victor S. Swanson, Local Union Manager, reports:

At the time of the last issue of our "Engineers' News" I was attending the A. F. of L. Convention in Boston. While there I met our General President Wm. E. Maloney, General Secretary-Treasurer F. A. Fitzgerald, and member of the General Executive Board, along with my two co-members of the Board of Trustees; namely Brother Chas. B. Gramling and Brother Wm. J. Stuhr.

I also had occasion to meet various delegates from our sister Locals throughout the United States and Canada. The convention lasted two weeks but during that time I also visited Washington, D. C. on matters pertaining to our Local Union's wages and new classifications, in various parts of our territory.

Engineers win NLRB election at Bingham

Austin B. Wadman, Business Representative, reports on the Bingham Canyon—runoff election:

Acting on instructions from Brother Swanson, local union manager, I proceeded to Bingham and surveyed the situation there.

I found that at the first election that there were three unions involved. The Operating Engineers, Local No. 353 (A. F. of L.) received 87 votes out of a total unit of 242 votes. The C.I.O. received 79 votes and the independent or company union received 8 votes.

The two low unions, tying with Local No. 353 necessitated a runoff. The National Labor Relations Board ordered the run-off on or before October 3rd, 1943, then sent an amended direction advancing the date to October 18th. The date was further advanced to October 29th, 1943.

Mr. Vincent of the National Labor Relations Board was "Election Commissioner" and the election was duly held with the following results:

Engineers, Local No. 353 received 113 votes; the C.I.O. 63 votes—a clear majority of 50 votes, the majority being 25 per cent of all eligible votes in the voting unit.

To secure this majority a great deal of work was necessary on the part of your representative, who received invaluable assistance from Brothers Ostler and Hibbard, president and secretary of Local No. 353.

We addressed communications to each voter in the voting unit and arranged the meetings to contact the men. One for October 6th at 8 p.m. West Jordan, one at Bingham Canyon at 4 a.m. and one at 8 p.m. October 7th, also at Bingham. At the three meetings a total of eight men appeared. We then had to contact them the hard way, by going from door to door; however, the election returns demonstrate our success.

The man in charge of the campaign for the C.I.O. was Mr. Howard Lee, the highly-touted organizer who has been given the credit of organizing the Ford Plant. In an hour after the election returns were declared we had both presi-

(Continued on Page 3)

I had the opportunity of talking with President Maloney on many matters of importance to our Local Union. Also, my visit to Washington was, I believe, most profitable because through the efforts of our Vice-President John J. McDonald, who is assistant to our General President, with headquarters in Washington, I was able to contact various governmental agencies which would have been impossible for me to do without Brother McDonald's assistance, which was greatly appreciated.

Attending an A. F. of L. Convention is an education in itself, as one meets people connected with the great labor movement, throughout the world. The convention was a great success and brought about much harmony throughout the ranks of Labor. . .

I considered it a privilege to be able to attend; and my time in Boston was most enjoyable because of the fine hospitality extended by the Officers and members of Local Union No. 3 of Boston; for which I am very grateful.

On my return I had occasion to stop in Ogden, Utah a short time. There, I had the opportunity of meeting several of our representatives, and learned that Brother Joseph Riley Business Representative in Ogden, was leaving to serve Uncle Sam.

I wish to say for Joe that he did a good job as Business Representative, and made many friends in Ogden. At the present time he is stationed in Monterey, but where he will go from there I do not know; however, I do know that we will all welcome him back when it is all over!

The following is resume of an important court decision handed down in the State of Utah, which is very favorable to Labor.

Holding that building trades contracts signed prior to the actual hiring of workers are valid and binding, a decision of outstanding importance has just been handed down in the Geneva Steel case by Judge William L. Knous, Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of Colorado, appointed by the National War Labor Board to hear the case. Hearings in the case were held commencing with August 14, 1943.

(Continued on Page 2)

Steward plan under way at Permanente

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

San Jose—A review of our labor relations with the Permanente Corporation, since the last issue of this publication, reveals that closer cooperation has been established in effecting adjustments of working conditions, where irregularities prevailed.

This, we think, is largely attributed to the Company's new policy of centralizing control, and the delegation of authority. Such activities are now embraced in the functions of the Public Relations Department, under the able direction of H. E. Gessler.

Heretofore, unnecessary delay in the handling of complaints, submitted for adjustment, has been the cause for considerable unrest among our members. Since adjustments are now effected more promptly, there has been a complete revival of Union interest, and a better feeling toward the Company.

There are certain obligations, however, that should be more seriously regarded by the members of all Unions; especially by those who are inclined to take their obligations lightly. Essentially, two of these are: regular attendance at Union meetings, and the payment of Union dues. These are important, and determine the success of any organization.

At the last monthly meeting in the San Jose Division, which meetings are held on the fourth Friday of each month, the Steward system was instituted, and the members requested to elect, whom they wanted to represent them, as Steward, in their immediate working area.

To date, only two have been chosen by this procedure, and further delay may necessitate the appointment of Stewards in all areas, not covered, subject to the approval of the members in the area.

Those accepting Stewardships, need have no fear of intimidation by the Company, or by foremen or superintendents. The Union is perfectly within its rights, and the plan has already been discussed with Company officials.

In making your selection, however, it is well to keep in mind that it would be to your advantage to select someone who is entirely familiar with the operations of the area, he is to cover, and one who will not jump at conclusions at the least provocation.

Immediately following our next meeting, which will be on November the twenty-sixth, a meeting of the Stewards will be called for the purpose of acquainting themselves with the provisions of our agreement with the Company, and discussing labor relations, generally.

There can be no doubt but that a well organized Steward system will contribute much in smoothing over many of the rough spots, and effect a more kindly relationship between employer and employee.

Conditions limit output

Better physical working conditions would help correct current difficulties in meeting war production schedules, blamed chiefly on manpower shortages, according to a survey developed by the U. S. Department of Labor in consultation with the War and Navy Departments, the Maritime Commission, and the War Production Board. The survey summarizes American industrial experience both in the last war and in this war to date.

Financial Secretary warns: don't let it happen to you

Are your dues paid for the current month? Dues are delinquent after the first of the month, so let's make it a habit to have them paid by the first of the month.

A member is eligible for suspension for non-payment of dues after 90 days' delinquency. Suspended members lose all benefits in the Local and International Union and may be removed from the job if he is not in good standing.

When a member has been suspended he must pay a reinstatement fee, and the sick and death assessments, as well as accrued dues before he can again become a member in good standing; in other words, the member must pay his regular monthly dues in addition to eleven dollars. Don't let it happen to you!

The member who receives a delinquent notice should send his payment directly to the San Francisco Office at 1161 Market Street, or contact the San Francisco Office by mail or telephone if it is impossible to make a remittance immediately. All records are kept in the San Francisco Office and payments made to branch offices may not reach the Main Office in time to avoid suspension.

Notify us if you are ill. All good standing members are entitled to benefit during an illness if they are unable to work. Your note should be accompanied by a doctor's certificate which states the length of time you have been out of work due to illness and approximately how long it will be until you are able to return. Local No. 3 will be glad to take care of your dues in accordance with the rules of the Sick Benefit Fund.

T. M. BYNON, Financial Secretary.

Swanson reports vital court decision in Utah

(Continued from Page 1)

The controversy was brought about by the activities of the United Brotherhood of Welders, Cutters and Helpers of America, who had petitioned the Utah Labor Relations Board for certification as the collective bargaining representative of those working with the welding torch and the electric arc are employed by Koppers Company, one of the contractors on the project.

The Utah Labor Relations Board made a decision certifying the United Welders to be the collective bargaining representatives of those using the above named tools 50% or more of the time. On June 12, 1943, a work stoppage resulted, 500 of the employees of Koppers Company walking off the job. Due to the efforts of A. F. of L. organizers and union representative, however, the workers returned to their jobs and the matter was referred to the War Labor Board.

Subsequently, the Utah Board cited some thirty-two contractors working on the job to appear before it on a petition filed by the United Welders for certification of representatives. It was demonstrated at the first day of the hearing before the Utah Board that most of these companies did not even employ a welder or a cutter. The Board thereupon dismissed the greater number of the contractors cited.

While these hearings were going on before the Utah Board, a petition was filed with the Supreme Court on behalf of the A. F. of L. unions and the companies involved, seeking to have that Court issue a writ of prohibition enjoining the Utah Labor Relations Board from proceeding with the case.

A temporary stay was granted and hearings were suspended until final determination by the Supreme Court. The War Labor Board was also asked to take jurisdiction over the entire controversy. This the War Labor Board did and appointed Judge William L. Knous to hold hearings.

At these hearings the A. F. of L. made the following contentions:

1. That the construction of the project was one intimately connected with the war effort and that consequently the War Labor Board has exclusive jurisdiction of the controversy.

2. That the contract signed by Utah-Pomeroy-Morrison Company

with the A. F. of L. unions was subsequently adopted verbally by all the rest of the contractors and that the terms of that contract should be specifically enforced.

3. That the Utah Labor Relations Board had no jurisdiction in the matter, since the case was one over which the National War Labor Board had exclusive jurisdiction.

4. That the Utah-Pomeroy-Morrison contract, even though entered into at a time when only a handful of employees were actually employed on the job was valid and binding, in view of the practice in the building and construction trades industries negotiating such a contract prior to the date when employees were actually hired.

The A. F. of L. sought an order from the Board declaring that the closed-shop provisions of the Utah-Pomeroy-Morrison contract should be enforced, as well as the other contracts on the project.

Judge Knous made his findings in the affirmative as to every single contention made by the A. F. of L. He stated, however, that some plan should be worked out by the A. F. of L. whereby a welder or burner may not be required to carry more than one card. That plan had already been worked out prior to the date of the hearing, and the agreement between the unions bearing on that subject was offered in evidence.

The great significance of the decision lies in the fact that the Judge specifically finds that building trades contracts signed prior to the hiring of any of the workers are valid and binding. He upheld the contention made by the A. F. of L. and the employers that such contracts must of necessity be negotiated prior to actual commencement of construction and the hiring of employees.

The decision is also noteworthy in that the Judge indicates the importance of not distributing any contractual relations during the present emergency.

The Nazi Propaganda Office in Warsaw has issued a new list of 600 prohibited books, including sports textbooks that teach skiing, discus and javelin throwing—as well as children's books, one of which describes the adventures of a kitten.

Bids awarded on several road jobs in Stockton area; Engineers plan Scout Troop

"Bill" Waack, Business Representative working out of the Stockton office reports:

Bids for improvement of two Mother Lode roads to expedite the transportation of much needed lumber to war industries were opened in Sacramento, last week.

Biasotti & Son of Stockton submitted a low bid of \$92,582 for grading and surfacing of seven miles of highway between Alta-ville and Murphy's.

Low bid of \$259,595 for grading and surfacing of eighteen miles of road between Toyon, just east of Valley Springs to Westpoint by way of Mokelumne Hill was offered by Claude Wood of Lodi.

Because of the impending winter season, major work on these projects will not be completed until next spring. However, it is planned to do considerable work on the worst sections as soon as possible and throughout the winter as weather conditions permit.

Harry Metz and myself made a tour through Permanente Magnesium plant for the purpose of determining whether or not several of the operations of this plant should not come under the jurisdiction of the engineers. To Permanente engineers we expect to have a report of progress by the time you receive this issue. How about a monthly meeting for our members of this plant and where could you suggest, beside our own Labor Temple? Let's get some of the beefs out in the open, where we can all get an earful!

In my haste to get our Stockton report to press, I had to get Pollock's Bond sales before the results were completely tabulated. I reported \$65.00 per engineers 3-3-A 3-B. This amount was \$82.70 per man . . . nice going, men! Give us a boost in getting the War Chest-Red Cross drive over! It looks as though the Stockton Yards are going to put it over again on all other West Coast yards.

Local No. 3 has decided to sponsor a troop of Boy Scouts in the Stockton area in an effort to assist in curbing juvenile delinquency. Our \$64.00 question is . . . "Where can we get a Scout Master?" Many of you "hoisters" have youngsters of scout age and many of you can qualify in this fine work. Get off the dime, and see if Number 3's scouts can't be "Stockton's Finest".

Jay "Sauuffy" Smith, is still in the saddle at Colbergs. He and Douglas do O. K. in this fine wood shipyard!

Like the proverbial "plugged nickel" that always returns, "Wingy" Manuel Cardoza is back from Nicaragua with a stake that would choke a mule. "Wingy" likes conditions in the wild tropics . . . I wonder why?

Brother Pierce, who before going to the Army was on a "blade" for Teichert is about to produce his service withdrawal to the

Stockton office. He wasn't quite as lucky as some of our brothers and luckier than others . . . Pierce is coming out after eight months in the hospital with a broken neck, and he is going back on a blade. Tough guys, these No. 3 men!

The roads to the woods are slicking up. Frank Lawrence and I have been to Wetzels several times in the last month and we're making some progress. Let's hear from some of our members in the woods! You fellows up there can be of a great help. And incidentally, I think we'll be able to use some of you "mountain skidders" on the jobs I first mentioned in this column, if you are members of Local 3. . . . How about it?

AFL workers back war fund

New York City.—First field reports on the nation-wide, \$20,000,000 AFL drive for war relief, now being conducted by the Labor League for Human Rights, promise record-breaking success for this campaign in support of the National War Fund, according to Abraham Bluestein, executive director of the League.

The regional directors of the drive report close co-operation of central labor bodies, international and local unions, and individual union members. Thousands of trade unionists are working as volunteers, going into factories and homes to get pledges of a day's pay from their fellow AFL members.

Stories from the field emphasize the interest shown by AFL members in labor's own war relief program, which is one of the projects of the National War Fund.

In addition to its relief work in all the countries of the United Nations, the National War Fund makes special allocations for organized labor's independent relief programs in Britain, China and Russia.

These allocations support such projects as the building of merchant seamen's clubs in Britain and hostels for workers in China's industrial cities—projects which were initiated by organized labor before the formation of the National War Fund, and will provide for enlarged relief programs in these countries during the coming year.

Commenting on the progress of the campaign, George Meany, secretary-treasurer of the AFL and honorary secretary of the Labor League for Human Rights, said:

"It is easy to understand the enthusiastic response of members of the AFL to this campaign of the Labor League for Human Rights. Each member knows that the contribution made through the League to the National War Fund goes to work immediately—here at home, abroad in all the countries of the United Nations, in all parts of the world with our armed forces."

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Fresno says little news of importance

T. D. Bryson, Business Representative working out of the Fresno Office reports:

Fresno—We have very little news of importance to the members from the Fresno District, no new jobs showing up of any importance since last month and a few of the jobs finishing up.

The J. E. Haddock Company finished on their Owens Mountain Rifle Range Job and moved some of their equipment to Strathmore where they have just about finished a landing strip. There is an auxiliary Landing field going in near Woodlake and they are hoping to secure the contract for that when bids are opened in about two weeks.

There are some authentic rumors going around that there will be a large Bunadine plant built in the vicinity of Coalinga in the near future; about the only information on it is that it will cost about \$27,000,000, and will take some three years to complete.

Larsen and Harms are going right along on their Madera Canal job, with about two and one-half miles of the Canal finished. They are employing fifteen of our members on the job. Oberg Brothers have started pouring Concrete on the Fresno Rivers Syphon and are using four Engineers.

The Utah Construction Company has started setting the gates and needle valves at the Friant Dam and should keep eight or ten Engineers busy for six or seven months.

Piazza & Huntley have finished widening on their Highway job at Lemoore and started on the black tops, Brother Paroline, Superintendent tells me that they expect to finish in about four weeks.

Trewhitt, Shields & Fisher have a contract with the Army Engineers for flood control work on the San Joaquin and Kings Rivers. They are using fifteen Cats and one Dragline, all manned by Local No. 3 members.

The American Dredging Co., got the Dredge Pronto set up and started pumping about a week ago with a skeleton crew. It seems, as though it is almost impossible to get deck-hands and levee-men in this part of the country. The Dredge is about eight miles southwest of Corcoran where the Tule River empties into the Tulare Lake, Brother F. F. Boldt is steward on the job.

The Phoenix Construction Co., have just about completed their re-surfacing job on Highway 99, near Merced, and have moved some of their equipment on a land leveling job near Lemon Cove.

We have quite a few members registered on the out-of-work list here, but when we do have a few calls for men it seems almost impossible to get the jobs filled, as they seem to register and then disappear and can't be found when we want them.

It would make it much easier for the office to fill the jobs promptly, and give each member his fair share of the work, if they would take the trouble to notify the office when they move on, or change their address!

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Engineers win NLRB election

(Continued from Page 1)

dent and secretary of the C.I.O. local signing Operating Engineers' applications as well as other members of the C.I.O.; and men who had no affiliations.

At the conclusion of the election I returned to Ely, Nevada, and will report on that in the next issue.

A note of thanks--

U. A. STEAMFITTERS & HELPERS

Local Union No. 590

Vic Swanson, Business Manager (and)

C. F. Mathews, Secretary,

Operating Engineers Union, Local No. 3

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

The "Xmas Package Committee" wish to extend to you, your membership and your most worthy organization our deepest gratitude and appreciation for your wholehearted cooperation and contributions in making our "Xmas Package Drive for the Boys Overseas" an outstanding achievement and glorious success.

The net result of the drive was: "Over 100,000 Xmas Packages" were collected and will be sent to the boys in the "far-advanced" battle fronts (as your gifts) on Xmas Morning.

Secondly, a most enjoyable and very fine "All-Star" show and Dance that was given for the benefit of the boys and girls in the Armed Forces stationed here in the Bay Area, October 23rd, at the S. F. Civic and Oakland Auditoriums (this affair was "free" to the boys and girls in uniform); and, third, \$10,000.00 in cash for the "Commandant's Welfare Fund," administered by Admiral Greenslade, to be used for the establishment of "Ship Canteens" aboard small transports and Auxiliary vessels.

You, Dear Brothers, and many more like you were instrumental in accomplishing this great feat for our fighting sons and daughters; and we feel absolutely certain that your splendid work and contribution will be deeply appreciated by every one of them—no matter "where" they might be on that Holy "Day of Remembrance."

Admiral Greenslade, General Emmons, General Marston, Commodore Roach, Captain Cushing Phillips, Captain Hook, (of Oak Knoll Hospital), Commander McKinley (and their Staffs), and, the entire Membership of our vast organization deem it an honor and a pleasure to "Salute you" with a 21 Gun Broadside!!!

Please believe us to be, most sincerely and gratefully yours,

"XMAS PACKAGE DRIVE FOR THE BOYS OVER-SEAS" COMMITTEE

By P. W. Edwards.

State building trades head urges unions to enforce safety laws

San Francisco—Rigid application of the state safety orders and laws must be enforced through cooperation of unions and their representatives in order to reduce appalling toll of death and accidents in war industries, it was warned this week by Frank C. MacDonald, president of the California State Building and Construction Trades Council.

The record reveals that more than 80,000 were killed and over 7,000,000 injured in industry since Pearl Harbor.

MacDonald, in a message addressed to officers and members of building and construction trades councils and unions, explained the situation as follows:

"When hundreds of thousands of workers were rushed into new jobs in dangerous war construction projects it was inevitable that the toll of workers injured and killed would greatly increase."

However, he pointed out, "work in war plants has long since been systematized. Confusion has been

eliminated and the workers are now well accustomed to the work and the environment.

"The excessive toll of dead and injured in industry, therefore, now can and must be stopped. In our building industry the violation of safety laws also must be stopped. Employers who knowingly violate the state safety rules must be compelled to comply with the law."

MacDonald also pointed out that recently the state building and construction trades council has had to deal with a series of industrial accidents which were preventable and because the safety regulations were ignored, he said the contractors were being sued for "serious and wilful misconduct."

He said, "It has become the custom for contractors to ignore state safety laws with the result that many of our members have suffered injury and death."

In order to offset and correct this situation, MacDonald said

(Continued on Page 8)

Lawrence reports October low month in Sacramento area with jobs at standstill

F. A. Lawrence, Business Representative working out of the Sacramento Office, reports on the Sacramento-Marysville district:

Sacramento—The last part of October was a very quiet period in this district with men being laid off the Morrison & Knudson job at Rio Vista, Larsen & Harms levee job at Woodland, and the McGillivray job at the Winters-Davis Airport. For several weeks things were practically at a standstill with very few jobs coming in and a large number of men available.

At this writing, however, the prospect of more work in the near future seems much brighter. Many of the jobs go on just about the same from month to month, keeping some of the members steadily employed.

J. R. Reeves Company is still working at McClellan Field under their old contract. Lord & Bishop are still unloading cobblestones at Colusa with two operators and two oilers on the two rigs there.

The Rock, Sand and Gravel plants continue about the same in Sacramento, and also in the Marysville District. Jones & Hettlestatter are working two shifts on their Rice Mill at Woodland. This job will be finished before long.

Lord & Bishop are still working on the Upper Narrows Dam. The McGillivray Construction Company has practically completed their highway job between Vacaville and Dixon.

The Dinwiddie Construction Company has completed construction of their Rice Mill. At Rio Vista Morrison & Knudson have two draglines and several "cats" finishing up the job. Another large job in this area is proposed.

Hemstreet & Bell at the present time are not on a large job. They have a Northwest and a dozer working for Bechtel on the Western Pacific Railway Bridge at Marysville and the job is nearing completion. Most of their equipment is on land leveling jobs. Both crushers are operating, and all jobs keep quite a few men busy.

H. Earl Parker is working on the Princeton levee job and is pulling from seven to 11 rigs to the road job at Camp Beale. N. M. Ball is working at Princeton and Glenn finishing several miles of levee and will work three miles of levee on the east side of the Sacramento River and another five miles north of Glenn that they are pioneering now.

A. Teichert is now completing the levee job at Colusa and is

moving the equipment to Auburn and Gridley. Franceschi has started work on a new warehouse at McClellan Field which will provide work for several members.

Lord & Bishop are reinforcing the dam near Wheatland with six members working there. Work continues at the Auburn Hospital. A. Teichert & Company have started on two roads into the Hospital and are continuing inside of the Reservation with several machines. They have about 20 members working there. Locke Company and McDonald & Kahn are working on this job also.

Larsen & Harms have finished their old levee job out of Woodland and are now working two shifts on another job in that same section which will furnish about 40 members several months' work.

Marshall S. Hanrahan and Rutherford are working at Camp Beale and are just starting 36 miles of highway. The job is not in full progress at this writing due to the fact that the equipment is very slow getting in. They are working quite a number of our members at present and more will be employed when the equipment arrives.

The Kiss Crane Company has a job out of Colfax removing a bridge which will start soon. Casson & Ball have started work on an extension at the Fairfield-Suisun Airport. This includes streets, sidewalks and facilities for parking, with the possibility of another contract being added to the present one. There are 14 engineers on the job at present and they will be there until February, at least.

McDonald and Kahn have also secured a new contract at Fairfield. They are to build 14 new buildings; barracks, etc. Van Valkenburg has a few rigs working on this job also which will continue to give employment to several of our men for a month or two longer.

A. Teichert & Company are doing some more work at McClellan Field and as soon as this work is completed they will start another large job at Mather. They are now moving some equipment to Morro Cove.

Both the Sacramento Industrial Engineering Company and the Yancey Shipbuilding Corporation have closed down their yards. No further work is anticipated.

Brother William Cantrell suffered a broken collar bone in an auto accident which occurred on his return trip from Tonopah, Nevada. We are happy to report that he is nearing recovery. Brother S. E. Elledge is nearly recovered from a hand injury received while working on the McGillivray job at Winters.

Attention: All members who are working out of either the Sacramento or Marysville Office on any government construction project and are in need of gasoline to travel to work, please contact our offices and you will be taken care of.

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Plan re-conversion

Washington—A pilot study of three industries has been made by the WMC's bureau of manpower utilization to lay a basis for transferring workers from war production to peacetime industry.

Through the development of similar studies for all important industries, the bureau believes it will be possible to indicate types of peacetime activities which at the end of the war should first be discouraged to expand in order to absorb quickly workers dismissed from war plants.



Examining a bullet-riddled German fighter plane on display during the recent War Department conference of labor, industry and newspaper leaders in Washington were (l to r): Henry W. Blumenberg of United Brotherhood of Carpenters, AFL, National Organizing Director Frank Fenton and President Reid Robinson of International Union of Mill, Mine and Smelter Workers. (Federated Pictures.)

EDITORIALS

ENGINEERS' NEWS

COMMENT

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

Nail that heel!



Utilization--not conscription--of labor

Warning that conscription of labor might "hamstring" the war effort, Joseph D. Keenan, WPB vice chairman for labor production, told the AFL convention that "what we need today is to get the most effective utilization and the maximum productivity" from the available labor force.

Keenan's criticism of labor conscription was focused on the necessity of increasing production of war munitions by 40 per cent during a period when official estimates indicate that employment can be increased by only 20 per cent.

"In my sincere judgment, conscription would slow down our industrial output for many months if it is attempted before every other resource is fully tried," he said. "We have not yet used our resources of labor-management cooperation in any substantial degree. Yet the evils we must overcome are evils which can be overcome only by complete and effective teamwork within each plant, within each industry, within each community, each area, each region, and throughout the nation as a whole.

"We've licked every one of the jobs we have had to tackle so far. I say we can lick this one, too!"

Keenan said that if mandatory legislation is ever needed, workers will know it.

"Labor unions know from day to day experience how the battle of production is going, because union members are the shock troops in fighting the battle of production," he said. "When national service became needed in Britain, the Trades Union Congress did not need to read about it in the papers. And when it was needed, the government went to the labor movement and called on Ernest Bevin to operate it so that there would be a maximum output and a minimum of regimentation."

Keenan said British experience indicated that national service legislation in Great Britain has not served to increase output per worker, to eliminate absences from work nor to eliminate strikes.

"The New York Times recently reported absenteeism is running about 10 per cent among essential war workers in Great Britain," he declared.

"Out of 28 American war industries for which official figures are available, none were

that high and the bulk were about 6 per cent. Comparative figures show that the time lost from industrial disputes runs at a higher comparative ratio in Great Britain than in this country. I regret that military security prevents my giving you the exact ratio."

"Conscription," Keenan said, "serves to put and keep people at assigned stations. That is only the beginning of the industrial process. What we need today is to get the most effective utilization and the maximum productivity. Conscription, I fear, might cut the effectiveness of the present labor force by twice the percentage as that by which it might increase the number employed in war industry. Any such result would be a disaster."

The WPB vice chairman declared that "labor has proved its integrity as a partner in war production" and he quoted statistics as to the volume of output and the low percentage of time lost through labor dispute.

"We have not been profiteering," he said. "Wherever the weekly take-home has been increased, the worker has earned it in sweat—by harder and longer work and greater skill."

"Labor has had to face rotten living conditions in most war centers, where housing, transportation, sanitation, shopping, and eating facilities, day care for children, medical service and other essentials for health and safety are dangerously below suitable standards. The worker has been paying in taxes a lion's share of increased savings and he has not grumbled."

Keenan asserted the nation must get every possible bit of extra output, but urged "real labor-management cooperation" as the No. 1 industrial incentive to increase production.

Wartime conditions, Keenan declared, "may justify the establishment of a plant-wide wage incentive plan which will reward and induce constant improvements in output.

"It is my position, therefore, that a plant-wide incentive system which rewards workers in direct ratio for increased output is a legitimate wartime emergency measure for use wherever circumstances justify it if—and only if—the details are worked out with the full agreement of local unions and managements through their duly established collective bargaining machinery."

Insurance action vital

Congress must act quickly on our amendments to make social security adequate to carry workers safely through the economic emergencies of postwar days. Upon the safety of labor depends the safety of democracy. The European phase of the war may be over next summer. Industrial reconversion beginning with the German armistice will mark the beginning of postwar unemployment.

Unless the federal government is ready with provisions against the emergencies, workers who have given their best to make possible the winning of the war will find themselves jobless, moneyless, with a rankling sense of injustice. As a matter of discretion we ask the Administration and Congress to make it possible for us to invest in social insurance, so that we shall not be forced on relief when we occasionally are unable to earn.

Labor has proposed that we invest six per cent of our earnings and that employers pay six per cent of payrolls to insure income during unemployment, disability and inability to work due to old age. Under our proposal revenues raised from social insurance would amount to eight or nine billions annually, with national income at its present level. This would be an increase of four or five billions.

Our proposal would not only provide much-needed increased revenues available for war credit but would constitute the most effective anti-inflation measure that can be adopted.

The Ways and Means Committee can with great wisdom make an increased social insurance rate an element in its fiscal program, for it must be considered in connection with all income tax provisions imposed on wage-earners or other small-income persons.

We look to this powerful committee for the courage and the vision to understand that basic social insurance supplements and buttresses our free economy, which provides jobs for our millions of wage-earners. Jobs are our main dependence and we look to private industry to provide them. But to insure us against relief and to insure our free economy against political dependence, a substantial social insurance system is indispensable.

This is our first step in postwar planning—and now is the ideal time.—American Federationist.

* * *

Lafollette flays labor's foes

Senator Robert M. LaFollette of Wisconsin has served notice that he intends to renew his fight for legislation to outlaw oppressive labor tactics by employers, employer associations and their agents.

Senator LaFollette and Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah have introduced a bill which provides criminal penalties for labor espionage, professional strikebreaking, use of industrial munitions, yellow-dog practices, blacklisting of union men and coercion of employes.

In a speech on the need for such legislation, Mr. LaFollette observed that "there was a day when it was considered statesmanlike to legislate for the protection of labor's rights." Today, however, enemies of labor are seizing upon the national emergency as a good opportunity to take these rights from labor, he said.

"Unless we in the Congress have the intestinal fortitude in this time of peril and crisis to defend and promote the institutions and doctrines that symbolize our democracy, we will be guilty of losing the war on the home front," Mr. LaFollette declared.

"If we continue to indicate that it is our intention or design to refuse protection to the growth of bonafide trade unionism and industrial democracy, we will deprive the nation of one of the greatest sources of internal and spiritual strength."

Mr. LaFollette predicted that the "forces of industrial autocracy" will seize upon the post-war period to turn back the "march of industrial democracy."

"Let us not deceive ourselves," he warned, "by imagining that industrial democracy is so soundly rooted in the hearts and minds of 100 per cent of the employers of the nation that it needs no legal protection."

* * *

No medals, little glory

There are no medals and very little glory for the soldiers on the production line. But they can know the satisfaction that comes from a job well done. And that is American labor's position today. Labor has done and is doing a job which has earned the respect and gratitude not only of the people of America but of our allies all over the world.

The nation is proud of your patriotism and of the magnificent contribution you are making toward the winning of the war. We will not forget. Meanwhile, it would seem to me that labor should firmly resolve that the gains which have been won after long years of struggle shall not be impaired or lost completely either in the heat and turmoil of war or in the welter of confusion that will follow. In this resolution all thoughtful Americans will join.—WENDELL WILLKIE.

Oakland office reports on members, jobs

Brother Al Clem, Ed Doran, and Joe Walthers, working out of the Oakland office, report:

Puget Sound Bridge and Dredging Co. is building a Barge Drill to work at Yard III in Richmond. Eight members of Local 3 will be on the job. This work will start in a few weeks. All the work will be under water work.

Hydraulic Dredging Company has started the Dredging job at Richmond Yard II. Kiss Crane Company has a job at the Ford Plant in Richmond. Brother Tod Larson is on this job.

Brother L. Lombardi, steward on graveyard shift in Yard III, Richmond, is doing a nice job. Brother Stew Thompson is our Representative on the Labor Management Committee at Yard III, Richmond.

The Oakland Office has received a letter from Brother Geo Criser who is now a First Lieutenant in the Army Engineers. Lt. Criser is stationed at Fort Belnoise, Virginia.

Funeral Services for Brother Frank Olivera, 3A member, were held Thursday, October 14, 1943 at Berge Mortuary in Niles.

Brother Charlie Lloyd, Blade operator and cat skinner, has finally settled in Marysville, California. Charlie has boomed from Construction job to Construction job in the years gone by.

In a recent telephone conversation with Brother Lloyd, the Oakland Office Business Representatives were invited to spend a couple of weeks at the Lloyd's new home. I was also requested to inform any Brother members passing through Marysville that the welcome mat is always out at 1221 Diver St.

We think Brother Roy Hosman, Crane Dispatcher of the West

The following poem was contributed by Brother Glen Parrish who has recently returned from Costa Rica where he has been working on a Highway job for the U. S. Engineers:

The Forgotten Cat Skinner

<p>1 Down where there are no ten commandments And a man can raise a thirst Live the outcasts of civilization Serving life at its worst.</p> <p>2 Down in rum soaked Central America Live the men that God forgot Fighting the ever present fever The itch and the jungle rot.</p> <p>3 Nobody knows they are living And nobody gives a damn Back home they are forgotten Those employees of Uncle Sam.</p> <p>4 Covered with sweat in the evening They lie in their bunks and dream Killing themselves with liquor To dam up memories dream.</p>	<p>5 They live with dirty natives Down in this sweltering zone Working on the Pan American Highway Thousands of miles from home.</p> <p>6 Into Puntarenas City they go To squander their meager pay They raise merry hell for an evening And are always broke the next day.</p> <p>7 At night they lie on their pillows With ills no doctor can cure Hell no, we are not convicts, We are workers on foreign tour.</p> <p>8 Boys, I am giving you warning And I hope I've done you well When I die I'll surely go to heaven For I am doing my hitch in hell.</p>
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Yard of Moore Drydock Company really has a full time job. In addition to directing the activities of some 240 crane operators in the West Yard Brother Hosman also is in charge of keeping an office of personnel and maintenance records. Ten years of his 11 years with Moore Drydock Company have been spent in the crane Department.

Kaiser Cargo Co. have constructed a new yard at 19th Ave., and Livingston Streets in Oakland. This yard is outfitting small ships. At the present time there are 7 members of the Operating Engineers Union employed there. They have two truck cranes and three compressors working two shifts. Brother L. O. Johnson is steward on the job.

Brother Jack Russell, crane operator and steward at Moore Drydock Co., swing shift, holds the

perfect record of not being absent a single day for the past two years of employment.

Way back in 1938 Moore Drydock Company made their first awards to employees for meritorious suggestions to speed production, improve facilities and eliminate accident hazards.

Brother Carl Moller, powerhouse superintendent and Brother J. J. McBride, powerhouse Engineer, were among the first five to receive these awards. These two brothers are still employed in the same capacity.

Since these awards were first made in 1938, hundreds of Moore Employees have received several thousand dollars in cash and war bonds for their "helpful suggestions."

Brother Joe Riley, former Business Representative of Ogden Utah, has been a frequent visitor

of the Oakland Office these past few weeks. Brother Riley has enlisted as a first class Buck Private in the U. S. Army. We feel that Riley, after all the advice he has received from various sources, will make a fine soldier. Good luck, Joe!

Brother H. E. Benninghoven, who has been stationed with the Seabees in Davisville, Rhode Island, was a recent visitor to the Oakland Office. Brother Benninghoven was recently transferred to a new station in the Bay Area.

Brother Jack Greenwood recently left for the south (Mexico) for the winter months. He will be employed on a construction job for W. A. Bechtel Company. Brother Cliff Jorgenson has returned from up north where he was employed on the Yukon Hiway job. Brother Cliff Mellick is operating Kuhn's Bros. 95 N. W. Dragline on the

Storage Yard job in Richmond Yard II.

We of the Oakland office feel that it is our business and are deeply concerned about the twelve hundred seventy eight Brother Engineers and Oilers in the Armed Forces. If any Brother members have any information about promotions or awards or the death of these members, or news of their being wounded or missing in action, please notify the Oakland office.

The H. J. Kaiser plant at Radum is a very busy place at the present time. Brother Ralph J. Hishon, an old time member of Local 3, who has been on the job for some time is Plant Engineer.

Work in the H. J. Kaiser Quarry is very slow now.

Louis Biasotti is busy on his Hiway surfacing job at Dublin. We have three members on the job. . .

Several Engineers from Stolte job in Alameda have gone to Tonopah, Nevada. Work in the 85th Avenue Oakland Shop has slowed down considerably.

Brother Porter Burge, who has been with Close Building Material for the past 5 years, is on their job at Hayward. We also have Brother J. A. Walker and Brother Galtin Dorris on the job.

A Highway construction job is under way north east of Sunol. Edward Keeble is the contractor. Five of our members are employed on the job. Louis Biasotti Company is starting a grading job for a Housing Project in Albany. Brother John Tripp is Head Mechanic. We anticipate having approximately 10 Engineers working on the job.

Brother Bob Snodgrass has started his new duties as Master Mech- (Continued on Page 7)

Clancy reports work falling off in San Mateo

Pat Clancy, President and Business Representative working out of the San Francisco office, reports:

Since our last monthly report, work in San Mateo County on construction has slacked off a little.

Pacific Bridge Company's job at Redwood, which was over a year's work, is finished. Most of the men employed there have been transferred up to the Hunters Point job.

On the Coast there is a little State rental work with members of the Operating Engineers operating same.

Two of the heavy duty repairmen from the Pacific Bridge at Reedwood City have been placed. One in welding for Piombo and the other, Charles Bartholomew, is now a master mechanic for R. J. Clifford and Company.

Belair Shipyard has been getting in a few new pieces of equipment and adding a few men at various times. Western Pipe and Steel yard is proceeding about the same.

Piombo's job at Mills Field is about completed, although I understand they are called for bids for approximately 600,000 more yards. There is also a little work in the stockyard area.

Outside of small construction work in the County here and there, that is about all.

It is easier to show up people, or to blow them up, than it is to build them up. But not nearly so effective.

Reno aiding drive for war relief funds

John DeLagrange and Les Collett, Business Representatives working out of the Reno Office, report:

Reno—The Reno office is again going to help in the War Relief Drive. All members of Local No. 3 working out of the jurisdiction of the Reno office will be asked to give \$9.00 to the War Relief fund. This donation will be divided three ways: \$3.00 to the Red Cross, \$3.00 to the War Relief and \$3.00 to Foreign Relief.

Each member will receive a receipt for his donation to this worthy cause, and it is hoped that donations by these members will be credited to Local No. 3, through the Reno office. Payments may be made through the Reno office, or a Business Representative will contact you on the job.

Westbrook Construction Company received the contract from the Army Engineers for an extension at Lemon Valley (Reno Air Base) for concrete warm-up aprons. Brother Horace Cooper is a sub-contractor on the excavation. He will have two jeeps and an RDS carryall at present. We are anticipating a large extension at this airport. The present contract is for \$187,000.

Dinwiddy and Monson were the successful bidders on the Navy's flight training school at Fallon, Nevada. This will consist of barracks, hospitals, mess hall, recreation hall, streets and roads, water and sewerage system. The contract for this job is four and one-half million dollars and work is to start immediately.

The Battle Mountain airport job is completed. Hunt and Frandsen

have moved its equipment to Elko for repair. Several of our brothers are now working at Elko as heavy duty repairmen.

Yancy Insulation Company has completed its bridge job north of Elko.

Morrison Knudsen Company has moved from Wells, Nevada, to Sparks. They have 180,000 cubic yards of track base to move for the Southern Pacific between Sparks and Fernley. Brother John Clark is master mechanic.

Isbell Construction Company has completed its extension on the Ely Airport and most of its men have moved up to Kimberly on its stripping and mining job for the Consolidated Copper Mines Corporation. This job is progressing nicely at present. We have 35 brothers working on this job. The Army Engineers are to construct a pipe line from the Reno city limits to the Reno Army Air Base. This contract has not been awarded to date.

Winston Brothers Construction Company job, 18 miles east of Camp Bunyon, California, is progressing nicely, with only one shovel crew working now. There are half a dozen cats on the day shift. The job will last about 30 days longer, provided the snow is not too deep.

David R. Richardson Company, Westwood, California, has just cut its crew to one shift, due to the rain and bad lighting conditions, which leaves about one dozen brothers on this job. It is good for another 30 days if the winter's snow is not too heavy.

Radich and Brown, on the Honey Lake, California, Airport, is working two shifts with about 40 engineers employed. Brother Jack

Taylor is General Superintendent in charge and all Foremen are members of Local No. 3. After several conferences with officials of this company, they have agreed to repair the road around the ammunition area, and perhaps the men will stay longer on the job, as this has been the "bone of contention" since the men have been having trouble getting to and from work.

F. C. Stolte Company and E. B. Bishop Company have just had to move their camps out of the Ordnance Depot and are now headquartered at Doyle, California. The Western Pacific bridge of Stolte Company is about two-thirds finished. E. B. Bishop has a new contract to do the leveling, roads and sewers for the new one million dollar housing project at Honey Lake, subbing under the Dow Construction Company. This company will have from two to two and one-half months of work for about 15 of our Engineers.

Johnson Drake and Piper Company is now laying its concrete for the warm up strip at Fallon, Nevada.

The Nevada State Federation of Labor will hold its annual convention at Las Vegas November 19, 20 and 21. As Local No. 3 is affiliated with the Nevada State Federation of Labor, two delegates will be sent.

Brothers DeLagrange and Collett attended a hearing of the Collins Pine Company held by the N.L.R.B. at Chester, California, November 1 and 2. We hope the Operating Engineers, Local No. 3, will be granted a place on the ballot in the coming election, in which the date has not yet been set.

U. S. Army asks dredgermen for Engineers' jobs

Jack Foster, Business Representative working out of the San Francisco Office, reports: The U. S. Army Engineers are in need of the following men:

- 5 Suction Levermen, both Steam and Electric, \$1.75 per hour.
- 3 Mates, both Steam and Electric, \$1.35 per hour.
- 5 Operators, Electric, \$1.50 per hour.
- 1 Steam Engineer, \$1.50 per hour.

(Time and one-half for all overtime, subsistence, and quarters furnished.)

This work is essential to the war effort. The above order was received at the office this week, and there are several of these jobs open for competent men.—Here is an opportunity to make some real money by staying out the contract; and the work will carry on for some time to come. If interested, contact the San Francisco Office!

The local dredging work is progressing nicely, but there is need of a number of deckhands and leveemen on these jobs.

Come in and go to work. . . . Do your bit for Uncle Sam!!!

A former newspaper reporter who is now stationed with the Marines in the Pacific area was recently made editor of his company paper. Reporting on his new assignment, he said, "I thought I had a pretty soft job—until I suddenly remembered every one of my readers carries a gun!"

Dark are winter days, says Murphy

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

San Jose—Dark are the days of winter!!

The San Jose district is very quiet and there is no work to any great extent under way, at the present time.

We have heard rumors of a job to start in Santa Clara of good proportions, but as yet it is still in the embryonic stage. The same can apply to Santa Cruz and that locality. All we can do is wait, although not patiently!

Camp Roberts East and West Garrison is in the dormant stage, with the exception of a normal amount of repair work. The same also applies to Jolin, Liggett and Mitchell.

King City may have an enlargement job on the Airport in the near future, but there has been no go-ahead sign as yet!

Salinas Airbase and Salinas City is also on the quiet list, with the exceptions of Natividad, Permanente Plant, which is under continuous operations. Moss Landing is having a little construction, but of no great importance.

Watsonville is very quiet. There is some activity however, at Camp McQuaide, but of minor importance to our slack of employment. Most of this work will be taken care of by the Granite Construction Company and L. E. Karstedt.

Monterey is also in the dormant winter stage with the exception of M. J. Ruddy Company on their Ord job which is nearing completion. I must say this job's completion will be a real improvement in our highway system between Monterey and Watsonville.

Hollister is showing some activity on the Base there, and Macco has a few pieces of equipment in operation on the expansion program which is under way at present, and which should require about two months for completion.

San Jose is very quiet which is nothing new, and can be expected. We still manage to keep most of the boys busy, but I will say we are beginning to get more on the out of work register daily—at this writing. I believe there are approximately nine Brothers on our books!

Moffett has some new work coming up in the near future to the extent of a couple of million dollars, but there is not so much in the line of excavation it will mostly be steel work, so maybe we will be able to use a few more Derrick men there. However, don't expect much action on this until after the first of the year.

Temperature at Permanente has dropped considerably due to the efforts of Brother Harry Metz and Bill Speers. However, I'll leave that for Brother Speers to report on as I'm sure he can give you a much clearer picture of the whole situation, than I.

Alviso assembly plant is on the hibernation list but there are rumors of it coming out soon!!

Well, boys, I think I've given you about all the information I know of in regards to this territory . . . so, here's a little advice:

SAVE YOUR DOUGH!

A Tough winter is ahead, you know

Save your car . . . you can get no more

Till we win the war!

Save your GAS

Or you'll have to ride a JACK-GAS!

A liberal is a man who sits on a picket fence until his hind end gets so sore that he jumps instinctively the wrong direction.

Utah welcomes new business agent in Ogden; work in area somewhat slow

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

Ogden—Brother Scott Leddingham, who is replacing Brother Joseph Riley as Business Agent in Ogden is not a new member in the game. He has held a card in the Operating Engineers for nearly 30 years and all brothers in this district not acquainted with Brother Leddingham are requested to drop in the Ogden office and get acquainted.

Work in the Ogden area is somewhat slow at the present time. . . . W. W. Clyde job at Clearfield nearing completion. . . . The Reynolds Construction Company is still working the Hot Plant paving material to Clearfield and Hillsfield and the City of Ogden.

Wheelwright Construction running along all right with a number of small jobs. . . . The Ralph E. Larsen Housing project at Clearfield is on the "We Don't Patronize" list. All brothers are warned to stay away from this contractor. There is a general tendency of small contractors in the Ogden area to try to run non-union. This situation is being dealt with by all the crafts involved.

Salt Lake City—Gibbons and Reed are working Dougway and St. Johns, running along nicely. . . . Kellogg Company, Utah Oil progressing okay. . . . Mark B. Garff Power House, Utah Oil Plant coming along nicely.

The J. R. Daum Company work nearing completion. . . . Ford J. Twaits going along first rate at Wendover. There is quite a bit of work in the Wendover area. A number of our brothers are on the job.

Utah Construction work, a few men stripping in the Bingham Canyon. . . . Atherley Brothers have moved to Jacobs Lake, Arizona, taking a few of our men from here. This is a mine stripping job and will last a considerable time.

W. W. Clyde work well under way on the Schofield Dam, progressing according to schedule. . . . Housing project in Gregerton going slow owing to the lack of common labor.

At this date we have several contractors on the "We-Don't Patronize" list: Jim Whiting, Heber W. Glenn, Carl E. Nelson, and Ralph E. Larsen Construction Company.

All brothers are requested to stay off this work and report any place that they see these companies working.

There is a general tendency for

the small contractor in this area to attempt working non-union. Many of them are being dealt with and several will be placed on the "We Don't Patronize" list at our next regular meeting.

At the Bingham Canyon run-off election between Local 353 of the Operating Engineers and the CIO, it was a great victory for the Engineers. Local No. 353 won this election at almost two to one and will be certified as a bargaining agency for the Operating Engineers in the Bingham Canyon. District No. 114 of the Machinists carried their run-off election at the same time with a great majority.

The results of this run-off election clearly shows the public sentiment is clearly in favor of A. F. of L. Unions who have something to offer employees and members over the CIO, whose agreements are worse than the wildest dreams of any blood sucking employer.

We wish to thank the members who have given us their whole-hearted co-operation. We all know that if we want Union activities to be a success in the State of Utah, we will all have to do our part. Each and every member, especially those living in Utah, have to put forth every effort at their command!

Report small jobs opening up in S. F.

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

Several small construction jobs have started in this area: Trewitt Shields and Fisher have been given a contract to build warehouses for the Army Ordnance on Sixth Street near the old Third Street Channel. Charles Harney has the sub-contract on the same job for imported sub-grade, upon which several of our members are now employed.

Charles Harney also has a contract at Hunters Point for street grading and surfacing. Pacific Bridge, and Barrett and Hilp, at Hunters Point have practically completed the work there, with only a few of our members left on the job.

The Ben C. Gerwick job on the Submarine Base at Hunters Point, most of which is a pile driving and pier job, is not in full operation as yet. The prospect of several more pile driving engineers going to work on this job, in the near future, looks promising.

The Carl Swenson job at 16th Street Pier is nearing completion, but difficulty has arisen on the job where some of the members working on the rigs belonging to Bethlehem Shipyard were doing construction work, and being paid at shipyard rates. This matter has been adjusted, and any Brother who has worked on this job and has not received construction rate should report this to the office immediately.

Several small sewer and street paving jobs are going on about town, which keeps a number of our engineers busy; but in general the construction work in this area is not very promising at the present time.

The shipyard conditions have changed somewhat in prospect in the San Francisco yards especially, where contracts have been let for the construction of Navy warships have been cancelled and moved to the east coast to make room for several large repair jobs, which the Navy says will be necessary due to the increased war activity in the Pacific area.

Another new shipyard has come into existence. Pacific Bridge at Hunters Point is setting up a testing basin for floating dry-docks, whereby these docks built in other yards such as Eureka, Stockton and Alameda, will be brought to Hunters Point for their diving tests before final acceptance and commissioning.

A United War Chest Drive which includes the Red Cross for the first time has been approved by all local unions affiliated with the Metal Trades Council, and is now being conducted in most all of the shipyards of this area, and it is hoped that the engineers organization will make the best showing in each of these yards by signing the pledge cards one hundred percent.

Neil J. Haggerty replaces Vandeleur

Neil J. Haggerty, chosen unanimously by the executive board of the California State Federation of Labor, will take over the duties of the late Edward D. Vandeleur, as secretary-treasurer of the federation.

In accepting the appointment, Haggerty resigned the presidency of the federation, and Anthony L. Noriega, vice-president of the 4th district, was appointed to head the California State Federation of Labor.

Provo reports steel mill still supplying bulk of jobs in Southern Utah district

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

Provo—The steel plant is still supplying the bulk of employment to our membership in this area and the outlook of the next six months for those of our membership already employed is very good.

This 200 million dollar steel plant will be about ready to go into operation about April 1, 1944 although small units may be in production prior to that date.

The bulk of our work in the steel plant is of a routine nature, mostly involving violations of the agreement in regard to the working rules or misunderstandings of the types that are bound to arise on such a large job.

About 3000 houses are, at the present moment, being erected in Utah County. Of these less than 100 have been erected under non-union conditions. Thanks to the complete and whole-hearted cooperation of the entire Building Trades Movement.

In all cases the excavating has been done by our membership, and our ability to control most of the excavating equipment has been of considerable importance in obtaining the above mentioned conditions.

Especial attention is being paid to the road contractors as we anticipate considerable work of this sort in this area in the future. One of those who has been giving us particular trouble is Heber Glenn, an excavating and trucking contractor. Mr. Glenn's operations have been placed on the unfair list, and we have been paying particular attention to stopping his operating on any union projects and believe we are making considerable progress.

Like many contractors of similar ilk, Mr. Glenn learned all his tricks by being one of the most radical members of the Teamster's Union in years gone by. When he had to get out and make it by the sweat of his brow, there was nothing too good for the working man but now when he is making it by the sweat of other's brows, there is nothing too good for Mr. Heber Glenn, Contractor.

Carbon County Area: Work in this district has slowed off considerably during the past couple of months due to the completion of most of the projects; however, there is considerable work such as housing and prospective road work coming up in this area and we expect to be able to keep our membership who live in this county at work throughout the coming winter.

Payson Area: This is the location of the lime quarry that will supply lime and dolomite to the steel plant. The stripping of this quarry will start in a few days, however, this will be handled through Geneva and undoubtedly some of the present employed crews will be sent there.

Cedar City Area: Work is pro-

ceeding in this area about as reported in our last report. There is one new road job that is due to start in the near future and undoubtedly there will be other jobs of this type coming up as this area is the site of considerable mining and is also the site of the iron mine that is to supply the iron ore to Geneva.

Our set-up out of Provo has been perfected to a great extent. This is due mainly to the efforts of Brother C. R. Van Winkle, the Labor Coordinator, who is also a member of the Operating Engineers' Local Union 3.

Through his office we are able to keep in constant touch with all the going jobs and the prospective jobs in most instances no job is allowed to start until his office has made the proper arrangements for the employment of union members on all phases of construction.

All of this just goes to prove the value of Building Trades Unions cooperating from the time the dirt was first moved on the job until the key is turned in the door because in this area if union engineers don't do the excavating, no other union building trades men work on the job, and if other union building trades men are not employed, union engineers don't work on the job.

Yards repair 8,000 ships

Washington—More than 8,000 ocean-going steam and motor merchant vessels of 1,000 gross tons or over were repaired during the first six months of 1943, the War Shipping Administration announces. Total repairs for the year are expected to run to 18,000 ships as compared to 12,300 repaired last year.

Although the weekly meat ration in occupied Holland has been cut to three ounces per person, patriotic Hollanders have ways of giving traitors at least a token portion of certain kinds of meat. The Dutch say their meat ration, small as it is, is still big enough to give traitors plenty of "hot tongue and cold shoulder."



Just to make sure the boys in the service don't lack for pin-up beauties, we want them to have this photo of shapely Patricia Lowry of Chicago. (Federated Pictures.)

Hester says Tule Lake job due soon

E. A. (Red) Hester, Business Representative working out of the Redding office, reports:

Redding—Morrison and Knudsen were recently awarded a million dollar contract to do a lot of new work on the Jap camp at Tule Lake. This work should start right away.

Larson Construction Co. is going along very nicely on the pole and power line leading from Shasta Dam to Oroville. They have several pieces of equipment working on this job such as hole digging machines, pole setting tractors, sagging tractors, cranes and dozers. For some reason Mr. Larson has not signed our master agreement, although all equipment on this job is being operated by members of the International Union of Operating Engineers, and there is no other side to the picture.

It is hard to say whether or not the Alturas Aeronautic Training Base will start this winter, though it has been let to a firm of Portland, Oregon and Larson and Harnes of Sacramento.

The big hydro-electric project at Big Bend is tapering off, though we still have a lot of engineers on this job and will have for a year to come.

Out on that mighty Shasta Dam everything is working like the pendulum on a clock. There is lots of excavating and back filling to be done. The last bucket of concrete should be poured about June of 1944.

Keswick Dam is still going. We have a small crew of concrete men on this job. Columbia Construction Co. anticipates having enough aggregates on hand by the first of the year to finish the Shasta Dam.

Carrico iron mine is working ten hours a day six days a week. This is a good job and all engineers seem to stay put. Heins Brothers, E. B. Bishop and J. P. Brennan and a few other small contractors are still doing some work in this district.

We are very short of engineers in this district. Have had some difficulty in supplying the calls. Everyone is working at the present time and seem to be happy and contented.

Neither enemy nor weather stops seamen

Washington, D. C.—Merchant seamen and officers are staying on the job despite weather, enemy action and the strain of repeated sea duty, War Shipping Administration records show.

Of the 104,000 merchant seamen who have shipped from U. S. ports since March 15, only 6,600 have failed to return to sea after completing a voyage. The majority of those who dropped out, less than 6½ per cent of the total, did so because of their health, according to Marshall E. Dimock, assistant deputy administrator.

Dimock said: "Few industries anywhere can match the marvelous record of our merchant seamen. It is one of which the unions, the companies and the WSA can be proud. When Americans consider the risks these men take and the conditions under which they sail they will fully understand that such a low rate of attrition can only mean extreme loyalty and courage beyond the line of duty."

A Republican is happiest when he feels the same way about Roosevelt that a Democrat does when he's despondent.

Jobs humming right along over Marin County way

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

San Rafael—Leibert & Colletti still active employing few members in Sausalito vicinity . . . Heafy-Moore practically finished Tiburon Way . . . A. G. Raisch with usual crew trying to finish up on highway projects before rains . . . Have been going strong all summer!

Brother Bill Russell hangs around Marinship with his crew . . . hoping to get 'em out of the mud . . . Hutcheson Company at Greenbrae on overtime . . . Brother Lewis, Waggoner, and Rowley on shovels. Brother Atkison with Brother Webster on Hot Plant. Brother Birdwell with his shovel getting out small job for City of San Rafael.

"Square-head" Construction Company, known as Johnson-Nelson, San Rafael, keep moving! Brother Ed Nelson & Brother Phillips keep shovel going; Brother Cox on "cat" . . . McPhail & Company have usual crew . . . Very quiet at Hamilton Field.

Frederickson & Watson firing up equipment and doing odd chores

for U. S. E. D. . . Soda & Son better than half done on Petaluma Creek Bridge . . . Same goes for Truett & Shields & Fisher on Napa River job . . . Teichert & Son have good job for State, at Morrow Cove, should last all winter!

All other local contractors in the Vallejo district are very active, with jobs coming up! H. O. Rutherford has levee job in the vicinity of Marysville in addition to business in Vallejo and East Bay. Casson & Ball going slow on Vallejo-Napa Road. McDonald & Westbrook are pouring cement on Napa Airport . . . many brothers coming over from Radich & Brown, Santa Rosa job which is buttoned up.

Napa Quarries and Shipyards going strong! Spalletti & Siri with usual crew busy around Santa Rosa with several prospects for future. Carlin Construction Company trying on Mendocino Airport—weather against them! Brother Thomas and Brother Pacheco are operating an "industrial brown hoist" at Hutcheson Quarry.

No other news . . . hope you all have, and appreciate, your TURKEY, on Thanksgiving and enjoy it to the fullest extent.

Minutes of Nov. 6 meeting

The November meeting was called to order at 8:15 p.m., November 6, at the Building Trades Temple, San Francisco, President Clancy presiding. Roll call showed Conductor Riley and Guard O'Brien absent.

MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of October 2, 1943, were by motion adopted as printed in the Engineers' News.

A synopsis of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of October 16, 1943, were read and the acts and recommendations of the Board were by motion approved as read.

A synopsis of the minutes of the Executive Board meeting of November 6, 1943, were read and the acts and recommendations of the Board were by motion approved as read.

COMMUNICATIONS

From Local Union, No. 370, Spokane, Washington, regarding employment of engineers on the Pasco, Washington project. Filed for information.

From War Finance Committee, Treasury Department at Stockton, expressing appreciation for aid given by Local No. 3 in the Third War Loan Drive. Filed.

From P.F.C. Warren D. Nelson, Army Engineers, expressing appreciation for action of the members of Local No. 3. Filed.

From Belair Shipyard, notice of intent to reduce wages paid some members of Local No. 3. There was considerable discussion on this letter. President Clancy explained that no action would be taken by the company until after the conclusion of the present shipyard convention at Seattle, Washington.

Cards of thanks from the family of Robert Rone and the family of Calvin Teague.

Mr. Dave Jenkins, director of the Tom Mooney School, was granted the floor. He stated that the school was a non-profit organization and was supported by organized labor. He extended an invitation to all members of Local Union No. 3 to investigate the school and enroll in the classes. Such classes as labor history, parliamentary law and a number of other subjects, as well as lectures on subjects of interest to labor, are now available at the school. He requested that Local No. 3 participate in the support of the school. The matter was later referred to a committee.

BUSINESS AGENTS REPORTS

It was regularly moved and seconded that the business agents' reports be dispensed with since the reports are made in the Engineers' News. Carried.

It was requested that if there were any questions or information for the business representatives, they be given at this time.

Attendance ticket No. 98967 was held by Lyle McCann, 110 Hickory Avenue, Millbrae, California, and he was presented with the attendance award.

Brother Vandewark gave a report on the statement of cash received and disbursed for the third quarter.

There followed considerable discussion on leaderman's pay in the various yards; no action being taken.

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

Respectfully submitted,
C. F. MATHEWS, Secretary.

President orders living costs' study

(Continued from Page 1)
or ouster of any particular individual," Mr. Green explained to the press. "What we did object to was the exercise of such arbitrary veto powers by an individual, no matter what his office.

"Our original no-strike pledge was based upon an understanding that disputes would be referred to and settled by a tripartite agency such as the National War Labor Board through democratic processes."

We now find the decisions of this Board and other similar agencies arbitrarily set aside in an autocratic way by super-agencies not even in existence at the time our agreement was made. We want the original and final powers of the War Labor Board restored to it."

Mr. Green added that he felt the investigation of cost of living indexes ordered by the President would be helpful. He said:

"We question seriously the accuracy of the figures put out by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the Department of Labor."

Other AFL representatives who attended the White House conference were Secretary-Treasurer George Meany and Vice President Daniel J. Tobin. They agreed fully with the conclusions expressed by

Rainy season closing down construction jobs, Eureka reports; woods on part time

Otto Never, Business Representative working out of the Eureka Office, reports:

Eureka—The rainy season has caused construction jobs to shut down and the woods are only working part time because of the rain.

Marshall Hanrahan is about done for the season at Smith River and the Red Hen, but will start up there again in the spring. His equipment is going to Marysville.

Some of the small logging contractors between Crescent City and Eureka keep a cat skinner or two busy and now and then we get a call for slacker or donkey engineer.

The housing project here in Eureka has started and we have three cat skimmers and one drag-line crew busy. Close is finished at Laytonville until next spring.

The local drydock is keeping all brothers busy and the Eureka Shipbuilding Co. at Fields Landing continually puts on more heavy duty mechanics.

Our work in organizing the Redwood Lumber Industry is going ahead slowly with much opposition from the logger companies. Our stewards on these jobs, however, are doing a fine job. We still need riggers, choker setters, and loader men. This work is steady and there is some overtime. Chances for advancement are good.

Some chrome mines are starting up and our steward at Marshall Hanrahan, Scotty Jenkins, is assisting me in locating and lining them up.

Our next meeting will be on November 21st at 8 p.m. Our members will furnish the music and entertainment for the meeting.

There were approximately 2,743,295 cubic yards of earth moved on this job. A greater part of this work was done in the winter time during the rains when the going was plenty tough. 900,000 tons of sub-base material was used. 136,502 lineal feet of roads were completed. 413,430 square yards of paving was laid, and there was 382,926 feet of soil pipe used. Their contract consisted of 606 buildings of 120 different types.

We think that the completion of this job in less than a year's time is a remarkable record accomplished by our members of Local 3.

Barrett & Hilp job is coming along nicely with 10 members on the job at the present time. In the near future they anticipate expanding so that we will have approximately 18 members employed there.

McDonald & Kahn has the contract for construction of the Hospital Unit . . . E. J. Tobin has one rig, a trencher, operating at the present time . . . There are 10 members employed on the Fredrickson & Watson job at Fleet City, Camp Parks, Brother Al Bowling is Master Mechanic and Brother H. L. Farris is in charge of Excavation.

Brother Deane Richerson, 3A member who is now in the Merchant Marines, was a visitor in the Oakland office recently. Deane has just returned back to his home port in San Francisco after his first trip out.

Fredrickson & Watson excavating job at Oak Knoll is going full swing. We have approximately 40 members on the job, working two shifts.

Brother Eugene Keefe, while employed as a Mechanic on the Fredrickson & Watson job at Oak Knoll, had the misfortune to meet with an accident in which one of his hands was severed. Brother Keefe is in the Providence Hospital in Oakland and we understand he is getting along as well as could be expected.

Sgt. Donald F. Powers, who is stationed at Camp Claybourne, Louisiana, was a recent visitor in the Oakland Office. Sgt. Powers is home on a 5 day furlough. He says he likes Army life.

Report urges better handling of grievances

Washington—Fuller utilization of grievance machinery throughout American industry would materially reduce the number of disputes coming before government agencies today, Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins said in making public a report on "Settling Plant Grievances," prepared at the request of a group of industrialists and union leaders.

The report summarizes the experience of many large corporations and labor unions in working out grievance machinery in their own collective bargaining units.

"The government should and does set forth the rules of the game as determined by public policy," Secretary Perkins said. "In extreme cases the government acts as umpire or judge when industrial strife threatens the public interest. But the positive development of industrial harmony begins at the plant level with the intelligent handling of plant grievances. "Where labor and management can settle their differences directly, the results show up in terms of higher morale, greater plant efficiency and increased production."

Nazis fear revolt of Dutch workers

New York—That the Nazis are taking no chances in preparing for an Allied invasion of Europe's west coast, is proved by their sudden suspension of all leaves of Dutch workers within the Reich. This new decree indicates that Germany intends to hold the largest possible number of workers as hostages in view of present threatening conditions, according to the Netherlands Information Bureau.

Most of the 300,000 Hollanders deported to the Reich are ex-service men, students, and workers in their early manhood who, at the first signal from their government in London, would eagerly take up arms against their oppressors and drive them from Dutch soil.

Shipbuilders deliver 163 cargo ships

Washington—The Nation's merchant shipyards in October delivered 163 cargo vessels aggregating 1,675,311 deadweight tons, bringing the total 1943 deliveries to 1,524 ships, totaling 15,501,624 deadweight tons, the Maritime Commission announced today.

October production surpassed that of September by three vessels, or 22,540 deadweight tons of ships. During the month, yards delivered 98 Liberty Ships, eight C-type cargo vessels, 16 standard tankers, 19 emergency tankers (modified Liberty Ships), three T-1 or coastal tankers, two private coastal tankers, five seagoing tugs, one ore carrier, three concrete barges, and eight special types for military use. While yards delivered eight less Libertys in October than September, they produced three more T-2 tankers and 11 more emergency tankers.

Of the total deliveries, 76 ships, or 47.07 per cent, were delivered by West Coast yards; East Coast yards turned out 51 vessels, or 33.51 per cent of the total; 29 vessels, or 17.66 per cent, were delivered by yards on the Gulf Coast, and seven ships, amounting to 1.76 per cent of the total, were produced and delivered by Great Lakes builders.

October deliveries put the Commission within 3,388,376 deadweight tons of merchant ships for 1943. The original quota, 16,000,000 deadweight tons, will be reached early in November, and, while each yard will have to put forth still greater production effort, the Commission expects the full quota to be met by the end of the year.

The number and types of vessels built by Bay Area yards follow:

- Barrett & Hillp — Concrete Barges.
- Permanente Metals Corp., — Richmond, Calif.—Liberty Ships.
- Western Pipe and Steel Co. — CS Cargo vessels.

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Poor utilization loses manpower

Washington—The equivalent of the work of 2,000,000 men is lost to war production through poor utilization of manpower, states the October Manpower Review, an official WMC publication.

Poor scheduling, absenteeism, turn-over, under-utilization of skills, and the continuance of certain peacetime practices incompatible with an all-out war program result in a loss of 16,000,000 man hours or the work of 2,000,000 men, it was charged.

Eugene G. Bewkes, assistant director of the WMC's Bureau of Manpower Utilization, pointed out that many signposts like absenteeism, turn-over, production lag, threatened strikes, and recruitment difficulties—are mere symptoms of labor misuse.

Actual causes for under-utilization of labor fall into four groups: plant conditions, production procedures, personnel policies and out-of-plant factors. Manpower utilization consultants, made available by WMC to help eliminate mal-utilization, attempt to ferret out particular causes and to help management correct them.

Labor also has a responsibility, says Frank H. Sparks, director of the bureau, in another article, to call employers' attention to under-utilization of skills and to develop plans for upgrading.

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With an evening coat and a white tie, anybody even a stock broker, can gain a reputation for being civilized.—OSCAR WILDE.

A tribute to shipbuilders

One of our Oakland members, Harold Meuser, submitted the following poem, which was written and dedicated to him by a friend. We feel that this might well apply to all our shipyard crane operators who certainly have a mighty important job.

GUARDIAN OF SHIPBUILDERS (To Harold Meuser)

It's time that tribute should be paid to one
Whose role in building ships not many know;
From laying keel until the job is done,
He is the star who makes or breaks the show;
Alone he sits above the building ship
'Mid cables, levers, guiding monstrous crane;
With care he watches every load—one slip
Might mean a score of fellow-workers slain!
The massive weight appears to bend the boom,
The craneman grins and nods that it's "O. K."—
No guesswork now, else it might spell the doom
Of all who stand beneath the load's grim sway:
A craneman perhaps has an unsung role,
But in shipyards he's the ace in the hole!

FDR opens fight for subsidies; urges action to cut living costs

Washington, D. C. — President Roosevelt, in a fighting message to a rebellious Congress, stoutly defended the use of food subsidies and left little doubt that he would veto any bill which sought to prevent use of them.

The President apparently aimed much of his 10,000-word message at the pending bill to extend the life of the Commodity Credit Corporation beyond December 31.

This bill, as it was reported from the House Banking and Currency Committee, would prohibit after December 31 the paying of subsidies to hold down food costs. The President vetoed an anti-subsidy bill last summer and the House upheld him.

Mr. Roosevelt said the support price program for farmers, coupled with subsidy programs "to meet special farming costs without raising prices to consumers, is an essential part of waging the war."

"The subsidies that are used," he said, "cannot properly be called producer subsidies or consumer subsidies. They are war subsidies. The costs which they cover are war costs."

Food subsidies in 1943, the message said, would cost about \$800,000,000, but their use "has saved the Government and consumers billions of dollars."

The American Federation of Labor stalwartly supports the President's subsidy program and, in fact, goes much further than he has to date in demanding a comprehensive subsidy program to reduce living costs.

Several months ago AFL President William Green told a Senate Committee that a two billion dollar subsidy program would save the Government 6 billion dollars and consumers a like amount in purchases of items that make up the essential diet of the American people.

In his message to Congress, the President declared that food production is steadily increasing in America, an increase in live stock production this year more than making up for a reduction in crops.

All restrictions on agricultural production, with the exception of those on tobacco, have been removed, the President said, and he denied that acreage restrictions were in any way responsible for existing shortages. He said that preliminary plans for 1944 called for 380,000,000 acres in crops, as compared with 364,000,000 in 1943.

Farmers, said Mr. Roosevelt, were better off than for any comparable recorded period, including 1910-14, the so-called golden age of agriculture which is used as a yardstick to measure parity prices for most agricultural commodities. Net incomes of farmers in 1939 was \$4,430,000,000; in 1942 it was \$9,500,000,000, and the estimate for 1943 is \$12,475,000,000.

The increase in the average in-

come per farmer over the parity base 1910-14, Mr. Roosevelt said, was 38 per cent greater in 1942 than the increase in the average income of the other people in the country and in 1943 would be 50 per cent greater.

The President dwelt upon increases in the cost of living, attributing three-fourths of the 6.2 per cent rise from September 15, 1942, to May 15, 1943, to increases in the costs of food. He then described the measures, including several controversial programs, which resulted in bringing down this increase by August, 1943, to 4.8 per cent, and praised the support which "responsible organized labor" gave to the hold-the-line policy.

The President's figures on cost of living increases were taken from reports of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These figures are challenged by the AFL as inaccurate and far below actual prices paid by workers.

The message foreshadowed Government purchase and sale for some perishable foods in order "to insure distribution that is fair to all parts of the country," and indicated that no further concentration of food authority in the War Food Administration was intended by saying that it already was properly centered in one agency.

The President acknowledged the existence of black markets and said vigorous efforts would be made to stamp them out, but he insisted that the "price support program is proving reasonably successful on both fronts: increasing production and maintaining fair food prices for the consumer."

"I am convinced," he said, "that to abandon our present policy would increase the cost of living, bring about demands for increased wages which would then be justifiable, and might well start a serious and dangerous cycle of inflation—without any net profit to anyone."

"Some people say 'a little inflation will not hurt anyone.' They are like the man who takes the first shot of opium for the sensations he thinks it will give him. He likes it, although he swears that he will not make it a habit. Soon he is talking two—and then more, and more—and then he loses control of himself."

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Munitions output rises slightly

Washington—Munitions production in September rose only a single point above the August level indicating the difficulty of exceeding previous peaks despite the urgent need, the WPB has announced.

A 6 per cent increase in production of heavy bombers contributed to a 3 per cent gain on an airframe weight basis even though the number of planes was down 14 from August to a total of 7598,

Business Representatives and Officers in Various District Offices within Jurisdiction of Local No. 3

- MAIN OFFICE: 1161 Market Street (3rd floor), San Francisco, Hemlock 1568
- VICTOR S. SWANSON..... Local Union Manager
Evergreen 1625
 - PAT CLANCY..... President, Business Representative
Jupiter 4-5535
 - C. F. MATHEWS..... Recording Secretary
Overland 7063
 - P. E. VANDEWARK..... Treasurer, Business Representative
Elkridge 3010
 - T. M. BYNON..... Financial Secretary and Dispatcher
GRaystone 4484
 - JACK FOSTER..... Dispatcher, Business Representative
PProspect 0489
 - HARRY METZ..... Business Representative
Elkridge 3924

OAKLAND OFFICE

- 221 Webster Street—Phone: Twinoaks 2120
- AL CLEM, Business Representative..... Home Phone: Humboldt 9555
- ED DORAN, Business Representative..... Home Phone: Market 0565
- JOE WALTHERS, Business Representative Home Phone: Berkeley 0470J

SAN RAFAEL OFFICE

- 918 C Street—Phone: San Rafael 4616
- H. O. FOSS, Business Representative..... Home Phone: San Rafael 4368

FRESNO OFFICE

- 1035 Broadway—Phone: Fresno 3-1237
- T. D. BRYSON..... Business Representative

SAN JOSE OFFICE

- 40 North Morrison Street—Phone Columbia 6748
- M. G. MURPHY, Business Representative..... Home Phone: Columbia 6169
- WM. A. SPEERS, Business Representative..... Home Phone: MAYfair 643

REDDING OFFICE

- 1347 Tehama Street—Phone: Redding 159
- E. A. HESTER, Business Representative..... Home Phone: Redding 995

SACRAMENTO OFFICE

- Labor Temple, Eighth and "I" Streets—Phone: Sacramento 3-7304
- F. A. LAWRENCE..... Business Representative
Home Phone: Sacramento 2-7322

MARYSVILLE OFFICE

- 415 Second Street—Phone: Marysville 1077
- LeROY THOMAS..... Business Representative

STOCKTON OFFICE

- 805 East Weber Avenue—Phone: Stockton 2-6847
- WM. C. WAACK, Business Representative Home Phone: Stockton 5-5771

EUREKA OFFICE

- Labor Temple, Eureka—Phone: Eureka 200
- OTTO NEVER, Business Representative..... Home Phone: Eureka 1246J

SALT LAKE OFFICE, UTAH

- 151 South Second East Street—Phone: Salt Lake 3-3706
- C. L. CASEBOLT..... Business Representative
- B. M. STEWART..... Business Representative
- T. L. CLARK..... Business Representative

PROVO OFFICE, UTAH

- 35 North Third West—Phone: Provo 630-J
- H. L. SPENCE, Business Representative Home Phone: Salt Lake 4-4110

OGDEN OFFICE, UTAH

- 261 - 25th Street—Phone: Ogden 2-6396

RENO OFFICE, NEVADA

- 17 West Fourth Street—Phone: Reno 2-3171
- JOHN DeLAGRANGE, Business Representative Home Phone: Reno 4289
- LESTER M. COLLETT, Business Representative Home Phone: Reno 3070
- AUSTIN B. WADMAN, Business Representative..... Phone: Reno 2-3171

REGULAR MEETING OF LOCAL UNION NO. 3

HELD the 1st Saturday of each month at the San Francisco Building Trades Council—200 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, California. Time: 8 p.m. "All members should attend meetings regularly."

"GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE"

The Grievance Committee meets every Wednesday night at 8 p.m. in the Main Office, at 1161 Market Street (3rd floor), San Francisco. All the Executive Officers and Business Representatives in the Bay Area are present, at this time, and if any member should have a grievance, or problem of any kind, they should bring it before the grievance committee.—REMEMBER, EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT!!

Metz tells of visit to Nevada, discussions with Permanente

Harry Metz, Special Representative working out of the San Francisco Office reports:

I have visited several of our districts in the past two months in the interest of Local Union No. 3. A brief outline of my activities follows:

I spent a considerable amount of time in the State of Nevada assisting Brother DeLagrange, who is endeavoring to sign up work in all lines of industries such as mines, smelters, construction contractors and companies where stationery engineers are employed.

I also visited the Permanente Metal Corporation's plant at Los Altos where several of our members complained that the Company was not living up to our agree-

ment with them. A series of meetings were held with the Company officials who were reluctant to do anything about these complaints. With the cooperation of Brother Murphy and Brother Speers and Company personnel we were able to alleviate most of the trouble there.

Visited the Permanente Metals Corporation's Magnesium Plant at Manteca with Brother Waack. The laborers in this plant are doing some of the Engineers' work. A meeting is expected shortly to correct this condition.

I attended a meeting of the Rock, Sand and Gravel industries in regards to a renewal of the present agreement. Several more meetings are expected before this can be accomplished.

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Unions' job on safety laws

(Continued from Page 3)

members of all unions should be made familiar with the safety orders and laws. The representatives of councils and unions, he declared, should insist that the state safety orders and laws be complied with.

Cases that require action by a state safety inspector should be reported immediately to local coun-

cils or to the California State Building and construction Trades Council so that prompt action can be taken.

"It is a fundamental duty of councils and unions to protect the health, safety and lives of their members, and to vigorously cooperate in helping to stop the deadly toll of injured and killed," MacDonald stressed.