



ENGINEERS NEWS

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

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SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF.



MARCH 17, 1944

Labor key vote in 1944

By Federated Press

Signs continued to appear on the labor political horizon indicating that a guaranteed fourth term for President Roosevelt depends on organized labor's political activity.

Chief portents are: (1) defeatist wooing of labor votes by trying to paint the New Deal as essentially fascist; (2) results of recent public opinion polls; (3) reports on their cross-country tours by Vice-Presi. Henry A. Wallace and Republican Presidential aspirant Wendell L. Willkie.

Republican leaders had hoped Roosevelt's tax bill veto would make his nomination doubtful. However, an Associated Press survey made public March 1 indicated that the President already, four months ahead of the convention, has 74 of the necessary convention votes pretty well lined up.

A recent Gallup poll indicated general political sentiment pretty evenly divided between the Republican and Democratic parties. Outside the south, however, this poll showed 52 per cent favoring the Republicans.

This sampling did not take into consideration individual candidates. Personal popularity, it is agreed, plays an important part in vote getting—a fact which would give Roosevelt and Willkie a head start over any other nominee chosen by their parties.

In another Gallup sampling among workers alone, AFL members voted 64 per cent and CIO members 66 per cent for a Democratic over a Republican victory this fall. The Newspaper PM polled top ranking labor leaders, results of which showed them 82 per cent for the re-election of Roosevelt.

Upon his return from a nationwide speaking tour, Wallace told reporters that his trip convinced him that the people were overwhelmingly for an FDR fourth term.

Willkie made it clear on his recent trip that the only chance of GOP success lies in its ability to lure workers' votes away from Roosevelt. His argument is not that Roosevelt's policies are wrong, but that the Republicans (that is, Willkie) would carry them out better.

If the workers stay lined up two to one for Roosevelt—and if they vote—his re-election is assured. If they don't vote, the result is in doubt. Here's why:

In the 1940 Presidential election, when 49 million people voted, the Democrats got 55 per cent. In the 1942 congressional election, when only 28 million people voted, the Republicans got 52 per cent.

When the workers go to the polls, it would seem, Roosevelt wins.

Senate report praises labor's output record

WASHINGTON — (FP)— War workers' role in the success of the war production program is singled out for praise in the Truman committee's third annual report to Congress, made public March 5.

To fulfill the government's huge production needs, the report notes, "our workers engaged in manufacturing, mining, and agriculture contributed nearly 45 per cent more man-days of work in 1943 than in 1939, despite the fact that more than 10,000,000 men were withdrawn from the labor pool for the armed forces. In manufacturing alone, our workmen contributed 89.6 per cent more man-days in 1943 than in 1939.

"This astounding performance exceeds anything of its kind ever achieved in the history of the world. The results obtained are the best answer to the critics of the home front. They do

not indicate perfection, but they do evidence accomplishment of a high order.

"All Americans who have participated can be justly proud, because the success is due to the accumulated efforts of the millions of people who have each done their share rather than to any miraculous planning of a few experts at the top.

"Women in particular deserve credit for filling the huge gap created by manpower requirements of the armed services. Older men who had retired from active work have returned to their jobs and because of their experience are among the most valuable of workers. The job that has been done not only assures that victory will be won, but it assures that it will be won more quickly and with fewer casualties. Our armed forces have more and better equipment than our foes."

Workers held prisoner by Japs to receive pay

Through the untiring efforts of the California State Federation of Labor and the American Federation of Labor, the First Supplemental National Defense Appropriations Act 1944, includes legislation entitling the Construction workers of Wake Island, Guam, and the Philippines, now imprisoned by the Japanese, to receive an amount of money equal to the average weekly wage received by them at the time their absence began.

Up to now the families of these heroic workers, who fought with every weapon at their disposal to repel the Japanese when Wake and the other islands were attacked, have been receiving dribbling amounts of money from the

Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Committee. The payments have been so pitifully small that they have been in the most destitute circumstances and in many cases suffering acutely.

In March of 1943 Congress passed a bill which took care of the members of the armed forces and the civilian employees of the government, but by some oversight these worthy construction workers were left out.

Since that time the California State Federation of Labor, together with the American Federation of Labor, has fought unrelentingly to obtain the inclusion of these workers under the same legislation.

Seabee from Local 3 lauds union-made guns

Washington — High praise for equipment turned out by union workers has been sounded by Seabee H. J. Hulstrom, USNR, Machinist Mate 1/c, of Chico, Calif., veteran of the African invasion, wearer of the Purple Heart, and former member of Local 3, International Union of Operating Engineers (AFL). He was a bulldozer and shovel operator in civilian life.

Hulstrom was gun pointer and gun captain of one of the twin 40 mm gun mounts aboard an LST in the convoy which entered Bizerte. He said the equipment taken along worked fine and "gave us very little trouble considering the beating we gave it." He said the German and Italian stuff looked rugged but every time it was pushed very hard it had to be overhauled.

"This is a new kind of war," Hulstrom said. "You can't win it with just guns and ships and planes. It takes bulldozers, trucks, cats, cranes, shovels, and all kinds of heavy stuff that doesn't look like it could fight. This war takes the kind of rugged stuff that union men and women know how to make."

Hulstrom was wounded by four pieces of bomb fragments during an air raid by the Germans, but despite his wounds, he took his post at his anti-aircraft guns and fired away at the raiders until they withdrew from the area.

Hulstrom urged that production of equipment for the Navy be increased by the workers at home.

"The Seabees are the 'can do' boys," he said. "We do a lot of working and a little shooting."

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Swanson on way to recovery

By HARRY METZ, Business Representative

Well on the road to recovery, Victor S. Swanson, Local 3's Business Manager, is expected to pay his first visit to the union's office this week, make his first appearance at the union's meeting in April.

While it had been expected that Brother Swanson would be able to attend the March meeting, he was unable to make it because of an operation he had undergone two days before.

Bro. Swanson has undergone a series of operations with at least two more to come. Due to the tenderness of new flesh and skin, it is necessary to wait until the preceding operation is completely healed before the doctors can proceed with the next phase.

At present, Bro. Swanson is convalescing at his home after 78 days in the hospital.

He sends his thanks to his many friends among the members for their kind and thoughtful letters—letters that came to him from practically all over the globe, including the South Pacific, Italy, New Guinea, Solomons as well as many parts of this country.

West's minerals, mining key to postwar jobs

By OTTO E. NEVER
Business Representative

Slow progress toward the decentralization of the nation's steel industry is the keynote of this report.

In order that you brother members may better visualize what we are striving for, Brother Victor Swanson has suggested that this article be devoted to a description of the entire effort and the opposition.

A year or more ago, a group of Western mine owners and mine associations were convinced that they were not getting anywhere, so they formed the Western Mining Council. They set up a program, the broad feature of which is "the proper recognition of Western minerals."

However, the Government issued a call to all small operators of strategic minerals for all-out production, but put the matter in the hands of the War Production Board, whose officers I described in the previous issue of the News. However, for the benefit of those who did not read that issue, they are as follows:

1. Dr. John Johnston, Director of Research, U. S. Steel Corporation.
 2. Jay Jeffries of General Electric, formerly with Aluminum Co. He sits on the Committee passing on new Aluminum methods, which compete with Aluminum Co. of America.
 3. M. F. McConnell and Robert B. Sosman, U. S. Steel Corp.
 4. R. S. A. Dougherty and Chas. H. Hertz, Jr., Bethlehem Steel Co.
 5. James H. Critchell and A. E. Kinsel of Union Carbide Co.
 6. Clyde Williams, director of the Battelle Memorial Institute, which is close to most of the big metallurgical companies.
- These men are the Advisory Board to Donald Nelson and their opposition to any steel industry on

the West Coast should be apparent.

To accomplish their purpose, they control every government body that has to do with minerals; the U. S. Bureau of Mines; the R. F. C. the lending agency, Metal Reserve Corp. the purchasing agency, etc. We regret that California State Division of Mines, under State Mineralogist Walter Bradley, and Senator Scrugham of Nevada, Chairman of the Senate Sub-committee on Mining and Minerals, is under the same control.

As for Utah, I frankly feel that they have started to do a good job at the Geneva plant, but they certainly lack intestinal fortitude if they allow their plant to be dismantled and sent to Russia. To allow this 180 million dollar plant to come under any control but Western mining men would be disastrous not only for Western miners, but the entire western states.

The three immediate objectives of the Western Mining Council at the present time are:

1. A proper Scrugham stockpiling bill for strategic minerals.
 2. The decentralization of the steel business, with plants for the Pacific Coast.
 3. Re-opening of the gold mines.
- Referring back to objective No. 1, I mentioned in our previous issue of the News that we wanted stockpiles of domestic minerals. However, Senator Scrugham has re-written his bill three times, until now it is a reverse lend-lease, or rather "lend-lose", as far as we are concerned.
- His new bill is for imported minerals. We do not want that. We want post-war employment, not exploitation of natives in South America and the Pacific Southwest by our large steel companies.
- Objective No. 2, The steel decentralization movement. This is

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Marin waits on weather

By H. O. FOSS
Business Representative

SAN RAFAEL—Teichert & Son on Hamilton Field moved too fast for the U.S.E.D. had to shut down one shift on the 6th of this month. Their job at Mendocino has been sub-let to Carlin Construction Company.

One dragline and trenching machine is about all that's on the job until such time as the weather clears. Mauer job on finish end on Albion River bridge. Several small road jobs being let in Mendocino, Marin and Sonoma Counties. Trewett, Shields & Fisher removing bypass on Napa River, practically finished.

Casson & Ball will take off again on Napa-Vallejo Highway about April 1st, if weather permits. . . . Quite a lot of work coming up in Vallejo District, in fact seems more than last year's total (Federal, County and State).

Few members are idle around Santa Rosa but with the season's big rains now behind us, I feel that all will be working by the first of the month. . . . Parish Bros. of Benicia are fixing up equipment, recently returned from below the border. They have their pencils pointed down . . . figuring new work!

Basalt Quarries and Shipyards are going along steadily. Healdsburg plant has "walking drag-line" out of river, waiting for high water . . . keeping orders filled from stock pile. Hutchinson Quarries at Greenbrae are trying to keep up with orders, but are behind at present.

Brother John Evola of Pittsburg working in the Vallejo District cleaning up Barrage Balloon anchorages, probably have three more weeks' work. . . . Brother English is in the District also, with Harry Lee's rig from Burlingame, doing his pressure water main installation.

Brother E. E. Hill still in Mary's Help Hospital, San Francisco. Brother Hill tried to ride an American Crane to the bottom of the Graving Dock at Basalt Shipyards. Didn't have his spurs on as he was thrown clear. He would like some of the brothers to visit him.

Brother E. A. Rader, mechanic for C. M. Syar, says his legs only bend one way. He tried to make one do different but it broke off . . . he is home at 141 Hogan Street, Vallejo, and will be for 30 days. At the present writing Brother Philpott is very low and is home at Windsor. . . . Brother Philpott has sure been one sick member! Brother Bacon, who was critically burned several months ago, is now home but will still be sometime before complete recovery. Brother Badger is in the Sonoma Hospital with serious back ailment.

Local 3 Seabee lauds unionists

(Continued from Page 1)

We're like the folks in the factories only we do our work a little closer to the actual fighting. We can see what they need up there next to the front lines. And they need everything the workers can give them."

Hulstrom's wife enlisted in the Army Nurses Corps when he joined the Seabees. Prior to joining the Navy he had served three years in the Army, a year in the Marine Corps, and about three years in the California National Guard.

Hulstrom took out a service withdrawal card from Local 3 in December, 1942.

WARNING!

TO ALL AFFILIATED UNIONS AND COUNCILS

Dear Sirs and Brothers:
A most sinister threat is being aimed at labor in California and at the people as a whole. Just at the time when the war is shifting to the Pacific and when California's war industry must assume an even more vital role, a group of irresponsible labor-haters are going to petition the voters of California to amend the Constitution by adding Section 1(a), which is reprinted below.

This proposed Constitutional Amendment would nullify every existing union agreement. Ninety days from the time of receipt of its title, the petitioners will have to obtain 178,764 signatures in order to place the measure on the ballot. It is up to labor to make this as difficult as possible, if not actually impossible, by exposing this effort to disrupt the harmonious relations now prevailing between labor and management in California.

Unless we stop this dastardly move, our entire war production is endangered. We cannot afford to go through another campaign similar to the "Hot Cargo" issue of two years ago. Inevitably, it would divert the interest of the workers and definitely destroy the unity on the home front.

We must point out to our friends and to all other voters in our community that now is not the time to settle issues of this kind. Today every man's time, effort and energy are required for his job. If we can stop this threat by preventing the obtaining of enough signatures, then we will have done a great service to the war effort, labor, and the entire American people. It is imperative, therefore, that everyone immediately become alert to this menace and combat it with all his strength and resources.

The California State Federation of Labor is maintaining the closest contact with all developments and will keep the unions informed as the occasion requires.

Yours fraternally,
C. J. HAGGERTY, Secretary.

PROPOSED INITIATIVE PETITION

RIGHT OF EMPLOYMENT. Initiative Constitutional Amendment. Adds section 1A to Article I. Declares right of employment, free from interference because employee does or does not belong to or pay money to a labor organization. Declares interference with such right unlawful and provides remedy by court action. Defines labor organization. Declares section self executing, and authorizes legislation to facilitate its operation.

A new section 1-A is hereby added to Article I of the Constitution of the State of California to read as follows:

Section 1-A. Every person has the right to work, and to seek, obtain and hold employment, without interference with or impairment or abridgment of said right because he does or does not belong to or pay money to a labor organization.

Anything done or threatened to be done which interferes with, impairs, or abridges, or which is intended to interfere with, impair or abridge said right, is unlawful. Relief against or on account of anything so done or threatened to be done shall be granted in a civil action, legal or equitable, initiated in the superior court of any county in which anything so done or threatened to be done shall occur, upon the complaint of any person or upon complaint of the district attorney of such county.

The term "Labor Organization" means any organization of any kind, or any agency or employee representation, committee or plan, which exists for the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, rates of pay, hours of employment or conditions of work.

This section is self-executing and shall supersede all provisions in conflict therewith; legislation may be enacted to facilitate its operation but no law shall limit or restrict the provisions hereof.

West's minerals, mining key to post-war jobs

(Continued from Page 1)

headed in the House by Engle, Welch, King, all of California, Boykin of Alabama, Coffee of Washington State, and many others who have formed a Western Mineral bloc, headed by Senator McCarran of Nevada. The War Production Board big shots immediately challenged the West with the statement that we did not have sufficient iron ore.

This led to our iron ore survey after a \$2,750,000.00 appropriation was passed by Congress in July, 1943. (This movement is not only for steel, but for aluminum plants, copper, lead and tin smelters, etc.) This money is being spent by the U. S. Bureau of Mines, and is divided proportionately among 26 western states.

Each state has a liaison agent appointed by the Governor and paid out of the Emergency Fund. (That is, each state except California.) California is so hard up that its Liaison Agent, a mining engineer named Captain John Hubbard, pays his own expenses and gets no salary from the State.

These men assist in speeding up these surveys and act for the Governor as contact man to the U. S. Bureau of Mines. We are not asleep on this matter, but we think the Governor has been ill-advised.

Objective No. 3. Our third objective is the reopening of Western gold mines, or rescinding of W. P. B. Order L-208. W. L. B. now admits that the closing order did not accomplish its purpose, but yet it is very slow to recall the order. One at a time they are allowing certain mines to reopen, but only a selected few.

Although gold is still \$35.00 an ounce in this country, I note with

interest an article in the March issue of the Western Mining Journal, and I quote.

"The item below is taken from the November 28, 1943, issue of the Weekly Guardian, Manchester, England. 'Egyptian banks began on Monday morning to sell gold bars freely to private purchasers. The gold is sold, according to Reuter, in ingots of 996/1000 fineness, weighing 18.69 dirkems or 33 Egyptian pounds each, which is equal to £17.73 per fine ounce, or, roughly £19 sterling. This amounts to \$70.92 per ounce; that is, figuring the English pound at \$4.00.'" Unquote.

With the many ideas of how the National Debt is to be reduced one can readily see what will happen to gold—at least \$75.00 an ounce with a \$25.00 Federal Tax. It all makes for employment, with a decent profit to the mine owner and a decent wage to the cat skinner, shovel runner, drag line operator, etc.

It therefore behooves all readers to contact your Congressman and have him get behind Congressman Clair Engle; get after your local assemblyman and State Senator to stir up the Governor to put Captain Hubbard on a salary and expense account and to set up a State Bureau of Mines.

You brothers in Nevada and Utah should do likewise. If you need further information, contact your local business agent or contact me direct.

We hope in our next issue to show some definite progress in the right direction. And at that time, Brother Vic Swanson may be able to take a more active part.

Wanted: dredgemen

By JACK FOSTER
Business Representative

The Dredging Companies are in need of men, particularly Deckhands. This office can place at least thirty men on these jobs at \$1.10 per hour plus overtime, also Sunday work. The work is steady and with good companies.

Should any of our members have friends that want to work, please send them in to this office.

The Union, and the Dredging Companies, will appreciate your efforts.

These jobs are local, right here in the Bay and not far from home. We naturally expect some results if the members will help just a little in their efforts to get the men to fill the jobs.

Owing to the fact that Construction work is very slow, surely some of you members should be willing to take these jobs until the dirt moving contracts get started. You all realize that the weather conditions have slowed the construction work to a stand-still.

So come and take a Dredge job to carry you along until the other work gets started.

Any one over 18 years of age can do the work.

San Mateo work slows—rains, too

By PAT CLANCY
President and
Business Representative

SAN FRANCISCO—Work in San Mateo County has been slack due to weather. The Pan-American Air-base job has had a few members working there through the bad weather.

Belair Shipyard laid off a number of our engineers and operators. However, I do not believe there will be any more lay-offs now, throughout the completion of the contract.

Guy F. Atkinson Company's yard at South San Francisco is proceeding as rapidly as possible, wading around in mud.

Western Pipe and Steel is going about the same as usual. The two leadermen are getting along O.K. at the present time. The members named for these places were Scottie Moore, as graveyard leaderman, and Smoky DeRay as leaderman on the swing shift. That is about all for the Western Pipe and Steel at the present time. There has been a little construction work going on there but not amounting to much.

There are several big jobs in line for San Mateo County. There are rumors that there is to be a \$4,000,000 construction job at Tanforan for Naval Personnel. Also a tunnel and pipe line job back up

Weather holds up S.F. jobs

By P. E. VANDEWARK
Business Representative

SAN FRANCISCO—Work in the San Francisco Area has been rather slow the last month, due mostly to wet weather conditions, although several small jobs are in progress about town.

Eaton and Smith are doing street work on the Metropolitan housing project with several members employed. Also they are removing street car tracks along Guerrero Street, and have a sewer job on Twenty-fifth Street.

Harney is still working on the streets at Hunters Point and on the Army Warehouses on Sixth Street. Piombo Brothers have started excavation work on the DeHaro Housing Project which should employ several of our members.

Pacific Bridge Company is still doing a small amount of construction work at Hunters Point along with their testing of floating dry-docks, upon which there is quite a number of members working.

Lowrie Paving Company and Pacific Pavements have several small jobs around town, which have managed to keep the steady members working.

Ben C. Gerwick job at Hunters Point is still in progress with a large crew of our members employed. The job should last quite a while yet. Barrett and Hilp also is doing a small amount of construction work at Hunters Point.

At least three new Housing Projects are in the process of starting which should furnish employment to a few of our members. There is the prospect of a larger pier and dock job materializing which will extend out to old Mission Rock. The State Harbor Commission now has the funds available and if no opposition is met from government agencies the job is sure to be let. Also, only a rumor at the present time is that another dry dock may be built at Hunters Point. Here's hoping that the rumor materializes into being.

The shipyards are about the same as of our last month's news issue with the exception that every day begins to look like Valentine's day with most of the fellows receiving "Greetings" from Uncle Sam!

ST. LOUIS—(FP)—In an action which may result in this city's becoming a testing ground for federal employment cutback policies, the United Labor Committee of St. Louis asked Mayor Aloys P. Kaufman to appoint a committee to go to Washington to seek more war contracts for local plants.

in the hills for the city and county of San Francisco.

That is about all I have to report at this time. The weather permitting, I hope to have a better report on working conditions in the area in my next report.

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Utah recognizes union pay scale

By SCOTT LEDINGHAM
Business Representative

OGDEN—Many trips have been made by Labor groups to the Utah State Road Commission, asking that the prevailing wages of each craft be recognized. The commission has for years in its calls for bids on construction work, stated that the minimum for common labor be paid fifty cents per hour. Semi skilled—sixty cents and skilled labor—eighty cents.

Early in January of this year, the contractors and labor groups met with the commission and requested the Industrial Commission to determine the general prevailing rate of wages per hour for each craft in Utah.

The commissions finding and orders was the best news that Union men have ever had in this State. Our Union rates are to be paid by cities, counties, State of Utah and all other political or public bodies, agents or contractors or sub-contractors etc., performing work for them where work in whole or in part is paid out of public funds.

This order has opened up a large field for Local No. 3 to organize. The State, Counties, and City own and operate a great number of units that should be operated by Union Engineers. The scales now paid, are far below the prevailing rates.

Things have been very quiet for the past sixty days as far as new construction is concerned. But this condition is nothing new to a construction man. When the snow starts falling, he practically goes into hibernation for the winter. We are now looking forward to Spring which will bring with it new projects and more work in this area.

The Navy Base will have plans ready within thirty days for barracks buildings to house a thousand men which consists of five barrack buildings, bachelor quarters for fifty officers, mess hall and gallery, administration building, welfare building, laundry, tailor and cobbler shop, and heating plant—sidewalks, roads and jailhouse. I am inclined to believe this will not be the entire extent of work to be done in this area.

We have every reason to believe that the Catholic Hospital will be started within sixty days.

W. Clyde will be starting up his road construction again on the Riverdale and Uintah roads. Gib-

bons and Reed Co. are underway on their projects at the A. S. F. Depot, they intend running two ten hour shifts until completion. Reynolds Construction Co. have a job at the Ogden Arsenal—installing canopies over loading docks. Chytraus Construction Co., has a loading dock job at the Arsenal, but have been held up for refiguring.

Contemplated projects for spring are many, and it is apparent that there will be ample work to take care of all construction men in Utah.

The Carl Nelson Company still refuses to deal with the Unions and is on the Unfair List. The company has a road job to finish at Tooele, Utah and one to start near Elko, Nevada. Every effort will be made to have this Company sign a Union Contract.

Farm leader urges fight on cartels

WASHINGTON—(FP)—Major issue before the people today is not how to prove the "economic interdependence of all people" but how to formulate the policies and methods for such cooperation, Paul Sifton, National Farmers Union spokesman, declared March 4.

Addressing a meeting of the Citizens Conference on International Economic Union, Sifton said the most difficult task in the post-war world will be "to organize, coordinate, and mobilize the people's tremendous potential strength to defeat the entrenched power of the black internationals," his description of cartels.

The people will have to substitute for the post-war planning of the cartels "such policies and methods, as will insure full use of all human and material resources—full production, full employment, fair distribution of income, trade, and services, and full consumption—not only with the USA, but extended rapidly into and throughout all the nations and colonies of the world," he said.

Sifton noted "with dismay and growing indignation reconversion and post-war proposals that would favor big business in the peace economy even more than it has been favored during the war."

If this is boring you pay your dues on time

T. M. BYNON
Financial Secretary

During the past month, several hundred members have been suspended for non-payment of dues. Some of these members have not been intentionally lax about their dues, but have neglected to apply for service withdrawal or regular withdrawal cards when they leave the trade.

For the information and benefit of the membership, this is the procedure you should follow:

If you are going in the service, you are entitled to a service withdrawal card, if your dues are paid for the month in which the card is to be issued. Your request should be made directly to the San Francisco office at 1161 Market Street, stating your name, register number, date of induction, your beneficiary's name and address, and your social security or draft number.

If you are no longer working at a trade under the jurisdiction of the Operating Engineers, you are entitled to a withdrawal card. Your request should be made to the San Francisco office, accompanied by five dollars to cover the withdrawal card fee. Dues must also be paid for the month in which the card is issued.

We also wish to advise any member who has a transfer card but has not deposited it in another local that, until he is accepted in another local, he must continue to pay dues to the local that issued him the card.

We have been sending notices each month to those members whose dues are delinquent so that two notices should be received before suspension. Unfortunately, we do not always have the correct address and the member is suspended without notification. If you will keep us posted about your address, we'll keep you posted about your dues.

Work continues slow in San Jose territory

By M. G. MURPHY
Business Representative

This, I am afraid, will be one of my shortest reports, brothers, as there has been practically no new developments on any of the work which I have mentioned in my previous reports.

I've done my utmost to try to gain some encouraging news for you in regards to the proposed projects for this territory, but I must admit that to date my efforts have been in vain.

A couple of small jobs were let in Watsonville recently but are of little value to us. . . . King City is showing a little activity on the expansion of the air base but there is not much work left on it for us.

The same can be said of Camp Hunter Liggett which has about six miles of road work to be completed. Outside of that I'm undecided as to which mortician to call to dispose of the remains. Work is still going on at Moffett Field, also Moss Landing and there is a small job to be let soon in San Benito County (U. S. Government).

The Army has a small bridge job in progress thirty miles below Monterey and the Kiss Crane Company has its hand in that. Other than that, there is nothing in Monterey County.

It really is exceptionally quiet in this territory, probably due to the tremendous amount of rain which we have had in the past month, also to the time of year.

Had quite a nice little gathering at our last meeting in San Jose after which refreshments were served. Enjoyed visiting with the brothers and hope we can duplicate the occasion sometime in the near future when more of the brothers can attend.

Had another letter from "Handsome Big Bill" Crosson in Camp Clairborne. Wish I could publish it in the "News" as it is one of the most interesting letters that I've received in a long time. Bill wishes to be remembered to all of his friends and would like to hear from some of them.

Bob Robertson was in the other day with his son who has just come back from a "Tin Fish Campaign" in enemy waters and is displaying an emblem any American would be proud to wear . . . it means that their campaign was successful and that they hit their mark.

This is all for now, brothers. Will try to make my next report a little more interesting and I hope to have some good news for you by then.

CINCINNATI—(FP)—Independent unions represented by such leaders as Sec. Matthew Smith of the Mechanics Educational Society of America and Donald F. Cameron of the Associated Unions of America revived the Confederated (Independent) Unions of America and authorized wartime strikes in a convention here.

Rains batter Redding

By E. A. HESTER
Business Representative

REDDING—Prospects for additional construction work in this area have not changed. Wind, hail, rain and snow are still battering at this district.

The P. G. & E., Hanrahan & Connelly, twenty-one million dollar (\$21,000,000) electric project is nearing completion and is expected to start producing power next month. This has been a good job and we hope that they will do it again, there is a rumor that they will.

Shasta Dam also is expected to start producing power next month, but this project is a long way from being completed. Water in the Shasta Dam reservoir today was lapping at the base of the head tower.

The lake behind Shasta Dam covers about seven thousand (7,000) acres of land. The water in the reservoir is rising at the rate of better than a foot per day.

There are several boats and barges operating on the Shasta reservoir which are transporting iron ore from the Carrico & Gautier Iron mine.

Brother Ira Corbin emerged from the hospital today minus a foot. His left foot was amputated above his ankle. Brother Corbin is looking and feeling well but the doctor says it will be about July 1, 1944, before he can return to work.

The chairman of the Shasta County Chapter of the Red Cross, Superior Judge Albert F. Ross, says the drive is on again and Shasta County's quota is twenty thousand and three hundred dollars (\$20,300).

Come on in, lay it down, get your receipt. There has never been an argument among the Engineers as to who will assist in paving the road to TOKYO.

WASHINGTON—(FP)—The \$2 billion tax bill, hit by President Roosevelt as "relief not for the needy but for the greedy," became law as the Senate voted 72 to 14 and the House voted 299 to 95 to override the President's veto.

NEW YORK—(FP)—International unions and city and state labor bodies all over the country denounced Congress' action in overriding the tax bill veto and wired their emphatic support to President Roosevelt.

Characters in the day's news



REP. JOHN M. COFFEE (D., Wash.) suggested that unions maintain a research bureau in Washington "to equip labor and liberal spokesmen with facts to answer arguments of reactionary interests. (Federated Pictures)



GOV. JOHN W. BRICKER (R., Ohio) made his bid for presidential nomination last month. Bricker is dead set against the federal soldier vote, subsidies and federal housing. (Federated Pictures)



REP. CLARE HOFFMAN (R., Mich.) denounced by Walter Winchell for his proposal that the American people put an end to "playing at war" by a "march on Washington or use of armed forces if necessary. (Federated Pictures)



REP. HOWARD SMITH (D., Va.), co-author of vicious Smith-Connally bill, who asked Congress to strip WLB of its authority to order maintenance of membership clauses in union contracts. (Federated Pictures)



SCREEN STAR VIRGINIA BRUCE, member of Screen Actors Guild (AFL) who announced her candidacy for the California legislature on the Democratic ticket. (Federated Pictures)

EDITORIALS

ENGINEERS NEWS

COMMENT

OPERATING ENGINEERS LOCAL UNION No. 3

Even 'em up!



OWI reports on "cutbacks"

Washington—Effects upon war workers and communities of the cancellation of curtailment of war contracts are shown in a report presented by the OWI. Information was secured from other government agencies and through local surveys.

So-called "cutbacks" that have already occurred have released relatively few of the nation's 10,500,000 munitions workers, according to the report. In most cases the contracts were cancelled in areas where there was a demand for labor sufficient to absorb the workers displaced. Where it was found necessary or advisable to terminate a contract in a labor surplus area, the procurement agency involved had made an effort to provide another contract that would continue the plant in operation.

Most of the workers laid off as a result of production shifts have been quickly shifted to other essential work, according to USES. In acute labor shortage areas there has been considerable demand for the workers released. In labor surplus areas, USES offices have also reported more requests for workers than there were displaced workers available.

Rumors about impending contract changes have proved, in most cases, more confusing and disruptive than have the actual changes, according to OWI. In many areas, WMC and WPB officials reported instances of what workers called "cutback jitters" as a result of such rumors.

Baltimore, Md., where there

is a great demand for more workers to man the key war plants of that city, had an attack of these "jitters", according to OWI, when a rumor circulated that a local airplane factory was losing a contract that would cause 10,000 workers to be laid off.

According to WMC reports, the workers laid off could have been quickly placed in other Baltimore war plants had the rumored cancellation occurred. Instead, however, the plant did not lay off a single worker and actually increased its working force by 4,000.

In some instances, OWI reports, the procurement agency has given considerable advance warning of a cancellation. Where the plant management has acted quickly in taking its employees and local WMC officials into its confidences, rumors have been almost non-existent and confusion minimized, OWI says.

In contrast, where no advance notice was given by the procurement agency or where management has not been frank with its employees and local placement people, rumors and confusion have been widespread.

The contract terminations that have already occurred reveal the varied nature of so-called "cutbacks", OWI asserts. Sometimes plants are closed completely and all workers dismissed. Sometimes a plant with several contracts has one expire without renewal necessitating release of certain workers, or is forced to release part of its force because of

decreased orders. Often the company is able to absorb these workers to fill shortages in other departments of the same plant.

Sometimes contract cancellations are merely "paper cutbacks." A plant anticipating an order that would require the hiring of additional workers, or with an order that would involve adding to its labor force, loses the contract, thereby eliminating an expected demand for manpower. Or plans to construct a new plant are abandoned.

The Maritime Commission reports many of its contract changes are merely shifts from one type of production to another, such as the shift from Liberty ships to landing craft and the shift now occurring from Liberty ship output to Victory ship production. Sometimes contracts are cancelled at a yard to permit it to concentrate on repair work. In such cases workers are merely shifted from one type of production to another with no displacement except for certain skills needed on one type but not on its successor.

Occasionally, as recently occurred on the West Coast, shipyards and other large plants were ordered to reduce their working force in order to increase manpower utilization and free workers for other key jobs in a locality where they are vitally needed.

Most of the production shifts reported to OWI by the Navy are similar to those reported by the Maritime Commission.

Heroes in Denim

Four months on a raft

Record for time spent on a raft so far in the war is held by Poon Lim, Chinese seaman. He drifted for 133 days after his ship was torpedoed, more than four months.

His story was recently broadcast as part of Robert Ripley's Believe It Or Not program.

An answer to labor-baiters

This is the kind of story it's a real pleasure to print.

Recently in Sunnyvale, California, the Joshua Hendy Iron Works was notified that 250 models of a war instrument so secret its nature could not even be hinted at were needed. An emergency force of 310 skilled men, mostly welders, had to be borrowed from other plants.

All they knew was that something important was needed in a hurry. They started work on a Saturday morning and worked straight through until the next Friday at 4 p.m. Literally, the work never stopped. When a man had to leave for a minute, the foreman took over. When he grew so groggy he couldn't see, the foreman took over again while he snatched an hour's sleep on a nearby cot or splashed some cold water on himself and went back to work.

After a while wives began coming out to the plant with hot coffee—and razors. The plant was feeding the men, of course—at their work. But a drink of homemade coffee, a shave or perhaps just the sight of their wives, was as good as a night's sleep.

When the foreman himself gave out, navy inspectors, in grimy overalls, took his place. Navy planes and motorcycles stood by to run errands or get any tools or material needed.

At 2 p.m. Friday the 250 somethings were finished. But the men worked on until 4

o'clock, when the plant's regular swing shift came on, making more. At 4 they finally quit, punch-drunk but triumphant. Before they left, to sleep around the clock, they picked up the foreman—they didn't even know his name—and carried him around the plant on their shoulders, cheering. The navy had its gadgets.

Unionist cited for 83-day ordeal

Seaman First Class Basil Dominic Izzi of South Barre, Mass., former member of United Textile Workers (AFL) and Textile Workers Union (CIO), has been awarded the navy and marine corps medal for the gallantry and ingenuity he displayed during his prolonged ordeal of 83 days on a life raft.

For the past nine months Izzi has been touring war plants under the auspices of the navy's industrial incentive division. He has been telling war workers of his experiences aboard the raft and urging greater production for the navy in order to speed the drive toward victory.

Hands lost, now back in school

Because his hands were shot off during his 11th bomber raid over Germany, 19-year-old Lt. Bruno Godlewski of the Free Polish Army, now living with his family in Chicago, is forced to find some way of making a living.

This means study, and his family has no money. So Polish-American workers collected \$13,000 to defray expenses. Under the law, the courts were compelled to appoint trustees of the fund.

But, the court warned, the trustees are not to interfere in the youth's private life. "A man who has shot down eight German planes is able to take care of himself," it said. Godlewski is enrolling in a commercial school.



L-870

"All right! You're savin' shoe leather! And ya ain't travellin' and ya ain't usin' the phone and ya ain't wastin' fats—But ya ain't winnin' this war either!"

News of members and jobs from East Bay

Brother Jack Lloyd, who is on the sick list committee, is happy to report finding the following in an improved condition:

Brother J. W. Johnson, who suffered a broken leg while working on the Wm. P. Neil job, entered Providence Hospital on January 13 and on my visit March 6 was up for the first time. We expect Brother Johnson to be released from the hospital on or about March 25.

Brother George Greenough, who was working on construction in Richmond Yard II, is now nursing an injured foot, but expects to return to work in a short time.

I find the following brothers suffering from broken arms: Brother James Cook, G. Henwood, and D. V. Green. All expect to return to the job within a very short time. Brothers Art Bratset and Herb Suddeth are recovering from appendectomies. Brother Bratset returned home on March 6 where he will spend the next two weeks recuperating. Brother Suddeth was operated on March 3 and expects to return home about March 10th.

I am sorry to report finding Brother Lonnie Thompson in a serious condition. His injuries were caused by a fall from a bridge crane on March 3, breaking his leg in two places, numerous lacerations on his right leg, and a painful back injury. While talking to the nurse on duty, I learned that Brother Thompson will have to spend quite some time in the hospital, probably until the middle of June.

I think a name that should also be mentioned at this time is the wife of one of our Business Representatives, Mrs. Joe Walther, who is in the Providence Hospital for observation. It is the sincere wish of the executives and members of Local No. 3 for a speedy recovery of all the above named.

Brother R. C. Burgess, oiler in Yard IV, had the misfortune to have an accident in which several fingers were severed from his hand.

Brother George Greenough, Yard II, construction worker, is reported ill.

Brother Art Bratset has been confined to the Merritt Hospital in Oakland, as the result of an appendectomy. We understand it will be about the middle of March before he will be back on his job at Pacific Bridge.

(Continued on Page 7)

From men in service:

First-hand report from former local 3 member

We would like to take this opportunity to insert the following interesting letter received by Brother Bill "Whitey" Collett from his brother, Sergeant C. T. Collett, who is stationed somewhere in the South Pacific:

Dear Whitey:

Received your Christmas package yesterday, and hereby extend hearty thanks to you, and Thelma and Carol. A lot of the boys received packages and I was more or less surprised to get one; as mail is not one of my strong points. I hear quite often from the State Income Tax Board, something or other about taxes for '42. Do you know anything about such mundane matters?

Well, as I said once before, I received the package, retired to a discreet distance and opened it. Then dropped my underjaw and informed the hungry looking GI's around, "Stationery again." I then nonchalantly strolled away, in the direction of my present happy home, commonly known to the Privates, Corporals and Subordinate Sergeants here, as Gremlin Corner. Stopping on the way, I "borrowed" a small Gasoline stove, retired to Gremlin Corner, opened a can of powdered coffee, a can of powdered milk, and some sugar cubes, and soon had as vile a mess as ever you or I sampled in the jungles of K.C. or Texarkana.

Naturally the other coinhabitant of my den, commonly known as Staff Sergeant, Isadore Gebo, showed up, and I had to bribe him to silence about the cake by giving him a portion. Gebo is, to my experience, one of the major horrors of war. He is known to our Brother Curt.

The cake and coffee went over big. I intend to go eat the other tonight, when Gebo is on shift. He don't know I received two. I cunningly hid the other in one of my shoes, and camouflaged it with one of my socks, to keep the rats and land crabs out. That fruit cake looks like the woman's touch and was the nearest thing to the Christmas spirit I have encountered this year. Thank Thelma most heartily. Fruit cake beats C Rations, J. Rations, and K. Rations all to hell.

The cake arrived a couple of months after Christmas, but no matter, for if my memory serves me right, I was very busy indeed, on that day of peace on earth, Good will to men, dodging shrapnel, bombs, bullets, and other sundry distractions, hurled indiscriminately by our little brown brother. I don't think little brown brother knows much about Xmas. Owing to the paucity of printable news in this area, I must resort to bragging over my possessions like a hen nest on union meeting night.

My most noteworthy property, at the present, consists of part interest in Gremlin Corner, and a nice new foxhole adjacent. Gremlin Corner is cunningly constructed of shelter halves, boards, tin cans and assorted junk, most of the material used in its construction, true enough, belongs to a neighborhood outfit. Gebo and I removed it over to our own location to keep some low minded person from stealing it.

We have one Foxhole between us. Gebo would rather be hit with a bomb any day than work a couple of hours digging a foxhole. Either of the two would kill him probably, but he has heard of guys living over near misses. When Isadore don't beat me to my foxhole, he beats an adjacent redhead. When he don't beat the redhead or me either he beats someone else. When he beats me I beat the redhead or other neighbors.

Gebo and I are regarded with considerable loathing by local parties, the redhead is developing a remarkable vocabulary. I would like to say that I have slaughtered any number of Japs, but alas, I get off exactly thirteen shots since we moved in next to our Asiatic neighbors, thirteen must be unlucky, I haven't had another. Some war. Of course, my foxhole has all the latest improvements, a streamlined version, complete with centipedes, rats, land crabs, Gebo, and running water.

And to add things might interest you, I was taught how to play craps by my well meaning buddies a couple of paydays ago. I was somewhat leary of the game having heard of sheep led to the slaughter, the simple country boy, started on the path that leads only downward and stuff like that there. I invested a half pound (\$1.50 or thereabout), and won forty-eight; (\$50, or thereabout). I intended to learn to play poker this payday, but none was interested, for some reason. Such is life.

As a Union man you may be interested to learn that labor conditions are appalling in this Local. I have worked any number of hours in the few months, the rate is nothing and one-half for overtime. The overtime, often as not, is considerably more than the time honored eight hours. As a member of Local No. 3, in good standing, I demand this situation be investigated.

I shall wait with baited breath, the appearance here of a Business Representative, if I can't get Vic Swanson himself. They also might look into the safety factor, a person can easily be hurt around here, even laid up for a month or so. Our Union demands the maximum standard of safety, and you may tell our Representative to be on the lookout for safety hazards. Well, I have done my duty by my local, so it is up to the boys in the office.

Well, Whitey, I expect to see you in a year or so, keep the home fires burning and give a hello to Family and Friends.

CHARLIE.

Interesting news comes of Wayne Schlosser, former crane operator at Yard No. 2, now in the Merchant Marine. Last June the young A.B. seaman made his first voyage stopping at Tonga Tabre, New Caledonia and the New Hebrides, then turning back. For thirty days the big vessel was out of sight of land . . . and steaming up to Buena Ventura in Columbia, South America, was any seaman's delight! Through the Panama Canal to New York City completed the long sea trip, and young Scholler crossed the country by train, arriving in Berkeley in time to welcome Wayne Scholler II.—After a brief furlough Seaman Schlosser made a round trip to Pearl Harbor, being lucky enough to arrive home in time for the Xmas holidays. He is now on his third voyage, having shipped to "Parts of the World" early in January of this year.

Gerald Prince, who has been training with the Merchant Marines in Catalina, is home on a month's leave.

By Al Clem, Ed Doran and Joe Walthers
Business Representatives

Moore Dry Dock Company Crane Dispatch office reports that two of our members have had additions in their families—Brother Geo. Boushey, Switchman at Moores, became the father of Jerry Boushey, born February 19.

Brother Ed Hoffman, who is employed in the Crane Dispatch office became a grandfather January 21. He very proudly reports it's a boy and has been named Donald.

Brother Gus "Red" Matzek is able to be up and around again after a recent illness.

Brother E. Jarvis, who has been Superintendent for Mackson Construction Company at Camp Parks, reports that his portion of the job has been completed.

Brother Bay Tarver, Equipment Superintendent, Yard III, sacrificed a few hours sleep recently to pay the Local office a visit.

Brother Jack Lloyd is Assistant Labor Co-ordinator in Yard III, Richmond. Brother Lloyd formerly was employed in Yard I.

Brother Jack McKenny is in the Trial Crew, Yard III, Richmond.

We have two new Stewards in the Yards in Richmond. Brother Bob Algood is Steward in Yard II, day shift, and Brother R. G. Roeberry is Steward, day shift, in Prefab.

The Operating Engineers in Yard II, Richmond, went over the top 92% in the recent Fourth War Loan Drive.

We understand that 26 Liberty Ships and 1 Victory ship is scheduled to leave the ways of Yard II, during the month of March.

Bechtel McCone & Parsons is pouring footings and doing concrete work on their job at the Standard Oil Refinery in Richmond. They are also doing a little piledriving.

Test Piles are being driven at

the Albany Race Track. A small dock job will be starting in the near future.

Bethlehem Steel Company have four cranes working on their steel job in Alameda.

J. H. Pomeroy have three crews of Engineers employed erecting steel on the Prefabrication job in Yard II, Richmond.

There is considerable discussion about work picking up soon, but we do not anticipate any new jobs opening up for the next 30 or 40 days. We have quite a number of members registered as out of work in the two counties. We are short of oilers for shipyard jobs.

Brother Earl Hart, who has been employed on the Yard I Construction job, left recently for San Bernardino where he will try out spring training with the Oaks Ball Team. Lots of luck Earl!

Brother Norman (Pete) McCuan, Yard III, Crane operator, had the misfortune to be one of the unlucky occupants of an apartment house which was destroyed by fire recently in Richmond. Brother McCuan lost all of his household goods.

We welcome back Brother Clifford A. Silveria, who has returned as a Civilian, on an Honorable Discharge, after spending 15 months in the Army.

Funeral Services were conducted February 19, by the Sorenson Bros. Mortuary in Hayward, for Brother Charles Kitchel, 3 member who passed away as a result of an accident near Sunnyslope Drive, Hayward on February 15.

The C. P. Bannon Mortuary had charge of the funeral services for Brother John W. Hayward, 3 B member who passed away recently. Brother Hayward was employed by Moore Dry Dock Company, Oakland.

Four branches of the Armed
(Continued on Page 7)

The answer to this—

Here are samples and examples . . .

SMITH-CONNALLY ANTI-STRIKE BILL

J. H. Tolan, Demo. of Oakland	Voted FOR Labor
T. Rolph, Rep. of S. F.	Voted FOR Labor
R. J. Welch, Rep. of S. F.	Voted AGAINST Labor
A. E. Carter, Rep. of Oakland	ABSENT*
Sen. Hiram W. Johnson	ABSENT*
Sen. Sheridan Downey	ABSENT*

*Voted for labor in overriding president's veto of the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Bill.

PROHIBITING FUNDS FOR PRICE ROLL-BACK

Tolan	Voted FOR Labor
Rolph	Voted AGAINST Labor
Welch	Voted AGAINST Labor
Carter	Voted AGAINST Labor
Johnson	ABSENT
Downey	Voted FOR Labor

LIFTING \$25,000 CEILING ON SALARIES

Tolan	Voted AGAINST Labor
Rolph	Voted AGAINST Labor
Welch	Voted FOR Labor
Carter	Voted AGAINST Labor
Johnson	Voted AGAINST Labor
Downey	Voted FOR Labor

These samples were taken from a table compiled by United Labor's Legislative Committee titled "Labor Record of California Delegation in Congress."

Is this—REGISTER NOW

This is an important year in the lives of us who work with our hands for a living. As many of our Brothers are in the Armed Forces, fighting the fight for freedom, we on the home front have a two-fold purpose to perform, to produce the weapons of war and see that we hold Labor's gains on the home front. And, one of the ways of winning that fight is to see that the proper people represent you in the Legislative and Executive branches of your Government.

In order to do this, we must make sure that not only ourselves, but our wives, neighbors, and friends are registered for the coming National and State elections so that we may return our friends to office and retard our enemies.

The following are Registrars and Deputy Registrars of Voters:

- EL CERRITO**
Angelo Bertollo, 1637 San Pablo.
Dorothy Burtin, City Hall.
Mrs. Laura W. McNeil, 6407 Fairmont Ave.
Mrs. Lavona J. Stinnett, 7522 Levisington Ave.
- RICHMOND**
City Clerk, City Hall.
W. H. Roberts, Jr., Canal Dorm. D2 Room L 41.
- MARTINEZ**
Mrs. Edna Murray, Bldg. Trades, Labor Temple.
Mrs. Roberts, Painters Local, Labor Temple.
- OAKLAND**
Operating Engineers Local 3, Union Hall, 2221 Webster Street.
City Clerk, City Hall.
- HAYWARD**
City Clerk, City Hall.
- SAN LEANDRO**
City Clerk, City Hall.
- ALAMEDA**
City Clerk, City Hall.
- PIEDMONT**
City Clerk, City Hall.
- EMERYVILLE**
City Clerk, City Hall.
- ALBANY**
City Clerk, City Hall.
- BERKELEY**
City Clerk, City Hall.

Utah Metal Trades body shows gains

By A. H. PETERSEN
AFL Organizer

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah.—The Utah Metal Trades Council, with Brother C. L. Casebolt, acting as secretary, has been functioning quite well during the past six months.

The Council has jurisdiction over industrial operations in the State, covering a great many of the Building and Construction Trades craft units and is working hand in hand with the Building Trades Councils to secure the collective bargaining rights in the industries established for the A. F. of L.

At the present time the Council is assisting the Machinists, Electricians, Operating Engineers, Boilermakers and Blacksmiths units in getting up and presenting a uniform labor agreement for their types of work at the Bingham Mines, to the Utah Copper Company.

Utah Copper Company has been ordered to meet with the representatives of these unions in collective bargaining and secure an agreement by April 1, 1944, by the War Labor Board. In the event such an agreement is not secured, the Board reserves the right to hold an open hearing and write the contract themselves. This is the first time Utah Copper has been forced to go along with governmental laws, orders and policies in the nearly forty years of its existence.

The situation at Geneva Steel is still 6's and 7's, but we feel confident that the A. F. of L. will be successful in defeating the CIO in an election, whenever it can legally be sought for. We certainly can obtain this result if all unions involved work towards one objective and that is: every vote for the A. F. of L., even though we may have our private differences on jurisdiction.

CHICAGO—(FP)—For lack of 50,000 workers needed in war plants the world's premier industrial city, Chicago, was shifted into Class I critical labor area by the War Manpower Commission.

AFL supports subsidies



At a press conference following the first session of the quarterly meeting of the AFL Executive Council in Miami, Fla., President William Green tells reporters that the council pledged support of President Roosevelt's subsidy program.

Neven says news good up Redwood Empire Way

By OTTO E. NEVEN
Business Representative

EUREKA—The news in the Redwood Empire is good, although no new jobs have started as yet. Brother George Hardwick is still running maintainer for Marshall Hanrahan in Del Norte County. This job should start at Red Hen and Smith River about April 1.

The U. S. Bureau of Roads is expecting to let a 12-mile road there up into the timber. Just when the job will start, no one seems to know. The intentions, however, are to have it started and completed this summer.

Tom Hull still is running his gravel plant on Redwood Creek at Orick. Underground Construction have finished up at the Arcata Airport, but as additional work is coming up here, they may return in the near future. At any rate, we hope so. Their super, Tony Madrid, certainly has done everything in his power to cooperate with the Engineers.

Mercer Fraser are still busy and have two pile driving rigs in the bay district. L. H. Hansen and Son are still plugging away at the housing project and manage to keep several brothers busy there all the time. Chicago Bridge and

Iron Company have in excess of 180 members working. We are continually in need of welding machine operators at \$1.20 and ventilation operators at \$1.20; also oilers lation operators at \$1.20; also oilers this work write or wire me.

We have arranged with the U. S. Employment Department for releases for brothers employed in shipyards here in order that they may be employed in construction work on highways during summer months.

Eureka Shipbuilding has delivered two tugs to the British Government. Two more will be ready shortly. We expect big things from this yard in the near future. Brother Pat Orr, formerly with Western Pipe and Steel is doing an excellent job here as Port Engineer.

Carl Company are ready to start their job at Fort Bragg. Heinie Foss at San Rafael will handle the dispatching of men to this job. We don't know how soon Close will start his job at Laytonville. Any brothers coming up into this territory to work must bear in mind that they will have to have a clearance before going on any job. Otherwise they may lose

(Continued on Page 7)

Big stripping job for Virginia City

By JOHN DE LaGRANGE
and AUSTIN B. WADMAN
Business Representatives

RENO—Large stripping and mining project will open up at Virginia City, Nevada. This consists of stripping of gold and silver producing ore at Gold Hill Nevada, about 3 miles from Virginia City, on the "Old Comtock Lode." We were informed that Morrison & Knudsen had the job and that it would consist of approximately 30 million yards of stripping and mining. This is subject to approval by the War Production Board.

Mr. Frank George is opening a new quick silver mine eleven miles north of Virginia City. Our very good friend and old stand-by Brother Larry Walker is operating a shovel for this company. They will also have a dozer man on this job.

Contacted Mr. Allen, Department of Interior Bureau of Mines, as to Nevada's Post-War Planning, in the mining industry and hope to receive the information this month and to be able to make a statement in our next news letter of April.

West Brook & Bing, is back at Lemon Valley, to complete their contract which was shut down last winter on account of bad weather. We have six of our Brothers now on this job. They also expect to receive some additional work this spring and summer. The Ready Mix Concrete Company of Reno, is also working at Lemon Valley now pouring concrete.

E. B. Bishop, received a new contract at the Sierra Ordnance Depot, at Honey Lake for 200 concrete loading platforms, approximately \$200,000. They are also working on the streets and roads, for Dow Construction Co., on the housing project at Honey Lake. Brother Oscar Mayhew, is the shifter and Brother B. L. Smith, is still operating the shovel and dragline.

James I. Barnes, is progressing very rapidly with their housing

project at Honey Lake. E. T. Haase, has the utilities for the company. We have seven of our members working on this project. Brother Paul A. Smith, is the Master Mechanic, for James I. Barnes, and is keeping his job in A-1 shape.

Isbell Construction Company, was awarded a Diversion Dam, on the Truckee River at Nixon Nevada. This contract is for \$50,000, and will start soon. He is also stock piling hot material in his yard at South Virginia Street, in Reno, Nevada. Mining and stripping job at Kimberly Nevada is progressing nicely.

The Navy Department, was in Reno, February 28, to purchase bombing range land east of Fallon, Nevada. They contemplate on constructing an air flight strip between Fallon and Austin as well as an airport at Pyramid Lake. I received information that the Navy had received 2 million dollars for extensions at the Fallon Naval Flight Training Station.

The new pipe line to be constructed between Reno and the Reno Army Air Base will start around April 1st. To date the contractor has not been named. This is 7½ miles of eight and twelve inch steel water main.

Brother Glen A. Cleveland, passed away Sunday, February 27 at the Washoe General Hospital, and was buried March 1 at the Mountain View Cemetery in Reno. Brother members of the Operating Engineers acted as pallbearers, E. G. Laverne, H. H. Kennedy, Firmin Bruner, Frank Herhard, A. B. Wadman and John DeLagrange.

The members of this district are very pleased to hear that Brother Swanson, is progressing very nicely, and we all hope that he will be able to visit us in this district in the very near future.

ATTENTION members of Northern Nevada and North eastern California, if you have changed addresses since the last election, or did not vote at the last election, please register as soon as possible, so that you may vote at the coming election.

Minutes of March 4 meeting

By C. F. MATHEWS
Recording Secretary

Meeting of Local 3 was called to order at 8:10 p.m., March 4, at the Building Trades Temple, San Francisco, President Clancy presiding. Roll call showed Vice-President Foss, Conductor Riley and Guard O'Brien absent.

MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 5 were by motion approved as printed in the Engineers' News.

A synopsis of the Executive Board minutes of February 19 were read and the acts and recommendations of the Board were by motion approved as read.

A synopsis of the Executive Board minutes of March 4 were read and the acts and recommendations of the Board were by motion approved as read.

COMMUNICATIONS

From Navy Mothers Clubs of America, Sacramento, expressing thanks for the help given by Local No. 3 in the opening of their service club. Received and filed.

From the San Francisco Labor Council enclosing letter from Congressman Richard Welch regarding his stand on legislation before Congress. Received and filed.

From Father Flanagan's Boys' Home, Boys Town, Nebraska, letter of thanks for donation and conferring upon the Operating Engineers the title of honorary citizen

to Boys Town. Received and filed. From the Howard C. Sperry Post No. 3570, Veterans of Foreign Wars, letter of appreciation for greeting placed in program. Received and filed.

From Bay City Metal Trades Council referring to petition signed by members in the shipyards regarding wage raises. Received and filed.

From Building and Construction Trades Council of San Francisco drawing attention of all organized labor to the proposed initiative petition and requesting its defeat. Received and filed.

From Central Labor Council of Alameda County a resolution pertaining to the flimsy construction of dormitories built by the Federal Housing Authority. Regularly moved and seconded to concur in resolution. Carried.

Card from Brother Hibbard who is in Egypt. Received and filed.

Cards of thanks from Mrs. Roland Haney and family, Mrs. Kitchel and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Mallory and Mrs. J. C. Ticer and children. Received and filed.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Minutes and results of the election of delegates to the International Convention read, showing the following results:

- 1. Patrick Clancy3070
- 2. H. O. Foss.....2857
- 3. Alton M. Clem.....2857
- 4. M. G. Murphy.....2702

5. Harry W. Metz.....	2671
6. Ed Doran	2661
7. C. F. Mathews.....	2633
8. F. A. Lawrence.....	2552
9. P. E. Vandewark.....	2296
10. E. A. Hester.....	1992
11. Thomas Bynon	1938
12. H. L. Spence.....	1762
13. Wm. C. Waack.....	1692
14. C. L. Casebolt.....	1573
15. T. D. Bryson.....	1393
16. John DeLagrange	1380
17. B. R. Paulson	1083
18. Clyde Marion	925
19. Lester M. Collett.....	831
20. George Simon	812
21. Lee D. Patters.....	783
Returns showed—	
400—No address	
308—Returned, wrong address	
1—Blank	
202—Void	
5,389—Total Returns	
9,376—Stamped on Postal Meter,	
1-15-44.	

AUDITOR'S REPORT

The following report was made by the Auditors: "We, the undersigned auditors, have examined the certified public accountants reports and as far as we know they are in order." Signed: Ed Doran.

REPORT OF SICKNESS, ACCIDENT OR DEATH

Brothers Greeno, James Johnson, James Reid and L. J. Nardi were reported injured and Brother G. F. Knox was reported ill. Brothers J. V. Parker, J. W. Hayward, Glen Cleveland, Anton

Loden, Wm. O. Sims were reported deceased.

It was reported that Brother Swanson was making satisfactory progress at the St. Francis Hospital.

Brother Hess reported on an unofficial meeting held in Eureka, California, stating that there were 180 members present. Brother Vandewark supplemented the report of Brother Hess.

It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that a committee of three be appointed to go to the Richmond Shipyard and interview the management on an article printed in the Yard Magazine detrimental to the engineers and to report back at the next regular meeting. President Clancy appointed Brothers Walther, Richardson and Nelson.

There followed a discussion on increase in wages. It was regularly moved and seconded that the subject matter be referred to the Executive Board to report back at the next regular meeting.

There was a discussion on leaders in the Bethlehem Steel Company shipyards. Brother Vandewark reported that the Metal Trades Council was making progress on this subject.

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



Visitors at the American Services art show in London flocked to this sketch of an American girl drawn by Cpl. Alfred J. Anasasi of Boston, Mass. Who wouldn't?

Salt Lake office establishes prevailing wage

By C. L. CASEBOLT
and T. L. CLARK

Business Representatives

SALT LAKE CITY UTAH—The work through February has been very slow for Engineers but we have run across many interesting items.

In the communications received at this office we have had reports from many sections of the country. Perhaps one of the most welcome communications received was from Brother Joseph E. Riley, who is in the armed forces. He still hasn't decided whether he is an Engineer or a Soldier, and for those that would like to write Brother Riley, we are printing his address in this issue of the paper. You may address him as follows:

Pvt. Joseph E. Riley, 39141737
Batt. C., Bldg. 6308
56th Bm, 12th F. A. Regt.
Camp Roberts, Calif.

We sincerely hope that all Brothers will be interested enough to write more often to the man who did so much for them in Utah.

A letter received February 13th, from Brother Kenneth Vernon, stating that the Pasco job is one "hell of a place" for Engineers who are members of Local No. 3.

Now we come to the communication which we know will be well received by every member of Local No. 3, and will be of greater interest to all International Unions. It concerns the general prevailing wage rates and working conditions in certain counties in

Utah, as set up by the Utah Industrial Commission.

Its main feature establishes the eight hour day, on all contract work, where previously we have had many battles over the forty hour law as set up by the wage and hour division of the Department of Labor.

It further sets up the wage scale clearly for the Operating Engineers and includes all classifications that your Business Agents had to offer, and it further states that these rates shall be paid for City and County, State of Utah, and all other political subdivision or public bodies, agents or contractors, etc. performing work for them where work in whole or in part is paid for out of public funds.

We will secure a certified copy of this ruling as soon as it is available and see that it is sent to the Department of Labor in Washington, D. C.

It is mandatory under the laws of the U. S. Government, that these conditions and wages be paid for all work using government funds performed in this area. We are greatly interested at this time in the work of the Forest Service, Grazing Service and Bureau of Reclamation. At the present time these agencies are working under a low wage set up. These will be reclassified with the prevailing rate and we will have many jobs in the future for our Engineers.

In the month of February, we have had three Union meetings.

These were all good meetings and helped to solve many of our local problems. At them were outlined organizing procedure which is being carried on extensively in Utah at this time, not only by the crafts affiliated with the Building Trades Council, but through the Utah Metal Trades Council, and they are bringing results.

Our next meetings for the Engineers will be held as follows: SALT LAKE CITY, Labor Temple, 151 So. 2nd East, April 8, 1944, at 8 p.m. PROVO, UTAH, 45 North University Avenue, April 15, 1944, at 8 p.m. OGDEN, UTAH, Labor Temple, 261 25th Street, April 22, 1944, 8 p.m.

"Brothers please note these dates and keep them open", as it is only through our meetings that we reach a better understanding of our problems and that many of our benefits are derived.

We now wish to announce the great event of our last regular meeting in Salt Lake City. A motion carried unanimously that a dance committee be elected to make arrangements for a annual Engineers dance to be held in Salt Lake City at an early date. The Committee elected were: L. V. Bone, L. G. Mathews, T. L. Clark, H. L. Spence and C. L. Casebolt.

Motion made and seconded that we extend an invitation to Business Manager, Brother V. C. Swanson, to attend in person or by representative. "To Brother Swanson,

if it is impossible for you to be with us at this time, we will cordially welcome your delegate." "The Committee has announced the dance will be held in the Rose Room of the Newhouse Hotel, Saturday night, March 18, 1944.

Hunt and Frandsen are just getting started good on their job between Wendover and Knowles. We have eight engineers on the job at present and there will be work for many more before long.

Floyd Whiting is getting his equipment ready to resume work at Dougway.

Gibbons & Reed are starting to repair their equipment at Tooele and are hiring crews to remove the equipment from Salt Lake City to their new job.

Ace Thorn reports he will be ready to start his road job between Stockton and Dougway about the 15th of the month.

The North West Construction Company have a housing job at Lark, Utah, with several of our Brothers employed, and going along nicely.

The Cedar City Iron mine is 100 percent right and working every day. We also have a small housing unit to be let at Cedar City and two small road jobs coming up in that district.

The Warren Construction Company have a contract for the U. S. Reclamation district to do a large part of the Deer Creek aqueduct.

We have met with the Company in conjunction with the Building

Trades agreement. There are a number of Brother Engineers working for them at present and there will soon be work for quite a few more on this project.

In the Price district, we have Ryberg, Strong and Grant employing twelve Engineers.

The Vincent K. Jones Company have ten engineers.

The Brown Construction Company have a contract to change the course of the Price river with the Denver & Rio Grand Railroad Company. This is a union job and may be a long job.

Enoch Smith and Sons, have three of our Brothers working at Hiawatha and Wattis, Utah.

The Olsen Construction Company have a railroad job at Westwater, where three of our engineers are employed.

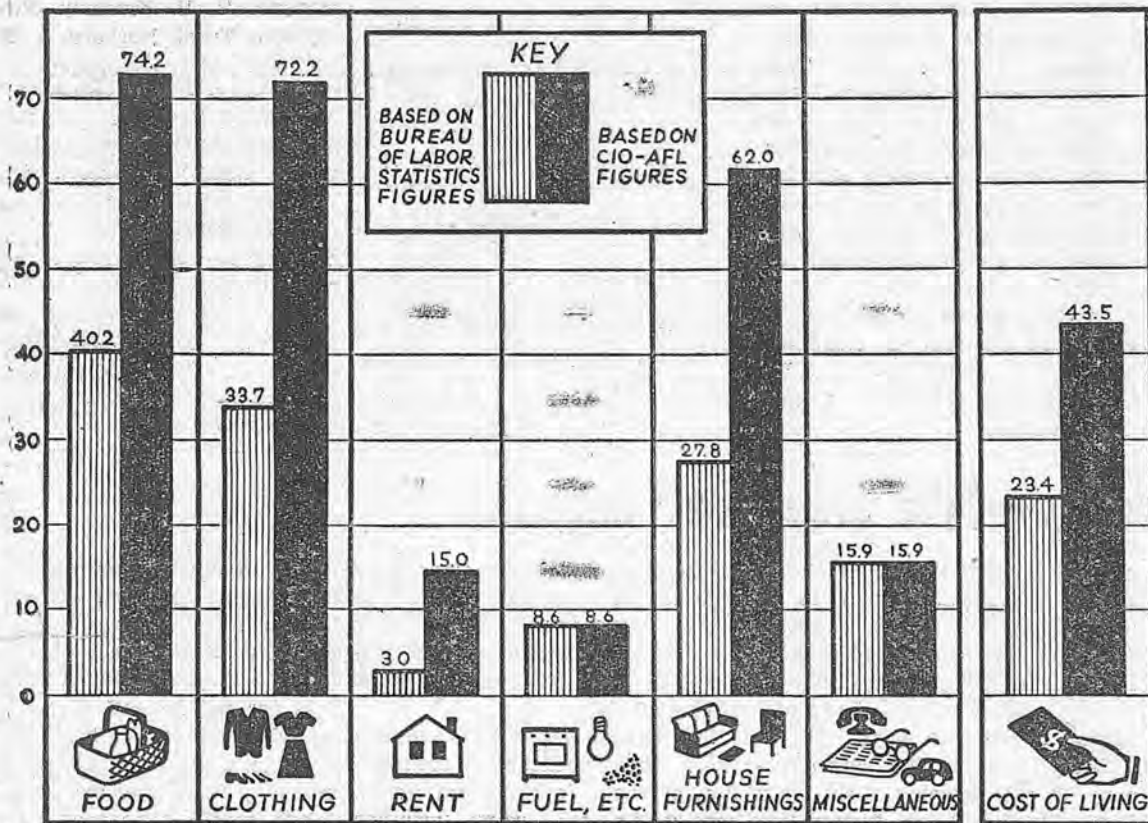
The W. W. Clyde Company, state they will soon be starting their road job at Columbia. This company has a contract for the Schofield Dam but cannot work there now on account of the snow. They must have better weather before starting out.

Mullins and Wheeler Company are starting their equipment after the winter lay-up and have cleared most of their steady men out.

The Kellogg job at the Utah Oil plant is finishing up and several of our Engineers have been laid off to date.

This review covers a larger portion of the happenings of the past month.

Living costs 'distorted'



Here is a chart of the Meany-Thomas estimate of the cost of living, compared with the Bureau of Labor Statistics index of the cost of living. The figures submitted by AFL's Secretary George Meany and CIO's R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers charged an increase of 43.5 per cent, as compared to 23.4 per cent shown by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. (Bread & Butter Chart via Federated Pictures)

WASHINGTON — (FP) — A F L and CIO members of the Presidential Committee on Cost of Living laid before President Roosevelt February 20 an "urgent request" for an investigation of the Bureau of Labor Statistics cost of living index.

The union men in a letter to the President charged that BLS figures "distort the basic facts of our wartime living costs." The use of the index, they said, "reflects the gravest type of injustice that could possibly be perpetrated by it upon the American people."

Signed by AFL Sec.-Treas. George Meany and Pres. R. J. Thomas of the United Automobile Workers (CIO), the letter was accompanied by a copy of their report to the cost of living committee which revealed a 43.5 per cent increase in living costs as contrasted to the BLS index figure of 24 per cent.

They informed the President that

although he had appointed the Cost of Living group as a subcommittee of the National War Labor Board on November 5 and urged prompt action, the public and industry members had failed to assemble or present any data and have failed to make any investigation of living costs.

"Because of our firm conviction that nothing further can be expected from this committee for some months to come we cannot continue to sit by and abide by this extraordinary delay in the face of the facts which we have found," they asserted.

Meany the same day carried labor's cost of living fight to a nation-wide audience during the Labor for Victory broadcast. Interviewed by AFL Publicist Phil Pearl, he said in answer to questions about alleged large take-home wages:

"On paper, therefore, the aver-

age workingman should have nothing to complain about. But human beings don't eat paper even if the paper consists of greenbacks. It's not the number of dollars a worker earns that really counts but how much he can buy with those dollars."

Meany told his radio audience how the President's original 7-point stabilization program had been emasculated by Congress and charged that whereas the line had been on wages "most farmers, storekeepers and industries are enjoying unprecedented prosperity."

More on Eureka

(Continued from Page 6) a day's pay traveling to Eureka in order to get one.

By April 15, we should have another 50 or 60 engineers working in this territory.

More on activities from Oakland representatives

(Continued from Page 5)

Services were increased by four of our Brothers, working out of this office, joining up this month.

Brother Tom Pugmire reported for Navy Duty February 10, 1944; Brother Cliff Leathers, 3 A member entered the Army; Brother Avastasio Alvarado, 3 A member, reported February 29, to become a Merchant Marine; Brother Walker became a Seabee on March 6.

Brother Fred Buehlmeier, who has been employed as a Foreman for N. M. Ball in Washington, has returned to this territory. He is now employed at J. A. Casson shop at Hayward.

Mrs. Patricia Thompson is leaving the Richmond Office of the Operating Engineers after a year and a half of service. Mrs. Jeanne Schroeder, who has been employed in the Oakland Office, is replacing Mrs. Thompson.

We recently obtained an approval from the War Labor Board on the renewal of our agreement between the Operating Engineers Local No. 3 and the Rock, Sand and Gravel Industry, whereby the work week was reduced to 40 hours from 44 hours and our members will receive time and one half for all day Saturday in the event that they do not absent themselves voluntarily throughout the week. There is a vacation clause in the Agreement, which entitles any member to a week's vacation who has given 1200 hours of service to the company within the year. This agreement went into effect on December 1, 1943.

Brother Al Uslanghi is proudly announcing his parenthood to a young son whose premier was on March 1. Congratulations to both Brothers and Mrs. Al!

Brother C. B. Bunker is back from Nome, Alaska, after a 2 month's stay working for the

U. S. E. D. Brother Bunker reports there were several members from Local 3 on the job, all doing well. Living and working conditions were excellent. The only sad thing, he says, is that whisky sells for \$50.00 a quart!

Brother Manuel Cardoza, 3 member, is a pretty busy man these days as we understand he is farming, as a side line, around Tracy somewhere. We imagine he's concentrating on his Spring Plowing about now!

Brother Al Clem and Brother Ed Doran wish to take this opportunity to thank the membership for their support in the recent election.

More on Sick List

(Continued from Page 5)

Three of our members have been seen during the past few weeks with their arms in slings.

Brother James (Jimmy) Cook was employed at Encinal Terminal, Alameda, when his accident occurred. His arm will be in a cast approximately 8 weeks.

Brother G. Henwood, oiler in Yard III, Richmond, fell off the rig and broke his arm.

While trying to signal for a rescuer to rescue a truck that had turned over, Brother D. V. Green stepped off his Dozer, put his hand on a half burned post which broke and he fell, breaking his arm. This little accident occurred on the H. O. Rutherford job in Vallejo.

Brother Herb Suddeth is confined to the Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Oakland, as the result of an appendectomy.

Brother Lonnie Thompson, crane operator in Yard II, Richmond, was very seriously injured in a fall from the rig. We understand he has a compound fracture—his leg broken in two places, hands badly burnt and possible internal injuries. Brother Thompson is at the Permanente Hospital in Oakland.

Labor has vital job in war and in peace

By WM. A. SPEERS

Business Representative

It hasn't been an easy matter for several months past, in the face of high living costs, for the fellow in the front line trenches of plants, to scratch a living for himself and family.

It is generally agreed that a large percentage of our workers, in war production work, are earning more than they ever have, but it is also true that living costs have jumped by leaps and bounds. Some authorities offer figures as high as forty-three per cent. We know that price stabilization has not been effective to the extent of preventing this, and as a result labor has had to "pay the freight."

We are not going to attempt to place the responsibility for these conditions, except to give recognition to the fact that our President warned that stabilization of wages, as an inflation preventative, would only be successful if prices of essential commodities were also kept within bounds.

Have you followed the dilly-dally methods of our lawmakers? Have you noticed that they were always alert to promote, and ratify legislation that would tie the hands of the workers? Then you also observed that they have not been so anxious to support legislation that would restrain the upward price trend. Perhaps they feared that

the enactment of such laws might be too far-reaching, and cause them some future embarrassment, in the eyes of big business.

Perhaps you have noticed that, even when certain price increases were shown to be justified, Congress and the Senate failed to provide subsidies to relieve the higher production cost, and laid it in the lap of the consumer. The bugaboo seems to be, "too much government in business."

The full time worker, after having the amount of the unemployment insurance tax, the Social Security tax, and the twenty-per-cent withholding tax taken from his weekly pay check, finds that he has little left to purchase that extra War Bond, and much less to meet the higher cost of living.

Then, of course, even the full time worker has no assurance of continued employment. He never knows what day he will be terminated, and will have to pick up his bag and baggage, and move to other parts to get a job. Let me give you a few figures on this subject, to illustrate what I mean.

This has to do with the labor turnover at the Permanente Plant, and only as it applies to those employments in classifications covered by the Engineers Union.

During the period from August 1, 1942, to February 20, 1944, or a little over eighteen months, we

have had 1239 members on the payroll, at some time or other, and during that time there were 941 terminations, leaving an active payroll membership of 298 members.

We realize, of course, that in other industrial employments there are even higher percentages of labor turnover. Nor is it intended to reflect that the fault lies either with the employer or the employee. The intent, rather, is to illustrate what is meant by the uncertainty of full time employment, without which, attractive wage rates mean little.

These unstable conditions bear all the fruits of discontent, and can only be compensated for by an equitable wage, even to the extent of discarding the "little steel formula" which has ceased to be the standard in determining an equitable wage basis.

Organized workers today are the unwilling victims of restrictive measures, presumably framed to contribute to the best interest of the war effort. Organized labor has been in full accord with the objective, notwithstanding the inequities injected into the program. It has now reached such proportions, however, that some honest effort must be made to prove the sincerity of the purpose.

May we look forward to the day when we will realize that our ef-

forts have not been in vain. When we will again enjoy the freedom of a free world, and the privilege of exercising our rights as free men. It is then that the Roosevelt-Churchill pact, "The Four Freedoms," will be the basis of post-war preparation, and action.

It is then that the people, as a people, will expect to enjoy more of the fruits of their labor, under the form of a Democracy that is going to have to be combed over, to be truly representative of the ideals we so proudly hail, as the peoples' form of Government.

And while we are at it, let's not forget that Organized Labor, in any of its forms, is not free of all ills either. We can well give a lot of thought to straightening out our own affairs. It matters not what form of organization we are discussing. There will always be criticism of any progressive move, but let it be constructive criticism. Let's make it better. Let's rebuild it as many times as necessary, to mold it into the form that will best serve the purpose of its members.

Don't stand on tradition; that is all very well for those who find it convenient to cloud the issue. You're going to have to use your head. Give more time to "what's going on in the world." More time to "cause" and "effect." You read

the papers, editorials, magazines, trade journals, periodicals, and listen to the radio. Through these channels you learn much, and form your own conclusions. Yes, that's the point. Bring these conclusions into your meetings so that others may share your knowledge. All may not agree with you, but that's not important. "Mighty oaks from little acorns grow."

Our last meeting in the San Jose Division was well attended by members throughout the area, and the Permanente Plant was well represented.

Among the officers of our Local, present were Brothers Clancy, president; Vandewark, treasurer, and Brother Metz, all from San Francisco, for the occasion. Brother Murphy was host of the evening, and at the close of the meeting, refreshments were served.

There will be a meeting of Permanente Stewards a few days before our regular meeting in March. Notices will be sent, giving the time and place.

As a reminder, our monthly meetings in the San Jose Division are held on the fourth Friday of each month at 40 N. Morrison, at The Alameda, at eight o'clock in the evening. These are your meetings. Please attend, if possible.

Rains put damper on jobs in Sacramento territory

By FRANK LAWRENCE

Business Representative

SACRAMENTO—And the rains came! Just as work prospects seemed a little brighter up this 'a way. However, it is encouraging to be able to talk about work that will start when the weather clears, and, as usual, things will probably get under way along about the first part of April.

McDonald & Kahn are getting started on a \$2,000,000 United War Information Broadcasting Station at Dixon which will furnish considerable work for some members.

A. Teichert & Company have been awarded a \$2,500,000 contract at McClellan Field to extend runways and taxi strips. This work

will start just as soon as the weather permits.

Leo Lentz will lay a 13,000-foot pipeline for the Southern Pacific from the Roseville Roundhouse to the Lincoln Reservoir.

Morrison & Knudson still have their office open at Rio Vista and keep several members working on repairs. It is rumored that they will get going on a 7,000,000-yard dirt job soon.

Leo Lentz will also do the job of excavating for the cannery at Newcastle. It is expected that about 50,000 yards of dirt will be moved and hauled to the Auburn Hospital.

The H. E. Parker Company expects to move equipment to the Madera Canal job soon. This com-

pany has taken over the old Hemstreet & Bell Shops. Sacramento Industries have reorganized under the name of the Dumont Construction Company. They have a new sub-contract under Kaiser and are employing a few of our members.

The Steinbrenner Shipyard is expecting another contract. Wages have been adjusted on this job and we have a few men working there.

The Belyea Trucking Company of Los Angeles have taken over the Walegria Lumber Yard at Camp Kohler on a contract which expires December 31, 1944.

At Camp Beale the Marshall S. Hanrahan Company is continuing with several members on the job.

The Oroville Airport job is practically completed.

AND—At the present time things are still very slow and very few men are moving out of the office.

I would like to call to the attention of the men who worked on the Donner Summit job that an increase in pay, effective December 1, 1943, has been arranged. Anyone who was on the job and left after that date should contact this office as there is a possibility that back pay may be secured for them.

Frank Clayton looking very well in his soldier's uniform stopped in for a visit on Monday, February 28. Frank was on his way back to New Orleans, La., after spending his furlough visiting his wife in Marysville.

We are sorry to report the death

of two members of Local No. 3.

Brother Anton Loden, who had been a dragline operator at the Brighton Sand and Gravel Company for the past several years, passed away on February 26th at his home in Sacramento. Services were held on February 29th.

Brother Albert L. Reynolds, who was probably best known to the members in the Redding district, passed away on March 6th in Woodland.

DON'T FORGET, when you need gasoline to enable you to get to your job, get in touch with your Union Office, either Sacramento or Marysville. Your application for the necessary supplemental mileage will be made out and approved at either office.

Not much change around Fresno—it's weather again

By T. D. BRYSON

Business Representative

FRESNO—There has not been much of a change in and around Fresno since last month. The rain for the past two weeks has hampered what few jobs we did have running, but it appears that the weather is moderating somewhat and we are expecting considerable activity here in the near future.

The J. E. Haddock Company is still keeping a number of our members busy on land leveling and digging sumps to take care of the waste sludge from the wineries which has been made necessary

since they are principally engaged in the production of alcohol for the government.

The Phoenix Construction Company has temporarily suspended work on their land leveling job at Merced, they got a rush job near Mojave on an Airport and had to rush all their available equipment there. They expect to return and finish the job later.

There is considerable activity on the Tulare Lakes at present, the American Dredging Company is keeping busy with three shifts on the Dredge Front. The San Francisco Bridge Company has moved

a small Suction Dredge in on the South Levee and expect to be pumping by March 15th. The Case Dredging Company of San Diego has also moved a small pumper in on the same work and are now getting it ready to start.

The Von Glon Dredging Company is still keeping their Clam Shell Dredge busy twenty-four hours per day. The Griffith Company has two draglines and a Dozer working on the Tule River Levee where they have about three miles of the levee to raise approximately seven feet.

We have recently learned that the contract for the final section

of the Friant Madera Canal was officially awarded to the A. Teichert Company and H. Earl Parker on February 21, and work is supposed to start within thirty days from that date.

The Harms and Larsen Company are progressing nicely on their section of the Friant Madera Canal, considering the rainy weather which has hampered them somewhat.

MEMBERS, TAKE NOTICE

The regular meeting of the Fresno branch is held on the fourth Saturday night in each month at 8 o'clock at 1035 Broadway, Fresno, California.

The attendance was rather small at our last meeting, we do not know the reason for this—possibly Saturday is not the best time to hold meetings and maybe the members are not interested enough to attend meetings. We hope to have a large attendance at our next meeting, then the members can decide on the time that will suit the majority best, you have the say.

The new wage scale for the Rock, Sand and Gravel plants in the Fresno area has been submitted to the War Labor Board and we hope to have something to report on this at our next meeting.

Stockton jobs hit by rains, too

By WM. C. WAACK

Business Representative

STOCKTON—And then came the rains.

It seems that when you are out in the back country it rains harder and heavier. No district could receive quite as much rain as Stockton, still in all I know that Murphy got his share, then through to San Francisco and Oakland, and when I got back to Stockton it had stopped. But only for a day.

It's here again and like the three-ring circus, bigger and better than ever. Well, there isn't much we can do about it.

Got a letter from "Nig Mylar"

who set himself in for the winter at the Wetzel camp, 20 miles out of Plymouth. Himself, Fred Neff, and Louie Esloe, are pioneering and in the rough weather repairing. This is fine country in the spring, so will see you then.

Frank Kastell writes from his C.B. camp at Davisville, Long Island. The C.B.'s main subject is union conditions back-home, whenever they have time to "shoot the breeze."

Walter Mack, one of our old-time catskinners, has taken over a service station and ice house on East Main Street and the Washington Y. He won't open till noon, so he is

just making up for lost time, getting better acquainted with the "kip."

Pollock has taken on orders for 43 additional units from the Navy. There is quite a mixture of types of vessels, from the large 680-foot dry docks to flat barges. This contract sets this yard at peak capacity for over a year.

Ray Otto sold his Manteca Auto Court and is waiting for a shovel job.

Galbraith is land leveling out of Modesto. Frank Hassett is back on Lillys rig at Permanente after a year on Trinidad Island and French Guiana.

REGISTER NOW

Labor must mobilize its strength at the polls this year if it is to defeat the reactionary anti-labor forces who even now are planning new attacks on labor's rights

APRIL 6 is your last day to register