State Moves to Streamline Permits For Construction of Power Plants

With only one dissenting vote, the State Air Resource Board and the Energy Commission approved a sweeping new policy statement this month aimed at streamlining government permit procedures for power plants.

ARB Chairman Tom Quinn described the policy statement as "an effort to bring together statutes and still allow power plant sitings." He claimed that the adoption of the new policy will cut by six months the time needed by government agencies to review power plant proposals.

Energy Commission Chairman Richard Maulin said the new policy would provide an "extra element of certainty that power plants that need to be built will be built." He said it would also cut the cost of government by reducing red tape and duplication in the two agencies.

One of the primary objectives of the new plan is to eliminate conflicting demands on utilities by various agencies which review proposals for power plants.

"That process was time-consuming, expensive and confusing," explained Quinn. He added that the new agreement "will provide a fast, coordinated and well reasoned decisions about power plant sitings in California."

Under the plan, local air pollution control districts would inform the Energy Commission which pollution control equipment must be used on specific proposed power plants, and indicate whether there is a conflict with federal and state air quality regulations can be met.

If the Energy Commission determines that a power plant cannot meet air quality standards at the proposed site, then an alternate site can be added to the original three sites submitted to the energy commission.

The new agreement would require public agencies involved to inform utilities and the public early in the planning stages for new power plants of the chances for acceptance—before large amounts of money are spent, Quinn said. Another proposal approached by the ARB this month was a "pollution banking" policy designed to provide economic incentives for industry to clean up the air. The proposal is a modification of the (Continued on Page 6).

Clean Air: Where do You Draw the Line Between Economy and Ecology?

Articles and Photographs by James Earp

When the Clean Air Act was passed by Congress in 1970, few individuals—except perhaps those who drafted its passage—were prepared to accept the tremendous pressure the new law would bring to bear on the nation’s economy.

Now, eight and a half years later, the complicated and often conflicting web of regulations spawned by the Clean Air Act is steadily applying a vice grip on the growth of our economy. Using such heavy handed tactics as threats to withdraw federal funds for construction projects unless air quality standards are met, the Environmental Protection Agency is telling local and state governmental and industries to clean up the air, or else.

At this point, industry and working men and women are being forced to ask: or else what? Already the restrictions of the anti-pollution laws are exerting tremendous pressure on the job and the price of retrofitting plants and factories with expensive and often unreliable pollution equipment.

A Heavy Hand

What exactly is the EPA going to do if cities or states don’t meet the clean air standards by the given deadlines? Some current cases in point provide a dramatic preview:

Eight years ago the copper industry rushed to comply with EPA’s mandate that copper smelters clean up their sulfur dioxide emissions. One small company out of New Jersey in 1972 began building a brand new $62.5 million smelter. Since 1974 when the new system went into operation, the company has spent another $60 million trying to work the kinks out of pollution control equipment.

By last summer, the previously debt-free firm found itself $25.7 million in debt and strapped for cash that it was ripe for a corporate takeover. In December, stockholders voted to merger with American Corporation, a foreign-based holding company.

This is not an isolated case for the copper industry. Phelps Dodge Corp., which spent $237 million on pollution equipment to control sulfur dioxide emissions is likely to be gobbling up Bendix Corp.

-Kennecott Corp., which employs hundreds of Local 3 members in its Utah and Nevada operations spent $411 million on equipment to satisfy EPA—something it could ill afford to do in light of the current copper market.

“It seems as though the EPA is trying to shut down the copper industry,” says a metals analyst with a New York brokerage firm.

In Ohio, the strict air pollution regulations imposed by the EPA on eight utility companies has forced them to go out of state for low sulfur grade coal to avoid installation of costly scrubbing equipment.

The trend will cause an estimated loss of 13,000 to 15,000 coal related jobs by 1980.

To “correct” the situation, the EPA—under authority it received in the 1977 clean air amendments—may order the eight utilities to burn locally mined coal, even though it produces more pollution than out of state coal. The utilities will then be required to install the costly anti-pollution equipment to protect the environment.

According to the utilities, this will force a 25 percent increase in consumers’ utility bills.

In Tennessee, the EPA has required another utility—the Tennessee Valley Authority—to do just exactly the opposite. To settle lawsuits against it by the EPA, the TVA has agreed to purchase higher quality coal and additional pollution control equipment at a cost of $450 million by 1983.

A Regulatory Nightmare

In California, the addition of the California Environmental Quality Act has turned the state into a regulatory nightmare. Not only must industry conform to the national EPA guidelines, it must satisfy the even stric-
Testimony For LNG Site On Coast of California

By DALE MARR, Business Manager and Editor

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by Local Union No. 3 of the International Union of Operating Engineers, the parent organization, and the international; it has 500,000 members nationwide.

Local 3’s jurisdiction covers 246,000 square miles in Northern California, Northern Nevada, Utah, Hawaii and the Mid-Pacific Islands. Throughout our jurisdiction, Local 3 has an obligation to represent the best interests of the members and their families by securing employment for them and advocating programs that improve the quality of their lives as consumers.

Consequently, I am here today to urge the approval of an LNG site at Little Cojo Bay because it offers on-site construction jobs and gives gas supplies that will help the economy of California and the nation.

The construction job opportunities are fairly clear: 1,500 involved in the terminal construction and another 250 in running the pipeline connection to Bakersfield. This would be a very helpful construction job in an industry that is hard hit by cyclical unemployment.

But I am also interested in seeing that California has a secure natural gas supply, and that the steady reduction in natural gas supplies be reversed. Energy is the key to maintaining the quality of life in California. Residential use of natural gas is a key to a high air quality in the Los Angeles basin.

It is common practice lately to politically attack energy development and delivery in order to slow or stop growth. There are a variety of hidden agendas in attacking all energy development systems that have become pop causes in recent years.

The California LNG Gas Terminal Act was signed in September, 1977 and the legislative history of California Public Utility Commission was designated the sole permitting agency for California’s only LNG terminal because, in part, the California Legislature did not want unreasonable delay nor multi-agency jurisdictional problems.

Subsequently, the PUC conditionally approved Little Cojo Bay as a suitable remote site. PUC Chairman Batsonvich has stated that he sees bringing LNG into California as a major PUC trial and that the PUC will “have to exert in its best efforts to get LNG for the state.”

This urgency is well put. There are tremendous constraints on energy exploration. Lead time on nuclear and fossil fuel generating plant construction is becoming so lengthy as to effectively kill the projects. Constant delays in planning and building major generating plants inflate the end cost beyond anyone’s estimation. Organized groups opposed to the plants use every means available in an effort to confound and delay all energy projects regardless of source or type of fuel to be delivered.

Now we find that if the source of the energy cannot be delayed or defeated, then the transport system to the consumer must be attempted. LNG is suited to this type of approach because there are only a few remote sites available in California, and if all these are securely approved and carded as sites, then there will be little chance for LNG in this state, or this nation, or anywhere else.

Consumers, mostly of those low and moderate income, will again bear the brunt of any failure to successfully site LNG. Total California natural gas supplies peaked around 1970, yet there are millions of residential consumers who use gas for home heating, cooking and water heating. Residential gas users have the highest use per capita of any other fuel, and if the consumer must burn no other fuel to do. I do not believe anyone advocates retro-fitting several million California homes in order to use another fuel source. With the long lead time on any other type of energy development, even out of state plants, there is nothing on the horizon to pick up the slack threatened by natural gas shortages.

There is a statewide natural gas distribution network in place. A high percentage of homes already use natural gas. It makes sense to continue to use natural gas as a fuel in view of this. There are significant natural gas sources in the Pacific Basin that lend themselves to LNG transport to California markets. These Pacific Basin sources will be lost if LNG transport is rejected.

This situation will force California consumers to rely on traditional but declining gas sources, such as Canada, the U. S. Southwest and California, and back on on-offitional sources in Mexico or the Outer Continental Shelf. Yet, the PUC has recognized the immediate need for new gas supplies and has initiated other efforts.

I believe that continued use of natural gas, through importation of LNG, provides California with an integrated energy system. If nothing else, the recent years’ bad winters in the Midwest have shown us the chaos caused when one or two heavily used fuels become scarce or undeliverable. Homes, factories and entire states shut down.

I do not believe that California can reject LNG as an energy source among the various currently used without becoming dangerously dependent on the few sources that we now have. Use of nuclear energy in our state cannot become an either/or proposition; each has its individual place among the various energy needs, and it is a choice that the people of this State must make themselves. I believe that natural gas and LNG can play a significant role in millions of California’s consumers’ lives and that both fuels will replace natural gas in the foreseeable future.

In closing, I urge expeditious approval of this LNG siting. The need has been established, the technology is available and the gas is under contract.

The Operating Engineers Union has been active on a number of energy projects, from North Slope oil and natural gas, to nuclear and coal. I see LNG as another energy source that does not preclude any other, that has a direct impact on sustaining employment and competitive production, and improving employment opportunities for millions of Californians and those surrounding sister states that depend on a sound and productive California for the well being of their own economy.

Judge Gordon, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to make these remarks and this closes my testimony.
National Forest Proposal To Develop Roadless Land

In a development of what may be of major importance to California, the Department of Agriculture Department and its proposed making 2.5 million acres recommended for preservation as wilderness habitat. The Agriculture Department and its U.S. Forest Service unit can carry out other offers of the proposals made in the study independently. The 896,000 acres proposed for wilderness protection in California are located within 69 separate roadless areas spread over mountain ranges in all parts of the state.

Coal Plant Sites Ranked

The state Energy Commission has issued a report ranking the Montezuma site at the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers as the best site for PG&E's 1,500 megawatt coal-fired power plant. It would be the first such plant in California. The report ranks the Montezuma site which would be across the delta from Pittsburg, better than two in Yuba County, Yuba County or Willows or Glenn counties.

But the report cautioned that “many questions remain, including the effect of coal combustion” on the controversial power plant. PG&E must demonstrate that risks to health and safety due to air pollution must remain at a minimum, or the commission “will recommend pro of this project” and urge the company to seek other means of meeting the electricity needs of California.

Batch Plant Sites Approved

Two sites near Courtright Dam in Fresno County for a portable concrete batch plant have been approved by the county planning commission. The permits were sought by PG&E in conjunction with the Heine Brothers Small Storage Hydroelectric Project. The primary site near the Lost Canyon Park parking area is less than half a mile from the river. A second site, selected between Courtright Dam and Marimor Rock, will be used only if winter conditions make the first location hazardous.

New Refinery for East Bay

The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has given final approval to construction of a 17 million oil refinery on the Martinez waterfront in Contra Costa County. The UCO Oil Co. facility, to process 100,000 barrels of crude a day, will be the seventh and smallest refinery in the Bay Area. It will be the first built in the region since 1969. Construction is expected to start this summer.

Pacheco Tunnel Bids OK’d

A U.S. District Court Judge in San Francisco has approved a sealed for construction of the Pacheco Tunnel for the San Felipe Water Project. Judge Samuel Conti ruled that bids for the tunnel did not show that irreparable damage would occur if Guy F. Atkinson Co. of San Jose were awarded the $49.7 million contract. The tunnel would be 6 miles long from the south entrance to the north.

Friends of the Earth claimed in its suit that the $222 million limit on the San Felipe project set by Congress has been exceeded, so the project must be reauthorized by Congress. The project, when completed, will pipe 200,000 acre-feet of water annually from the Sacramento River Delta to Santa Clara and San Benito counties and livestock grazing and ski resorts. Another 896,000 acres were selected by Congress for permanently protected wilderness.

Delta-Mendota Contract Awarded

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation has awarded a $2.8 million contract to Gentz Construction Co. of Fresno for rehabilitation work on the Central Valley Project’s Delta-Mendota Canal. The contract is for $3.4 million. Major features of the work include cleaning of the canal banks; replacing the canal lining; constructing instrument housing and stilling wells; and various structural modifications. The permit was issued to the company, which concluded the canal between the north side of the San Joaquin River and the south side of the canal.

Shasta Dam Expansion Under Consideration

Shasta Dam could be enlarged as a four-fold to meet growing water needs, the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation reports. The California Department of Water Resources is reported to support the idea because the state will not be able to meet its water needs by the year 2000, unless new projects are undertaken. The Bureau’s report said that any new dam could be enlarged or a new dam built downstream. However, a new dam would require the relocation of a PG&E power plant, part of the SR railroad and sections of Interstate 5. Shasta Dam has a current capacity of 4.5 million acre-feet, but could be expanded to a maximum of 7.6 million acre-feet. The federal dam would be in the state’s interests and benefits.

$16 Million In Geothermal Bids

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management has received high bids totaling $16 million for geothermal resource leases on nine parcels of government-owned land in the state. A total of 3,190 acres is involved in an area where geothermal development is currently underway. PG&E has the world’s largest geothermal electric production operation there, producing enough power to meet half the needs of San Francisco.

$15 Million for Utah Roads

The Utah Transportation Commission has approved spending $15.7 million to resurface 106 miles of Utah’s highways during fiscal year 1980, beginning July 1. If this mileage is completed, it will bring to 438 the number of miles of Utah roads resurfaced since the two-cent state gas tax increase took effect July 1. A spokesman said the total project is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

New Melones Tops Out

Using a fleet of 100-ton dump trucks, wheel loads and crawler scrapers, workers at the new New Melones Dam project have completed ‘topping off’ the massive dam three months ahead of schedule. Contractors working the project credit the early finish to the drought two years ago and a big push to complete the coffer dam before the rainy season that never came in 1977-78. The 625-ft. high dam, with a crest 1,560 feet long, is the highest earthfill dam in the U.S.

Power Plant Site Targeted

A decision on a site for a proposed coal-fired power plant in eastern Utah will be made this month by the Deseret Generation and Transmission Cooperative. Officials are hoping that the first unit producing 400,000 kilowatts can be in production by 1985 to meet an expected “enormous energy demand.” The cooperative is made up of several consumer associations, smaller cooperatives and municipalities.

The group has budgeted $4.5 million for necessary environmental studies and has hired a consulting engineering firm for the site selection. Also participating in the cooperative is the Moon Lake Electric Association, made up of consumers in eastern Utah and western Colorado, and the Uintah Mountain Consumers Power Assoc. in Salt Lake County.

Grovewriter: Boulder Road Gets Additional Funds

Nearly $1.5 million in federal funds has been allotted for upgrading the Grover-Shafter road in Garfield County, Utah. The funds will go for additional grading and paving over the entire road. The road runs between the communities of Boulder and Grover through Dixie National Forest. When completed, it would provide the shortest, most scenic route between Capitol Reef and Bryce Canyon.

Grove-Shafter Bids Opened

The California Department of Transportation has opened bids on 30 northern California High- way projects, chief among them being the first phase of the Grove Shafter Freeway in Oakland. The apparent low bidder for the Grove Shafter project was C.C. Meyers and U.C. Jones. The project is expected to be completed by the end of the year. Other projects on which bids were opened were: Alameda County, Rt. 84, relocation of highway from Maple St. to 2 miles east of Scott St., Livermore for $1 million; Monterey County, Rt. 101, 14th St. project for $450,000; Alameda County, Rt. 880, reconstruction of overcrossing on Stoneridge Drive in Pleasanton for $2.6 million; and Madera, reconstruction of overcrossing on Stonebridge Dr. for $350,000.
By HAROLD HUSTON, President

Personal Note from the President’s Pen

February 1979

We want to express our appreciation to all the brothers who attended the meeting held in San Francisco on January 6, 1979. Let’s keep our union strong by attending all meetings.

Brother Don Dillon, former District 4 Executive Board member, who retired in April through遗失, was presented a 35 year gold lifetime membership card. Brother Fred Jensen was presented an engraved Local #3 gold watch for 50 years of membership on December 7, 1978. My personal congratulations to both.

We just completed the round of District Meetings in Eureka, Redding, and Oroville, which were well attended. My hat is off to all those who braved the rain and cold weather to attend the Retiree’s Association Meetings held at Redding and Grizzly. Our retirees are very special people who deserve the very best.

The American Heart Association has designated February, the month of sweetheart and Valentine’s Day, as “Heart Month.” The San Francisco Chapter has presented to us a fact sheet on heart attack, stroke and risk factors. I feel this information is very important to all the members and their families and have decided to have it printed with my article this month.

WHAT IS A HEART ATTACK?

The human heart is basically a muscle that pumps blood. It has its own blood vessels, the coronary arteries, that nourish it to keep it alive. In most cases, heart attack is caused by the gradual buildup of fatty deposits, composed mainly of cholesterol, in the inner arterial wall. Progressively, these deposits narrow the artery, decreasing or stopping blood flow to the heart muscle and damaging the tissue. Complete blockage of blood flow deprives an area of the heart muscle of needed oxygen and nutrients causing death of the area of muscle. This is a heart attack. The dying area may trigger electrical activity resulting in ventricular fibrillation, an uncoordinated twitching movement with no effective cardiac contraction.

In many cases, if trained medical personnel are immediately available, they can get the heart beating again through the use of electrical shock or drugs.

If the heart can be kept beating and enough heart muscle remains undamaged, small blood vessels may detour blood around the damaged area. In addition, the heart’s own life-saving mechanism where other blood vessels compensate is called collateral circulation, the blooded blocked.

The key to survival lies in being able to recognize the warning signals of heart attack, and getting immediate medical attention.

HOW TO RECOGNIZE A HEART ATTACK

If you feel an uncomfortable fullness, pressure, squeezing or pain in the center of the chest (that may spread to the shoulders, arms, neck or jaw). You may also feel shortness of breath, nausea, or other discomfort that may be present any time.

The natural reaction is to deny what’s happening. But before deciding to wait, remember this: $500,000 heart attack victims die each year. Many more survive the hospital last year, many because they refused to believe they were having a heart attack. If the typical symptom of heart attack is chest pain, you may be suffering from other reasons such as angina, indigestion, or tension.

In addition, many women are in the pain of the heart attack and do not want to admit they have a heart attack. They assume it is not real. A large percentage of women have a lower death rate for heart attack than men, but post menopause, apparently because of hormonal changes, these women have a slightly higher death rate than men.

It is recommended that you talk this book with your doctor and discuss it with your doctor.

Additional advice and information is available from your local branch of the American Heart Association.

Recognizing the Early Signals of a Strong

The primary signal is a sudden, temporary weakness or numbness of face, arm and/or leg on one side of the body. Other signals include temporary loss of speech, or trouble in understanding speech, loss of vision, in one eye, unexplained dizziness, unsteadiness or sudden falls. Many strokes could be prevented if “little strokes” are recognized within a normal range.

When it is diagnosed and controlled. Many major strokes are preceded by “little strokes” or warning signals, days, weeks or months before the more severe event. Prompt medical or surgical attention may prevent a major stroke.

For more information, call the American Heart Association.

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For more information, call the American Heart Association.
At this moment, I certainly hope every one of our members is about ready to get back to a normal routine of business and work as usual because I think we all fairly successfully came through with happy holidays which included family gatherings, good times, good food, gifts, and all the things that are very traditional, and are the things still I think that make America the very best place to live and work and play despite what some times will think.

The story of the Bowl XIX is now history and this traditional event really lets us know that 1979 is well on its way, and for those not now working they must consider the serious business of where this year they will work and earn their living, because sooner or later we would like Spring to be upon us, and sooner than we would like April 15 will be here and mark the due date for our taxes to be paid—and for some the forms returned for what is hoped to be a refund. As Operating Engineers in construction, a way of life in many cases is to hunt a job and go to the next one wherever it might be, because the job you employer you worked for last season has been completed and a new one must be found.

Now to some of the same lucky members, they will be able to return to a job not yet completed and therefore a carryover, or in some cases, a permanent establishment and job place is to be had, but in many cases the dream work is left on the books as a carryover. Many Operating Engineers (and I certainly was one of these people when still working for a contractor) are looking forward to the new season and new job and employer in a new location. This created new friends and engineer friends and sorts of gets in your life and I think this is what makes some of these different feeling in the pit of your stomach caused by the unknown would be very uncomfortable, and to those many engineers who have been and are doing it regularly you, I'm sure, fully understand exactly what I am saying.

The very big news both to myself and the 180 mining Operating Engineers in the State of Utah have been on many, many lucky and miserable days at the Duval mine at Battle Mountain, Nevada, that the strike is over and is now a page in history. In my opinion, this strike had a few lasts causes over which this strike occurred and the way our members hung together until an honorable settlement was reached will go down in operating history as something must be done to the industry. The ratification meeting of the final days' proceedings and ultimate settlement was read to the rank & file members that they could have an opportunity to vote and amazingly the exact same number of members attended the ratification meeting and conclusion that attended the meeting on November 11 and the vote was not a carryover, but a strike vote took place. The interest of this group of miners, if anything, was even greater than before, as quite a few of the brokers in the interim period moved out of state completely in seeking employment.

In the secret ballot vote that followed presentation by reading the proposed contract changes, the membership voted by a margin of 92 to accept vs. 22 to reject and set the wheels in motion for a very quick return to work. These people voted on many changes but S.U.B. (Supplemental Unemployment Benefits), S.D.I., D.A & D. Pension, working rule upgrades, as well as now hard money and C.O.L.A. adjustments were the focal points of what was voted upon. In terms of pure money over the life of the contract (39 months duration) and figuring a 7% annual cost of living escalation, the very same number member over this agreement life in wages alone could figure around a total of $2.20 per hour increase, which is an increase of about $70 to 75¢ for each year of the contract life. My closing comment regarding this settlement is that this agreement certainly could have been reached a month or 60 days back, if the company would only have offered a serious money package instead of doing the same.
San Felipe Project Awarded

District Representative Tom Carter reports that Guy F. Atkinson Co. is low bidder on the San Felipe tunnel project. The bid of $49 million is for the second reach of the project from San Luis Reservoir West through the Pacheco Mountain to the Santa Clara Valley. The Bureau of Reclamation rejected bids last year because they were too high. The current bid is 35 percent higher than the original estimate. The whole project was redesigned to a smaller diameter tunnel 200 feet higher to cut the cost by shortening the tunnel about 3 miles.

When completed, water will be pumped from the existing tunnel to the proposed tunnel. The gravity flow to a series of canals and pipelines will provide water to Santa Clara County. The project was awarded to Buzz Haskins Co. to go to bid in February 1979 at a cost of about $350 million worth of work.

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** Negotiating Active in Guam **

District Representative Paul Wise reports that Local 3 negotiating teams have been very active in negotiating contracts at the Public Authority of Guam and Atkins Kroll, (Guam) Ltd.

The agreement contract will be signed shortly while the team for the Atkins Kroll negotiations feels that the team is very busy, Wise said.

Wise reported that the December Stewards' meetings saw the best turnout for a Stewards' meeting in Guam. Wise addressed the meeting informing the Stewards of the reorganization of the local office and the increased demand in the demands for contracts, stringent enforcement of agreements, intensified training of stewards and more vigorous processing of grievances.

He also addressed the Stewards that the local office was conducting research into improving health and medical insurance for its members, local firms.

** 1978-79 LOCAL 3 SCHOLARSHIP RULES **

Two college scholarships of $750.00 each will be awarded for study at any accredited college or university, one award to a son or a daughter of Operating Engineers Local 3. The Local 3 scholarships will impose no restrictions of any kind on the course of study. Winners may accept any other grants or awards which do not in themselves rule scholarship aid from other sources.

Who May Apply:

Sons and daughters of Members of Local No. 3 may apply for the scholarships. The parent of the applicant must be a Member of Local 3 for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the application.

3. Local Members of Local No. 3 are eligible to apply for the scholarships. The parent of the applicant must be a Member of Local 3 for at least one (1) year immediately preceding the date of the application.

The applicants must be senior high school students who are planning to enter college. They must be full-time students in September of the academic year and who are able to meet the academic requirements for entrance into the university or college of their choice. Students selected for scholarships must have achieved not less than a "B" average in their high school work.

Instructions:

Applicants will be accepted between January 1, 1979, and March 1, 1979.

Awards:

Selection of the recipient and required forms, Local No. 3 will verify the membership of the parent. The application will then be submitted for judging to a University Scholarship Selection Committee, an independent, outside group composed entirely of professional educators.

Apologies from verifying the eligibility of the applicant, Local No. 3 will not exercise any choice among the various applicants. Indicate in any way that one applicant should be favored over another. Based on factors normally used in awarding academic scholarships, Local No. 3 will select the recipients. The University Scholarship Selection Committee will submit to the Local 3 Executive Board recommendations for finalists. The list of potential winners and their qualifications will be reviewed and studied by the Executive Board and the scholarship winners selected.

Scholarship winners will be announced as soon as possible, probably in either May or June, and a check for $750.00 will be deposited in each winning student's name at the college or university he plans to attend.

** Telahe-Colusa Contract for $17 Million **

Work on the West Side is starting to slow down as it is this time due to the weather, reports Business Rep. George Morgan. However, Reach 8 of the Tehama-Colusa Contract was finally in the month of December. The low bidder was Hardin, Ball and Brosamer at $17.3 million.

Granite was second with a bid of $17.7 million. For a project of this size, this was a very close bid, Morgan reported. The job was just underway this spring with most of the pipe lines being laid down.

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ter requirements of California’s own “environmental impact report” system. Construction with the state’s seemingly fertile ground for environmental lawyers and activists, and you have a first-class no great environment.

The failure of Dow Chemical to secure permits for a proposed petrochemical in 1977 is just one of the major cases that illustrates the need for a balance between economy and ecology. At this very time millions of dollars in construction projects hung in the balance as they meander through the process of endless public hearings, lawsuits and permitting.

Efforts by PG&E to build a 1,600 megawatt coal fired power plant in Northern California, the public hearings occurring this month for an LNG terminal on the California Coast and proposals for the construction of offshore drilling rigs in Northern California coastal waters are just a few of the projects in which Local 3 has run head on against the federal govern- ment’s environmental rules.

The irony is that in taking on an adversary role against the EPA, industry and labor also appears to be for “dirty air” in the public eye.

Nothing could be further from the truth. “It is our members and their families who will realize the greatest ben- efits from the Clean Air Act,” notes Robert Georgine, president of the Build- ing Construction Trends, AFL-CIO. “A working man, after all, is tied to his job. Since he cannot go in search of an environment which suits him, the envi- ronment in which he lives and works is of overwhelming importance.”

But Georgine emphasizes, there is a wide gap between the original intent of the clean air act and the methods cur- rently being used to enforce it.

The original intent of the Clean Air Act in 1970 was to protect public health and welfare by requiring industry to clean up specific pollutants known to be harmful in sufficient quantities.

What this example illustrates, Brattain says, is that nothing can be done to clean up the air or any other part of the envi- ronment without certain costs to every individual. The costs are only worth so long as they bring equal benefits. After a certain point, the costs become tremendous and the benefits become minute.

“There are many people in the world who would make a sacrifice for better air pollution if better food, clothes and housing came with it,” Brattain notes.

Clean Air: How Much

Additional Standards Needed on Auburn Dam?

After an 18-month study for the state, a panel of dam experts rec- ommended this month that ad- ditional earthquake safety stan- dards be imposed on construction of the controversial $850 million Auburn Dam. Some officials working on the project concede that if the new standards are ac- cepted, the dam will have to be re- designed.

The huge project has been in- volved in controversy over poten- tial earthquake danger since 1975 when a temblor jarred Oroville Dam, 50 miles to the northeast.

Structural engineers began to ques- tion the reliability of the thin-arch, double curvature concrete design planned for Auburn Dam.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclama- tion, which is in charge of this proj- ect, began a new series of earth- quake studies. It concluded that the project should be built to withstand a local earthquake with a mag- nitude of 6.5 on the Richter scale.

Ronald Robie, State Water Re- sources Director said that, accord- ing to his panel’s studies, the design should be required to with- stand harder shaking than the fed- eral standards and include two inches of fault movement.

With these upgraded standards, it is doubtful that the present design could be maintained. As re- ported in earlier issues of En- gineers News, the Bureau is con- sidering alternate designs, which could include an earthfill dam, rather than a concrete dam.

State officials technically have no authority to block the project or to force their standards on the de- sign, but Robie emphasized that the threat of the state withdrawing support is “sufficient leverage” to insure that the state’s requirements will be met.

So far about $95 million has been spent on studies and prelimi- nary construction of the dam founda- tion, but major financing of the project has been held up by Senate and President Carter pending the outcome of earth- quake safety questions and a re- view of the economics of the proj- ect.

At one time, Carter included Auburn Dam on his “hit list,” but Congress voted to continue paying for the dam. The Bureau of Reclamation says it does not ex- pect a decision on the final design before the end of this year.

No Risk’ Fiasco

The Clean Air Act espouses a “no risk” philosophy in which the air must be made so clean that on the one day in the year when it is dirtiest, the most vulnera- ble portions of the population—people with chronic lung diseases—would re- main essentially unaffected.

The economic costs of achieving such a goal were not dealt with in the legisla- tion.

The question becomes: should the United States spend $5 to $6 billion to insure that asthmatics who live in certain cities on certain days will experience only three and not four attacks a day?

R. Robert Brattain, a 30-year veteran of environmental control work put it this way:

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“A recent calculation shows that the average worker in the United States will work about 2,5 days per year beyond the stricter limits on exhaust emissions required by the Clean Air Act of 1977. Dam, 50 miles to the northwest. sign could be maintained. As re-

The irony is that in taking on an adversary role against the EPA, industry and labor also appears to be for “dirty air” in the public eye.

Against the backdrop of the Wasatch Mountains, an old coal burning power plant in Utah works to provide electricity for the state’s residents.

New Tax Ruling

Operating Engineers Who receive unemployment compen- sation in 1979 should be aware of federal legislation which went into effect Jan. 1, concerning the taxation of these benefits. Engineers News contacted the Internal Revenue Service to gain specific in- formation and received the following example:

For a single return, if income plus benefits exceed $20,000, one half of the amount over $20,000 is added to taxable income.

Therefore, if an individual received $18,000 in earnings in 1979 and received an additional $4,000 in unemployment benefits, total income would be $22,000. Half of the amount over $20,000—that is $1,000—would be added to the individual’s earnings of $18,000, so that taxable income would be $19,000.

The same ruling applies to joint returns, except that one half of the amount over $25,000 is added to earnings. This ruling does not apply to earnings received in 1976.

This legislation slipped through in the closing days of the last session of Congress during a flurry of legislative action. Efforts are now underway in Washington to repeal this provision. Opponents to the provision include organized labor, various business groups and administrators of state unemployment agencies.

Grievance Committee Elections

At the regular quarterly membership meetings for the 1st quarter held in District Nos. 4, 6 and 7 the following were re- elected District Grievance Committee to serve for the ensuing year.

DISTRICT 4: Joe Busca, Darrel Robinson and Jay Powers

DISTRICT 6: James Melton, Richard Bagley and Cy Shephard

DISTRICT 7: Larry Sacket, Ben Caravalho and Willie Houghtby

(Continued from Page 1)
and at What Price?

It is the ever present cost versus benefits issue that most seriously challenges the value of the current Clean Air laws. Reports show industry points out that upwards of 95 percent of the pollution from a given source can be eliminated without exorbitant cost. But after that point, the cost of each percent of pollut-

emitted increases astronomically.

Experts in the field of toxicology have proven in extensive studies that the radical standards for air pollution levels are far stricter than necessary to "protect human health and welfare." Yet, despite the fact that some of the EPA's own advisory board have pointed this out, the standards remain unchanged.

If the regulations are indeed too strict and the costs of meeting them will wreak havoc on the nation's employment and economic growth, what is the motivation behind the EPA?

EPA—A 'Social' Program

In reviewing the agency's past, it appears there are bureaucrats whose primary intent is not so much to clean up the environment as to institute new and wide-ranging regulations just for the sake of it. 'You can't have anyone in power without exorbitant cost. But after that point, the cost of each percent of pollu-

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A Pre-retirement Counseling Program

One of the most costly errors an Operating Engineers can make is to take his fringe benefits for granted. This can be extremely critical if he is considering retirement. Local 3 boasts one of the nation's finest Pension Plans where a retiree's lifetime benefits can exceed $50,000. A $25,000 package of comprehensive Health and Welfare Benefits is also provided at no cost to qualified pensioners. With benefits like these, a simple mistake can mean the loss of fringe benefits about the Plan could lead to catastrophe for the participant. He would receive less than he anticipated or even end up delaying retirement.

Retirement is a big step and it should be carefully planned for in advance. Although these Plans have been around for many years, there are still Engineers who know very little about their benefits until they actually retire. Recognizing this as a problem, Local 3 instituted a Pre-Retirement Counseling Program last year. The Program was very effective in getting fringe benefits information out to those Operating Engineers considering retirement.

There are approximately 3,400 Operating Engineers who currently qualify for benefits because they have 10 or more years of pension credit and are over age 55 but have not yet retired. This years Pre-Retirement Counseling Program is aimed at getting these members and theirwives the information about fringe benefits that they need for an easier transition into retired life. The Program has been expanded to include additional material on Social Security, Retirement Plans, and Fringe Benefit Plans.

Most Operating Engineers considering retirement have only two questions, "WHAT DO I GET? HOW DO I GET IT?". The Trust Fund Office has prepared an extensive program that answers these questions on the Pension Plan and Health and Welfare Benefits.

There will also be Union officials and Retiree Association representatives who will present other aspects related to retirement. Engineers and their wives will have an opportunity to meet these experts and ask specific questions. The Fringe Benefit Center will provide benefit booklets, pamphlets, claim forms and some other bonuses. Some members do not become familiar enough with their fringe benefits until after their retirement. Last year over 600 Operating Engineers retired and are receiving Pension and Retiree Welfare Benefits. The Pre-Retirement Counseling Program can prepare Senior Members for a better retirement by providing them with information and the options available before they decide to retire. The idea is to take advantage of these benefits and options before retirement.

A larger turnout is expected this year because the Program will include much more on Local 3 fringe benefits as well as new items. Considerable care is being taken in scheduling convenient meeting dates and places. A complete schedule will be published in the next issue of Engineers News.

Fringe Action

FRINGE ACTION is a monthly feature in Engineers News that answers questions and problems submitted to the Fringe Benefit Center. No matter what the question or problem, information is always held in strict confidence. Submit your comments, suggestions and inquiries directly to: Fringe Benefit Center, Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3, 474 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94103.

Question: Last month Outlook had a very interesting article on Social Security. Where can I obtain information about my Social Security earnings and benefits?

Answer: Your local Social Security office has a number of pamphlets available that describe Social Security information. To find the address of your Social Security office in your locality, ask the Post Office or check your telephone directory under Social Security Administration. We hope we’ve been some help.

Fringe Benefits Forum

By MIKE KRAYNICK

Director of Fringe Benefits

MURPHY: Why does it take so long to pay my claims? They always need more information.

KRAYNICK: Medical claims are normally paid within 2 weeks of receipt by the Trust Fund Office. There could be several reasons you are experiencing a delay:

1) Sometimes you submit an incomplete claim form;
2) sometimes you submit a bill or claim form from your doctor or hospital for a new illness or accident after the claim form is filed;
3) sometimes you send us a "Balance Due" statement from your doctor that does not itemize the services, or
4) sometimes your dependents may have other coverage.

The Trust Fund Office must have this information in order to pay your claims properly and promptly. I thought our Health and Welfare Plan covered everything. I’ve had some claims denied.

KRAYNICK: The Plans covers charges incurred as a result of accidental injury or illness. The most common non-covered charges include:

Well Baby Care; Routine Physical Examinations, Immunizations, Cosmetic Surgery and charges which will be covered by Workmen’s Compensation or are work incurred. The Claims Office has a check your booklet for a summary of the benefits covered and not covered. The Dental Plan is supposed to pay 85% but I’m always getting stuck for more than the remaining 15%. Our Dental Plan pays 85% of the usual, customary and reasonable charges. I am sorry to say that there are some dentists who fees exceed the usual, customary and reasonable charges for their services. The Claims Office has a record of charges for all procedures by other dentists in the area of your service and pays accordingly to certain maximums. If you do not receive 85% (60%) for procedure which you should discuss with the charges with your dentist to see if you are getting fair charges for your particular.

MURPHY: I have submitted claims for drugs prescribed by my doctor that were denied.

KRAYNICK: Our Prescription Drug Program covers pharmacists for the treatment of illness or injury. Charges that are not covered include: in-hospital drugs, which are covered by your Comprehensive Medical Plan, contraceptives, drugs legally obtained without a prescription due to an occupational injury or illness, multiple and non-therapeutic vitamins or any unreasonable supply of drugs (over 34 days). Your claim must be filed within 90 days from the date on which your prescription was filled. Again, check your booklet for covered and non-covered charges.

MURPHY: It is a pain in the neck getting prescriptions refilled each month.

KRAYNICK: Getting a drug can be a problem for some. Try using the new prescription drug mail-order service from National RX. All that you have to do is mail your prescription or refill slip to their labor offices and within days you will receive the drug at no charge. Brochures and claim envelopes are available from the Fringe Benefit Center.

KRAYNICK: No one can tell me how much I will get when I retire.

MURPHY: That is because it depends on a lot of things, Murphy. Like, how much in benefits has been put in over the years, how much longer you will be working, your age at retirement, the type of retirement you select. Your best bet is to attend one of the Pre-Retirement Seminars that have been coming up. In the meantime, check your Annual Pension Statement.

As you can see Murphy is like many of us, a little uninformed about his benefits. But he is coming along. He asked several good questions here and, hopefully, we have answered them.

Health and Welfare booklets are always available at your District Office, the Fringe Benefit Center and the Trust Fund Offices.
"Burial Grounds' Issue Will Not Delay Fresno Sweeper Project"

District Representative Claude Odom reports that the Brothers at H. J. Carney, Edward R. Bacon Co., J. A. Robas, R. H. Gorman and Stuart Radiator deserve thanks for the tremendous support they gave during the negotiation of their contract. "Without their support we could not have gotten such good settlements," Odom remarked.

The Fresno office has also been successful in getting those members to sign the rules and rents at the Tule Meadow Trailer Park on Holmes Project in the collective bargaining process. A National Labor Relations Board Administrative Law Judge has ruled that trailer space rental rates for Operating Engineers employed by Granite, Ball & Groves at PG&E's Holmes Project located at Wiscott is subject to collective bargaining.

Judge George Christensen found the Contractor, a joint venture, successfully associated with the contractors of California engaged in unfair labor practices in refusing to remove snow from their trailer and would pay $99 per month for his trailer space. Local 3 said the agreement was invalid because rental charges and conditions had not been negotiated with the union. "We also objected to the lesser rates paid by PG&E employees," Odom said.

This decision will benefit our members on this project and any others in similar situations.

The Bay N. Bertelsen Co., Inc., of Marysville has been awarded a $35,000 paving contract at the Thorngrove project in Merced County.

3-D Construction is in the final stages of paving the city streets in the northeast part of Visalia. This has been steady work for the past eight months for Operating Engineers.

The Fresno office is working on several projects including a HUD Community Development Block Grant project at a cost of $193,482.00.

Several bids were scheduled to be opened at the office this week for the construction of Doty Road in the Corcoran and Alpaugh areas including a project in the Laton area in the $500,000.00 range.

Gentz Construction Company has won an additional 1000 foot road project in the $20,000.00 range and was nominated for a cost-of-living wage for Operating Engineers.

The Fresno office is sending two Operating Engineers to work on the driveway paving project at the company trailer park at Tule Meadows.

The agreement was approved in December 1977 shortly after the park was opened and the Local 3 Members were given rental agreements to sign. The agreements stated the company was responsible for removing snow from their trailers and would pay $200.00 per month for their trailer space.

Local 3 said the agreement was invalid because rental charges and conditions had not been negotiated with the union. "We also objected to the lesser rates paid by PG&E employees," Odom said.

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Recording- Corresponding Secretary James R. Ivy has announced the formal opening of Local 3 Paa Laws Article X, Section 10, the election of Grievance Committee members shall take place at the first regular quarterly district or sub-district meeting of 1979. The District Grievance Committee members will be elected by proxy. All meetings are scheduled to be held at 8:00 a.m. unless otherwise noted.

District Date Meeting Place
1 Oakland Feb. 1st Labor Temple, 23rd & Valdez Sts., Oakland
2 Stockton Feb. 13th Engineers Bldg., 2626 N. California St., Stockton
3 Fresno Feb. 20th Engineers Bldg., 312 E. Olive St., Fresno
4 Sacramento Feb. 27th Woodlake Quality Inn, Hwy 160
5 Santa Rosa Mar. 1st Veterans Bldg., 1351 Maple St., Santa Rosa
6 Salt Lake City Mar. 7th Engineers Bldg., 58W N.W.
7 Temple, Salt Lake City
8 Reno Mar. 10th Headquarters Building, 124 West Taylor, Reno
9 Sun Feb. 22nd Labor Temple, 2012 Almaden

Permitted excerpts from Article X of the Local Union By-Laws, Grievance Committee:

Section 1. District and Sub-district Grievance Committee.

More from Mayfield

(Continued from Page 5) agreement will soon be completed. A much larger and more complicated task of completing the oil field drilling negotiations is expected with a joint effort of operating, operating engineers, and a representative of Florida and the oilfield workers. The companies have hired the firm of Fortune & Alsweert to act as their representatives.

The term of office for the three (3) Delegates of the Grievance Committee shall be for one (1) year, and the election shall take place at the first District or Sub-district Meeting of the year in each respective District or Sub-district.
Approximately twenty-five percent of the construction workers are paid in wages and benefits to the various works on the job.

In addition to the on-going highway construction program, the two Hiway 36 jobs, it looks like the Hiway 97, job at Grass Lake Supplies will go to bid this Spring. This project will probably be let in two simultaneous units and will include some 25 feet of pavement and widening of existing roadway. The project is located between the City of Wood and the City of Bonita on the North-East slope of Mt. Shasta in Siskiyou County about five thousand feet elevation. It looks like some serious expansion 2.2 block for Geo-Thermal steam fields will be started in Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen Counties during the year. Some areas of Modoc and Lassen Counties are already producing some electric power from the Geo-Thermal steam which is used to heat homes, businesses and in one case a horse-powered truck-farm near Alturas.

Gas Pipeline

A meeting was held in Redding in early January by the Bureau of Land Management on the Alaska gas pipeline. The public were invited to come and make presentations during the formal meeting. Some areas of concern were: the environmental aspects and Brothers, Inspector, Soil Tester, Chief, Certifed Chief, certified by the American Society of Soil testers, the economic feasability etc., which the two Hiway 36 jobs, it looks like the two Hiway 36 jobs, it looks like the Hiway 97, job at Grass Lake Supplies will go to bid this Spring. This project will probably be let in two simultaneous units and will include some 25 feet of pavement and widening of existing roadway. The project is located between the City of Wood and the City of Bonita on the North-East slope of Mt. Shasta in Siskiyou County about five thousand feet elevation. It looks like some serious expansion for Geo-Thermal steam fields will be started in Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen Counties during the year. Some areas of concern were: the environmental aspects and Brothers, Inspector, Soil Tester, Chief, Certifed Chief, certified by the American Society of Soil testers, the economic feasability etc., which

The Bureau of Land Management has determined that the construction of the pipeline will not increase the additional right-of-way will not be detrimental to any proposed or existing highways, 2.2 block for Geo-Thermal steam fields will be started in Siskiyou, Modoc and Lassen Counties during the year. Some areas of concern were: the environmental aspects and

Negotiations have been concluded with WABCO Construction and WABCO Equipment Group, securing substantial gains for these Brothers. Bill Doresteny reports that crane rental is still doing good even with a little rain. Sherry is busy working in the shops and as far north as the Geyers. The Geyers will be down for a while this winter. They are doing all types of housing in the San Francisco area. One of their long time Oiler is reclassifying up to a journeyman. He is Tom Sanders, son of a long time Engineer. He will make a good operator for Sure they will be in the Alameda area, a good job in the Alameda area. They are doing a lot of work in Local 12's area also.

The demolition is being done by Burk-a near $2 million paving job. Another expansion is in process. The high level.

Some of the operators are being put on other company payrolls. Surprisingly, these members who work under the Crane Rental Agreement should let him know as there are a few things they should be aware of regarding how it affects wage scales, sub, and other conditions.

Biggs is very busy in San Lame and also in their Santa Clara yard. They have all crews working and have added a few new faces to their operation. They have received a module job in Sacramento, and also a good job in Alameda. They are doing a lot of work in Local 12's area also.

The annual revision of the Work Books is in progress. Fred Sieji, member of the State of California Licensing Board is accomplishing the updating of the new books. The new books will be available in material in the classroom. What works, works and what doesn't get changed.

It certainly appears that those Tech Engineers that have spent their personal time in order to be prepared to help others, would be aggressively encouraging "The Other Guys" to "get with the program. Fair is Fair - We have got to help each other." It is not a one way street.

Over the years the sessions have developed into a sort of family outing. Not only Tech Engineers have been attending but also wives, children, boy-friends, girl-friends, the boss, operators, staff and a few others.

We would like to notify all of the members currently working under the Testing & Inspection Collective Bargaining Agreement that the meeting will be held to allocate the wage increases that will become effective on March 7th.

Not Much Seasonal Slow Down in Oakland

As we have reported in earlier editions of the Engineers News, 1978 was a fantastic year of employment for Tech Engineers. However, in spite of a building boom the Housing Industry in California continues to suffer a critical housing shortage. Vacancy rates for new homes and apartments are at record lows in many areas of the State.

We in Labor blame Government Regulations, no growth advocates, and, ill-informed, ill-advised Environmentalists for the unconscionable rise of the pocket book,

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This is a very important meeting and we urge you to attend. The meeting will be held February 5, 1979 at 7:30 p.m. at 474 Valencia Street San Francisco. The meeting is being held February 5, 1979 at 7:30 p.m. at 474 Valencia Street San Francisco.

DURING THE QUIET WINTER months ahead, the N.C.S.J.A.C. will once again be sponsoring a series of one day Multi-Media First Aid Classes.

Virtually every Tech Engineer is affected by the law that states in the absence of an Infirmary, Clinical or Hospital in the near proximity to the work place, which is used for the treatment of all injured employees, a person or persons shall be adequately trained to render first aid.

Many of you know the importance of this invaluable training. A few hours of your personal time may result in the most important moments to a fellow worker, a close friend, or a loved one.

For your convenience, the following locations, dates and times have been selected.

- San Jose - February 24, 1979 8:00 a.m. Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3
- Union Hall 760 Emory Street San Jose, CA
- Sacramento - March 17, 1979 8:00 a.m. Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Union Hall 500 Geigerberg Road Sacramento, CA
- Oakland - March 10, 1979 8:00 a.m. Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Union Hall 760 Emory Street San Jose, CA
- Santa Rosa - March 3, 1979 8:00 a.m. Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Union Hall 500 Geigerberg Road Santa Rosa, CA
- Fresno - March 24, 1979 8:00 a.m. Operating Engineers Local Union No. 3 Union Hall 500 Geigerberg Road Fresno, CA

As we have reported in earlier editions of the Engineers News, 1978 was a fantastic year of employment for Tech Engineers. However, in spite of a building boom the Housing Industry in California continues to suffer a critical housing shortage. Vacancy rates for new homes and apartments are at record lows in many areas of the State.

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abor Market Conditions improve in Hawaii

abor market conditions improved between 1977 and 1978, as reported by the State of Hawaii in a recent labor-management study. The General Contractors and Owners Association of Hawaii, as well as Jim Rowland, President of the Associated Builders and Contractors, indicated that 1979 saw an improvement in the labor market. The employment rate increased by $39,000 in the state, with 10 new construction projects approved in March. This is a significant improvement compared to the previous year.

In Hilo, construction starts of over 241 single family dwellings and 121 multi-family dwellings have shown upward gains in construction activity. A cumulative total breakdown for 1978 is as follows: State ($136.5 million) Federal ($81.5 million) and Private ($5.9 million).

The Board Members and the election of Delegates and Alternates, as well as the selection of the current list of Kanehailua. Increased job opportunities for the Liana, Enos Kepoo, Lum Leong, and others have been observed.

February 1979

The prospects of the construction projects in Hawaii will depend on water availability and the adequacy of the reservoirs. The prospects for construction in the State of Hawaii will continue to improve in Hawaii.

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District Representative Gene Lake reports that the project delayed and controversial marina project in Eureka appears to be a reality based on comments voiced in the spring of 1979. This sorely needed marina is expected to take from two to three years to build at a cost of over $30 million plus.

Several projects under serious consideration are erosion control at King Salmon and a bank protection project on Clear Lake. There is also the development of Ocean House. In the Crescent City area is another waste project costing between $6 and $8 million dollars.

The north coast state highway system, which has been neglected for quite some time, has a five-year construction plan under review by local governments.

Under the direction of the Humboldt County Association of Governments (HCACOG), the cities and the county will choose projects for priority in receiving state funding.

Local governments will also choose projects which are outside of Humboldt County which are considered critical to the area.

Recent legislation has strengthened HCACOG's hands in formulating the state's Transportation Improvement Program—a five-year plan. This plan costs more than $200 million.

Major highway projects in Humboldt include proposed improvements to state routes 36, 101 and 255.

Projects to be considered on Route 36 and estimated costs are the Yager Creek Bridge for $405,000; South Fork Van Duzen Bridge, $800,000; west boundary of the Six Rivers National Forest at Lower Mad River Road, $6,900; Mad River Bridge, $6,500; Van Duzen River Bridge, six miles east of Carlotta, $12,000.

On Highway 101 from Del Norte County to Trinidad possible projects include the Redwood Park bypass, $60 million; five miles north of Big Lagoon bridge, $1.5 million; Big Lagoon bridge, $5 million.

On Hwy. 101 from Trinidad to Jedediah, potential construction includes the Eureka freeway estimated in 1975 to cost $31.7 million and the Van Duzen River Bridge south of Alton for which no estimate is available.

Between Rio Dell and the Mendocino County line, a new road-iside rest stop is proposed at Death Creek for $750,000, and a Richardson Grove bypass for which no estimate has been made.

Star Route 255, St Mad River Slough bridge, is proposed for replacement at a cost of $1.4 million.

Highway projects outside of Humboldt County that local governments have asked to be considered include the Clear- dale bypass, Willisville bypass, Jedediah Smith bypass and the road stretch from Ferndale to Leggett.

HCACOG has asked city councils and the county Board of Supervisors to choose five projects as high priority for submission to the state transportation commissions. In view of the foregoing there is little doubt as to what needs to be done to improve the highways on the "forgotten coast."

Business Rep. Jim Johnson reports that the local out-of-work population has grown approximately one hundred in the last month, due to the effects of winter. It seems that the pipeline contractors are not too anxious to get much dirt moving, open up for fear of rain during the next three months.

At the present time in the Crescent City area J&W Pipeline, Inc. is just catching up on the paving areas they have laid pipe already. They are also too wet and cold for the paving companies to continue on any of their major projects, at the present time it seems they are doing some maintenance and cleanup and getting ready to shut down for the winter. Mercer Fraser did get all of the paving done on the W. Jaxon Bakker freeway project at Scotia and this new section of freeway is now open for the public.

This two mile section was the last link of two-lane road between Eureka and Scotia and the County still need the for a lot more improvements on Hiway 101, both north and southbound.

At this time Tyler-Engelke has not returned to the Upper Van Duzen Leas and they are right on schedule with their water project in that area.

Winter Slows Work in Utah

(Continued from Page 5)
cleaning business that supplies huge vacuum cleaners to the large industrial companies to clean stacks, sloughs, belts, etc. The principal users of this company's services are Kennecott Copper, U.S. Steel and Calumet Copper.

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**February**

1st
- Oakland: Labor Temple, 25rd and Valdez

13th
- Stockton: Engineers Bldg., 2060 N. California St.

20th
- Redding: Engineers Bldg., 317 E. Olive St.

27th

**March**

1st
- Santa Rosa: Veterans Bldg., 1351 Maple St.

7th
- Salt Lake City: Engineers Bldg., 1958 W North Temple

8th
- Reno: Musicians Hall, 124 West Taylor

22nd
- San Jose: Labor Temple, 2102 Almaden Rd.

**April**

10th
- Eureka: Engineers Bldg., 2006 Broadway

11th
- Redding: Engineers Bldg., 300 Lake Blvd.

12th
- Marysville: Yuba-Sutter Fairgrounds, Arts/Crafts Bldgs., Franklin Ave., Yuba City

19th
- San Mateo: Electricians Hall, 300 8th Ave.

25th
- Honolulu: Washington School, 1683 S. King St.

26th
- Hilo: Kapiolani School, 996 Kiluaea

**Semi-Annual Meetings**

**Location:** Marine Cooks and Stewards Auditorium, 350 Fremont St., San Francisco

**Dates:** Saturday, Jan. 6, 1 p.m.; Saturday, Jul. 7, 1 p.m.

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**Working People Provide Key to Strong Economy, Says Jay Turner**

*Editor's Note: The following editorial is reprinted from *The International Operating Engineer.* In the wake of California's *Proposition 13,* we've seen widespread reaction to the Carter budget, the tax on property and the call for a Constitutional Convention in 23 states that would have as its purpose a limit on spending and a balanced budget. We feel General President J. Turner's remarks are extremely pertinent and timely now when confusion reigns supreme.*

**Art of the Possible**

*BY KEN ERWIN*

During the recent midterm conference of the Democratic Party, I had the honor of serving on a panel that examined ways of coming to grips with our economic problems as they relate to our sluggish national rate of growth and the resulting unemployment of some 6 million people.

The discussion of the Economy—Employment and Growth, "provided us with a significant reminder that the relative well-being of the nation is measured by the yardsticks of single, isolated factors, no matter how effective individual programs may be. Employment, economic growth and inflation are interlocked; there can be no accounting of one without due consideration of the other. Simplistically, Americans who don't have jobs are relegated, against their will, to the economic liability column. And without a healthy and continuing expansion of the nation's economy, there is no way to expect real improvement in unemployment or a lessening of inflation."

On the question, employment side of the economic picture much has been done in recent months to put America back to work.

"With labor providing much of the impetus, we have seen the passage of the Humphrey-Hawkins full-employment bill (which sets a 4 percent unemployment rate goal by 1983), extensions of the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act (CETA) and expansion of public works jobs all across America. This represents a strong D.C. and laudable beginning. And yet it is only a beginning."

Unfortunately, programs to provide the unemployed with training and jobs are among the groups that are eliminated by the people who determine the budgets of the federal, state and local governments.

"We can stop the national budget in manageable proportion has become a question of priorities; of 'in order to do this, we're going to have to cut back there.' Whether Labor's causes or those championed by others come out on top in the battle of the budget, it is certain that we're all going to feel the effect down the road.

Many segments of our society have been on the losing side of the budget battle for too long. Present presidential administrations have ignored—in favor of America's wealthy and big business—our poor, our minorities, the sick and the study of the unemployed.

No budget considerations which exclude these Americans most in need can be considered as bringing America in line with the unmet needs of society."

What is clearly needed, is a broad federal program to encourage the national economy to grow at an adequate rate of about six percent—and at a level well above the 4.5 percent growth rate being encouraged by some presidential advisors. Greater economic growth sets in motion a whole chain of developments that profit from what is good news for workers, for industry, and for America.

A growth rate of 6 percent would produce full employment, provide the funds required to carry out necessary social programs, and slice the rate of inflation.

When people are working, they pay taxes. Each drop of one percent in the national unemployment rate means a million more people are working and paying billions of dollars a year in federal taxes. At the same time, the cost of government, in terms of welfare programs, unemployment compensation and even crime drops significantly.

When people are working, they become consumers. With their added purchasing power, they are in a position to invest in greater production capacity.

Many American plants have been operating at 80 percent of capacity during the last two years. Increasing production to, say, 90 percent of capacity would lower the unit cost of goods, allowing businesses to return to the vigorous economy of the 1960s, with an acceptably low rate of inflation and a healthy rate of employment.

During the Democratic Party's midterm conference, I was pleased to be elected as a member of the Advance Platform Committee, a group that will study the challenges confronting our nation and make recommendations to the Democratic Platform Committee for the 1980 convention.

Through the Advance Platform Committee, we can bring full consideration to programs that will generate the growth that is necessary to bring our nation a stable and rewarding future.

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**The Smithsonian Needs Union Material**

After years of planning, arguing and negotiating, the American trade union movement has convinced the Smithsonian Institution that it is time to establish a permanent collection of trade union historical items.

"There has never been a place in the Smithsonian where both all the items and artifacts that reveal the dynamic, democratic nature of our union could be collected and safeguarded," says General President Jay Turner of the International Operating Engineers.

In a letter to the local unions, Turner urges, "I hope, on reflection, you will agree that we should attempt to salvage what's left of our physical heritage. Somewhere in the basement of your union hall, or in the attics of your members' homes, there are examples of items that should be in our collection." A partial list of the items the Smithsonian Institution is looking for: union membership cards, dues books, picnic and outing books, local union records, AFL/CIO emblem cufflinks, watchfobs, buttons, etc., notices of meetings and union shop signs and the like, photographs of union members, union sign shop signs and the like.

If you have an item you think it may be of interest to the Smithsonian Education, 1125 17th St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036 and arrangements will be made to evaluate the items and get them into the collection.