Ball is now in Reagan's court

Davis-Bacon media blitz limited success

By James Tarp
Managing Editor

To counter what is perhaps the heaviest attack ever waged against the Davis-Bacon Act, the Building and Construction Trades Dept. of the AFL-CIO wrapped up a major national media campaign this month to defend the 50-year-old law.

The campaign was part of the building trades' ongoing efforts to retain prevailing wage protections for the nation's 6.5 million construction workers. It was waged in a timely response to the new proposals from the Labor Department calling for major changes in the way the law is administered — changes that would gut the present law and throw thousands of unionized construction workers out of a job or force them to work at substandard wages.

The media blitz concluded by the Building and Construction Trades Dept. includes newspaper ads in the nation's largest newspapers, such as the New York Times, Washington Post, Wall Street Journal, and the Los Angeles Times. In addition, 90-second radio spots targeted at the President and Congress were aired in the Washington, D.C. area and a letter writing campaign was conducted by the AFL-CIO's media officers.

In its September 1981 issue, Engineers News published an article outlining the proposed changes by the Labor Department and Congress. The article was written by an anonymous author and was later picked up by the Associated Press.

The proposed changes would require removal from union or pension office after conviction of a serious crime. A section of the bill which the AFL-CIO does support would require removal from union or pension office after conviction of a serious crime instead of waiting until all appeals have been exhausted. If a conviction is reversed, reinstatement to office would include lost pay.

Many Local 3 members took the time to write and send copies of their correspondence to Engineers News. Excerpts from these letters appear in this issue.

The deadline for sending in formal comments and letters commenting on the proposed changes was Oct. 13, but it will still be a number of weeks before the Labor Department finishes reviewing the comments and publishes its final version of the proposed changes.

The Department, therefore, has no knowledge of the comments and letters commenting on the proposed changes. The deadline for sending in formal comments and letters commenting on the proposed changes was Oct. 13, but it will still be a number of weeks before the Labor Department finishes reviewing the comments and publishes its final version of the proposed changes.

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Labor backs tougher penalties against corruption

The AFL-CIO has endorsed legislation to toughen federal penalties against corrupt union officials as both good for the nation and in the "best interests" of the trade union movement. AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland went before the Senate's Permanent Sub-committee on investigations to give high marks to a bill introduced by Sen. Sam Nunn (D-Ga.) which would crack down on union officials who take employer payoffs and on employers who bribe union officials.

As far as the trade union movement is concerned, Kirkland made clear, betrayal of the trust workers put in their unions is a heinous wrong. Raconteurs who prey on unions "are our natural enemies," he said.

Kirkland endorsed, "with two narrow exceptions," provisions in the Nunn bill that would strengthen the existing disqualification from union or pension fund responsibility of persons who have abused their posts for personal gain. A section of the bill which the AFL-CIO does support would require removal from union or pension office after conviction of a serious crime instead of waiting until all appeals have been exhausted. If a conviction is reversed, reinstatement to office would include lost pay.

Disqualification provisions in existing law already go beyond penalties against comparable offenses in the business world. Kirkland noted. But "the morals of the marketplace will not suffice" for the trade union movement, he stressed. "Union office is a calling, not a business," he insisted and those who enter it "are, and should be, held to a higher standard." A union officer who takes an employer payoff for a substantially similar contract or "pilfers from the union treasury" tarnishes the entire trade union movement, he testified.

In fact, Kirkland noted, "every measure shows that the integrity and dedication of union officers, as a group, is superior to that of other groups."

But "the labor movement is not perfect," and "the trade union movement can only be strengthened" by getting rid of crooks, he said.

Kirkland spoke frankly of the AFL-CIO's "complexing problem" of whether to avoid government interference with an autonomous trade union structure, "we should attempt to run a full scale, private law enforcement scheme parallel..."
Kirkland's address to delegates of AFL-CIO Convention

Tougher penalties

(Continued from Page 1)

He reminded the subcommittee that before there was a body of federal law regulating internal union conduct, the AFL-CIO sought to enforce its high standards of ethical conduct. "We had a plain obligation to do the best we could under the circumstances, and we strove to fulfill it. But since passage of the Landrum-Griffin Act in 1959, he noted, both the Labor Dept. and the Justice Dept. were times harmful, sometimes enriching—of an obligation we strove to fulfill."

But we cannot long survive the erosion of support for programs and policies on the part of the membership. Without cultivation and conservation, erosion must surely follow.

Last spring, through a series of regional conferences extending over several weeks, the officers and departments heads of the Federation met with state and local trade union leaders to discuss the union movement. Labor and for the human values we represent.

(Continued on Page 14)
San Luis Reservoir lowered for $10 million dam repair

The water level in Merced County’s San Luis Reservoir is being lowered for a $10 million repair job, the California Department of Water Resources announced this month. The project, which officials say they hope to have the dam ready for the repair project in January, is scheduled to begin in March, which is expected to be too late to reach the normal 22-foot storage level of 1 million to 1.25 million acre feet.

During the construction period, the water level will be dropped 37 feet. An estimated 80,000 acre feet will remain, officials said. The dam stores water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta for use later in the year by the federal Central Valley Project and the State Water Project. Jerry King of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation regional office said work can begin early in December on a temporary road from the large slide on the face of the earth-filled dam to a nearby quarry used to build the dam.

A rush to build hydro plants

A “flood of applications” during the first year has exceeded the five-year goal for development of new hydroelectric power plants. Robie told an Assembly subcommittee in Santa Monica that the task force has identified 300 sites that could develop more than 600 megawatts at undeveloped sites.

A key California Transportation Commission panel, wrestling with how to allocate new highway revenues, unanimously agreed this month to let the legislature set which projects receive highway maintenance spending. The commission program and planning committee, after a four-hour hearing, decided to withhold approval of $1.3 million in additional maintenance funding sought by the state Department of Transportation. Caltrans Director Adriana Giannturco, in a major reversal of her previous position, has proposed increasing highway maintenance spending over the next five years by $483 million over what the department had previously recommended. Giannturco until recently had steadfastly held that Caltrans maintenance funding was adequate.

But faced with the prospect of new revenues from upcoming increases in gasoline taxes and motorizing fees, Giannturco has proposed substantial increases in maintenance spending rather than allocating the additional money for construction. The transportation commission staff balked at the proposal, saying Caltrans had not justified a “massive increase in the maintenance program.” Commission Executive Director Evanhoe added that Caltrans’ recent track record casts “great historical doubt” on the department’s spending record.

Caltrans officials argued that the proposed increase in maintenance funding is an outgrowth of legislative desires to see more attention paid to maintenance and rehabilitation of existing roads. The interest was expressed during debate on the major transportation bill passed by the Legislature in this session a year ago by Sen. John Foran, D-San Francisco, that increased the state gasoline tax by 2 cents per gallon.

Widening far off for Sacramento

If the hopes of some public officials for the widening of Highway 99-70 were not squelched last month by the director of the state Department of Transportation, they were this month by Caltrans Director Adriana Giannturco. Giannturco was not optimistic when asked about an area program for the widening of the highway from Sacramento to the Yuba-Sutter County line, the region north of Sacramento.

Based on the firm’s low bid of $25 million to complete a widening project. “There is nothing planned,” she said, noting that the $25 million to complete a widening project is expected to be too late to reach the normal 22-foot storage level of 1 million to 1.25 million acre feet.

The White River project does not have sufficient storage to allow for phases two (56,000 bbl per day) and three (106,000 bbl per day), according to the environmental panel’s water task force. A proposed 250,000-acre-ft storage dam on the White River but the dam cannot be built until the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service issues an endangered species ruling for three fish species affected by the project.

Big Stanford Hospital project moves forward

PALO ALTO—Preparation of detailed designs and licensing applications have been authorized for the largest construction job in the history of Stanford University Medical Center (HMP). The board of Stanford University Hospital directors decided to authorize the Seattle-based architectural planning firm of Nams, Broadbent, and Associates (BBA) to begin this month drawing up detailed schematic plans for the project. NBSU already has prepared a pre-design summary outlining proposed changes and has opened a Palo Alto office for the project.

The HMP is estimated at about $70 million in construction costs. The total price tag will depend on market conditions at the time money is borrowed in Oct. 1980, the board authorized a total cost ceiling, including financing, of $114.5 million. The project will include at least 44 acute care beds, pediatric, medical, surgical, and intensive care beds—about 100 medical-surgical beds and 66 intensive care beds.

Read maintenance plan left up to legislature

The water level in Merced County’s San Luis Reservoir was reached near 12 million with the recent award of the third distribution system contract, Colusa Contract 2B, was made to Syblon Red Company of Folsom, California, based on the firm’s low bid.

Work to be performed under the contract includes constructing two pumping plants, flow-messing systems, minor pipeline systems, and a steel regulation tank and related structures for the Contract 2A distribution system. The work is to be completed 16 months from notice to proceed.

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Eureka looks forward to two long-awaited projects

Work in the Eureka District at the time of this writing is down, but hopefully two long awaited projects will be on their way starting in the near future, reports Business Representative Jim Johnson.

One of the projects to be bid is the reconstruction of the College of the Redwoods overpass which is located just south of Fields Landing on Hwy 101. This overpass collapsed in November 1980 when the area was hit by a severe earthquake. The amount of money for this project is just under $1.5 million.

The other project is the repair of a seawall on the Mattole Road approximately one mile west of the town of Eureka. The original job was done by erecting a fourteen-foot high wall nearly three thousand feet in length out of pre-cast concrete. Due to the very high seas and storms on this portion of our coastline, the wall was washed out from the back and collapsed. The project this time calls for placing heavy rock slope protection on the ocean exposed slope, backfilling with dirt and reconsturction and surfacing of portions of the roadway. The estimate for this job is also near the $1.5 million figure.

A $1.6 million federal grant has been secured to cover the cost of final work at a boat building and repair facility at Fields Landing by the Humboldt Bay Harbor District.

The grant from the U.S. Commerce Department will permit the district to complete the facility now under construction on a 22-acre site at the old Kramer Dock in Fields Landing.

The project, under the supervision of Oscar Larson and Associates, was first recommended by the Economic Development Administration as a way to help revitalize the sagging North Coast economy. The EDA supplied a $1.9 million grant to design and build the facility.

But in September, the Harbor District learned that its ERA grant for construction of the project was $1.5 million short, and a search for more money was initiated.

Rep. Don Clausen, R-Crescent City, was given credit by the district for helping obtain the grant. When completed, the boat building and repair facility will be able to handle boats up to 150 tons and 130-feet long.

The possibility of constructing another dam on the Mad River, with or without the capability of generating hydroelectric power, was discussed Thursday at a meeting of the board of directors of the Humboldt Municipal Water District (HMBWD).

District consulting engineer John Winder said the suggested Pilot Creek Dam would be smaller than the existing Matthews Dam at Ruth Lake.

After the 1967-77 drought, district directors discovered the Ruth reservoir could yield only 64.5 million gallons per day (mgd) in a dry year. This is 10.5 mgd short of what the HMBWD has contracted to supply municipalities and the two pulp mills on the Samoa peninsula.

On Thursday, Winder was given a dam at Pilot Creek would cost about $50 million at today's prices. The addition of a 20 megawatt hydroelectric plant would bring the cost to $63 million today, he said.

"The water revenues would not enable even a reasonable organization to support a new dam site like this," Winder told the directors.

Winder's report will probably be sent to the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District, which has informally agreed to help the district build a new dam in exchange for rights to the site's hydroelectric production.

"We believe the environmental problems can be assessed and properly mitigated," Winder predicted.

Brothers when these hearings come up and we call for your support please help. We all can use a project of this magnitude.

The rains have slowed R & D at Watson some time from time to time on their project here in Eureka, but when the weather allows the eight Brothers on this project are still getting 10 hours shifts in. Watson is putting a surcharge on the surf conditions at the site which construction will begin in the spring.

C.F.B. Const. of Sacramento has nine of the Brothers working on a new sewer plant in Miranda.

The Eureka District will be having its 21st Annual CRAB-FEED on the long weekend of Washington's Birthday — February 13, 1982. Please watch the next issue of the Engineers News for further details.

By HAROLD HUSTON, President

A Personal Note From The President's Pen

First, please let me take this opportunity to personally wish each member and his family a very Happy Thanksgiving holiday season!

We should take some time during the holiday season to count our blessings. Even with all the problems we face daily, we still have much to be thankful for. Please stop and think about it.

By December 1980, the Pension Trustees had awarded $154,000 in new awards covering 6,630 of which were still in the course of payment. The average amount for new pension awards was $431 per month. Pension payments to retired employees and their beneficiaries. Actual benefit payments amounted to $11.3 million for the year. The active membership decreased by 1% this year. About three out of every five of the participants had attained vested rights.

The 1980 employment activities dropped by 4%. Contribution income increased by 5% as the net result of a higher average contribution rate and the reduction in employment activity.

The Trustees awarded 462 pensions during calendar year 1980. Distributions of these new awards by type of pension, are as follows:

(a) 29% of these pensioners elected Husband-and-Wife or Level Income Options;
(b) the average pension for these awards was $341 per month compared to $363 per month in the previous year; and
(c) 70% were Early Retirement pensions.

In addition, the Trustees approved 56 pre-retirement death benefit awards.

Thanks to all the members for your suggestions given to us at previous Semi-Annual meetings and District meetings on where you felt improvements should be made in your pension plan. This was a group of suggestions made at the same time. As was reported in last month's issue, the Pension Board of Trustees at its meeting held September 8, 1981 authorized the following pre-retirement improvements to be effective January 1, 1982.

(a) Reduction from age 65 to age 62 for the Regular Pension.
(b) Adoption of a Service Pension at age 60 with 35 years of service.
(c) Increase the benefit formula from 2.0% to 2.1% of contributions with respect to all work performed on or after January 1, 1982.

(d) In addition, the Board authorized the payment of a full months additional pension check to be paid in March 1982 to all living retirees and beneficiaries who were on the pension rolls as of December 31, 1981 and who were eligible for pension benefits on March 1, 1982.

The Federal Government has pulled the plug on a crucial Federal study of flood protection in the Sacramento San Joaquin River Delta. The study is viewed by some as the Delta's future, but, without controversy, Congress will not fund a major rebuilding program for weak levees.

Six years and $1.6 million after U.S. Army Corps of Engineers started work on it, the study has fallen prey to Reagan's economics and budget cuts. The new Federal budget does not include the $154,000 needed to wrap up the study, according to Ray Williams, the Corps engineer in charge of the project. "We'll probably sit around here a day or two trying to pin a few odds and ends." Williams added at his Sacramento office, "but, officially, we've stopped work on the study." The Corps may still do "a little bit of work" in the coming months, according to Williams, but it cannot complete the study unless Congress comes up with funds in an appropriations bill for water resources for the Corps' program development department. Rep. George Miller, D-Martinez, said that the Corps is in the position of 'sitting on our hands' for the Delta study this year. But, he said, such a bill would have difficulty getting past President Reagan's desk.

Delta levees, some of them pummelled by waves and wind for more than 100 years, are growing steadily weaker. Six major islands flooded last year, causing millions of dollars in damages to crops alone. The Federal government spent millions more repairing the broken levees.

A recent report by the State Department of Water Resources indicated that most of the levees are in "poor" or "very poor" condition. Since the Federal government is reticent to even complete its study, some people fear it will be extremely difficult to get funds for an actual rebuilding program. The Five Counties which have jurisdiction over the 1,000-square mile Delta ought to come up with enough money to convince the Federal government to complete its study of shoring up the battered levees which protect thousands of acres of land from inundation. C.F.B. Const. and other Corps officials are short of what the HMBWD has contracted to supply municipalities and the two pulp mills on the Samoa peninsula.

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Your officers and full-time Union officials are spending a lot of time these days devoting a great deal of their energy towards enforcing the Labor Agreements covering present projects. We are also doing a great deal of worrying over a lack of enough jobs to properly go around, which, of course, means a too full out of work list and painful unemployment, which you, the rank & file membership who happen to be victims of the whole crunch are suffering the most.

In past months, the articles I have written of the reasons why we are all now very aware of such as: double digit inflation, high mortgage rates, Federal matching fund cuts, such as the highway and sewer treatment jobs. The net result for 1981 will show that about 20% fewer total pension hours worked for the entire season throughout the four state jurisdiction of ours. This means that 1 in 5 people didn’t work in 1981 vs. 1980 & 1979, or at least those people had reduced work years as a comparison.

The year of 1981 looks as though a combination from all pension contributing employers on behalf of our members will be between 27 and 28 million man hours in 1980, we know just over 31 million man hours were paid on, and in 1979, (our record year) produced over 33 million man hours. The whole picture, of course, adds up ever was, but due to high mortgage interest rates, those families needing to reduce, many of those working were working to less than beautiful. However, in talking to our counterparts, sister local unions in the Midwest and Northeast, I mean only say count your blessings, because in those areas of the country we are told that 40 to 60% unemployment rates for Operating Engineers as a rule.

It is quite clear to me and hopefully to the voters of this country, wherever they might hang their hat, that Reaganomics is a complete failure at best, and another year such as this first year of Mr. Reagan’s reign as president, if it continues as I think it must, could do this country and many of its little people and small businesses on the brink of bankruptcy.

In my opinion, 1982 at best for the members of Local No. 3 will be not better than was the work opportunities that were presented this year. I will reiterate once again for all of 1982 what I said as a very critical remark about one year in the face of what that time appeared to me to be a poor work picture. I said if a person has a decent job, or if you are called for a job, either hang on to and guard that present job or accept and guard the job being offered.

In traveling around the entire jurisdiction of Local No. 3, have had many Brothers who read these articles a year ago, say that this was the best early advice that they received, and many such Brothers come up and has said thanks for the good advice. I will repeat the same message for 1982, as some work, but in any case only a fair year at best and nothing to rival 1981 or 1980.

In my opinion, several things could happen that would make 1982 a pretty good year after all, or the lack of some a poorer year than might be hoped for. For starters, there certainly is as much demand for housing of all types as there ever has been, but due to high mortgage interest rates, those families needing their very own place, have no choice but to rent or find other alternative shelter.

If mortgage rates should tumble to around 12 to 13%, literally billions of dollars worth of new housing in the immediate Bay Area alone could and would begin. This, of course, would trigger and encourage the other needed roads and related infrastructure that tie to new housing.

S.B. 215 (Senate Bill—the gas tax passed this year) will hopefully begin to generate funds that will be needed to construct the wonderfully maintained California roadway system throughout the immediate Bay Area alone could and would begin. This, of course, would trigger and encourage the other needed roads and related infrastructure that tie to new housing.

As everyone knows by now, MX is not going to be built in Nevada or Utah, reports Business Representative Berlin Proctor. It seems to have been purely a political decision. Senator Paul Laxalt of Nevada has always been against it and when the Mormon Church came out against it this summer, its fate was sealed. Only time will tell whether national defense will suffer over what seems to be a very shortsighted decision.

The J.B. Parsons Construction Co. is in its final stages of completing the two I-80 projects they have been working on for the last two years. Helms hasn’t been working as long on Lovelock or Winnemucca but they, too, are in the cleanup stages on both jobs.

One more job remains on the Lovelock by-pass and I-80 will be completed by late summer. Both of these projects are in the eastern part of the district with very little to do.

Mining in Nevada is holding up with very few problems, except for Basic, Inc. at Gabbi. This company was taken over by Combustion Engineering something over two years ago and there have been problems ever since. Small contract violations that would normally be nothing to comply with are now issues for arbitration. It seems to fit the pattern promoted by the Unions that are so controversial around America. Their advice is . . . don’t agree to anything and force the Union to go to arbitration which is time-consuming and expensive.

This causes discontent in the membership because arbitration is very lengthy and tends to drain everyone. If they get the Union out, they can get their money back by cutting benefits and working conditions. At times, the only thing they seem to have accomplished is to make anti-company unite the rule rather than the exception, which in turn has driven production down.

Robert Helms has started work on . . . (Continued on Page 12)
Trustees approve mobile health testing program

Local 3 and the Board of Trustees of the Operating Engineers Health and Welfare Plan of Northern California have just approved mobile health testing for eligible Operating Engineers and their spouses. Mobile health testing will be conducted again by Health Examinetics and is scheduled to start just after the first of the year. Health Examinetics will set up their computerized testing units manned by a physician, registered nurse and highly trained health care technician throughout Northern California in convenient locations.

Eligible persons make their own appointments, drive to the central testing site and in just 40 minutes undergo over 50 medical tests at no cost including: Electrocardiogram, chest X-ray, Vision, hearing, urinalysis, blood pressure and chemistries, and pap tests for women.

All testing is conducted in absolute privacy. The test results are forwarded promptly to your family physician for follow-up. If you do not have a regular physician, you may select one from a list, on board, of physicians in your area who are accepting new patients. No one else can have access to your health information.

Local 3’s mobile health testing program has been designed to enable Northern California Operating Engineers and their spouses to take advantage of it. Testing sites will be conveniently located in each district. Testing can be scheduled for evenings and weekends. All Operating Engineers and their spouses in Northern California with active health and welfare coverage may participate. You are allowed one physical examination annually.

The program begins in January. A schedule of locations and dates will follow next month here on OUTLOOK. Appointments can be made by calling 1-800-542-6233 after December 14th.

Over 2,300 Local 3 retirees and wives were in attendance at the Retiree Picnic, which was held at Rancho Murieta last month.

Last year some 2,900 working Operating Engineers went through the Health Examinetics Mobile Testing units for a physical examination. Again in 1982 Health Examinetics will go out to each district in Northern California and conduct multiphase physical exams for eligible Engineers.

This time it’s even better because spouses are also eligible for testing at no cost. Be sure to read the accompanying article for details.

Next month: A round-up of the latest changes to the Pension Plan, Health & Welfare and Medicare.

Granite awarded $5.9 million pipeline project

Granite Construction was awarded a $5,687,400 job in Dinwiddie for 26 miles of 6 through 48-inch pipe, one pumping plant, one meter structure, and two water screen structures with meters, reports District Representative, Clem Hoover. This project is well underway and will keep several Brothers busy until the weather slows them down.

Nevada Irrigation District awarded a $1.8 million dollar job at Squaw Valley for 6 miles of communication lines. This was a real tough job up and down those hills and really required top operators. The Company worked a lot of overtime to complete the job before the weather set in.

Rugen Const. Co. was awarded a $5.5 million dollar project at 6 and Q Streets in Sacramento to modify the existing Central Plant. This job will run through most of 1982. Douglass-
Historic AFL-CIO Convention grapples with today’s problems

By James Earp
Managing Editor

On Monday, November 16, 1981, nearly 900 delegates and over 2,000 guests and observers converged on the Sheraton Centre Hotel in New York City to convene the 14th Constitutional Convention of the AFL-CIO.

The unpretentious and businesslike manner in which the delegates entered the convention hall and took their seats belied the significance of this occasion. For here in the nation’s largest city, the American labor movement was celebrating its centennial anniversary.

One hundred years ago this month, the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions was established in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania under the chairmanship of Samuel Gompers, the father of the American Labor Movement. This new body, destined to become the first successful national trade union organization in the United States and the direct predecessor of the AFL-CIO, set an agenda for American trade unions that many union leaders knew would be difficult to achieve.

They called on the delegates to press for compulsory free public education, an end to child labor, achievement of the 8-hour day, protection against garnishment, apprenticeship laws, payment of wages in legal tender, repeal of conspiracy laws, creation of a national bureau of labor statistics, workers’ compensation and use of the ballot to elect legislators.

The fact that workers—whether or not they are union members—today consider these privileges their inalienable rights attests to the tremendous success of this nation’s labor movement in obtaining a better life for all working men and women.

Even though the first labor convention was held in Pittsburgh, it was fitting that New York was chosen as the location for the centennial convention. The city is rich in labor history.

Two of labor’s greatest leaders—Samuel Gompers and George Meany—claimed New York as their home. It was in New York City that the first Labor Day parade was held in 1882. It was here in 1885 that the New York City Bricklayers won the first collective bargaining agreement for the building and construction trades.

The first mass strike of the garment trades took place here in 1909 when over 25,000 workers—mostly women—demonstrated for and obtained a 52-hour work week. A year later 50,000 cloakmakers throughout this city and the state went on strike and eventually obtained preferential union shops, abolition of homework, 10 paid holidays and pay in cash.

It is also the location of the grief and tribulation that arose out of the tragic Triangle Shirtwaist Company fire. This terrible event claimed the lives of 146 women workers who were unable to escape from the building when it erupted in flames because they had been locked into their work areas with heavy, bolted doors.

In more recent years it was New York City, faced with deep financial problems that was saved in great measure by the city’s labor unions, who came forward, invested their hard-earned pension dollars and stood side by side with businesses and government to lift the city from the brink of bankruptcy.

Despite the historical setting and the significance of this centennial convention, there was not a preoccupation with fanfare and celebration. The usual posters, banners and other paraphernalia that you might expect at such events was not in abundance at this convention, indeed, the party-like atmosphere that is so common at business and trade conventions was not evident among the labor union delegates.

The convention was strictly business. Trade unionists were not here to gaze over a century of progress and achievement and to gloat over their success. Reflecting the pragmatism that has always been unique to the American labor movement, they came here to act upon over 130 resolutions that would set the course of the AFL-CIO for the next two years.

They were here to grapple with the challenges that face American working men and women today.

And there are plenty of challenges. Millions of men and women are jobless, victimized by an economy that has been brought to its knees because of high interest rates and a budget-slashing President who truly believes in an economic myth called the “trickle-down theory.”

The face of the American workforce is rapidly changing. Technology is constantly creating new industries and forcing existing ones to either modernize or die. Workers are finding it necessary to follow suit. Blue collars are being traded in for white ones.

Many unions, caught in the whirlwind, are grappling with ways to train their members for new occupations while trying to preserve the jobs of those members who for reasons of age or ability are unable to make the change.

Service, clerical, technical and professional jobs are replacing the jobs that once existed in the automobile, steel, coal and rubber industries. New machines that can move more earth and fabricate buildings faster are entering the construction industry.

Major sectors of the American economy that have never been organized to any significant extent, continue to be successful in avoiding unionization. Corporations like DuPont, IBM, Hewlett-Packard, Polaroid, Eastman Kodak and Texas Instruments all remain nonunion.

Out of approximately 20,000 banks and savings and loan institutions throughout the nation, unions can only claim representation rights at only 38 of them. Large geographic areas in the south have yet to experience any serious organizing drives.

Management consultants, spurred on by the recent passage of a number of laws and court rulings favorable to businesses, are holding expensive seminars throughout the country, instructing company representatives how they can resist union organizing drives or get rid of the union that represents their employees.

That is why, and many others that face the labor movement today occupied the minds of the delegates as they gathered to convene the 14th AFL-CIO convention called to order.

These are the issues that all trade unions, whether they work in a factory or on a construction site, in a hospital or a computer center, ought to be concerned about.

That is why we should all take a vital interest in the proceedings of the 14th AFL-CIO convention—not just because it commemorates 100 years of hard work and progress, but because the AFL-CIO continues to be the single most vital force for progress and a better life for this nation’s working people.

Here then, follows a summary of those proceedings.
President Lane Kirkland keynote the federation's centennial convention with a sharp-edged dissection of Reagan Administration policies and a summons to the trade union movement to get America back on course.

On the domestic front, Kirkland scored the President's "carrot-and-stick" policy of lavish rewards for the rich and "for the poor, a stick."

He spoke of the shambles the Reagan Administration has made of the economy and noted that its lauded "master of Congress" has pushed unemployment to new heights while depriving the "real wages" of those still employed.

Kirkland contrasted the "amiable" public image of President Reagan with the "cold heart and hard fist" he displayed to the fired air traffic controllers. After having used "the full force of government to break a small union," was it then necessary to "shoot its wounded?" Kirkland asked.

Administration policy blunders have dismayed America's allies, Kirkland charged, and its human rights policy seems to be based on a fine distinction "between lice who are totalitarian and lice who are authoritarian." The labor movement still stands for "freedom of association everywhere," Kirkland declared.

Delegates repeatedly interrupted Kirkland with applause and especially delight in his tongue-lashing of David Stockman, the director of the Office of Management & Budget who admitted in a magazine interview that the Administration's "supply-side" theory is merely "shooting its wounded?" Kirkland suggested. "You could say is even half as devastating as the hatchet man," Kirkland said, and now claims "he was aiming for a consensus, they are dividing against lice who are totalitarian and lice who are authoritarian."

"Nothing the Administration's critics could say is even half as devastating as the "fleeting spasms of honesty of its leading hatchet man," Kirkland suggested. "You don't have to be an old tailor to know what it means when the smartest rat on board heads for the coop." Kirkland admitted a lack of sympathy for the embarrassment of Stockman, whose "smartest rat on board" is the record of public service employment and trade adjustment assistance programs.

"Was the original interior decorator of this economic house of ill repute," Kirkland said, and now claims "he was only the piano player in the parlor" and "never knew what was going on upstairs." Kirkland's keynote was more than a cautionary commentary on an Administration that "promised us boom and brought us a bust." He spoke of the drastic changes that have taken place in the nation and its labor movement in the hundred years of the AFL-CIO and its immediate predecessor trade union federations.

The next century will see equally drastic changes, Kirkland predicted, and the labor movement will keep abreast of them.

Mondale assails Reagan

The Reagan Administration's "radical economic program" was branded an abject failure by former Vice President Walter Mondale in a keynote address in an AFL-CIO debate.

Mondale charged that mounting unemployment and deepening recession are the direct result of President Reagan's monetary and fiscal policies that pushed long-term interest rates to a record high in October. He cited particularly the impact of the rates on the plunging housing and auto markets.

Mondale pointed out that the 8.6 million unemployed in the United States last month was the highest number of jobless workers since the depression year of 1939. He noted that some economists are predicting the jobless rate to climb to 10 percent, and that even the President's own chief economic advisor has admitted the rate could hit 9 percent.

Rather than working with and cooperating with organized labor as past Republican Administrations have done, the Reagan White House has declared war on Labor's victory, Mondale charged. He cited as examples the Administration's attacks on the Davis-Bacon and Service Contract Act, the cuts in job-creating programs that provide prevailing wage protections for workers.

"We reject the notion that the answer to unemployment problems is to throw millions of people out of work," Mondale said. Instead, he proposed that spending money in America today is to be found in the low end of 8.6 million decent Americans who want work and who cannot find it," he said.

Mondale observed that the Administration has not yet learned that a President needs the help of all sectors. "Instead of airing its problems to a group of people it is to the American people," he charged. "I have never seen worse relations between a President and the labor movement than we have had under the Reagan Administration."

The economic policy statement adopted by the convention protested "the shabbiness, the regression and the recession that we are experiencing," including the recession of 1979-1981 that led to million unemployed in the United States last month.

In its report to the convention, the Executive Council described the Houston organizing committee were encouraged in their efforts to develop creative methods to combat union-busting.

"We call on the committee and the department to continue their critical work on special projects such as the development of materials on communications, post-election activity, targeting, and positive labor relations," the resolution said.

The convention called for special emphasis to be placed on "Project Counter Attack" to address the problems of union decertification. Special emphasis is needed to ensure that the extensive Houston organizing campaign reaches its full potential, the convention stressed in urging the all-out support and cooperation of affiliates.

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to big business and the rich." The funds are needed for public works, public housing and public jobs, he said.

Auto Workers President Douglas A. Fraser spoke of the impact of high interest rates and all of the economic problems that flow from them to the auto industry and UAW members.

The United States is producing 4.5 million fewer cars and trucks than in 1978, he reported. Some 200,000 auto workers were now employed and this is "the 26th consecutive month that we've had more than 150,000 unemployed.

Plumbers & Pipefitters President Martin J. Ward spoke of the lag in public facilities needed to enable the economy to grow, while workers could be building them unemployed.

Iron Workers President James H. Lyons compared the Reagan economic program with the disastrous economic policies of the Thatcher government in Great Britain, which he closely resembles.

On the monetary policy resolution, Operating Engineers President J. C. Turner told the convention that the Federal Reserve Board is "thrashing us and thrashing our economy. It is the cause, not the cure of inflation.

Repair jobless aid program

Federal and state action to repair deliberately-inflicted rips in the unemployment safety net has been called for by the AFL-CIO.

A convention resolution cited the cutbacks in the extended benefits program, begun under the Carter Administration and extended under the Reagan Administration. It noted taxation of jobless benefits for the first time and a severe tightening of eligibility for compensation.

The convention pressed for repeal of the regressive measures, which are especially oppressive during the present period of recession with rising unemployment.

The current 8 percent jobless rate, the resolution noted, is the fruit of the Reagan Administration's "deliberate policy of high unemployment as a check on inflation.

Budget pressures have been used as an excuse to cut back unemployment entitlements, the resolution noted. But "there is no reason why the state expenditures for unemployment compensation should be part of the federal budget," and they should not be so included, the resolution stated.

The convention reiterated labor's support for the establishment of federal minimum benefit standards, as urged by the National Commission on Unemployment Compensation. But "until that goal is achieved," the resolution urges, states should take the initiative in enacting harsh eligibility and disqualification provisions "and to increase weekly benefit amounts and benefit duration periods.

It urged also a more flexible financing system that would ease the burden on states in periods of high unemployment and recession.

Human rights called for

Human rights, including the freedom of association essential to a free trade union movement, should be "the cornerstone of U.S. foreign policy," the AFL-CIO urged.

The human rights theme ran through a broad-ranging convention policy statement on Labor and the World.

It linked the AFL-CIO's support for the free trade union movement in Poland, its backing for the developing black union movement in Africa, and the El Salvador peasant organization's struggle to make land reform a reality.

The convention resolution attacked the denial of human rights by the left totalitarian regime in Nicaragua, where democratic unions have been branded as "counter-revolutionary."

It attacked the rightist military dictatorship in Chile that has abolished trade union rights in its efforts "to crush legitimate worker organizations."

The resolution made clear, as AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland stressed, "the U.S. policy of isolating the Nicaraguan regime is a policy of isolation for isolation's sake." There is no reason why the state exists, foresees the terrorism and commits itself to negotiate in good faith.

If the United States is to assist in Saudi Arabia's security, the convention said, "let that country stop its holy war against Israel and its financing of terrorist activities of the PLO."

The convention welcomed and endorsed the decision of the AFL-CIO Executive Council to reaffirm its "unswerving commitment" to the PLO's "recognizes Israel's existence, foresees terrorism and commits itself to negotiate in good faith."

The convention statement cautioned that the United States defense position will be undermined if "social tension and political polarization" result from "unjust social and economic policies that fail the obligation "to promote the general welfare."

O'Neill hails Solidarity Day

House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. told the AFL-CIO convention that labor's massive Solidarity Day turnout marked a "turning point" in public reaction to the Reagan Administration's "steadfast support" for a strong national defense as necessary "for the survival of democratic institutions, including free trade unions."

But the resolution stressed also that "a strong national defense requires a strong economy," and it is the government's constitutional responsibility to "promote the general welfare" as well as "provide for the common defense."

A vast increase in military spending will not strengthen the nation unless it is linked to a carefully conceived defense strategy, the resolution contended. It cautioned that "defense problems cannot be solved by blindly throwing money at them" and urged Congress "to subject the Administration's defense budget to the closest scrutiny."

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(Continued on Page 10)
The resolution applauded the work of state central bodies that have been instrumental in turning back attacks on the union shop, and urged the AFL-CIO Executive Council "to continue with its programs of seeking special assistance to state bodies confronted with threats of right-to-work laws.

It urged "a special effort to increase the number of affiliates in all state and local central bodies," especially those "bearing the brunt of the attack on free collective bargaining."

Leaders of state labor federations in Colorado, Connecticut and New Mexico spoke during floor discussion on the resolution of the repeated battles over labor's collective bargaining rights in states that have been targeted by the National Right to Work Committee.

The AFL-CIO Dept. of Organization & Field Services was lauded for effective assistance to the state federations.

In response, at the conclusion of the speech, AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland praised O'Neill's "valiant efforts" for progressive programs.

AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland greets Walter Mondale.

Senator Moynihan and New York Governor Hugh Carey

Kirkland then asked O'Neill, as the leader of House Democrats, to remind his colleagues "that they ought to stand and fight for the interests and concerns of the plain working people of this country."

The Democratic Party, he said, "has never and will never prosper" if it abandons America's workers.


Moynihan's theme was the labor movement's century-old "compact" with American society to "work within the rules" to improve conditions for the workers it represents.

"The nation is far better off because of it, he stressed.

Carey warned that the damage to the nation caused by President Reagan's first round of budget slashes would be compounded if Congress were to grant his request for still further cutbacks.

"If we are to have a real program of economic renewal," he urged, "it must face the reality of those forgotten millions who exist outside the economic mainstream without education, job experience or hope."

Right to Work laws

The AFL-CIO will continue to give high priority to the battle against state "right-to-work" laws and to an array of other anti-labor measures being pressed in state legislatures.

An attempt to outlaw the union shop through "right-to-work" laws in any state "is a threat to the entire labor movement," the convention warned.

shortages and push up domestic costs.

Charles H. Pillard, chairman of the AFL-CIO Housing Committee and president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, told the delegates that housing construction has slumped to "depression levels," interest rates make it impossible for most Americans to buy a home, and "rental vacancies are at a record low."

A byproduct, he said, is that while the national unemployment rate is 8 percent, 18 percent of the nation's construction workers are without jobs.

Workers involved in producing and transporting building materials have also been victims of the housing slump, Pillard noted.

Kennedy stands with labor

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy (D-Mass.) aligned himself with labor's legislative program, assailed "the most anti-union" Administration of modern times, and warned his own party that Democrats can't prosper by acting like Republicans.

"The last thing America needs in the 1980's is two Republican parties," Kennedy told the AFL-CIO convention.

The Massachusetts senator, greeted with an ovation and repeatedly interrupted with applause, accused the Reagan Administration of summoning America "to selflessness" and replacing "a tradition of compassion with a standard of greed."

The recession, brought on "in record time," must not be allowed to feed on itself until it wrecks the economy, Kennedy insisted.

He challenged labor's critics to "go to the union halls across the nation. They will hear the message that the rank and file reject the reactionary program of social security cuts for the elderly, Davis-Bacon cuts for construction workers, endless welfare for the rich—and a recession for the rest of America."

He spoke of the labor movement's heritage, the ideals that continue to make it, "at the dawn of its second century, the surest guardian of progress, and the most powerful force for change in America."

Kennedy brought chuckles from the delegates and many guests at the convention with a quip about the repeated pairing of his name and that of former Vice President Walter F. Mondale as "front-runners for the Democratic presidential nomination in 1984."

Mondale had addressed the convention earlier, and Kennedy's comment was that "neither Fritz nor I likes to hear that kind of talk" about being front-runners.

"I don't like to hear it about him, and he doesn't like to hear it about me."

He closed his address to the convention by invoking the memory of one of the last speeches President John F. Kennedy made before his assassination in 1963, to the AFL-CIO convention the last time it was held in New York City.

The President spoke then of his hopes for the 1980's, a decade that seemed far off. "Now the 1980's have come," Sen. Kennedy said, "and you and I are the keepers of that dream, the vision of a better future for our children and a better, stronger, greater America."
Teaching Techs

The International Union of Operating Engineers National Apprenticeship Conference recently met in Costa Mesa, California. It was requested that the Administrator chair a seminar concerning Surveyors and Technicians.

A. A. Pennebaker, Gene Machado, Assistant Administrator, Ricky Bryan Utah Operating Engineers C. and Dick Gannon, Administrator SCSDAC made up the panel. The seminar appeared to be a success, it was scheduled to end at noon but ran will into the lunch break. Finally had to shut it down in order for the participants to get to their next appointments.

There is a great interest in training Apprentice Surveyors by participants from all over the country. We have not yet had enough of the voluntary participants from Local No. 3 Surveyors to visit as many as we would like.

The seminar was an opportunity to briefly look at the magic that produced the excellent product. They told us right up front that this is the most creative group that they have ever seen. Some of the participants are actually quite a bit younger than everyone else.

There was a lot of shop talk about how to get to the next level of success for the next generation of surveyors. They believe that the success of the Apprentice Surveyor is instrumental in working with Labor Law enforcement, the injuring Contractors Board and the enforcement of these laws.

A very young participant asked, "What did you do before you were Prior to Reagan Being In Office?" With the present state of the economy, unemployment rate, I think we all know now who we have a Republican President only about every 10 years. The Republican Party has an inexhaustible amount of money to campaign with, not the Democrats, the Con- tend and Congress. There is only one way to beat a big businessman, and that is at the polls. If you are registered to vote, be sure you vote. If you are not registered to vote, Register, Register, Register and then to vote. This is the only language that the politicians understand. It can mean the difference between a new or the same government. We are working with Western States Testing in Modesto and hope to have that one wrapped up in the next two weeks.

Contract activity remains depressed

SAN FRANCISCO—September contracts for future construction of all kinds in the U.S. came to $12.9 billion and represented an annual seasonally adjusted rate of $145 billion. Information from F.W. Dodge Divn. of McGraw-Hill Information Systems Co. Dodge analysts characterize this as "close to the depressed level of recent months" and note that September's adjusted rate was only 2 percent above August's disappointing rate of $12 billion.

Though the Dodge Index of total construction contracts awarded remained virtually unchanged, the index for building construction in September, the two percent improvement was of little significance considering the near-200 level that California at the present time is terrible. However, compared to all the other Operating Engineers Locals and Building Trades Locals throughout the United States, we are in "Tall Cotton." Some Locals are experiencing in excess of 50% unemployment within their ranks, which brings to mind Ronald Reagan's last statement prior to his election, "Are You Better Off Now Than You Were Four Years Ago?" Eleven Incredible Words! Our question to you is, "Are You Better Off Now Than You Were Prior to Reagan Being In Office?"

One recent example of an employer who felt the laws did not apply to him has just been taken to task. If this particular employer had complied with the laws at the beginning, his front-end cost would have amounted to $138 (plus or minus). The Northern California Joint Apprenticeship Committee, Administrator A.A. Pennebaker, and his Assistant, Gene Machado got right in the middle of it. After the dust settled, the total cost to this employer in fines and penalties, attor- ney cost, amounted to approximately $30,000. The results of this settlement are now being heard up and down the Valley, from Fresno to Eureka. The non union employer has finally realized that we are here to protect our members and their work. They have felt the political strength of Local 3.

This political strength is not "just given away" it's earned. We believe that the time is near to realize that the political strength of Local 3.

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Penalties are non-compliance. In addition, he was handed a check to the Training Fund in the amount of $20,000.00. Further the errant employer will pay all contributions due plus $35.00 per month plus 12% interest until paid.

We believe the outcome of this case will have an awesome effect on those employers who have been thumbing their noses at the Law. $20,000.00 is not a small amount of money. It is the best deal of most employers who make contributions and put it in their own perspective it is a real jolt.

The employer has 5 employees. If they work approximately half time on Public Works on which they contribute then they have contributed the $20,000.00 equates to about 12 years of contributions.

The whole thing could have been settled for a couple of hundred bucks right at the start.

We believe the new tool will be helpful in the future in convincing the few non-compliers to comply.

The Apprenticeship Related Training Class will NOT be in session from December 20, 1981 through January 3, 1982.

Talking to Techs

Prevaling Wage Survey

Recently the State of California concluded a prevailing wage survey for surveyors classifications in Northern California. These results dealt a striking blow to the non-union employers within Northern California Counties, Local 3 won 44. The State adopted the Tech Engineers Master Agreement as the prevailing wage rate throughout these 44 Counties.

How does this affect the non-union firms?

1) No longer does the non-union employer have an economic edge over a union employer.

3) Prevailing wage laws have a distinct built-in mechanism for the non-union employer to reduce productivity, less efficiency, thus the job ends up costing the non-union firms more.

There are many other areas that I could touch on, such as how those employers who have been in a legal bind with the States, Labor Law enforcement, the Surveyors Master Agreement; contributions for the Surveyors Training Fund, Emloyers representing large Unions within the jurisdiction of the International Union of Operating Engineers.

California at the beginning of housing and public works construction. These results are a clear indication that the State of California cannot no longer be abused or taken lightly. California can no longer be considered a "Smith Jane Law" State. These results dealt a striking blow to the non-union employers throughout these 44 Counties.

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AFL-CIO backs tougher penalties on union corruption (Continued from Page 2)

brought out. We have also learned that occasionally the union officer would unabashedly requisition for cash which could suddenly lead to a serious crime.

Kirkland suggested an analogy to the position taken by the AFL-CIO in its first public statement, where Congress was considering whether Title VII of the Civil Rights Act—the equal employment opportunity portion—should outlaw discrimination by unions as well as by employers.

Meanly testified to the senseless effort to eliminate prejudice and discrimination—and to the substantial progress made. Nevertheless, the labor movement should not be allowed to finish the job, we need the help of the U.S. government.

Point by point, Kirkland went over the provisions of the Nunn bill which is co-sponsored by Sen. Warren B. Rudman (N.H.). The Nunn bill, he said, the bill would "free recognizing gaps in the present law and do so in a rational manner. There are those who seize upon every isolated misuse to smear all unions, 'the trade union movement can only be strengthened by law enforcement on the side of the angels' that has to deal with a criminal bent who may find a foothold in our structure," he said.

Any question of government is protection of the law, Kirkland testified. He said the AFL-CIO "asks for that protection and pledges its cooperation in a joint endeavor with the federal government to maintain the hard-earned honor of our institutions."

Kirkland acknowledged that there are "perils" in the decision to provide for finding work and dispatching. They urge owner-operators to stop there. They urge owner-operators to think there is a better solution and that is toABC, although ignoring ABC's non-fringe benefit payments. For example, if an owner-operator were to join ABC, the direct benefit of this plan is that ABC is dedicated to stopping what owner-operators who do not want this service can secure work on union jobs and the direct benefit of this plan is that ABC is dedicated to stopping what owner-operators who do not want this service can secure work on union jobs and what the people want in the future as far as growth is concerned. With housing at a dead stop and the rest of the economy in the Valley not much better, the city's no-growth Mayor got a shock. Kirkland also suggested that the proposal mandatory 10-year period of disqualification—up from the present five years—is too rigid. There are cases, where the epithet of "racketeer" is clearly justified, where a five-year disqualification would be insufficient, Kirkland acknowledged. But there are other cases, often involving an individual with a previously unblemished record who gave in to a moment of temptation, where the proposed 10-year term would be too severe.

More Nevada (Continued from Page 3)

the 1-800 structure job at Stead which went for $3.1 million. The Reno City Council has just completed a round of meetings to see what the people want in the future as far as growth is concerned. With housing at a dead stop and the rest of the economy in the Valley not much better, the city's no-growth Mayor got a shock. Kirkland also suggested that the proposal mandatory 10-year period of disqualification—up from the present five years—is too rigid. There are cases, where the epithet of "racketeer" is clearly justified, where a five-year disqualification would be insufficient, Kirkland acknowledged. But there are other cases, often involving an individual with a previously unblemished record who gave in to a moment of temptation, where the proposed 10-year term would be too severe.

Local 3 counters charges of owner-operators (Continued from Page 1)

Local 3 owner-operators are generally good union members who have been in the industry for years, but they are all feeling the crunch of this current construction downturn. ABC is trying to cut their own fringe benefit payments and the brokers are trying to put the strike. I think there is a better solution and that is to Local 3 owner-operator clearinghouse that will help owner-operators get work without paying any broker a fee.

Brokers who handle owner-operators traditionally charge a fee of 10% for finding work and dispatching. They are faced with increasing costs like insurance and the fine job that Mr. Al Zawella and his staff are doing with this special program," Blagg said. "CLELPE was due to terminate in September but, due to theexpiration of our Business Manager Dale Marr and the politicians in Sacramento, we were successful in getting A.B. 1043 passed in Sacramento and extended the CLELP all over Northern California. As of January 1, 1982, there will be five new investigators and three secretaries with CLELP, aided by some of our Local Union offices in Northern California.

Granite Construction has a project to widen Claus Road in the amount of $1 million plus. Granite is using several brother members and will be until next spring sometime.

Granite has a new project known as Frankenheimer Power Project, on Frankenheimer Road near Oakdale. This project is estimated at better than $2.8 million. This is for installation of a small hydro-electric plant. Ten or more brother members will be working on this project at its peak work period.

A very similar project is the Dawson Power Project out of La Grange. Since the project is estimated at better than $2.8 million. This is for installation of a small hydro-electric plant. Ten or more brother members will be working on this project at its peak work period.

"By and large," he said, the bill forces employers without Workers Compensation Insurance and child labor violations in construction. In Stockton there is a new program called Concentrated Labor Law Enforcement Program or as it is commonly called CLELP. In one year, two investigators have issued 115 citations netting total assessments of $2.494,124.00, total collections of $67,034.00 and Acknowledgement of Indebtedness of $85,225.

"We are proud of our association with the Labor Commissioners office and the fine job that Mr. Al Zawella and his staff are doing with this special program," Blagg said. "CLELPE was due to terminate in September but, due to the expiration of our Business Manager Dale Marr and the politicians in Sacramento, we were successful in getting A.B. 1043 passed in Sacramento and extended the CLELP all over Northern California. As of January 1, 1982, there will be five new investigators and three secretaries with CLELP, aided by some of our Local Union offices in Northern California.

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Local 3 members respond on Davis Bacon

(Continued from Page 1

Dear President Reagan:

I am writing you to ask you to keep your promise. Yes, I am concerned about the Davis-Bacon Act. I am concerned about the government getting our support next election. Barack Obama and President Reagan are in every campaign pledge. So please tell the Labor Department and the rest not to try to abolish the Act.

Sincerely,

Anthony Lotto
San Francisco Chronicle

Dear Senator Cannon:

We are writing you regarding the Davis-Bacon Act. As your constant constituents, we are very concerned about the Act and do not want to see it repealed or weakened in any way. We sincerely hope you will do all in your power to keep the Davis-Bacon Act intact.

Yours truly,

Roy & Dorothy Knox
Wadsworth, NV

To the Honorable Raymond S. Donovan, Secretary of Labor:

I am writing to you to ask you to hold your position on the Davis-Bacon Act. President Reagan during his campaign promised not to let Congress or the Labor Department destroy the protection that working people and their employers have enjoyed for over 50 years.

After watching TV, Channel 4, the horrible conditions of the garment industry in New York, the sweat shops are deplorable. One can not understand how these conditions remain in our country.

In fact, we all know that there is a real need to protect our working rights. So please protect our rights from those who are trying to ruin our wages and force us into sweat shops and places where we can not make a living.

Sincerely,

Anthony Lotto
San Francisco Chronicle

Many letters are sent urging support

(Editors' Note: We would like to thank all those Local 3 members who responded to our call to send letters to their elected representatives in Congress and to the building and labor construction department expressing their support for the Davis-Bacon Act. Letters like these from individual voters have a great deal of power. Many Local 3 members sent copies of their correspondence to Engineers News, and we have printed as many of these letters as space permitted. Again, thanks and keep up the good work!)
More from Sacramento area

(Continued from Page 6)

Kirkland's Keynote Address

(Continued from Page 2)

It is one thing to use the full force of government to break a small union of hard-pressed public employees. That, I suppose, was an indication of the law and is, perhaps, popular. But is it then just and fitting to go out upon the field and shoot its wounded?

As for his brilliant and tireless team, drawn from the service of avarice, they promised us a boom and brought us a bust. They have drained the public purse of lavish welfare on the greedy rich, in the name of "incentive." They have stripped the poor and weakened our already impoverished unemployment insurance, also in the name of "incentive." That is known as the "caucus" and stick policy, by the rich, for the poor, the stick.

What is the net result so far of their genius and masterful control of the Congress? Eight and one-half million workers are now unemployed, the largest number since 1939. Unemployment among blacks and other minorities has reached fifteen and one-half percent; eleven percent of all blue collar workers are unemployed. Unemployment among the aged has hit a record in the last three months alone. The real earnings of workers are down 4.4 percent in the last year, and up forty percent. The housing, automobile and related industries are being strangled by sky-high interest rates.

Mr. Paul Volcker, high priest of monetarism at the Federal Reserve Board, is a very nice and engaging man—until he goes to work in the morning. Then something happens. For the past few weeks, in public and private discourse, he has been blaming the terrible harm that his policies have already done the nation's economy on next year's wage bargains. To grapple for such a flimsy alibi is a sure sign of the final bankruptcy of monetary doctrine. It calls to mind an old, old ditty: "It's tough to be the whole nation, it's tough to be the gravy, it's the rich that get the gravy.

What can we who opposed the domestic policies of this Administration from the beginning now say that is one-half as depressingly as the real, the heartbreaking, the honest of its leading hatchet-man, Mr. David Stockman? What provocéed his cancer one can only guess. But you don't want to be an old sailor to know what it means and when the smallest rat on board heads for the harpooning boat.

Lest you twinge of human sympathy for his public embarrassment, let me remind you that this is the man who once coldly declared that no one is entitled to anything from one's government. He even now boasts, as his proudest achievement, of the destruction of public service employment and trade adjustment assistance. He was the original interior decorator of the Reagan house, painting all the parts of the whole reform package, that the sirens are sounding and bust is due, he has his story ready. He was only too ready, indeed, to find the answer to the question he never knew what was going on upstairs.

The aftermath tell us a lot about what's gone before. Why, according to the President for cooking the books, rigging the computer, overfeeding the tax accountants, costing Congress the wages of the dead? No—he was taken to the White House woodshed for, at long last, telling the truth. So far have we come from young George Washington and the cherry tree.

Now, after his scolding, he tells us that it was all a foolish mistake, that he was only guilty of being the south end of a north bound Trojan horse. It is hard to decide whether to laugh about the social and economic policies of this Administration—The array or the disarray. If this is the direction of the New Beginning that President Reagan promised, God save us from our current project.

As we go forth into our second century, none will be slighted or deprived of its due. Solidarity remains the indispensable key to our future.

Solids was the common wealth, to build the store of strength that each of our parts will surely need to draw upon, late or soon. Solidarity requires, not blind submission to command, but the free and timely exchange of views in search of consent. Once that is gotten, it then requires all the character and courage to defer one's own pride to the general good.
FOR SALE: 2 BR & 2 BA HOME on 1 ac. corner lot at 2602 Park Ave., Rohnert Park, CA 94928. Phone: 916/878-2700. House with 7 BR, 2 1/2 BA, 2-car side garage, newer refrigerator, gas range, washer & dryer, new paint, quarter-inch oak floors, and central air. For sale or trade: large, white metal building, 70 footprint (same as home). $165,000. Call 916/864-1900. Reg. #1290091. 10/81.

FOR SALE: 2 STORY, 6 BD, 4 BA HOME on 1 ac. at 1377 Sienna, Rio Linda, CA 95673. Ph. 916/632-2900. 4.75 ac. with 4000 sq. ft. living, 2 BD,$195,000; 3 BD, $229,000; 4 BD, $255,000. Complete, new, modern, all-electric home. For sale or trade: equipment. For details, contact: Jerry H. Quick, 12421 Elverta Rd., Sacramento, 95831. Ph. 916/357-2216. Reg. #157471. 11/81.

FOR SALE: 110 ACRES, good pasture, 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA, 2-car side garage, barn, fences, barn, home, house, in Oakham Estates. Excellent location for either residence or ranch. For sale or trade: farm equipment. For details, contact: Mr. & Mrs. L. A. Johnson, 17400 Central Ave., Huron, CA 95446. Ph. 916/782-4900. Reg. #1097501. 10/81.


FOR SALE: 1974 BENKIN BOX TRAILER, 24 ft. long, 7 ft. wide, 8 ft. high, good used condition, complete. For sale or trade: new or used equipment. For details, contact: Bill Johnson, 14430 E. Aiken Rd., Antelope, CA 95843. Ph. 916/262-3302. Reg. #1904331. 10/81.

FOR SALE: 1977 JEEP CHEROKEE WAGON, 4 dr blue, rust-free. For sale or trade: trade-in or cash. For details, contact: 1517 Ridge Wy, Daly City, CA 94014. 415/333-9006. Reg. #1076126. 11/81.


FOR SALE: RULES FOR SUBMITTING ADS

Any operating Engineer may advertise in these columns without charge any PERSONAL PROPERTY he wishes to sell, swap, or purchase. Ads will not be accepted for real estate, personal services or alcohols. PREPARE THE word YOU want in your advertisement, on a separate sheet of paper, listing yourself to the best of your ability, and your COMPLETE ADDRESS and REGISTER NUMBER. Ask for a time limit of several weeks between the listing of letters and receipts of your ad by our readers.

Please notify Engineers Swap Shop as soon as the property you have advertised is sold. As the purpose of the service should be carried on in order to be dropped from the newspaper after three months. Advertise all your ads with Engineers Swap Shop, DALE MARIE, EDITOR, 474 Wren Street, Daly City, CA 94014. Be sure to Indicate your register number. Ads will be published without this information.

Personal Notes

SACRAMENTO: We would like to extend our sincere sympathies to the families and friends of our departed Brothers William Harris, Arthur Jones, Robert Lord, Harry Gentzel, Ed Parkin, and Larry Steele.

Our condolences are extended to retired Brother Ellsworth Evans, whose wife Marie passed away October 24, 1981, to retired Brother Luscius McCormick, whose wife Jeanne passed away October 28, 1981, to retired Brother Woody Miner, whose wife Irene passed away October 24, 1981.

NOVA: Our deepest sympathy goes out to the families of deceased Brothers, Howard Dyer who passed away September 27, 1981, and Charles Fletcher who passed away September 1, 1981. We would also like to extend our sympathy and condolences to the Brothers of San Francisco Local 30 who lost their friend, the London Albert Johnson, who passed away on October 29, 1981.

A detail of a heart attack

Brother Victor Johnson was last reported as doing quite well and all of us at District 11 would like all of us at a speedy recovery.

Oakland: Brother Lewis Lane, a 30-year member of Local 30, who had been receiving benefits for his health problems. Lewis who lives at 5883 Fair Ave., in Newark, phone (415) 793-6964 would like to hear from some of his friends that he worked with. He was with Clements Construction in his hot plant jobs for years and finished his career working for Gallagher & Burk at its Oakland hot plant. A call or visit would be greatly appreciated.
ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS

December
2nd Ogden: Ramadas Inn, 2433 Adams Ave.
3rd Reno: Musicians Hall, 124 West Taylor
10th Watsonville: Veterans Bldg., 215 Third Street
January
12th Eureka: Engineers Bldg., 2306 Broadway

Dues Schedule
10/1/81-9/30/82

| Local 3 | $144 (Per Qtr.) |
| Local 3A | $141 (Per Qtr.) |
| Local 3B | $144 (Per Qtr.) |
| Local 3C | $141 (Per Qtr.) |
| Local 3E | $144 (Per Qtr.) |
| Local 3R | $141 (Per Qtr.) |
| Local 3S | $143 (Per Qtr.) |

The dues rate for the periods indicated above apply regardless of when payment is made.

Due to the variation in the wage structure of the 3D and Industrial Units, the members will be notified of applicable dues for their respective units.

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Glenn-Colusa Canal

Ground breaks on pumping plant

Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District built the original main pumping station in phases between 1909 and 1922 with additional units added through the years. Construction of the 90 million dollar award, Erickson Equipment, Inc. of Fresno is moving the dirt on this pumping plant project. Case International of Chicago will dig the 90 foot deep slurry pits that the contractor is expectancy to get underway around the 15th of this month. This project will not be completed until March 1984.

C.C. Myers, Inc. was low bidder on the check structures and syphons on the Glenn-Colusa canal. This project is in progress as the weather permits. It stretches from Willows to Williams at different locations. It also will not be complete until March 1983. The cost went for 1.7 million.

Kaweah Construction is in full swing on four pumping plants on the Tehama-Colusa canal just outside of Arbuckle, reports Business Representative George Morgan. This project consists of four pumping plants and four reservoirs costing 3.5 million.

Copenhagen Utilities Construction on project.

Solidarity Day 1982 will be Election Day

New York—Solidarity Day 1982 will be Election Day, Nov. 2, the AFL-CIO endorsed a convention resolution that urged union members and their allies to "mobilize" and "march to the polls in unprecedented numbers." to elect a Congress that will "reverse the disservices of the Reagan Administration and restore humane government to the American people.

The resolution applauded the success of Solidarity Day 1981, Sept. 19, which drew more than 400,000 union members and supporters of human rights, religious, consumer, environmental, and other allied groups to Washington for the largest protest march staged in the nation's capital.

Besides the huge number of protesters, the success of Solidarity Day also lay in the relationship developed and strengthened between the labor movement and its allies at the national and community levels. These relationships must be carried forward to keep the "spirit of Solidarity Day" fresh, the convention said.

That spirit has since made its mark on the national level in the successful campaign against a tuition tax credit initiative on the District of Columbia ballot, the resolution noted. The issue was defeated by a margin of 90 percent.

Nationally, the resolution said, Solidarity Day "has encouraged increasing resistance in the Congress to the President's domestic policies and proposals." The massive turnout for Solidarity Day "is only a beginning, the illusions stressed. It said labor must accelerate its legislative and political efforts locally and nationally "to ensure that the hundreds of thousands who came to Washington on Sept. 19 continue to be heard loud and clear." One of the successes of Solidarity Day, the convention observed, was that it renewed working relations among international unions and state and local central bodies.

The national Building Trades, Bechtel Power and the Los Angeles Power Officials have been meeting for the purpose of signing a project agreement these past few weeks.

The big question is whether the I.P.P. will be built under the construction management of Bechtel Power and done as a Union job or as an open shop job. This latter choice, of course, is unthinkable. It's hard to say that the prospects for a project agreement completion, even by press time of this edition, seems almost likely.

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