



PREPAID HEALTH PLANS  
DEFINED - SEE PAGES 4 & 5

# Utility Reporter

Official Publication of I. B. E. W. Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO, 1918 Grove Street, Oakland 17, Calif.

VOL. VII—No. 5

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

SEPTEMBER, 1959

## YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

by Ronald T. Weakley

One of the legitimate aims of a Labor organization is to endeavor to raise the "real" wages of its members. Complaints are many concerning the "deducts" on the payroll check. Some workers and their wives have suggested that perhaps they would prefer to keep the "deducts" rather than the balance remaining after all the deductions. While this is a facetious and cynical proposition, it could become a good deal if the "bite" keeps going upward.



**R. T. Weakley** Of course, we must remember that we cannot get something for nothing and that the deductions are legitimate either by law or personal authorization. One cannot honestly complain about most of the deductions, assuming that the deductions are worth the money withheld. Herein lies a wide range of debate on each deductible item according to one's circumstances, personal desires and opinions.

Perhaps there is one deduction which is usually the largest and is most suspect when it comes to getting your money's worth. That is the Federal Income Tax.

We seem to have majority agreement that many of the services of government are necessary and that each citizen should pay his fair share of the costs of these services through universal taxation.

The two major areas of debate here are the validity of the  
(Continued on Page 2)

## Utility Reporter Wins High Honors In ILPA Judging

Your UTILITY REPORTER received national recognition this month when it won two CERTIFICATES OF MERIT in the 1959 National Labor Press Journalistic Award Contest sponsored by the International Labor Press Association.

The awards were a featured highlight of the ILPA Convention in San Francisco, Sept. 13 through 16, with Business Manager and Executive Editor Ronald T. Weakley and Editor Elmer B. Bushby in attendance as delegates representing your paper.

One award was for Editorial Excellence based on the October 1958 issue which reported the statements of position on major issues by the candidates for public office in California. The other was for the Best Feature Article representing our handling of the "right-to-work" issue—Proposition 18—on last November's ballot.

This is the second consecutive year in which the UTILITY REPORTER has received awards having won last year a CERTIFICATE OF MERIT for the Best Front Page and HONORABLE MENTION for Business Manager R. T. Weakley's "YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER'S COLUMN."

This year's nearly 300 entries were judged by the faculty members of the Department of Journalism, University of California, with the assistance of the university's Institute of Industrial Relations.

Mr. Charles M. Hulten, chairman of the Judging Committee, in his report of the judging stated: "Most students of newspapers (and other mass media) are concerned about the failure of the media to deal adequately with matters of significance in their search for the mass audience. We come away from our job convinced that the labor

press is an important segment of those special purpose publications which will serve special needs of special audiences—and that it is doing an increasingly effective job."

Your Editors and Executive Board are indeed proud of our 1959 accomplishments but hasten to add that there is still a big job to be done in getting Labor's message to all the people. Recognition of this fact will be the motivation for our continued efforts to improve, in every way possible, your union's official publication, the UTILITY REPORTER.

## Safe, Peaceful Atom Development Urged in Convention

The vital and continued interest of the American labor movement in the development in safety of the peaceful uses of atomic energy was reflected in adoption by the AFL-CIO convention of a five-point program aimed at unlocking its benefits for all Americans. Support was voted for:

- Accelerated programs to develop nuclear power in large amounts at a cost competitive with power generated by conventional fuels.
- Greater protection for the health and safety of workers and the general public from all hazards of radiation.
- Expanded uses of radioisotopes in industry, medicine and agriculture.
- Safeguards to protect the people against monopolization of this new industry by a few large corporations.

For More  
Convention News  
See Inside Pages



Local 1245 Business Manager and UTILITY REPORTER Executive Editor Ronald T. Weakley receives two awards from ILPA President Peter E. Terzick.

International  
Labor Press  
Association

**Award of Merit**  
presented to  
**The Utility Reporter**

For outstanding achievement  
in the field of Labor Press  
Journalism designated winner of  
**Certificate of Merit-Editorial Excellence**  
News Format

By the Board of Judges of the  
University of California, Berkeley, and  
presented at the International Labor  
Press Association Annual Convention  
San Francisco, Cal., September 14, 1959

Peter E. Terzick  
President  
Bernard R. Mullen  
Secretary-Treasurer

The above award was for Editorial Excellence—News Format. Judges' comments: "Excellent news coverage and writing. Issues submitted illustrated vigorous handling of state primary election issues and candidates."

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# The UTILITY REPORTER



RONALD T. WEAKLEY . . . . . Executive Editor  
 ELMER B. BUSHBY . . . . . Editor  
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# THE HEAT WAS REALLY ON FOR NEW LABOR BILL

The following bit of conversation occurred during President Eisenhower's press conference on Aug. 25, as reported by the Wall Street Journal:

**QUESTION** (Frank van der Linden, Nashville Banner): "Sir, regarding the labor reform bill (Landrum-Griffin Bill), AFL-CIO Vice President James Carey has sent a letter to 229 members of the House who voted for that bill, and says that some of those members have accused him of, in effect, political blackmail, but he said that his people would urge all the working people to cast their lot against them and take appropriate action.

"What do you think of that kind of a tactic?"

**THE PRESIDENT:** "Well, I am not going to say anything at all about his action because that is done on his own responsibility. I would say this: I think, or I assume that every Congressman who has voted on this has voted his own conscience, and I don't think any man is going to surrender his conscience because of any kind of threat or implied threat that involves the polls."

The facts of the matter about some real "political blackmailing" which occurred in the House of Representatives—facts largely unreported by the commercial press, TV and radio reports—were reported in THE MACHINIST, official publication of the IAM, after interviewing 14 key Congressmen.

For example:  
 A Republican Congressman from the Northwest was given the choice of voting for the "killer" bill or facing stiff opposition in next year's GOP primary.

A Republican Congressman from the Midwest was threatened on the floor of the House. Either give us your vote, he was told, or the party will run some one else against you in the primary.

A Republican Congressman from Pennsylvania was offered a chance to name an assistant postmaster general in return for his vote for the Landrum-Griffin Bill.

The Eisenhower Administration worked frantically to switch as many Republican votes as possible for the Landrum-Griffin Bill. The lobbyists included Vice President Nixon, Attorney General William Rogers, Postmaster General Arthur Summerfield, Gerald D. Morgan (who was one of the principal authors of Taft-Hartley and now is one of the President's key advisors) Labor Secretary Mitchell, GOP Chairman Thruston Morton and many others.

Several of these top officials were constantly on hand near the House floor while the debate was going on. Their pressure tools were threats and promises. Vice President Nixon was host at a breakfast for wavering Congressmen.

So active and so obvious was the Administration lobby that Rep. John Dingell of Michigan took the floor at one point to make this remark:

"Mr. Summerfield is now downstairs pressuring Republican members, I would suggest that any Republican member who wants to see Mr. Summerfield about patronage affairs go down there now."

GOP Chairman Morton pressed two Congressmen for their

votes. One refused to commit himself. The other did. Before the day was over, the Administration announced that a Federal installation would be closed in the district of the un-cooperative member and a new Federal installation would be opened in the district of the one who had knuckled over.

Rep. Fred Schwengel of Iowa stated: "I've never been threatened more in my life. The threats were made about my political future and about other things. One Iowa businessman said: 'We're not going to give money to the Republican Party if they have fellows like you around.'"

The pressure on Democrats was enormous too.

Rep. Erwin Mitchell, Georgia Democrat, told a reporter that the pressure was the most terrible he was ever under, even worse than when he was a fighter pilot with 18 missions in World War II.

Despite pronouncements urging moderation by House Speaker Sam Rayburn most Southern Democrats voted for the "killer" bill. Their purpose: To hobble union organizations in the South and to win Republican help for blocking or weakening pending civil rights legislation.

Even before the debate was over in the House, Southern Democrats received from Republicans a partial payment on the civil rights deal they had made. It came in the House Judiciary Committee where—in secret vote—only two Republicans stood by the full civil rights program the Administration had demanded earlier in the year.

Ike's lofty principle of conscience overriding threats appears pretty hypocritical in view of what actually happened, and what's more, Ike knew better—his Administration was "up to its ears" in threats, backdoor deals, patronage and coalitions.

## Did NAM Write The Bill? 'Sure.' GOP Solon Admits

Congressman Clare Hoffman (Rep., Mich), one of the most anti-labor members of the House, "spilled the beans" during the climactic House debate on the Landrum-Griffin bill about who really drafted that bill.

"The charge was made," said Hoffman, "that the NAM wrote it." Of course, they had a finger in the pie, and why should they not? And of course the Chamber of Commerce had a hand and foot in it as was their right and duty.

"I have gone along with those two groups," Hoffman continued. "They are fine. They give some of the most pleasing dinners downtown that you have ever tasted."

## YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

by Ronald T. Weakley

(Continued from Page 1)  
 expenditure of taxpayer's money and the definition of what is a "fair share" for the individual taxpayer.

On the validity, it seems that most of the Federal budget dollar goes to what is loosely termed "defense." On the face of it, this seems like a lot, even conceding that we must have an adequate defense in the critical times in which we live.

When we hear almost daily about some government official or defense contractor playing footsie with the tax dollar or that "peace scares" have plunged the so-called "defense industries" stocks on the market, it is no wonder that we might get uneasy.

Retired military "brass" seem to move from the Pentagon to the board rooms of many large enterprises which realize most of their income from the taxpayers via the Federal budget. It is even rumored that the hiring of retired "brass" might have a faint connection with the ability to land a fat defense contract.

Assuming that Congress is supposed to see that the tax dollar is used wisely and legitimately, perhaps more energy should be expended by these worthy legislators in investigating the expenditures, even though it might be embarrassing if some skulduggery might be turned up in one's District or State.

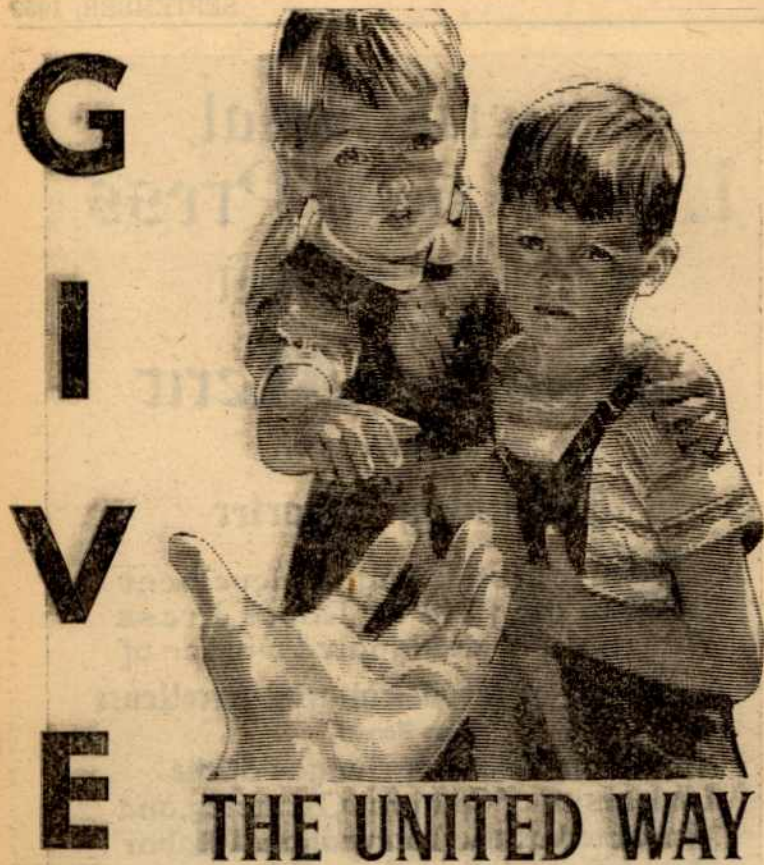
It is said by some that if we got "peace" we'd all be in the fat because our economy is overloaded with defense production. This doesn't seem to be a very good situation, if true.

Some people have even been so bold as to suggest that perhaps more education, needed public works, natural resources development and conservation, a crash program to beat cancer, better health facilities for our people, and the use of food reserves for our own and the other underprivileged peoples of the world rather than for subsidized surplus storage should be looked at.

Well, it all adds up to whether the average taxpayer is really getting his money's worth or not. Inasmuch as the average fellow has about 25 percent of his income going to taxes with the Federal government getting most of it, there is good reason for him to take a good look at where his money is going.

If "death and taxes" are the only "sure things" then maybe we should look at the latter more closely so that we can either raise the "real wages" for our members through tax reductions, or get proper value received in the form of cost benefits to offset some of the other family outlays which government might properly assume.

As an educational feature, your Union will soon begin a series of articles concerning the general subject matter of taxation through this newspaper. We shall examine the history, the forms and the present status of the average American wage earner in this matter of taxation—a little matter that caused a whale of a hassle in New England some time ago.



## Let's Support United Campaigns

All the vigorous, colorful signs of United Fund-Community Chest campaigns are now evident throughout the cities and towns of America. Campaign banners fly above the streets; campaign posters decorate poles and buildings; progress charts and massive goal thermometers dominate central city scenes. Pledge cards and volunteer rosters are the order of the day.

Labor plays a big part in most communities as sign painters donate their services, shop chairmen prepare to launch in-plant campaigns and trade unionists assess their fair share quotas.

Both the men and women of labor recognize fully that the real worth of a united campaign is not in the brilliantly-painted posters and the maze of campaign mechanics. The true value of these vast volunteer efforts can be found behind the doors of thousands of community agencies which seek to serve all who need them.

Through come-and-see tours, union counselling courses and—often—through firsthand use of these agencies, the men and women of labor have come to know the solid core of service and need that underlies the gaudy furor and ballyhoo of annual fall campaigns.

A machinist has seen it in the face of a physical therapist as she works to help straighten the twisted legs of a crippled child.

A garment worker encounters the meaning of a campaign in the shining eyes of a little girl at a local orphanage.

A bricklayer finds it as a blind man explains a talking-book machine to him during an agency tour.

Trade union families who have turned to a United Fund or Community Chest family agency in time of trouble are well aware of the campaign purpose.

The unemployed father who saw his sick child receive expert care at a United Fund hospital knows and is grateful.

It is in ways such as these that the union member has been able to look beneath the glitter and tinsel and find a profound reason for his fair share gift.

And as the union sign painter letters out the words: "Give Generously—the United Way!" he doesn't need to ask himself 'why.' He knows and has seen—the eyes of a child, the pain of twisted legs, the hand that reads braille.

He knows. Do you?

**MOVING?**  
 SEND US YOUR  
 CHANGE OF  
 ADDRESS

Buy Union Label Goods

Trade in Union Stores

# Highlights of San Francisco Conventions



California Governor Pat Brown (left) receives warm greeting from AFL-CIO President George Meany (center) and San Francisco Mayor George Christopher (right) during opening ceremonies of the AFL-CIO Convention at Civic Auditorium in San Francisco.



Representing the Trade Union Congress of Ghana as guests of the AFL-CIO Convention in San Francisco are: Front Row, (left) Mr. Buachie, National Chairman, Mine Workers Union and (right) Mr. Mingle, Secty.-Treas., Government, Clerical and Technical Employees Union. Back Row, (left) Mr. Inkumseh, Pres., Railway Employees Union and (right) Mr. Tawiah, Pres., Maritime and Dock Workers Union.



Miss Anna Kethly, Hungarian trade unionist in exile, tells delegates to the AFL-CIO Convention of the non-existence of a free trade union movement in Hungary. "The best allies of dictatorships are the forgetfulness and lack of interest on the part of the free nations. . . what has happened and what is happening today in Hungary may happen to other nations tomorrow," she warned.



Dr. Clair Cook, Executive Director, Religion and Labor Foundation and writer of the column "Walking Together", a regular feature of this paper, speaks to the ILPA delegates.

## Attacks on Labor Abroad, Too

Attacks on organized labor in many countries, similar to those being made in the United States, were reported to the AFL-CIO by speakers from other nations. Fraternal delegates from other lands included President Claude Jodoin, of the Canadian Labor Congress, Frank Cousins, general secretary of Great Britain's Transport and General Workers, Fred Hayday of the British National Union of General and Municipal Workers, and Pinhas Lavon, General Secretary of Histadrut, the Israeli Labor federation. All strong attempts by reactionaries in their homelands—and in many European countries—to break or at least greatly weaken the power of the labor movement.



IBEW Secty. Joseph Keenan chairs the AFL-CIO Convention during the election of George Meany to the office of President for the ensuing term.

## THEY'RE NOT THROUGH YET

Congressman John F. Shelley, 5th District, San Francisco, and author of the Shelley Bill—the labor reform bill defeated in Congress—warned the AFL-CIO Convention delegates that the battle against organized labor is far from over.

"It was said by those pushing for a vicious killer bill (Landrum-Griffin) that this was just a start, that next year there would be a proposal to apply the anti-trust laws to the trade union movement; that next year there would be proposed a separate bill which Mr. Hoffman tried to tie onto the Landrum-Griffin Bill, a proposed piece of legislation putting all transportation unions under a separate public utility law and prohibiting them from going on strike; that next year there would be proposed a complete prohibition of the use of any funds whether they are from the treasury or collected voluntarily, if they are collected for trade union auspices for political activity. So the adoption of the Landrum-Griffin Bill poses new problems. But the problem I want to impress upon your minds and the situation I want you to remember is that you have fights ahead in the future and you must be united," Congressman Shelley warned.

"A new generation has come along in the labor movement. A great many of these young men and women really never had a fight. The responsibility is yours to extend and enlarge your educational program. Educate these young people to what the trade union movement is and why they are getting what they are getting today. If you don't, some of your own members will be supporting this anti-labor legislation because they won't understand," he emphasized.



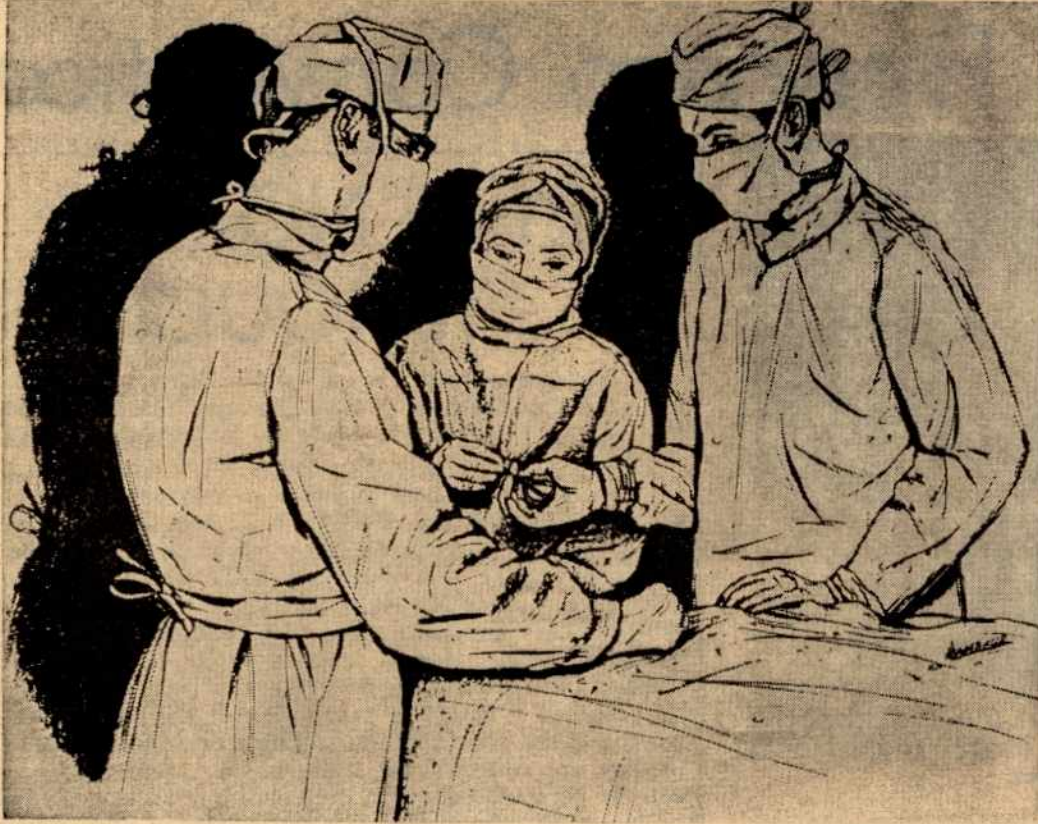
ILPA President Peter Terzick (right) congratulates Bernard Mullady on his re-election as Secty.-Treas. of the Labor Press Association, while President-elect Dick Howard (center) looks on.



IBEW President Gordon M. Freeman (left) and 9th District Vice President Oscar Harbak (right) listen attentively to AFL-CIO Convention proceedings.



C. J. Haggerty, Secty. California Federation of Labor, addresses ILPA Convention in San Francisco. Left to right: Bernard Mullady, Secty.-Treas. ILPA; Dave Selvin, Editor San Francisco Labor; C. J. Haggerty; George Johns, Secty. San Francisco Labor Council.



# Health Maintenance Is A Social Problem

The maintenance of health must now be added to food, shelter, and clothing as one of the necessities of living. Health means more than freedom from disease, freedom from pain, freedom from untimely death. It means optimum physical, mental, and social efficiency and well-being. The individual ranks health for himself, and for his family even more, high in the scale of human aspirations, and effort by each person to improve his own health can be expected to pay great returns.

Recognition of the significance of individual responsibility for health does not, however, discharge the obligation of a society which is interested in the health of its citizenry. Such recognition,

in fact, increases social responsibility for health. Heretofore social effort in behalf of health has been limited largely to such measures as delivery of pure water to the individual's tap and the sanitary disposal of his sewage. Now it becomes necessary for a society which wishes to advance the health of its citizens to adopt measures which guarantee to the individual an oppor-

tunity to make appropriate decisions in behalf of his health. Society must assure its citizens access to professional services, education concerning personal health practices, and a reasonably safe physical environment. Only then can individual responsibility for health exercised through personal action reach its full potential.



## Cause for Alarm!

Paralytic polio cases continue to head upward with the number of cases in the week ended August 22 reaching the highest of any week this year.

The U.S. Public Health Service reports that the year's total to date is 2,121 cases which is more than twice the 928 cases reported up to this time last year. In the week reported, the largest increases over the previous week were in the Pacific Coast states.

Health officials blamed the increase on the failure of the victims to get their Salk shots.

**IF YOU OR YOUR CHILDREN HAVEN'T YET HAD YOUR SALK SHOTS, DO SO IMMEDIATELY.**

## Group Practice OK'd

Group medical practice is affirmed in the three leading cases (including the unanimous decision of the U. S. Supreme Court in 1943) as a legal and reasonable alternative to individual practice, even though it may be competitive therewith.

The selling price or "premiums" of medical care insurance contracts vary according to whether the coverage is written on a group or individual basis. Within each category, the premiums depend on the type and extent of benefits, characteristics of the insured, operational expenses of the insurer, and provisions for reserves and surplus. Because of the many variables involved, premiums vary from contract to contract and from insurer to insurer.

# \$500 Million Pill Quackery

Americans are spending \$500 million a year on "the most widespread and expensive form of medical quackery in the country today," Arthur Flemming, Secretary of Health Education and Welfare, declared recently. He referred to the sale of misrepresented vitamins and other food supplements, especially the so-called "royal jelly."

The Food and Drug Administration, in Flemming's department is trying to crack down on these false claims but finds it hard to keep up with the hucksters. Some of the products are useful in special cases, Flem-

ming told reporters, and most of them aren't actively harmful to the body.

"But," he emphasized, "the results can be tragic when unknowing or unscrupulous promoters distort the facts and claim benefits for their products far beyond the actual results."

Denying the supposed "potency" of royal jelly Flemming declared: "For bees, royal jelly is indeed a miracle food, but it has no practical value for humans as a food, drug or cosmetic. The claims made for it are groundless."

Flemming also cited a number of cases where the Food and Drug Administration has recently obtained court orders against such mislabelled products. For example, the "Beauty for Life Capsules" of Helena Rubenstein, Inc. were ordered destroyed. Other actions were cited.

However, radio commentator Edward P. Morgan suggested the "real news" in Flemming's press conference lay in the reporter's questions which "developed that the Food and Drug Administration is so short-handed that only about a third or even a quarter of such violations are actually detected." Morgan's broadcasts, on the ABC network, are sponsored by the AFL-CIO.

This year's budget estimate for the FDA, which is supposed to protect the public health, amounted to \$10.6 million. The comparable figure for the military services topped \$40 billion.



# ADEQUATE GOOD HEALTH

Among the "Basic Human Rights" which President Roosevelt enunciated in 1944 was "the right to adequate medical care and the opportunity to attain and enjoy good health."

The origin of medical care insurance plans dates from the latter part of the 19th century when mines, railroads, sawmills and logging companies entered into contractual arrangements with physicians and hospitals for the medical care of employees injured in the course of employment. Although these contracts were originally intended to take care of on-the-job injuries, they were later used to cover the non-occupational medical care of employees as workmen's compensation laws became effective which provided the worker with medical care, compensation, and sometimes rehabilitation if he were injured during employment.

Since the passage of the Social Security Act in 1935, the worker has generally been assured of income when he retires in old age or when he becomes unemployed, and of survivors' benefits for his family when he dies. These benefits and many others have been provided through government action.

Another major cause of insecurity—illness and injury of the worker off-the-job and of his family—has been an area which has received too little attention.

The availability of good non-occupational medical care has, in the main, depended on the patients' ability to pay for it and although an individual may be fully convinced of the primary value of the best health service for himself and his family, he may not have had available the money to purchase it or the arrangements to secure it. This fact undoubtedly accounts in part for the findings of recent studies that there is a direct relationship between health and family income.

Prior to World War II, frequent attempts were made to pass legislation supplementing existing social security measures with a program of national health insurance. None of these attempts met with success.

The depression period of the 1930s generally convinced Unions of their inability to cope independently with their members' health needs through their own programs. Unilateral management plans had been established in only a small proportion of industry and with a few exceptions, were limited in their benefits and offered no real security since the employer could withdraw the benefits at will.

So, when it became clear that the government was not likely to establish a health insurance plan by law, the Unions tried to establish plans through collective bargaining with the employer as a source of financial support for prepaid group health plans.

In contrast to the individual policy, group coverage has opened the channels of insurance to all wage earners, regardless of age, sex, or physical condition. The individual remains insured so long as the master policy remains in force and so long as he continues to be a member of the group.

Group policies are less expensive, provide more extensive benefits and do not, as a rule, make bad health a barrier to membership. These advantages are made possible by the fact that if the group represents a fairly good sample of the population, the "poor risks," while not excluded, are not unduly numerous and they are balanced by the "good risks," who probably will not utilize the plan excessively.

## Group Practice Plan

Today more than 3 million persons receive medical care through prepaid group practice plans. These plans offer almost complete office and home medical care by physicians and specialists, as well as hospitalization and all types of surgery.

Under these plans, PREVENTIVE medicine is encouraged through annual examinations, immunizations, injections, prenatal and postnatal care, and the like.

One of the key features of this type of plan also referred to as a "closed panel plan" is that the doctors work together as a group and combine their skills and resources, with income from medical practice pooled and redistributed to the participating doctors according to some prearranged plan.

All of these plans are privately sponsored—some by a group of doctors, by cooperatives, by communities and many by Labor Unions. Outstanding in the group practice type of health insurance plan is the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, with more than 600,000 persons on the West Coast and Honolulu participating.

There is mounting evidence that medical care under prepaid group practice has a significant influence in improving the health of its enrolled population and in reducing hospitalization rates.

# MEDICAL CARE, HEALTH: OUR RIGHTS



## HOW GOOD IS YOURS?

How good is the health insurance plan which has been bought with your money? How good is a plan which might be bought with your money? How can you test what is bad, poor, good, better and best in health insurance?

You need two yardsticks. One yardstick is medical. What kind of health insurance plans assure the medical services that are most important to the health of yourself and your family?

The other yardstick is financial. The best financial test is the percentage of the family's total medical costs that a plan covers. Two other financial tests should be made. First, what percentage of the cost of the plan comes back to the member in benefits; how much stays with the insuring organization as administrative expenses, "surplus" or "profits?" Second, dividends paid by insurance companies raise such questions as: Where do the dividends go? Do they go at least in part to the member as a reduced premium during the following year, or as increased benefits?

Using both the medical and financial yardsticks together, the best health insurance plan would (a) provide you and your family with all the doctor and hospital services you needed and (b) would cover all or nearly all of their cost.

How then, can you get the most for your health plan dollar, at this particular time, in your particular locality?

In the Boxes on these pages, the three main types of health insurance plans are briefly described. There are all sorts of variations, in scope of benefits and in range of costs, between these types and between different plans of the same type.



## Attorney General Rules on Group Disability Plans

An insurance plan by which insured persons may receive more advantageous services and facilities if they accept a company-selected panel of doctors is in violation of the Business and Professions Code, ruled California Attorney General Stanley Mosk.

The Attorney General considered a group disability insurance plan, which gave the persons the right of selecting physicians or surgeons, and insured 80 percent of their medical costs, or the alternative choice of accepting doctors from a list furnished by the insurance company and having 100 percent of their costs cared for.



## Definitions

### PREPAID HEALTH PLAN

An arrangement whereby a person pays a fixed amount to an organization which agrees to provide cash or medical services of specified types in the event of sickness or injury.

### GROUP HEALTH INSURANCE PLAN

A prepaid medical and hospital plan in the form of a "master policy" covering all members which is issued by the insuring organization to an employer, trustees of a welfare fund, a Labor Union, or a trade association, as the representative of the workers to be covered.

### MEDICAL CARE INSURERS

Organizations which guarantee by contract to provide medical care. They can be divided into two classes:

1. Organizations supplying services or closely associated with suppliers of service and usually pay the physician or hospital directly for services rendered.
2. Commercial insurance companies engaged primarily in sale of life, fire, or casualty insurance who usually make cash payment to the insured.

### PRIME SUBSCRIBER

The employee-member participating in a prepaid health insurance plan.

### DEPENDENTS

The spouse and/or children of the employee-member participating in a prepaid health insurance plan.

### BASIC BENEFITS

Those medical service benefits provided by an insuring organization which usually include hospital room and board, special hospital services, ambulance service, surgery, medical care, diagnostic X-ray and laboratory examinations, but excluding supplemental benefits commonly called "Major Medical Expense benefits."

### PRIMARY PERIOD

The number of days for which hospital room benefits are fully paid.

### SECONDARY PERIOD

The number of days beyond the primary period for which reduced room benefits are available.

### MAJOR MEDICAL EXPENSE BENEFITS

Usually a supplement to an existing Basic Benefits Plan which provides for coverage in the event of a catastrophic illness, either acute or chronic, the financial impact of which would seriously disrupt the family budget.

The contract agrees to pay a stated percentage of covered medical expenses up to a predetermined maximum limit, excluding expenses reimbursed under existing plans and excluding a fixed deductible amount or "corridor." The percentage, maximum limit, and deductible amount vary, depending on the provisions of the contract.

The premium charged for a major medical expense contract depends on whether the contract is offered on a group or individual basis, whether dependents are covered, on the percentage applied, the maximum limit, the deductible amount, and for group contracts on the composition of the group.

### CORRIDOR

The amount of medical expenses covered under Major Medical Expense Benefits which must be paid for by the insured during a calendar year before Major Medical Benefits become payable to the insured. This is similar to the \$50 or \$100 deductible automobile insurance where the first \$50 or \$100 of a particular claim is paid by the insured and either all or a percentage of the amount of the claim in excess of the "deductible" is paid by the insurance carrier.

## Cash Indemnity Insurance Plan

This type of health insurance plan does not provide or guarantee you any medical service, but pays you, in cash, specified amounts towards the cost of certain services listed in the contract which you have with an insurance company or other organization. You pay the hospital and doctor. Your "cash indemnities" usually cover only part of these costs. For example, you will get back so much per day of hospital care up to a specified number of days in a year; and so much towards the costs of hospital "extras"; specified amounts for surgical operations in a hospital, or for non-surgical services from physicians in a hospital.

The amounts and range of your indemnities will vary according to the premium you pay and with other factors. You can also buy what are called "major medical" policies for high-cost illnesses, which will usually pay you back a fairly large percentage of the cost, after you have yourself paid some specified amount as the "deductible."

## Service Plan

In this type of health insurance plan, you are guaranteed certain services to be provided by physicians or hospitals when you need them. Most such plans are under non-profit organizations—Blue Cross or Blue Shield—and make payments for services direct to the hospital or doctor.



### Blue Shield Plans

Blue Shield Plans for the payment of SURGICAL AND NON-SURGICAL MEDICAL CARE are prepayment programs sponsored by State or county medical associations. A plan may carry the name "Blue Shield" only if it meets certain standards, the most important being:

1. Approval by the local State or county medical associations.
2. Responsibility of the medical profession for the medical services included in the benefits.
3. Free choice of physicians.
4. Maintenance of the confidential patient-physician relationship.
5. Maximum benefits consistent with sound financial operation.
6. Benefits may be in terms of either cash indemnity or service units.
7. Sound enrollment and administrative practices.

These plans may be offered on a group basis or they may be issued on an individual basis irrespective of group membership.

The contracts written by the various plans may provide benefits on a service basis, on a combined basis of service and cash payment, or on a cash payment basis only. The service-cash payment is the most common. On this basis it is provided that for enrollees earning below a certain income the participating physician will accept the fees provided by the plan in full payment for his services. For enrollees earning above this income the physician may make an extra charge, and the benefit provided by the plan is in effect a partial payment for the service rendered.

### Blue Cross Plans

These plans are arrangements for prepaying the costs of HOSPITAL CARE through contracts issued to groups or individuals by a particular plan. Each plan consists of a group of hospitals within an area. To bear the name and symbol "Blue Cross" the plan must be approved by the American Hospital Association.

The care provided usually consists of hospital room and board, general nursing and extra services such as the use of the operating room, drugs and medicine, anesthesia, and X-rays.

The selling price of Blue Cross contracts depend on the benefits offered, type of enrollment, and the expenses of the various plans. The cost of the benefits in the case of a full service plan will vary, depending on the costs of hospital care in various areas.

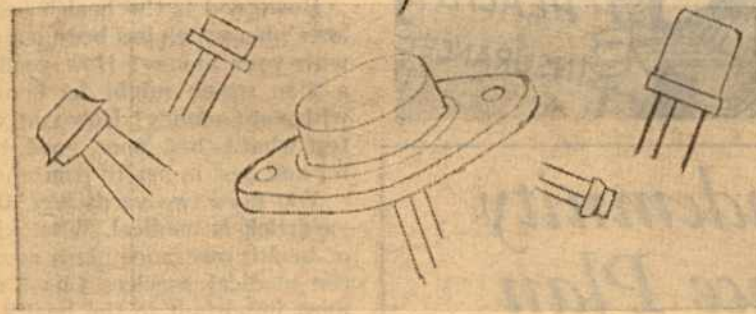
## Comprehensive Service Plan

This type of plan follows the service principle of the SERVICE INSURANCE PLAN, but provides or attempts to provide ALMOST COMPLETE medical and surgical services. The word "ALMOST" is used because even in the broadest program it is necessary and logical for some small KNOWN charge to be made to the patient. It includes, in addition to the hospital and surgical benefits, payments for home and office calls, obstetrical care, laboratory and diagnostic procedures, and paramedical services.

Unfortunately the growth of the COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE PLANS has been slowed by the opposition of State and county medical societies and of the American Medical Association. The AMA and its societies have opposed health insurance plans which provide any physicians' services unless the plans are either controlled by medical societies or are under commercial insurance companies. This has been especially the case when the plans get the medical service for their members through GROUP PRACTICE. After a long and careful look, however, at prepaid GROUP PRACTICE PLANS that the AMA long opposed (107 plans were studied over a 3½ year period), an AMA Commission has reported this year that these plans are doing their job well and that they improved the quality and increased the quantity of medical care for the moderate-income group.

A turn-about in attitude of the AMA regarding GROUP PRACTICE occurred recently when the Association during their Convention in Atlantic City went on record as approving such practice.

# TRANSISTORS— What They Are and How They Work



By JAMES F. PARKER  
Santa Rosa

What is a transistor? What does it do? What have transistors made possible? In the eleven years since its discovery, the transistor has brought about some dynamic changes in this world of ours. The transistor has circled the earth in the Vanguard and Explorer satellites, made "Comic Strip" wrist radios a reality, and put the World Series in your pocket. Born in 1948, it came out of the laboratory and went into commercial use in 1952, and has since managed to get into almost everything electronic. Certainly it deserves your recognition and understanding.

A transistor is a nonvacuum electronic device whose control of an electron current is effected by the conducting properties of the materials in its structure, and which performs the same functions as a vacuum tube.

Most of you are familiar with the theory and uses of the vacuum tube. A heated cathode emits electrons which are attracted to the plate by its high positive potential, and the current flowing between these two elements is controlled by voltage applied to one or more grid elements placed between them. All the electron action takes place within an enclosed vacuum.

The transistor differs physically from the vacuum tube in operation and construction. A transistor consists of a solid piece of prepared semi-conduction material with leads attached, and all electronic action in the transistor takes place in the solid semiconductor material. In transistor terminology, the connecting leads are the emitter, base, and collector instead of grid, cathode, and plate as with vacuum tubes. The radical difference in construction makes the transistor very rugged, extremely small, and eliminates the necessity of the heater element required to heat the cathodes of a vacuum tube. The reduced power requirements, due to the elimination of the heater, plus ruggedness, small size, high reliability and long life made the transistor extremely attractive for certain applications. Its mechanical simplicity, reliability and long life expectancy combine to make it quite economical to use. For these reasons, applications either impossible or impractical with vacuum tubes have been made possible.

Since they were developed in the Bell Telephone Laboratories, it is quite natural that one of the first applications of transistors was in the telephone service in the operator tone dialing system. Also, in 1952, the first transistorized hearing aids were put on the market. In 1953 transistors were used in the card translator portion of direct distance-dialing equipment. Reliability studies in this application proved their low failure rate. Their usefulness thus established, transistors saw a host of new applications in 1954. TRADIC, the first transistorized military computer, was demonstrated,

dustrial computers were developed. Other applications were: transistorized telephone sets, digital data transmission and processing systems, missile control systems, and the first all-transistor portable radios.

By this time their reliability exceeded all but the best special purpose tubes. A concentrated effort was made to reduce the large number of types required, and evaluation of production techniques and materials was undertaken to provide greater improvement. The resultant development and standardization of types provided a near complete performance range, and increased usage developed rapidly. The production of computers and digital data processing equipment, spurred by transistor development, marked a new epoch in automation. The communication industry incorporated the transistor in pulse code carrier systems, mobile radio equipment, and personal radio paging systems. Military applications were seen in missile guidance systems, servosystems, radar equipment, and earth satellites. Industrial uses include instrumentation, machine tool control, fuel injection systems, and remote control equipment. Other applications were quite numerous and included toys, clocks and watches, portable radios, phonographs and dictating machines, and the transistorized, battery operated, portable television receiver.

It should be pointed out that, although the transistor can perform the same functions of which vacuum tubes are capable, there are limits to their uses. In many applications vacuum tubes perform much better than transistors. Advances in tube technology have made possible new tube types which overcome some of the former disadvantages. Therefore, the transistor should not be considered as a device to supplant the vacuum tube. Rather, transistors have made possible new technologies which were neither feasible nor practical with vacuum tubes.

Transistor history would be incomplete without some mention of the many semiconductor devices developed through transistor research. Noteworthy are the thermistor, photo transistor, solar and atomic batteries, semiconductor rectifiers and voltage regulators, thermoelectric devices and switching diodes.

The transistor didn't just happen! It was the result of much effort devoted to the understanding of the physical properties of solids. The development of quantum mechanics assisted

greatly in making possible the understanding of semiconductor physics, and the technology to transistor development. The break-through came in an era of electronic development, and the transistor was readily accepted and applied. It well illustrates how quickly technological advances are accomplished and the far reaching effects they may have. Electronics, our fifth largest industry plays an increasingly important part in our industrial world. As such, it is worthy of your comprehension.



Saul Miller, Director of AFL-CIO Publications, accepts award from U.S. Treasury Dept. for supporting sale of U.S. Bonds.

## General Construction Tax Ruling Favorable

Recent income tax rulings on deductible expenses "while away from home in the pursuit of a trade or business" have created many problems for our members working for the PG&E Co. General Construction Dept.

In an effort to provide some measure of protection and assist our members in General Construction with this problem, Local 1245, in conjunction with our law firm, selected the case of Manuel Carvalho to test the validity of one phase of the Internal Revenue Service rulings.

General Construction members will be pleased to learn that, after discussions over a long period of time, the Internal Revenue Service has finally decided to allow Brother Carvalho to deduct his travel and subsistence expenses while away from home during the tax year of 1955.

Carvalho, a member of a PG&E General Construction Field Crew, in 1949 moved to Stockton with his wife and family and purchased a home there. For three years he worked in the City of Stockton, but then the Company began to move him from place to place. During 1955, he worked in a number of different locations, including St. Helena, Napa, Vallejo, Walnut Creek and San Francisco. He did not work in or around Stockton at all. The longest period of time he spent in any one location was two or three months. His wife and four children remained in Stockton while he travelled. He travelled by car and stayed in hotels. On weekends he would drive back to Stockton to be with his family.

While away from Stockton at these various locations, Brother Carvalho incurred \$2,106 in expenses for travel, meals and lodging. Of that amount \$892.02 was reimbursed by the Company in the form of \$3 per day expense allowance under Section 301 of the collective bargaining agreement. In making out his tax return for 1955, Carvalho quite properly deducted the balance (\$1,207.98) from his gross income for that year as expenses allowed under Section 162 of the Internal Revenue Code for travel, board and lodging while "away from home in the pursuit of a trade or business."

The Internal Revenue Service, however, disallowed the deduction on the ground that while Stockton was Carvalho's "home" for residence purposes, it was not his "home" for tax purposes, because he did not work there. This was in accord with the Commissioner's position that a person's home for tax purposes is the area in which he regularly works. As applied to Brother Carvalho, this policy resulted in a gross inequity. It meant, for example,

would be allowed deductions for travel, board and lodging while away from his "home office," a construction crew worker would be denied the same treatment because, in effect, he had no "home office."

Representing Brother Carvalho, our law firm of Lazarus, Brundage, Neyhart and LePröhn, appealed the case to the Appellate Division of the Internal Revenue Service. After numerous conferences and discussions, they offered to allow approximately one-half of the claimed deduction, but, after consultation with Carvalho and Local 1245 this offer was refused. There were too many persons in Brother Carvalho's position to let the case go by without a clear answer. With the ap-

proval of Brother Carvalho and Local 1245, the law firm prepared to take the case to court, and advised the Internal Revenue Service accordingly. The Service then changed its mind and the attorneys received from the Appellate Decision an audit statement showing the deduction allowed in full.

We believe this case should prove instructive to our members in PG&E's General Construction Dept. While it does not necessarily apply to cases in which the employee travels from job to job with his family in a trailer, it should be applicable to cases in which employees, like Carvalho, maintain a permanent place of residence and travel out to temporary jobs from there.

## Brown Assigns Study Of Automation's Impact

Governor Edmund G. Brown has announced that a committee of his Governor's Council has been assigned the "highly important task of studying the effect of automation and mechanization on employment in California."

Brown noted that preliminary inquiries on the subject show that the impact of automation and mechanization is already being felt in a wide variety of industries.

"Peak labor requirements for the cotton harvest are down from 120,000 to 60,000 as the result of the use of cotton picking machines," the Governor said. "One brewery has eliminated both its swing and graveyard shifts. Petroleum refinery employment is down because of automation and there have been sharp declines in laundry payrolls due to automatic equipment."

"None of us can afford to slow down or impede the introduction of new and better ways of doing our work," Governor Brown said. "They mean greater productivity and higher standards of living. But we cannot ignore the fact that we must at the same time assist those who are displaced in developing new skills and finding other productive places in our economy."

He said the committee's task will be to find out what can or should be done to make this transition "as painless as possible and as fruitful for all the people of this State as it can be."

The committee consists of the

employment, industrial relations, social welfare, mental hygiene and education.

Brown pointed out that some of the problems of the retraining of workers and radical changes in job requirements will extend back into the secondary school curricula.

He also noted a "forward looking step taken in the last legislative session."

"The unemployment insurance law was amended to permit the payment of benefits to workers who have been unemployed for an extended period, who enroll in approved training courses which will give them new skills or improve existing ones," the Governor said. "California is one of three states which have built this concept into their unemployment insurance laws. It now applies only when unemployment rates are somewhat higher than the present levels, but it is a significant start."





# Family Features



## SOUP TO NONSENSE

### My Diet

By Jane Goodsell

Every year about this time I go on a diet. In the bright glare of the sun on a beach it becomes disgustingly obvious that the physical exercise of summer-time did not, after all, compensate for the soda pop I drank and the ice cream I ate.

What makes it obvious is that the bathroom scales register an additional five pounds when I step on, even stark naked before breakfast. And I have to yank at my skirts to fasten them around my waist. So I go on a diet.

I have, in fact, been on a diet for ten days now, and this morning when I weighed myself—stark naked before breakfast—I had gained another three-quarters of a pound. I did not, during those ten days, eat a single thing I really wanted to eat. But, now that my hysterics have subsided, I am beginning to understand how I gained that three-quarters of a pound.

The trouble with dieting is that it keeps my mind continually on food. Instead of reading the morning newspaper at breakfast, I study my diet list and calorie chart. I must figure out which foods I can and cannot eat.

I bypass the cinnamon buns (heavens, they're 200 calories each!) and munch dry melba toast (25 calories) and sip orange juice. So far, so good. But my appetite, normally not very big in the morning, and diminished further by newspaper stories about train wrecks and kidnapped babies, is whipped up to fever pitch by that diet list.

I develop a terrific craving for corned beef hash with a fried egg on top (300 calories). As I proceed further down the calorie chart, I come to doughnuts (200 calories each). I haven't had a doughnut for months. I had forgotten all about doughnuts until I was reminded by the calorie chart. A vision of a fat, glazed doughnut pops into my head, and refuses to go away.

I spend the morning thinking about my lunch. Should I have a tomato and cottage cheese salad or a poached egg on dry toast? I do not normally think about lunchtime, but now I can't think about anything else. By ten o'clock I can stand it no longer, and I eat an apple (100 calories) in hopes it will dull my appetite and take my mind off a liverwurst and Swiss cheese sandwich on pumpernickel.

It does not. So I scan the diet list again to find something else that might satisfy me without adding weight, and I discover to my surprise that a banana is only 100 calories. I eat one, but this time, in looking over the calorie chart, I have set my taste buds screaming for a stuffed pepper (300 calories). At 11 o'clock I have three saltines (100 calories), and I want a clubhouse sandwich more than I have ever wanted anything.

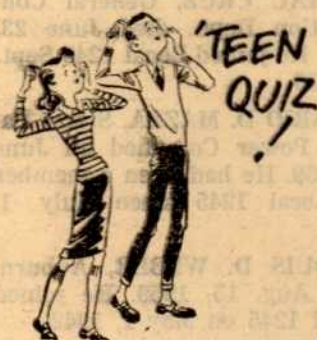
At lunch I eat a poached egg (76 calories) on rye toast (43 calories) and a glass of skim milk (89 calories).

It is now noon and, although I have not eaten one single

thing I really wanted, my caloric intake adds up to 642 units. I still have the afternoon to get through, and it is a very long afternoon indeed. I spend it consuming 460 calories of cottage cheese, celery stalks, carrots, grapefruit, apples, oranges, and diet crackers in a desperate attempt to get my mind off fried potatoes, chocolate eclairs, veal paprika and baked potatoes with sour cream and chives. I eat a spartan dinner of ground round (150 calories), one-half cup of string beans (26 calories), twelve slices of pickled beets (50 calories) and an orange (100 calories).

I go to bed to get away from the refrigerator, and try to brainwash myself into daydreaming about something besides food—a mink coat or a trip to Paris or William Holden. It's no use. I can't get my mind off meat loaf with mushroom sauce. I tiptoe downstairs and eat a couple of hardboiled eggs (200 calories) and six more saltines (200 calories).

I'm going off that diet tomorrow. I've simply got to get my mind off food and start losing some weight.



### DO YOU KNOW THAT—

About 2 3/4 million children in the United States depend on their bicycles for school transportation.

To lessen the hazards that exist during the coming school months, all of you who ride bikes should observe the following rules:

1. Ride your bike on the right side of the road, in single file.
2. Walk your bicycle across busy intersections.
3. Obey traffic laws and use proper arm signals when making a turn.
4. Always look carefully in both directions before entering an intersection or making a turn.
5. Participate in bicycle safety programs that are offered in schools.

A democratic union requires your attendance at meetings.

### REGISTER TO VOTE



By Clair M. Cook

Executive Director, Religion and Labor Foundation

The seriousness of the steel impasse has begun to make itself understood throughout the ranks of labor leadership, and is just beginning to come through to some of the better informed among public leaders. There is at last a rising uneasiness that this strike is different.

Why is it different? Because it is not an amicable strike, a friendly game in which the workers get a vacation, the companies get their inventory worked off, and the public gets a steel increase in the end—all foregone conclusions. Rather, this is the bitterest struggle in steel since the 1937 bitterness, with the companies glowering and showing their teeth. It is the spearhead of onslaught in the new collective bargaining warfare in which management's aim is to take back the rights of workers to have a voice in determining significant decisions affecting working conditions.

If the companies succeed, the next big effort—and it is slated in any case—will be that of the railroads, who are so vociferously proclaiming "featherbedding" even though man-hour production on railroading has been steadily rising. Wages are not the big issue; in the eyes of management, the question at stake is the right of management once more to make the kind of unilateral decisions in many areas which they did before the Wagner Act a quarter of a century ago. In a word, management is striking at the very heart of democracy in the workplace, the right of the worker to

a voice at the bargaining table in matters directly affecting work rules and conditions.

In the midst of this impasse the president of the National Council of Churches, Dr. Edwin T. Dahlberg, has sent a letter to 900 local councils of churches, denominational heads, and church departments of social education and action. In it he urges the churches to recognize their "Christian responsibility to become better informed" about the nation's economic life. But the main object of the letter is to suggest a prayer by the nation "for the men who sit at the bargaining table in the steel industry."

The prayer accompanying the letter suggested for public reading in church services, invokes God's "continuing care upon all who suffer for lack of employment and whose daily bread is insecure." It asks God's blessing "upon leaders of labor and management alike" and prays for "such an increase of goodwill and understanding, that the issues now unresolved may be speedily brought to a just conclusion in the interests of the public welfare."

With such a prayer everyone in the nation can agree. It is good to have the concern of Dr.

## Live a Little Longer Had a Checkup Lately?

By Dr. William A. Sawyer  
IAM Medical Consultant

(This column is copyrighted by The Machinist and is reprinted through the courtesy of the International Association of Machinists. Dr. Sawyer cannot answer individual correspondence.)

I am convinced that some of us might enjoy better health. This is possible either through prompt medical care, when the first symptoms appear, or through periodic check-ups, making sure that the body machinery is working all right.

There is a frequent dispute between doctors as to which is the best course—to wait until an ache or something unusual develops and then promptly see the doctor—or to make a practice of seeing him every year or so for a check-up, even though you are feeling alright.

Sometimes machinery will show faults or wear when examined, even though there are no signs of stress and strain as it operates. The same is true of the human body. Many people have hidden ailments that do not show themselves for a long time.

It is always better to discover weak parts or behavior in a machine before it actually breaks down. I suppose one of the best examples of what I mean is a periodic examination of the

eyes. Eye strain can be tolerated a long time before one is conscious of anything being wrong.

Human structure possesses enough resistance and strength, especially in the younger years, to go on without making known the strain. Ultimately of course symptoms appear.

What I am trying to get across is the idea that going to the doctor ahead of time—early enough to have some success with treatment—is by all odds the smart thing to do. Sugar in the urine, which may ultimately mean one has diabetes, can be present for some time before making itself known.

A lot of the doctoring that goes on over the drug store counter of even in some doctors' offices, is merely treating symptoms, not the disease. Taking something to relieve an ache or a pain is shortsighted medical care.

I remember so well an example of this in the medical department of a textile mill I visited many years ago. As I sat talking to the doctor about his work, employees would come to his door and ask for medicine for headaches, cramps, or some other symptom. Without getting out of his chair, he'd reach to his desk and hand out pills already packaged in envelopes, without even asking a single question or making a move to examine them.

This was not medical treatment of the best kind. Some were no doubt helped, but I'm sure some had a continuance of their symptoms, because no effort was made to find out what was causing the symptoms.

A good doctor is not satisfied just to relieve symptoms, important as that is. He is more interested in what causes them and will not give treatment to a patient until he discovers, as exactly as he can, what it is that needs treatment.

I get terribly disturbed by TV ads which recommend drugs for symptoms. I am sure that back of the aches and pains is real disease that needs more than a pain killer.



### AND SOCIAL SECURITY

It is a sad truth that most people become interested in their potential benefits from the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance only when retirement is suddenly thrust upon them. Many younger working people have no idea concerning possible payments to their family in case of death. It is amazing that so many people realize the provisions of a five-hundred-dollar life insurance policy, but are totally ignorant of their rights and obligations under an insurance system which may, upon their death, pay more than twenty thousand dollars to their family during the critical period in which children grow from childhood to mature high school graduates.

The primary purpose of the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors Insurance is to pay benefits to entitled beneficiaries. We cannot successfully perform our duty unless eligible beneficiaries are given correct and adequate information. The Bureau is constantly publishing reports in the newspapers, magazines, on radio programs and television, hoping to contact as wide an audience as possible. In addition, a variety of pamphlets containing

Dahlberg and the National Council of Churches for the cause of free collective bargaining. Let us, too, hope and pray that wisdom and righteousness will bring a just settlement.

information on all phases of the Social Security Act, is available upon request, free of charge. Representatives of the Bureau will speak to any group interested enough to request a speaker.

Every working person, and particularly the head of a household, should inquire as to benefits payable in the event of his or her death. They should also know what proofs are necessary to establish entitlement. It is much easier to gather such proofs NOW than to wait until one is suffering from the shock and bereavement attached to the loss of a loved one. Any interested person may obtain such information by contacting the nearest District Office of the Bureau of Old-Age and Survivor's Insurance.



## \$1000 AID TO SISTER LOCALS



Local 1245 Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley (right) presents a check for \$1000 to Harry Dove, Business Manager for System Council of IBEW Locals on the Public Service Co. of New Jersey properties. The check represented the voluntary contributions from Local 1245 members in our appeal for aid to the IBEW members who were on strike for 39 days against the New Jersey power company. Presentation was made during a visit to Local 1245 Business Office while Brother Dove was in San Francisco attending the AFL-CIO Convention.

## BARR RETIRES FROM SMUD



Local 1245 members employed by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District went all out in honoring Chester (Smiley) Barr at his retirement party on August 28th. Brother Barr at the time of his retirement was the Asst. General Foreman for the District. Smiley had been an IBEW member for 35 years and received his 35-year lapel pin and Local 1245 Retirement Scroll from R. D. McBraunehue, Advisory Council member from SMUD. We all wish Brother Barr the best of everything during his well earned retirement years.



# Moss Hits Government Secrecy

The American people are being robbed of their right to know, Congressman John E. Moss, Sacramento Democrat, told International Labor Press Association at its annual banquet.

"There is a steady trend toward closed-door government", Moss said, pointing to several cases in which government executives have insisted that they have the right to withhold information, even if, in some cases, it means violating the law.

In the course of the cold war Congress has found it necessary to grant more and more authority to the executive department, Moss said, but "there is no Divine Right beyond the reach of the American people".

Moss is chairman of a congressional subcommittee which recently reported 35 instances

of secrecy and concluded "the Administration seems to have adopted the attitude that a government which informs the people least is the best government." The group has often helped newsmen to try to get facts which properly belong to the public, sometimes successfully, sometimes not.

It took his committee 18 months to get the NLRB to admit that it could not properly keep certain facts on labor disputes a secret. And the group moved into action when the Immigration Dept. refused information requested by union officials on the importation of Japanese labor. The facts eventually were made available.

When, in approving aid to Laos under the Mutual Security Act, Congress wrote in three provisions which would provide



TONY BONILLAS, Los Banos, died in June, 1959. He had been a member of Local 1245 since March, 1943.

ISAAC CRUZ, General Construction Dept., died June 23, 1959. He joined Local 1245 Sept. 1, 1956.

MARIO D. MAZZA, Sierra Pacific Power Co., died on June 1, 1959. He had been a member of Local 1245 since July 1, 1957.

LOUIS D. WEBER, Auburn, died Aug. 15, 1959. He joined Local 1245 on May 1, 1942.

## Southern Firm in Anti-Union Label Campaign

A manufacturing concern in a southern "right-to-work" state is busy conducting a "hide-the-union-label" campaign.

A reputable social welfare agency mailed out thousands of pamphlets on its aims, and on it was the printers' 'bug.'

The Old Dominion Box Co., Charlotte, N. C., returned the pamphlet to the agency. The union label had been circled, and attached was a printed form charging:

"This is a union label. 'It is one of the union leaders' coercive tools used in their efforts to help bring about compulsory unionism.

"We believe every man should be free to choose whether or not he wants to be a member of the union.

"Therefore we object to your use of this discriminatory label.

"Tell your printer to omit the label on future jobs.

"Print it anywhere — but please do not use the label!

"We cannot with clear conscience do business with you or support your cause as long as you continue to use the label."

## Trade Compromise

The AFL-CIO is still for Reciprocal Trade. But its convention resolution this year placed new emphasis on the need for protection of American workers and industries from "drastic cutbacks or employment displacement . . . as a result of sudden influxes of competing products. It was a compromise resolution which President George Meany conceded probably would not entirely satisfy some unions.

# GOV. BROWN BLASTS THE NEW LABOR BILL

Calif. Governor Pat Brown charged the Eisenhower Administration and Congressional "extremists" with perverting labor reform legislation as a means to attack unions.

"It's time the full facts were told on how labor reform legislation was exploited to enact new economic weapons against organized labor," Brown asserted in a speech to the AFL-CIO Convention.

The Governor said that while he has "long supported" standards for the internal conduct of unions, "this year, legitimate objectives in the labor field were perverted. Extremists in Congress took over."

"The Hoffas must go," Brown contended. But so must those who have used labor reform unfairly to interfere with matters which should be left to free and private negotiations between labor and management."

He pointed specifically to a section in the new Landrum-Griffin Bill which forbids unions from picketing employers who sell non-union goods.

Brown said California unions have had this right for 30 years and it hasn't stopped business growth, as sponsors of the bill argued it did.

## Education A Must Labor Press Told

The nation's labor press must take a larger part in educating union members on the major issues of our times. AFL-CIO Pres. George Meany told the convention of the Intl. Labor Press Association in San Francisco.

Labor papers should give more space and attention to the "Washington problem" as a result of which hostile legislation was passed by Congress, and to the steel industry's cries about inflation, rather than devoting its space disproportionately to local news, he said.

To organize the unorganized is important," the federation president said, but "to educate our own members may be even more important" at a time when labor is heavily under attack and when too many union members think their whole duty is done "when they pay dues and accept the benefits of the new contracts and never go to a union meeting."

Fully conscious of their stupendous task, the labor editor delegates found in their workshops that the greatest obstacle to the development of an effective press is the attitude of unions themselves. Too many union leaders, they concluded, do

not yet recognize the labor press as a valuable right arm in solving the educational and organizational problems of their unions.

As a result, the labor papers, especially those of state and local councils, are often starved for circulation (on which the educational value depends) and for financial support (which makes readable, effective papers possible).

ILPA Pres. Peter E. Terzick warned that "vast and awesome changes are taking place" in technology and that the labor press must play its part in informing our people.

The skills and techniques of the editors of the labor press must grow, he declared, because "the greatest lack in the labor movement today is the lack of an overall system of communication — between international unions, within internationals and with the federation."

## DELEGATES BACK ARBITRATION OF JURISDICTION DISPUTES

The AFL-CIO took a major stride toward the solution of internal disputes by approving the principle of final and binding arbitration to settle such disputes.

The federation's third constitutional convention voted to direct the Executive Council to develop a detailed plan and procedures to be submitted to a special AFL-CIO convention for approval.

The convention acted on a resolution submitted by the council which contained the report of a special committee on union disputes created at the council's August meeting in Unity House, Pa.

The committee reported that after a study of the problems involved "there is merit in the creation of an arbitration board, consisting of prominent and well-qualified persons, from which would be selected a panel to hear and determine disputes arising in subject areas, with power of final and binding decision. . . ."

The committee stressed that such arbitration would be limited to the settlement of disputes only "and shall not include the determination of the work or trade jurisdiction of affiliates."



CONGRESSMAN MOSS

"The information is being paid for by the taxpayers, but it is refused to the taxpayers."

Patronize Union Shops