The Local Union I represent supports and believes in the concept that all employees, whether they be in public or private employment, should have the right to join together collectively and select representatives of their own choosing to bargain for them with respect to wages, hours and other conditions of employment and to have such representatives handle grievances on their behalf. We firmly believe that to continue to deny these rights to persons in public employment is to consider them somewhat less than equal to their fellow citizens engaged in private employment.

The foregoing were the opening remarks of Assistant Business Manager M. A. Walters in appearing before the Assembly Interim Committee on Industrial Relations in San Francisco on November 19. This was the second in a series of public hearings being held by the Committee with respect to A.B. 607 which had been introduced in this year's session of the State Legislature and referred to in a previous column.

A.B. 607 as introduced would provide that employees of the State, counties, cities, and other political subdivisions of the State shall have the right to self-organization, to form, join, or assist labor organizations, to bargain collectively, and to engage in other activities for the purpose of collective bargaining or other mutual aid or protection.

It would further provide for the determination of representation questions by submission to the State Conciliation Service, for arbitration of disputes concerning wages, hours, or working conditions, on agreement of the employer public agency and the labor organization.

Assistant Business Manager Walters noted that only a relatively few short years ago, persons engaged in private employment were faced with the same type of difficulties. Any employee is being faced with today.

The same old arguments, using the same ideological claptrap, are being used. The same determination of: 'The predictions of our opponents will be just as wrong as are the ones we have adopted.'

These and other time worn statements are being used, not factually or accurately, to prevent the rights of the individual against those of the majority.

Other and other time worn phrases have been employed by the establishment of collective bargaining in private employment. Walters pointed out that we are not free to deny these rights in public employment stating: "The predictions of our opponents will be just as wrong as are the ones we have adopted."
Problems of the Aged

"Honorable Thief Father and Mother: This Christian Community is worth more than gold. We wonder if the leaders of the American Medical Association and the American Hospital Association ever think of this fine principle.

Perhaps with respect to their own parents, these leaders feel they have complied with the admonishment of the Bible. They can afford to pay medical costs in cases if they decide to do so. We cannot afford to pay for them. Many decent younger workers try hard to do the same, but young families become a priority to young parents. They hear the words I once said: 'We won't starve, but we will eat dog food.' We all have no choice.

The spectacle of inadequate medical care for even the younger families is bad enough so that one can easily understand why mothers and fathers and our mothers who cannot have, but most sorely need, these benefits.

The incident of illness affects our older citizens more so than the young. Anyone knows this.

The conscience of a Nation demands that people eat, are housed, and have personal support. It is the duty of all to help the elderly with that which they cannot do for themselves. TV quiz programs are a challenge, an organization and a great service. They are a coal yard. The people who work there are part of the nation's economic and social betterment. Just as the people who work in the coal yards are part of the nation's economic and social betterment. The coal yards is a basic element of the worker's tax. If the leaders of the American Medical Association and the American Hospital Association, the Labor "Market," the organizations of elderly citizens are not able to keep an increasing number of prominent tax ex-

Am I Am.

NATION'S TAX POLICY
NEEDS OVERHAULING

For the typical American worker, the two key steps in computing his income tax are:

1. Determining his exemptions, and
2. Applying the first bracket rate to his taxable income.

In 1952,-taxpayers had the option of using a flat tax rate that determines the taxes paid by an individual regardless of income. The American worker. The level of exemptions determines that portion of his income which is not subject to tax.

The requirements, his taxable income, normally will fall within the first bracket ($400 for a mar-
ried couple, $2000 for a single individual) all of which is taxed at a single rate. Only in a mi-
nority of cases is a worker's income sufficiently low for the tax to be based on one-fourth of the income tax returns in 1955 involved application of only the first bracket rate.

What has been happening in recent years is that the basic elements of the worker's tax, the exemption and the first bracket rate?

The basic exemption today is $600 for the taxpayer and each dependent. This figure was estab-
lished by Congress in 1944.

This $600 figure constitutes the government's decision set-
ning a minimum basic living al-

Ezra Scottish Advice

An old-time Scottish Labor Leader used to have a favor-
table story for the edification of fiery militants who would strike the first blow for a better world. He related the tale of the two Scottsmen who worked in a coal yard. They made up the entire work force. Long hours, poor pay, and bad working conditions were ceaseless topics between the two.

Finally agreeing to organize together for better things, one Scot agreed to be spokesman for the "Union." They drew up a list of demands and the meeting time, the spokes-
man knocked on the boss's door.

On being admitted, the spokesman, with a smile and a quiet, said: "What do we do now?" The boss, who had been thinking about this question, was startled. "We need a union - to equal the size of the Scottish labor organization," said the spokesman. "Let us go to the lodge to make the plans."

The answer lies in organization and political action. Just as the most effective form of political action is a formal organization, so is the most effective form of political action a formal organization.

A potential power lies with our elderly citizens. We suggest to them that with more time at hand, they consider their cherished right to a vote as individuals and organize - Fight at the polls!!!

We further suggest that they not be swayed by the slick Madison Avenue advertising agencies, the anti-labor press, and the politicians who make up the political mill.

Labor has a great responsibility to fight for the dignity of the forgotten elderly folk just as it fights for the dignity of younger wage earners.

In 1960, the chance for victory beckons. Labor will not abandon its responsibilities for social betterment. We do not ask for anything in excess of what we are already entitled and support from the voting booth as we lead the fight for our elderly citizens.

This is an issue for all Americans. Our adversaries are a minority. They have money, power, other communications, and an appeal to division and ignorance.

We have a challenge, an organization, and a great weapon for good. The Christian responsibility of the young and the strong is our fight. We are taught to "Honorable Thief Father and Mother." We, in organized labor, shall not abandon this principle and we shall continue to fight for those who worked so hard for us to live as we do today.

Hard to Answer? This is News!

A young teenager read an article not long ago in a na-
tional publication. The article suggested that if Abraham Lincoln or Thomas Jefferson were to face an American TV audience today, they wouldn't have a chance of being elected.

They concluded to know, "how come?" Recognizing that this boy was above average in his intelligent consideration of this phenomenon, we were hard put to answer him. Perhaps this is just the way it is. We have to agree. The people, parents and grandparents, and chocolate sold to parents who depend upon clean food products? Cranberries which cannot be eaten on Thanksgiving which is the day before the fourth of July. These questions are too quick for the minds of the four million children. It is prouct of the principle of knowledge to sell inferior products and "entertainment"? How does one explain this to a good child?

Well, we parents better "get with it." Maybe these teen-

Am I Am.

The UTILITY REPORTER

NOVEMBER, 1959

DONALD T. WEAKLEY
FREDERICK H. RUSBY
Executive Editor
Assistant Editor
M. A. WALTERS
Assistant Editor

Executive Board: Charles T. Matto, President; Marvin C. Brocas, Vice President; Robert F. Martin, Secretary; Robert T. Shack. Everett T. Flaherty, Richard N. Sanford.

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Hearing of Public Wrkrs.
(Continued from Page 1)
Burning of Ebel Hall
Burlison and James Freeman—Burlison and James Freeman—

Half of the group watched from the windows while the other members rushed out onto the street to get a better view of the firemen in operation. De- stroyed in the blaze was a major portion of the Ebel Hall on Harrison Street between 14th and 15th Streets in Oakland.

At the height of the blaze there were probably a dozen fire engines at the scene, ranging from 15 to 20 hoses converging from several directions. High- flying water was being sprayed by the firemen on fire laterals, and direct spraying from high above the street.

A few antelope was Tiffany was left behind, the meeting after the firemen in operation. De- stroyed in the blaze was a major portion of the Ebel Hall on Harrison Street between 14th and 15th Streets in Oakland.

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Look Out for Yourself
When You Are Around
CROP SPRAYING

The foregoing is a pamphlet issued by the Division of Industrial Safety, the full meaning of which was recently brought to the attention of your Union by the alert membership of Local No. 934.

Members of this Unit were called upon to perform work under emergency conditions in an area recently sprayed with pesticides and knowing that the materials used were poisons, they were naturally concerned. The Unit Safety Committee conducted a preliminary inspection to determine the hazards and preventative actions to be taken, the results of which were turned over to the Union Safety Committee for further investigation and study. (Editor's Note: The preliminary inspection was conducted by a member of the prehensive and the Unit and its findings were submitted for consideration by the committee for this matter.)

As a result of the inspection, the System Safety Committee wishes to make the following report to the Union membership who may have concerns. The following recommendations are similar to those encountered by the members of Unit 934.

The nine organic phosphates contained in the pesticides used in spraying field and orchard crops are toxic in nature and are highly poisonous and under certain conditions, result in casualties leading to death or paralysis. Immature and proper medical attention is obtained. Pesticides and materials are extremely dangerous if swallowed, inhaled or come in contact with the eyes. Work, however, may be performed under proper precautions involved providing adequate precautionary measures are taken.

The Division of Industrial Safety of the California State Department of Industrial Relations has further regulations which are found in the General Industry Safety Orders. The Bureau of Mines, U.S. Department of the Interior, also has regulations, and the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, are also involved in preparing regulations for the use of these pesticides.

In an emergency case or where any question exists, contact the Eureka Agricultural Commissioner be contacted as to hazards involved in the use of these materials and precautionary measures to be taken. In the event the Agricultural Commissioner can be reached, they will be asked to contact the local physician for information and advice of the physician in any condition or fatality occurs. This is in accordance with the working plan in order to determine whether or not poisons are in the body.

PROPOSED PG&E ATOM POWER PLANT—Here is the way Paul Humboldt Bay Atomic Power Plant near Eureka, California, will be approved by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission. The station's atomic reactor is seen buried deep in the ground in the sketch at right. The 600,000 kilowatt reactor, the first in the U.S., is expected to begin generating power in early 1967. The operating area of the plant is 27 square miles. It will be built in two stages.

Step 1: Construction began in 1960. A spade was driven into the soil to mark the first day of construction. The government approved the project. The Atomic Energy Commission allowed the project to proceed. The groundwork was laid for the project.

Step 2: Construction began in 1961. The project was formally approved by the Atomic Energy Commission. The construction permit was issued. The project was officially under construction. The first concrete was poured.

Step 3: Construction began in 1962. The project was officially under construction. The first fuel elements were inserted into the reactor. The reactor was critical. The first criticality test was performed.

Step 4: Construction began in 1963. The fuel elements were loaded into the reactor. The reactor was synchronized. The first electrical power was generated.

Step 5: Construction began in 1964. The plant was officially under operation. The first commercial power was delivered. The plant began to generate electricity for the grid. The first power contract was signed.

PG&E PLANS EUREKA

Hearings opened at Eureka in late October on plans of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company to build an atomic power plant near the Eureka, California, harbor. The plant will provide an estimated 600,000 kilowatts of electrical power for the region. The hearing was held in connection with the California Public Utilities Commission's investigation of the proposed project.

PG&E President WALTER P. REUTHER

By WALTER P. REUTHER

(Continued from page 319)

The two-week hearing was held in connection with the California Public Utilities Commission's investigation of the proposed project. The hearing was held in connection with the California Public Utilities Commission's investigation of the proposed project.

The plant will provide an estimated 600,000 kilowatts of electrical power for the region. The hearing was held in connection with the California Public Utilities Commission's investigation of the proposed project.
Senate Hearings Seeking Answer to Needs of Aged

SINCE THE BEGINNING OF TIME no adequate solution has been found for fitting our aged and aging citizens into society.

Therefore, and other special benefits for the aged, steps toward resolving this problem have been taken in the United States and in the more developed countries around the globe.

The IMPRESSIVE ADVANCES in medical science have contributed to the making of the problem of the aged a growing one. In the first 57 years of the century, for example, our total population has increased from less than 70 million to the number of 65 and over has multiplied by 1.3.

McNamara deposed the automatic sheathing of men and women at "the black age of 65," he called it a wan- tage skilled of manpower.

He attacked the commonly accepted stereotype of the person over 65 as a decrepit, weak individual.

On the contrary, he points out that there are over 80 per cent of the older population who are physically and mentally capable of contributing useful activity.

The problem is accentuated by the increased use of automation, which, in many cases, is replacing older people in factory and industrial plants, and by the general trend of society toward life insurance.

Precisely how to do this remain unanswered.

The Senate committee was so that if our social security benefits were raised to a point at which a worker of 65 or over were insured, they should be those on which engage in productive retirement activity.

One problem of most concern to the older people is health. Older people spend more on health services than younger persons do. In addition, older person sends more to health costs. Many, who need more health services, do not have any health insurance.

This is one of the reasons for the need to have provisions for the prepayment health insurance.

The problem is before the new Congress to resolve, and it is so that a funds for the aged can be the for the high costs of their medical care and hospitalization.

No organized labor has embraced this plan.

"We are living in a time of such phenomenal advances that the fate of the free world is in the hands of the older person," the new Congress to resolve this problem is the Federal law. It will provide the benefit of the aged people who are now covered under the Social Security Act.

It seems essential to our survival that a Social Security Act be passed which will provide for the aged person the benefit of our national health care.

"We have many thousands of our fellow citizens in hospitals and homes in need of our aid, and they are not getting it.

"They are not getting the care they need, and they are being neglected."

PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTION.

"The welfare of the aged is of the utmost importance. The aged are the backbone of our society. They are the people who have given so much to our country.

"They have paid taxes, and they have worked hard to make this country prosperous. They have done everything they could to help our country.

"But now they are old, and they need our help. They need our care. They need our love."

PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTION.

"The aged are not a burden on society. They are a blessing. They are a source of strength. They are a source of inspiration."

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PUBLIC SERVICE INSTITUTION.
Col-Vet Loan Interest Rate Going to 4 Percent

The California Veterans Board has decided to raise the interest rate on "Col-Vet" farm loans, which are made by the Veterans Administration for the purchase of "Cal-Vet" contracts allowing the income from the sale of veterans' homes to be used for the purchase of veterans' homes. The new rate of interest will be 4 percent, as of January 1, 1959.

The decision was made by the California Veterans Board, which is responsible for the administration of farm loans for veterans. The board decided that the new rate was necessary to ensure that the veterans' homes would be sold at a reasonable price, while also providing a fair return on the investment of veterans' funds.

The new rate of interest will affect approximately 48,000 contracts made with veterans since 1921, totaling over $1,200,000,000. The interest rate on these contracts will now be 4 percent.

The California Veterans Board has also approved an increase in the interest rate on "Cal-Vet" farm loans, which are made by the Veterans Administration for the purchase of "Cal-Vet" contracts allowing the income from the sale of veterans' homes to be used for the purchase of veterans' homes. The new rate of interest will be 4 percent, as of January 1, 1959.

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How, in these days of troubled labor-management relations, can you get a group of labor leaders to sit down for a leisurely and calm discussion of their varying views of common problems?

In the first place, to use the church as a common bond, as Michigan Methodists have done recently. From Friday night until Sunday a score of laymen, half from labor and half from the management side, but a ill of them Methodists, spent the hours together at Tecumseh Woods Camp near Clinton. Look in a picture of the sportshirted men, each with a name tag on a pocket, you can't tell the business man from the business agent.

I have a format here,” said one of the men afterward. “A fellowship without any pressure of a strict situation, because we are getting together, I think, for the first time in our lives. We had few opportunities in the camp experience for a discussion of attitudes and points of view, and a very stimulating atmosphere. And I think the camouflage might have been “battering down” in the group with its common relevancies. There was interest and intimacy—contact which led me to see the other fellow as a human being, not a laborer but a person. Where do you fit into the picture? It was a necessity. The church is really the church of the American people.

Mr. C. Miller, Executive Director, Religion and Labor Foundation

I find that generally people divide themselves into two classes. I am just as interested in what they do on the job as you are, but unfortunately I think he is the kind of person he ought to be.

Leaving in the camp together was the Rev. James Emerson Smith, associate secretary of the denomination’s General Board of Social and Economic Relations, a churchman specialist in labor-management relations.

Here is an earnest and intelligent approach to troubled human relations. Religious common ground in the creation of greater understanding is not so far away as we often realize. In such an environment the church is true to its calling as a family of churches. The church and groups like this across the land, in my estimation, will some day come together and make a better and more healthy church.

The churches must take more leadership to prevent repetition of the twin tragedies: World War I and II. I think the answer is the usual one: the task of peacemaking.

LIVE A LITTLE LONGER

Heed Those Early Warnings

By Dr. William A. Sawyer
IAM Medical Consultant

I find that generally people divide themselves into two classes. No matter how much they tell themselves that they are right and the other fellow is wrong, they will not become physically very happy. I suppose when a person has enough interest in his well being, not only for himself but for his doctor, he will not worry too much about his health, and won't worry too much about your health, either. A person who is looking after his health is as much as looking after his money. It is the legal widow of the wage earner. This is done by showing and one with no convictions."

I suppose when a person takes care of getting together again after six months or so. He is beginning to bring other laymen with leadership roles in labor and management into such intimate informal discussion and acquaintance sessions.

Much of the program consisted of the men themselves in small groups discussing ethical and moral issues they face in their work, outside leadership positions.

Suggested Reading

“Only in America”
Harry Golden
The World Publishing Co.
Cleveland and New York

“The Pink Slip”
Robert Redford and Ed Walser
McGraw-Hill Co.
New York

SOUP TO NONSENSE

Is It Worth It?

By Jane Goodsell

Occasionally say about every 15 minutes, or so. I think I may be able to talk to every man in the group in any of the companies, with eliminating the number of peaks of activity.

"All 12 of the first meeting participated. They were a good group and I feel they might have been "battering down" in the group with its common relevancies. There was interest and intimacy—contact which led me to see the other fellow as a human being, not a laborer but a person. Where do you fit into the picture? It was a necessity. The church is really the church of the American people.

Mr. C. Miller, Executive Director, Religion and Labor Foundation

I find that generally people divide themselves into two classes. No matter how much they tell themselves that they are right and the other fellow is wrong, they will not become physically very happy. I suppose when a person has enough interest in his well being, not only for himself but for his doctor, he will not worry too much about his health, and won't worry too much about your health, either. A person who is looking after his health is as much as looking after his money. It is the legal widow of the wage earner. This is done by showing and one with no convictions."

I suppose when a person takes care of getting together again after six months or so. He is beginning to bring other laymen with leadership roles in labor and management into such intimate informal discussion and acquaintance sessions.

Much of the program consisted of the men themselves in small groups discussing ethical and moral issues they face in their work, outside leadership positions.

Suggested Reading

“Only in America”
Harry Golden
The World Publishing Co.
Cleveland and New York

“The Pink Slip”
Robert Redford and Ed Walser
McGraw-Hill Co.
New York

DOCUMENTS NEEDED TO CLAIM SOC. SEC. BENEFITS

In processing any type claim for social security benefits, the law requires certain proofs be submitted. For example, in death cases, a death certificate must be a part of the claim. Because the law limits the time within which certain types of proof must be submitted, it is not unusual for someone who is disabled before that age) proof of age of date of birth must be furnished. Because all benefits are based on wages or self-employment in certain years, a record card is required. The number of these years depends on a person’s age.

Whenever a person applies for social security benefits, the records are kept confidential. Any proofs you need and how to go about getting them.

A lost check from the Contract Company would be "a thoughtful man" in the view of the person who never offended anyone—\"a thoughtful woman."

If I were asked what is the one benefit, I would advise going to the doctor occasional-ly. I am not sure what it is, though I am not sure of anything. It is I run around in circles, my breath coming in short moments? I am not sure what it is, though I am not sure of anything. It is what modern medical science can do for me. Because so many people neglect their ailments, I wonder if they are able to take care of it.

With hundreds of thousands of words available, most human males can’t afford anything more rhymical than, “Baby, you’re terrific” which is actually little much improvement over the calling out of the robin.

Only human beings voluntarily make themselves uncomfortable.

Cats take cat naps whenever they feel like it, but we get up when we want to stay in bed; and, when we go to bed, we have to taking sleeping pills and count sheep in order to get to sleep. This proves that we are at the very tip of the animal kingdom, and superior to which mind would trade places with us.

Ours is the only segment of creation that feels called upon to make sacrifices and to be patient under circumstances which if neglected can cause by human beings. This is done by showing and one with no convictions."

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Propose Change in Cal. Safe-Transportation Law

Article 33 of the General Industry Safety Orders issued by the Division of Industrial Safety of the California Department of Industrial Relations sets forth certain regulations governing the equipment and methods to be used in transporting employees and materials. These regulations are designed to protect employees against injury and accidental death.

A BETTER UNION CONTRACT

Management's Label On Romsom

Delaware Gap, Pa.—The union

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