

# Another man dies, more hurt on job

Another fatality and a rash of serious injuries continue to plague the system.

Ewell Anderson, a Lineman in Stockton Division, was killed while using a hot stick to tie a 12 kv conductor to an insulator.

The relocation job in Gustine, California involved a new pole with an alley arm for the energized 12 kv conductor on the top level, de-energized and grounded 12 kv on the second level and a metal brace supporting the alley arm in between the two levels. Anderson was standing on a diving board with the bare metal brace on one hip and the unprotected grounded conductor on the other. On the other side of the brace, standing on the same diving board, was Sal Martin, Subforeman of the crew, who had

just secured his end of the tie wire.

Anderson used his hot stick to grab the tail end of the tie wire but the metal "hand" of the stick with the tail end in it, contacted the metal brace. 12 kv in a rolling red ball travelled down the brace to his hip and through it to the grounded conductor. Sal was able to use his hot stick to pull the tail away from the brace, tried to smother Anderson's burning clothes and apply mouth to mouth resuscitation—but to no avail. One of the doctors on the scene pronounced Anderson dead.

Further investigation by Business Representative Henry B. Lucas into the burn in Tracy (reported in the last issue) indicates that Troubleman Robert Hart was attempting to replace a 120 volt

secondary bus wire in a transformer's secondary bushing connection at the time of the accident.

Hart had strapped off underneath the transformer, and was reaching up with both hands to loosen the secondary connection and put the bus back in when the little finger of his right hand contacted the 12,000 volt primary bus wire above. The current passed through his right hand, arm and shoulder, down and out his left hand into the transformer bushing. He somehow managed to break contact and lost consciousness.

A customer happened to notice him slumped in his safety belt up on the pole and was about to phone

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**Central Area Executive Board Member Jimmy Lydon tests for a gas leak in the Trestle Glen area of Oakland. Jimmy's wage rate as a Light Crew Foreman is one of 27 different job classifications paid at the Journeyman Lineman rate on the PG&E properties. That is one reason why Local 1245's negotiators place such emphasis on trends in the so-called Line rate and attempts by some employers around the country to try to spin off these other journeyman classifications.**

## YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

### Solons' tax bikes Cut your wages

By Ronald T. Weakley

Many members of Local 1245 are enjoying union-won vacations and wage raises at the present time. I suspect, however, that it is a rare member who feels that our vacations are long enough or that our raises are big enough. This attitude causes me to plan ways and means to gain more improvements, despite the lack of participation at our union meetings where such plans should originate.

One of the ways our people get jolted out of the apathy and complacency which goes with past successes on the collective bargaining front, is to get clobbered by the politicians on the tax front.

We negotiate improvements and the lawmakers hack away at them through a process called legislation. Much of the recent legisla-

(Continued on page two)

### Member saves man In burning house

Redwood City

"I took another breath of air and dashed back into the smoke-filled room and found a man on a burning bed."

This was Walter Morris' second trip into the fiery building near the Redwood City office. After the first trip—when he opened a side door of the frame structure and met hot smoke in his lungs—he had asked the PG&E Clerical girl to call the fire department; they were on their way.

Morris has a bad back and was "able only to remove him from the burning bed before needing more air."

"I again went outside for air and before I could go back the fire department arrived," Walt relates.

Morris, for the third time, entered the burning building and showed the firemen where the badly burnt man was.

Discovery of the blaze came as Morris, who attends Local 1245's Belmont Unit meeting, was preparing to leave the Redwood City office. Some of the Clerical employees had smelled smoke and he investigated the cars in the parking lot and the incinerators in the surrounding area before pulling open the side door of the two story structure.

The burned man was taken by ambulance to hospital where he was treated and is now alive and well—thanks to Walter G. Morris.

 **utility reporter**  
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## Operators win better Training in steam plants

Steam negotiations have resulted in a long-sought objective of Local 1245: an intensified on-the-job training program for Operators,

### Bieger busy hero

Bakersfield

"Mike" Bieger was on his way home when he came upon the three car accident at Chester Avenue near 36th Street. An occupant of the "death seat" in one of the cars, blood streaming from his head, was Jack C. West, 37, of 117 Plymouth Drive, Oildale.

Without hesitation, Bieger, a member of Local 1245, took off his T-shirt and used it to apply pressure to the man's wounds. Later, a doctor's report said that action to curb the bleeding "contributed largely to saving the man's life."

Lawrence M. Bieger, 22, then a Groundman, now an Apprentice Lineman for PG&E—has been awarded the Company's Britton Award for his heroism. He had only been employed two months at the time of the incident, but his knowledge of first aid gained from Company courses and his experience with his crew two days before in saving the life of Larry Plummer stood him in good stead. California Highway Patrolman R. Teeeters reported Bieger's act to Company officials.

Business Manager Ronald Weakley reports.

Other results of the hard bargaining which took place between March and July of this year were:

- A \$10.50 a week increase for Turbine Tenders at Avon, Martinez and Oleum steam plants through their reclassification to Assistant Control Operator. At the Potrero employees' request, Company will also train and reclassify the Turbine Tenders in that San Francisco plant, on the same basis.

- Boiler Feed Pumpmen will be reclassified to Senior Auxiliary Operator realizing a \$7.85 a week increase.

- Automatic progression for employees who often took 14 years to promote through such classifications as Shift Helper, Oiler, Condenserman, Low Pressure Fireman, Water Softener Operator, to High Pressure Fireman. By reclassifying

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Please send any correction of name, address or zip code  
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# Heart and back damage — where does Workmen's Compensation come in?

Following is the third in a series of articles on Workmen's Compensation Law by Michael C. Tobriner, a member of the State Bar of California and one of the attorneys for the Local Union. These articles are intended to be general in nature; members are cautioned to consult an attorney if they have specific problems.

Serious disability can develop from minor but repeated stress. This fact of medical life the intelligent layman readily accepts; yet only in the relatively recent past has workmen's compensation coverage been fully extended to these "repetitive trauma" disabilities. This expanded coverage — compelled by powerful, convincing medical testimony presented at compensation hearings—has made available the full range of compensation benefits to large numbers of previously unprotected working people.

Repetitive traumas, however, present complex medical and legal problems. This article attempts to describe some of those problems and to indicate when and to what extent a continuous trauma injury is compensable. Since back and heart disabilities are the most common as well as the most serious of all the continuous trauma injuries, our discussion will be devoted mostly to them.

Perhaps the best point to start is with the man who has what is commonly called a "chronic bad back". On various occasions, during a period of years, this man's back becomes symptomatic; that is, he has pains, or weakness, or limited motion. On some of these occasions, the symptoms are brought on by minor trauma—he lifts a heavy object too suddenly, or he falls and twists his back. These occasions sometimes disable him for a day or two, but never for very long, and he is always able to return to work. As the years go by, however, his back becomes weaker, and, finally, one of his repeated traumas, piled on top of all the previous ones, triggers a collapse of his back which leaves him permanently partially disabled. What are his compensa-

tion rights?

As the alert reader will guess, this is the simplest of the continuous trauma situations. Assuming that all of the stress on this man's back is caused by his work, his disability is fully compensable, even though his final trauma, without the cumulative effect of the prior traumas, would not of itself have disabled him.

Now take a second situation, similar but not identical to the first. This is the man whose work strains his back over a period of time without his fully realizing it. He's never disabled, never has an accident—no sudden lifting strain, no fall, no twist—and only feels a little soreness or a few minor twinges once in a while. His job, however, requires constant heavy work, and over the years his back slowly weakens. Finally, he does suffer a traumatic back injury which, when it combines with prior stresses, leaves him permanently disabled. Even though the final trauma alone is not enough to cause disability, and even though the prior stresses were themselves never noticeable and never disabling, still the disability in its entirety is compensable, assuming all the strains are work-caused.

The last and most dramatic of our examples is the back which gives out entirely without noticeable trauma. Here the stress and strain of many years culminates in disability without any sudden final accident. Even though the disabled worker never was aware of the growing cumulative stress on his back, his disability, assuming the cumulative stress was all work-caused, is fully compensable. In the language of the California Supreme Court, "The fact that a single but slight work strain may

not be disabling does not destroy its causative effect, if in combination with other such strains, it produces a subsequent disability. The single strand, entwined with others, makes up the rope of causation."

The court's expressive phrases, however, as well as all our examples so far, involve disabilities where the cumulative stress is entirely work-produced. We need to consider now the two situations in which cumulative back injuries are caused in part by non-industrial factors. The first situation involves non-industrial injury, the second non-industrial disease.

Where non-industrial injury and industrial injury combine to produce disability, the rule is simple. In such a situation, unless the prior non-industrial condition is disabling, the disability resulting from the combination of the two conditions is compensable in full. Thus, where a back weakened by a jolt in an auto collision later becomes disabled from a lifting injury on the job, the disability is fully compensable, as long as the condition caused by the jolt in the auto did not itself produce disability at the time it occurred. Suppose, however, that the auto jolt did cause disability, and that the subsequent lifting incident made that pre-existing disability worse. In that case, the total disability resulting from the two injuries would not be fully compensable, and only that percent of the disability attributable to the later on-the-job incident would qualify for compensation. The process of attributing a certain percentage of a disability to a pre-existing non-industrial condition is called "apportionment".

Apportionment also comes into play where industrial injury combines with non-industrial disease. Backs can be harmed by illness or sickness as well as injury; quite frequently, a diseased but functioning back is rendered disabled by an on-the-job trauma. In such a situation, the basic rule is simple: only that part of the disability due to the trauma, and not that part resulting from the disease, is compensable. For example, suppose a worker is suffering from a disease which causes him 10% loss of the use of his back. Suppose also that this disease is "degenerative"; that is, it gets slowly worse as the worker ages. Then, the worker sustains an on-the-job traumatic injury, which leaves him 50% disabled. Medical opinion, however, attributes 10% of the disability to the effects of the pre-existing disease

at the time the trauma occurred, 5% of the disability to the normal and natural progress of the disease from the time of injury to the time of rating, and 35% of the disability qualifies for workmen's compensation coverage.

This discussion of apportionment completes — at least for the moment — our consideration of back injuries; we now turn briefly to the problem of heart disease. As with back conditions, the basic rules of workmen's compensation in heart cases are simple. First, disability resulting from long-continued stress and strain on the heart — even where that stress and strain remains for years asymptomatic and unnoticed—is fully compensable. Second, where heart disability results both from pre-existing non-industrial injury or disease and from subsequent industrial trauma, only the industrially-caused proportion of the disability is compensable.

These rules are simple to state but hard to apply. In fact, for many years the Workmen's Compensation Appeals Board virtually refused to recognize that heart disability could be related to work conditions. Now, as the result of sophisticated and convincing medical testimony, the Board will grant coverage in at least four typical kinds of heart cases: (1) heart disability brought on by sudden exertion or unaccustomed overwork; (2) heart disability caused by contusion of the heart — a blow or bruise to the heart region; (3) heart disability caused by the cumulative stress and strain of work over a long period of time; and (4) heart disability brought on by emotional stress.

In all of these situations medical opinion is almost always divided on the question of industrial causation. Perhaps the most difficult problem in any heart case is the question of the presence of pre-existing degenerative arteriosclerosis. Where such a disease is present, work conditions may play a very small part in bringing on disability. Another recurrent problem is the philosophical split in medical opinion on the question of the role emotional stress can play in heart disease. Some doctors believe such stress is the most important single factor in producing heart disease; others hold that it can play no role at all.

These comments complete our discussion of heart and back conditions; the next articles in our series will consider the various types of benefits and indemnities available under the workmen's compensation system.

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Charles J. Tumulty

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SAN FRANCISCO  
Willett J. Brown  
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Paul F. Christensen  
Harold L. Cox

# Keyserling hits national tax spending policies

More and worse riots are in the offing throughout the nation so long as we fail to tackle the war on poverty with the same determination to win it that we tackled World War II.

This was the flat forecast delivered to trade unionists participating in the State AFL-CIO's week-long Summer School on the University of California campus at Berkeley in August by Leon Keyserling, who served as President Truman's chief economic advisor.

In a sharply critical analysis of the nation's current domestic policies, Keyserling denounced the President's Council of Economic Advisors for hewing to the view that "the unemployment level is dangerously low" and rapped the Administration itself for failing to require the Federal Reserve Board to reinstitute the low interest rate policy initiated by Franklin D. Roosevelt in the 1930's, a policy abandoned early in the Eisenhower Administration.

Citing FDR's policy of abundant money at low cost as "the greatest economic reform of the New Deal," he pointed out that the current high interest policy clips the average home buyer for \$8,000 more than necessary in interest costs.

Moreover, he said, it balks the nation from meeting its low and middle income housing needs and requires the nation's taxpayers to cough up \$5 to \$6 billion just to pay the interest on the national debt.

This means that more than half of the \$12 billion needed annually for an effective war on poverty is "squandered" on the nation's "avaricious money lenders" despite the fact, he observed, that the real initiative in the use of capital "is not on the part of he who lends money but he who spends it."

The nation's policy makers, Keyserling said, seem to be cemented to the view that "the unemployed should serve as insurance against inflation" for the rest of the nation.

This attitude, he declared, is

Business Manager Ron Weakley was a panel member in the discussion of "Taxes and the Worker's Pocketbook"—one of the Cal-Fed summer school sessions, while Business Representative Lee Thomas was enrolled in all the AFL-CIO sessions at the University of California, Berkeley.

## Added taxes faced by a family of four

	\$5,000	\$7,500	\$10,000	\$12,500	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$25,000	\$50,000
Sales Tax	\$23	\$32	\$39	\$45	\$51	\$64	\$75	\$107
Personal Income Tax	—	—6	25	65	107	217	353	1,153
Cigarette Tax*	26	26	26	26	26	26	26	26
Distilled Spirits	1	1	2	3	4	4	5	6
Total State Taxes	\$50	\$53	\$92	\$139	\$188	\$311	\$459	\$1,292
Percent of Income	1.0%	0.7%	0.9%	1.1%	1.3%	1.6%	1.8%	2.6%
Change in Fed. Tax	-3	-4	-11	-20	-34	-68	-117	-563
Net Effect after Federal Tax	\$47	\$49	\$81	\$119	\$154	\$243	\$342	\$729
Percent of Income	0.9%	0.7%	0.8%	1.0%	1.0%	1.2%	1.4%	1.5%

**NOTE:** The above computations reflect the full year effects of the tax changes, and the resulting offsets in Federal income tax liability. They assume that the taxpayer itemizes deductions on both the federal and state returns.

\*Includes 3c tax for local governments. Some 38 charter cities now levy cigarette taxes varying from 2c to 4c per pack.

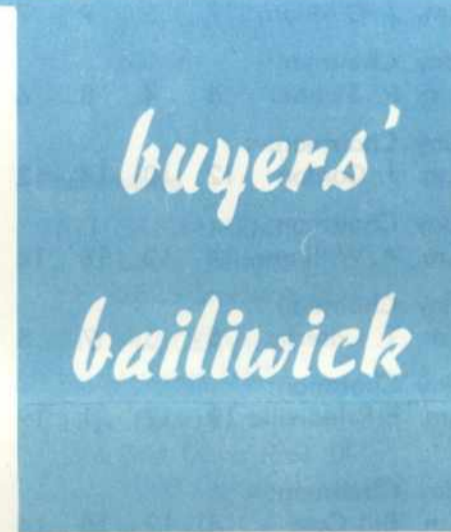
"shocking and appalling," particularly since "60 percent of all the poverty in the United States is attributable to the volume of unemployment."

The other 40 percent is comprised of those who are not or should not be in the labor force such as the elderly, the crippled, the disabled, and women with children, he explained.

Pointing to the fact that slum housing conditions and the lack of educational and job opportunities as well as racial discrimination sow the seeds for riots and unrest, Keyserling said the nation must wake up to the cost of having five to 10 million people remain idle when they could be put to work building things the nation needs.

The existing poverty program, he said, boils down to just "measly demonstration projects that create unfulfilled promises to the poor that are a crime to our nation and an incitement to riot."

What is needed, he said, is a Federal Guaranteed Employment Program funded to \$10 to \$12 bil-



lion a year—less than half the cost of the Vietnam War—that is directed toward meeting the nation's domestic needs in the fields of health, education, housing, transportation, slum clearance, and air and water pollution, while creating jobs for the 5 to 10 million people now enmeshed in poverty.

Realistically, he said, we must recognize that we're going to be committed to a heavy defense budget for the foreseeable future but this is no excuse for neglecting the nation's acute domestic needs.

He pointed out that the average annual growth in the nation's gross national product is more than adequate to finance such a program now without taking "anything away from anybody" or cutting existing programs.

Deploing the present "beggarly payments" made to social security recipients, Keyserling said that the Guaranteed Employment Program should be supplemented by a Guaranteed Annual Income Program for the 40 percent of the poverty-ridden who are not and should not be in the labor force. The funding for this, he indicated, was included in the \$10 to \$12 billion figure initially cited.

This could provide "a decent guaranteed annual income for the nation's needy, he said, instead of the present "grab bag of demeaning welfare programs."

Asserting that he has always "preached the doctrine of watering the economic tree at the bottom instead of the top," Keyserling deplored the fact that the last 10 years have witnessed "the longest redistribution of income toward the wealthy" in the nation's history and noted that:

**"This is the first major war not seized (by the government) as an opportunity for improving income distribution.**

"Instead," he charged, "the war is increasingly being made an excuse for anti-progressive tax policies. This is reflected in the fact that families with an income below \$5,000 are now paying 35 percent of their income in taxes in one form or another.

Keyserling called on the labor movement, the civil rights movement and the liberal intellectual community to push vigorously for programs to meet the nation's social domestic needs.

Noting that the more affluent have moved to the suburbs leaving most of the complex problems of slum clearance, mass transportation, air and water pollution, fire and police protection, etc. to the impoverished and less well-to-do in the core cities, Keyserling observed:

"We are becoming two Americas." But, he warned:

**"You can move out of the city but you can't move out of America. And those who have attempted to move out of America had better get back in."**

from the Calif. AFL-CIO News



## the utility reporter

Telephone (415) TW 3-2141



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# Our Local's 71 Units schedule

Members' spouses who are concerned their better-halves are always out to a Union meeting may rest assured when they see this Unit Meeting schedule for the remainder of the year. Then, again, they may not, because the Units are set up so Members are within a reasonable driving distance and you don't have to attend every meeting in your Division. So, wives, if hubby seems to be out at a Unit Meeting every night of the week just think that he likes to drive a lot. Sorry men, but now you can at least explain the scheduled meetings—except how do you get back from Sandpoint, Idaho so fast?

## 1967 — LOCAL 1245, I.B.E.W. UNIT MEETINGS — 1967

San Joaquin		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
1111	FRESNO Progressive Home Club 2630 E. Weldon	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: Ben Smallwood	13	11	15	13
1102	BAKERSFIELD CLERICAL Hacienda Motel	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: S. Clement	19	17	21	19
1112	BAKERSFIELD Plasterers' Local 26 Bernard Street	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: P. Harris	7	5	9	7
1113	MADERA Lee's Motel 17126 Hwy. 99	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. O'Meara	7	5	9	7
1114	TAFT Power Club	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: R. Skinner	6	4	8	6
1115	DINUBA Memorial Building	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. Gordon	12	10	14	12
1116	CORCORAN—Club Room 901 Chittonden	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: A. Williams	14	12	16	14
1117	WASCO Power Club	Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Chairman: T. Caterlin	5	3	7	5
1118	CRANE VALLEY Power House #2 Office	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: E. Prindiville	19	17	21	19
1121	COALINGA Cambridge Inn 100 Cambridge Ave.	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: Bill Cain	14	12	16	14
1123	MERCED—J's Coffee Shop Childs Ave. Hwy. 99	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: E. Benson	5	3	7	5
1124	LOS BANOS Firemen's Hall	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: Dan Iacopi	6	4	8	6
Coast Valleys		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
1211	SALINAS American Legion Hall 14 W. Laurel Dr.	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: W. Mitchell	5	3	7	5
1214	WATSONVILLE-MOSS LANDING American Legion Hall Center Street Watsonville	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: C. J. Keehn	7	5	9	7
1217	PASO ROBLES Paso Robles Inn 1103 Spring	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: G. W. Greer	12	10	14	12
1215	SAN LUIS OBISPO Veterans' Memorial Grand Avenue	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: W. J. Graves	13	11	15	13
1216	SANTA MARIA Veterans' Memorial Bldg. Pine and Tunnel Sts.	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: R. McNeese	14	12	16	14
Pipe Line		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
1312	NEEDLES Needles Lions Club River and Front Sts.	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: Jim Soden	12	10	14	12
1311	BARSTOW Conference Room Barstow Fire Hall 209 N. First Street	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. Burnett	13	11	15	13

## 1967 — LOCAL 1245, I.B.E.W. UNIT MEETINGS — 1967

San Jose		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
1501	SAN JOSE CLERICAL Santa Clara County Blind Center 101 N. Bascom	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: S. Romera	7	5	2	7
1511	SAN JOSE Santa Clara County Blind Center 101 N. Bascom	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: W. Schroeder	6	4	1	6
1512	BELMONT Good Shepherd Hall 1336 - 5th Avenue	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: W. Harrigan	13	11	8	13
1513	SANTA CRUZ Laborers' Temple 2960 Soquel Avenue	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: G. J. Santos	19	17	21	19
East Bay		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
2301	EAST BAY AREA CLERICAL Hotel Claremont Oakland Rm. (Mezz.) Ashby Ave. (Hwy. 24) Off Claremont Ave. Berkeley	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: L. Butler	12	10	14	12
2311	OAKLAND Porter Hall 1918 Grove Street	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: James Lydon	5	3	7	5
2314	HAYWARD Southern Alameda Co. Labor Temple 1050 Mattox Road	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: E. Paganini	12	10	14	12
2316	CONCORD I.B.E.W. Hall Pacheco	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: H. Halbach	6	4	1	6
San Francisco		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
2401	SAN FRANCISCO CLERICAL Sheraton-Palace Hotel Market & New Montgomery Streets	Wednesday 5:30 p.m.	Chairman: M. Escobosa	13	11	8	13
2412	S. F. GAS-STEAM War Memorial Center 6655 Mission St. Daly City	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: A. Zammit	5	3	7	5
Stockton		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.		
2513	JACKSON Carpenters' Hall Sutter Creek ½ Mi. So. Hwy. 49	Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Chairman: M. Grigalua	5	3	7	5
2512	ANGELS CAMP Veterans' Bldg. Main Street	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. R. Miller	6	4	8	6
2511	STOCKTON Labor Center—Hall B 2626 N. Calif. St.	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: V. Gogorno	7	5	9	7
2517	SONORA I.O.O.F. Hall	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: M. Phelam	12	10	14	12
2515	MODESTO Labor Temple 604 - 10th Street	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: D. Houx	13	11	15	13
2516	LODI Veterans' Hall 351 S. Central	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: L. Thomson	14	12	16	14
2514	TRACY Eagles' Hall East Hwy. 50	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: W. Peitz	19	17	21	19

# meetings for rest of 1967

## 1967 — LOCAL 1245, I.B.E.W. UNIT MEETINGS — 1967

Pacific Gas Transmission		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3021 SANDPOINT	Wednesday Chairman: Travelers Motel 7:30 p.m. W. Miller	6	4	8	6
3022 ROSALIA	Thursday Chairman: Longhorn Cafe 7:00 p.m. D. Noland	7	5	9	7
3023 TOUCHET	Wednesday Chairman: Fire Station 7:00 p.m. J. C. Hein	6	4	8	6
3024 REDMOND	Tuesday Chairman: L-Rancho Motel 7:00 p.m. O. Walters	5	3	7	5
3025 KLAMATH FALLS	Monday Chairman: Labor Temple—Hall A 220 Main Street 7:00 p.m. F. Decker	**4	2	6	4

\*\*To be rescheduled due to Holiday

Humboldt		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3111 EUREKA	Wednesday Chairman: Veterans' Memorial Bldg. 10th & "H" St. 7:30 p.m. E. R. Yates	6	4	8	6
3112 GARBERVILLE-WEOTT	Tuesday Chairman: Fire Hall 7:30 p.m. A. Lindsley	5	3	7	5

Shasta		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3212 REDDING	Tuesday Chairman: Retail Clerks' Bldg. Locust & Garden Sts. 7:30 p.m. J. Watkins	19	17	21	19
3216 TRINITY	Tuesday Chairman: The Gables Weaverville 7:30 p.m. A. L. Wells	12	10	14	12
3213 BURNEY	Thursday Chairman: Veterans' Memorial Hall Highway 299 7:30 p.m. Joe Means	14	12	16	14

De Sabla		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3413 FEATHER RIVER	Tuesday Chairman: Injun Jim School 7:00 p.m. M. Burns Jr.	5	3	7	5
3411 CHICO	Wednesday Chairman: Veterans' Memorial Bldg. Washington & Esplanade 7:30 p.m. P. Hanson	6	4	8	6
3417 PARADISE	Thursday Chairman: Veterans' Memorial Bldg. Skyway 7:30 p.m. E. Harte	7	5	9	7
3412 QUINCY	Tuesday Chairman: Quincy High School Cafeteria Hwy. 70 7:30 p.m. O. Pierson	12	10	14	12

Drum		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3511 AUBURN	Tuesday Chairman: Foothills Motel Fern Room Interstate 80 Auburn 7:30 p.m. O. Bohannon	5	3	7	5
3513 GRASS VALLEY	Wednesday Chairman: Labor Temple Neil & Church St. 7:30 p.m. R. Butler	6	4	8	6

Colgate		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3611 MARYSVILLE	Wednesday Chairman: Sheriff Dept. Bldg. End of Second Street at Yuba City Airport 7:30 p.m. D. Johnson	13	11	15	13
3613 OROVILLE	Thursday Chairman: Eagles' Hall Meyers & Montgomery Sts. 7:30 p.m. G. C. Andoe	14	12	16	14

## 1967 — LOCAL 1245, I.B.E.W. UNIT MEETINGS — 1967

North Bay		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3712 SANTA ROSA	Tuesday Chairman: IBEW Local 551 Bldg. 1429 Santa Rosa Ave. Rear of Roller Rink 8:00 p.m. O. Stovall	19	17	21	19
3711 SAN RAFAEL	Wednesday Chairman: Painters' Hall 701 Mission Avenue 8:00 p.m. W. Mazzini	20	18	15	20
3716 NAPA	Thursday Chairman: Labor Temple 1606 Main Street 8:00 p.m. Frank Iloff	7	5	2	7
3717 FORT BRAGG	Tuesday Chairman: Eagles' Hall Corry & Alder Sts. 7:30 p.m. G. Richards	12	10	14	12
3714 UKIAH	Wednesday Chairman: Ukiah Labor Temple K.U.K.I. Rd. Ukiah 8:00 p.m. G. Sullivan	13	11	8	13

Sacramento		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3811 SACRAMENTO	Tuesday Chairman: Labor Temple 2525 Stockton Blvd. 8:00 p.m. M. Golich	5	3	7	5
3813 PLACERVILLE	Thursday Chairman: Grange Hall 7:30 p.m. D. Minor	7	5	2	7
3815 DAVIS	Chairman: East Davis Park Bldg. 1000 Chestnut Street 8:00 p.m. Harradine	12	10	14	12
3812 VACAVILLE	Tuesday Chairman: Eagles' Hall 7:30 p.m. John Lopez	12	10	14	12
3814 WOODLAND	Chairman: Director's Hall Yolo Co. Fair Grounds Gum Avenue Gate 7:30 p.m. Schneider	14	12	9	14

Public Agencies		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
3011 SACRAMENTO TRANSIT AUTHORITY	Tuesday Chairman: Labor Temple 2525 Stockton Blvd. 7:00 p.m. V. Flanary	5	3	7	5
3911 SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT	Wednesday Chairman: Dante Club 2330 Fair Oaks Blvd. 8:00 p.m. R. Bellato	6	4	1	6
2211 OAKLAND GENERAL PORTER HALL	Thursday Chairman: 1918 Grove Street 8:00 p.m. R. Murphy	14	*12	9	14

\*Rescheduled due to Holiday

Citizens Utilities		Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
4012 SUSANVILLE	Wednesday Chairman: Mt. Lassen Hotel Lassen Street 7:30 p.m. G. H. Hunt	20	18	22	20
4013 ALTURAS	Thursday Chairman: Hacienda Motel Highway 299 7:30 p.m. B. Tucker	21	19	*20	21

\*Rescheduled due to Holiday

# Another man dies, more hurt on job

(continued from page one)

for help when she saw a PG&E line truck coming down the road.

By the time the Lineman reached him, Hart had regained consciousness. His little finger on his right hand had been burned off to just below the first knuckle and the thumb, index and middle finger of his left hand had severe burns which were treated by a doctor.

He was admitted to the hospital in Tracy three weeks later for the amputation of his little finger and skin grafts on his left hand. Also under examination by the doctors is possible nerve damage.

A much more serious amputation accident took place on State Highway 24 near Lafayette when G.C. Lineman Jon V. Henrie got a wire jumper from the grounded 4 kv circuit into the energized 12. The 12 kv line relayed once, but then remained back in while the victim was on it. Crew members had to cut the hot line before they could remove the injured man, Business Representatives Ogletree and Cofer report. It took seven

**NOTE: Our last issue erroneously described a burn as being sustained by Frank Boyle in Davis, California. The injury was sustained by a member of Mr. Boyle's crew, not Mr. Boyle himself. We apologize to him for any embarrassment our account might have caused.**

—The Editor

minutes to get Henrie to the ground.

Mr. Henrie suffered extensive burns on both arms, his chest, and face. Doctors amputated his left arm July 31st and his right arm three days later.

Severe burns to both arms, face and chest were also suffered by temporary Apprentice Lineman Gary Spain when he went up to place grounds on a de-energized 115 kv circuit and tried to put them on the energized circuit instead. There was some indication the tail end of the personal grounds was wrapped around his body at the time of the flash which meant he had not attached one clamp to the

tower before attempting to put the other one on the conductor.

Not all the accidents were electrical. Tom Dingwall, an Operator-Repairman at the Geyers Power Plant was cleaning the nozzles in the Number 1 cooling tower when he fell 45 feet to the bottom of the tower, breaking his right leg in two places and shattering his left heel. Business Representative Frank Quadros reports that cleaning of these nozzles requires a man to work his way on his back across sections of slatted redwood platforms. Tom was doing this when his shirt caught on a nail; in trying

to free himself, one of the sections came loose and tipped him off.

The screen had to be cut from the outside in order to free the injured man; he was not admitted to Healdsburg Hospital until four hours after the injury.

A G.C. Gas Department accident took place August 15th in Mountain View when Bill Salisbury attempted too steep a grade in his equipment and it rolled over. He tried to jump clear but part of the equipment struck him in the chest. He was in very serious condition in Palo Alto Stanford Hospital at last report.

## Operators win better Training in steam plants

(continued from page one)

all these jobs to Auxiliary Operator (which has a higher top wage rate than High Pressure Fireman)—it will take only 30 months, subject only to job qualifications, to reach the top rate.

With the training program goes tests related to power plant operation. A Steam Generation Examination Committee consisting of two members appointed by Union and two appointed by Company will be established to review any complaints about the training program or testing.

Additional improvements were made in employees' rights to transfer between plants, both within the Division and across Division lines.

The number of jobs per watch in some of the older steam plants will experience a reduction, but the Company has agreed the transition

will be made without laying off any employee and without having anyone take a wage cut.

Union's Steam Generation Subcommittee, led by Business Manager Weakley, included George L. Bailey, Control Operator, Moss Landing Power Plant; Francis P. Brady, Control Operator, Kern Power Plant; Howard J. Darington, IV, Control Technician, Humboldt Bay Power Plant; Richard McKenna, Relief High Pressure Fireman, Potrero Power Plant; Rocco W. Fera, Control Operator, Hunters Point Power Plant; Donald Hardie, Senior Control Operator, Pittsburg Power Plant; and Peter R. Dutton, then Control Operator, Contra Costa Power Plant—now Business Representative, Local 1245. Many meetings, proposals and counter-proposals led up to the agreement which went into effect July 1st.

# WELCOME!



New

Members

### MERCED IRRIG. DIST.

Clark D. Heppner  
Ira R. Herring  
Farris Lockey  
Steven L. McMurry  
Winston W. McMurry  
Joe C. Morgado  
Walter G. Morris  
F. E. Proctor  
Floyd O. Stanley  
Frank M. Treanor  
Gene Victor  
Lee R. Ward

### COAST VALLEYS

Andy M. Aquino  
James T. Clark  
Eugene E. Sheffield  
Robert C. Sweet  
Ronald Tempalski

### PIPE LINE OPERATIONS

Arthur E. Barnes  
Harold H. Erickson  
Dennis L. Wood

### SAN JOSE

Larry A. Barnett  
Leo P. Bellefleur  
David W. Blythe  
Raymond Bravo  
Charles Colclasure

Eugene Coleman  
Milton R. Dibble  
George D. Elliott  
Fred B. Giraldez  
Marvin L. Jenkins  
Robert O. Johnson  
Robert R. Kiefer  
Gregg E. Kleeman  
Sherman Love  
Brenda L. Mandon  
Kent R. Miller  
Robert Morgan  
Israel Olivarez  
John E. Scott  
Kenneth J. Turcotte  
Glenn Weatherspoon  
Edwin E. White  
Evert G. Wicks  
Jack Wright  
Jeffrey W. Ames  
John J. Billecci  
Mark Holmes  
F. P. Leonard  
Paul D. Silva  
William W. Williams

### BAY AREA FED. EMPLOYEES

Robert F. Baker

### EAST BAY

Gary H. Alderman  
Robert Alvarez

Paul R. Barnes  
Robert M. Benson  
David M. Borders  
Edward Borini  
George M. Borrelli  
Harold E. Bradley  
Richard H. Bugg  
James G. Caldera  
Peter A. Castaneda  
Fred Christ  
Clifton C. Cooper  
Thomas Copeland  
Alan C. Covington  
Patricia J. Curry  
Brian H. Davis  
James A. Duarte  
Richard A. Einer  
Gary A. Elliott  
Alvin K. Feleciano  
Allan C. Ferguson  
Robert Freeman  
Ricky M. Giusti  
Ronald E. Golino  
Gerald J. Good  
Paul R. Gulbranson  
Donald Guleynski  
Raimo K. Hanski  
Jimmy N. Haynie

W. H. Hilbrandie  
Richard Houston  
David Hutchinson  
Michael D. Johnson  
Aunita D. Jones  
David P. Kevern  
James G. Lambert  
Carol C. Lynch  
Daniel I. Mitchell  
Darrel L. Mitchell  
Frances Mitchell  
Douglas L. Moffitt  
Arthur Moniz, Jr.  
John L. Niehaus  
Neal B. Oxford  
Jose D. Parra  
Wilbert Patterson, Jr.  
Robert F. Quiner  
Jim Robertson  
Frank Rodriguez  
Douglas Rudd  
Jerry J. Runswick  
Willard L. Schlesener  
Daniel H. Schuchardt  
Billy J. Sendle  
Raphael R. Sharp  
Danny L. Souza  
Robert L. Stephens

# Heart and back damage — where does Workmen's Compensation come in?

Following is the third in a series of articles on Workmen's Compensation Law by Michael C. Tobriner, a member of the State Bar of California and one of the attorneys for the Local Union. These articles are intended to be general in nature; members are cautioned to consult an attorney if they have specific problems.

Serious disability can develop from minor but repeated stress. This fact of medical life the intelligent layman readily accepts; yet only in the relatively recent past has workmen's compensation coverage been fully extended to these "repetitive trauma" disabilities. This expanded coverage — compelled by powerful, convincing medical testimony presented at compensation hearings—has made available the full range of compensation benefits to large numbers of previously unprotected working people.

Repetitive traumas, however, present complex medical and legal problems. This article attempts to describe some of those problems and to indicate when and to what extent a continuous trauma injury is compensable. Since back and heart disabilities are the most common as well as the most serious of all the continuous trauma injuries, our discussion will be devoted mostly to them.

Perhaps the best point to start is with the man who has what is commonly called a "chronic bad back". On various occasions, during a period of years, this man's back becomes symptomatic; that is, he has pains, or weakness, or limited motion. On some of these occasions, the symptoms are brought on by minor trauma—he lifts a heavy object too suddenly, or he falls and twists his back. These occasions sometimes disable him for a day or two, but never for very long, and he is always able to return to work. As the years go by, however, his back becomes weaker, and, finally, one of his repeated traumas, piled on top of all the previous ones, triggers a collapse of his back which leaves him permanently partially disabled. What are his compensa-

tion rights?

As the alert reader will guess, this is the simplest of the continuous trauma situations. Assuming that all of the stress on this man's back is caused by his work, his disability is fully compensable, even though his final trauma, without the cumulative effect of the prior traumas, would not of itself have disabled him.

Now take a second situation, similar but not identical to the first. This is the man whose work strains his back over a period of time without his fully realizing it. He's never disabled, never has an accident—no sudden lifting strain, no fall, no twist—and only feels a little soreness or a few minor twinges once in a while. His job, however, requires constant heavy work, and over the years his back slowly weakens. Finally, he does suffer a traumatic back injury which, when it combines with prior stresses, leaves him permanently disabled. Even though the final trauma alone is not enough to cause disability, and even though the prior stresses were themselves never noticeable and never disabling, still the disability in its entirety is compensable, assuming all the strains are work-caused.

The last and most dramatic of our examples is the back which gives out entirely without noticeable trauma. Here the stress and strain of many years culminates in disability without any sudden final accident. Even though the disabled worker never was aware of the growing cumulative stress on his back, his disability, assuming the cumulative stress was all work-caused, is fully compensable. In the language of the California Supreme Court, "The fact that a single but slight work strain may

not be disabling does not destroy its causative effect, if in combination with other such strains, it produces a subsequent disability. The single strand, entwined with others, makes up the rope of causation."

The court's expressive phrases, however, as well as all our examples so far, involve disabilities where the cumulative stress is entirely work-produced. We need to consider now the two situations in which cumulative back injuries are caused in part by non-industrial factors. The first situation involves non-industrial injury, the second non-industrial disease.

Where non-industrial injury and industrial injury combine to produce disability, the rule is simple. In such a situation, unless the prior non-industrial condition is disabling, the disability resulting from the combination of the two conditions is compensable in full. Thus, where a back weakened by a jolt in an auto collision later becomes disabled from a lifting injury on the job, the disability is fully compensable, as long as the condition caused by the jolt in the auto did not itself produce disability at the time it occurred. Suppose, however, that the auto jolt did cause disability, and that the subsequent lifting incident made that pre-existing disability worse. In that case, the total disability resulting from the two injuries would not be fully compensable, and only that percent of the disability attributable to the later on-the-job incident would qualify for compensation. The process of attributing a certain percentage of a disability to a pre-existing non-industrial condition is called "apportionment".

Apportionment also comes into play where industrial injury combines with non-industrial disease. Backs can be harmed by illness or sickness as well as injury; quite frequently, a diseased but functioning back is rendered disabled by an on-the-job trauma. In such a situation, the basic rule is simple: only that part of the disability due to the trauma, and not that part resulting from the disease, is compensable. For example, suppose a worker is suffering from a disease which causes him 10% loss of the use of his back. Suppose also that this disease is "degenerative"; that is, it gets slowly worse as the worker ages. Then, the worker sustains an on-the-job traumatic injury, which leaves him 50% disabled. Medical opinion, however, attributes 10% of the disability to the effects of the pre-existing disease

at the time the trauma occurred, 5% of the disability to the normal and natural progress of the disease from the time of injury to the time of rating, and 35% of the disability qualifies for workmen's compensation coverage.

This discussion of apportionment completes — at least for the moment — our consideration of back injuries; we now turn briefly to the problem of heart disease. As with back conditions, the basic rules of workmen's compensation in heart cases are simple. First, disability resulting from long-continued stress and strain on the heart — even where that stress and strain remains for years asymptomatic and unnoticed—is fully compensable. Second, where heart disability results both from pre-existing non-industrial injury or disease and from subsequent industrial trauma, only the industrially-caused proportion of the disability is compensable.

These rules are simple to state but hard to apply. In fact, for many years the Workmen's Compensation Appeals Board virtually refused to recognize that heart disability could be related to work conditions. Now, as the result of sophisticated and convincing medical testimony, the Board will grant coverage in at least four typical kinds of heart cases: (1) heart disability brought on by sudden exertion or unaccustomed overwork; (2) heart disability caused by contusion of the heart — a blow or bruise to the heart region; (3) heart disability caused by the cumulative stress and strain of work over a long period of time; and (4) heart disability brought on by emotional stress.

In all of these situations medical opinion is almost always divided on the question of industrial causation. Perhaps the most difficult problem in any heart case is the question of the presence of pre-existing degenerative arteriosclerosis. Where such a disease is present, work conditions may play a very small part in bringing on disability. Another recurrent problem is the philosophical split in medical opinion on the question of the role emotional stress can play in heart disease. Some doctors believe such stress is the most important single factor in producing heart disease; others hold that it can play no role at all.

These comments complete our discussion of heart and back conditions; the next articles in our series will consider the various types of benefits and indemnities available under the workmen's compensation system.

(continued from page six)

Morris A. Stevens  
Robert L. Stokley  
John E. Tameny  
Walter W. Thomas  
William N. Thomas  
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Larry D. Walling  
Jimmie A. Whitmire  
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Michael C. Pledger  
Gerald R. Rehe  
Gary R. Rosenquist  
Harry Smith  
Stanley A. Thomas  
Charles J. Tumulty

(continued next month)

# The Outdoor Scene

by Fred Goetz

In ancient waters—perhaps 300,000 million years ago—there dwelt a mammoth finster that still survives, a living vestige of the neolithic age—the sturgeon.

Besting the ravages of time through the ice ages and subterranean upheavals that changed the earth's features, the sturgeon has held its own. Less than a half-century ago it was comparatively common in several western coastal rivers and tributaries that flow to the sea. But pollution, dams, diversions and unrestricted harvests have taken their toll.

The green sturgeon—one of the two western species, (the other, and major species, being the white sturgeon)—has already been eliminated in the Columbia above Bonneville, although liberal numbers once prevailed in one of its major tributaries, the Snake. Still holding forth in the Snake are remnant schools of white sturgeon which dwell in the deep dark waters of the dam-impoundment areas and in remote areas not ordinarily, fished by the masses.



A fishing buddy helps angler "tail" a sturgeon and ease it onto the rocky banks of the Snake River.



WHITE STURGEON

Whether they continue to hold their own in the distant future seems doubtful, for biologists contend that in addition to their deep-water refuges they also require shallow, current-kissed waters where they can spawn. Such waters, unfortunately, do not exist when an entire dam-plagued river is converted to a reservoir.

In past years some monsters have come out of the Snake River, one in fairly recent years was landed by Marion Woodward of Boise, Idaho before that state placed a 72-inch maximum size limit on the species. He hooked a lunker in the dead of night and it took him nearly three hours to ease it to bank—a 320 pounder.

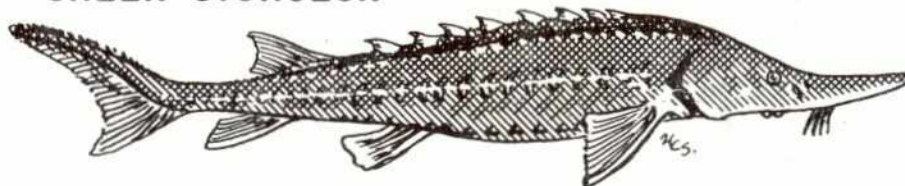
Some time before this, Dr. Wilbert M. Chapman of the Washington Bureau of Fisheries checked in a sturgeon that weighed 1,285 pounds and was toting 125 pounds of caviar. It was taken from the Hells Canyon section of the Snake River. This, of course, was prior to 1943 when the states of Oregon and

Washington, in joint legislative action, banned commercial fishing for sturgeon there. In 1963, Idaho joined Oregon and Washington in establishing a minimum (32 inches) and maximum (72 inches) length limit for sturgeon.

According to the records of the Oregon Game Commission, a 976 pounder was taken on a set line from the Columbia near The Dalles. It was estimated by biologists to be around 80 years of age.

Perhaps a good way to end a sturgeon story is to relate a tale that has long been accepted as part of northwest folklore by some, as naked truth by others. Dubious hero of the tale is an Idaho farm lad who devised what has since

GREEN STURGEON



been regarded as a mean, sordid method.

He rigged a large shark hook with ripe cow meat; attached it to a tow rope and cast it into the swollen waters of the Snake River, then tied the free end of the line to a flexing branch of a streamside sapling and went about his chores.

Late that same day he returned to the scene, excited to high pitch by the sight of the sturdy sapling—throbbing up and down. To his amazement, the what-ever-it-was at the other end of the line was pulling the tree out of the ground.

Quickly the lad eased his plow horse near the throbbing rope and managed to loop a half-hitch over the mare's neck. This was but the beginning of a three hour tug-of-war with the fish on one end, the man and his plow horse on the other. Suddenly the bank gave away and the farm lad scampered to safety as the horse was swallowed up in the swift, murky river.

All the next day the farmer boated the river, searching the

—Oregon Game Commission Photo

bankside eddies and pools. Wearily, that day, he trudged home, the enigma unsolved. The next day, 20 miles down the river, a huge sturgeon was found washed into a shallow bend. Carted into town, it measured 15 feet from snout to tail and was said to tip the scales at 2,500 pounds. There, lodged in the fish's tube-like mouth was the farmer lad's hook, still baited with cow meat. There too was a frayed length of tow rope attached to the hook but nothing at the other end. They never did find the horse.

## "High Noon"

