Negotiations with PG&E Reach Critical Stage

Local 1245's Negotiating Committee and the Company's Negotiating Committee reached a stalemate at the bargaining table on August 13th.

Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley called a special meeting of the Executive Board on August 17, 1970, to report on the status of negotiations and to seek a means to try to break the deadlock.

After hearing the report of the Committee, the Executive Board instructed the Committee to resume negotiations and to seek clarification of the Company's most recent offer and report back to the Board with these clarifications so that the Board can submit the offer to the membership for a vote.

This decision was made only after careful consideration of all the facts. The facts are that our Union has been in bargaining for over four months and while the Company's offer falls short of Union's original proposal and its counter-proposal, the Company has made movement in many of the areas requested in our proposals.

The fact that we had reached a stalemate and that bargaining sessions had been called off due to the deadlock, left the Board with two alternatives. These were to allow the negotiations to remain deadlocked in the hope that the Company would somehow make some voluntary movement, or to allow the membership to decide whether or not the Company's last proposed offer was acceptable.

The Negotiating Committee determined it would not recommend any package which did not contain Agency Shop. This decision was not an arbitrary one which reflects only the attitude of the Committee itself, but rather a decision based on the attitude of many of our members as reflected by the proposals and counter-proposals in the UTILITY REPORTER.

An outline of the Company's current offer of settlement is printed below. It is a summary of what has taken place in negotiations; however, it does not cover some of the main issues which have been battled over during these sessions. For instance, Company's original proposal contained a provision which would have allowed the Company to change the normal regular work hours of day employees in the Physical Unit without an agreement by the Union. This was a big issue with our members and it is no longer contained in Company's proposal. Company's answer to Union's request for improvements in Clerical hours has not yet resulted in any final agreement between the parties.

Company has also reversed its position on floating holidays and the offer does provide the capability for nine fixed holidays or, if mutual agreement can be arranged, one of the holidays can be taken at any time during the year.

On the other side of the coin, our proposals have contained provisions for additional premiums on holidays, between 12 Midnight and 8:00 AM, scheduled Sunday work and for overtime worked on Sundays—but they are not included in Company's offer. Company's position was that if Union

(Continued on Page Four)

The deadline for voter registration in California is September 10th. Citizens may become registered at their County Clerk’s office, by seeking out Registrars in their local communities, or by asking Local 1245 Stewards or Business Representatives to help them become registered to vote on November 3rd.

Do it now! If you aren't registered you can't vote.
SILENCE IS NOT ALWAYS GOLDEN

Too often these days we hear that the so-called “silent majority” represents the true feelings of the populace. This is a lot of hogwash because only expressive and active citizens produce the means by which this country operates.

Silent executive, judicial and legislative branches of government simply don’t exist. All political officeholders, be they elected or appointed, speak out and act in accordance with their personal attitudes in relationship to their current areas of political power.

Those who remain silent and do not act are not in office very long.

So, with citizen participation, even though their ideas may not be widely received, they do survive very long as free men and free women because if they “let George do it,” “George” will act for them while fleecing their pockets and suppressing their possible reactions by passing oppressive laws against them.

Those citizens who do not register to vote (there are millions of them in the U.S.A.) are voiceless, inactive victims of their own folly. They deserve what they get or don’t get because they are too weak to even qualify to vote their opinions through the ballot box. A recent survey showed that only 45% of the Union members in California are registered to vote.

Those citizens who are registered to vote and who fail to do so on election day are also poor citizenship specimens. They purport to be interested, but do not express that interest when offered the free choice to perform as good citizens.

1970 is a crucial political year for all U.S. citizens. If the situation continues, over half of the eligible voters in the U.S.A. fail to register and fail to vote, such people shall indeed join the “silent majority,” which is so favored these days by incompetent, self-seeking political hacks at all levels of civil government.

The so-called “super-rich” always vote. They use the vote strictly for their own economic and political protection. The so-called “upper-middle class” people perform somewhat similarly for generally the same reasons. The so-called “lower-middle class” people are prone to slide off and fail to participate fully in the election process. The so-called “lower-class” people are, of course, the least prone to exercise their citizenship rights through ignorance and other factors, which place barriers before them as a result of poverty and the stresses they find which cause personal and family survival to become their principal interest.

Organized Labor has two major jobs ahead of it in 1970 with regard to the forthcoming general elections in November.

The first job is to register as many union people as possible. The second job is to help register as many so-called “lower-middle class” citizens and as many so-called “poor people” as possible.

These jobs must be considered to be priorities this year in order to diminish the effects of the so-called “silent majority,” which is becoming (Continued on Page Seven)

Opposition to Reagan's Tax Reform Bill Explained

Editor's Note:
The following is an excerpt from a public statement made by State Senator George R. Moscone from San Francisco's 10th Senatorial District.

Young Moscone is the present Democratic Floor Leader in the California State Senate and his position in general policy position of his Party regarding the basic issue of taxation.

Republican Governor Reagan's ready access to television, radio and the commercial press, gives him a lepided advantage regarding public expression on the tax program which he hasAssignableFrom cannot be matched.

In order to present both sides of the issue, the UTILITY REPORTER feels it proper to present Senator Moscone's side of the coin for our Californian membership's careful consideration.

Comments on this extremely important issue, pro or con, are invited by your publication's Editorial Board for printing in the next issue of the UTILITY REPORTER.

TAX REFORM?

The Governor's so-called “tax reform” is, in reality, an ill-disguised tax increase for 56 per cent of all Californians, with residents of San Francisco faring even worse than that.

The tax bills are complex, but these facts are uncontradictable:

1. Renters (65 per cent of San Francisco residents) are expected to subsidize property tax “relief” to owners of high-priced homes and business properties. Of the 331,000 dwellings in the city, only 30 per cent are owner-occupied. Eighty-three per cent of married renters in the state would receive no tax increase.

2. To provide this “relief,” every Californian would pay an increase of 20 per cent in sales taxes. In San Francisco this would impose a 6 1/2 cent tax on every one dollar in sales—the highest sales tax in the nation. We are all too familiar with the hardship that this places on the low and middle income taxpayer but not enough has been said about the detrimental effect that this tax increase would have on our business community.

3. By lowering the cost of living, AB 1000 and 1001, California will face a 1971-2 budget deficit of from $250 million to $350 million, depending upon whose estimate you use. The lower figure has been offered by Republican Assembly Speaker Robert Monongah and the higher estimate is provided by non-partisan Legislative Analyst A. Alan Post. In either event, State taxes will be raised in 1971, no matter who is Governor. If the Governor’s tax shift bills were to pass, California’s budget would be out-of-balance an additional $175 million within three years, necessitating another Statewide tax increase.

4. Relief of $100 million for exemptions of business inventories, now paid under the State Bank and Corporations, will be passed on to individuals by the increase in sales tax and income tax.

5. The Governor's Tax Program will not magically cure the money problems of local government, as evidenced by the opposition of the California League of Cities, The California Supervisors' Association, The California League of Urban Voters, the AFL-CIO and California schools, teachers and educational facilities. The bills, of course, are supported by the California Chamber of Commerce and the National Associations of Manufacturers.

These are only a few of the reasons why the Governor's tax shift program has been refused passage in the State Senate.

In the words of Republican State Senator Clark L. Bradley of Santa Clara County: “It is highly preferable that the bills be defeated. All taxpayers, including property owners, and to protect the credit of the State of California.”

For one example of the inequity of this program, take the case of an average San Francisco family who rents a home or an apartment.

According to the Franchise Tax Board, the Board of Equalization and the State Director of Finance, approximately 20 per cent of the tenant’s annual rent is actually property tax. On annual rentals of $2,400 (a low “average” rental in San Francisco) the renter then pays $480 in property taxes for his landlord. Under the Governor’s program he gets maximum relief if . . . he has a State income tax liability of that much. In the case of the elderly citizen on fixed income or a middle or low income wage earner, he will receive no relief at all.

After paying an increase in sales and income taxes, the renter winds up subsidizing the high income owners of expensive property. Even this “relief” proves highly illusory to the high income homeowner after he pays increased sales and income taxes. His net savings, according to Senator Bradley, will be a paltry few dollars. I agree.

This seems a highly unfair way to provide tax reform!

In spite of a high-powered campaign to thrust this discriminatory and unequitable “reform” on the State’s taxpayers, a few state senators (some who prefer to call obstructionists) do not believe that the best interest of any California person are served by this ill conceived legislation. When the Governor is prepared to provide actual tax relief to the vast majority of taxpayers and when he is ready to truly “reform” the archaic property tax system, we will be with him.

GEORGE R. MOSCONEN, State Senator, 10th District.

San Francisco.
Manufacturers Make Bikes More Dangerous

By Sidney Margolius

Consumer Expert for Utility Reporter

Bikes are hazardous enough. Some people are killed in collisions with cars, in addition to the 34,000 reported non-fatal accidents each year of which still cause serious injuries.

But bicycle manufacturers have added to the already-serious dangers with new models, such as those with small front wheels; low front axles; long seats called “banana” seats, and high wide handlebars. For example, doctors at the Children’s Hospital in Cincinnati reported the death of a bike rider hit by a car in September. The bike had a high speed and was more dangerous. Rear fender decks added to the already-serious dangers. Rear fender decks also encourage riding double. Another problem is that the high handlebars make a bike harder to control.

The small front wheels also add to the danger by encouraging acrobatics, and here some manufacturers strongly resist. Their ads, too, encourage such unsafe use. Alan Cleveland, Editor of Everybody’s Money, the credit union magazine, charges that bike manufacturers sell bikes “by advertising the startling aspects over and over.”

One of the problems is that the long banana seat encourages children to ride, and that’s always dangerous. Rear fender decks also encourage riding double. Another problem is that the high handlebars make a bike harder to control.

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refused to move on the hours provision, no consideration could be given to these items.

Company has made no significant change in its position on Clerical Job Definitions, but has agreed to have a subcommittee to explore a further delineation of functional lines of progression. This committee would report back by July, 1971.

The Negotiating Committee is in the process of sending out Bulletin #13 which brings us up to date on Company’s last offer. This bulletin is also printed below for your information and discussion.

The most significant additions to the Company’s previous offers are:

1. Contingent on a three-year term, establish, effective July 1, 1971, a Dental Care Plan, the provisions of which are to be negotiated. (See DENTAL below.)

2. The July, 1971, general increase may vary between 6% and 7½%, depending on the May, 1971, Consumer Price Index. (See WAGES below.)

3. The fund for classification wage adjustments was raised from $350,000 to $425,000 for the three-year term.

4. Company withdrew its proposal to convert Veterans’ Day to a floating holiday and proposed, as an alternative to the other floating holiday, to allow the employee to take off the last work day in the workweek which contains his birthday. He may, however, elect to take a different day by agreement with his supervisor provided he gives notice of such election at least thirty days in advance of his birthday.

The Company’s last offer is summarized below:

WAGES: Effective July 1, 1971, 7½% general wage increase. Effective July 1, 1971, a 6½% general wage increase. If the Consumer Price Index (All Cities) for May, 1971, is more than 4½% (on an annual basis) above the Index for June, 1970, the general wage increase shall be adjusted upward by ½% and if the Index is below 4½%, but such general wage increase shall not exceed 7½%.

Effective July 1, 1972, a wage reopener.

DENTAL: Effective July 1, 1971, a Dental Care Plan, the provisions of which are to be negotiated. Company’s contribution to the Plan premiums will be limited to $1,000,000 annually, and to 50% of the premium of any group of employees, and to $2.50 per month per employee for an employee’s or his household in a sum not to exceed $500. "As soon after the end of each calendar year as it is practicable to do so, Company will furnish Union with a list showing the Company seniority of each employee represented by Union." The Company’s proposal relative to the Material Department will be referred to the Classification Adjustment Committee, but any wage adjustments resulting from agreement on this subject will not be charged to the "posted" business area.

MEDICAL: Effective January 1, 1971, the benefit schedule of the California Blue Shield Plan, which is currently available to employees as the Pacific Service Employees Health Plan, will be changed from a $5 Relative Value Schedule to a "usual, customary, and reasonable" schedule. The $7,500 inland travel payment will be continued to pay 75% of the premiums.

VACATION: Effective January 1, 1971, modify the language of the vacation titles to provide for uniformity in the Physical and Clerical bargaining units. Increase the annual vacation rate for the first year of service to two weeks.

Effective January 1, 1972, increase the annual vacation in the eighth and ninth year of service to three weeks, and the annual vacation in the eleventh and nineteenth year of service to four weeks.

HOLIDAYS: Effective January 1, 1971, add an additional holiday to be known as a "Floating Holiday." An employee may take the work day immediately preceding his next scheduled days off which next follows his birthday as a holiday; he may elect to take another day by agreement with his supervisor, provided he gives at least thirty days notice in advance of his birthday of such election.

MOVING EXPENSES: Amend Section 206.8 of the Physical Agreement and Section 19.16 of the Clerical Agreement to read as follows: "When an employee is displaced under the provisions of this Title because of lack of work at his headquarters, and his new headquarters is beyond commutable distance from his residence, Company shall, in addition to the reasonable costs incurred in connection with moving his household in a sum not to exceed $900."

"Beyond commutable distance" will mean a new headquarters located more than forty-five minutes, or thirty miles, from his residence.

EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE: Effective January 1, 1971, Company shall provide their program of partial tuition refunds that reimburses an employee up to $250 per academic year under certain outlined conditions to the Physical and Clerical bargaining unit employees.

MARRIETY LEAVE OF ABSENCE: Amend the Leave of Absence Title to provide for a new maternity leave of absence in which a woman is entitled to a six-month maternity leave of absence with the right to return to her own job and headquarters.

LONG TERM DISABILITY: Add Sections 309.15 and 309.14 to the Physical Agreement and Section 7.16 to the Clerical Agreement, each to read as follows:

"By written agreement between the Company and the Union and on an individual basis, the Company has increased the number of employees who qualify for and received benefits under provisions of the Long Term Disability Plan of the Benefit Agreement between the Company and the Union may be returned to active status."
not connect, non-lead cable. Add the additional duty of installing first 8' of pole risers and putting the cable in the pole riser.

FORMER EAST BAY DIVISION OPERATORS: Provide for a special wage increase of $3.70 per week effective July 1, 1970, and July 1, 1971, for East Bay Distribution Operators who are presently "red circled," provided they are not performing relief duties. The special wage increase for such employees who are performing relief duties will be $3.20 per week each year.

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION CAMP CLASSIFICATIONS: Amend the wages and classifications of General Construction camp classifications.

INTERIM BARGAINING: The following Subcommittees will continue discussions and endeavor to reach agreements in their respective areas of concern:

- Traveling Maintenance Crews
- Gas Measurement and Control
- Gas Service Department

This photo shows Executive Board members, staff members and a member of the negotiating committee listening to a briefing session on negotiations.

GOPer Rebukes President Nixon on Economy

The following are excerpts from a letter to President Nixon by Ernest George Williams, a prominent attorney and active Republican leader in Los Angeles:

Like so many others who have supported you for election, I now find myself unable to comprehend your Administration's domestic policy.

There are 147 banks listed in The Wall Street Journal, and each one of them, without exception, has increased its earnings 22% to 35% every succeeding year since you have taken office. The increased earnings have continued through the first quarter of 1970. Thousands of corporations are listed in both Moody's and Standard & Poor's, and 90% of them have shown either decreased earnings or losses in 1966 and 1969 over previous years; yet, for that same period, 100% of the banks have enjoyed a continuous increase in profits.

Can you tell us, the American people, how your Administration is curbing inflation when a working man who buys a home today must pay $73 per month for additional interest because the interest rates have been increased from 6% to 9 1/2%? The interest on a $25,000 mortgage at 6% is $1,500 per year; at 9 1/2% the interest is $2,375 per year, or a difference of $875 per year. Over the life of a 25-year mortgage man must pay $18,750 interest at 6%, while he must pay $29,687 at 9 1/2%. The difference of $9,937 is a result of the increased interest.

Can you tell us, the American people, how your Administration is curbing inflation when builders of apartment houses, in order to secure funds for financing, must pay 10% interest plus a 2% premium of annual gross? It is now necessary for a person renting a $200 a month apartment to pay $273; $73 per month is entirely attributed to the usurious interest rates.

Can you tell us, the American people, how your Administration is curbing inflation when banks, which are exempt from usury laws in the State of California, now charge from 10% to 18% interest on all their loans where before, under the prior Administrations, the interest rate was approximately 6%?

Can you tell us, the American people, how your Administration is curbing inflation when corporations, which received Government contracts in 1965 and 1966, now find they must pay interest rates of 10% to 12% when the cost for finance charges was originally computed at 6% interest?

Can you tell us, the American people, how your Administration is curbing inflation when a working man who needs a car for transportation now finds the cost for finance charges was originally computed at 6% interest?

As President of the United States you must take immediate action to prevent this situation from continuing longer. Your Administration cannot continue to place the blame of this inflationary spiral on the prior Administrations or upon the labor unions when the evidence is overwhelmingly to the contrary.

As President of the United States of America you must recognize that the present program has not achieved its intended objective.

C.O.P.E. Memo

Hoeover blasts agitators

By J. EDGAR HOOVER
Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

WASHINGTON — On our college and university campuses today are a variety of Old Left and New Left type groups which are eager to foment student unrest and disruption. These groups, despite their public claims, are not interested in legitimate reform, either for the campus or the nation. Rather, they have as an aim agitation, disruption and trouble.

We must remember, however, that these extremists represent a minority of our college students. The 1960's have been an age of protest, of skepticism, of asking vital questions about our society. Our colleges have produced an inquiring generation, young people who are sincerely and deeply concerned about problems which arise from a complex, industrialized, urban society. We want this questioning process to continue. We should be thankful for the sophisticated, intelligent, poised generation of young people now coming of age.

Adults have a special obligation to establish and maintain a dialogue with the rising generation. All too frequently we in the FBI find a complete lack of communication between parents and young people about the really serious issues of life. Yes, there is talk about a new car or a vacation trip, but amazingly little about some of the basic problems which concern young people today (the war in Vietnam, the draft, race relations, poverty). Often a parent and child violently disagree—and each goes his own way, preventing the mutual interchange of opinions. The generation gap is, to a large extent, a communication gap.

In discussing these extremist groups, we must be careful of our facts and not indiscriminately label those whom we do not personally like or whose opinions are unpopular as extremists. We must remember that many moderate students are also protesting about key issues of the day.

(Continued on Page Seven)
Jess Unruh — A Man Who Bucks The Odds And Wins

Jess Unruh is a man who has bucked the odds most of his life and won. And he's still at it in his present race for Governor of California against a powerfully financed and solidly entrenched regime that has packed key state agencies—including the Industrial Relations Commission, the State Department of Industrial Relations, the State Labor Commission, the State Oil Conservation Commission, the Public Utilities Commission with a number of appointees inclined to carry out the program the industries they're supposed to regulate.

From a childhood growing up in a poor coal mining family in West Texas, Unruh's drive and determination carried him through a year of college on a scholarship until the outbreak of World War II when he moved to California and worked as a machinist in the aircraft industry before volunteering for the Navy Air Force.

During the war Unruh met and married Virginia June Lemon, a teacher. After the war he returned to a law practice in Lodi, but he decided to make a run for an Assembly seat. Four years later he won a seat in the Assembly, where he served from 1955 to 1966 to "make the state pay its rightful share of school costs by assuming onto wage earners and home owners by reliance on property taxes and poorest and neediest citizens, Unruh sizes up the Reagan administration as education, care for the mentally ill, care for the aged, aid to needy legislative program with the following three objectives:

1. To restrict the right of employees to organize, collectively bargain, strike, picket, or to seek redress of grievances through political action.
2. To further reduce the fair share of taxes by oil companies, banks, insurance companies and large corporations and to shift this tax burden onto wage earners and home owners by reliance on property taxes and an ever increasing sales tax.
3. To further cut spending on education, health care for the aged, needy children, consumer protection and industrial safety.

Last December 4 when he announced his candidacy, Unruh said he was entering the campaign "to keep the promise of California alive and growing for everyone."

Among other things, he pledged: "...to provide each child with all the education he can use...to make our streets safe and secure...to preserve and protect our natural beauties and resources...to lower pollution for future generations and prosperity...

In contrast, on the tax issue, Reagan pledged a candidate in 1966 that "there will be no new tax increase next year. The total tax burden will not be increased." But in 1967 Reagan imposed the greatest tax boost in the history of the nation, Unruh notes. In short, it's pretty clear that Reagan's pledges have been practically the opposite of his performance.

Unruh, as a judge on the basis of his record, his experience, his compassion and concern for the problems of the average citizen, is clearly the voter's best choice for Governor next November 3.

That's why he carries the endorsement of the California Labor Council on Political Education.

Besides, organized labor and Jess Unruh have something else in common. Both have often bucked the odds and won. The farm workers did it again this year. And maybe that's setting a trend.

All the ways the banks nick you

(Continued from Page Three)

Some Treasury officials themselves feel the government should pay full interest on E bonds from the start. The easiest way using a sliding scale is that it discourages early redemptions. The many early redemptions promise to lose the government some 25 percent or more on the face value of the bonds.

The proposed rate hike will help since your present bonds will earn at the new rate too. Meanwhile, keep in mind our previous advice to use E bonds for long-range deposits, and savings accounts for short-range savings that you may need within a year or two.

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Why Are Labor Unions Important?

By BECKY RENFRO

Editor's Note: In the last issue of the Utility Reporter, we announced the winner of Local 1240's scholarship contest. We thought you would enjoy the following article about the importance of labor unions.

The importance of a Labor Union is to bargain with employers. However, another important function of Labor Unions that is tantamount, is their engagement in political activity by trying to elect government officials who are sympathetic to their cause, and by getting laws passed that are favorable to labor. When the Labor Unions engage in political activity by doing either of these things, they are acting as pressure groups to promote their economic interests.

As pressure groups, Labor Unions work in many various ways and at many places in the political structure. They are active in producing and distributing campaign literature, working for or against certain ballot measures, the making available of research and writing materials for public office, and many other helpful methods that contribute to campaign funds today comes from non-party groups such as COPE (AFL-CIO's Committee on Public Education).

Before more evidence of the importance of Labor Unions to the political structure of the United States is presented—the term "political structure" should be defined. Political parties have become synonymous with political structure—as known from our United States history and from that of other republics, too, parties are essential to the successful operation of the democratic process. The history of our political parties is a substantial part of the history of the entire United States Government. And within the history of the political parties—or political structure—the Labor Unions are embedded as a vital part.

The importance of Labor Unions to the political parties stems partly from the fact that each of the major functions of these parties are under-taken with the help of the Labor Unions. Their major function is to nomi-nate candidates and present them to the electorate. The Labor Unions throughout the country back candidates who they feel will be helpful to their cause—in many instances, they are responsible for running an office.

The second function of the parties is to inform the voters and stimulate interest in the public affairs. The Labor Union leaders help the parties to do this by campaigning, taking stands on certain issues and criticizing the stands and candidates of their opposition. This is done in several ways—pamphlets, newspaper ads, and other various methods.

The third function of the parties is as a "watchdog or agent" to insure the good work of their candidates. Because unscrupulous political machines and incompetent officeholders exist where voters are not informed—the Labor Unions "educate" many voters as to which candidates are doing their job adequately.

Eluho Root once said, "Politics is the practical exercise of the art of self-government, and everybody must attend to it if we are to have self-government." That is, if we are to have self-government, that is, if we are to have a strong, progressive and constructive legislature, a government and furthering our democratic system.
Special Clerical Meeting in Bakersfield

A special meeting for the clerical employees was held in Bakersfield, on August 10, at the Ramada Inn.

The purpose of the meeting was to bring them up to date on the PG&E negotiations and to explain the need for each clerical member to begin an organizing drive in their area.

Wayne Weaver, Business Representative, opened the meeting with a brief introduction in which he outlined the purpose of the meeting.

The above photo shows a view of most of the people at the Bakersfield Clerical meeting.

Hoover blasts agitators

(Continued on Page Five)

fore dismiss them from consideration. The genuine, hard core radical on campus must be distinguished from the legitimate protestor.

We must remember that the way to combat extremism is not by counter-extremism. In other words, one of the dangers of extremism on campuses is that it will engender anti-democratic vigilante and illegal actions against this minor fringe. These actions can and must be handled under due process of law. There is no room either on or off campus for an anti-democratic backlash.

Society must take seriously its own weaknesses and work to remedy them, promptly, effectively and fairly. Young people very rightfully hate hypocrisy and sham. The best way to counteract extremism of any kind is through a healthy society with self-creative energies working for constant improvement.

Theodore Roosevelt said: “Much has been given us, and much will right-fully be expected from us. We have duties to others and duties to our-selves; and we can shirk neither.”

America must face up to the challenge of extremism—lest, step by step, the foundations of law are eroded to the detriment of all of us. No cement more durable to hold together a free society has ever been found than the law and all the majesty it represents.

SUMMER SAFETY

(Continued from Page Eight)

elderly or debilitated person. Let the physician decide the seriousness of the case.

The best first aid for food poisoning, however, is prevention. Whether you’re doing the cooking yourself or are eating out, here are some safety hints:

Keep hot food hot and cold foods cold—either at more than 140°F. or less than 40 degrees. Avoid letting food sit at lukewarm temperatures at which bacteria thrive. A packed lunch that can’t be refrigerated should be eaten within three hours. Carry the picnic basket in the passenger space of a car, not in the humid trunk. Beware of anything made with mayonnaise or eggs, whipped cream, milk or fish. And, of course, wash your hands before preparing food.

Bites and Stings

You’re fair game for billions of insects in summer. The majority are only a nuisance. Others are dangerous. Drop for drop, the venom in a honeybee’s stinger is just as poisonous as that from a rattlesnake. But the yellowjacket, short-tempered and easily irritated, accounts for most serious stings. Bees, wasps and hornets sting with little provocation. Stay clear of them especially near their nests. If they do fly around you, move away slowly. Don’t flap your arms. Sudden motion from the air currents stirs them up and aggravates them to attack.

First Aid: If stung by a bee, wasp or hornet, run cold water over the sting or pack ice around it to relieve pain and slow the absorption of the venom. Don’t use your fingers to pull out the stinger left in your skin by the bee. This only squeezes out more venom. Scrape out the stinger with a fingernail or knife. Calamine lotion may relieve the itching.

If insect bite symptoms are severe—swelling, extreme redness, headache, dizziness and nausea—get the victim to a doctor as soon as possible. Persons with known sensitivity to insect bites should consult their physician for medication to be carried on outings.

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When someone is injured in a dive, the worst thing that can be done in most cases is to pull him from the water in the case of a broken neck or spine, such action may compound the injury and make full recovery hopeless. It is important to remove a dive-injured person only on something rigid, such as a surfboard or wooden plank. Make certain that the victim's head is kept absolutely level with his body.

Sun and Heat

To avoid heat exhaustion or stroke, resist the urge to overdo. Fifty weeks at a desk is no preparation for a whirl of out-of-door activities crammed into a brief vacation under the summer sun. Dress for summer; light-colored clothing reflects heat and sunlight, helps your body maintain normal temperatures. Don't go out in the strong sun without a hat. Be sure that you are not overheated, overtired or immediately after eating. Before diving, make sure the water is deep enough and has no obstacles, such as rocks or tree branches.

Drowning

More than 100 million Americans take to the water for recreation each summer, and drownings are the fourth most frequent cause of accidental death in the nation. Unbelievably, more than half of those who drown never intended going into the water in the first place; their boats sink or they slip, trip or fall accidentally into the water. Fishing, for instance, looks safer than picnics, Gibbins, a highway engineer, combined lectures and demonstrations with first-aid tips gained from his 20 years' work with the local rescue and ambulance service.

First aid doesn't always have to involve an emergency rescue. Says Gibbins: “One reason you learn first aid is to prevent accidents.”

Here, compiled by medical and safety authorities, are five common types of summertime accidents and ways to prevent or treat them.

If the victim is unconscious be sure the air passages remain open. If the victim is conscious, give him a mild salt solution (one half teaspoonful for each ounce of water everyday for the victim becomes nauseated, stop). Sponge the body freely with rubbing alcohol to reduce the body temperature to at least 103° F. If you do not have a thermometer, let the patient's general condition and pulse rate guide you. Do not give alcohol to the victim. Among other things, it interferes with the body's temperature-regulating machinery.

Heat exhaustion is different from heat stroke in that the victim's temperature is normal, although weak and without strength. There may be profuse perspiration. Move him to a cool place, but protect him against chilling. Have him lie down, his head level with or lower than his body. Give the victim sips of mild salt solution when he has heat cramps—usually in leg or abdominal muscles—try firm pressure. Warm, wet towels also help give relief.

Lightning

With lightning lurking, the most dangerous places to be are on a high line, or riding a bike, tractor or horse. About one-third of all lightning victims lose their lives when sheltering under isolated trees, that, because of their height, attract bolts. The current flashes down to the tree's base, then runs along the ground, striking anything in its path.

The safest place in a thunderstorm is probably in an all-steel, closed car. Its body provides a metal enclosure that distributes and dissipates the electrical forces into the air and the ground. Keep car windows closed.

First Aid: If you are in a position to help lightning victims, forsake the living for the "dead." Those who are breathing will in all probability recover. Forget burns or other injuries until later. It's the person who is not breathing and who registers no pulse who needs help first.

Mouth-to-mouth resuscitation must be attempted. If the person is not breathing and there is no heartbeat and if you are trained to give cardiopulmonary resuscitation, do so. Seek medical help as soon as possible.

Food Poisoning

An estimated two million Americans will be stricken this summer as the result of outdoor or on-the-road eating. Most food poisoning is caused by bacteria-contaminated food, and ranges from mild indisposition to severe and fatal attack. Suspect food poisoning if the victim is seized, one to six hours after eating, with cramps and abdominal pain, nausea, retching, vomiting and diarrhea.

First Aid: Mild cases recover without treatment, but get the victim to the doctor at once, if symptoms are extreme, or if he is an infant or nursel (Continued on Page Seven)