



Fields Resigns as 1245's President — Thomas Named

By Ken Lohre

After considerable thought over the last few months Ron Fields decided to resign as President of Local 1245. His decision was made on the basis of several considerations, but the main one was a desire to have more time to spend with his family and some outside interests. He also felt that he had fulfilled his promises in running for president earlier this year. He did not want to leave certain things undone and he has since seen them through to their conclusion.

The news came as a shock to the officers and members of Local 1245 who have followed his dedicated leadership for the last four years.

The Executive Board, at its regular November meeting, formulated the following statement regarding Fields' resignation:

We, as the members of the Executive Board, have been called upon to pass upon the resignation of Roland W. Fields from the office of President of Local 1245. We did so with great reluctance and entertained a motion to accept his resignation only after ascertaining that the personal reasons for his resignation were such that he could not continue the exacting demands of this high office, regardless of our desire to maintain his tenure.

We, therefore, in deference to his personal desires and needs, accepted his resignation with the deepest regret. He has served the Local at personal sacrifice to himself and his family for almost a decade. His tenure as President has been one of distinction and honor in a period when the course of the Union was difficult and critical to the welfare of the membership and the institution. His experience and capability will be missed, but he has assured us that he will be

available for consultation and assistance should we desire.

All of us, the Executive Board and the Officers of Local 1245, offer our thanks and appreciation for the dedication and devotion to the duties by "Ron" which he has displayed over the years, and our best wishes to him and his family for the future.

The Executive Board appointed Leland Thomas Jr. to succeed Brother Fields in the office of President. Lee was initiated by Local Union 1324 on May 29, 1950. He is employed by PG&E as a lineman in the Shasta Division. He has served the Local as President, Vice President, Southern Area Executive Board member, San Jose Division Advisory Council member, Chairman and Vice Chairman of Unit 1511, San Jose, Joint Grievance Committee member and also a Shop Steward.

During the above mentioned terms of office, Brother Thomas served on almost every committee Local 1245 has and he was a dele-

gate to most every major convention and conference that we participated in. To list them all would take reams of paper; suffice it to say that he has considerable experience.

In a personal interview with your newly appointed President, Lee Thomas made the following statements to me regarding his appointment: "Ron Fields will be a hard man to follow. He has done an excellent job for the last four years and established such a high level of performance that it would be difficult for anyone to 'fill his shoes'."

I asked Lee about his goals as President and he replied: "I will try to implement the programs started during Ron's term as well as preparing new programs to handle the needs of the future. I think it is important to be prepared for the problems and opportunities that new technology is bringing so that we can act according to a plan, rather than react to someone else's (employers) plan."

"I think it should be understood that this goes far beyond the goals or capabilities of one man. The Business Manager, the Executive Board, and most important, the membership, will and must work together toward this end. As an individual, I will try to improve and maintain the high standards that Local 1245 was built on."

When asked about his previous service as President of Local 1245, he replied: "Although I have been President of the Local for over four years, the times and attitudes have changed and they present new challenges. Hopefully, my previous experience will help meet these challenges."

During the interview President Thomas stressed the importance of the President working closely with the Business Manager and stated that he was looking forward to working with L. L. Mitchell.

Business Manager Mitchell has also indicated desires along these lines and is looking forward to working with Brother Thomas. Mitch believes that the Administrative arm and the policy making arm of the Local must be coordinated in order to succeed.

Lee, in accepting the appointment to the position of President, created a vacancy in the number two slot and C. P. "Red" Henneberry, formerly Executive Board member-Central Area, was chosen to fill the position of Vice President and James Lydon was appointed as the new Central Area Executive Board member.

Brother Thomas stated that "the position of Vice President in a Local of our size has become very important and that 'Red,' because of his years of service and experience with Local 1245, will do an excellent job as Vice President."



ROLAND W. FIELDS



LELAND THOMAS JR.

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN SEASON'S GREETINGS AND REFLECTIONS

L. L. MITCHELL

PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD WILL TOWARD MEN is no longer a greeting. It is fast becoming a question more than a wish.

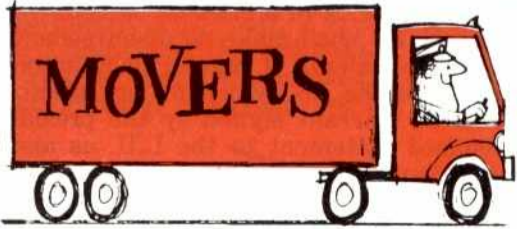
Fear and tension grips the world. Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and now Pakistan and India. The latter a war which threatens a triggering of war between a number of countries. Israel is again threatened and the streets of Northern Ireland are becoming battlegrounds.

The so-called advanced nations pose a greater threat to world survival than the primitive nations due to their availability to the

wonders of science which have disclosed the means of world destruction. The advancement of civilization has not made the larger and stronger nations any less barbarous in time of war. In fact, man's inhumanity to man in the so-called advanced nations is often more prevalent within a nation's own borders without wars than among the so-called savages.

It is a sobering thought that we as a nation could be a party to world destruction due to a miscalculation or error in judging our
 (Continued on Page Two)

... HAVE YOU MOVED?



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Unit 2311 Holds Christmas Dinner Dance



Lack of space prohibits proper identification of people in the photos. The affair was well received by everyone who attended.



A highly successful Dinner-Dance held on Dec. 10, 1971 marked the end of this year's social activities for Unit 2311, Oakland. The event, which was held at the beautiful Silver Pines Country Club in Newark, was a joint effort project between Unit 2311 and the East Bay Clerical Unit, 2301.

The evening got off to a fine start at 7:30 p.m. with a happy hour. Following this the guests enjoyed a superb, hot buffet dinner with chicken, ham, or beef stroganoff served as the main dish. The music for the dance was furnished by a top, 5 piece combo, and door prizes were given away throughout the evening. The biggest prize being a \$50.00 gift certificate to Macy's Dept. Store.

The guest of honor at the event was the Business Manager of L.U. 1245, L. L. Mitchell. Also attending from the Staff were: Shirley Storey, Veodis Stamps, Jack McNally, and Dave Reese. The Executive Board was repre-

sented by Vice President C. P. Henneberry and the Central Area member, James M. Lydon.

This dance was the crowning effort of Unit 2311's Social Club. In March of this year, the unit established a Social Club, the purpose of which was to hold various activities throughout the year designed to stimulate interest in and unity among members of Local 1245. The success of this year's activities should lead to even better events in the coming year.

The Chairman of the 2311 Social Club, and also Chairman of the Dance, James McCauley, extends his thanks to the following people who assisted him in making this Dance a success: JoAnn Bynam (clerical-chairwoman), Florence Harris (decorations), Joe Sciortino (treasurer), James Lydon, William Schuett, Mike Nelson, and Gary Abrahamson (tickets, posters, etc.)

YOUR *Business Manager's* COLUMN SEASON'S GREETINGS AND REFLECTIONS

L. L. MITCHELL

(Continued from Page One)

role in a world society. Certainly we must be a participant in mankind's effort to develop a lasting peace. We fervently hope that peace on earth and good will toward men can be achieved. But it is my belief we cannot influence the rest of the world without setting the example of true brotherhood at home.

At this season all of us are filled with the spirit of good will and brotherhood. It is also the season we assess our shortcomings and discuss resolutions for our actions in the coming year.

Each of us could contribute a little more to the betterment of man if we only retained for the whole year the spirit of good will expressed during the holiday season. It is only a small start to the answer of a major problem; but maybe if each of us resolved to ob-

serve the Golden Rule every day and did so, such an example might be accepted by the rest of the world. Brotherhood could expand beyond our own borders and those who are men of peace throughout the world could accept our credibility regardless of their traditions.

If we don't start with brotherhood at home, modern man, whatever his background or religions, will never believe our promises to be valid.

Each of us is a part of our national image. Each act we perform becomes the morality of our nation. United in Brotherhood we could become that symbol which men of every tradition might accept. In any event, the people of America have all to gain and nothing to lose in such an effort.

GOOD WILL DURING THE NEW YEAR!!!!

\$ YOUR DUES DOLLARS by Bud Gray - Treasurer

In the September issue of the Utility Reporter my column stated that an article would appear monthly unless some unusual circumstances came up. The October and November issues were jammed with other material, but now I will get back into the swing of things with this column for the December issue.

The clarification of responsibilities of the Financial Secretary and the Treasurer are defined under Article XIX, Sections 4, 6 and 7 of the International Constitution and is as follows:

Financial Secretary

Sec. 4. The F.S. shall keep such books and records, and issue such receipts, as are required or approved by the I.S. He may, when necessary and when approved by the L.U., employ an assistant or assistants. He shall be responsible for all moneys collected by the L.U. until such funds are turned over to the treasurer or deposited in the L.U.'s bank account without delay. When he deposits any L.U. funds he shall furnish the treasurer with the bank record of all such deposits not later than the close of the month. He shall make known to the L.U. the receipts received at such time as the L.U. decides. He shall mail to the I.S. the per capita report, and the money due, by the 10th of the month, unless special arrangements with the I.S. are made. (The L.U. shall be responsible to the I.S. for such payments.) If the F.S. fails to do this as required, the L.U. shall be assessed twenty-five dollars (\$25.00). He shall keep a record of each member, the full name and address and notify the I.S. of all suspended or expelled members.

Sec. 6. The F.S. shall submit his books and records for inspection or audit when called upon by the I.P., the I.S., the L.U. president, or Executive Board.

Treasurer


Sec. 7. The treasurer shall receive from the F.S. all moneys collected or the bank record of money deposited in the L.U.'s bank account and give proper receipt for the same. He shall deposit all L.U. moneys turned over to him by the F.S. in a bank or banks designated by the L.U. in the name of the L.U. He shall make no disbursements without sanction of the L.U., except for payments of regular or standing bills such as rent, salaries and payments to the I.S. which do not require a vote of the L.U., and upon an order or warrant signed by the president and the R.S. He shall make an itemized statement to the L.U. as and when required by the L.U. or the president. He shall submit his books and records for inspection or audit when called upon by the I.P., the I.S., the L.U. president or Executive Board.

As stated in Section 4, the Financial Secretary can employ assistants and he has these assistants. They are part of the office force of Local 1245. The Supervising Clerk and three bookkeepers spend a majority of their work day keeping the books up to date.

All moneys are deposited without delay and all money (inflow) is checked by Business Manager-Financial Secretary Mitchell and myself. I receive all records of deposits and disbursements every month and I make reports to the Executive Board at their regular monthly meeting.


Records are sent to the International Secretary of the I.B.E.W. under special arrangements every three months and per capita payments are made at that time.

In my next article I will cover affiliations with our Local and explain their part as far as cost to be affiliated and why it is necessary.



the utility reporter

Telephone (415) 933-6060



L. L. MITCHELL	Executive Editor
KENNETH O. LOHRE	Managing Editor
M. A. WALTERS	Assistant Editor
JOHN J. WILDER	Assistant Editor
LAWRENCE N. FOSS	Assistant Editor

Executive Board: Leland Thomas Jr., Mickey D. Harrington, Willie R. Stewart, William Jack Graves, Thomas C. Conwell, Jr., C. P. "Red" Henneberry, James Lydon.

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Public confused by phosphate, non-phosphate controversy

By Sidney Margolius, Consumer Expert for Utility Reporter

The government itself has now added to the confusion over conflicting claims for phosphate and non-phosphate detergents by urging families to return to phosphate detergents. The claim is that the non-phosphate detergents are hazardous. Before that change in position, various government agencies were advising the public to avoid detergents containing phosphates because they contributed to pollution of lakes and streams.

In fact, a number of cities were planning or discussing complete bans on phosphate detergents, or to require labeling of phosphate content, especially those in the Lake Erie area of the Midwest, and in the Everglades area in Florida.

The conflicting claims of detergent manufacturers and now the government's reversal have created a dilemma for consumers. Most of the phosphate detergents are made by the very big manufacturers like Procter & Gamble, and there are billions of dollars at stake in selling whiter-than-white washday miracles at needlessly high prices to America's grime-fighting housewives.

There is now so much confusion and even deception in the claims made for various types of detergents, and so much waste of money that the least the government owes the public is to establish minimum safety standards, and to require that manufacturers label detergents with (1) the degree of pH (alkalinity) of their products to show the degree of hazard; (2) the phosphate content to indicate the pollution danger, and (3) the content in terms of number of washloads and not merely in ounces.

For the fact remains that in addition to the controversy over phosphate vs. non-phosphate, the

public is not even able to compare the cost of various detergents. The weight of a cup of detergent may range from 3 to 7 ounces in various brands.

The lightweight ones seem to give you a bigger box for your money but you then need to use more. In our own surveys we have found costs per washload of various brands ranging from as little as 4.6 cents to as much as 12 cents.

There are two main issues in the phosphate vs. non-phosphate controversy. The large manufacturers claim that the non-phosphate detergents do not wash as effectively and are more dangerous. The event that culminated in the government's recommendation to return to the phosphate type was the death of a 15-month-old girl from eating a non-phosphate detergent. Her mother had left the detergent in an open container (not even in the box) and the child was able to get at it.

Based on our own research on the issue, which has extended actually over many weeks, the most impartial facts we can offer are these:

1—All detergents, phosphate as well as non-phosphate, are dangerous if ingested, and many also may irritate eyes. Most detergents of either type have silicants which are the hazardous ingredients. But some non-phosphate detergents apparently have a higher proportion of silicants to aid in washing effectiveness. Other non-phosphate detergents are relatively safer.

The Food and Drug Administration thus has required detergents falling into various classes of hazard to carry different types of warnings, although not very prominently. Those rated 1 are harmful if swallowed; those in group 2, also

are eye irritants; those rated 3 can be injurious to eyes; group 4 can be injurious to skin too; 5 can cause burns to skin and eyes, as well as being harmful if swallowed.

While the FDA list has been criticized as obsolete because of changes in formulation, among those products that were rated 4 and 5 (the most hazardous) at the time of testing were B-70, Concern, Giant OW, Klean, Sears, Fab, Logic, Ecolo-G, Balance and PFD. Fab contains phosphate. The others do not.

Interestingly, two of the non-phosphate detergents are the only ones on the list with a rating of 1—the least harmful group. These are M-W, Lo Suds and T-Rif. A number of others are in the medium-hazardous 2 and 3 group, including Arm and Hammer, Control, Bio-D, Trend, Spring Clean, King Kullen (a private brand) and Amway. Ironically, the detergent that the baby ate was the relatively low-hazard Arm and Hammer with a 2 rating.

Thus, non-phosphate detergents range from relatively low to relatively high hazard. The most reasonable policy for the government would be to remove the more hazardous formulations from the market, of whichever type, and not discourage use of the less hazardous non-phosphate brands.

2—Are non-phosphate detergents as effective as phosphate? The most impartial answer we have been able to get from independent manufacturers and retailers who make and sell both, is that non-phosphate detergents do work as well in soft-water areas but not as well in very hard water. The phosphates soften water.

Consumer co-ops, who tend to pay extra attention to real con-



sumer needs and ecology problems, have taken a middle road, offering in most areas both a low-phosphate and a non-phosphate detergent under their own brand names, according to Frank Anastasio, executive director of Mid-Eastern Cooperatives.

We also need some truth in labeling. Some of the most popular detergents like Tide and Cheer are formulated to be very sudsy but are lighter in density than other brands and require 1¼ cups or more for a washload. High suds are really a brain-washing device that do not aid in cleaning but actually choke washers (slow them down).

In some cases cheap ingredients are used to build up the apparent quantity. One non-phosphate detergent actually had 40 per cent table salt when first introduced, and many brands have more salt than the 2 per cent or so needed to keep colors from running. Any more than that is just being used to fill up the box. Industrial table salt costs 1.7 cents a pound compared to the 17 cents or more that you pay for detergent.

To conserve your own money as well as the environment, use only the minimum amount recommended by the manufacturer. You do not need the maximum suggested on the package, such as a full cup for a top-load washer, unless clothes are heavily soiled. Copyright 1971, by Sidney Margolius

January Buying Calendar: Higher Living Costs in Store for '72

By Sidney Margolius, Consumer Expert for Utility Reporter

Purported price guidelines or not, your living costs are going to be higher this coming year. With food prices already beginning to rise again, the likelihood is that the cost of living will go up even more than the 2½ per cent the Nixon Administration is trying to set as the maximum rise.

As this is written in December, the Dun & Bradstreet wholesale food price index already has gone up four weeks in a row and is the highest since last August. You did not get the full benefit of the drop in wholesale prices this past fall, and only exceptionally low prices for pork and eggs kept food bills fairly level in recent weeks.

But now supplies of pork and eggs are decreasing, and prices for these foods and many vegetables and fruits already are going up.

The other expense problems that will give your family most difficulty this year are housing, transportation and medical care. Moderate-income families will be hit hardest by this year's continuing inflation. Food and housing usually take over half their income and these costs are going to be under greatest pressure this year.

RENT SQUEEZE: Rent increases loom as the most explosive problem. Before the recent freeze went into effect, rents had been going up at almost twice the rate of homeowner expenses. **Rents continued to rise even during the freeze.** Now that rent "controls" have been replaced by "guidelines," many complaints of sharp increases have been made—some up to 30 per cent—according to the Internal Revenue Service.

To its credit, the IRS which administers the guidelines, has warned that landlords must keep records of their charges for comparable units, and must show these records to tenants and explain the reason for any increase. Renters asked to pay increases that seem unjustified can make a complaint to the nearest IRS office.

At the same time families hoping to get out of the rent trap by buying a home are facing a sharp increase in prices. The typical price of a new house jumped from \$23,000 last fall to \$25,000 now. This is the biggest one-year increase of the past decade.

Since it has become difficult to police food and other prices now that "controls" have been replaced by vague "guidelines," unions and other groups trying to maintain a price watch possibly can do this most usefully by collecting information on rent increases and reporting these to the IRS.

CARS: New cars will cost 2½-3 per cent more this year than during the recent three-month price freeze, but most of the domestic makes will cost less than last year because of pending repeal of the 7 per cent excise tax.

Note that beginning Jan. 1, car dealers are required to give you data you can take home on stopping, distance, acceleration and passing ability, and tire reserve loads. This information can help you compare these vital safety features among different makes and models.

JANUARY SALES: Even with the price increases on the basic necessities of food and housing, there are many money-saving sales available in January. This is one of the biggest sale months of the year offering an opportunity to anticipate your needs.

Among the most useful sales are the January shoe sales, winter clothing clearances, including coats and men's suits and shirts, and January White sales.

January also is a good month to find sales of dishes and glassware, electric housewares and blankets, with the midwinter furniture and rug sales starting later this month. You'll also find big price-cutting on TV sets, not only to clear out the Christmas remainders but because manufacturers had started to cut prices as much as \$30 and more even before.

FOOD BUYING CALENDAR: One of the reasons why price control hasn't got a chance is the cutback in pork production by farmers. While prices already are rising, some pork cuts are still relatively reasonable this month, especially sales of whole loins, roasts and whole hams. Buy the whole loin or ham get a lower price and then save again by putting the rest in your freezer compartment against the coming higher pork prices.

Eggs are higher, too, but are still good relative value. Beef has been expensive this year. Among the few good values in main-dish foods still available this winter are broilers and turkeys, although turkeys have gone up, too.

Many people have been startled by the higher prices of fish, once considered a relatively inexpensive food. Some varieties of frozen fish still are reasonable. But in general fish is in short supply this year, and the fast growth of fish and chips restaurants has increased demand. The import surcharge also has raised prices of some fish imports.

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Lee Thomas



Red Henneberry



Mickey Harrington



Bud Gray



Tom Conwell



Jim Lydon



Jack Graves



Willie Stewart



V...

Season's Greetings





Stewart



Vern Mitchell



John Wilder



Larry Foss



Mert Walters



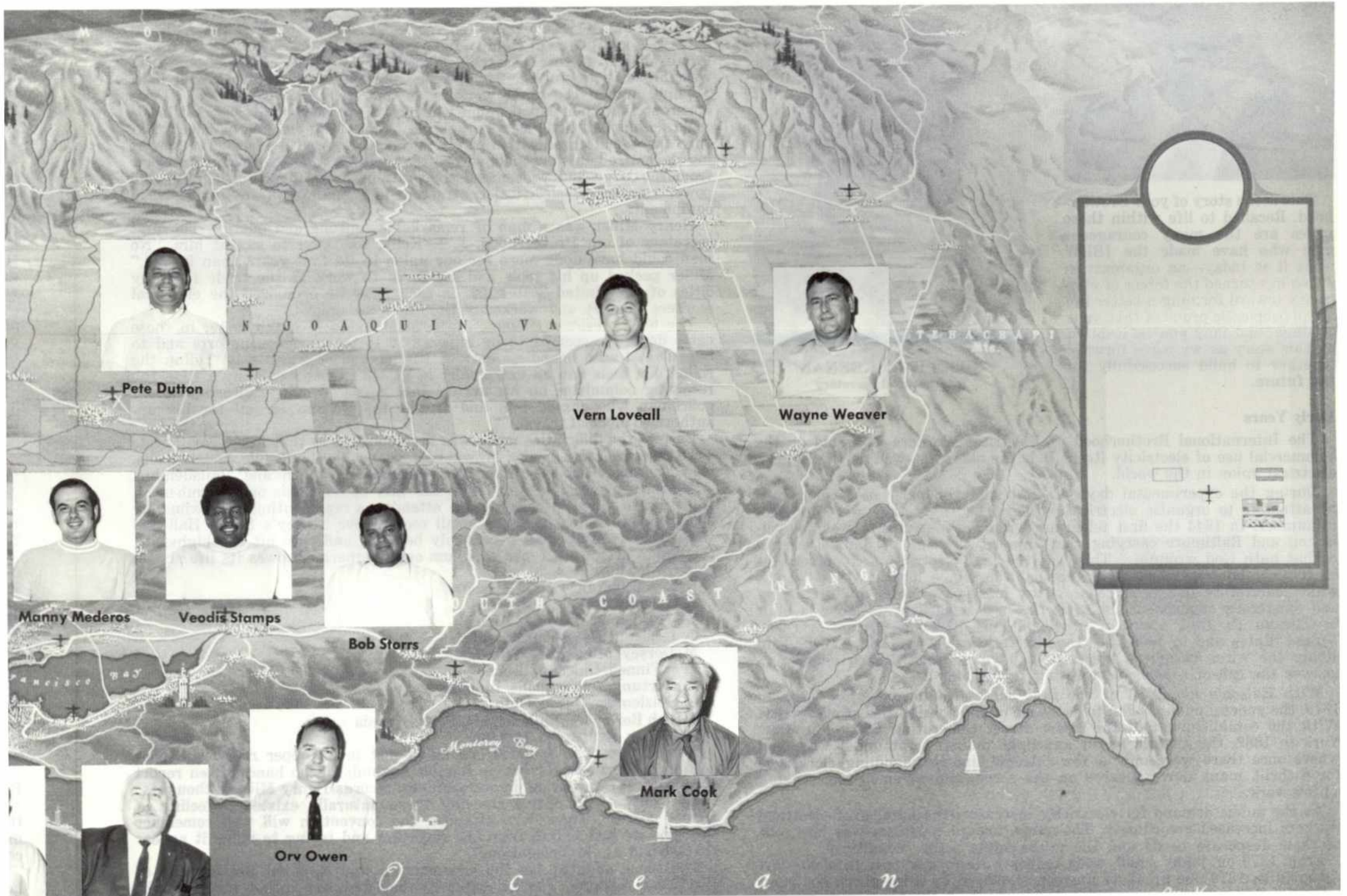
Roy Murray



Jack McNally



Dave Reese



Pete Dutton

Vern Loveall

Wayne Weaver

Manny Mederos

Veodis Stamps

Bob Storrs

Mark Cook

Orv Owen

Frank Quadros

from Local 1245

A History of the IBEW

PART I

EDITOR'S NOTE: We are starting a series of seven articles on the history of the I.B.E.W. The material is from a booklet put out by the International Office in Washington, D.C. When we complete this series of articles, we intend to print a series of articles on the history of Local 1245. It is important for the membership of any group to know its history and the majority of our members do not know from whence it came.

Shown below are the pictures and statements of the President and Secretary of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers as they appeared in the booklet from which this series is printed.

CHARLES H. PILLARD
International President



This is the story of your Brotherhood. Recalled to life within these pages are the many courageous men who have made the IBEW what it is today—an organization which has turned the forces of electricity toward forming a better life for all people. Be proud of this, your heritage, and may you be inspired by this story as we move forward together to build successfully for the future.

It is important for trade unionists of today to know what went into creating a Brotherhood like ours. Our history is an honorable one and I don't believe anyone can read it without experiencing a feeling of admiration for the pioneers and marveling at how far our union and our industry have come.



JOSEPH D. KEENAN
International Secretary

Early Years

The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers is as old as the commercial use of electricity itself. It is the oldest, as well as the largest, electrical union in the world.

During the experimental days of electricity, histories of labor record no attempts to organize electrical workers. Probably they were too few in number. In 1844 the first telegraph wires were strung between Washington and Baltimore carrying that famous message of Samuel Morse, "What hath God wrought." This was the first electrical accomplishment of commercial importance and changed the whole aspect of electricity, which heretofore had been regarded by most persons as an interesting and dangerous experiment. In 1848, the first telegraph station was built in Chicago. By 1861 a web of telegraph lines had been strung over the United States and in 1866 the trans-Atlantic cable was laid. Linemen to string the wires became a necessity and young men flocked eagerly to answer the call of a new and exciting profession.

With Edison's invention of the first successful incandescent lamp in 1879, the general public began to be aware of the possibilities of electricity. With the establishment of the Pearl Street Generating Station in New York in 1882, the electric power and light industry got under way, and where once there were only a few intrepid linemen handling electricity for a thrill, many now appeared on the scene, and wiremen too, seeking a life's work.

As the public demand for electricity increased, the number of electrical workers increased accordingly. The surge toward unionism was born out of their desperate needs and the unspeakable safety conditions.

From 1870 on, many small, weak unions were formed only to disappear. As early as 1870 one group of linemen employed by a telegraph company staged a strike that was considered important at the time.

By 1880 there were enough telegraph linemen organized to form their own local assembly and affiliate with the Knights of Labor. A few more locals were soon organized and a District Council was formed. In 1883, this Council called a general strike against the telegraph companies. The strike failed and broke up the first known attempt to organize electrical workers.

The urge to unite was strong, however, and another attempt was made in 1884, this time with a secret organization known as the United Order of Linemen. Headquarters for this union were in Denver and it attained considerable success in the western part of the United States.

Beginning of Brotherhood

The nucleus of what was eventually to be our Brotherhood was formed in 1890. In that year an exposition was held in St. Louis featuring "a glorious display of electrical wonders." Wiremen and linemen from all over the United States flocked to Missouri's queen city to wire the buildings and erect the exhibits which were the "spectaculars" of their era.

The men got together at the end of each long work day and talked of the toil and the conditions as they existed for the electrical workers of that time. The story was the same everywhere. The work was hard, the hours long, the pay small. It was not uncommon for a lineman to risk his life on the high lines 12 hours a day in any kind of weather, seven days a week for the meager sum of 15 to 20 cents an hour. Two dollars fifty cents a day was considered an excellent wage for wiremen and many men were forced to accept work for eight dollars a week.

There was no such thing as apprenticeship training, and safety standards were unheard of. In some areas the death rate for linemen was one out of every two hired, and nationally the death rate for Electrical Workers was twice that of the national average for the other industries.

It is no wonder that the electrical workers of the "gay nineties" sought some recourse for their troubles. A union was the logical answer. And so this small group, meeting in St. Louis, sought help from the American Federation of Labor. An organizer named Charles Cassel was sent to help them and chartered them as Federal Local Number 5221 of the AFL.

A St. Louis lineman, Henry Miller, was elected president of this union. Photos of him in the I.O. archives show him to be a tall, handsome man with broad, powerful shoulders, keen blue eyes and reddish brown hair. To him, and to the other workers at that St. Louis exposition, it was apparent that their small union was only a starting point. Isolated locals could accomplish little as a bargaining agency. They were convinced that only a national organization of electrical workers with jurisdiction covering the entire industry, could win better treatment for the electrical worker from the large and widespread corporations of telephone, telegraph and power companies, electrical contractors and manufacturers of electrical equipment.

Henry Miller was a man of remarkable courage and energy. The first secretary of our Brotherhood, J. T. Kelly, was later to say of him, "No man could have done more for our union in its first years than he did." Miller packed up his tools and set forth to work at the trade in many cities of the United States and in each place he organized the electrical workers he met and worked with into local unions.

The first president of our Brotherhood found it rough going in those early days. He seemed to be impervious to personal discomforts and to be endowed with boundless energy. His method of travel was "riding the rails," his tools and an extra shirt in an old carpetbag. Many a time the receiving committee on his arrival into a city was a "railroad bull"—a policeman who chased him and sought to put him in jail for his unauthorized mode of travel.

Despite the difficulties much was accomplished in that first year. Locals were organized in Chicago, Milwaukee, Evansville, Louisville, Indianapolis, New Orleans, Toledo, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Duluth and Philadelphia.

A first convention was called in the City of St. Louis on November 21, 1891. There were 10 delegates in attendance representing approximately 300 members. They met in a small room above Stolley's Dance Hall and while this account must necessarily be brief and only hit the highspots, the names of those 10 men to whom our Brotherhood owes its life should be recorded here:

Henry Miller, St. Louis, Missouri
J. T. Kelly, St. Louis, Missouri
W. Hedden, St. Louis, Missouri
C. J. Sutter, Duluth, Minnesota
M. Dorsey, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
T. J. Finnell, Chicago, Illinois
E. Hartung, Indianapolis, Indiana
F. Heizleman, Toledo, Ohio
Joseph Berlowitz, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
H. Fisher, Evansville, Indiana

The 10 men who founded our union met in an upper room in a poor section of St. Louis. It was an humble beginning. The handwritten report of that First Convention, in our archives, records Henry Miller's thoughts:

"At such a diminutive showing there naturally existed a feeling of almost despair. Those who attended the convention will well remember the time we had hiding from the reporters and trying to make it appear that we had a great delegation."

The name adopted for the organization was National Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The delegates to that first convention worked night and day for seven days, drawing up a Constitution, general laws, ritual to be followed and an emblem—the well-known fist grasping the lightning rays. As top officers they elected Henry Miller as first "Grand President" and J. T. Kelly, "Grand Secretary-Treasurer." Both of these men were from St. Louis.

Before moving on, it might be well to contemplate for a moment the Preamble to that first Constitution—to note the goals which motivated our founders, the far-reaching, sensible, unselfish objectives which have been retained, except for a slight change in wording, by every Convention of the IBEW from 1891 to the present.

(Continued on Page Seven)

Some Questions For Our Readers

In Memorium

Do We Have Any Poets?



In order to brighten the pages of this newspaper, your editor considered the possibility that we may have some "unsung bards" among our thousands of members and their families.

Poetry is something which is as individual an expression as any found in our society and our culture. Personal thoughts are transformed into rhythmic arrangements of words which tell stories or advance ideas. This method of human expression is a very important factor in the recording of the history and the process of human thought and expression in the civilization of many. Many poets are bashful and hide their talents in the face of crude expressions of ignorant people who resent such free expressions of individual thought.

We welcome the contribution of our members and their families who write poetry and we would be most happy to start a "Poets Corner," if we can generate some interest. Just send in your efforts and they will find their way into print, subject to the reasonable responsibilities of editors concerning space and the content of submitted material.



Do We Have Any Cartoonists?

Humor is becoming a scarce and a prized commodity in this era of serious and critical everyday events. The art of depicting human behavior or situations in the form of cartoons is one of the arts which can transcend provincial and selfish attitudes. Cartoons have been known to win or lose important elections. They have been instrumental in some of the major reforms of the last century. They have a power of expression which is reserved for cartoons alone and we know that we have some good cartoonists in the family of Local 1245.

We seek the contributions of our cartoonist members or the cartoonist members of their families as a welcome addition to the pages of this newspaper. How about some help? We'll do our best to reproduce any materials which are suitable for reproduction.



Do We Have Any Photographers?

We know that there are many fine photographers among our members and their families. We get little opportunity to extend the photographic arts of these fine technicians to the thousands of people who scan our monthly efforts. We would like to show off the abilities of our "camera hawk" members and we promise to use their efforts in the best manner we can with proper recognition through photo credits.

A good photo, black and white glossy print, with a caption explaining the subject matter and properly identifying the individuals involved, is "manna from Heaven" so far as your editors are concerned. Negatives are helpful but not absolutely essential. Pictures and negatives will be returned to senders.

Letters to the Editor?

We have tried several times in the last three years to start a "letters to the editor" column and occasionally we get one and print it, but we are not getting the response we had hoped for. If you have some thoughts or ideas you want to share with the membership, send them in. All entries are subject to approval of the "editorial board (Executive Board)," but if our members exercise reason and good judgment their letters will be printed.

The Utility Reporter is your newspaper and we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to make it more meaningful to you by contributing to it personally.

Joseph E. Boggiano (Stockton Division)	July 1, 1971
Clarence A. Borrello (City of Oakland)	August 4, 1971
Donald L. Campbell (DeSabra Division)	August 11, 1971
Carlos F. Hedley (Humboldt Division)	August 18, 1971
Walter C. Warren (San Francisco Division)	August 25, 1971
Albert Owen (Nevada Irrigation District)	September 27, 1971
William D. Tudor (San Joaquin Division)	October, 1971
Lloyd E. Zachary (Material Distribution)	October 18, 1971
H. D. Gose (Humboldt Division)	October 27, 1971
Joseph Karl Schmidt (San Joaquin Division)	October 31, 1971
Lee T. Balch (S.M.U.D.)	November 4, 1971
Leslie E. Bullis (San Francisco Division)	November 12, 1971
John D. Guthrie (East Bay Division)	November 14, 1971
Charles W. Whitmire (DeSabra Division)	November, 1971
Pete M. Rambaud (San Joaquin Division)	October 5, 1971
Delbert L. Clark (Colgate Division)	December 9, 1971
George T. Wainwright (Coast Valleys Division)	December 12, 1971

A HISTORY OF THE I.B.E.W.

(Continued from Page Six)

"The objects of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers are: To organize all workers in the entire electrical industry, including all those in public utilities and electrical manufacturing, into local unions, to promote reasonable methods of work, to cultivate feelings of friendship among those of our industry, to settle all disputes between employers and employees by arbitration (if possible), to assist each other in sickness or distress, to secure employment, to reduce the hours of daily labor, to secure adequate pay for our work, to seek a higher and higher standard of living, to seek security for the individual, and by legal and proper means to elevate the moral, intellectual and social conditions of our members, their families and dependents, in the interest of a higher standard of citizenship."

The new national union started life without a penny of its own, being financed by a loan of \$100.00 from the St. Louis local.

"This was the time and manner in which the Brotherhood was born," wrote Charles P. Ford, for many years International Secretary of the IBEW, commenting on the birth of our union.

"There was little to encourage this small group of men. The opposition to unions of that time was active and bitter. The obstacles seemed unsurmountable. Hearts less courageous would have given up in despair."

One month after it was founded, Henry Miller carried the request of the new union for a charter to the AFL Convention, meeting in Birmingham, Alabama. The charter was granted December 7, 1891 and gave to the NBEW sweeping jurisdiction over electrical workers in every branch of the trade and industry.

The handicaps suffered by the new union—no money, bitter resistance to organizing on the part of the employers of the day—were counterbalanced by the vigor and determination of the members. Henry Miller, especially, was tireless in his efforts. In the first year of the Brotherhood's existence he is said to have visited every major city in the East, from New Orleans to Boston. Other officers of the union carried on organizing in the same way, spending their own time and funds—their only reward, the satisfaction of extending the organization and the knowledge that they were working toward wiping out injustice and creating a better life for all who sought a living from electricity.

When the second Convention met in Chicago in 1892, the Brotherhood had 43 locals chartered with nearly 2,000 members and \$646.10 in the treasury. Henry Miller and J. T. Kelly were re-elected to their posts as Grand President and Grand Secretary-Treasurer.

The new union was destined for setbacks, however. Of course our inexperienced pioneers made mistakes in those early days. The men who attended our first Conventions had a dream of Brotherhood. They were idealists and from the very beginning they believed that benefits and brotherhood went hand in hand. They set their per capita to be paid to the "Grand Office" low—only 10 cents per member. They assumed they would be able to operate and meet all their obligations on this small sum. Then they not only set up a \$50.00 death benefit payment for members but instituted a \$25.00 death benefit for wives of members as well. It should be stated here that all obligations of those first fledgling years were met. Secretary J. T. Kelly's accounts are specific. We lost a great many Electrical Workers in death in those early days but the widow of every man in good standing was paid a death benefit. It was thus that the Brotherhood was started on the road to bankruptcy.

Although some mistakes were made, they were overshadowed by two very important innovations. At the 1892 Convention the first women members were admitted to the union. They were telephone operators. (Four years later when we had only one organizer on our payroll, a second was added, a woman, Mary Honzik, of St. Louis. Thus, our Brotherhood became the first union ever to have a woman organizer on its staff.) This Second Convention also authorized publication of our Journal. The first Journal, called **The Electrical Worker**, was issued in January of 1893 and has been published continuously ever since.

It is significant that from the earliest days, our Brotherhood recognized the need and worth of communication within the union. In an early Convention report, J. T. Kelly, in making an appeal for financial support for the Journal, said: "We could not have managed to keep our Brotherhood intact through these early years if it were not for our magazine."

See January issue for Part II

The Safety Scene

IT'S UP TO YOU

Editor's note: The new year always brings warnings about drinking and driving. Here are some facts you might consider throughout the rest of the year also. The chart and articles are reprinted from Traffic Safety magazine.

Alcohol is the largest single cause factor in fatal auto crashes. The result: thousands of needless deaths every year.

The law cannot regulate your drinking. It can only penalize you if you drive after drinking too much—often innocent people have died. All states now use chemical tests to determine blood-alcohol concentration. Under the law of many states you are presumed too intoxicated to drive at 0.10 per cent. Other states have slightly higher levels and one sets it lower at 0.08.

A presumptive level of 0.15 per cent, considered too high in the light of recent studies, is still retained by a majority of states. An Indiana University study found that at 0.15 the chances of being involved in a traffic accident are 25 times greater than with no alcohol.

If you are going to drive, it would be better if you did not drink any alcohol at all. Or . . .

Drink in such a manner that you will not be under the influence when you drive a car.

If you choose the second alternative, wait at least one hour per av-

erage drink before driving. That's the minimum amount of time required by the body to rid itself of alcohol.

It's up to you.

ALCOHOL EDUCATION CHART

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES	NORMAL MEASURES DISPENSED	ALCOHOL IN ONE BOTTLE OR GLASS		APPROXIMATE BLOOD-ALCOHOL LEVEL (%) REACHED IN ONE HOUR (0.015 can be substituted for each additional hour)					
		Per cent of Alcohol	Amount of Alcohol	One Drink		Two Drinks		Three Drinks	
				Body Weight	Body Weight	Body Weight	Body Weight	Body Weight	Body Weight
				120	180	120	180	120	180
BEER									
a) Malt	12 oz. btl.	7%	4/5 oz.	Per cent		Per cent		Per cent	
b) Ale	12 oz. btl.	5%	3/5 oz.	.06	.04	.08	.06	.14	.09
c) Reg. Beer	12 oz. btl.	4%	1/2 oz.	.05	.03	.07	.05	.10	.08
				.04	.02	.06	.04	.09	.06
WINES									
a) Fortified: Port, Muscatel, etc.	3+ oz. gl.	18%	1/2 oz.	.04	.02	.06	.04	.09	.06
b) Natural: Red/White, Champagne	3+ oz. gl.	12%	2/5 oz.	.03	.02	.06	.04	.07	.04
LIQUEURS									
a) Strong: B&B, Cointreau, Drambuie	1 oz. gl.	40%	2/5 oz.	.03	.02	.06	.04	.07	.05
b) Medium: Fruit Brandies	2 oz. gl.	25%	1/2 oz.	.04	.02	.07	.04	.09	.06
"STRAIGHT" SPIRITS									
Brandy, Cognac, Rum, Scotch, Vodka, Whiskey	1 oz. gl.	45%	1/2 oz.	.04	.02	.06	.04	.08	.06
COCKTAILS									
a) Strong: Martini, Manhattan	3 1/2 oz. gl.	30%	1 oz.	.07	.04	.14	.09	.19	.11
b) Medium: Old Fashioned, Daiquiri, Alexander	4 oz. gl.	15%	3/5 oz.	.05	.03	.07	.05	.10	.08
HIGHBALLS									
with sweet and sour mixes, tonics	8 oz. gl.	7%	3/5 oz.	.05	.03	.07	.05	.10	.07

Will You Be Next?

OCTOBER 19, 1971

An apprentice lineman working on a crew involved in installing street lights, had completed the work to be done on the pole and was in the process of descending from the work area, when this accident occurred.

He stated he must have stepped in a knot on the pole with his right foot, causing him to fall approximately 20 feet.

The injured had not removed his safety-belt from around the pole prior to starting down, so he never lost contact with it while falling.

Approximately 4 feet above the ground his left gaff, or "hook" caught the pole again causing an abrupt stop on one leg.

He received damage to his left knee in the form of a sprain, that required therapy treatments.

NOVEMBER 4, 1971

On this day, at approximately 10:25 a.m., a Gas Department Fitter inadvertently ignited escaping natural gas with his welding torch. He received 1st, 2nd, and 3rd degree burns to his face, ears, arms, neck, chest, and legs, as a result of the fire.

The job in progress called for welding a by-pass onto a manifold riser, that had not been installed during the time of initial construction.

Approximately six inches from the point at which the welding was taking place, was a Plastic-to-Steel fusion fitting. The injured had placed a wet rag between the fusion fitting and the by-pass in an attempt to keep the area cool, but this was to no avail.

The injured employee had just stood up erect from his crouched welding position when the fitting separated allowing the gas to escape, which in turn was ignited by his torch.

The injured is still hospitalized.

NOVEMBER 17, 1971

A lineman ascending a pole, "kicked-out" at a point approximately 25 feet above the ground.

Although he landed on his feet, X-rays taken of his heels and legs showed no damage. He was released to go home shortly thereafter.

HOME WORKSHOP SAFETY

Now is the time of year when the do-it-yourself set gets busy making repairs in and around the house.

- Don't use an electric saw without a guard.
- Equip electric saws with a kick-back device.
- Use push sticks, not fingers, when putting wood through an electric saw.
- Wear safety goggles.
- Keep tools sharp.
- Use the right tool for the job. Don't use a screwdriver in place of a pry tool.
- Don't buy cheap tools. An extra dollar or two often means the dif-

ference between a poorly made, easily dulled tool and a well balanced, finely tempered one.

- Never point a sharp tool toward your body.
- Always cut away from yourself.
- Use clamps instead of your hands to hold materials in place while cutting or drilling.
- Keep a fire extinguisher nearby when using flammable materials.
- Ground all electrical equipment or use double insulated tools.

—Safety Review Office of Civilian Manpower Management
Navy Department
Washington D.C. 20390

Plastics and Fire

Coming to a head in West Germany is a situation that may become of serious concern to plastics suppliers and users. West German insurance companies have tabbed plastics—notably polyvinyl chloride—as the causative factor in steeply rising fire damage costs in plants that store plastics.

Pinpointing PVC in fire damage complaints belies the material's high hydrochloric acid content, which reduces its flammability! But, the West German reports states that, when PVC is heated to 392°F, as it would be in a plant fire, it decomposes, and releases clouds of hydrochloric acid gas that cor-

rode metal equipment and building structures. Within three days, rust-like corrosion stains form on exposed metal, and the gas liberated by the decomposed PVC combines chemically with the lime in plaster and concrete walls to create a persistent corrosive agent (calcium chloride). This seeps deep into the walls and attacks structural-steel members.

Thus, the initial fire damage may be only a fraction of the actual damage. In one instance, initial fire damage estimated at \$2,000 was adjusted upward to \$4,000,000 after insurance investigators discovered the hidden damage caused by the corrosive fumes!

McGraw-Hill
World News Service