



utility reporter

VOL. XXII NO. 10

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER, 1974

Official Publication of I.B.E.W.
Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO,
P.O. Box 4790,
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596



This photo shows some of the participants in Local 1245's North Bay-San Francisco stewards training program. See page eight for more photos.

Business Manager Mitchell Named Chairman of PAC

L. L. Mitchell, Business Manager-Financial Secretary of Local 1245, I.B.E.W., was elected as Chairman of the Project Advisory Committee of the Labor Occupational Health Project.

The Occupational Health Project (OHP) has been established at the Institute of Industrial Relations (University of California, Berkeley Campus,) and is currently in the process of developing a clearing house service for the purpose of storing and disseminating pertinent information regarding trends and developments in the field of occupational health and safety.

An example of some of the types of information they are looking for would be a report from unions showing the illnesses of members in specific classifications in their particular industry. They would put the information from all unions together and examine the results to see if there is an abnormal amount of people in a particular classification or occupation



L. L. MITCHELL

that have the same illness. As you can see, this could very well pinpoint an occupational hazard which would not be readily apparent when analyzing a smaller group.

One of the main functions of the Project Advisory Committee, of which Mitchell is chairman, is input. They will attempt to encourage wide participation in this Project.

'Favoritism for the few'

Brown Raps Ford's 5% Surtax Plan

Asserting that President Ford "seems to believe that middle-income workers are the cause of inflation and not the victims," Democratic gubernatorial candidate Edmund G. Brown, Jr. urged Congress this week to reject Ford's proposed five percent income surtax and declared that the California election next month "is critical as a referendum on the bankrupt economic policies of Nixon and Ford."

"Working people are already suffering too much — and we shouldn't add to the suffering by imposing a new surtax," Brown said in an address to more than 600 trade union officials attending a Los Angeles County Federation of Labor luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Los Angeles.

Ford's surtax proposal, he pointed out, calls for "sacrifice by the many and favoritism for the few" because middle-income persons should be forced to pay the bulk of the \$2.6 billion that the surtax would raise.

"If the Ford Administration believes it is necessary for the

economy to provide a \$2.6 billion incentive to industry to modernize," Brown said, "it should not do it at the expense of the working men and women of the nation.

"The government could finance these efforts by closing tax loopholes which currently benefit special interest," he said.

"For example, we should eliminate the oil depletion allowance," he declared, pointing out that its elimination could bring in an additional \$3 billion a year in Federal revenue.

(Just last week Ford voiced his opposition to such a move and said he didn't favor phasing out the oil depletion allowance.)

"The truth is that Mr. Ford's plan is nothing more than a Herbert Hoover scheme to soak the middle-class," Secretary of State Brown said.

Brown, the California Labor COPE-endorsed candidate for Governor, warned that "the Rockefellers, the Fords, the whole Republican gang is

(Continued on page three)

CLC will sue to block Oakland's payroll tax

Editor's note: The action of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, as told in the story below, is a good example of where some of your dues dollars are spent. We are affiliated with many of the labor councils throughout the state and in addition to receiving strike support and information on labor activity in the various areas, they watch out for the welfare of the affiliated Unions and their members. If the city of Oakland were to succeed in levying this unfair and unconstitutional tax against workers, it would be just a matter of time before every major city in the state adopted the same "License fee" to supplement their "bare bones" budgets. We will be watching the progress of this suit and will inform our members of any future developments.

A "real" challenge to the unconstitutionality of the Oakland payroll tax will be made by the Alameda County Central Labor Council, its executive secretary, Richard K. Groulx, announced last week.

The council's attorney, Victor Van Bourg, said he would file suit to stop the imposition of the tax as scheduled in 1976 on the grounds that "the state has pre-empted that field of taxation."

CLC delegates voted in June, when the ordinance was passed, to authorize legal action "if necessary." Groulx asked Van Bourg to act when it appeared that the only legal test scheduled was being initiated by supporters of the tax and its principal sponsor, Mayor John Reading. One of those planning a legal test was Tom Berkley, whom the Mayor appointed to the Port Commission and who supported the payroll tax proposal

editorially in his newspaper, "The Post."

Implementation of the tax was put off until 1976 in order to allow time for the expected legal challenge.

Although officially termed a "fee" for a license to work in Oakland, the charge is the same as an income tax on wage and salary owners, its opponents argued, and only state and federal governments have the right to tax income. The fact that income from other sources, such as dividends, rents and interest, is not affected only makes the income tax more discriminatory, they said.

Reading proposed a 1 per cent tax on gross income earned in Oakland over \$4,000 a year. The basic exemption was raised to \$6,500 a year, whereupon Reading indicated that, to maintain the total revenue, the tax would probably be raised to at least 1 1/2 per cent, possibly more.

East Bay Labor Journal

... HAVE YOU MOVED?



MY NEW ADDRESS IS:

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

RETURN TO:

P.O. BOX 4790, WALNUT CREEK, CALIF. 94596

CALIFORNIA CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES

The Executive Board of Local 1245 recommends support of the following candidates:

General Election, November 5, 1974

Governor

Edmund G. Brown, Jr. (D)

Secretary of State

March K. Fong (D)

Lieutenant Governor

Mervyn M. Dymally (D)

Controller

Kenneth Cory (D)

Attorney General

*Evelle J. Younger (R)

Treasurer

Jesse M. Unruh (D)

U. S. Senator, California
Alan Cranston (D)

Wildlife Federation urges
'NO' Vote on Prop. 17

California State Board of Equalization

| District | Endorsed Candidate |
|----------|-------------------------|
| 1 | *George R. Reilly (D) |
| 2 | *John V. Lynch (D) |
| 3 | *William M. Bennett (D) |
| 4 | *Richard Nevings (D) |

Opposition to Proposition 17, the so-called "Wild River" initiative on the November 5 General Election ballot which would halt construction on the \$264 million New Melones Dam, is now being voiced by a growing number of environmentalist groups, including the California Wildlife Federation, the California Outdoor Recreation League, and the California Waterfowl Association.

Their opposition is based in part on the fact that completion of the \$264 million dam on which \$64 million has

already been expended, will enable the flow on the Stanislaus River to be increased in critical periods and thereby alleviate pollution, particularly in the bottom 55-mile section of the River.

A handbill distributed by the California Wildlife Federation urging a "No" vote on Proposition 17, spells out nine reasons why the dam should be completed.

Among other things, it says that "a properly operated New Melones Dam" can:

Prevent development and provide public access to more than 50 miles of the river that is now inaccessible.

Provide water-oriented recreation for millions of people.

Improve water quality in the lower Stanislaus River, lower San Joaquin River, (the) Delta and Bay;

Provide much-needed flood control;

Provide increased water supply; and,

Provide smog-free power generation comparable to a fossil-fuel plant requiring 700,000 barrels of crude oil annually.

Noting that several environmental groups filed suit to halt the dam, the California Wildlife Federation's handbill points out that "they were unsuccessful in the District Court of Appeals and in the U.S. Supreme Court."

It also notes that the New Melones Dam opponents who are promoting Proposition 17 appear to be primarily concerned with the preservation of "a nine-mile stretch of so-called 'white water' between Camp Nine and Parrot's Ferry Bridge."

But the Wildlife Federation points out that Proposition 17 proponents "choose to ignore the fact that if it

(Continued on page eight)

Confirmation of California Supreme Court Justices

| | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| Chief Justice | Donald R. Wright | Vote Yes |
| Associate Justice | William P. Clark, Jr. | Vote Yes |
| Associate Justice | Stanley Mosk | Vote Yes |
| Associate Justice | Matthew O. Tobriner | Vote Yes |

Confirmation of Judges of District Court of Appeal

Vote YES for incumbents in the various District Courts.



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: Howard Darington, E.M. "Buffalo" Horn, Betty J. Thomas, James W. "Bud" Gray, Manuel A. Mederos, Dale Turman and Guy E. Marley.

Published monthly at 1918 Grove Street, Oakland, California 94612. Official publication of Local Union 1245, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO, P.O. Box 4790, Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596. Second Class postage paid at Oakland, California.

POSTMASTER: Please send Form 3579, Change of Address, and all correspondence to the Utility Reporter, to P.O. Box 4790, Walnut Creek, Calif. 94596.

Subscription price \$1.20 per year Single copies, 10 cents

PLEASE VOTE

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN
ON VACATION

L. L. MITCHELL

NEVADA CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES

The Executive Board of Local 1245 recommends support of the following candidates:

General Election, November 5, 1974

Governor

Mike O'Callaghan (D)

Lieutenant Governor

Robert Rose (D)

Secretary of State

No Recommendation

Attorney General

Richard Bryan (D)

Supreme Court Justice

Gordon Thompson

State Treasurer

Mike Mirabelli (D)

State Controller

Thomas E. Kruse (D)

Representatives in Congress

U. S. Senator Harry Reid (D)
House of Rep. James Santini (D)

Nevada State Senate

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------|----------|----------------------|
| District | Clark County | District | Washoe County |
| 1. | No Recommendation | 1. | Mary Gojack (D) |
| 2. | Eugene Echols (D) | | Thomas Wilson (D) |
| 3. | Jack Schofield (D) | 2. | William Farr (R) |
| | Chic Hecht (R) | | |
| | Phillip Lampkin (R) | | |

Small Counties

Capitol District - Gary Sheerin (D)
Western Nevada District - Ian Stevens (D)

Nevada State Assembly

| | | | |
|----------|---------------------|----------|---------------------------------|
| District | Clark County | District | Washoe County |
| 1. | Daniel Demers (D) | 23. | Eugene Titlow (D) |
| 2. | Lloyd Mann (D) | 24. | No Recommendation |
| 3. | Roger Bremner (D) | 25. | No Recommendation |
| 4. | Doris Caston (R) | 26. | No Recommendation |
| 5. | Willis Deiss (D) | 27. | No Recommendation |
| 6. | Marion Bennett (D) | 28. | Patrick Murphy (D) |
| 7. | Lonie Chaney (D) | 29. | Ray Crosby (D) |
| 8. | No Recommendation | 30. | Donald Mello (D) |
| 9. | Eileen Brookman (D) | 31. | Chet Christensen (D) |
| 10. | John Vergiels (D) | 32. | Artie Valentine (D) |
| 11. | James Banner (D) | | |
| 12. | James Schofield (D) | District | Small Counties |
| 13. | Karen Hayes (D) | 34. | No Recommendation |
| 14. | No Recommendations | 35. | John Polish (D) |
| 15. | Jean Ford (R) | 36. | Don Moody (D) |
| 16. | James Anderson (R) | 37. | No Recommendation |
| 17. | Robert Price (D) | 38. | Joe Dini (D) |
| 18. | No Recommendations | 39. | No Recommendation |
| 19. | Paul May Jr. (D) | | Carson Area - Alan Glover (D) |
| 20. | Robert Craddock (D) | | Elko County - No Recommendation |
| 21. | Nash Sena (D) | | |
| 22. | John Jeffrey (D) | | |

State Propositions

| | |
|----------------|----------|
| Question No. 1 | Vote Yes |
| Question No. 2 | Vote Yes |
| Question No. 3 | Vote Yes |
| Question No. 4 | Vote Yes |

Brown Hits Surtax Plan; Vows Action on State Issues

(Continued from page one)

coming into California to try to prop up Flournoy in the closing days of the campaign."

He urged California voters to send a message to Washington "that you don't like unemployment and inflation and the lack of leadership we see in the country today."

Brown also said that he would sign legislation to:

Extend unemployment insurance to farm workers;

Provide effective collective bargaining rights for public employees;

Assure workers the right to keep tips left for them by patrons;

Strengthen enforcement of safety laws;

Spur the state's ailing housing industry; and,

Create an Energy Commission.

He also said he would assure economic justice for workers through his appointments to the State In-

dustrial Welfare Commission and other agencies.

On Tuesday, in an address to employees of the Rohr Corporation in Chula Vista, Brown charged that the incumbent Republican Administration has responded with "apathy and inaction" to the state's soaring unemployment problem.

"Nearly 652,000 Californians were out of work during September," he said, "and the unemployment rate was 8.2 percent, 41 percent higher than the national average of 5.8 percent."

Yet, he said, the Administration in Sacramento has lost some \$10 million in federal funds that could have eased the plight of the state's unemployed workers.

At least \$5 million of this is because they computed the unemployment rate at an artificially low level until just earlier this year and \$5 million more can be attributed to poor administration of the work incentive program, Brown said.

California AFL-CIO News

The Local Union encourages its members and officers, as individuals to support candidates of their choice, Local Union officers (executive board members, staff, advisory council members) can not use Local 1245's name in support of a candidate until after that candidate has been endorsed by the local Union.

Recommendations for California State Senate



Note - *before candidates name indicates incumbent.

Recommendations for California State Assembly



Assembly District

- 1 *Pauline L. Davis (D)
- 2 *Barry Keene (D)
- 3 Baron Reed (D)
- 4 *Edwin L. Z'berg (D)
- 5 Eugene T. Gualco (D)
- 6 *Leroy F. Greene (D)
- 7 John R. Garamendi (D)
- 8 Alfred C. Siegler (D)
- 9 Michael Wornum (D)
- 10 *Daniel E. Boatwright (D)
- 11 *John T. Knox (D)
- 12 *Ken Meade (D)
- 13 *John J. Miller (D)
- 14 *Bill Lockyer (D)
- 15 *Carlos Bee (D)
- 16 *John F. Foran (D)
- 17 *Willie L. Brown, Jr. (D)
- 18 *Leo T. McCarthy (D)
- 19 *Louis J. Papan (D)
- 20 Sidney L. Berlin (D)
- 21 Victor Calvo (D)
- 22 *Richard D. Hayden (R)
- 23 *John Vasconcellos (D)
- 24 Leona H. Egeland (D)
- 25 *Alister McAlister (D)
- 26 Carmen Perino (D)
- 27 *John E. Thurman (D)
- 28 *Frank Murphy, Jr. (R)
- 29 No Endorsement
- 30 No Endorsement

- 31 Elvin C. Bell (D)
- 32 No Endorsement
- 33 *Raymond (Ray) Gonzales (D)
- 34 Larry Chimbole (D)
- 35 Gary K. Hart (D)
- 36 *Ken MacDonald (D)
- 37 Andrew E. Martin (D)
- 38 Betty Mann (D)
- 39 *Jim Keysor (D)
- 40 Tom Bane (D)
- 41 Tom McQuoid (D)
- 42 Norvene McBride (D)
- 43 *Howard L. Berman (D)
- 44 *Alan Sieroty (D)
- 45 Herschel Rosenthal (D)
- 46 *Charles Warren (D)
- 47 *Bill Greene (D)
- 48 *Leon Ralph (D)
- 49 *Julian C. Dixon (D)
- 50 Curtis R. Tucker (D)
- 51 No Endorsement
- 52 *Vincent Thomas (D)
- 53 Maurice "Jack" Mayesh (D)
- 54 Frank Vicencia (D)
- 55 *Richard Alatorre (D)
- 56 Art Torres (D)
- 57 *Mike Cullen (D)
- 58 Fred W. Chel (D)
- 59 *Jack R. Fenton (D)
- 60 *Joseph B. Montoya (D)
- 61 E. D. "Ed" Ortell (D)
- 62 Jerry Jordan (D)
- 63 *Joe A. Gonzales (D)
- 64 Charles "Chuck" Bauer (D)
- 65 Bill McVittie (D)
- 66 Terry Goggin (D)
- 67 Ray Johnson (D)
- 68 *Walter M. "Walt" Ingalls (D)
- 69 No Endorsement
- 70 Bruce Nestande (R)
- 71 No Endorsement
- 72 Richard Robinson (D)
- 73 Dennis Mangers (D)
- 74 No Endorsement
- 75 Tom A. Suitt (D)
- 76 Ernestine (Ertsi) Smith (D)
- 77 *Bob Wilson (D)
- 78 *Lawrence Kapiloff (D)
- 79 *Pete Chacon (D)
- 80 *Wadie P. Deddeh (D)

Recommendations for Representatives in Congress



Congressional District

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 *Harold T. (Bizz) Johnson (D) | 23 *Thomas M. Rees (D) |
| 2 Oscar Klee (D) | 24 Henry A. Waxman (D) |
| 3 *John E. Moss (D) | 25 *Edward R. Roybal (D) |
| 4 *Robert L. Leggett (D) | 26 Paul A. Conforti (D) |
| 5 *John Burton (D) | 27 *Alphonzo Bell (R) |
| 6 *Phillip Burton (D) | 28 *Yvonne Brathwaite Burke (D) |
| 7 George Miller (D) | 29 *Augustus F. (Gus) Hawkins (D) |
| 8 *Ronald V. Dellums (D) | 30 *George E. Danielson (D) |
| 9 *Fortney (Pete) Stark (D) | 31 *Charles H. Wilson (D) |
| 10 *Don Edwards (D) | 32 *Glenn M. Anderson (D) |
| 11 *Leo J. Ryan (D) | 33 Robert E. (Bob) White (D) |
| 12 *Paul N. "Pete" McCloskey, Jr. (R) | 34 Mark W. Hannaford (D) |
| 13 Norman Y. Mineta (D) | 35 Jim Lloyd (D) |
| 14 *John J. McFall (D) | 36 *George E. Brown, Jr. (D) |
| 15 *B. F. Sisk (D) | 37 Bobby Ray Vincent (D) |
| 16 Julian Camacho (D) | 38 Jerry M. Patterson (D) |
| 17 John Krebs (D) | 39 William E. "Bill" Farris (D) |
| 18 George A. Seielstad (D) | 40 Roderick J. "Rod" Wilson (D) |
| 19 James D. Loebl (D) | 41 Colleen Marie O'Conner (D) |
| 20 Arline Mathews (D) | 42 *Lionel Van Deerlin (D) |
| 21 James C. Corman (D) | 43 No Endorsement |
| 22 Richard Hallin (D) | |

Recommendations on California Propositions

Editorial

Here is a thumbnail description of each of the November ballot propositions followed by Local 1245's recommendation on each:

PROPOSITION 1: Provides \$150 million in state school bonds to aid school districts.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 2: Simplifies procedure for approval of city and county charter amendemtns.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 3: Extends civil service exemption to four positions on California Postsecondary Education Commission.

VOTE NO

PROPOSITION 4: Shortens terms of regents of the University of California from 16 to 12 years. Increases appointive membership from 16 to 18 members.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 5: Prohibits residency requirements for any city or county, including chartered cities or chartered counties or public districts.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 6: Changes a homeowner's minimum property tax exemption from \$750 of assessed valuation to \$1,750 and includes comparable benefits for renters.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 7: Amends constitution regarding rights of persons.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 8: Provides for partial revision of state constitution.

VOTE YES

PROPSOTION 9: Revises law relative to recall of public officials.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 10: Permits reinstatement of voting rights to former felons who have completed parole.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 11: Eliminates reference to sex in certain parts of the constitution.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 12: Revises regulations of the State Public Utilities Commission.

VOTE NO

PROPOSITION 13: Permits division of a city into more than one municipal or justice court district if unusual geographical conditions warrant.

VOTE NO

PROPOSITION 14: Makes President Pro-Tem of the State Senate an ex-officio member of any state agency created by the legislature which is charged with the management, administration and control of the state college system.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 15: Repeals current constitutional provision requiring advance voter approval of public housing facilities.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 16: Assigns to the legislature the power to determine student fees at the University of California.

VOTE YES

PROPOSITION 17: Designates portions of the Stanislaus river as part of the state Wild and Scenic Rivers System. It would have the effect of blocking construction of the planned new Melones Dam.

VOTE NO

Watergate, a word which some people are tired of hearing and one which most Americans will not forget, holds many lessons for the people of this country.

If we will learn from our mistakes Watergate can be one of the best things that ever happened to this country. If we ignore the significance of the events which lead to this American tragedy we will be in for more of the same and we might not survive the next one.

Abuse of power, abdication by congress of their authority and responsibilities and abdication by the American people of their responsibilities as citizens are some of the things which lead to Watergate.

A tighter system of checks and balances of Presidential power, a responsible congress or legislature, and an aroused electorate are some of the answers.

Congress has responded and from all outward appearances is demanding to be a part of all policy decisions, both foreign and domestic. Political reform is on the way, but we have to make sure it continues.

This brings us to the need for an aroused electorate. One of the most alarming items brought to light during this whole mess was the attitude of the people towards politics and politicians. "All politicians are crooked," "these things have been going on for a long time," "the only mistake Nixon made was getting caught," "what can a little guy like me do," "why should I bother to vote, it won't do any good." These all too familiar responses came from "on the street interviews" and also from friends and neighbors.

The way to change the system is not to withdraw from it and withhold your vote. The answer lies in just the opposite form of action. If we take part in politics at the grass roots level (walking precincts, getting out the vote, etc.) and exercise our rights as citizens by casting our ballots for the candidates of our choice, we can bring about some needed change.

All politicians are not crooked, just the same as all businessmen, union members, and workers are not crooked.

There are dishonest people in all walks of life. This does not give us the right to pick one or two bad apples from any group and label the whole bunch as rotten. We simply remove the "rotten apples" from the barrel and save the rest.

We can accomplish this in the political arena by voting and participating in the political process.

I believe that there is a direct correllation between voter apathy and abuse of political power at any level of government.

The guest editorial printed below points out the decrease in voter participation and projects a further decrease for Nov. 5.

We must turn this around - get out and vote on Nov. 5th.

The Voters Default

Back in August there was a great deal of rejoicing and self congratulation over the vitality of the American constitutional system in handling Richard Nixon's attempts to subvert the democratic process, collectively known as Watergate.

Now, a few weeks before the Nov. 5 election, there is a new and growing concern about the apathy of the American electorate in participating in the critical decision-making that is involved at the ballot box.

The Census Bureau's computers have whirled and clicked out a story of a voting age population of 145 million for the fall elections, and the likelihood that only slightly more than 40 percent will actually vote.

Here are the bureau's figures: Compared to the last off-year election in 1970 there are currently 20 million more persons of voting age, with 12 million of that increase attributed to the lowering of the voting age to 18 years.

The 1974 estimate includes 14.6 million blacks, with 23 percent of the black electroate under 25 years of age compared to only 18 percent of the 128.2 million white voting age persons less than 25 years.

The report sets out a distinct pattern of growing apathy and diminishing participation in both off-year and presidential elections. For example, in congressional elections the total U.S. vote in 1962 was 46.3 percent of the voting age total. In 1966 the percentage dropped to 44.5. And in the most recent off-year election in 1970 it dropped further to 43.8 percent.

It adds up to the fact that in the last three off-year elections the average turnout was 44.8 percent of the total population eligible to vote in terms of age. Or about 23 percent of the voting-age population could determine the political direction of the country.

In presidential elections the pattern is the same, according to the Census Bureau. In 1960 the turnout was 63.1 percent of the voting age total. It slipped to 61.8 in 1964 and further to 60.7 in 1968. By 1972 only 55.4 percent of the U.S. electorate cast ballots.

Declining voter participation rates are general throughout the states. Of 25 states that had 50 percent or more of their electorate casting ballots in the 1966 off-year election, seven dropped below the 50 percent mark between 1966 and 1970. That makes for only 18 states doing better than 50 percent four years ago.

The AFL-CIO has devoted a great deal of time and resources to increasing voter participation through vigorous registration and vote campaigns aimed at workers, young voters, minority groups. It has worked hard and long to simplify and ease restrictions on voting because of residency, registration procedures and availability of registrars.

In 1974 the pace and intensity of the register-and-vote campaigns has been stepped up so that the greatest possible number can participate in the Nov. 5 decisions that will be of such great importance to the nation's future.

It's time to turn around the Census Bureau's trend line on voter participation and put America's democratic vitality on display at the voting booth and ballot box.

C.P.I. Hits 151.9

The Consumer Price Index U. S. - All Items rose 1.1 percent in September which brought the Index to 151.9 points. Increases in the price of food, automobiles, medical care services, and a wide range of other commodities and services accounted for most of the rise.

The Safety Scene

SAN FRANCISCO—North Bay Stewards meet



The photos above and below show more of the participants of the Stewards training program.



Apprenticeship agreement signed



On September 3, 1974 the people shown above participated in the formal signing of the Apprenticeship Standards Agreement for Line Clearance Tree Trimmers.

Seated, are L. L. Mitchell, Business Manager Local Union 1245 and Matt Reese, Vice President Pacific Tree Expert Company, Division of Asplundh.

Standing, are Hank Lucas and Dave Reese, Business Representatives, Local Union 1245, and Don Whiteside, Manager of Operations, Pacific Tree Expert Company, Division of Asplundh.

The signing ceremonies culminated many months of work on behalf of both labor and management representatives before final agreement was reached.

The program calls for extensive on-the-job training coupled with a home study course that encompasses all facets of the trade. Agreed to tests will be given to the apprentices at the 6 months wage progression points of this 24 month apprenticeship. Three hundred and twenty-five thousand, nine hundred eighteen.

All employees who were hired, and or, transferred into the climbers line of progression on or after March 25, 1974, the date of ratification of the current bargaining agreement, will be affected.

Based on information obtained in this office regarding comparison with other apprenticeship programs in the line clearance tree trimming industry throughout the nation, it is believed this program provides for the most comprehensive training in the country.

These apprenticeship standards are currently, awaiting approval by the Bureau of Apprenticeship Training, U.S. Department of Labor.



Shown above from left to right are: Lawrence J. Andrus, Senior Safety Engineer, Consultant Staff, Div. of Ind. Safety, Dept. of Ind. Relations, State of California, Warren E. Standeven, Senior Staff Consultant, Div. of Ind. Relations, State of California, and Frank Quadros, Bus. Rep. Local 1245, IBEW.

Wildlife Federation urges No Vote on Prop. 17

(Continued from page two)

were not for the upstream storage in Beardsley and Donnell's Reservoirs, the so-called 'white water' would be virtually non-existent, at least in the summer months."

"We would like to quote," the handbill says, "the final sentence of a letter from the chairman of the State Water Resources Control Board to Friends of the River, dated April 29, 1974: 'I feel that you and the other sponsors of the initiative owe a duty to the public to correct the inaccuracies in your statements concerning the Board's position.'"

"We are firmly convinced that the benefits accruing from saving a dying river far outweigh those from saving a nine-mile stretch of so-called 'white water'" the handbill said, adding:

"If you wish to save a dying river and fishery, please vote 'NO' on Proposition 17."

Both the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, and the State Building and Construction Trades

Council have also recommended a "NO" vote on Proposition 17.

Just last week, the California AFL-CIO issued a statement pointing out that:

"At a time when we are facing both an energy crisis and a deepening recession which has boosted the state's jobless rate to 8.2 percent—41 percent above the national average of 5.8 percent—it should be obvious to all thinking voters that we should be taking every action possible to create—not destroy—jobs."

James S. Lee, President of the State Building and Construction Trades Council, has issued a fact sheet on the measure in which he points out that:

"The hydroelectric plant of the project will generate enough smog-free power to meet the domestic needs for a community of 200,000. Only a portion of this power will be used for irrigation purposes — the remainder will feed the Central Valley grid, a significant addition in a time of energy shortage."

Settlement reached with Sacramento Regional Transit District

On September 13, 1974, members of Local Union 1245 employed by the Sacramento Regional Transit District voted to ratify the results of negotiations.

The terms of the settlement provide for a two year Agreement with increases of 8 1/2% to 13.9% in the first year, and 5% to 6% in the second year plus quarterly cost of living adjustments starting January 1, 1975 of 1c per hour for each 5/10 of a percent change in the Cost Price Index.

Other revisions include increased vacation allowance, additional sick leave accumulation and improvement in the District's contribution for

hospital and dental insurance, including provisions for District to pay a portion of the premium cost for dependent coverage.

Also obtained were improvements in the bidding procedure, the establishment of one additional classification resulting in upgrades for two employees, and the establishment of a Joint Health & Safety Committee.

John A. Rodgers, Richard G. Tafoya and Michael C. Webber, together with Business Representative Dick Daugherty and Senior Assistant Business Manager M. A. Walters served on Union's negotiating committee.