

# LABOR NEWS IN BRIEF

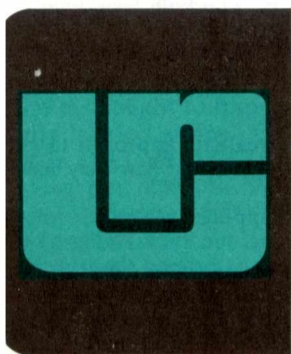
AFL-CIO's MEANY LATE LAST MONTH told Conference on Full Employment in Washington that, "Full employment is not going to be achieved by wishful thinking, rousing speeches or one-shot gimmicks." He noted federation has taken no position on right-to-job bill sponsored by Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D., Calif.), although AFL-CIO is committed to objectives through concrete federal action. As in past, Meany blasted policies of Federal Reserve boss Arthur Burns, but credited Richard Nixon, William Simon and Ford chief economic seer Alan Greenspan with giving Burns "a lot of help." Meany also charged Ford Administration with "fighting inflation with the jobs of workers."

WHILE AT UNION LABEL SHOW IN MILWAUKEE EARLIER, Meany was asked by reporter for his reaction to area construction industry proposal that building trades unions give up negotiated wage hikes. AFL-CIO chief stressed answer is up to construction unions but added if he were running unions, he "wouldn't forgo any increase in contracts unless there were some jobs forthcoming . . . the idea — as far as forgoing increases that have been negotiated and are part of a valid contract — of giving this up in return for nothing, I wouldn't buy that."

MEETING BETWEEN MEANY AND HENRY KISSINGER is reported to have taken place at AFL-CIO headquarters late last month at request of Secretary of State. While details were not forthcoming, educated guess has it Kissinger was concerned about AFL-CIO walkout from International Labor Organization in protest against admission of PLO. AFL-CIO lobbyists shortly thereafter were successful in getting Congress to withhold U.S. contribution to ILO, at least for next six months. Walkout at Geneva ILO meeting was led by AFL-CIO Sec.-Treas. Lane Kirkland. Israeli's Histadrut also walked out of meeting.

STEELWORKERS' ABEL WAS NAMED CHAIRMAN of Labor Policy Advisory Committee for Trade Negotiations at second meeting of group in mid-June. Glass Bottle Blowers Pres. Harry Tully was named vice-chairman. Number of industry subcommittees were formed at meeting. Attempt by high level Labor Dep't staffer to retain chair at meeting of electronics section (subcommittee) was repulsed as result of strong protest by union representatives. **IBEW's Charles Pillard** was named section chairman and IUE's Paul Jennings was named vice chairman. Meetings took place at Labor Department.

(Continued on page two)



## utility reporter

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## Support needed for worker-oriented legislation

The California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, of which Bus. Mgr. Mitchell is a vice-president, has sent a letter to all Labor Councils and affiliated local unions urging that we inform our members that there are six measures of major importance to California workers which will be taken up by the legislature when they reconvene on August 4, 1975.

We ask that you write or call your assemblyman or state senator and urge them to vote yes on the following measures:

### SB 719 - Roberti, to outlaw professional strikebreakers;

SB 719, the anti-scab bill passed the State Senate for the first time in history last month, has been referred to the Assembly Labor Relations Committee. This committee is chaired by Assemblyman Jack R. Fenton and includes Assemblymen Siegler, Alatorre, Antonovich, Berman, Briggs, Craven, Meade, Mori, Papan and Vincent Thomas. Please urge any of these Assemblymen within your jurisdiction to vote for SB 719.

### AB 91 - McAlister, to boost the maximum weekly jobless benefits from \$90 to \$104;

AB 91 won Assembly passage June 27th and was sent to the Senate where it is expected to be assigned to the Industrial Relations Committee chaired by Senator Zenovich. Please contact all Senators in your jurisdiction to urge support for this needed improvement in jobless benefits.

### AB 232 - Leroy Greene, to let workers keep all tips received and bar employers from deducting any portion of tips from wages due;

AB 232, the tips bill, has passed the Assembly and been approved by the Senate Finance Committee. It is due for a Senate floor vote early in August. Please urge all senators in your jurisdiction to support SB 232 and oppose all crippling amendments.

### SB 261 - Roberti, the price marking bill, to require supermarkets or grocery stores selling consumer commodities at retail

to have a clearly readable price indicated on each item offered for sale;

SB 261, the price marking measure, is one of the major consumer issues before the legislature this year. Its enactment is vital to protect the consumer's right to compare prices while shopping as well as protect the jobs of thousands of members of the Retail Clerks Union. It won Senate approval by a 21 to 4 vote last month and is scheduled to be taken up by the Assembly Committee on Finance, Insurance and Commerce chaired Assemblyman McAlister on August 11. Other members of this committee are: Assemblymen Garamendi; Bane; Bannai; Beverly; Goggin; Leroy Greene; Hayden; Ingalls; Lancaster; Miller; Papan; Ralph; and Robinson. Please urge any of these Assemblymen in your jurisdiction to support SB 261.

### SB 743 - Moscone, to curb the unfair use of temporary restraining orders and preliminary injunctions to bar peaceful picketing;

SB 743 won Senate passage by a 21 to 17 vote June 27 and has been referred to the Assembly Labor Relations Committee chaired by Assemblyman Jack Fenton. Please urge all Assemblymen within your jurisdiction to support this bill.

(Continued on page seven)

## YOUR *Business Manager's* COLUMN ENERGY SOLUTIONS

L. L. MITCHELL

The answer to this nation's energy problem has to be centered around the establishment of a reliable energy source free of blackmail threats from any other nation. The inconveniences and suffering of the American public nearly two years ago as a result of the Arab oil embargo are only a prelude to what can happen if we do not take steps now to free ourselves of this dependence.

Consumer hardships - financial and otherwise - were compounded by layoffs, reduced working hours and reduced production of consumer goods. These factors all contributed to reductions in purchasing power and inflation.

The problem will not go away and no single, simple solution will solve it. While it will require a composite of a number of measures to provide both short and long term solutions to the energy crisis, there are steps being proposed now of which our members should take note.

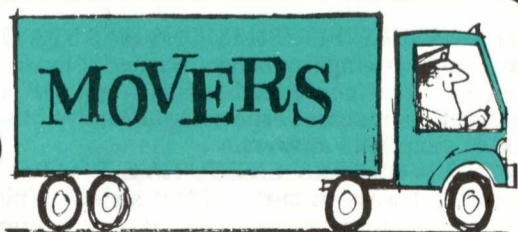
Reducing oil imports and energy conservation are indispensable measures which must be followed, but most important is increasing electrical supply and output.

In this regard the President's Labor-Management Committee has made recommendations to the President on measures to assist the electric utilities. He, in turn, has urged Congress to enact legislation to carry them out.

We in the utility industry must recognize that our welfare as workers is directly related to the economic welfare of the company we work for. Your Executive Board has taken action to support the recommendations and I have communicated this to the Senators and Congressmen in our jurisdiction.

To date I have received a number of responses from the legislators and as yet have not received an unfavorable response. The proposals are listed on page two of this issue of the *Utility Reporter*. I urge you to take action as a concerned citizen and as a worker to write your Congressman urging his strong support of legislation to achieve the recommendations of the President's Labor-Management Committee to increase electric utility construction and output.

... HAVE  
YOU  
MOVED?



MY NEW ADDRESS IS:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

CITY \_\_\_\_\_ STATE \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

SOCIAL SECURITY # \_\_\_\_\_

RETURN TO:  
P.O. BOX 4790, WALNUT CREEK, CALIF. 94596



# Ford releases Labor-Management Energy committee report

Following is text of President Ford's statement today on Labor-Management Committee's recommendations:

Today I am releasing the text of the Labor-Management Committee's recommendations for legislative and administrative measures to increase electric utility construction and output.

Having carefully reviewed these recommendations, I accept and endorse them because they can make a significant contribution in reducing the nation's dependence on oil imports and in conserving scarce natural gas supplies.

Additionally, an expansion in electric utility construction and production will provide solid long-range employment which will be highly beneficial to the country. An increase in electric utility capacity will also contribute significantly to economic expansion.

I will take steps promptly to create the task force the committee recommends to tackle the problem of delays in the completion of utility plants. In view of the long lead time on construction, completion of plants now in advanced stages of planning or under construction must have top priority.

I appreciate the constructive contribution of labor and management working together. The time has come for government to cooperate in the same spirit in addressing and resolving the nation's problems. I thank the committee for its continuing work and appreciate its efforts in the national interest.

Signed, Gerald R. Ford

## LABOR-MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS:

### Electric Utilities

At the end of 1974, it is estimated that electric utilities had deferred or cancelled the construction of 106 nuclear plants (114,000 megawatts) and 129 coal-fired plants (74,413 megawatts). This extensive postponement in construction schedules of coal and nuclear power plants that are needed to meet the nation's energy demands for 1980 and 1985 seriously jeopardizes our national objective of lesser dependence on imported oil. It also threatens continued economic growth, promises to restrain essential job creation and inhibits measures to reduce unemployment. Since electric utilities require a number of years to get new plants on stream, the current slippage of schedules and cancellation of new facilities may be expected to result in future energy shortages and serious restrictions to economic expansion. It is imperative that there be substantial restoration of construction of electric utilities at once. Special measures are needed to shorten significantly the very long lead time which now exists between the design of a project and its completion.

The President's Labor-Management Committee recommends a number of administrative and legislative measures to get this basic and strategic sector of the economy moving.

### Special Legislative Proposals

1. The President's Labor-Management Committee earlier recommended that the investment tax credit for utilities be increased from 4 percent to 12 percent a year. The Congress increased the investment tax credit to 10 percent for a two-year period. The Committee still believes the 12 percent figure is appropriate and, in the case of electric utilities, this credit should be extended indefinitely and apply to construction work in progress to stimulate this vital sector which promises to present capacity problems for many years. This proposal is designed to stimulate non-oil and non-gas facilities.

2. In view of the length of time required to complete the construction of electric utility installations, the Federal government should permit depreciation for tax purposes on construction expenditures as made, provided such costs are included in the rate base.

3. The five-year, fast write-off of pollution control facilities should be extended by legislation beyond its present expiration date of December 31, 1975. The fast write-off of pollution control facilities reduces the financing costs of the construction of electric utility units. Fuel conversion costs should receive the same treatment.

4. The Nuclear-Indemnity Coverage law (Price-Anderson Act) should be extended.

5. The urgent need for equity capital in the electric utility industry should be met by a legislative provision that dividends which are reinvested in new issue common stock of the company have tax deferred.

The Committee recommends that the above legislative proposals be incorporated in a single piece of legislation in view of the special need for greater electric utility capacity and the long lead time required to complete plants and get them in operation.

### Administrative Action

The Federal government should establish a small task force of experts, with assistance drawn from labor and management with experience in the field of utility construction, to serve as troubleshooters, to discover the impediments to the completion of electric utility plants and to take steps to relieve the particular situation wherever possible. The difficulties will vary from case to case; the problems may include unreasonable environmental restrictions and delays in processing papers, financing, regulatory delay, collective bargaining disputes, production delays in component parts, scheduling of manufactured components, design issues, etc. This task force can expedite the completion of electric utility plants and getting power on stream.

### Immediate Improvement in the Policies and Actions

#### Regarding the Usage of Coal and Nuclear Energy

##### 1. COAL

a. Make a major effort toward increasing the domestic production use of coal to generate power, including the development of economic means of moving either western

low-sulphur coal, or the generated power, to the required market areas.

b. A timetable should be considered for the conversion of oil/gas fueled power plants to coal.

c. The government should reduce the uncertainties on coal usage by encouraging the development of technology to minimize pollution and environmental concerns regarding coal mining and coal use and by reducing the economic uncertainties in the mining and use of coal. This should encourage increased long-term investment in mining which in turn should stimulate employment.

## 2. NUCLEAR ENERGY

a. The nation should make every effort to capitalize on the benefits of two decades and billions of dollars of public and private efforts in nuclear power development. While the initial investment costs for nuclear energy are high, it offers the cheapest form of electricity in the long run. Every effort must be made so that the percentage of electric power generation derived from nuclear sources by 1980/1985 is greatly increased from current levels. It is estimated that 10 to 15 million construction labor hours are required for each nuclear unit installed.

b. Specific government action is required in the following areas:

— Promote the public acceptance of nuclear power.

— Resolve the uncertainties regarding the nuclear fuel cycle, e.g., long-term nuclear waste disposal, plutonium usage, spent fuel storage and reprocessing.

— Streamline the nuclear regulatory licensing process to reduce the lead time for getting plants into production. The current lead time is about 8 to 10 years.

### Review and Articulate the National Energy

#### Interest with State Regulatory Agencies

a. The Federal government needs to find an appropriate and realistic approach to get the national energy issues and interests before state regulatory agencies when they have their hearings on utility needs.

b. We must provide for prompt and reasonable action on rate applications.

c. New and innovative rate schemes, such as peak load pricing and rates designed to foster conservation, should be thoroughly studied and evaluated to determine the true impact on the various sectors of the economy.

### Environmental Considerations

Stretch out, as necessary, present environmental restrictions on energy production and use to reduce energy consumption and facilitate expansion of domestic energy output. This is basically a matter of time-tables, not of objectives. The advance of technology and development of clean energy sources can permit realization of environmental objectives.

Following is list of Labor-Management Committee members named in attachment to President's statement as participating in formulation of Committee's recommendations.

LABOR: I. W. Abel, President of United Steelworkers of America; Murray H. Finley, Pres. of Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; Frank E. Fitzsimmons, Pres. of Int'l Brotherhood of Teamsters; Paul Hall, Pres. of Seafarers Int'l Union of North America; Lane Kirkland, Secy-Treas. of AFL-CIO; George Meany, Pres. of AFL-CIO; Leonard Woodcock, Pres. of Int'l Union of United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America.

MANAGEMENT: Stephen D. Bechtel, Jr., Chrm. of Bechtel Group of Companies; Richard C. Gerstenberg, Chrm. of General Motors Corp.; John D. Harper, Chrm. of Alum. Co. of America; Reginald H. Jones, Chrm. of GE Company; R. Heath Larry, Vice Chrm. of the Board, U.S. Steel Corp.; Rawleigh Warner, Jr., Chrm. of Mobil Oil Corp.; Arthur M. Wood, Chrm. of Sears, Roebuck & Co.; Walter R. Wriston, Chrm. of First National City Bank.

## LABOR NEWS IN BRIEF

(Continued from page one)

TESTIFYING BEFORE HOUSE WAYS & MEANS SUBCOMMITTEE, AFL-CIO Leg. Dir. Andy Beimiller last month said federation rejects "unfounded allegations" social security system is going bankrupt. Beimiller noted that while there will be smaller active labor force to support more retirees somewhere down road, there will also be fewer young people to be supported in school, day care and through other tax-supported programs. AFL-CIO chief lobbyist urged gradual increase in taxable wage base, removal of limit on wages subject to payroll tax for purpose of employer contribution and government contribution from general revenues to overcome any long term deficit between income and outgo.

DR. PAUL KOTIN IS MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR to John Stender as Ass't secretary of Labor for OSHA. Dr. Kotin, a physician, is with Johns-Mansville, has held high posts in HEW, held card in Laborers, is seen as acceptable to AFL-CIO. And Labor Sec. John Dunlop has assigned two management specialists to study OSHA structure and recommend changes to improve effectiveness.

IN TESTIMONY BEFORE HOUSE EDUCATION AND LABOR COMMITTEE, Dunlop said equal employment programs are encumbered with "plethora of enforcement agencies . . . creating confusion among those both seeking to comply with the law and those attempting to secure enforcement." In other testimony apparently reflecting Administration position on situs picketing, Dunlop called for broader picketing rights "with appropriate and essential safeguards" and with picketing limited to 30 days to reduce "the potential for disruption."

TEAMSTERS' FITZSIMMONS HAS STATED DEREGULATION would bring chaos to trucking industry, warned "hysterical atmosphere" resulting from economic crisis could lead to "hair-brained" schemes and that in today's climate deregulation appears "especially attractive" to uninformed public and bureaucrats seeking simplistic answers.

MINE WORKERS EXECUTIVE BOARD HAS NAMED COMMISSION to recommend ways to curb wildcat strikes. Union has reported massive fines and broad injunctions against wildcats across mine fields, with fines threatening to paralyze locals. UMW attributes much of trouble to "foreign pickets" from other areas and "stranger pickets" having no connection with union. UMW bituminous contract prohibits strikes, except where safety is immediate threat.

GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE (AFGE) PRES. CLYDE WEBBER has warned Ford Administration move to cut federal pay and continued lack of real collective bargaining could lead to walkouts and strikes. Webber's warning was in talk before meeting sponsored by Federal Mediation Service. Webber talk came in response to panel established by President Ford who has made no secret of his opinion that some federal salaries and blue collar wages are too high. Panel, headed by Vice-Pres. Nelson Rockefeller, is to make recommendations on pay in late fall. Webber also called for legislation establishing little NLRB for federal employees.



## the utility reporter

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# Reducing the staggering toll of alcoholism

By Marion Wells

Research Director, AMERICAN PHYSICAL FITNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE

It's one of our nation's LEADING HEALTH PROBLEMS, and it's affecting the lives not only of its roughly NINE MILLION OR MORE VICTIMS, but MANY MILLIONS MORE of their family and friends. Yet the ILLNESS known as ALCOHOLISM has been called "... THE MOST TREATABLE, UNTREATED DISEASE IN THE COUNTRY."

If you suspect you may be heading toward a drinking problem, the insight and courage to recognize it and seek prompt help may pay rich dividends. Experts say the sooner you get help, the more MONEY AND MISERY you're apt to save and the BETTER your chances for RECOVERY.

That's good news when you consider that in 1971, alcoholism resulted in an ECONOMIC drain of some TWENTY-FIVE BILLION DOLLARS, not to mention IMMEASURABLE human suffering. What's more, according to a 1974 government report, drinking is almost universal among American youth, and recent survey findings indicate that within the total adult population, the eighteen to twenty age group has the highest proportion of problem drinkers.

Can you help reduce your youngsters' chances of developing a drinking problem? Not only can parental drinking habits set a significant example for youngsters, but an unborn baby can become intoxicated if the mother drinks heavily

during pregnancy. Authorities explain that "... alcohol passes to the fetus in approximately the same concentration as the mother reaches in her blood." In some cases, newborn infants have required treatment for symptoms of alcohol withdrawal. Such observation reportedly "... opens up the possibility, based on the view that addiction is defined by withdrawal phenomena, that such infants are in fact born alcohol addicts, or that the prenatal addiction may establish a permanent addictive liability in the newborn child's central nervous system."

Do you drink to be "social"? When it comes to interpersonal relations, excessive drinking may give you more of a "low" than a "high." Data indicates that chances of a marriage going on the rocks are about seven times greater for alcohol abusers. The percentage of suicides, murders and accidents in which alcohol may be a factor is enough to make ANYONE STAGGER!

Alcoholism and HEALTH don't mix either! Alcoholism has been linked to brain, liver and heart muscle damage, some cancers, gastrointestinal problems, malnutrition and lowered bodily resistance.

HOW CAN YOU TELL when drinking is becoming a problem? Give yourself this quick quiz on early warning signs. A "yes" response to one or more items does not NECESSARILY mean you're becoming an alcoholic. It

DOES mean your drinking habits may deserve closer scrutiny.

Are you careful to keep a readily available supply of alcohol on hand? Do you have a frequent desire for a nip, or need one at certain times in your day? Do you start looking forward to evening drinks in the morning? When alcohol is not served at a function, are you disappointed? Do you drink to relieve discomfort? Is your drinking worrying your loved ones? Do you desire to reach and maintain an alcohol induced "high?"

The British Journal of Addiction has listed memory blackout as a significant sign of developing alcoholism. Have you been unable to recall the next day what you did after a few drinks the evening before? There's also cause for concern if you're drinking early in the day or alone, and if your job or finances are being adversely affected.

If you think trouble might be ahead for yourself or a loved one, there are many places you can turn for additional information or help, including your family physician, your local place of worship, the closest chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous or the nearest local Alcoholism Council.

An additional source of support you can't afford to overlook is a NUTRITIOUS, WELL BALANCED DIET. Emanuel Cheraskin, M.D., reports that "Nutritional therapy has been demonstrated to be beneficial at

any stage of alcoholism. In fact, the physical and emotional improvement which occurs will bring many alcoholics into such groups as Alcoholics Anonymous that would or could not have made this move without nutritional assistance."

Dr. Cheraskin also reports that testing in alcoholics suggests a substantial percentage may have low blood sugar. He states that "Exalcoholics often report that periods of low blood sugar cause a thirst or craving for alcohol, caffeine, nicotine, or sweets." If excessive drinking is a concern, consult your physician to see if tests for low blood sugar are in order. Also, ask your doctor about the advisability of supplements, particularly B complex, calcium and magnesium.

One final note. There is some evidence to suggest that a poor diet may be a contributing factor in alcoholism, at least in certain cases. Taking a critical look at your diet NOW, minimizing "naked calorie" snack foods and sweets and insuring an adequate intake of all essential nutrients can't POSSIBLY hurt, and might be of more benefit that we realize.

If anything has to GO DOWN THE DRAIN, it's better that it be ALCOHOL and NOT your LIFE! Provided as a public service by the AMERICAN PHYSICAL FITNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE, 824 Moraga Drive, West Los Angeles, Calif. 90049.

## Dept. of Labor Activities Labor Secretary Proposes Extending, Improving Unemployment System

WASHINGTON — Secretary of Labor John T. Dunlop, testifying before the subcommittee on Unemployment Compensation of the House Ways and Means Committee, proposed a number of permanent improvements in the Federal-State unemployment insurance system.

Among the major features of the proposed legislation are the extension of coverage to include about 710,000 farm workers, 289,000 domestic workers, about 60,000 State employees in non-profit employment and in elementary and secondary education, and local government employees working in hospitals, institutions of higher learning, and elementary and secondary education systems. In all, approximately 6 million jobs would be added under one UI coverage program.

In order to meet the increasing financial burden of unemployment insurance, Secretary Dunlop proposed that the wage base be increased to \$6,000 from the present \$4,200 and that the Federal share of the tax rate be temporarily increased from .5 to .65 percent. The increase in both wage base and tax rate would apply to wages paid in 1977.

The Secretary also indicated that an improved trigger mechanism was needed for initiating extending benefits programs and that a Federal minimum benefit amount be established to assure that the unemployment insurance system provides adequate, wage-related benefits to workers. Also, for one approval of State laws, a provision would require weekly benefit amounts under State law meet a minimum level of adequacy.

Finally, Secretary Dunlop supported previous recommendations to establish a National Commission on Unemployment Insurance which would make a comprehensive review of the Federal-State unemployment insurance program.

In summary, the proposed legislation would extend regular UI coverage to an additional 6 million jobs; improve the financing of current Federal and State obligations; provide an adequate trigger mechanism for extended benefits programs; provide a minimum benefit adequacy standard; and establish a National Commission on Unemployment Insurance.

Rep. William Steiger of Wisconsin introduced the Administration bill, H.R. 8614, on which Secretary testified on July 14.

## New Job Safety and Health Booklets

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Labor has announced the availability of three new booklets covering various phases of programs and policy of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

Assistant Secretary of Labor John H. Stender, who heads OSHA, said the free booklets — "SBA Loans for OSHA Compliance," "Protection for Workers in Imminent Danger," and "How OSHA Monitors State Plans" — are the first of more

than a dozen expected to be published in the next few months.

Each booklet will be part of four series of pamphlets designed to assist employers and employees in understanding and complying with OSHA standards and regulations.

The four series are: OSHA Programs and Policy; Job Health Hazards; Safe Work Practices; and Safety Management.

The "OSHA Programs and Policy" series will be for general use in providing accurate information on OSHA actions. The "Job Health Hazards" and "Safe Work Practices" series will be aimed at employees, while the "Safety Management" series will assist employers in setting up their own programs of job safety and health.

Copies of the booklet can be requested from OSHA Regional offices in Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Atlanta, Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City, Mo., Denver, San Francisco, or Seattle, or from OSHA's Office of Publications, Room N-3644, Washington, D.C. 20210.

## OSHA Issues May Figures on Job Safety and Health Inspections

WASHINGTON — The Department of Labor has announced that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) conducted 7,812 workplace inspections during May 1975.

As a result of those inspections, OSHA issued to employers 6,513 citations alleging 34,050 violations of job safety and health standards. Proposed penalties totaled \$926,015.

From its inception April 28, 1971, through May 1975, OSHA made 234,370 inspections resulting in 162,340 citations alleging 840,067 violations, with proposed penalties totaling \$21,099,835.

Data showing OSHA inspection activity in May 1974 and 1975 and cumulative data for both calendar years are only a portion of the total workplace inspection activity in the nation. They do not include inspections by states that are operating their own job safety and health program under OSHA-approved plans. Data from these states will be reported separately, on a quarterly basis, as they become available.

## J. S. AYERS

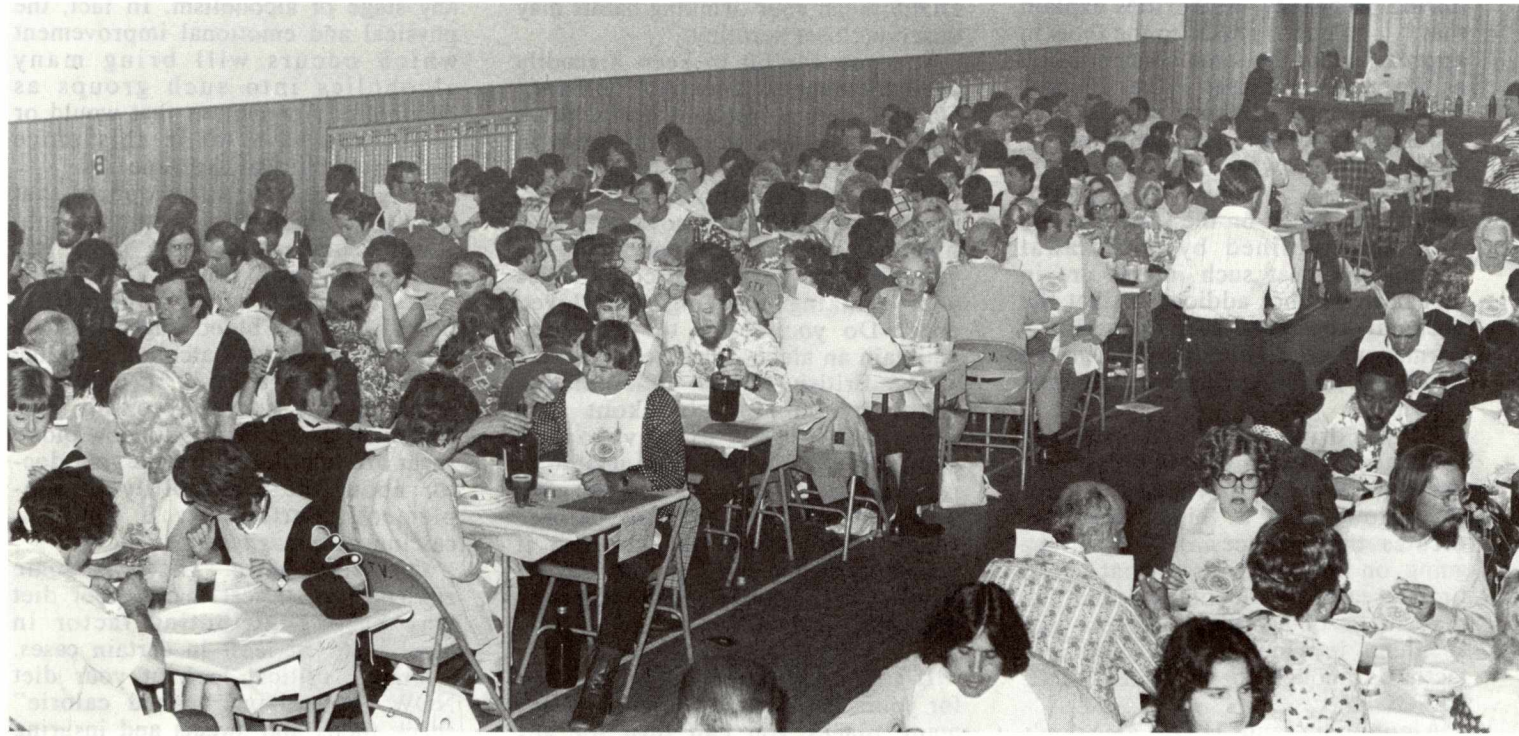
could have won \$50.00 if he had noticed his union membership card number in the June issue of the *Utility Reporter*. This month's number is as well hidden as it was last month. Don't miss out, read your *Utility Reporter*.

LOOK FOR YOUR CARD NUMBER



# Employees Raise Funds for Memorial to S

## MAY 3RD DINNER DANCE



Shown above and below are some of the people enjoying the May 3rd Dinner-Dance.



Folks doing a little talking and a little dancing are shown in the photos above and below.



An eating good time was had by those shown in the photos above and below.



Shown Rep., I

What started as an idea at a unit meeting will soon become a memorial to the employees of SMUD who were killed in the line of duty. Some time ago, the idea of some kind of memorial was discussed at meetings of Unit 3911-SMUD. The idea was discussed with Ron Messina, Shop Steward and went to an architect friend who came up with a design and soon cost figures were available. The estimated cost was \$5,000 and that meant that there was work to do.

Local 1245 members Ron Messina and Ken Meyers formed a fund raising committee. They were joined by members from all facets of the District's operation. They presented the idea on May 3rd of this year and netted \$3,100. Many members donated in the spirit of things and donated \$1,000 worth of prizes.

The majority of people in attendance at the first dinner dance was from the community and approximately 50% of those in attendance were SMUD. Two million, seven hundred eighty-eight dollars.

The proceeds from the second dinner dance were put over the top. Both affairs were handled expertly by the people.

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District will donate certain parts of the memorial. The monument itself is to symbolize long life and strength, with a hard hat on top of the 16 foot structure. The hard hat is a tribute to the construction industry.

The structure will be tilting forward as a tribute to the line of duty. The memorial will be located just outside the Service Center at 59th and R Streets in Sacramento only as a memorial to those who have died, but also as a reminder to all of us out to the job to work safely.



# to S.M.U.D. Employees killed on the job

## JULY 19TH DINNER DANCE

nit meeting will soon come to fruition in the form of SMUD who were killed on the job. The kind of memorial was tossed around at several meetings. The idea was discussed with various employees of Shop Steward and Vice-Chairman of Unit 3911, came up with a design. Estimates were asked for available. The estimated cost of the memorial was \$100,000. The estimated cost of the memorial was \$100,000.

Ken and Ken Meyers became co-chairmen of the committee. They were joined by many other employees of SMUD operation. They put together a dinner dance on July 19th for \$3,100. Many members of the community got in for \$1,000 worth of prizes for the first dinner dance. Attendance at the first dance were from SMUD. Received widespread support from the general community. Of those in attendance had no connection with SMUD. Over eighty-eight thousand, six hundred twenty-

one dinner dance combined with the \$3,100, should be handled expertly and were well received. The monument itself will be made of stainless steel, and strength, with a hard hat encased in plastic at the top. The hard hat is to symbolize the electrical industry.

Forward as a tribute to those who have died in the industry. The monument will be located just outside the main gate of SMUD's headquarters in Sacramento, California. It will serve not only as a reminder to those heading



Shown above and below are some of the people who attended the July 19th Dinner-Dance.



Shown above from left to right are Ron Messina, Shop Steward, Al Wolf, Bus. Rep., L.L. Mitchell, Bus. Mgr. and Dick Daugherty, Advisory Council member.



Beautiful weather and few tiddlies were enjoyed by those shown above and below.



This photo shows more of people enjoying the Redwing band.





# Members organize girls softball team



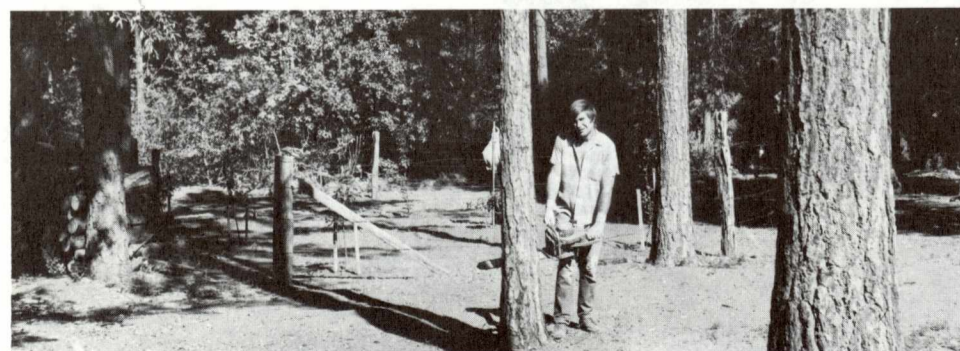
This photo shows the practice field built by Local 1245 members and others in the community.



Shown above are Patty Liess and her father Bob Liess, Shop Steward. Patty is holding trophy won by American Legion champions in 1974.



This photo shows the field in use during a practice game.



Local 1245 member Don Marshall is shown cutting a tree from his property for the backstop. Don's daughter, Toy, is a member of this junior team.

The Amador Girls Softball League was formed because girls couldn't join the Little League in 1974 and the girls in the area didn't have as many activities to participate in as did the boys.

The parents held a meeting to start a league and recruit coaches and managers from the Ione, Jackson, Sutter Creek and Pioneer-Pine Grove areas. They got the necessary volunteers and sent sign-up sheets to the schools. The junior teams consisted of girls from age 9 to 12 and the senior teams consisted of girls 12 to 14 years of age.

Each manager was responsible for obtaining funds for equipment and uniforms through sponsors. The American Legion of Martell bought equipment and uniforms for the team managed by Shop Steward Bob Liess. Bob is an electrical machinist for P.G.& E. at the Tiger Creek Power House in Stockton Division.

The teams needed a practice field because the one school field was taken up by other teams. Brother Liess contacted the owner of a 1 acre lot next to him, and received permission to level it for a practice field.

One man donated his D-4 cat to level the property and another his

truck and Lo-Boy trailer to move the D-4.

Local 1245 member Don Marshall, 1st Operator at Tiger Creek Power House, cut seven cedar trees on his property and donated them for the backstop. A local lumber company in Pine Grove donated the rest of the lumber for the backstop.

Mike Behrendt, assistant coach of the Jr. and Sr. teams, is also a member of Local 1245 and a water systems plant operator for P.G.& E.

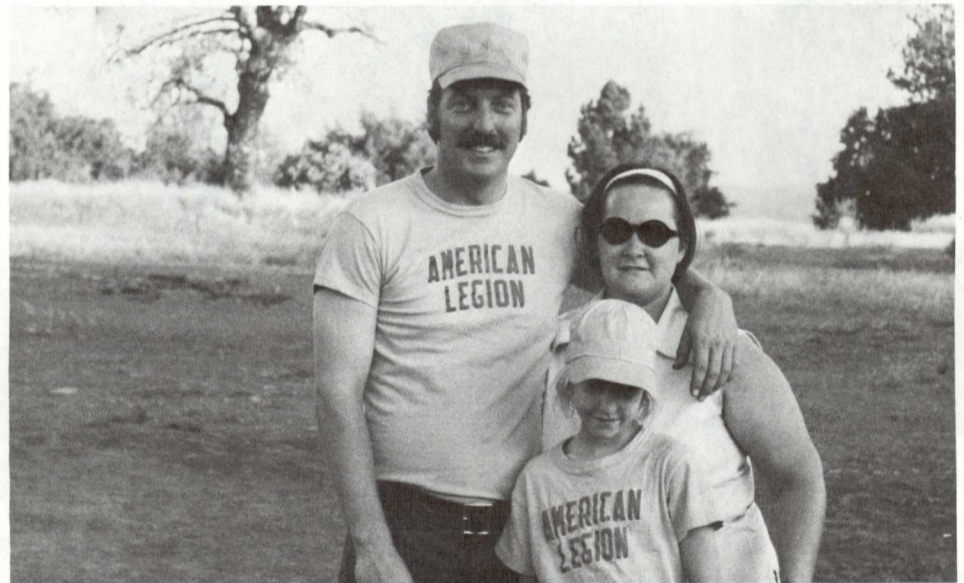
The efforts of Bob Liess, who did a great deal of the work on the backstop, combined with the efforts of Don Marshall, Mike Behrendt and many other members of their community have done a great public service. The girls have something constructive to do and it is a family oriented activity.

Brother Liess' team won the Jr. championship the first year and he manages both a junior and senior team this year.

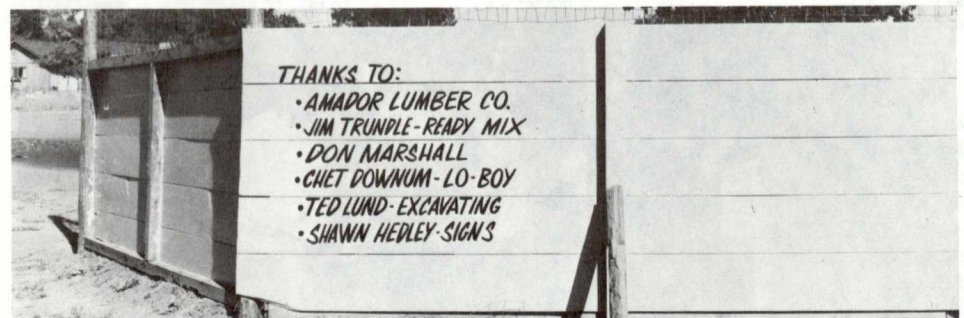
They have their own rules which have been voted on at meetings. They have rules such as no stealing; no sliding and every girl will play at least two innings. All the other rules are governed by the slow-pitch softball rule book.



This photo shows the Robert Fitch family near the practice field. Bob Fitch is a member of Plumber's Local 487 and co-sponsor of this year's Sr. Team.



Mike Behrendt, his wife Mary and daughter Lori are shown in this photo. Mike is a 1245 member and water systems plant operator for P.G.& E.



This photo shows the finished backstop and the sign giving credit for materials donated.



Labor has won the first round in its battle to block an Oakland city income tax.

Alameda County Superior Judge Gordon Minder agreed with labor's contention that the proposed city income tax is unconstitutional. The power to levy such a tax rests exclusively with the State Legislature, he said in a statement of his intended decision.

**LABOR** — in a shape of Richard K. Groulx and Steve Martin, executive secretary and assistant, respectively, of the Alameda County Central Labor Council — had intervened last Fall in what appeared to be a "friendly" test of the tax arranged by its supporters and its principal proponent, Oakland Mayor John Reading.

The tax sought to impose what it officially labeled a "fee" for a license to work in Oakland. The "fee" added up to a one per cent tax on annual gross income in excess of \$6,500.

Judge Minder's ruling turned on two findings: one, that the "fee" was, despite its name, an income tax; and secondly, that the City of Oakland has no power to levy and collect such a tax.

The Central Labor Council, as "intervenor and class representatives," through its attorney, Victor Van Bourg, contended that the license fee was unconstitutional. Judge Minder agreed.

The fee, he said, had "all the attributes of an income tax. It is imposed on wages and salaries, it does

not tax corporations. It exempts domestic servants and it provides an annual exclusion.

It isn't calibrated to a business's gross receipts and its name is not "determinative."

"A rose by any other name..." quoted the judge.

While the issue of where the power lies to invoke such a tax has never been squarely resolved, the judge said he found considerable weight for the contention that only the State Legislature has that power.

**THE JUDGE** noted that the Legislature is directed to enact all laws to carry out provisions of the constitution relating to both income and property taxes. And the Legislature, he said, has "clearly intended to occupy the entire field of income tax, determining it to be, as does this Court, a matter of statewide concern."

Judge Minder's decision blocked the tax, which had been slated to become effective in 1976, but Van Bourg said that he expected the City of Oakland to appeal it.

Van Bourg called the tax "a regressive anti-worker attempt to tax by still another method the workers who are already hard-pressed to feed their families."

He represented the Central Labor Council officials both as "intervenor" in the test case and as "class representatives" of all employees employed by anyone in Oakland who would have been hit by the city "fee."

## Don't Gamble with Death

(Continued from page eight)

dangerous mass soon after exposure to air. To prevent this air-slacking, some contractors apply a protective coating of gunite to such walls, in addition to shoring and bracing. Other contractors provide extra sheeting to hold the weakened walls in place.

**4. Guard Against Caving Hazard Created by Vibration and Load From Highway Traffic.** Trenches located near highways and streets are more likely to cave than similar trenches in locations not exposed to moving loads. Extra sheeting is necessary, and loose rocks and chunks of earth that could fall on men in the excavation should be removed.

**5. Install Upper Trench Jacks First.** When trench jacks are used to hold uprights in place against trench walls, the top jack should be installed first. The next lower one should be held in position with hooks from above before a man enters the trench at that point to place the lowest jack. Shoring does not serve its purpose if men expose themselves to hazard while installing it. Most of the installation work should be carried on from a safe position outside of the trench.

**6. Protect All Men in Trenches.** If a man is needed at the bottom of the trench near the boom-end of a boom-type trenching machine, he should be protected by metal shields attached to the boom-end. These shields should be of adequate strength and design to serve as a substitute for shoring and bracing.

**SPECIAL NOTE** — An area restricted by installing forms or similar structures adjacent to the bank of an excavation is termed a trench,

and all trench regulations apply. CSO, Sec. 1504.

**Fourteen times as many workers die from caving ditches, trenches, and excavations than from other construction work** (in proportion to the number of disabling injuries).

**Out of every 13 workers who receive a disabling injury from vace-ins, one dies.**

Walls of earth may look quite harmless, but they are extremely dangerous unless held in place by adequate shoring and bracing.

**Play safe! Don't bet lives on soil conditions! Provide adequate shoring and bracing.**

Local 1245 relies on the membership to keep us informed regarding unsafe working conditions and violations of laws or safety orders. We urge everyone to read the above material on shoring and be certain that any trench you enter meets the standards set forth by the law.

We know that sometimes it can be quicker to do a job without it, but it can also be deadly. Many workers die every year because of inadequate shoring and we don't want any member of Local 1245 included in those horrible statistics.

If you are pressured to violate the rules as they relate to trenches and shoring, or if you know where they are voluntarily being ignored, be sure to notify your Business Representative and if he is not available call Dave Reese, at the Local Union headquarters.

Work Safety; the life you save could be your own.

WASHINGTON — What's in the Kennedy-Corman national health security program for the worker?

At a recent Rally for Health Security here, Melvin A. Glasser, director of social security for the Auto Workers, conducted a workshop on this question.

After spelling out the broad advantages which health security would provide all Americans, he listed 10 specific advantages:

1. It's a better way to get health care for the whole family. Health security would provide comprehensive benefits for everyone. Billions of dollars diverted annually from wages for negotiated health programs could be spent for improving wages, pensions, shorter work weeks and the like.

2. It would eliminate disparities among union-negotiated programs. Unions in the economically strong industries have much more expensive and hence better coverage health insurance than those in the less prosperous industries.

3. It would, in most instances, cost workers less for comprehensive health security services than they are paying today through premiums and out of pocket fees. Under health security, workers would pay 1 percent — employers 3-1/2 percent—balance from general revenues. This 1 percent is equivalent to what workers are already paying as Medicare tax.

But very few workers today are covered for the range of services health security provides. And today they are not protected from excessive price increases in health care services. Health security provides that protection through annual budgets and effective cost controls.

4. It would provide a fairer and less regressive way of paying for health care. Today an employed person earning \$6,000 per year and one earning \$60,000 pay the same premium for the same private insurance coverage. Through the social security tax and the general revenue contributions, those earning more would pay proportionately more to support the program.

5. It would once and for all remove from workers the fear that if they lose their jobs they would also lose their family health insurance protection.

6. It would take off the collective bargaining table, efforts, which are being increasingly frustrated, to improve benefits. First, health security benefits are comprehensive. Second, because of runaway costs, it is becoming more and more difficult through collective bargaining, to add major needed improvements in health programs.

7. It would provide an important new mechanism to improve access to care.

8. It would assure workers that there is a meaningful objective program to review and protect the quality of the services they are receiving. Today workers and their

unions are helpless to assure quality of care.

9. It would bring unionized and non-union workers closer — through eliminating in health care the widening gaps between the "haves" and the "have-nots." This is particularly true of the ethnic minorities.

10. It would give workers and other consumers an effective voice in determining the policies of the new programs—at the federal, regional and local levels. Today the consumer pays for the services, receives them, and has practically nothing to say about how they are offered, by whom, and under what conditions.

"In summary," Glasser said, "health security would replace the present priority system where the special interest groups, the hospitals, the doctors, the private for profit nursing homes and the insurance industry make the decisions on the principle of what's good for them is good for America."

Oregon Labor Press

## Oceanview Cablevision-Agreement reached

The general negotiations with Oceanview Cablevision were concluded in February of this year with the provision that bargaining on the medical plan would continue.

Bargaining on the medical insurance has now been concluded and provides that the company will pay two-thirds of the total cost of the program which includes:

1. Blue Cross Health Plan
2. Blue Cross Dental Plan
3. Blue Cross Prescription Plan
4. Life Insurance Program

The negotiating committee consisted of Jim Fox, Bus. Rep. Mark Cook and Asst. Bus. Mgr. John Wilder.

## SIERRA PACIFIC WAGE SETTLEMENT

The agreement with the Sierra Pacific Power Company in Nevada provided for a wage opener only this year. After numerous bargaining sessions and one prior rejection of a proposed settlement by the membership, agreement has been reached.

The settlement provides for a general wage increase of 7.95% to all incumbent employees. The settlement also provides for a 2c an hour increase for all incumbents whose present wage rate exceeds \$5.98 per hour. The two cent fix will be applied after the general increase.

The settlement is retroactive to May 1, 1975.

The negotiating committee consisted of Bob Jacques, Gary Rials, Katherine Tindall, Ron Walters, Bus. Rep. John Stralla and Asst. Bus. Mgr. John Wilder.

## Political Support Needed

(Continued from page one)

**SB 394 - Marks, to require the University of California to pay Building and Construction trades workers prevailing wage rates.**

SB 394 won Senate approval by a 21 to 14 vote last month and has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Public Employees and Retirement chaired by Assemblyman Julian Dixon. Please call on Assemblymen in your jurisdiction to vote for SB 394.

Participate in the political process by sending letters to Assemblymen and Senators within your area urging affirmative action on each of these six bills.



# The Safety Scene

## DON'T GAMBLE WITH DEATH

Due to recent changes in section 1540 of California's **Construction Safety Orders** and numerous violations having been cited during CAL-OSHA inspections, we are printing the rules governing correct shoring procedures for trenches that workmen must enter. These rules are set down by the State of California, Dept. of Industrial Relations, Division of Industrial Safety.

The new changes were effective on June 20, 1975 and are as follows:

Adopt new Subparts (1), (2), and (3) to Subsection (a) of Section 1540 to read:

(1) Prior to opening an excavation, effort shall be made to determine whether underground installations; i.e. sewer, water, fuel, electric lines, etc., will be encountered, and if so, where such underground installations are located. When the excavation approaches the approximate location of such an installation, the exact location shall be determined by careful probing or hand digging, and when it is uncovered, adequate protection shall be provided for the existing installation. All known owners of underground facilities in the area concerned shall be advised of proposed work at least 48 hours prior to the start of actual excavation.

(2) Trees, boulders, and other surface encumbrances, located so as to create a hazard to employees involved in excavation work or in the vicinity thereof at any time during operations, shall be removed or made safe before excavating is begun.

(3) Excavations shall be inspected by a qualified person after every rain-storm or other hazard-increasing occurrence, and the protection against slides and cave-ins shall be increased if necessary.

Amend Subsection (b) of Section 1540 to read as follows:

(b) Guarding. The walls and faces of all excavations 5 feet or more in depth which employees will enter shall be effectively guarded by a shoring system, sloping of the ground, or other equivalent means.

Amend Subpart (4) of Subsection (c) of Section 1540 to read:

(c)

(4) A civil engineer, registered in California, shall submit detailed data to the Division for alternate effective shoring or sloping systems to include soil evaluation, slope stability, estimation of forces to be resisted, together with plans and specifications of the materials and methods to be used. When tie rods are used to restrain the top of sheeting or other retaining systems, the rods shall be securely anchored.

The new change listed above should

### HARD COMPACT GROUND

Trenches 5 feet or more deep and over 8 feet long must be braced at intervals of 8 feet or less.

A strut brace is required for each 4-foot zone into which the trench depth can be divided, with at least two braces for each set of uprights.

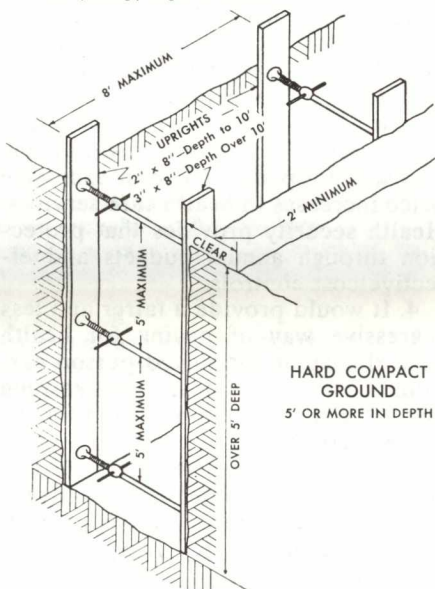
Steel screw-type trench braces must have a foot or base plate on each end of the pipe, placed horizontally and bearing firmly against uprights. Hydraulic metal jack units, properly maintained and of equivalent strength, also are acceptable.

Timber braces must be in good condition, free from imperfections affecting their strength, well cleated, and rigidly wedged.

### Horizontal Strut Braces

Width of Trench Feet (Incl.)	Size of Wood Braces	Size of Pipe Braces
1-3	4"x4"	1 1/2" STD
3-6	4"x6"	2" STD
6-8	6"x6"	2" STD
8-10	6"x8"	3" STD
10-12	8"x8"	3" STD

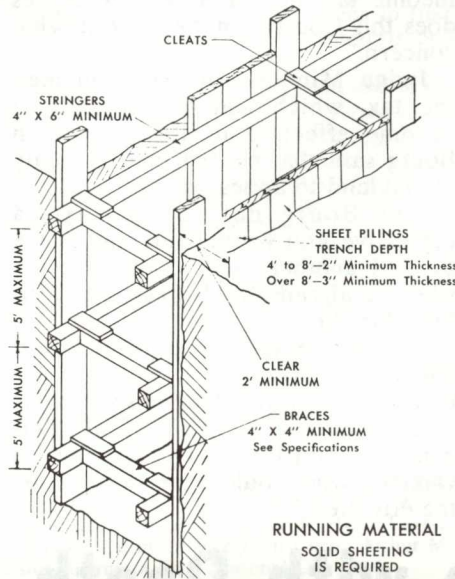
Trenches wider than 12 feet must have braces of correspondingly larger dimensions.



### FILLED OR UNSTABLE GROUND

Sheeting must be provided, and must be sufficient to hold the material in place.

Longitudinal-stringer dimensions depend upon the strut and stringer spacing and upon the degree of instability encountered.



### Trench Shoring Specifications

SOIL TYPE	DEPTH Feet	UPRIGHTS		BRACES		STRINGERS	
		Size Inches	Horizontal Spacing, Feet	Size Inches	Horizontal Spacing Feet	Size Inches	Vertical Spacing, Feet
Hard, Compact	5-10	2x8	8	4x4	8	Where indicated	
	Over 10	3x8	6	4x6	6	Where indicated	
Unstable	5-10	2x8	4	4x4	4	Where indicated	
	Over 10	3x8	Solid	4x6	6	4x6	4
Running	4-8	2x8	Solid	4x4	6	4x6	4
	Over 8	3x8	Solid	6x6	6	6x6	4

### ALTERNATE TRENCH PROTECTION

#### Sloping

Trench or excavation walls must be sloped no less than 3/4 horizontal to 1 vertical as an alternate method to shoring. Soil instability may, however, require a flatter slope.



#### Protective Shields

Protective shields or welder's huts may be substituted for shoring systems to provide local protection for workmen in trenches. Approval of their design and construction shall be secured from the Division of Industrial Safety by the employer before use.

#### Design by Registered Engineer

A civil engineer, registered in California, may design and submit detailed data to the Division of Industrial Safety for alternate effective shoring systems. The design must include a soil evaluation study, a slope stability study, and an estimation of forces to be resisted, together with plans and specifications of the materials and methods to be used.

Upon review of the application and supporting data, the Division may accept the provisions of the alternate proposal or add such modifications as appear just and reasonable. See Plate C-24-a, b, Appendix, Construction Safety Orders, for engineering design alternate criteria.

#### ACCESS

In trenches five feet or more deep, ladders must extend at least 2 1/2 feet above the top, unless a safer means of getting in and out of the trench is provided.

There must be a ladder within 50 feet of any worker in a trench.

#### PIPE INSTALLATION

Length or diameter of pipe being installed does not permit variance with shoring requirements. Shoring protection is required within at least 4 feet of any workman.

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be noted, but we should also remember some basic guidelines in trenching which are outlined in a pamphlet put out by the State of California entitled **Protection of Workmen on Trenches**. The guidelines are as follows:

### TRENCHING

California's **Construction Safety Orders** give **minimum requirements only**, but distinctly specify that trenches in all types of earth must be guarded against the hazard of moving ground.

It is the employer's responsibility to see that employees are not injured from caving ground. Experienced construction men offer the following advice, which will be helpful in deciding how much sheeting, in addition to the minimum specified, is required:

#### 1. Beware of Disturbed Ground.

Ground that has been filled or disturbed will require additional sheeting and bracing. So will hard compact ground if there is filled ground nearby. A trench wall that is near another recently filled trench, for example, is unstable, even though it appears to be hard compact material.

**2. Take Special Precautions Where Moisture Is Present.** Provide extra sheeting where there is water or seepage. Keep the excavation pumped out at all times, and avoid any ac-



Shown above from left to right are Business Representatives Al Wolf, Al Sandoval, Darrel Mitchell, Jack Hill and Ed Buchanan as they listen to an instructor while he shows them the proper method of shoring a trench. Other representatives received the same instruction in other classes. These classes cover all the material shown above.

cumulation of water, day or night, until the work is done.

**3. Guard Against Rock-like Material That Softens When Exposed to Air.** Upon exposure to air and moisture, some rocks, like the

greenish serpentines found in California, undergo a softening change called air-slacking. Walls of such rock are hard and solid at the time of excavation, but soften into a slippery, (Continued on page seven)