



# utility reporter

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## Energy Commissioner Cites Prop. 15 flaws

Richard E. Tuttle, State Energy Commission member, spelled out his reservations about Prop. 15 last November 7 in a *Los Angeles Times* article condensed below.

"On the ballot in June, in essence, the question that will be put to the voters is this: 'Are nuclear plants safe enough?'"

"The question, in my view, should be stated another way: 'What mixture of energy sources will provide us with a reasonable amount of electricity, with full consideration of safety, environmental protection, cost, conservation and the avoidance of energy shortfalls?'"

"I wonder how the public might respond to this question:

"Can we tolerate a system of transportation that kills or injures 2,433,669 California citizens every decade?"

"The answer, if the question could be considered in a vacuum, is 'Of course not.'"

"But if the same issue were restated in somewhat different form—'Should driving automobiles be curtailed until establishment of a safe control system?'—the answer would be 'Don't be silly!'"

"We all know that cutting their use would court economic disaster, social disorder and human suffering. And so we continue to tolerate a system that is imperfect because the only truly safe alternative—no cars—is unworkable and intolerable."

"With cars, we know from years of experience the number of casualties that continued driving will cause. Nuclear power has no such track record. Instead, there are assumptions and guesses as to what conceivably might happen if an extraordinary series of accidents and failures were to occur. No consensus exists among the experts."

"That complex controversy does not have to be resolved in order to evaluate the nuclear initiative itself. Rather, to come to an understanding of the issue, we must distinguish between two very different questions:

"—What proportion of our electricity should we obtain from oil, coal, gas, nuclear power, water, earth heat, the sun or from other, more exotic power sources?"

"—In making the difficult choice between these potential energy sources, should the decisions be made by the Legislature, by an administrative agency or directly by the people?"

"Almost surely, California's electricity for the rest of this century will have to come from a variety of sources, and the judgment as to what proportion should come from each source must be carefully made."

"It was for this purpose, of course, that the Legislature last year created the energy commission on which I sit."

"The Legislature concluded that the proper forum for these issues is an administrative tribunal with the expert staff and the time to consider fully and fairly all applications to build generating plants, without an express duty to favor or disfavor one or the other."

"The nuclear initiative, subjecting one possible energy source to special curtailment without the opportunity for balanced judgment and continuous flexible review of changing circumstances would impair the state's capacity to respond reasonably to energy problems."

### The Nuclear Shutdown

## Progress on new building

The Local Union has been proceeding to upgrade and enlarge the L.U. central office facility. We intend over the next few months to utilize the Utility Reporter to keep the L.U. membership informed about the status of our building program. This month is a brief update of the recent activities toward acquiring the necessary office facilities.

**January 1975**—The Executive Board, after reviewing the crowded condition of the present L.U. office and the future need of the L.U., established a Building Committee to review the various alternatives to enlarge and improve the L.U. office. During the period between January 1975 through October various alternatives, such as adding to the present building, leasing, buying another building, or constructing a new building to suit, were discussed by the Building Committee and by the Executive Board.

**October 1975**—The Executive Board acted to submit to the L.U. members at the unit meetings a proposed Building Acquisition Program for their consideration and action. The Building Acquisition Program would authorize the Executive Board to transfer the necessary funds, up to \$450,000, to the Energy Workers Center, Inc. to acquire an office building. The Program further would authorize the Board of Directors of the Energy Workers Center to purchase a building site of approximately 40,000 sq. feet in the Woodlands Professional Park on Citrus Circle in Walnut Creek, to contract to design and build to suit a 10,000 sq. ft. office building, and to sell the building the Local Union presently owns.

Pursuant to the Building Acquisition Program the building cost is limited to \$350,000 with an additional \$35,000 authorized to incorporate features to conserve the use of energy.

**November 1975**—The members of L.U. 1245 voting during the November 1975 L.U. meeting adopted the L.U. 1245 1975-1976 Building Acquisition Program.

**December 16, 1976**—International President Charles Pillard granted approval to L.U. 1245 to transfer funds from the L.U. General Fund to the L.U. 1245 Energy Workers Center, Inc.

**December 20, 1975**—The members of the Energy Workers Center, Inc. voted to approve the purchase of the stated property and the sale of the present building. This action granted the final necessary approval to empower the Officers of L.U. 1245 and the Energy Workers Center to take the necessary actions to complete the Building Acquisition Program in accordance with applicable Union law.

**January 23, 1976**—The Energy Workers Center Board was informed that to meet the requirements of the City of Walnut Creek Planning Commission the minimum site size would be 44,475 sq. ft. The Board of Directors acted, in a special meeting on February 6, 1976, to proceed with the Building Acquisition Program and purchase the necessary land.

**February 9, 1976**—The Energy Workers Center entered into a contract to purchase the land at a price of \$77,830.

**February 12, 1976**—The Energy Workers Center and Zimmerman Construction Company signed a contract for the design and construction of the office building at a price of \$342,422.

Between February 12 and now, we have been laying out and designing the building in order to complete the drawings to submit for approval of the applicable governmental authority. The site plan and building exterior elevations have been submitted and have received preliminary approval. Final approval is currently expected about the middle of May.

We now expect, barring unforeseen delay, construction to begin in the second half of May and to take approximately 4 months to completion.

The Energy Workers Center, Inc. is a California corporation, wholly owned by L.U. 1245, that holds, owns and operates the real property of L.U. 1245. The Energy Workers Center Board of Directors is composed of the Officers and Board members of the L.U. Authority to establish the Energy Workers Center, Inc. can be found in Article XV of the L.U. Bylaws.

## Status of PG&E Negotiations

Union's committee met with Company on April 28, 1976 as the result of the rejection of Company's offer of March 22, 1976 by the membership in the physical bargaining unit. This rejection was reported to the membership by the Ballot Committee on April 16, 1976.

In an effort to reach agreement on the 1976 bargaining, Union's committee proposed the elimination of freezes on all classifications and interim adjustment during the remaining term by COLA or a set cents-per-hour increase at mid-term.

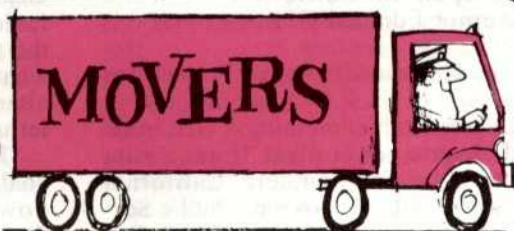
Company did not agree that the freezing of classifications was a major factor in the rejection of their offer and stated that the freezes were necessary for them to justify starting level salaries to the P.U.C. Company also stated that their offer followed the pattern which has been established in California utility bargaining this year, the annual wage levels which are produced compare favorably with those of other industries and the wage levels are not out of line within the industry.

Company again presented its financial status and stated they could find no way to justify an increase beyond the 8.5% already offered, and that they could make no further changes that the ones they conceded prior to their last offer.

Union's negotiating committee declined to submit the package for balloting again until consulting with the membership and discussing the merits and alternatives available, and Company agreed to hold the offer open with full retroactivity until the Committee could accomplish this, but made it clear that this offer was maximum.

**ATTEND YOUR UNIT MEETINGS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION AND CLARIFICATION!!!**

... HAVE YOU MOVED?



MY NEW ADDRESS IS:

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

STREET \_\_\_\_\_

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

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# Offersen resigns; Ed Vallejo Appointed Recording Secretary



This photo shows President Howard Darington, left, giving the oath of office to newly appointed Recording Secretary Ed Vallejo.

Jackie Offersen submitted a letter of resignation to the Executive Board for consideration at the April Executive Board meeting. Sister Offersen resigned for personal reasons and the Board accepted the resignation with regret and with thanks for her service to Local 1245.

Ed Vallejo, Clerk B for PG&E in their General Office in San Francisco, was appointed as a permanent replacement for the position of Recording Secretary of Local 1245. One million, nine hundred sixty-six thousand, three hundred eighty-four.

Brother Vallejo has been a member of Local 1245 since August, 1967. Ed has served the Local as a Shop Steward and is a member of Unit 2401 in San Francisco. Vallejo was a member of the 1973-74 wage and contract negotiating committee and the 1976 Wage Negotiations Committee. Brother Vallejo is also a member of Local 1245's clerical cross-hatch grading committee.



Einar Peterson, right, is shown as he takes the oath of office from President Darington. Brother Peterson's appointment to Treasurer was reported in the March issue, but no photo was available.

# Letters to the Editor

A LETTER TO THE EDITOR

The outcome of the PG&E wage negotiation balloting will be known before this letter is placed into print. But to me, regardless of that outcome the handwriting is on the wall for all to see. Sooner or later, that portion of our membership which is employed by PG&E will be called upon to stand tall and be counted. The increasingly hard line now being taken by the management of PG&E is but a precursor of their efforts which will most certainly threaten not only our hard won benefits and wages but also our job definitions and security. The only weapons in our arsenal with which we can combat this menacing trend is Unity of Purpose and Strike action.

As of late, our unity has left much to be desired and must be repaired before we can wage a successful defense of our rights. Therefore, I call upon the Executive Board and the Business Manager to make this the number one priority of our local- "The reorganization and redirection of our membership". Let our Union conduct an organizing program similar to that which we would use to woo new employee groups into our local union. If necessary hire a PR firm to direct this effort, but we must reunify before it's too late.

Secondly, we must prepare now for the future use of our ultimate action- the strike. I again call upon the leaders of our local to start the wheels of preparation for strike action into motion. There is much to be done prior to the actual action of a strike besides the contractually necessary 60 days notification: a pamphlet of strikers' rights should be ready to be printed which would spell out the laws and rights covering unemployment compensation, food stamp programs, medical care and the methods of proper and effective picketing, etc.; contacts must be made with various labor groups and sympathetic utility unions. In short, there is so much to be done that it cannot wait until we are already involved in the situation.

In essence what I am saying is that it's time for our Local Union to change from a low profile, don't-rock-the-boat organization (which it has properly been during the now departed good years) into an aggressive but open minded Local Union which will be able to inspire and to lead its membership through the years of adversity which loom near on the horizon.

*Gary W. Abrahamson*  
Gary W. Abrahamson  
card # 2507780

Editors Note: The views expressed in the "Letters to the Editor" column are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the policy or views of Local 1245.

## Former Gov. Brown urges Californians to vote "NO" on Proposition 15

"Now that the proposed, coal-fired Kaiparowits Power plant has been dropped, we have an even greater need to keep our nuclear energy option open in California," Former Governor Edmund G. Brown said this month.

The Kaiparowits Power Project was a planned \$3.5 billion facility in Southern Utah combining a coal mine and electric power plant. It was a joint venture by the Southern California Edison Company, Arizona Public Service Company and the San Diego Gas & Electric Company.

On Wednesday, the three utilities announced that the Kaiparowits Projects had been removed from the planning schedule because of escalating costs and delays caused by lawsuits and legislative and regulatory opposition.

Individuals and groups formed an organized opposition to the project on grounds that it would damage the environment and increase air pollution.

"Some of the same people and organizations whose delaying tactics

resulting in the dropping of the Kaiparowits Project are also working for Proposition 15," Brown said.

"They have told us loudly and clearly what they are against — fossil fueled and nuclear energy. But now the time has come for them to tell us what they are for. What practical alternative form of energy would they let us use?"

"Frankly, the thought of burning coal in other states in order to provide power for California has always disturbed me," the former Governor said. "But the fact remains that the Kaiparowits Project would have provided an additional 1500 megawatts of electrical power to the people and industries of California."

"That energy is going to have to be replaced in some way.

"I think we should be grateful that the nuclear energy alternative is still available in California, and I call upon the voters of this State to keep nuclear energy option open by voting "No" on Proposition 15," Brown concluded.



the utility reporter

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# Bargaining Roundup

## NOTICE TO NEGOTIATE

### CONCORD TV CABLE:

Union has notified Western Communications, Inc., of its desire to amend the current agreement between Local 1245 and Concord TV Cable, and provided Company with proposals for specific changes desired by Union. Union is presently awaiting Company's answer. Meeting will be scheduled for the second week in May.

### WESTERN TV CABLE:

Union has also notified Western Communications, Inc., of its desire to amend the current agreement between Union and Western TV Cable and has submitted proposals for specific changes desired by Union. Presently awaiting Company's answer and negotiating meetings will be scheduled as soon as possible.

### NAPA VALLEY CABLEVISION:

Pursuant to the Certification of Representative issued by the National Labor Relations Board on March 19, 1976, certifying Local 1245 as the exclusive bargaining representative for the employees of Napa Valley Cablevision, Union has notified Company of its desire to bargain. Union is awaiting Company's answer and meetings will be scheduled in the near future to commence bargaining.

### YUBA COUNTY WATER AGENCY:

Union has served notice on the Agency of its desire to bargain and has presented specific proposals for consideration. Meeting will be scheduled for the early part of May to commence negotiations.

### STORER CABLE TV (Fairfield and Rohnert Park):

Notices to negotiate have been served on both these properties and Union has submitted its proposals to Company. No meetings scheduled.

### PLUMAS-SIERRA RURAL ELECTRICAL COOPERATIVE, INC.:

Union served notice on the Cooperative to open the existing agreement for amendment on April 22, 1976. No date has been set for the first meeting between the parties.

### TRUCKEE-DONNER PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT:

On April 22nd, Union served notice of its desire to meet and confer with the District Representatives regarding improvements in wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment. At this writing, no date has been set for the first meeting to commence bargaining.

## CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS

### PACIFIC TREE EXPERT COMPANY:

Union and Company have had three meetings to date. Union in process of gathering additional information before resuming bargaining on the **hospital plan**. Further meetings will be scheduled as soon as possible.

### Apprentice Tree Trimmers' Program:

Following meetings with employees of Pacific Tree Expert Company and representatives of the Bureau of Apprenticeship Training, U.S. Department of Labor, certain revisions were made to the existing program in order to obtain acceptance from the Department of Labor for the purpose of indenturing the program. The program has been submitted to the corporate level of Asplundh Tree Expert Company for approval.

### CITY OF LODI:

First meeting held on April 22nd for the purpose of explaining Union's proposals to the City. Next meeting is scheduled for May 6, 1976.

### CITY OF SANTA CLARA:

Current agreement terms out at the end of the year. Union's negotiating committee has drafted proposals for a "working concept" agreement which has been approved by the membership. These proposals were submitted to the City in April as it is anticipated negotiations will be lengthy. No meetings scheduled at this writing.

### CITY OF HEALDSBURG:

Last meeting with City was held on April 20th. No agreement was reached and no further meetings scheduled at this time.

### OROVILLE-WYANDOTTE IRRIGATION DISTRICT:

Last meeting between Union and District held on April 21st. Another meeting will be scheduled late in April, at which time it is anticipated a package will be completed for submission to the membership.

### PARADISE IRRIGATION DISTRICT:

First negotiating session between Union and District held on April 19th. Union submitted proposals and District has taken them under consideration. Meeting will be scheduled in the near future for further negotiations.

### TRI-DAM PROJECT:

Union and Project negotiating committees held their fourth meeting on April 5th. Union's committee is currently studying Project's proposals and another meeting will be scheduled soon.

### BAY CABLEVISION:

Third negotiating meeting was held with Company on this year's wage opener on

April 7th. Union currently awaiting Company's latest offer in writing, after which further meetings will be scheduled.

### JONES INTERCABLE (Formerly Konocti Cable TV):

Union has had several meetings with Company. Most of the contract issues have been settled, but a few economic items remain open. An early settlement is expected without further meetings.

### MONTEREY PENINSULA TV CABLE:

(Wages only) Union presented wage proposal to Company on March 31, 1976. No counter has as yet been received from Company, but a further meeting will be scheduled for sometime during the second week of May for further negotiations.

### SIERRA PACIFIC POWER COMPANY

Have had over ten meetings with Company to date. Various proposals have been exchanged. Still working on contract language changes. Economic issues not reached as yet.

### X-RAY ENGINEERING COMPANY:

Company's first offer was rejected by the membership and following negotiations on April 20th, Company indicated they were nearing their "end point".

Absolutely no progress has been made and negotiations have been broken off pending further discussions. No further meetings scheduled at this writing.

## CURRENT INTERIM NEGOTIATIONS

### CITY OF REDDING:

It was agreed during last general negotiations to negotiate on LTD program at a cost to the City of .8% of payroll. Currently in negotiations with no agreement reached at this time.

### PG&E STEAM HEAT TRAINING COMMITTEE:

Union has presented suggested changes in the program to Company and Company has taken them under consideration. As soon as Company has studied Union's proposals, another meeting will be scheduled.

### PG&E BUILDING DEPARTMENT TRAINING COMMITTEE:

At a meeting between Union and Company committees, Company presented a rough draft of a training program, together with considerable material on an extensive training program for Building Department employees. The Union committee met to study this material and has presented Company with suggested changes Union feels are necessary. Company has additional training programs to develop and the committees will not meeting again until this is completed.

### MATERIALS DISTRIBUTION TRAINING PROGRAM:

Union is awaiting Company's formal proposal. No meetings have been scheduled.

## Nuclear Power in California?

Local 1245, IBEW will co-sponsor a public forum on the Nuclear Power Initiative with the Berkeley League of Women Voters and the Berkeley PTA Council.

The forum will be held Wednesday May 19, 1976 7:30 p.m. at the West Campus School Auditorium, University Avenue and Bonar Streets, Berkeley California. The Honorable Wilmot Sweeney, Judge of the Municipal Court, Berkeley-Albany Judicial District, will be the moderator of a four member panel. Speaking for the initiative will be Dwight Cocke, Northern California Director of "Yes on 15", and Kirk Smith, Researcher in Energy and Resources and Doctoral Candidate in Environmental Health Sciences. Speaking against the initiative will be Al Medcalf, Nuclear Engineer and Howard Friend, Mechanical Engineer. Each speaker will be allowed to make a fifteen minute presentation of the issues and a short rebuttal at the end of the presentations. A committee from the sponsoring organizations will collect written questions from the audience. These questions may be directed to an individual on the panel or to the entire panel.

This will be an opportunity for Local 1245 members, who live in the Bay Area, to hear both sides of the question. We urge those members from the Bay Area, who have not made a decision on Proposition 15, to attend this forum.

**Kimberly Garnier,**  
**William Key**  
and  
**Delmar Mangold**

could have won \$50.00 if they had noticed their union membership card numbers in the March issue of the **Utility Reporter**. This month's numbers are as well hidden as they were last month. Don't miss out, read your **Utility Reporter**.

**LOOK FOR YOUR CARD NUMBER**

# Local 1245 Steward Education program continues

## SAN JOSE DIV.

On Saturday, March 6, 1976, 48 San Jose Division and General Construction Shop Stewards attended a Stewards training meeting held at the Hyatt House Hotel in San Jose.

Asst. Business Manager Larry Foss gave a thorough explanation of the Supplemental Grievance Procedure and outlined the stewards' participation and responsibilities in that procedure.

Work shops on grievance handling were conducted on imaginary grievances. This required a conscientious review of the Labor Agreements by the stewards for resolution of the issues. Some stewards were selected to play the role of supervisors in order that grievances could be processed through the initial and local investigating committee steps of the grievance procedure process.

According to Bus. Rep. Orv Owen, the stewards in attendance felt that this training meeting was productive and helpful, as the meeting covered the "nuts and bolts" of the stewards participation and responsibility in the grievance processing. It was the consensus of the stewards in attendance that future training meetings should be conducted in the same fashion. Information and material to assist Stewards in the performance of their duties were distributed. They were also given tests on their knowledge of both the Physical and Clerical Agreements and Local Union 1245's Bylaws and structure.



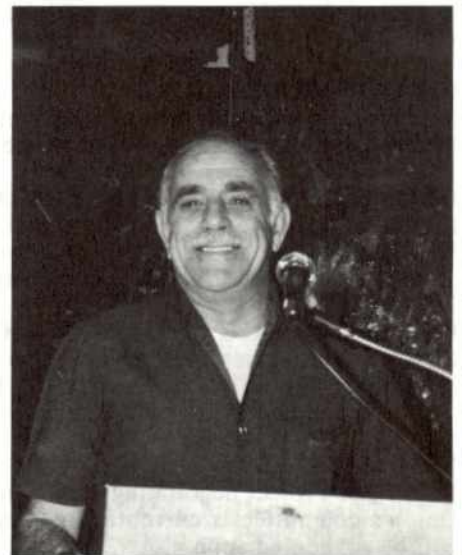
The photo above shows many of the participants of the San Jose Area Shop Stewards meeting.



The photos above and below show more of the people who were in attendance at the Stewards Meeting.



Bus. Rep. Orv Owen is shown as he explains the agenda for the Shop Stewards training session.



Larry Foss, Asst. Bus. Mgr., is shown as he responds to a question on the grievance procedure.

# SAN FRANCISCO-GENERAL OFFICE CLERICAL

Saturday, March 20, 1976 a Steward's Training Meeting was held at the Local Union Headquarters in Walnut Creek for Clerical Stewards of General Office and San Francisco Division PG& E.

About 20 stewards participated in the all day meeting. The meeting started off with introductions of all in attendance. Business Manager L.L. Mitchell then outlined the role of a Union Steward and what his or her responsibilities and authorities are.

A good part of the day was used to cover the grievance procedure with Business Representative Shirley Smith and Assistant Business Manager Larry Foss leading the discussion.

Business Manager L.L. Mitchell reported on the functions and responsibilities of the Business Manager and Staff.

Ed Vallejo, member of the Clerical Job Grading Committee and Assistant Business Manager Larry Foss explained the function of the Job Grading Committee.

Business Manager Mitchell expressed his thanks to the Stewards who gave up a Saturday to attend the training session.



Shown above are some of Local 1245's Shop Stewards who work in PG&E's General Office and various offices in San Francisco Division.



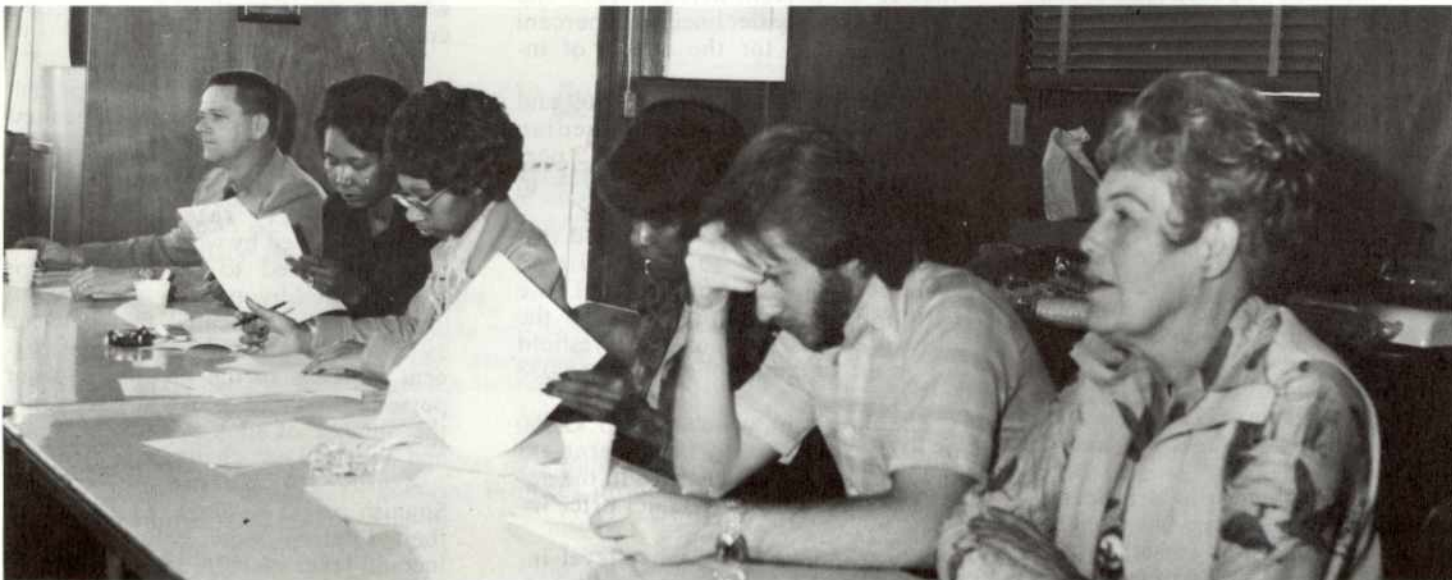
This photo shows more of the people who attended the Clerical Shop Stewards training session.



The photos above and below gives different views of those attending clerical stewards training session.



Asst. Bus. Mgr. Larry Foss, left, and L. L. Mitchell, Bus. Mgr., are shown listening to questions on the grievance procedure.



This photo gives a closer view of those sitting in the back row at the stewards meeting.



Bus. Rep. Shirley Smith is shown explaining the duties of a shop steward.

# 10 REASONS FOR A "NO" VOTE ON 15

The nuclear initiative is:

**BAD LAW  
BAD ECONOMICS  
BAD ENERGY POLICY**

Its passage would have serious results. Here are 10 negative consequences the nuclear initiative would produce:

**1. Existing nuclear plants and those under construction would be shut down. No new nuclear plants could be built.**

PG and E's Humboldt Bay nuclear unit which has operated safely and successfully for more than a dozen years would be shut down along with two large new PG and E units now nearing completion at Diablo Canyon.

The Sacramento Municipal Utility District's new Rancho Seco Nuclear Plant would be closed. And so would the San Onofre plant in Southern California, which has operated safely for seven years.

In addition, \$535 million already invested in two Southern California nuclear units now under construction would be down the drain.

The price tag for all this? More than \$2 BILLION!

**2. California's energy policy would fall into the hands of a minority of our elected state representatives.**

The initiative would give a one-third minority in either house of our legislature control over the state's energy future.

**3. Chronic electricity shortages would become a very real possibility.**

The initial 40 percent cut in existing capacity forced by the initiative within one year after passage would wipe out 1,400,000 kilowatts of electric capacity in Northern California alone—enough to provide for the electric needs of all of Alameda County.

Unless this deficit was quickly made up, and it would be very difficult to do, power shortages during periods of heavy electric use would begin in a few years.

**4. Utility bills would rise sharply.**

Nuclear power costs about 40 percent less than electricity from an oil-fired plant.

For example, the initiative could cost Northern California agriculture, industry, commerce and residential customers about \$1 billion in higher electric bills in the first five years alone.

**5. California's electric economy would become dependent on imported coal.**

The long-term result of the initiative would be reliance on coal to fill the role long planned for nuclear power.

Since California has no commercial deposits of coal, the fuel would have to be imported from other western states.

Twenty years from now, more than 1,400 carloads of coal would be delivered and burned just in Northern California each day.

**6. Reliance on unproven or limited energy alternatives would be inadequate.**

Solar, wind, geothermal and other exotic energy alternatives cannot produce major amounts of electricity before the year 2000, even with monumental effort to develop these sources. Uranium and coal are available and proven and are major elements of federal energy policy. We need both.

**7. California would isolate itself from the rest of the nation on energy matters.**

California already imports most of its natural gas and the low sulphur oil required to generate electricity. This leave us in no position to form our own independent energy policy. To do so would be unrealistic, dangerous and costly.

**8. The initiative would add politics to safety regulation and impose a new and unnecessary layer of bureaucracy.**

Nuclear power is now comprehensively regulated by the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission, an organization of full time, highly trained experts.

In addition, the new California

Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission has authority for power plant siting and related matters.

The initiative would add to the regulatory process political judgments arrived at on the advice of an underfunded, non-expert, part-time volunteer group.

**9. There is strong legal opinion that the initiative is unconstitutional.**

Because Prop. 15 seeks to usurp the authority of the federal government to regulate nuclear power as part of a comprehensive national energy policy, passage would result in long and costly litigation. The energy industry would be paralyzed until significant legal problems were resolved by the courts.

**10. Nuclear technology, with a proven record of safety, would be outlawed without providing for any alternative energy source of equal or greater safety or less hazard to the environment.**

Dr. Ian A. Forbes, Chairman, nuclear energy dept., Lowell Technological Institute, has written: "Rigorous examination of the present risks, costs and impact of all electric power sources leads to the conclusion that nuclear power is more than acceptable; it is preferable. A call for a nuclear moratorium is without merit.

**The Nuclear Shutdown**

## Shutdown Inevitable

Failure to meet **any one** of the conditions imposed by Prop 15 would mean no new nuclear plants could be built in California, and existing plants would be phased out and shut down.

Prop. 15's first condition requires that, within one year, the U.S. Congress amend the Price-Anderson Act to remove present \$560 million liability limits for nuclear plants.

In December, 1975, however, Congress voted **overwhelmingly** to **extend** this insurance plan for another **10 years**. President Ford has already signed the bill into law. Two million, six hundred seventy-nine thousand, seven hundred thirty-six.

Congressman "Pete" McCloskey (R-Calif.) said in a January 23 letter to his constituents, "There is no realistic hope that Congress will reverse this action within the time required by the initiative measure."

"Thus, existing plants **will be** cut back to 60% of capacity and no new plants can be built—just one year after passage of Prop. 15.

After five years, remaining nuclear capacity would be cut back 10% per year until existing plants were completely shut down.

Shutdown would also occur if the second condition was not met. The second condition requires that within 5 years two-thirds of the members of both houses of the California legislature must agree that reactor safety systems and waste disposal procedures meet a set of unreasonable and impossible conditions.

For example, the effectiveness of all safety systems must be demonstrated by "**comprehensively testing in actual operation substantially similar physical systems.**" Three million, two hundred sixty-eight thousand, two hundred ninety-nine.

To do this could very well require taking a full-sized \$500 million nuclear power unit and **destroying it** to prove safety.

That's like ditching a 747 jet in the North Atlantic to test emergency evacuation procedures.

There would also have to be two-thirds agreement of both houses that nuclear wastes can be stored and transported in such a way that radioactivity will not escape due to "imperfect storage technologies, earthquakes or other acts of God, theft, acts of war, governmental or social instabilities," and so on.

If such "no-risk" affirmation had been required throughout history, we never would have utilized fire, water, electricity or the wheel, much less the internal combustion engine.

Unless **all** conditions of Prop. 15 are met cutbacks and shutdowns will occur.

If the legislature agreed on safety and waste disposal questions, but Congress refused to abolish liability limits, shutdown would take place. On the other hand, if Congress complied, but the legislature did not, shutdown would still take place.

That's why we call it the nuclear shutdown initiative.

**The Nuclear Shutdown**

## More live in poverty under Ford

A new report by the Census Bureau disclosed an increase of 1.3 million in the number of poor persons in the United States in 1974, the most recent year for which the government has compiled such statistics.

The increase in the number of persons classified as living in poverty — a 5.6 percent jump — reflected "the downturn in the economy and the substantial inflation" between 1973 and 1974, the Census Bureau said. It was the first increase in the number of poor in three years.

In a separate report, the bureau said that while median gross family income rose seven percent between 1973 and 1974, it actually declined four percent when adjusted for the effects of inflation.

In the five years between 1969 and 1974, the Bureau added, median family income increased only 1.2 percent — from \$12,690 to \$12,840 — in terms of 1974 purchasing power.

The report on the poor showed that in 1974 there were 24.3 million Americans — 12 percent of the nation's total population — below the poverty level. The poverty threshold for an urban family of four was \$5,038 in 1974.

The threshold, which rose to \$5,050 in 1975, is updated by the government each year to reflect changes in the annual average of the consumer price index.

Whites below the poverty level increased by 1.1 million, or eight percent, between 1973 and 1974, the

government said. The number of blacks in this category did not change significantly, it said.

### More Blacks in Poverty

"About nine percent of white persons and 31 percent of black persons were below the poverty level in 1974," the Census Bureau said.

Of the 24.3 million Americans living in poverty in 1974, about 19.4 million were family members, the rest were unrelated individuals — persons living alone or with non-relatives.

From 1969, when Nixon took over, to 1974, the Census Bureau noted the number of poor fluctuated so that it was not significantly different at the end of that period.

"The majority of the poor in 1974 were still either black, of Spanish origin, elderly, or in families headed by women," the bureau said.

### The Women Still Suffer

The poverty rate in 1974 for families headed by women was 33 percent, compared to six percent for those headed by men.

The survey indicated that between 1973 and 1974 there was a seven percent increase in the number of poor persons under 65 years of age, while the number of such persons 65 years and over did not change significantly.

About 2.6 million persons of Spanish origin — about 23 percent of their total — were below the low-income level in 1974, the government reported.

**Service Union Reporter**

# RECENT SETTLEMENTS

## CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC UTILITIES COMPANY (Lassen Division)

Local 1245 members employed in the Lassen Division of California-Pacific Utilities Company have ratified a one year agreement which provides for a 9% general wage increase. Other improvements include: minimum callout increased from 1 1/2 to 2 hours; exchanged Columbus Day for the Friday after Thanksgiving; and added a section allowing employee to use up to 3 days of sick leave for illness in immediate family.

## CALIFORNIA-PACIFIC UTILITIES COMPANY (Needles District of the Colorado River Division)

Union's membership employed at this property have ratified an agreement which provides an 8% general wage increase; replacement of broken or worn out tools; revision to Section 19.5 providing maintenance of pay when changing classification in a Line of Progression; inclusion of a "savings clause"; added language allowing employee to use up to 3 days of sick leave for illness in immediate family. (This had been in practice for a year on a trial basis). Company also agreed to establish job definitions and lines of progression for all classifications.

## NEVADA IRRIGATION DISTRICT

Local 1245 members employed by the Nevada Irrigation District ratified an Agreement on April 21st which provides for a \$50 a month across-the-board increase, an additional holiday (Admission Day); an arbitration clause was added on a two-year trial basis, increased vacation, and it was agreed that a professional study would be made of job classifications by State Personnel Services. Union representatives are to meet with the State to discuss the purpose and procedures of the survey and to comment on subjects relative to the survey; i.e., area, comparable agencies, etc.

## Bargaining and Freedom

Those who read only headlines probably believe labor and management are constantly at each other's throat and can't agree on anything. That, of course, is the nature of news—conflict is newsworthy than peace. Three million fifteen thousand, eight hundred four.

So a strike—which occurs in less than 2 percent of all negotiations—is news; the 98 percent settled without a strike are not.

That is my point: Labor and management do agree that responsible and free collective bargaining is the way to settle disputes.

Of course, collective bargaining is not perfect. Labor and management are constantly striving to improve. For example, in the steel industry, labor and management have agreed on an alternative to the strike—binding arbitration.

It has been successful, but only because both sides agreed. Nobody forced either the union or the companies to agree.

Some editorialists contend the answer to strikes or lockouts is to have

the government compel all unions and all companies to settle their disputes through arbitration. But compulsion would be the death knell for collective bargaining, a free trade-union movement and the free enterprise system. It would undermine a basic American freedom.

Only a dictatorship can compel workers to work against their will or force management to sign a contract it does not want. No free American wants any form of totalitarianism.

While strikes sometimes cause public inconvenience, they are an inherent part of the liberties we all enjoy—free speech, freedom of association, the right of contract. The exercise of liberties in a democratic society is not only healthy, it is vital.

As President Dwight D. Eisenhower put it:

"The right of men to leave their jobs is a test of freedom. Hitler suppressed strikes. Stalin suppressed strikes. . . Each also suppressed freedom. There are some things worse, much worse, than strikes. One of them is the loss of freedom."

So labor and management support free collective bargaining, which has brought to American workers the highest standard of living in the world, strengthened the economy by increasing consumer buying power, and provided a common sense mechanism for resolving problems.

Collective bargaining is not perfect, but it works. And responsible labor and responsible management must and do work to make it better.

—AFL-CIO President George Meany in an advertisement sponsored by United States Steel and published in numerous newspapers and magazines.

**Attend  
Unit  
Meetings**

## INTERIM NEGOTIATIONS SETTLEMENT

### NUCLEAR POWER PLANT OPERATORS

Interim negotiations with respect to premium payments in conjunction with the Nuclear Regulatory Commission's licensing procedure for operators at nuclear power plants have been concluded and the letter agreement was signed on April 28, 1976.

The following schedule with nuclear premiums for qualified licensed operators was adopted:

1. Nuclear Auxiliary Operator premium - \$32.40 per biweekly pay period
2. Reactor Operator license premium - \$40.40 per biweekly pay period
3. Senior Reactor Operator license premium - \$52.50 per biweekly pay period

Effective January 1 of each year the foregoing premiums shall be increased by an amount equal to the percentage increase in the Bureau of Labor Statistics' Consumer Price Index - all cities - between November and November of each year. Following the application of the appropriate percentage increase and the rules of rounding, if the premium ends in a number other than 0 or 5, it shall be increased to the next higher five cents.

Provisions were also included relating to the training and testing requirements for initial Reactor Operator and Senior Reactor Operator licenses, with special provisions being adopted for Humboldt Bay Power Plant and for the NRC requalifying requirements for renewal of such licenses.

These provisions will be set forth in the Job Definitions/Lines of Progression applicable to operating employees in the Steam Generation Department under the heading "NOTES APPLICABLE TO LINES OF PROGRESSION AT HUMBOLDT BAY AND DIABLO CANYON POWER PLANTS."

Copies of the letter agreement are being provided to all directly involved members and will be available upon request to other concerned members.

## AD HOC NEGOTIATIONS

### LABOR AGREEMENT CLARIFICATION - SECTION 202.17 - TITLE 202 "HOURS":

On April 8, 1976, a letter agreement was executed placing into effect the results of Ad Hoc negotiations which arose out of the issues raised in Review Committee Case No. 1390-75-19 (Coast Valleys Division) and Review Committee Case No. 1384-75-13 (North Bay Division).

This agreement provides for limited application of Section 202.17, Title 202 "Hours" to shift employees who are assigned to static day schedules. The application of Section 202.17 to shift employees is limited to the start-up or testing of an entirely new facility or of a new unit at an existing facility. It is further limited to situations where additional shift employees are being added and requires that the employees' transfer from static shift must be placed on a rotating shift schedule.

The Labor Agreement Clarification is being updated to include the foregoing.

## Gun Registration

Proposals to "register guns" under the implication that registering guns would deprive criminals from their use, does not seem to be the actual reason for such registration of guns, if we judge the result of the Washington, D.C. gun law.

In 1968, The D.C. City Council enacted one of the nation's most stringent gun control laws. A citizen had to obtain a license to own firearms and register all firearms in the citizen's possession. Police clearance, finger printing and "mug" shots were requested to get the license.

During hearings prior to its enactment officials of the D.C. government gave assurance that it would not at some future point confiscate these legally registered firearms from their licensed owners.

In February of 1975, a bill was introduced which would confiscate all legally registered pistols and shot guns of the D.C. citizens. As a temporary sop to hunters it would still permit, for the time being, rifles to be owned by the citizens. However, these "lucky" people who are permitted to keep their rifles disassembled must

submit a report "to the Chief of Police in writing each time the rifle is fired, by and to the knowledge of the licensee, no later than the fifth day of the month in which the rifle is fired."

No where in the bill is there any indication that criminals will be more severely punished for using a weapon in the commission of a felony. No where is it indicated that criminals who use weapons in the commission of a felony will receive more than a light sentence or even be restrained when on bail from using a weapon in a felony to get funds to pay an attorney who, because of plea bargaining, get a reduced sentence for his client.

Before we accept "Big Brother's" concern for our safety from criminals with guns we should refresh our memory as to Watergate, the illegal action of the CIA, FBI, IRS, the Bank Secrecy Act, the physical and electronic surveillance of U.S. citizens, secret foreign deals, illegal contributions to our legislative representatives and deliberate false statements from our elected representatives, etc. Welcome to 1984 in 1976.

Labor's Community Report

# The Safety Scene

## What Should You Do If Someone is Choking?

WHAT DO YOU DO? You are sitting at the dinner table, laughing over a funny story, when suddenly the person next to you turns pale and collapses. At first glance it looks like a heart attack. But then you notice that the victim can't talk—he is choking on a piece of food caught in his windpipe.

You have four minutes to save his life.

Should you slap him on the back? Should you offer him a glass of water? Should you reach into his mouth and try to dislodge the chunk of food? Those were the old methods of trying to help a choking person, but now a doctor in Cincinnati has come up with a new solution.

Dr. Henry Heimlich, director of surgery at Cincinnati Jewish Hospital, offers this advice:

"Stand behind the victim and put both of your arms around him. Let his head, arms and upper torso hang forward. Grab your fist with your other hand and place it against his abdomen slightly above the navel and below the rib cage. Press up rapidly against his abdomen. This forces the diaphragm up and compresses the lungs. Hopefully the food will pop out like a cork from a champagne bottle."

"If the victim is too heavy for you to hold, lay him on his back and sit on his hips. With the heel of your left hand pressing against the back of your right hand, push forward into his abdomen just above the belt.

"A second person should be prepared to remove the ejected food from the victim's mouth — particularly if he's on his back — with a spoon or fingers."

Apply artificial respiration if the victim still has trouble breathing after the food is removed. Then get him to a doctor to have him checked over.

If you choke on something while you are alone use the technique on yourself by pressing your fist rapidly up against your abdomen.

Dr. Heimlich's discovery was triggered by a newspaper article. "Un-

til a year ago I hadn't thought much about choking because I didn't realize it was a big problem. But then I read a report from the National Safety Council that choking causes 3,900 deaths a year. So I decided to do something about it.

"The idea of the champagne cork came to me, and it seemed logical to try to drive the plug of food out from below. I experimented with beagles and developed this method."

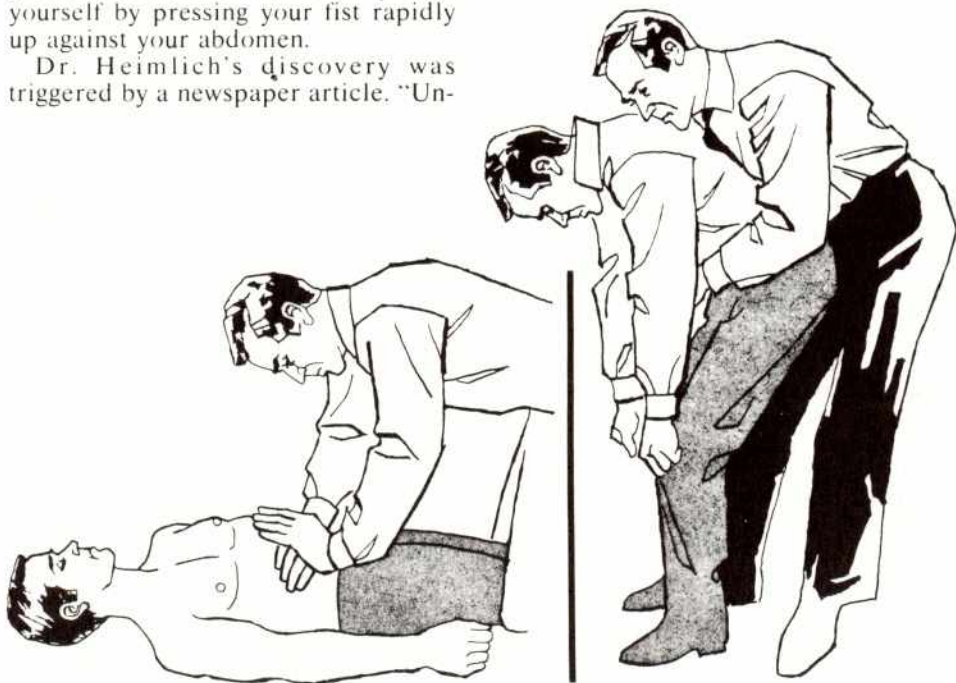
The "Heimlich maneuver" has already chalked up a number of successes. In Ohio a doctor reported saving a friend who was choking on a piece of steak at a Rotary banquet. The doctor had read about the new method just the day before. In Illinois another doctor used the method on a young woman who was choking on a piece of food at a garden party.

In Seattle a retired restaurant owner saw an article on the Heimlich maneuver in his Sunday paper. He was particularly interested because death by choking occurs so often in restaurants that the problem is often called "cafe coronary." Hours later he used the method to save the life of a neighbor's wife who was choking on a large piece of chicken.

Those early successes seem to indicate that the Heimlich maneuver could save a lot of lives. But don't you rely on it. Instead, use common sense and good table manners so that you won't choke in the first place. Don't drink too much alcohol before eating. Chew your food slowly and thoroughly, especially if you have dentures. Don't eat and laugh at the same time. Above all, don't bite off more than you can chew!

### Family Safety

**Editor's note: Several of our members have requested that we reprint the above article. It first appeared in the November, 1974 issue.**



## Health's-a-poppin'

## How You breathe May be why you Drown (Watch out in the water)

by Marion Wells

Research Director, American Physical Fitness Research Institute

DROWNING is a leading cause of ACCIDENTAL DEATH in the five to twenty-four year old age group. The culprit in a number of unexplained drowning deaths in seemingly healthy competent swimmers may be EXCESSIVE DEEP BREATHING (hyperventilating) right before swimming underwater.

Authorities explain that hyperventilating may alter your body's carbon dioxide level in a way that disturbs the reflex mechanism which stimulates you to breathe when you need more oxygen. In such cases swimmers have been known to lose consciousness while actually continuing to swim. If this happens, spectators watching the swimmer may not suspect anything is wrong until final collapse occurs.

Experts add that vigorous exercise can result in a person hyperventilating. It's therefore best not to swim underwater after recently swimming vigorously on the surface.

With warmer weather upon us, it's also wise to be aware of other water safety hazards which can drown unsuspecting swimmers.

Alcohol and swimming may not mix. Evidence suggests that drowning risks are higher when a person has been drinking.

SMALL CHILDREN mustn't be left unwatched for EVEN A MINUTE near ANY water, including the BATHTUB. Have them wear life jackets when playing by the pool or on the beach. Keep private pools and fishponds "child-proof" by making sure they are adequately covered or enclosed when not supervised. "In-ground pools should be fenced with lockable gates," experts advise. "Above-ground pools should have ladders removed when not in use."

BEWARE of unfamiliar swimming spots, the American Red Cross warns. Hidden hazards such as deep holes and treacherous currents may lurk in their depths.

Avoid swimming alone, or when overtired or overheated. Adjust GRADUALLY to cold water. Before DIVING, be sure the water is sufficiently deep and there are no other swimmers or hidden obstacles beneath you. Wear life preservers when boating, water skiing or enjoying other water sports, ESPECIALLY if you can't swim!

Does a member of your family suffer from an ailment which involves periodic lapses of consciousness (seizures, for example)? Ask your physician for guidelines on participating in water sports. Follow

them CAREFULLY. "In particular, such patients should be advised to bathe in the smallest possible amount of water, for it is in the bathtub that exposure is most frequent and the danger least evident."

There's added safety in selecting swimwear with an eye to visibility. The colors yellow and orange are particularly easy to see.

Pool owners can raise the chances of saving a swimmer in trouble by keeping simple rescue devices (such as reaching poles) within quick, easy grasp. Pools used at night should be properly attended and equipped with underwater or overhead lighting which provides needed visibility. When swimming at night, make sure a responsible person knows where you are.

Act now to insure that every member of your family knows basic rescue techniques. These should include artificial respiration and methods of pulling a person to safety if the rescuer hasn't been trained in lifesaving. Information or instruction classes should be available at your nearest local YMCA, YWCA or chapter of the American National Red Cross. You may also want to consult the Red Cross manual STANDARD FIRST AID AND PERSONAL SAFETY (Doubleday & Company, Inc., paperback, \$1.95).

A final VERY IMPORTANT CAUTION. Seek prompt follow-up medical assistance in cases of near drowning. Even if artificial respiration revives the victim and he seems to recover, there may STILL be a risk of SHOCK, SECONDARY DROWNING OR LUNG INFECTION.

Remember, if you're careless in the water, YOU MAY NOT COME OUT ALIVE!

Provided as a public service by the AMERICAN PHYSICAL FITNESS RESEARCH INSTITUTE (APFRI), 824 Moraga Drive, West Los Angeles, Calif. 90049.

# WORK AND PLAY SAFELY