

The Short Circuit

Official Monthly Publication of Local
Union 1974, International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO, Omaha, NE



1957 - 1987
30th Anniversary Issue



The Short Circuit



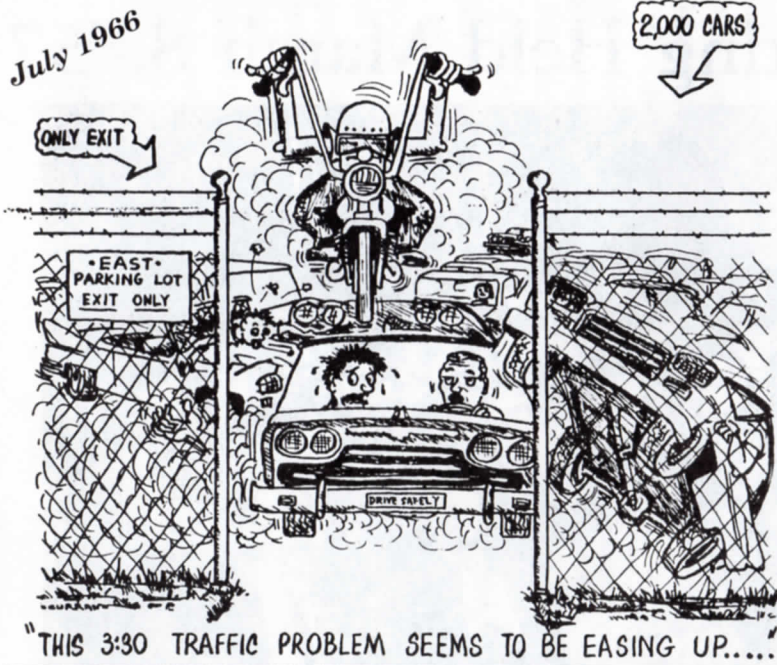
"A BETTER AMERICA THROUGH ORGANIZED LABOR"

The Award Winning Newspaper of Local Union 1974, IBEW

Now In Our 30th Year

OMAHA, NEBRASKA — MARCH 1987

30th ANNIVERSARY EDITION



July 1967

Members Approve Building Corp. Purchase of Additional Land

Peterson Calls Approval "Gratifying"

A motion was made at the June 16th monthly meeting to authorize the Building Corporation to purchase an additional quarter city block in Millard at a cost of \$25,000. The membership overwhelmingly approved the motion.

With this purchase, the corporation will own land totaling one-half a city block of commercially zoned property measuring 150 ft. x 300 ft. The additional purchase will supply the needed land for off-street parking.

"With the membership's approval of this motion, we can now begin to move ahead with plans for hiring an architect," President Vondra said.

After the motion carried, Executive Board Officer William A. Peterson, who is secretary of the Building Corporation, made this statement:

"This is another big step forward for our Union. The progressive attitude of our membership has given us authority to move ahead with our plans to ultimately have our own headquarters building to be built at the corner of Millard and 16th Street."

November 1967

Council President Vondra Appoints AT&T Stockholders Committee

Proxy Votes Asked By Council

Since September 1, 1959 when the IBEW-Western Electric Council, EM-3 had received its charter, it has been progressively gaining strength and recognition through matured and cohesive action. This is substantiated by two outstanding and memorable feats which were accomplished solely through the action of the EM-3 Council. The first, being the initial breakthrough on the Blue Cross-Blue Shield Hospital, Medical, Surgical Group Insurance plan and the Company's participation through partial payment of the premiums. The second, and most recent, being the negotiated Journeyman Trades plan. There are numerous others which are worth mentioning, however, the action to be taken by the EM-3 Council in the very near future is of much greater significance.

Future Plans

For the past two years the EM-3 Council has been actively represented at the AT&T Stockholders meetings and in the very near future plans will be formulated by which the Council intends to take positive action of far greater proportions than has been taken in the past.

January 1971

Frosted Employees Give W.E. Zero Following January 3rd Blizzard

Dual Treatment In Pay Treatment

The snowstorm that lashed across the midlands the week of January 4, 1971 made it impossible for most Western Electric employees to report for work on Monday, January 4 and also Tuesday, January 5.

A Company memorandum to all supervisor's of hourly-rated employees explained that due to the weather conditions hourly-rated employees absent will not be charged with an absence or an irregularity on their attendance record. The memorandum went on to say that these absences will not prevent an individual from an opportunity to receive a perfect attendance award.

J. O. Bosworth, manager of Labor Relations and author of the memorandum, also stated that hourly-rated employees must furnish a medical certificate satisfactory to the Company for absences due to sickness on either January 4 or January 5.

The Company, however, chose to treat the salary rated employees in an altogether different manner.

The same individual, J. O. Bosworth, sent out the following memorandum concerning them: "Salary-rated employees will be paid for absences and irregularities on January 4 and January 5, 1971 when the irregularities were due to the snow storm . . ."

"Employees who reported sick on either January 4 or January 5, 1971 will be treated in the normal manner as sickness absence case."

The Union has vehemently opposed this unprecedented action on the Company's part.

(Continued On Page 5)

October 1967

Frank Vondra Elected President Of IBEW/EM-3 Council

Vondra First To Hold Position From LU 1974

New Orleans, La.—At the semi-annual meeting of the I.B.E.W., Western Electric Council EM-3 in New Orleans, Louisiana, which

EM-3 designates the third I.B.E.W. electrical manufacturing council, in this case Western Electric, The first and second Council

move ahead with plans for hiring an architect," President Vondra said. After the motion carried, Executive Board Officer William A. Peterson, who is secretary of the Building Corporation, made this statement: "This is another big step forward for our Union. The progressive attitude of our membership has given us authority to move ahead with our plans to ultimately have our own building. I am truly gratified at the astounding acceptance of the motion."

Over 97% of the votes were in favor of the motion.

BLACK MONDAY

There have been conflicting reports from our members in both the Cable and Crossbar buildings as to the actions of the supervisors toward the safety of the employees during the disastrous storm of last Monday that took the life of one of our Brothers, Luther Monroe.

In a sincere attempt to make very certain the tragedy of "Black Monday" never again occurs, your local union needs all of the information it can acquire. We **strongly urge** the members who were working at that time to write a concise account of the measures taken, **if any**, by the supervision towards the physical safety of the employees.

Also, your local union would urge those who arrived for work on the third shift to relate the treatment they received from their supervisors.

The information will be used to determine whether or not negligence was shown on the company's part.

All names will be held in the strictest confidence. Please do not **phone** the union office. Address letters to:

President Frank R. Vondra, LU 1974, IBEW
PO Box 37443, Millard, Nebr. 68137

March 1967

Union Newspaper Gets a Name

On June 30 a name was selected for our Local's newspaper.

Out of the many entries the members submitted, the Name "The Short Circuit" was selected.

The person who submitted the winning entry was Edward J. Hammell, who is presently on the Executive Board.

For his prize-winning entry, Ed won a \$25 bond for his effort.

Don't Criticize Unionize

November 1967

Land Purchase Settled; Union Owns Half Block

Final action was taken Wednesday, November 8, on the land purchase in Millard, Nebraska by the Building Corporation Committee headed by Executive Board Officer William A. Peterson.

The papers were signed by both parties involved which finalized the transaction. Local 1974 now owns one-half commercially zoned city block.

Brother Peterson said that in the spring of 1968 an architect will be contacted to draw up plans for our new office building. He also stated his hopes in getting the building started later in 1968.

holders meetings and in the very near future plans will be formulated by which the Council intends to take positive action of **far greater proportions** than has ever been undertaken before.

As in the past, the Council will again be actively present at the next AT & T Stockholders meeting held in the spring of 1968. With the future in mind, Council President Frank Vondra appointed Anthony Makris, President of Local 1470, Kearny, New Jersey, as chairman of the Council's AT & T Stockholders committee. Other members of the committee are Local Union Presidents, G. Vaughn Local 1504; L. Becker Local 1959; L. Bending Local 1806; and B. Trout Local 2020. President F. R. Vondra of Local 1974 will be present as Ex-Officio of the Committee.

Proxy Request

It is the EM-3 Council's intention to request from all of the 900,000 IBEW members of the International, which include the 80,000 represented by the Council, and who are AT & T Stockholders to deliver their proxy votes to the committee and thus enabling the representatives attending the 1968 Stockholders meeting to cast the proxies as a solid block of votes.

Special Meeting

The rules establishing and governing the type of action to be taken by the committee has been outlined by the Council Delegates and will be acted upon at a special meeting to be held in December.

A progress report will be printed for your information in future issues of the Short Circuit clarifier.

**DEADLINE FOR
DECEMBER ISSUE
IS DECEMBER 1**



From LU 1974

New Orleans, La.—At the semi-annual meeting of the I.B.E.W., Western Electric Council EM-3 in New Orleans, Louisiana which convened on September 25th and continued on to and including September 29, Local Union President Frank R. Vondra was elected the President of this council by acclamation.

Brother Vondra's name was put in nomination by Anthony Makris, President of Local 1470, I.B.E.W., of the Kearny, New Jersey Works. Vondra was unopposed.

The delegates of this Council represent over 80,000 production, maintenance, and clerical employees at thirteen Western Electric manufacturing locations.

EM-3 designates the third I.B.E.W. electrical manufacturing council, in this case Western Electric. The first and second Council pertain to General Electric and Westinghouse.

Being elected to the Presidency of this Council does not force Vondra to relinquish his position as President and Business Agent of our Local.

The Council officers, in addition to the President, are Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer and three Executive Board Officers, making a total of six and are nominated and elected among the Presidents of the Council affiliated Local Unions only.

(Continued On Page 5)

October 1970

Quinlan, Clark Ousted from 613 Building by Company Officials

Union Officers Denied Right To Represent Employees in 455

Two officers of Local 1974 were evicted from the plant premises by company officials as they sought to represent members in Dept. 455 (Bldg. 613). This action by the company took place on October 8.

Michael D. Quinlan and Harlan H. Clark were the union officials involved in the incident. The two were attempting to discuss a grievance with the employees of Dept. 455 concerning a shutdown on the third shift. The shutdown was necessitated because of repairs being made on a water main by the city of Omaha.

Straight-time pay

The company had offered to permit the affected employees, sixteen in number, to make up the eight hours on Saturday, October 12, at straight-time pay.

"This is a direct violation of Article 13 of the General Agreement," stated Clark.

The union's executive board had earlier in the week refused to allow the company to pay straight-time

wages for Saturday work.

The members of Dept. 455 had requested information pertaining to Saturday work and when officer Quinlan asked the section chief if he could confer with them he was told he could not do so on company premises.

Quinlan and Clark, both second shift employees, went to the cafeteria to await the 2:00 a.m. break.

No Union Business

It was reported that at this time, department chief R. Kull came into the cafeteria to inform the union officers that they were not to conduct any union business on company premises.

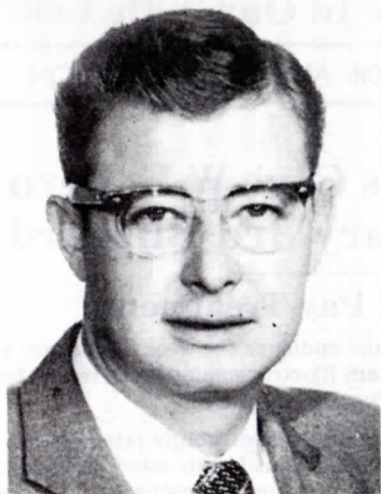
It was then that Quinlan informed Kull that there is a federal

(Continued On Page 9)

Lowell Iske First President of Local

At the first membership meeting called on March 8, 1957 with Robert K. Garrity, International Representative presiding, the members cast their ballots to elect the first president of Local 1974.

After the ballots were counted, Lowell Iske was found to be the winner and our Union had its first leader. During his first year of office the first contract committee was formed and consisted of Iske, Gene Sautter, Larry Hooker, Frank Vondra, Paul Elvers and the International Representatives, J. E. Boki and Robert Garrity.



Lowell R. Iske

Negotiating Committee Announced

At the April 17th monthly meeting, the negotiating committee on the wage reopener was announced by President Edward Hamell. Those serving on the committee were Paul Elvers, Frank Vondra, Larry Hooker, Tom Crow and Edward Hamell. Brothers Hooker, Elvers and Vondra served on the 1957 and 1958 committees. The wage talks began on Monday, April 20th and were held at the company office in Millard.

At that time the negotiating committee represented slightly more than 2,000 Western Electric employees.

On May 15th, the membership voted to ratify the new Wage increase offer by an overwhelming majority. The vote was 310 to accept 13 to reject and one ballot was disqualified.

The Presidential Parade

- LOWELL R. ISKE
March 1957-March 1958
- ED HAMELL
March 1958-March 1960
- GENE SAAB
March 1960-March 1962
- BOB RUSTERMEIER
March 1962-March 1964
- FRANK VONDRA
March 1964-November 1970
- ORVILLE EBY
November 1970-March 1971
- MICHAEL QUINLAN
March 1971-March 1983
- KEN MASS
March 1983-October 1985
- ROBERT ALBERTS
October 1985-March 1986
- TOM CONNOR
March 1985-Present

Members Attend Organization Meeting in Downtown Hotel



BIRTH OF A UNION

Rome Hotel Site of 1st Regular Union Meeting Held March 8, '57



Members attending first meeting of L. U. 1974 crowd into room at Rome Hotel, Robert Garrity, seated extreme right, front row was the International Representative who began organization efforts. President F. R. Vondra is seated in second row, fourth from left. Our present Financial Secretary, Larry Hooker is seated extreme left, fourth row. Former Local President Gene Saab, second from right, third row.

Do You Remember?



increase offer by an overwhelming majority. The vote was 310 to accept 13 to reject and one ballot was disqualified.

Charter Members

Following are the names on the original Union Charter, signed March 1, 1957, and where they are now:

Joyce D. Wermuth
Retired
Nancy E. Ives—
Resigned from Company
Charles Stanfield—
Resigned from Company
Ansel F. Andersen—
Retired
Paul W. Elvers—
Phoenix Works
Rolland F. Cooper—
Phoenix Works
Erma T. Shrader—
Resigned from Company
Ramona Johnson—
Resigned from Company
Mary Ann Richards—
Omaha Works
Douglas Vilhaur—
Left Company
Marcine Boganowski—
Resigned from Company
Lawrence E. Hooker—
Retired
William A. Peterson—
Retired
Henrietta Polivka—
Retired
Kenneth L. Parker—
Omaha Works
Elloine Schutt—
Retired
Ada F. Pohle—
Left Company
Ann V. Lind—
Retired
Mildred Sudyka—
Resigned from Company
Leroy Wiegert—
Retired
Eva Mae Dooley—
Left Company
Lowell R. Iske—
Omaha Works
Larry D. Smith—
Resigned from Company
Rian J. Murphy—
Omaha Works
Frances Frakes—
Left Company
Mike Grudenic—
Retired
Virginia Davis—
Left Company



Workers meet to organize new Union at Pilot Plant in Omaha. Front Row—Kenneth L. Parker, second from left and seated next to him is Larry Hooker. Extreme right, front row is Tom Hickman, presently the International Representative for this area. Second row, left: Robert Garrity, now Vice-President of the I.B.E.W. Third Row—Extreme right, Bill Peterson, 'E-Board' member.

V. Cash Swears in 1st Officers



Virgil Cash swears in the first elected officers under the watchful eyes of Robert Garrity, to serve until the elections in June of the same year. They are; left to right: Paul Elvers, Rolland Cooper, Don Henggeler, Larry Smith, President Iske, Eugene Saab and Mike Grudenic. Not shown, Jerry Proctor.

MEETING NOTICE

Local 1974, I.B.E.W.

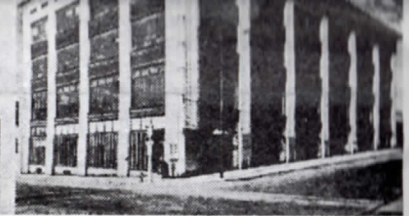
GENERAL BUSINESS MEETINGS TO BE HELD
DECEMBER 18, 1959

AFTERNOON MEETING: MELROSE BALLROOM
135th and "Q" Streets
1:30 P. M.

EVENING MEETING: ROME HOTEL, DOWNTOWN
8:00 P. M.



'A' Building



'B' Building

Do the above buildings bring back memories? To some of our older members they will.

The building on the left is the "A" Building which was one of the pilot plants located just north of downtown Omaha on the corner of 16th and Cuming Streets.

On the right is the "B" Building in which the first production started in the leased building at 19th and Howard Streets.

The two pilot plants were opened in 1956 to build up a work force of trained personnel for the new

plant that was under construction at the time.

The last manufacturing workers departed from the downtown shops on March 13. That Friday at the close of the working day, the few remaining men of the mounting plate and piece part department in Building "A" clocked out thus recording the close of the pilot plant operations.



June 1966 E-Board Okays New Newspaper

Proposal Wins Support

by Jerome F. Berger
Press Secretary and Registrar
Dept. 441-9

This is the 'new look' of our monthly Union newspaper, The Short Circuit. The purpose for the change can be summed up in a single word: Progress. It is my firm belief and the belief of the majority of officers in this Local that it is better for a union to show a positive attitude toward progress than to be frozen in the ice of its own indifference. It is because of this spirit of cooperation and forward thinking on the part of your Union leadership that this expanded form of communication has been made possible.

Since this monthly newspaper is the only direct form of communication with all of the members we felt it imperative that we give you

a more complete analysis of the happenings that affect each and every one of us.

The space in this publication is not necessarily reserved for the staff of the Short Circuit or the Officers of this local. It is our earnest desire that you, the membership, take an active part in the form of constructive criticism and to submit your thoughts and feelings to us, on paper or verbally, on how to better improve your Union. It is for all of us to do. No one thing can function properly when part of it lies dormant.

This is your Union, this is my Union. It is for us together to support it, for us together to build it, and with this sense of dedication, cooperation and responsibility, we will stand together longer, stronger, ever progressing for our mutual benefit.

Local Union 1974 Election Of Officers Held

A record number of voters turned out March 16, 1962, to elect their candidates for Officers of our Local Union. The new Officers are pictured below:



Left to right, sitting: Kenneth L. Parker, Treasurer, Dept. 273; Frank R. Vondra, Vice-President, Dept. 242; Robert W. Rustermier, President, Dept. 423; Eugene T. Saab, Recording Secretary, Dept. 264; Lawrence E. Hooker, Financial Secretary, Dept. 423. In the back row is the Executive Board: Paul W. Elvers, Dept. 422; Ronald L. Osburn, Dept. 251; Max L. Zimmerman, Dept. 423; Thomas J. Hickman, Dept. 423; Claude C. Schade, Dept. 245; Anthony C. Vacanti, Dept. 245.

Donald G. Olson was elected as an Executive Board Member but had to resign because of personal reasons. According to the International Constitution, the Executive Board then elected the new member, who was Claude C. Schade.



Bob Garrity swears in winners of the 1964 election. From



The newly elected officers of Local Union 1974, IBEW, took the oath of office at the regular monthly meeting March 19 at 8:00 p.m. The oath was administered by Thomas J. Hickman, International Representative. Before the ceremonies, Hickman gave a brief talk.

Those being sworn into office were: Michael D. Quinlan, President; Harlan H. "Whitey" Clark, Vice-President; Jerome E. Berger, Recording Secretary; Robert E. Stander, Financial Secretary; Victor F. Roth, Treasurer. The following are the Executive Board members: Walter Bolton, Dean E. Frye, Jr., Bryce E. Qualset, Viola "Vi" Rogers, W. Jack Thraen, Anthony C. Vacanti and William R. Wofford.

Former Presidents



Ed Hammell
1958-1960



Eugene T. Saab
1960-1962



The newly elected administration being sworn in by International Representative, Tom Hickman, from left to right—Ken Myers, Financial Secretary; Jack Philby, Treasurer; James Curren, "E" Board; Bob Alberts, "E" Board; Whitey Clark, Vice President, Michael D. Quinlan, President; Betty Dannevik, Recording Secretary; Elmer Johnson, "E" Board; Dean Frye, "E" Board and Mike Kelley, "E" Board. Not present because of illness were "E" Board Officers, Walter Bolton and Bill Plymale. Bolton and Plymale were sworn in at the April 2nd "E" Board meeting.



Bob Garrity swears in winners of the 1964 election. From left to right are Anthony C. Vacanti, E-B; Kenneth Parker, Treasurer; Thomas Hickman, Vice-President; Richard D. Hines, E-B; Terry E. Short, E-B; Frank R. Vondra, President; Guy F. Trotter, E-B; Viola Rogers, Recording Secretary; Lawrence E. Hooper, Financial Secretary; Lowell R. Iske, E-B, and Paul W. Elvers, E-B.



Eugene T. Saab
1960-1962



R. W. Rustermeier
1962-1964



Frank Vondra
1964-1970



New Administration Sworn In

The newly elected administration being sworn in by former Executive Board officer, Elmer Johnson, from left to right, James Curran, E-Board Officer, Ken Meyer, Financial Secretary, Mike Kelly, E-Board Officer, Jack Philby, Treasurer, Ken Mass, E-Board Officer, Bob Alberts, Executive Board Chairman, Whitey Clark, Vice President, Michael D. Quinlan, President, Frank Wisniski, Recording Secretary, (hidden behind Johnson), Bill Plymale, E-Board Officer, Jim Perryman, E-Board Officer and Marie Cook, E-Board Officer.

1966



Officers elected by the membership in the March election pose for a photographer at the Union Office. Pictured are, front row, left to right: Viola Rogers, Recording Secretary; Anthony Vacanti, Vice-President; Frank Vondra, President; Lawrence Hooker, Financial Secretary, and Kenneth Parker, Treasurer. In the back row, left to right are the Executive Board members: Guy Trotter, Jack Bacon, Orville Eby, Terry Short, Burt Schaninger and Ed Hamell.

In the elections of 1966 the members went to the polls to elect the seventh Executive Board in the Local's history along with a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Financial Secretary and Recording Secretary.



Front row (left to right) are Orville Eby, Vice-President; Phyllis Hemmingsen, Recording Secretary; Frank R. Vondra, President; Joe Dolezal, Financial Secretary; Kenneth Parker, Treasurer. The Executive Board members in the back row are (left to right) Vi Rogers, Robert Rustermier, Harlan Clark, Bryce Qualset, Burt Schwaninger, Michael Quinlan and Edward Hamell.

1980



Omaha—The newly elected administration being sworn in by former Financial Secretary, Ken Meyer, from left to right: Executive Board Officers Bob Alberts, Frank Wisniski, Mike Kelly, Treasurer Jack E. Philby, Financial Secretary Jim Hardick, President Michael D. Quinlan, Executive Board Officers Ken Mass, Marlene Wilson, Marie Cook, Jim Curran, Vice-President Harlan Clark, and Recording Secretary Vern Larson.

April 1974 . . .

Record Attendance One of Many Firsts

The March 1974 meeting was one of many firsts. There were well over 600 members attending both the a.m. and p.m. meetings, setting another attendance record.

It was the first meeting for the new administration. The new additions and seasoned veterans of this elected administration handled themselves with the same fanfare that won their election: confidence and exuberance.

Ending the meeting was one nervous surprise; nobody won the \$300 door prize.

Did You Know?

Theodore Roosevelt once said, "If I were a factory employee, a workman on the railroads or a wage earner of any sort, I would undoubtedly join the union of my trade. If I disapproved of its policy, I would join in order to fight that policy; if the union leaders were dishonest, I would join in order to put them out.

"I believe in the union and I believe that all employees who are benefited by the union are morally bound to help to the extent of their power in the common interests advanced by the union."

There was never any group photograph taken of the 1983 elected administration of Local Union 1974. The night of the swearing-in the photographer was ill. That administration consisted of President Ken E. Mass, Vice-President Harlan Clark, Financial Secretary Jim Hardick, Recording Secretary Vern Larson, Treasurer Jack Philby, Executive Board Officers Bob Alberts, Tom Connor, Mike Kelly, Frank Nagel, and Marlene Wilson.



Former Ex. Board Officer Mike Kelly swears in the new administration of Local Union 1974. Left to right: Executive Board Officer Ken Parker, Financial Secy. Mary Ellen Kobielski, Executive Board Officer Marlene Majeski, Treasurer John Schwenk, Executive Board Officers Tom Van Dyke, Marlene Wilson; President Tom Connor, Vice-President Frank Nagel and Executive Board Officer Frank Possinger. Recording Secy. Marie Cook was unable to attend the March meeting and was sworn in by President Connor on April 1.

1st Union Dance—Livestock Exchange—Late 60's

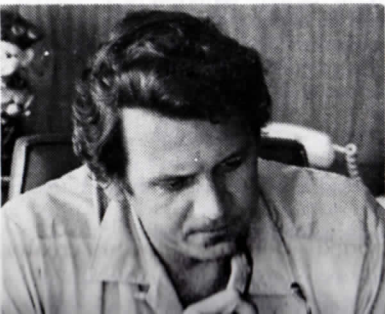


Former Presidents \$100 Drawing

101 Winners In 14 Years



Orville Eby
1970-1971



1. Lyle Kahnk \$100
2. Jim Morris 200
3. Gary Lemonds 300
4. J. D. Wilcoxon 100
5. G. H. Chonis 100
6. D. A. Gordon 400
7. J. J. Schweigart 100
8. Gary Mintkin 100
9. P. S. Smith 100
10. C. D. Jurden 100
11. J. R. Carl 100
12. F. Wisniski 100
13. R. H. Heesch 100
14. B. C. Rasmussen 300
15. R. L. Wentworth 100
16. N. Beasley 100
17. M. Gustafson 100
18. J. E. Barrett 100
19. D. Kelly 100
20. C. C. Gould 100
21. J. D. Rosno 100
22. T. F. Musil 200
23. E. J. Wesolowski 200
24. G. Davis 100
25. E. H. Peterson 100
26. J. P. Willy 100
27. D. Morris 100
28. R. F. Oglevie 200
29. C. H. Frike 200
30. S. Schultz 100
31. S. Allen 100

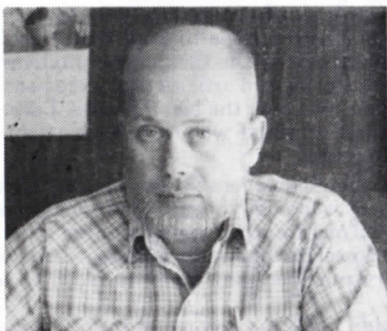




Michael Quinlan
1971-1983



Ken Mass
1983-1985



Robert Alberts
1985-1986

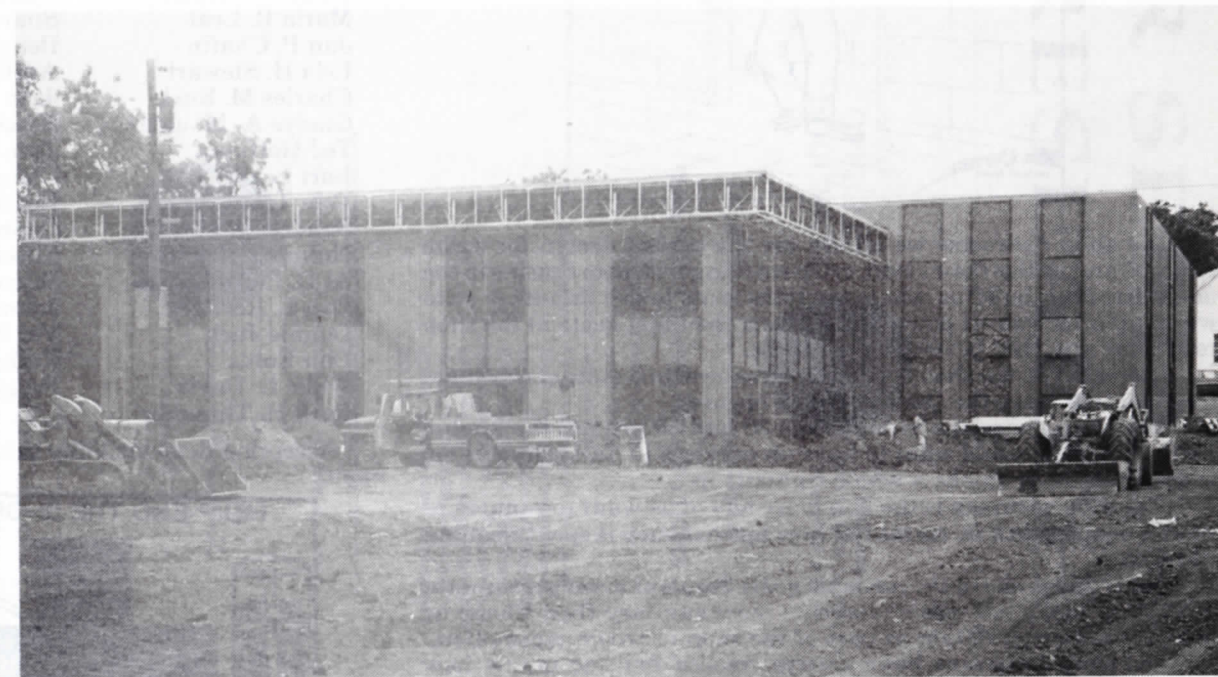


Tom Connor
Present

| | |
|----------------------|-----|
| 24. G. ... | 100 |
| 25. E. H. Peterson | 100 |
| 26. J. P. Willy | 100 |
| 27. D. Morris | 100 |
| 28. R. F. Oglevie | 200 |
| 29. C. H. Frike | 200 |
| 30. S. Schultz | 100 |
| 31. S. Allen | 100 |
| 32. L. Nelsen | 200 |
| 33. M. Lewis | 300 |
| 34. D. Johnson | 50 |
| 35. B. Heavican | 50 |
| 36. M. Harris | 100 |
| 37. K. Micek | 200 |
| 38. T. Risinger | 100 |
| 39. M. Weaver | 200 |
| 40. E. J. Wesolowski | 100 |
| 41. G. Sims | 200 |
| 42. D. Oglevie | 100 |
| 43. M. Casper | 300 |
| 44. S. Lindblad | 200 |
| 45. M. Wilson | 200 |
| 46. S. Barnes | 100 |
| 47. J. Fay | 100 |
| 48. F. Possinger | 100 |
| 49. W. Beasley | 100 |
| 50. G. Pote | 100 |
| 51. E. Belik, Jr. | 100 |
| 52. G. Osborne | 100 |
| 53. D. Hamlet | 200 |
| 54. A. Colanino | 300 |
| 55. W. Psota | 100 |
| 56. J. Filipiak | 100 |
| 57. D. Streeter | 100 |
| 58. J. Carter | 100 |
| 59. C. S. Davis | 200 |
| 60. J. W. Barnes | 100 |
| 61. R. A. Rudeen | 100 |
| 62. E. Winters | 300 |
| 63. A. R. Myers | 100 |
| 64. E. Hester | 100 |
| 65. W. Woodrum | 200 |
| 66. D. A. Gordon | 100 |
| 67. M. O. Bentzen | 100 |
| 68. D. J. Langdon | 100 |
| 69. C. Vanhooser | 200 |
| 70. L. Rue | 100 |
| 71. A. Myers | 100 |
| 72. R. C. Madez | 100 |
| 73. E. H. Peterson | 200 |
| 74. M. D. Weaver | 100 |
| 75. S. Suchsland | 100 |
| 76. R. A. Goodwin | 100 |
| 77. J. Knudsen | 100 |
| 78. R. Barajas | 200 |
| 79. E. J. Belik | 100 |
| 80. G. Kleue | 100 |
| 81. M. Zymola | 100 |
| 82. R. Rhodes | 100 |
| 83. J. Perryman | 300 |
| 84. B. Colanino | 200 |
| 85. E. H. Peterson | 100 |
| 86. S. C. Eickman | 200 |
| 87. J. S. Baddeus | 100 |
| 88. B. O'Donnell | 100 |
| 89. P. P. Belter | 100 |
| 90. R. I. Browns | 100 |
| 91. K. B. Hughes | 100 |
| 92. L. Kahnk | 100 |
| 93. M. Kelly | 100 |
| 94. R. L. Belter | 100 |
| 95. G. Van Fossen | 200 |
| 96. S. Filipiak | 100 |
| 97. H. Hendrix | 100 |
| 98. R. Rose | 300 |
| 99. J. C. Cheers | 100 |



Early Union Meeting at Old Legion Club



| | |
|--------------------------|-----|
| 100. J. Calloway | 100 |
| 101. D. Kramer | 100 |
| 101 Winners — 156 Months | |

New Union Hall Under Construction

Aug.-Sept. 1971

Pact Ratified and Approved By I.O. Prior To Nixon's Wage-Price Freeze

AFL-CIO's Meany Assails Nixon's Mismanagement

By Jerome F. Berger

OMAHA—With just hours to spare the newly negotiated three-year contract with the Western Electric Company escaped the Nixon administration's wage freeze put into effect on August 15.

The proposed contract was ratified at the Omaha Civic Auditorium on August 18 by an 85 percent majority of members attending the specially called meeting. On August 12, three days before the wage freeze went into effect, the International office of the IBEW okay'd the pact and their approval was back into the hands of Western Electric on Friday, August 13, which sealed the agreement.

The contract, which surpassed recent agreements reached by other major industrial unions saw first year wage increases average 15 percent with a cost-of-living clause expected to add substantially to the 3.2 percent wage increments of the second and third years of the contract.

Michael D. Quinlan, president of Local 1974, I.B.E.W., hailed the C-O-L escalator clause as a "milestone" in the EM-3 Council and local bargaining with the giant Western Electric Company.

Quinlan said the C-O-L will offer protection for the wage gains that were made.

Leverage Obtained
The president and Thomas Hick-

Also addressing the membership at the August 8 meeting, union negotiator Bryce E. Qualset reminded them that this was his third stint at the bargaining tables and the first time he could recommend acceptance to the members.

Vice-president Harlan H. "Whitey" Clark said the support of the membership was a chief factor in receiving retroactivity but he also recalled those few members who thought the union should have accepted the original 9% - 2% - 2% company offer.

"Then after we were successful in raising that to 15%+ - 3.2 - 3.2 they complained because we didn't achieve more," Clark said.

W. Jack Thraen, union negotiator, explained the formula to be used to compute the C-O-L through the Consumer Price Index.

Both Clark and Thraen also recommended acceptance.

Along with the four EM-3 Council locations caught in the wage freeze many other unions find themselves in the same predicament.

AFL-CIO President George

4 EM-3 Council Locations Stung By Wage Freeze

Meany sharply attacked President Nixon's "mismanagement" of the nations economy and urged Congress to rectify the situation.

He said labor will not cooperate because the wage-price freeze will

Vondra Elected EM-3 President

(Continued from Page 1)

The EM-3 Council received its charter on September 1, 1959. The Local Unions affiliated with this Council pay for the support of and conform to the approved by-laws of the Council as stated in Article XVII of the I.B.E.W. Constitution.

The objects of this Council are to establish a central representative body in order to promote the general interests of all the affiliated Local Unions and to achieve co-ordinated action, maintain harmonious relations and unity between them and to establish a means of effecting a uniform interpretation of agreements.

The Council has made remarkable progress in the past and is determined more than ever to succeed in achieving for its membership the goals for which it was organized.

Frosted Employees

(Continued from Page 1)

In a formal grievance submitted by Vice-President Michael D. Quinlan he stated that "it was agreed in bargaining that an individual sick absence of one or two days would not require a physician's certificate unless there was an obvious trend of abuse.

"The employees involved were not notified of the Company's unprecedented intentions of requiring a physician's certificate for a one or two day sick absence until after their return to work."

The Union's grievance also pointed out that "a visit to a physician by the sick employees would have been all but impossible because of extreme blizzard conditions which prevailed on January 4 and 5."



—Short Circuit Photo by Eldon Whale

August-September 1971

COPE is Beneficiary of Clothing Case Grievance

Carl N. Harr, Dept. 137, (center) presents a check to Treasurer Vic Roth equal to 3.65 hours straight time pay he received from the company through grievance procedure. Harr donated the complete amount to COPE, the first member to donate in this years fund drive.

Haar was sent home from work for wearing clothing that didn't

to take the grievance to arbitration when the company agreed to pay Haar all monies lost. Filing the grievance in behalf of Haar was chief steward Bob Alberts (left).

"I feel this is a perfect example of our union assuring us our individual democratic rights. My thanks to the union members and union representatives for their interest and efforts in bringing this matter

Quinlan said the C-O-L will offer protection for the wage gains that were made.

Leverage Obtained

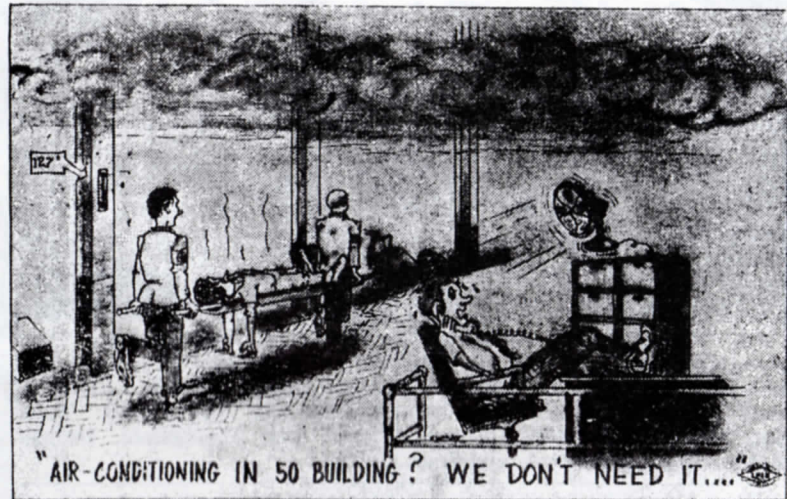
The president and Thomas Hickman, International representative who aided the local union in bargaining, heaped praise on the membership for their support and noted that the approval given by them for strike authorization provided the needed bargaining leverage to attain a successful pact.

Another first at the bargaining tables was the roll-up of expiration dates for twelve of the sixteen council locations. The twelve unions comprise 94 percent of the total membership of the EM-3 Council. Their expiration date is July 18, 1974.

The remaining four locals, Denver (Colo.), Little Rock (Ark.), Reading (Pa.) and Vancouver (Wash.) have an expiration date of August 16, 1974. Unfortunately, these locals were caught in the wage freeze and won't receive the wage hikes until it is lifted.

"The possibility of a wage freeze haunted the union negotiators during the long bargaining period and was an important factor that prodded us to reach a fair agreement as soon as possible," related Quinlan.

March 1967



Meany sharply criticized President Nixon's "mismanagement" of the nations economy and urged Congress to rectify the situation.

He said labor will not cooperate because the wage-price freeze will enrich big business at the expense of workers.

The 77-year old labor leader urged the AFL-CIO's 120 unions to cancel any contracts where workers are denied wage hikes during the 90 day freeze and to back this up by going on strike if necessary.

Many assailed Labor Secretary James Hodgson and Treasury Secretary John Connolly, who earlier had criticized Meany's opposition as out of step with American workers, according to the Associated Press.

"I don't pay much attention to the secretary of labor. After all, when you have a problem with the landlord you don't discuss it with the janitor," said the ex-plumber.

Many labor representatives predict the wage-price freeze will extend far beyond the 90 days called for by the president.

"Our union members would have been dealt a heavy blow if they had been caught in this wage-freeze, as this recent contract provides a catch-up in wages. Without it, they would have continued to lag behind the spiraling inflation," Quinlan said.

physician by the sick employees would have been all but impossible because of extreme blizzard conditions which prevailed on January 4 and 5."

"The management is consistently talking about the one, big happy family of employees at the Omaha Works. What head of any family would treat one half with such gratuity and the other half with scorn and discrimination?" said Quinlan.

The union official noted that some of the members feel the union is sometimes harsh in its dealings with the Company, however, this may give them some insight into what the officers are often faced with.

"It comes as no surprise to me or the other officers that the company views the production and maintenance work force with indifference, or worse yet, disdain," Quinlan stated.

"We're the people that make the product that they sell to pay the salaried employees for January 4 and January 5," he continued.

The Union is demanding that all employees with the appropriate term of employment who reported sick to the Company on one or both of the days in question be paid for their sick absence in accordance with the terms of the General Agreement.

The Record 1959

Marriages:

Joan Hixson, repairman—wired equipment, to Franklin D. Berry, March 14.

Births:

Mr. and Mrs. James Matthews, tool and die trainee, a son, Kevin Leroy, March 6.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Fitzsimmons, stamper, a son, Robert Lee, Jr., March 23.

Mr. and Mrs. Roger T. Waters, molding press operator, a son, Roger T., Nov. 7, 1959.

company through grievance procedure. Haar donated the complete amount to COPE, the first member to donate in this years fund drive.

Haar was sent home from work for wearing clothing that didn't agree with R. W. Dunn, assistant manager. The union was preparing

chier steward Bob Alberts (left). "I feel this is a perfect example of our union assuring us our individual democratic rights. My thanks to the union members and union representatives for their interest and efforts in bringing this matter to a successful conclusion," said Haar.

It's \$2 For '72

\$2 for '72—that's the goal of the 1972 COPE volunteer dollar drive. The AFL-CIO Executive Council last week unanimously approved a recommendation from the COPE Operating Committee to seek \$2 voluntary contributions from union members in 1972 rather than the \$1 requested in the past. Under the council's action, the voluntary quota for international unions will be increased from 12½ to 25 cents per member.

The COPE Operating Committee had noted that the \$1 request from members and the voluntary quota of 12½ cents on international unions were both established in 1955.

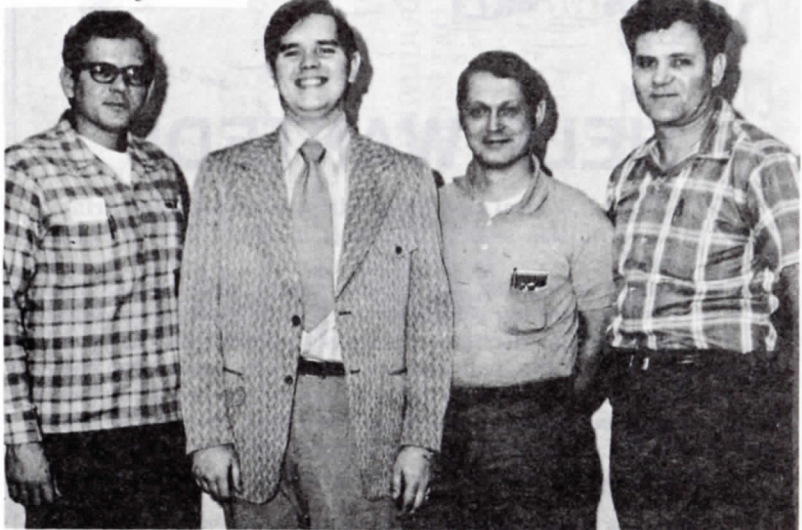
It cited these factors in presenting the proposal:

*The dollar drive and voluntary quota "no longer reflect political realities" in light of the "explosion" in campaign spending. Campaign costs have tripled since 1956 and radio-TV spending has quadrupled.

*As a result of this spending explosion, requests for funds from candidates to labor have ballooned, the COPE has faced a losing battle in trying to stretch every dollar for maximum impact.

*Proposals of conservation forces in Congress that would hamstring labor's political activity have multiplied.

February 1972

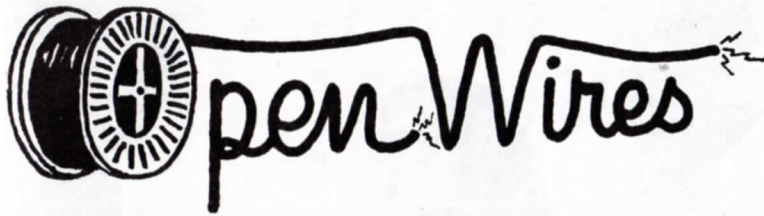


—Short Circuit Photo by Eldon Whale

Preparing for the 1972 registration drive, the union's COPE Committee met with Pres. Quinlan (L.) and Douglas County Election Commissioner Mike Boyle (second from left). The Union is seeking to register employees on the Works premises with the cooperation of W.E. and the Election Commissioner's office. John Sutej, COPE Registrar (Right) and Elmer Johnson are coordinating the effort.

The Members Speak:

November 1967



Anonymous letters are not printed under any circumstances. The Union must know the name and department of all writers. Writers who permit their names to be published are given preference. The Short Circuit is not responsible for matter contained herein. The Union reserves the right to condense letters.

NEW ELECTRICAL GUARANTEE:

Electrician announces new warranty policy on the new molding presses in Department 441. Guaranteed to operate for two cycles but not necessarily in succession.

Your Number "1" Electrician

OVERTIME:

The company complains about people in the Cable Plant who agree to work overtime and then call in and say that they can't make it. Most of these people notify the company in enough time to get somebody to take their place, but the company does not fill their slot with someone else. Is it because the supervisor is too lazy to get someone else?

I Need MONEY

THANKS TO BILL MAUDLIN:

It is because of members like Bill Maudlin who make us Union Representatives feel like we are doing our job. How many more cases like Bill's have we won and didn't as much as get a "thanks" for? I am a steward on the third shift and many days I stay till 10:00 or 11:00 on my own time with no charge to the Union.

A Union Rep.

THANK YOU:

A very sincere Thank You to our many kind and thoughtful relatives and friends, for the masses, memorials, prayers, floral offerings, cards, food and all the help extended to our family in our time of sorrow at the loss of our beloved husband, father, grandfather, J. Ed Wagner. A special thanks to Father Hitch, The Altar Society and Gretna rescue squad. We are so grateful. Thank You and God Bless all of you.

The Family of J. Ed Wagner

THANKS TO OUR W.I. COMMITTEE:

I wish to give a small and well deserved thanks to the members of our Wage Incentive Committee. A group of people who stand ready to help and offer their services at anytime. As a representative, I have never asked of these people that their services were not readily accessible and their help and consideration 100 per cent. We are extremely fortunate to have such a group of people in our bargaining unit.

So to you; our Wage Incentive Committee, hats off and know that when your long and tedious hours are spent, that many, many of us sincerely appreciate the tremendous help you have given us. Without you and your continuous effort our jobs would be drastically affected.

Ralph Haines

NOTE OF THANKS

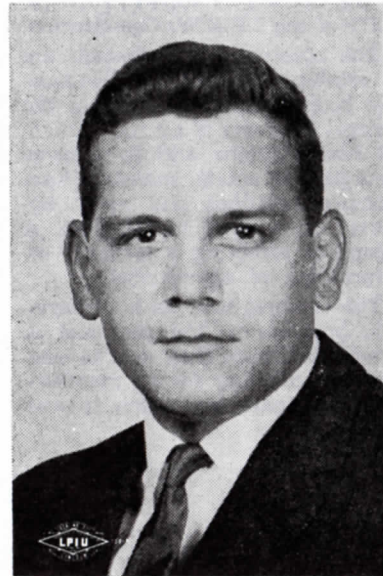
September 1966

QUINLAN'S COLUMN

by Mike Quinlan, Dept. 426

"And the loyal support of 3700 members".

I recently wrote these words while describing some of the as-



Mike Quinlan

sets of our negotiating committee. If we look in Webster's dictionary, we would find that support means: to strengthen, to give confidence to. I'm sure that if we members of this Local compiled a dictionary, the word would also be listed as a synonym of indifference and petty quarreling.

Indifference? Well, everyone knows how we pack the Union Hall like a can of sardines at each monthly business meeting. Alright, alright! So we have a transportation problem, baby sitting problem, the time is inconvenient, etc. But couldn't we make at least two, okay, even one a year? And all too often, we listen with a deaf ear or a disinterested attitude while a fellow employee speaks out against an injustice or wrong committed by his supervision. "But that doesn't concern us" we say. "That's a different job, another

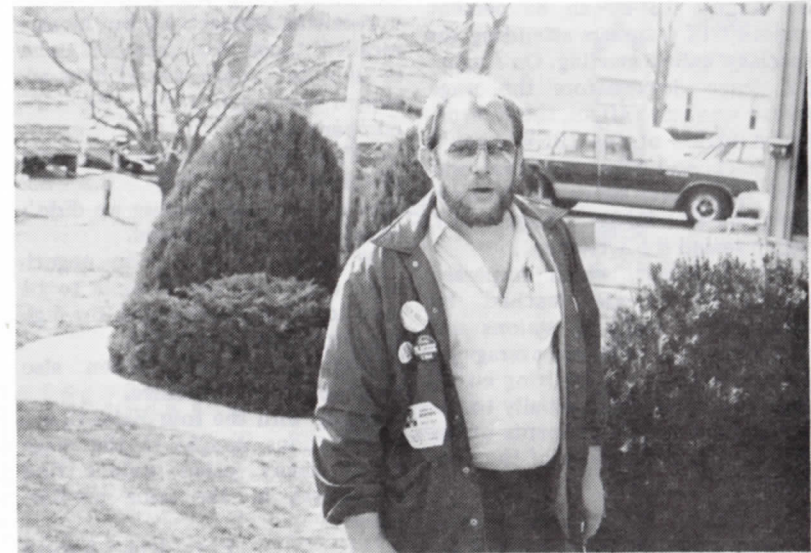
March 1983

Mass Defeats Quinlan

Michael D. Quinlan Ends 12 Consecutive Years In Office, Losing By 9 Votes

71% of Membership Express Feelings By Voting In A New Administration

Omaha—In one of the largest and closest elections in the history of Local Union 1974, Ken Mass defeated incumbent President Michael D. Quinlan by the narrow margin of nine votes. The showing of voters at the polls was the third largest in the union's history. Over 71% of the membership voted, with 1,733 members casting their ballots.



President-elect Ken Mass: "I knew it would be a close one."

Weoma Slow Pitch Champs



So to you; our Wage Incentive Committee, hats off and know that when your long and tedious hours are spent, that many, many of us sincerely appreciate the tremendous help you have given us. Without you and your continuous effort our jobs would be drastically affected.

Ralph Haines

NOTE OF THANKS

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you, our friends and fellow workers, for the many flowers, cards and prayers that you so kindly sent at the time of the loss of our wife and daughter. Your kindness helped to ease the sorrow at this tragic time. Thank you again.

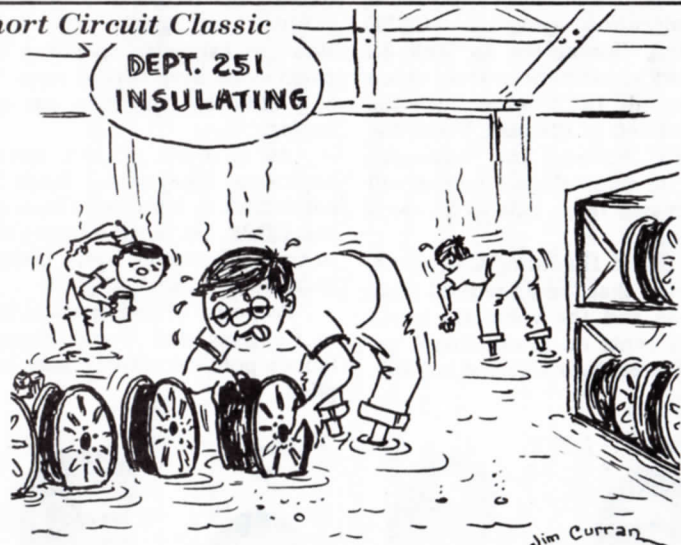
**Elmer Young
Earl and Mary Malone**

DOES PAYROLL DEPT. NEED HELP?

Payroll seems to be having difficulties in paying the proper amount of incentive to certain pay groups.

W.E. Employee

Short Circuit Classic



HELP WANTED!

Due to technological advancements in cable manufacturing, Western Electric has several openings in Dept. 251, Tandem Lines.

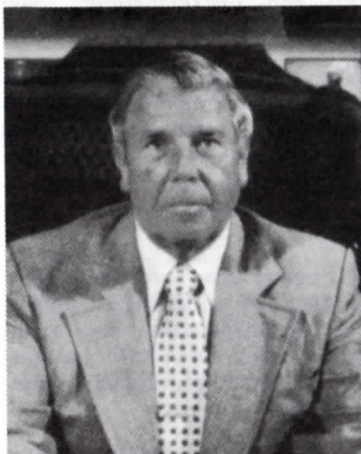
Dept. 251 is looking for several strong, able-bodied men who are used to working stooped over. The WECO engineering dept., by job design dictates hiring somebody from the Cromagnon period of the evolutionary scale. Job movement calls for taller people over 5 ft. to have a permanent crook in their spine, arms that hang to the floor, web feet, limited hearing and intelligence, an ability to withstand intense heat, and a Navy background. (Shorter people will not be overlooked if they can swim.)

If this job description fits you, don't walk, RUN to Dept. 251.

Remember, the ability to reason is not important at Western Electric. Production policies and the most ridiculously engineered machines will redesign the person to fit the job.

If you can't adapt—**WE HEAR YOU.**

too often, we listen with a deaf ear or a disinterested attitude while a fellow employee speaks out against an injustice or wrong committed by his supervision. "But that doesn't concern us" we say. "That's a different job, another department, or that happened in the other building". We all better wise up to some harsh realities of factory life. Any stunt that management can pull and get by with in one area becomes an epidemic



Retiring IBEW Pres. Pillard

Pres. Pillard Retires

Washington, D.C.—IBEW President Charles H. Pillard announced his retirement, to become effective August 25, 1986. Pillard was president of the IBEW for the last 18 years, since May of 1968.

Replacing Pillard, who becomes President Emeritus, effective August 25, is International Vice President 3rd District John J. Barry of White Plains, N.Y.



Newly appointed I.O. Pres. Barry

Weoma Slow Pitch Champs



This is the Championship team of the Western Electric Slow Pitch League. Front row, Left to right, Ed Nemecek, 433; Bob Morris, 433; Frank Kros, 433 and Sam Ferlise. Back row left to right, Gerry Schaaf, 433; Bob Madsen, Sam Martin, Jim Cox, Terry Moore, 433; Tom Bosilivac.

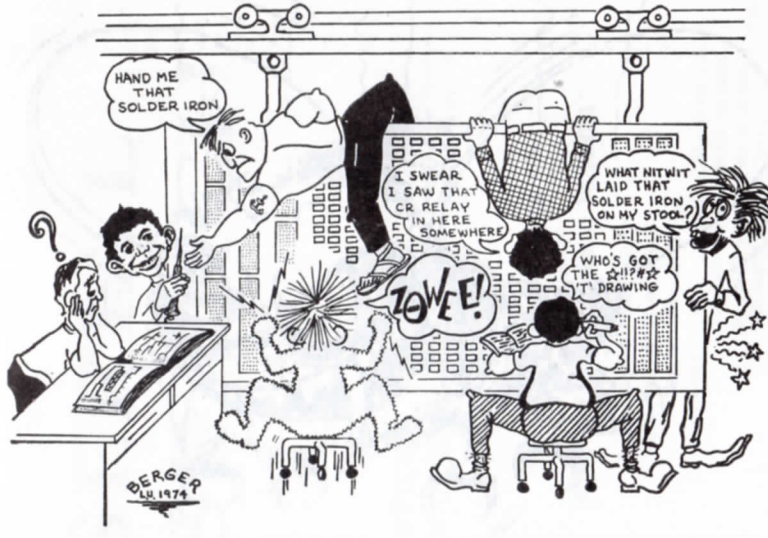
Runner-Up, Fast Pitch



The "Twins" placed second in the Weoma Softball League. They have lost only 6 games in the past four years, winning two championships and placing second twice. Front row left to right, Bill Wofford, Marv Seaton, Dick Martens, Dave Burrell and Wayne Boll. Back row, Denny Koenigsfeld, Kenny Wright, Lee Koenigsfeld, Darrell Seaton, Roger Sedlachek and Dick Cronin.

Dilemma of Dept. 423 (Nights) —

June 1968



June 1976



The 1976 Version of the L.U. 1974 IBEW "Cubs"—l to r front row: Dave Hanke, David Watkins, Doug Clark, Jack Wynn, Tom Boaker, Jim Friend, Chris Friend. 2nd row: Dave Hermanson, Frank Lieth, Ron Mau, Mike Stalker, John Kmiecik, Mark Baker. 3rd row: Manager Jim Mathews, Coaches Ron Mau, Jim Kmiecik, Bob Clark, L.U. 1974 V. P. "Whitey" Clark, Pres. Michael D. Quinlan, Exec. Board Officer Mike Kelly.

March 1973



September 1966

The September COPE Report

by R. Rustermier

At this date, there isn't a lot of new information. The State COPE Committee has completed



R. Rustermier

their investigation of all the candidates and are still in the process of studying the various tax proposals.

The State Convention will be held in Fremont on September 26th through September 28th. At this time, the COPE Committee will make its report and ask the body to reject or support their position. Also, at this time the attorneys will report on their findings of the various tax proposals.

After a careful examination of this information, the State Convention with representatives from each Local Union in the State will make its recommendations to be given to the membership, asking that they support this recommendation at the voting polls in November.

First, a candidate or provision must meet the test of: Will it make an undue hardship of any

April 1971

Illinois U. Site Of Union Schooling

Members of Local Union 1974's Job-Grades and Wage Incentives Committees attended a five day education at the University of Illinois March 21-26.

Chuck Newell, Morrie Baker and Joe Knutson represented the Wage Incentives Committee and Bob Alberts, Dick Foutch and Leonard Stenneche represented the Job Grades Committee.

The week long agenda consisted of many classes pertinent to the two committees.

The Wage Incentive Program dealt with the Western Electric Wage Incentive and Wage Payment

systems and Time Study Leveling and Allowances applied to Western Electric.

The students experienced the task of taking their own time study during the second day of the school.

The program also included information concerning the union's legal right to company data, work sampling and statistical concepts of work measurement and grievance techniques.

The Union representatives conducted a mock grievance hearing prior to the end of the week's sessions.

The Job Grades representative were educated on Job analysis, skill factors, grievance investigation techniques and sources of information.

A mock arbitration hearing was introduced and the representatives were schooled on interpretive grades and company job evaluation practices as applied by Western Electric.

The program was capped with a banquet which was attended by Joseph D. Keenan, Secretary for the IBEW. Paul Menger, Director of Manufacturing for the IBEW was slated to attend the banquet.



Wage Incentive Committeemen attending Illinois Labor School are: left to right—Chuck Newell, Morrie Baker and Joe Knutson



Members of the Job Grades Committee attending Labor School in Illinois are: left to right—Leonard Stenneche, Bob Alberts and Dick Foutch.

March 1973

Zorinsky Outlines Plans For a Better Community

Omaha, Neb. — Edward Zorinsky, candidate for Mayor of Omaha, has met several times with the officers of Local 1974 and has their unanimous endorsement.

The Vice President of H.Z. Vending & Sales Company, and



—Short Circuit Photo by Eldon Whale

Vice-President "Whitey" Clark thanks captain Sam Martin on behalf of the Union.

March
1975

fathers 'n sons



Representing Millard Lions Club are the Norris Blazers. Front l-r: Mike Stalker (9), John Kmiecik Jr. (1), Perry Johnson (3), Tom Laferriere (10); Back row: Asst. Coach John Kmiecik, Dept. 425; David Garcia (8); Todd Rickard (his dad's in Dept. 244); and Head Coach Ben Garcia, Dept. 425.

given to the membership, asking that they support this recommendation at the voting polls in November.

First, a candidate or provision must meet the test of: Will it make an undue hardship of any segment of society; Is this good for the community; Will it be good for our membership; Will it be good for organized labor; Will it help organized labor to organize the unorganized; Will it leave the proper image of organized labor to the general public.

Our Local now has a COPE Drive being conducted in the plant. See your representative and buy a COPE ticket from him. It will be the best dollar you have ever spent in behalf of you and your family.

In the October issue of this communication you will receive our recommendations on the upcoming elections, and a factual explanation of why we are recommending the candidates and the issues.

Cable Plant Pair Survive Boat Mishap

by Bill Wofford

A Missouri River boating accident nearly cost the lives of two W. E. men recently while on a duck hunting trip.

Len Harder and Del Wilke were moving their duck blind in a boat when it capsized near the channel of the river. The boat was said to be somewhat overloaded.

Harder and Wilke managed to save themselves after shedding their wadders and clinging to the boat.

Two other W. E. employees near the scene, Don Trimble and Jack Philby, rescued the pair and assisted in recovering some of the lost items.

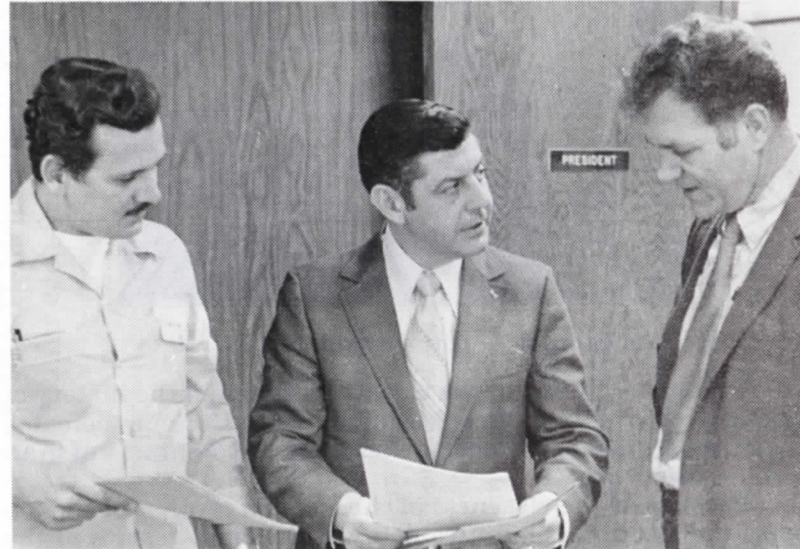
Bowler Wins \$50.00—

Len Osby, Dept. 251, teamed with profession Bowler Jim Stefanich in the Professional Bowlers Association, Nebraska Centennial Open Pro. Am. To win \$50.00, the amateur's score is added to the Pro's score which gave them a total of 1,226 pins for 20th place of 50 places.

For a Better Community

Omaha, Neb. — Edward Zorinsky, candidate for Mayor of Omaha, has met several times with the officers of Local 1974 and has their unanimous endorsement.

The Vice President of H.Z. Vending & Sales Company, and a member of the Board of Directors of O.P.P.D. comes to the voters highly recommended.



Zorinsky confers with President Quinlan and COPE Registrar Sutej.

August 1984

L.U. 1974 Picnic Big Success

On Aug. 11th, the 1st Annual Local 1974 Picnic was held at Sokol Park, where local members and families enjoyed the fun-for-all afternoon that consisted of free rides for the kids, games and contests for all and gossiping and indulging several varieties of refreshments by the members.

The afternoon began with an old-fashion picnic basket meal where members and families enjoyed their favorite homemade recipes.

Next the contests of running, kicking, and throwing saw everyone competing and using their best skills to become 1st in their event. The egg throwing and horseshoe contests drew the heaviest competition. Vi and John Winnicki outlasted Karen Mass and Jim Curran with skilled catching of the eggs. In the horseshoe contest which is said

to have been fixed saw the team of Mike Quinlan and Ed Hoffman outpitch Bob Jones and Dick Church for the 1st place trophy.

The remainder of the afternoon everyone took advantage of the beautiful day and the pleasant surroundings of Sokol Park.

It is hoped that all present had an enjoyable and fun afternoon and are anxiously awaiting next year's picnic.

Editor's Note: The 1st Annual Local Union 1974 Picnic was a rousing success and one of the big reasons why is because of Executive Board Officer Ken Mass.

Ken was the head picnic organizer and he did a tremendous and successful job, even though the picnic had to compete with the Shrine Bowl, Sarpy County Fair and Class of '59 South High Reunion.

April 1983

Quinlan Accepts IBEW Position

Omaha — On Wednesday, March 30, 1983, the union was notified that Local 1974 Past President Mike Quinlan had accepted an offer from the International Union to work at the Headquarters in Washington, D. C. Mike assumes his new job duties April 11 and will be assigned to the Research Department. The officers, representatives and membership of Local 1974 wish Mike the best in his new position.

October 1985

Mass Joins Nebraska AFL-CIO

Omaha — President Ken Mass resigned from Local Union 1974 officially October 7, 1985 to accept a position with the Nebraska State AFL-CIO.

Ken will become the new Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO replacing retiring Victor Myers.

Ken was elected President of Local Union 1974 in March of 1983 defeating long time incumbent Michael D. Quinlan.

Mass who did the impossible in 1983; defeating Quinlan, a 12 year incumbent who looked like an easy repeater for office; only to lose by nine votes.

October 1985



Robert "Bob" Alberts Appointed President L. U. 1974

Omaha — Executive Board Officer Bob Alberts was named new president of Local Union 1974 and was appointed to finish out the remaining six months of the current term left vacant by resigning President Ken Mass. Bob Alberts' appointment was voted on unanimously by the Executive Board of Local Union 1974 to succeed Mass on September 24.

Bob Alberts brings 20 years of experience to the job of president. Bob served this local as a shop steward, chief steward, and moved to the Executive Board in 1971.

In 1977 Bob was elected unanimously by his peers on the board

as chairman of that executive branch of the union. Prior to that in 1973 Bob was appointed secretary-treasurer of the Building Corporation at a time when the union needed a person with his financial instincts to keep this local operating on the plus side of the ledger.

March 1986

October 1986

Jack Moore Moves to I.O.

Washington, D.C. — The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers announced the retirement of longtime I.O. Secretary Ralph Leigon. Mr. Leigon had held that position with the IBEW for nearly 10 years.

Eleventh District IBEW Vice-President Jack Moore from Springfield, Missouri, was named as a replacement for retiring I.O. Secretary Ralph Leigon. Mr. Moore's promotion was to be effective October 1, 1985.

Succeeding Jack Moore at the Eleventh District Office in Springfield was administrative assistant Ray Edwards. Edwards had served as assistant to Jack Moore for the last 17 years.

Long-time members of Local Union 1974 will remember when Jack Moore was promoted to Eleventh District vice-president. He replaced Bob Garrity who retired in 1977. Upon replacing Garrity, the Eleventh District office was relocated to Springfield, Missouri.



Short Circuit Classic — Oct. 1975



Bell Lab Fly

The common housefly, *MUSCA Domestica*, is a two-winged insect belonging to the order Diptera.

Most flies have spherical heads, large eyes, a pair of long, moveable appendages (antennae) which vary greatly with different species and are used for classification.

A strain of the common housefly is the Bell Lab (laboratories) fly. The Bell Crapper Fly has physical characteristics similar to the common housefly. The greatest difference in fly varieties is the Bell species being hardier. The Bell Crapper Fly outlives his cousin by several months. Bell LAB flies have been observed to live in Bell Labs up until late January or February.

Bell Crapper Fly Petition

For the first time it can be announced to all union members working at the Omaha Works: there is a petition drive being started in Dept. 251 of the Cable Shop with hopes that other departments of Cable, the crossbar organization, 613 Bldg. and the Trades will lend their support. The petition drive is to promote the Bell Crapper Fly as a Bell System Symbol and Mascot.

"You can't believe the enthusiasm the guys in Dept 251 are showing over this cause," says Crapper Fly P.R. man Bob Latimer. "I've never seen such allegiance and fervor spread so quickly among the Dept. 251 Union members. Everybody on all three shifts is behind the Boost the Bell Crapper Fly Movement."

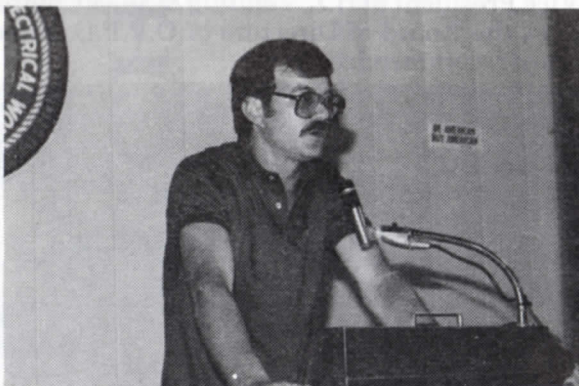
Harvey Khuns. "The other night I looked on with fascination while a wedding party of Bell flies did the 'Flying Dutchman' on my thigh."

"You'd really be surprised," added Bell fly slogan creator John Maun. "I swear, I saw a trash bag full of them rope off a

1971.
In 1977 Bob was elected unanimously by his peers on the board

his financial instincts to keep this local operating on the plus side of the ledger.

March 1986



Tom Connor — 10th President L. U. 1974

Omaha — In one of the closest elections in the history of Local Union 1974, Vice-President Tom Connor defeated incumbent President Robert Alberts by the slimmest of margins — **one vote**.

Because of the closeness of the election results for the top spot, the election committee delayed the final results of the presidential vote count until a recount took place. The recount was agreed upon by both Presidential-Elect Tom Connor and former President Bob Alberts.

Ray Edwards Heads 11th District

Springfield, Missouri — Ray Edwards assumes control of the Eleventh District, IBEW, vice-presidency at an age when most men are thinking about retiring and spending their idle time fishing in the Ozarks.

Not this Hartville, Missouri, native. Since 1959 when Ray Edwards was elected president of Local Union 453 in Springfield, he has been very much a part of the IBEW scene.

In 1961 Ray Edwards was appointed assistant business manager of Local Union 453 by then L.U. 453 Business Manager Jack Moore.

In 1968 Ray was appointed international representative of the Eleventh District by International Vice-President Bob Garrity (since retired). This was followed up in 1976 by being appointed administrative assistant to then Vice-President Jack Moore.

Ray and his wife Rose currently reside in Springfield, Missouri. They have three children and three stepchildren and currently no grandchildren.



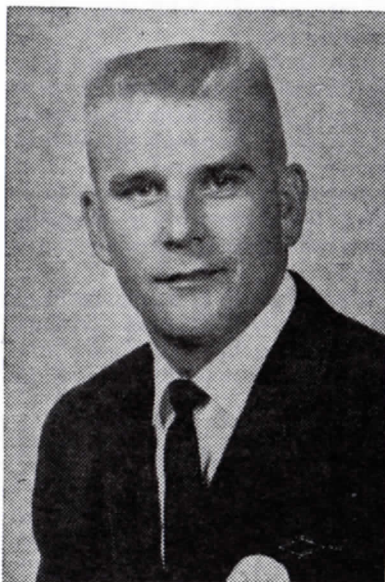
Out Forms

BATTLIN' BRYCE QUALSET has changed his style since this picture was taken. The former light heavyweight is now in the heavy weight ranks and trades verbal punches almost daily with American business's number one champ, the Bell System.

November 1966

Know Your Representative

Joe Dolezal is in the spotlight for the representative of the month of October. Joe has been employed at Western Electric since February 22, 1965, and is a 34 Grade Helper in Dept. 433.



Joe Dolezal

Joe works from 3:30 to 12:00 midnight. If his assistance is desired, he may be contacted by dialing extension 2584.

Crapper Fly Fly. man Bob Lauer. "I've never seen such allegiance and fervor spread so quickly among the Dept. 251 Union members. Everybody on all three shifts is behind the Boost the Bell Crapper Fly Movement."

"A lot of people put Bell LAB Fly down," cited mascot Chairman Steve Prerost, "But people generalize. They don't see the fly as an intelligent insect. For example the other day during my coffee break, a dozen or so carried off the front page of my newspaper and read it."

"It's uncanny," interrupted Bell Fly advocate Bryce Qualset, "They have the same human weaknesses we do. The other day I heard a couple of them predict Oakland would beat Miami."

"There's not much they can't do," certified Bell fly observer

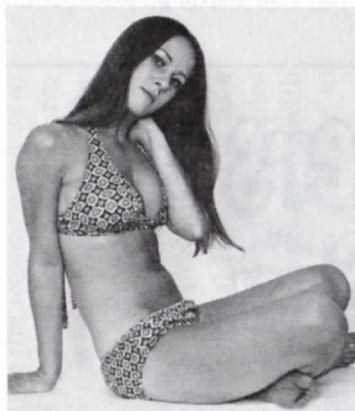
mes did the Flying Dutchman on my thigh."

"You'd really be surprised," added Bell fly slogan creator John Maun. "I swear, I saw a trash bag full of them rope off a rink on the mirror in washroom 2 and play a best of seven series for the dung cup."

A Cable Shop department head close to the petition drive in Dept. 251, (wishing to remain anonymous) said rather stiffly, "I'm glad the people in this department finally have a moral booster. I'm behind them 100 percent, especially since I heard a cadre of flies buzz 'Anchor's Away.'"

Jump on the bandwagon, Omaha. Get behind the Bell Crapper Fly Movement. Sign the petition to take the Bell flag down and put the Bell Fly up.

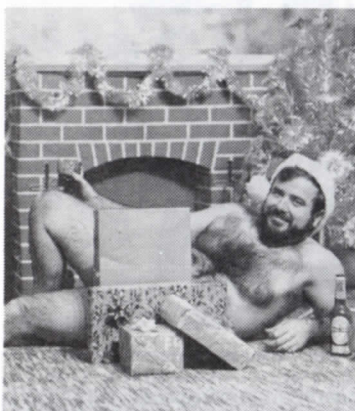
Short Circuit Pin-up Preview



Cathy



Barbara



Donnie



Glenda

November 1979



Standing before the Washington White House is l-r front row — Don Trimble, Tom VanDyke, Congressman Cavanaugh, back row Frank Possinger, Dave Hamlet, and Joe Knutson.

June 1968



Jim Kratina, Dept. 426, does a little campaigning of his own. Jim is a cable former on the second shift. Standing next to him is steward, Dennis Laacker of Dept. 441.

November 1973

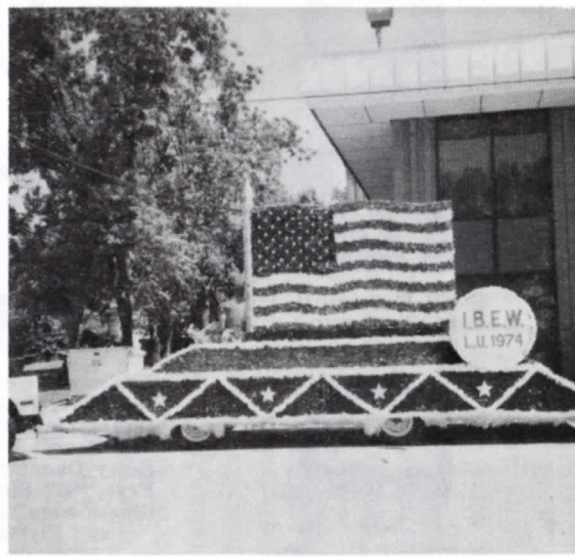


April 1972



Receiving the highest award the IBEW has to offer its Life-Saving Award Plaque, is Brother Donald A. Martin (left) of Local Union 1974. President Michael D. Quinlan presented the plaque to Martin's credited with saving the life of Mr. James Gilbert of Newark, Ohio last November 13. Martin also received a commendation from Omaha Works General Manager, F. J. Lefebvre.

September 1974



IBEW Parade Float

October 1979



September 1966

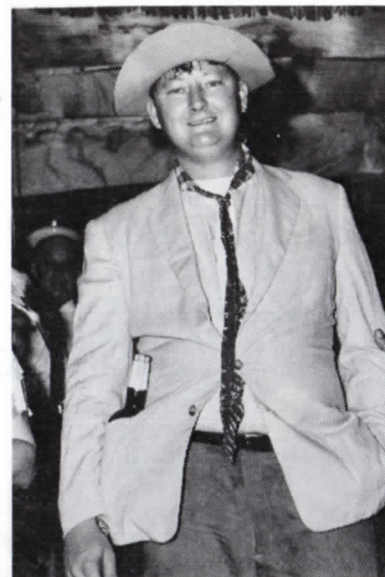
Member of the Month . . .

Wayne Sherman, of Department 252, started working for Western Electric October 1, 1946, and joined the National Federation of Telephone Workers in 1949, joined the Communication Workers of America at the Lincoln Shop. There, he served on the Lincoln Labor Council and was Vice President of the labor for five years. Upon transferring to the Omaha Works in May, 1959, joined the I.B.E.W. and has served on various committees.



Wayne is a 36 Grade Utility Operator in Dist. Frame Wire. He is married and has two daughters. He and his family reside at 4620 Crestline Drive, Omaha.

September 1969



Jerry Fitzgerald, Dept. 426 was 2nd place choice of those attend-

December 1968

Know Your Representative

In order to keep our membership aware of the representatives in their respective areas, we acknowledge a union representative in each issue of the Short Circuit.



Gordon Viner

This month we feature steward Gordon Viner. He is a Stock Selector in Department 442 on the day shift (Crossbar Bldg.)

**October 1970
Quinlan, Clark Ousted**

(Continued from Page 1)

formed Kull that there is a federal law that gives all union members the right of union representation. Kull then left the cafeteria.

The employees failed to meet the union officers at 2:00 a.m. and upon investigating, Clark was informed that the supervisor had postponed the scheduled 2:00 a.m. break until 2:10 a.m.

Harold Redinger of the plant

shift. Standing next to him is steward, Dennis Laacker of Dept. 441.

November 1973



Modern Dance '73

October 1979



Emily Wieble greets the 1979 MD Poster Child Wanda Peterson.



Jerry Fitzgerald, Dept. 426 was 2nd place choice of those attending "Hard Times" Dance. Jerry won a \$75 Savings Bond.

union officers at 2:00 a.m. and upon investigating, Clark was informed that the supervisor had postponed the scheduled 2:00 a.m. break until 2:10 a.m.

Harold Redinger of the plant security was seen coming down the aisle by Clark as he approached Kull, who was on the phone.

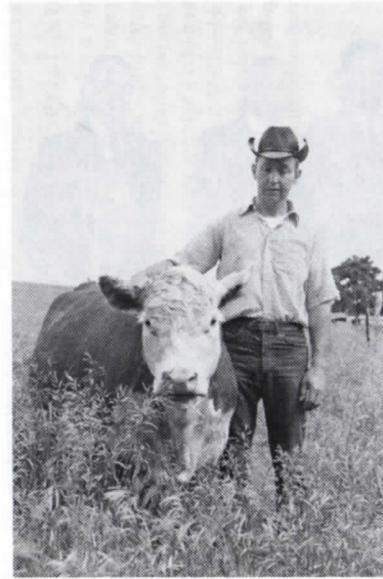
It was learned that Kull's telephone conversation was with Dick Lee (assistant manager 450 organization). Clark overheard Kull say, "I have no qualms about throwing them out."

At the termination of the phone conversation, it was 2:10 a.m. and as the employees left their work positions to meet with the officers on their break, their supervisor informed them they would have to wait "a couple more minutes."

It was later learned that the supervisor had passed around to the employees a sheet of paper wanting to know the names of those requesting to talk to the union officers and those who did not.

Quinlan informed Kull that this was a flagrant violation of a federal law which guarantees their right to be represented by the union. It was also thought that there was an element of coercion involved in the company action.

Aug.-Sept. 1971



Orville and his prize Winning Hereford

1965



COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT
'Getting Stronger Every Year'

October 1976



Part of the United Way of the Midlands volunteer corps: from left to right, Marsha Seals, UCS Labor Co-Chairman, Jack E. Philby, Willy Mason, United Way Director, Gene Conley, Vern Larson, Arline Boyd, Kathy Fink and President Michael D. Quinlan. Missing from this picture is the L.U. 1974's other UCS Co-Chairman, Bob Alberts.

"Police" escort

It was at this time that Redinger and Kull escorted the union representatives to the door.

Another Union Official, Jack Thraen, told the employees, "We've worked too long and too hard for what we've gained in the contract and are not about to simply throw it away."

"The next thing you know, they'll be closing down the cable plant because they're low on copper and offering us Saturday and Sunday work at straight-time pay in order to make it up."

Upon receiving a full explanation in detail from the officers the employees unanimously agreed to follow Article 13 of the general agreement and therefore flatly rejected the company offer of straight time pay for Saturday work.

1967



A Message From the**Vice-
President's
Desk**

At the E.M.-3 Council Meeting on March 3rd and 4th, in addition to the many things President Connor reported on, we presented grievance number 85-84 to the National level of the grievance procedure.

This grievance concerned the denial of Accident Benefits to one of our employees.

There's an ironic twist to this grievance. Although the Company is accepting full responsibility by this worker, they're steadfastly refusing to pay accident benefits as outlined in the Benefit Plan.

This employee followed all the rules. She even had a witness who helped her stand up shortly after the accident. She reported the accident to her supervisor and the medical department.

As far as the Union can determine, this type of denial of benefits has never happened before and we're committed to do all we can to see that it never happens again.

Current Grievances

- 85-84 Employees, Dept. 442 denied accident benefits. Nagel/Murray. Pending national level.
- 85-136 Three senior employees Dept. 045 bypassed for lateral move within Dept. VanDyke. Ans. 5th. Committee dropped. moot.
- 85-155 Employee Dept. 281 denied 3 days sick pay. Nagel/Belik. Ans. 5th (10-10-86). Arbitration demand submitted 12-17-86.
- 86-14 Employee Dept. 226 denied upgrade. MOP. Connor/Pote. Arbitration demand submitted 12-3-86.
- 86-16 Employee Dept. 225 denied return to former job because Company medical placed hearing restriction on him. Connor/Possinger. Arbitration demand submitted 12-16-86.
- 86-23 Employee denied return to former job in Dept. 284 for alleged medical reasons. Nagel/Majeski. Ans. 5th. Arbitration demand submitted 12-16-86.
- 86-28 Employee Dept. 284 surplused and downgraded because of a hearing restriction. Majeski. Ans. 5th (11-13-87). Arbitration demand submitted 1-8-87.
- 86-35 Employee Dept. 242 denied sick pay and charged under Attendance Control Plan. Nagel/Possinger. Ans. 5th. Arbitration demand submitted 1-8-87.
- 86-37 Employee Dept. 538 terminated under A.C.P. Connor/Nagel/Possinger. Ans. 5th. 1-6-87. Committee dropped. Lacks merit.
- 86-38 Employee Dept. 244 terminated under A.C.P. Connor/Nagel/Majeski. Ans. 5th. 16-87. Committee dropped. Lacks merit.
- 86-39 Employees Dept. 545 not afforded equal overtime opportunities. Connor/Nagel/Parker. Ans. 5th. Committee dropped.
- 87-01 Employees Dept. 284 reprimanded for poor job performance. Nagel/Cook. Ans. 4th. Presented 5th.
- 87-03 Employees various Depts. denied lateral moves in Level I. Nagel/Majeski. Ans. 4th. Presented 5th.
- 87-04 Employee Dept. 286 issued a two-day paper suspension for not reporting to Company Medical Organization. Connor/VanDyke. Ans. 4th. Presented 5th.
- 87-05 Employees Dept. 286 (4) surplused out of seniority sequence. Connor/Schwenck/VanDyke.
- 87-06 Employee Dept. 269, A LII assigned to a LIII job. Connor/Job Grades Committee. Presented 4th.

Editorial Comment. . .

After 20 Years There's Room for Improvement

30 Big Years

By Executive Board Officer
Ken Parker

Whether you have been married 30 years or you are 30 years old or have worked at (W.E.) AT&T for 30 years, you have seen a lot of changes in the world.

As a Charter Member of Local 1974 and having just over 30 years with the Company, I have a lot of fond memories of the changes in the plant and the people who make up the work force of our plant.

Many of the men and women who started in the early days have gained a few grey hairs. Some of the men not only gained grey hair but lost it too.

When you look over the past 30 years, most of us have been very fortunate. We had the good luck of keeping our jobs, bought homes, raised families and made a lot of good friends.

Over these same 30 years, some of us have lost loved ones and some very good friends. Some of those friends were very active in our Union and others were loyal Union members. Some of these friends were taken from us in the prime of life and did not have the opportunity we have had to see the changes in the plant and their friends. Some friends have gone into management, a few have joined the International and others have retired.

From the time Lowell Iske, our First President, to the present with Tom Connor holding that position, there has been many dedicated men and women who have given so much of their time, talents and energy to helping us to have a better standard of living, better working conditions and so many more things that we enjoy every day.

We all take things for granted but without the dedication of so many people, we would not be where we are today.

Since Unions were first started, they have worked toward a common goal, to improve things for working people. We must never quit working to improve things for our children and grandchildren and generations to come.

Thank you, Brothers and Sisters of Local 1974, for allowing me to be such a small part of the 30 years we have had together.

For the younger Brothers and Sisters of the Union, I hope when you have reached 30 years with AT&T, you will feel as proud as I do for having been a part of our Union.

Accepting Responsibility
By Frank Nagel

On this our 30th Anniversary of Local Union 1974, we would like to devote this year to recognizing members who united and stood behind their elected officials through good times and bad times.

The Union members are the heart and soul of our organization. All that has been accomplished in these past thirty years was only possible

Looking Back

By Job Grades Chairman
Jerry Pote

Thirty years ago when I was only a junior in high school; union was only a word with very little meaning for me.

Being from South Omaha, the word union a lot of times meant strike, and it seemed strikes were common in the South Omaha, I knew.

The Meat Packing Industry was a big part of South Omaha economics similar to the auto workers of Detroit. If fathers of friends of mine in school were on strike it was usually for wages or working conditions. These work and wage stoppages I witnessed as a kid meant the packing houses were not the kind of place I wanted to work in.

When I started to work at WECO, I was asked to join the union and did so without giving it much thought. It seemed like the proper thing to do.

After a couple of years, the department I worked in had a drop in wage incentive earnings and an increase in production rates and it didn't take us long to group together and rebel against the company's wholesale thievery. As a group with guidance from the union we were able to make changes. Where before union had no meaning in my life I realized how important unionism was.

During this rebellion period I was caught breaking some company rules and my penalty was losing two days pay. The union grieved my case and I felt they didn't do enough for me and then I become involved. As a union rep, I began to see the greater importance of unions and I began to see things differently.

In the 60's and 70's when we were locked into the Bell System and supplying the telephone companies, our wages and benefits increased and the word lay-off was unheard of.

We had a lot of money and we didn't pay much attention to where we spent it and what we spent it on. This fat period of our lives made it too easy to buy foreign made clothing and T.V.'s; to easy to continue buying the World-Herald when they locked their employees out; and too easy to own not one but two Japanese made autos.

These products were cheap and it allowed me the luxury of having everything I wanted plus money. Those were foolish times.

Producing products for the American telephone companies made it easy for me to be ignorant of how foreign manufacturers would be cutting into my future production and how many segments of our life would be threatened by the import invasion.

Imports have affected us all. We have all learned lessons from them.

But will we be able to make the same sacrifices that my union forefathers did? Will I make the sacrifice to defend him in his workplace. Coors Brewery is one example. We have stemmed the tide of imports we must also be wary of scab domestic produced products.

Somewhat closer to our job is Sprint, MCI and the host of other low rent maverick phone makers that hope to bury us. We must stick together or be buried together.

Editorial Comment. . .

After 20 Years There's Room for Improvement

Recently the plant manager at the Omaha Works made a statement that plans were being made to completely renovate the "shop restrooms" beginning sometime this month. He mentioned in his statement that the general conditions of the "shop restrooms" were deplorable.

Even as I read about this manager's plans to clean up the shop restrooms, I felt that he was referring to our restrooms as second-class crappers.

Most of us who work in the shop will agree the shop restrooms need some attention because they don't lack from lack of use. This problem goes back 20 years as you can see by the enclosed carton a "Curran Classic" printed on these pages in June of 1967.



The shop restrooms we all use are the perfect design for waste removal and unlike their clean, crisp smelling restroom cousins in the administration building where the toilet seats take a minute or so to warm up after you sit down to use them; the toilet seats in the shop restrooms are 'Hot' before you get there.

It is believed the shop restrooms have been in a state of continual fermentation since the Omaha Works opened.

The shop restrooms in buildings 30 and 50 are not the kind of places a person would want to have an accident in, fall asleep in, eat their lunch in, or smoke a whole cigarette in.

The shop restroom is the last place any of us want to camp in or have a heart attack in, no matter how much money is spent cleaning them up.

But if this is one of the cosmetic goals the plant manager wants to achieve to make our waste moments more sanitary then I hope he includes some ventilation as part of the shop restroom redemption.

The shop restrooms have always smelled foul, no matter how much they have been cleaned and scrubbed. And this has been the direct result of no venting of the organic aromas. The restroom air is dead and needs some fresh life pumped into it.

I think to allocate some of this \$150,000 restroom renovation money for air vents would vault our restrooms from the indoor/out-house class to a class crapper. DMW

1974, we would like to devote this year to recognizing members who united and stood behind their elected officials through good times and bad times.

The Union members are the heart and soul of our organization. All that has been accomplished in these past thirty years was only possible because of the monetary and moral support given by all members.

Our thanks for accepting their dues paying responsibilities this month go to:

All the members in Department 081 except the following non-member: Tom H. Kusek.

All the members in Department 084 except the following non-members: Bill Sales, Bonnie A. McCall, and Jan E. Beccard.

All the members in Department 087 except the following non-members: Ray J. Was, Charlotte P. Zvolanek, Don L. Golda, Grace B. Jones, and Richard M. Hossle.

All the members in Department 221 except the following non-member: Judy M. Coop.

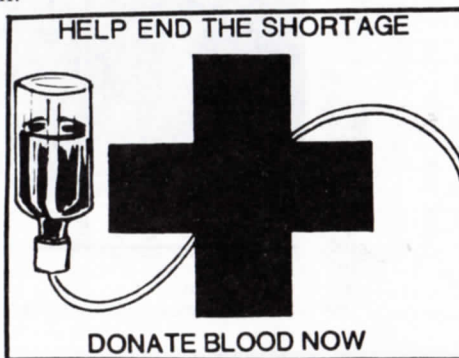
All the members in Department 248 except the following non-member: Sandy D. Schamp.

All members in Department 261 except the following non-members:

- Willa T. Shelton
- Maudie H. Thompson
- Donnie R. Lee
- Suzie C. Purnell
- Maria R. Leal
- Jan P. Chafin
- Lela H. Stewart
- Charles M. Rush
- Gladys A. Moulder
- Ted Hoffman
- Burt Leal
- Tom T. James, Jr.
- Sandra H. Wilson
- Norma T. Thomas
- Al D. Pickering
- Don L. Rowland
- Donnie Jack
- Don Kohls
- Willie L. Davis
- Ruth H. Thrasher

- Sheryl B. Mefford
- Kathy M. Landrum
- Wanda Steward
- Nancy S. Mentzer
- Sharon M. Kott
- Betty T. Davis
- Adeline K. Novacek
- Jean L. Fife
- Bessie K. Janousek
- Jean H. Belmudez
- Charlene V. Tolston
- Heather A. Fricke
- Donna S. Barnes
- Eileen S. Ackerman
- Diane B. Anderson
- John H. Spencer
- Val Embrey
- Kathy Lathrop
- Peggy Sheridan

Accepting Responsibility to be continued next month.



defend him in his workplace. Coors Brewery is one example. We have stemmed the tide of imports we must also be wary of scab domestic produced products.

Somewhat closer to our job is Sprint, MCI and the host of other low rent maverick phone makers that hope to bury us. We must stick together or be buried together.

What has 30 years of union awareness done for me? I feel if I don't start defending my fellow unions I'll find myself in the same predicament that imported goods put me in. I'll be looking for help that might ignore me.

Our union Local 1974 is 30 years old this month. I hope it is still going strong for another 130 years. But importantly we all have to get a handle on what it takes to keep it strong.

Not only are we united on our level but every union should be our concern. Imports are bad, made in the USA good.

Helping unions is good, not helping unions is bad. It might cost us a dollar to do it the union way but it's a dollar saved for 130 year investment tomorrow.

30 Year Message From Editor

Since being a member of Local Union 1974 for 27 years and a union rep for 15 (October 1972) more than 90 per cent of my union involvement has been work on the union newspaper; *The Short Circuit*.

I tried to do something different for our 30th Anniversary issue and something I hope to keep doing on a monthly basis. I dug back in the files and reproduced some of the old news stories and articles that were headlines for Local Union 1974 over the last 30 years. I even included some pictures of people who have been around for a while or have retired

After spending some considerable time to research this 30th Anniversary issue I have to applaud our earlier officers who operated our union for seeing a union newspaper as not only a powerful communication tool but as a way to touch every member they have not seen in a while.

Where they couldn't talk to every member one on one to explain problems that arise in the union or negotiation trends, they could put it down in black and white so each member could be kept updated and informed. The union newsletter or newspaper made it fact and not rumor.

Unfortunately for the union's cause, Local Union 1974 is located in a 'right to work state' and because of Nebraska's strong anti-union posture when compared to the other 49 states, it is good to have a newspaper that relates to the dues paying member and their problems. It also lets the member know they are not alone in the anti-union war.

The newspaper informs the member of labor issues not only locally but all over the country. It keeps us informed politically and helps guide us in our voting.

Our earlier union leaders had the kind of wise foresight that realized an informed membership made their union stronger. They realized that a newspaper promoted this strength. And it has kept us strong for the last 30 years.

The early leadership of this union up until the present leadership has done a good job for this local. We are 30 years old this month but overall we are a young union. I'm certain the best is yet to come. The next 30 years will tell.

February Business Meeting

Omaha — President Tom Connor opened the February meeting by introducing to the membership Dan Dolan President of Local Union 7400 of the CWA.

President Dolan was present at the meeting to encourage the membership of Local Union 1974 to sign a petition to allow hourly-rated (non-management) employees to serve on the loan approval board of the Bell Federal Credit Union.

President Connor informed the membership of the recent resolution passed by the joint meeting between the IBEW and the CWA unions. "The resolution states," Connor pointed out, "That the CWA and IBEW pledged to oppose all efforts by AT&T and others to further divide CWA and IBEW. Be it resolved that the leadership at all levels of the CWA and IBEW be encouraged to obligate CWA and IBEW to harmonious coordination of efforts in the 1989 bargaining."

The bylaw change submitted by Everett H. Peterson submitted in January was voted into law. The bylaw change in essence stated the "installation of officers shall be in March" where the previous bylaw carried no such provision. A point of law being the previous officers could have stalled at giving up their office for a month or two. (Fortunately none ever did). This new bylaw makes it paramount when the new officers will take change.

The meeting ended when Don Kramer was announced as the 100 Dollar Drawing winner.

Winners of the Split-A-COPE drawing in February were Jackie Larkin; A.M. meeting, \$15, and Mike Roehr, P.M. meeting, \$26.00.

Proposed Bylaw Could Effect Election

Omaha — Those union members who attend tonight's business meeting will have a second reading of the bylaw change submitted last month, followed by discussion, and then voting on by you, the member, to accept or reject.

ARTICLE III

Section 8 (a) Nomination for officers shall be held in February 1983 and election of officers shall be held in March 1983 and every 3 years thereafter, as stated in Article XVIII of the IBEW Constitution. Notice shall be mailed to all members at least 20 days prior to the meeting for nominations in election years with all information regarding nominations, list of offices to be filled, date of election and date, time and place of run-off election if required.

Change to Read

Section 8 (a) Nominations for officers shall be held in February, 1988 and election of officers shall be held in March, 1988 and every three years thereafter, as stated in Article XVIII of the IBEW Constitution. Notice shall be mailed to all members at least twenty (20) days prior to the meeting for nominations in election years with all information regarding nominations, list of offices to be filled, date of election and date, time and place of run-off election if required.

Submitted by,
Howard Clark
Dept. 266



**March
Madness**

Barring of Food Stamps to Strikers Declared Unlawful

A union challenge of a 1981 law barring food stamps to a striker's family was upheld by the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia, which found that the law violates a striker's constitutional rights to a free association.

The United Auto Workers and the United Mine Workers challenged the constitutionality of an amendment to the Food Stamp Act passed at the urging of the Reagan Administration, which prohibited a household from receiving food stamps if a member of the household was on strike.

The court ruled that denying food stamps to a striker's household impermissibly pressured the worker through his or her family, effectively taking away the worker's First Amendment rights to free association and free expression without government interference.

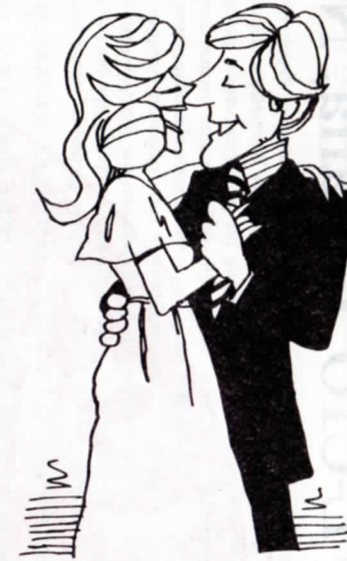
Because food stamps are issued not to individuals but to households, Judge Louis Oberdorfer also noted that a worker "who exercises his constitutionally protected rights . . . sacrifices not only his own food stamps but also those of other members of his household, including infant children and the dependent elderly."

The decision is now being appealed to the Supreme Court. If it holds up there, it will stand as a landmark win in a 2-decade battle over employer attempts to disqualify strikers and their families from a food assistance program that is based solely on need.

The Supreme Court ruling is expected in about a year. In the meantime, the district court issued a permanent injunction against the ban, but for UAW and UMWA strikers only.

Locally President Connor told the Executive Board of Local Union 1974 he hoped the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the unions. "As of the current ruling," Connor reflected, "The Food stamp ban was a callous and inhumane attitude toward working people."

**Vegetarian Diet
Rated Healthy**



**Spring
"50's"
Dance**

Mark a Big X on the calendar for April, because Local Union 1974 is planning a 50's Dance April 11.

Music will be provided by Jay Ridenour's 'Ton's of Tunes', in this case his 'Tons of 50's Tunes' and his music promises to nostalgize the union hall and couples from 8 p.m. until 1 a.m.

Get your tickets early.

The price is \$3.00 per person for a full nite of dancing, free beer, drinks, and munchies. That's \$6.00 per couple.

Remember this is a 50's dance and you can come as you are or if you want to you can dress up in any old 50's vintage wearing apparel you might have stored up in the attic and be eligible for FIRST, SECOND, or THIRD place prizes that the union will be giving away. Your 50's costume must be Authentic 50's garb and you will have a chance to win.

Don't forget April 11. It promises to be a inexpensive blast.

See your shop steward or union officer for tickets. Hurry because at these prices tickets will sell fast.

THE SHORT CIRCUIT

OMAHA, NEB.

MARCH 1987

VOL. 25, NO. 1

Affiliated with AFL-CIO; CLC—Nebraska State AFL-CIO; Omaha Central Labor Union; International Labor Press Association; Nebraska Industrial and Service Union Council; Omaha Union Label League; The Omaha Safety Council

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Vice-President Frank Nagel
Recording Secretary Marie Cook
Financial Secretary Mary Ellen Kobielski
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March Madness

"It comes once a year," smiled Whiz as he hustled into the Short Circuit Office, "But it's the greatest basketball action to come down the pike since Dr. Nasmith hung the first peach basket in Springfield, Massachusetts."

"This year makes it especially exciting because of the new 3-point shot and forty-five second clock every team has an opportunity to be a world beater and not be dominated because of a height disadvantage," remarked Whiz, "Every Cage battle in the 1987 NCAA Tourney is aimed for excitement."

"After picking the New York Giants in the Super Bowl I'm putting my one game win streak on the line and picking the final four. So hold onto your socks — these four are my personal selections of the best of the 64 who showed up to play."

FINAL FOUR — Alabama, Syracuse, Iowa and LSU.

Be a good egg:
It's spring.

Break out with the
union label.

Scramble into nice things
with it.

Be hard-boiled.
Put the imports back
We can't beat 'em
without you.

Get cracking

INTERNATIONAL LADIES' GARMENT WORKERS' UNION

mane attitude toward working people."

Vegetarian Diet Rated Healthy

Diets high in grains and green leafy vegetables can lower blood pressure, according to a study by Dr. Frank Sacks of the Harvard Medical School.

"There's something good about a vegetarian diet rather than something bad being present in a nonvegetarian diet," Sacks said.

The "good" in grains and greens, he said, are high levels of magnesium, potassium, and calcium.

Since 1972, Sacks has studied 400 USA adults — mostly whites in their 20's and 30's. He found the blood pressure of the vegetarians was an average 10 points lower than for those on a non-vegetarian diet.

"An excellent blood pressure for adults is 110/70," he said, "and this is comparative to the blood pressure of the vegetarians."

Sacks said his findings have been confirmed by research in Australia and Israel.

In the USA, 58 million suffer high blood pressure. Left untreated, it can lead to heart attack, stroke and kidney failure.

Even though Sacks does not blame high animal-fat foods for elevating blood pressure, he recommends against them because they can lead to increased cholesterol levels.

The Record

Janet Gibson, Dept. 269, MEMBER.
Walt Kassube, Dept. 544, Father.
Jim McDonald, Dept. 269, Father.
Don Klingeman, Dept. 269, Father.
Jessie Klingeman, Dept. 286, Father-in-law.
Joe Meyer, Dept. 545, Mother.
George House, Dept. 285, Brother.
Sharon Watson, Dept. 266, Sister.
R. A. Schmidt, Dept. 284, Grandmother.
Marty Grzebielski, Dept. 262, Husband.
Marge Povondra, Dept. 266, Brother.
George Gage, Dept. 285, Grandmother.
Harry Findies, Dept. 283, Father.
Bill Bystrom, Dept. 544, Father-in-law.
Larry Vandeman, Dept. 281, Father-in-law.
Lena Vandeman, Dept. 269, Father.
Flo Sledge, Dept. 266, Father.
Bev Bianchi, Dept. 284, Mother.

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**Don't Miss Opening Day at Rosenblatt
April 17 — Nashville Sounds
7:30 P.M.**



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This will be the 14th year that the Omaha Royals have advertised with us.

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The Report Of The President



Tom Connor
President, L. U. 1974

The E.M.-3 Council meeting held on March 3rd and 4th proved to be very informative and beneficial.

Discussions on alternatives to layoffs consumed a great deal of time. A recent attempt to avoid a layoff by Local 2020 in Columbus, Ohio was discussed at great length. The alternative to layoff plan at Columbus consisted of a shortened work week of thirty-six hours from forty hours. A nine hour day four day week would have become the standard work week while the agreement was in effect. This plan would have resulted in a four hour reduction in pay per week. This attempt to find an alternative to layoff ended when the membership of Local 2020 voted to reject the agreement.

The concept of alternatives to layoffs is a new one which should be explored in detail should the need arise. An alternative that would be acceptable to both the membership and the company could prove to be a very difficult task. Let us hope that we will not have a need to explore this concept in the future.

Former Local Union 1974 President Michael Quinlan addressed the delegates to the E.M.-3 Council on employee benefits and the effect of recent legislation in these benefits. Mike is currently a International Representative with the Benefit and Pensions Department in Wash., D. C.

His presentation included effects of the Tax Reform Act of 1986 on our Savings Plan. Important facts you should remember about tax liability and the savings plan are:

1—Monies deposited in your account prior to January 1, 1987 are grandfathered. There are no tax penalties applied to your contributions. Company contributions or interest deposited to your account prior to January 1, 1987, will have no penalties; however, there will be normal tax liabilities.

2—Monies deposited to your account on or after January 1, 1987 will be subject to certain tax penalties if withdrawn before age 59 1/2.

3—Your after tax contributions made on or after January 1, 1987 will have no tax penalties applied upon withdrawal.

4—Interest and Company contributions deposited to your account on or after January 1, 1987 will carry a 10% tax penalty upon withdrawal before age 59 1/2 in addition to normal tax liability.

5—An exception to the age of 59 1/2 rule is if you retire a qualified pension plan, age 55 will be substituted for 59 1/2.

This information is based upon the latest interpretation of provisions of the Tax Reform Act that became effective January 1, 1987.

Discussion also revolved around other legislative changes that affect pension vesting and extended group coverage for laid off employees at their own expense. These legislative changes become effective January 1, 1989. I will report in further detail on these changes in the months to come.

The Tax Reform Act also eliminated tax credits for Company contributions to Employee Stock Ownership Plans (ESOP). Our ESOP plan was not a negotiated item and the Company has notified your E.M.-3 Council that no contributions shall be credited to employee accounts in 1987. The distribution of stock from your plan has not been established by the Company. I will update you on this matter as soon as the information is made available to the Union.

On February 12, 1987, E.M.-3 Council International Representative Robert Stander wrote J. J. Dowdall, Director of Labor Relations AT&T, a letter concerning the Company's decision not to fund the pension plan for approximately the next three years. In this correspondence, Mr. Stander requested that a meeting be scheduled between the Company and Union to discuss the use of excess funding for increased pension benefits and to promote early retirements in an effort to avoid further force reductions to the membership.

It is our belief that the excess in the pension fund belongs to its participants and should be paid in increased pension benefits. The Company is under no legal obligation to respond to this request but in light of the recent incentive payments made on March 13th to management personnel of Networks System, it would seem that the company should be willing to at least discuss this matter.

Following the conclusion of the E.M.-3 Council meeting, Vice-President Frank Nagel and I met on our National level grievance concerning reductions in matching Company contributions to the savings plan due to 1986 bargaining. This grievance meeting went very well and I expect to have a final and favorable solution to this problem very soon.

In March of 1957, our Local Union came into existence. I wish to thank all of our present and past members of the last thirty years for the support you have shown your Local Union. I also wish to thank all officers and representatives both present and past for the leadership and dedication they have shown through-out our history. Your continued support will assure many more years of success in our future.

Union Meeting Tonight

The monthly meeting of the membership will be held Friday, March 20, 1987, at the Union Hall, 13306 Stevens Street.

Second shift meeting: 12:30 a.m. First and third shift meeting: 8 p.m. \$100 drawing.
