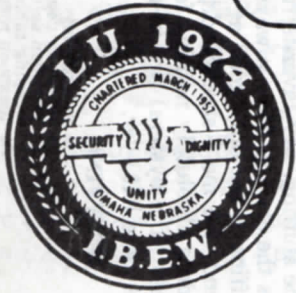
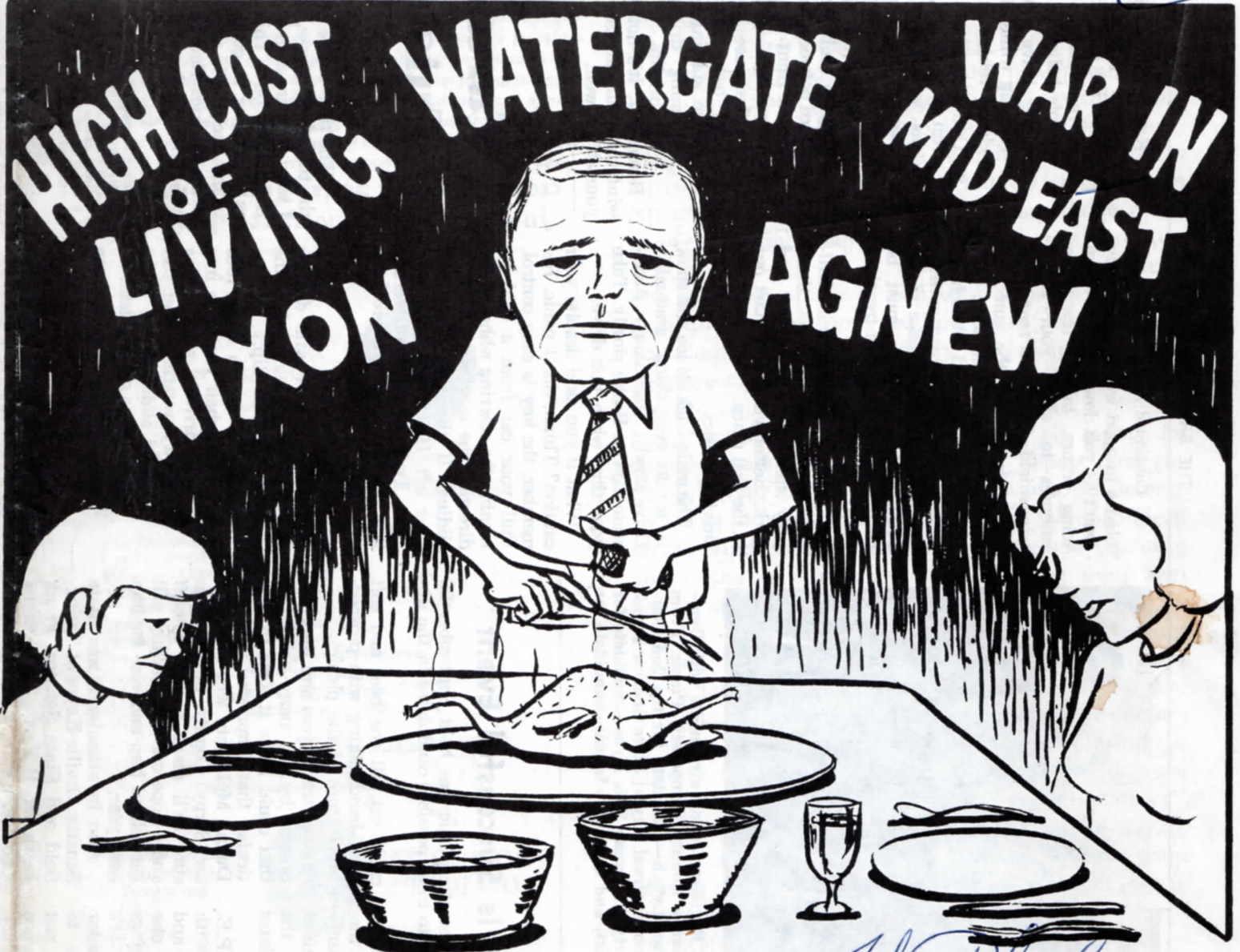


November-73

# The Short Circuit



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



Thanksgiving 1973

curran  
SHORT CIRCUIT



# The Short Circuit

NOVEMBER, 1973



Vol. 16, No. 4

## Square D Okay's Pact

Local 1536, I.B.E.W. at the Square D Plant in Lincoln ended a nine month strike when 98 percent voted for approval of the new contract at their ratification meeting Saturday, October 27.

Robert Garrity, Vice President of the 11th District, I.B.E.W. stated that he'd never seen a happier group of people. International President, Charles Pillard, sent a congratulations telegram "on the ending of the longest strike in the I.B.E.W. history—nine months and two days."

The 400 members of Local 1536, I.B.E.W. signed a two year agreement totaling a 14 percent increase in wages and fringes the first year and 10.3 percent the second.

The gargaining unit which is made up of 80 percent women, returned to work Wednesday, October 31, after standing picket duty through four seasons of Nebraska weather.

The strikers returned to their original job, position and group with full seniority rights extending through the strike period.

President Quinlan of Local 197b, I.B.E.W. stated "this certainly belies any talk that women are not or can't be strong Union members. The bulk of the Square D work force is women who are serious and strong willed. Without a doubt it was these ladies, that had resolved to get what was rightfully theirs, that led to

President of Local 1536, Jeff Ditzler, said "a special thanks goes to Tom Hickman, (International Representative of the 11th District), Vice President, Garrity, Keith McAlilely, manufacturing office of I.B.E.W.) and Paul Menger (manufacturing office of the I.B.E.W.) for their help in this successful settlement."

During the strike a suit was filed in District Court by the Union against the Lincoln City Police Department and Mayor Sam Schwartzkopf. The suit included a challenge against the Nebraska mass picketing law and is still pending.

The Union charged that the strikers had been harassed and intimidated by Police. They were also denied unemployment compensation by the Nebraska Labor Department and have appealed



President Nixon's Phase IV economic program of freeze and non-freeze has hit with a hard, dull thud of misery. The Consumer Price Index rose 1.8 percent in August to 135.1 (1967-100) according to the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. A substantial increase in food prices, primarily for meats, poultry and eggs, accounted for about 80 percent of the rise in the C.P.I.

The August increase was the sharpest one month rise since September, 1947, mainly because of the record 6.1 percent rise in the food index.

The price freeze, in affect since June 13, was terminated for all foods except beef on July 18, and for most other items on August 12. Food prices were collected

## August Price Rise Sets 26-Year Record

sharp advances in prices of poultry, eggs and pork. Beef and veal prices also increased sharply. Prices rose, for bread, milk and most other food items. The index for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks increased 1.1 percent in August.

The 135.1 C.P.I. equals ten cents on our Cost-of-Living

## Union Dance Huge Success

Members and friends attending the Union's Country and Western dance October 20 once again turned it into a huge success.

340 members and guests were greatly surprised at the versatility of the band as they played request after request often straying away from the field of Western music to please the crowd.

Elsa, the lead singer, charmed the crowd with her Connie Francis sounding voice and drew applause song after song.

Circulating through the crowd, one heard comments on how good the music was and what a good time everyone was having.

(Continued on Page 6)

## Special Meeting Called

Michael D. Quinlan, President of Local Union 197b I.B.E.W., has been called out of town by EM-3 Council President, Gino Pasquale to attend a "Special Meeting between the I.B.E.W. Research and Education Department, the Bell Telephone Negotiators, and the EM-3 Executive Council Board.

Quinlan, a member of the EM-3 Executive Board, announced that the need for earlier



work force is women who are serious and strong willed. Without a doubt it was these ladies, that had resolved to get what was rightfully theirs, that led to eventual success. Congratulations."

strikers had been harassed and intimidated by Police. They were also denied unemployment compensation by the Nebraska Labor Department and have appealed this decision to the courts.

## "Machinist" Named Top Labor Paper in ILPA Competition

Miami Beach Fla. — Award-winning publications in the 1973 International Labor Press Association competition displayed an outstanding communications link with their readers.

It was a hallmark common among the 14 top winners and dozens of other runners-up in reaching out to their constituency, the panel of judges noted in announcing the results of the biennial contest.

The three judges were Henry Lowenstern, executive editor of the U. S. Labor Department's Monthly Labor Review; William Eaton of the Chicago Daily News and John Grimes, formerly with the Wall Street Journal.

Stressing the excellence of the labor movement's outstanding newspapers and magazines, the judges praised the editors for their efforts in showing solid professional writing, news selection, display, editing and balance.

To meet competition for readers' attention with other media, the judges suggested that the press in general must depend more on in-depth reporting and commentary. They said:

"It means more analysis. It means a sifting of events and trends to inform readers not only of what has been happening, but what may be happening in the future as a result."

The judges agreed that the labor press can't stand away from these influences, suggesting that the labor editors meet and master the challenges to render an even greater service to union members.

The price freeze, in affect since June 13, was terminated for all foods except beef on July 18, and for most other items on August 12. Food prices were collected on August 7, 8, 9 and prices for other items were collected throughout the month.

The index for food purchased in grocery stores climbed 7.4 percent; this index usually declines in August. Most of the August increase was due to unusually

for food away from home—restaurant meals and snacks increased 1.1 percent in August.

The 135.1 C.P.I. equals ten cents on our Cost-of-Living Allowance we have lost in buying power since our twenty cent C.O.L.A. wage increase in July. Inflation is increasing at even a faster rate than before the raise and causing the greatest price explosions in 26 years.

## Insurance News

As reported last month in the Short Circuit, your Local Union has been investigating new group auto insurance plans and their carriers to see if better service and additional savings can be obtained for our members.

At this point in time the Officers feel they have found such a plan with the Commercial Union Insurance Company. It was established in 1871 and ranks with the 15 largest groups in the country. It is now entering our region and its premium rate will offer up to 7½ percent savings over Hartford.

### NOTICE

The Monthly Meeting of the Membership will be held

Friday,  
November 16, 1973  
at the Union Hall,  
13306 Stevens Street,  
Millard.

Second Shift Meeting:  
12:30 A.M.

First and third shift meeting:  
8:00 P.M.

\$100 Drawing

### NOTICE

Absolute Deadline for Articles is the 1st of Each Month

## Wake Up For Winter Driving

### Get Car Into Shape

The season of ice and snow is just around the corner. And, according to the National Safety Council, accident hazards increase at a furious rate in winter weather. Here are a few winter auto hints for what could be a frosty and long winter.

A pre-winter tune-up will cut stalls and will save on fuel economy by six percent. Have the brakes checked to be sure their grip is equalized.

Carbon monoxide can be a grim compiler of winter statistics. Check into exhaust system for leaks. Don't forget the battery, it loses power in cold weather and if on its "last leg" now is the time to replace it.

When roads are slippery, proper tires can save your life. For severe conditions the best bet is reinforced tire chains. On glare ice, the National Safety Council reports, snow tires provide 28 percent better traction than regular tires. New studded snows, give you 218 percent better traction than regulars. Chains boost this improvement to 630 percent. On loosely packed snow, snow tires are 51 percent better than regulars and chains 313 percent better.

### Adjust to Road Conditions

Good visibility begins with your windshield. Check wiper

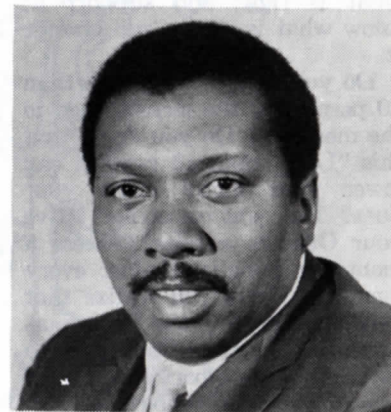
(Continued on Page 7)

gotiators and the EM-3 Executive Council Board.

Quinlan, a member of the EM-3 Executive Board, announced that the need for earlier than expected negotiations were spelled out by International President, Charles Pillard in a letter to the Western Electric Company.

Pillard requested earlier negotiations of 1974 due to the numerous complex problems that must be resolved.

As per the directives of the Vancouver Council Meeting in September, the Executive Board of the EM-3 Council will be entrusted with the final preparation of demands.



## Perryman Appointed

Michael D. Quinlan, President of Local 1974, I.B.E.W. announced that Jim Perryman, Union Steward in the 613 Building has been appointed by Governor J. J. Exon to the Nebraska State Drug Commission.

Perryman has been an active member in the Union and serves on the Local's C.O.P.E. Committee.

Active in politics, Perryman is Democratic Chairman for his Ward and an Officer in the A. Phillip Randolph Institute.



## Tears On My Pillow

*1. Kid D. Forman . . . .	142
2. D. B. Chambers . . . .	253
3. D. R. Kinzie . . . . .	411
4. N. E. Cook . . . . .	244
*5. K. U. Ramsey . . . . .	423
6. R. V. Walters . . . . .	141
7. P. U. Kraft . . . . .	431
*8. A. K. Novacek . . . . .	135
9. E. A. Williams, Jr. . . .	421
10. J. M. Swierczek . . . .	421
11. M. P. Fishler . . . . .	432
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13. J. G. Nick . . . . .	134
14. B. B. Ingalise . . . . .	142
15. C. H. Landmichael . . .	433
*16. J. E. Cruse . . . . .	132
17. J. D. Willcoxon . . . .	132

### WINNER

\*Denotes Non-Member

## STAY AHEAD!



READ YOUR UNION PAPER!



**Letter to Editor:****Rollin' Green**

Last year around this time of the year, a lot was said about what the Big Red Machine was going to do to the Fighting Irish.

I chose to stake my stand on my Irish ancestry, knowing full well my people in South Bend would consistently remain in the limelight and field another winner.



This year I have failed to see any cartoons of a vicious looking corn cob choosing a poor Irish football player off the field.

How come equal time isn't given to the front page for a real football team "the fighting Irish." Is it because this year there are lot more Big Red fans with Kelly Green faces than would care to admit?

Son of the Emerald Isle  
Jack E. Philby

**Union Meeting**

by Patrick L. McAcy  
Dept. 422

T.V.'s more fun! A beer or two and the hell with it! Get serious! the Union meeting can mean how your working day goes; how you move when surplused, how you are paid when you move! GET INVOLVED! Not for the \$100, just for knowing what goes on! The Company won't tell you let



Delegates representing Local 1974 at the Nebraska State Convention in Omaha were: (from left to right) Joe Kobielski, Elmer Johnson, Walter Bolton, Charles Newell, Bob Duley, Dean Frye, Betty Dannevik, John Sutej, Bob Osterman, Kenny Meyer, Tom Connor, Jack Philby and Bob Alberts.

**Job Grades Report**

by Jerry Pote

The P.V.C. Tamden Line Operator job has been a problem in the Cable Shop for many years. After many meetings with Company about the Company continuing scoring the job wrong. We ask the International for an expert in Job Grades to look at the P.V.C. Operator and find out if we were right as we felt.

Doug Wiegand was here in March, but the Company would not let him study the job, because of some contract language dispute. The Union and Company straightened the problem out and Wiegand was to study the job in September.

We spent three days with Doug Wiegand who is from the International Office, studying the job and going over our case on the P.V.C. Tamden Insulating Line. In conclusion, we believe our case is stronger than ever, because of Wiegand's visit.

The September EM-3 Council Meeting, which the Job Grades Committee Chairman from sixteen Local Unions attended was

**C.P.I. Explained**

by Elmer Johnson

The Consumer Price Index (C.P.I.) measures average changes in prices of goods and services usually purchased by wage earners and their families.

It is based on the prices of 400 items that are selected to represent the movement of prices of all goods and services that are purchased.

Prices for these items are obtained by the Bureau of Labor Statistics in urban portions of 39 major areas and 17 smaller cities. The cities are chosen as representative of all urban areas in the United States. The statistics are collected from about 18,000 establishments, grocery and department stores, hospitals, filling stations and other types of stores and services.

Prices for foods, fuels and other items are obtained monthly in all 56 locations. Prices of commodities and services are collected every month in the five largest areas and every three months in other areas.

Prices of most goods and services

**Wage Incentive—****Western Electric and Wage Incentives**

by Hugh (Butch) Oliver

During the last week of September at our most recent E.M.-3 Council Meeting, which was held in Vancouver, Washington, I again had the distinct pleasure of sitting down at one table with Wage Incentive chairmen from 16 Western Electric locations represented by the I.B.E.W.

The purpose for this meeting was to finalize our proposals for bargaining which will begin in early 1974. It is always amazing to me that every location, even though making different product lines, seems to face the same inequities in the wage incentive program. The Company seems to be *consistently unfair* across the nation. This in itself certainly gives all chairmen a mutual basis for open and very healthy discussions.

To totally disclose at this time all results of this very important and certainly productive meeting would serve as only a hinderance to future negotiations with the Company which are coming about very soon. Some matters which were discussed at great length were, total arbitration of the Wage Incentive Plan, better pay treatment for all day workers in order to bring them more in line with wage incentive employees, minimum guarantee for all wage incentive groups, expanded coverage and treatment under our managerial allowance clauses and numerous other proposals which will be presented to the Company.

A full disclosure of all proposals presented to the Company

will be made some future date in this newspaper.

The total awareness that is happening Council wide concerning Wage Incentives and the many inequities we all face everyday is probably one of the most encouraging developments I have seen in quite some time.

The Company has backed the IBEW into a corner nation wide on Wage Incentives and a stand for the first time is going to be taken which hopefully will strip much of the inequity which makes a mockery of your effort and productivity and costs each location hundreds of thousands of dollars every year.

President Quinlan and Vice President Clark made numerous presentations in front of all Council Presidents and International Representatives advocating vigorous effort on the part of all locations for Wage Incentive reforms. Vice President Clark's background in Wage Incentives was certainly well put to use in this total effort.

Elections were held at this meeting to elect those to head Wage Incentives for the E.M.-3 Council. Hugh Young, of the Hawthorne Works, one of the most experienced and esteemed Union wage incentive men was elected Chairman with your truly elected as co-chairman.

In closing I would like to thank Thomas Hickman our International Representative from this district for his help in this Council Meeting. Mr. Hickman is truly an International Representative of the highest caliber.



your working day goes; how you move when surplused, how you are paid when you move! GET INVOLVED! Not for the \$100, just for knowing what goes on! The Company won't tell you, let your Union meeting do it.

Attendance at a monthly meeting is necessary for the Union Stewards, Chief Stewards and Officers because this is a requirement to receive their salary.

Any Union is controlled by members who attend, members who are active and concerned. It may only seem that the majority of members attending these meetings have some position of authority in our Union.

To make our Union better, it is necessary to go to the meeting; know what goes on know; what is right and support it; know what is wrong and change it.

Do you Know: That less than 10 percent of the members go to the meetings? Do you know that this "Less" than 10 percent can lower your dues? Raise your dues? Put you on strike? Give your Officers a raise? Assess a monetary penalty against every member? Don't you realize that participation in your Union as much a "must" as going to Church, being a part of a Junior League, or even taxpaying?

ever, because of Wiegand's visit. The September EM-3 Council Meeting, which the Job Grades Committee Chairman from sixteen Local Unions attended was a great success. The Company uses the Job Grades Plan to keep labor cost of products down to a minimum at your costs. The Job Grades Plan was written in the 1940's and is so out-dated it still uses the language of the '40s.

## Vickers Strike Ends

Local 171 of the Allied Industrial Workers of America, which represents 1,250 production workers at the Vickers Division of Sperry Rand, ratified a three year contract by a 654 to 236 vote Friday, October 26.

Their return to work on Monday, the 29th, ended a month long strike against Vickers that started September 24.

The Vickers Plant at 72nd & Crown Point Avenue remained open during the strike, staffed by some 250 non-union personnel.

ly in all 36 locations. Prices of commodities and services are collected every month in the five largest areas and every three months in other areas.

Prices of most goods and services are obtained by personal visits of the Bureau's trained representatives. Mail questionnaires are used to obtain local transit fares, public utility rates, newspaper prices, fuel prices and certain other items.

As a consumer you should be interested in the C.P.I. because it approximates the buying power of your dollar. To calculate price changes, the prices in 1967 are established to represent 100. Any rise since then would be over 100, for example, the C.P.I. for August is 135.1, which is an increase of 35.1 since 1967.

Changing these figures into dollars, by moving the decimal point one space to the left, would indicate that a basket of goods purchased for \$10 in 1967 would have cost you \$13.51 in August, 1973. A loss in buying power of \$3.51.

posals which will be presented to the Company.

A full disclosure of all proposals presented to the Company

ternational Representative from this district for his help in this Council Meeting. Mr. Hickman is truly an International Representative of the highest caliber.



With the news gap in Short Circuit Publications, a lot of noteworthy news of our Union Members had been left out of the last issue. The above photograph is such a news item.

July 26, Savage Hunter, owned by husband and wife Union Members, Don and Jean Hunt won a six furlong, \$2,500 claiming race at the Lincoln Track.

Savage won the race on a good track moving from last to fifth in the stretch and crossing the wire a full length ahead of the other horses.

Tote ticket holders reaped a Savage harvest at the pay window where a \$2 win ticket netted the holder \$60.80.

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**Short  
Circuit  
Profile:**

# Western Electric's Weekend Warriors

by Don Wiecek

With Thanksgiving less than a week away, the Short Circuit wants to extend a special thanks to the many forgotten Union members whose yearly sacrifices help keep the meaning of Thanksgiving free. This profile is dedicated to the forgotten legion of Union members who are after performing their civilian duties with pride give of their spare time to back up our professional military forces.

## Sandy Baker

Think in your mind of all the rugged 5 foot tall Marine Sergeants you know and not one of them will fit the description of our petite, five foot blonde female reservist, Miss Sandy Baker, Department 432.

Sandy is a 1965 South High graduate who wanted to give the military a try before she decided to give thought to domestic life styles. Tossing her blonde head back, Sandy said, "This may sound corny to the reader, but when I used to walk to South High, I was always fascinated by those bright blue join the Marine posters that sat out in front of the Post Office. I always wanted that poster to be me."

Miss Baker never became a poster Marine, but she did join the Marines in November of 1967.



Sandy Baker

Talent, Beauty

## Jim Black

The saltiest reservist in our profile feature is eighteen year veteran of the Navy; Jim Black, Dept. 245. Jim is a young, swarthy looking Senior Grade Petty Officer (E-8) whose naval time goes back to the retirement of the U.S.S. Constitution.

A lot of nautical miles have passed under Jim's sea legs and the mileage has not stopped him from being all Navy. Prior to signing up, Jim always wanted to go Navy. "It was the thing to do if you were not going to college," says Jim. "Everybody signed up for the school of his choice and many of my friends carried the trade over to his civilian profession."

Jim Black is all Navy and he never hesitates to boost the Navy's many benefits. "Most of the reserve organizations have lost a lot of their popularity because of the War," say Jim. "Also attitudes have changed and the Military has had to change to be attractive to new recruits. Take a look at hair length and number of mustaches and beards on the younger guys that join. The Military have gone out of their way to make themselves, particularly the reserves, more appealing."

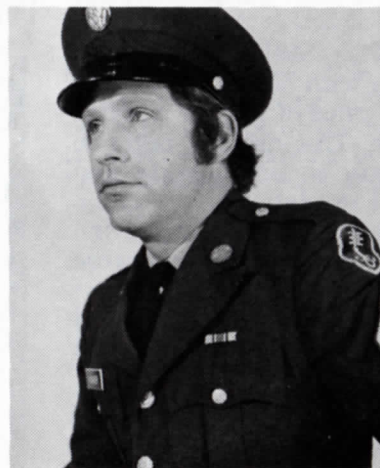
Throughout his reserve career Jim has received a lot of positive benefits from the Navy. Two years out of every three he has had opportunities to travel to foreign and U. S. ports of call to fulfill his reserve obligation. The third year a school would be offered. This is beside other schools that are offered through-

Sgt. E-6 Norm Honaker, Dept. 253 is a co-worker and Union member who personifies the meaning of citizen-soldier.

Norm has been an active reservist for 9 years with the 403 Military Police Headquarters Company. The specialty of the 403rd is the handling and caring of P.O.W.'s.

## Norm Honaker

### Gentleman Soldier



Norm believes strongly in the Army Reserve program; that is unusual for a guy who joined with reserve one week end just to see what it was all about. Norm found he liked it well enough and he plans to stay with the active reserves until he gets his twenty years.

Norm's reserve military service has been a rewarding experience. He has made many lasting friendships that otherwise would not have been made.

"The Army Reserve has changed a lot in the last 9 years," says Norm. "It is improving to the point where much of the drudgery has been eliminated, making it an attractive part-time profession."

Eclipsing all the training and sacrifice in Norm's reserve career is his being honored by AK-SAR-BEN as recipient of the outstanding Citizen-Soldier award. Selection of the award was based on those qualities of leadership, performance, initiative and military bearing that best exemplifies the citizen-soldier concept of the nation's reserve forces. We salute you, Sgt. Honaker. Congratulations!

Anybody interested in the Army Reserve call Norm at Ext. 3164. He'll be glad to help you.

## Jack Wonder

The Reservists

try learned a variety of military skills to make his service back-

## Louis Gasper

Another citizen-soldier, AK-SAR-BEN award winner (1970 to be exact) is from that rapidly changing branch of the service, the Coast Guard. He is Louis Gasper, Dept. 263.

Louie has been a member of the Coast Guard reserves for 15 years, and he has reached the rank of Chief Petty Officer, E-7. Louis came to the reserves after four years of active duty. With a year of non-military service between hitches, Lou took a look at the reserves and liked it well enough to stay.

In the last 10 years, LLou Gasper's 2 weeks of summer camp has given him the opportunity to travel to many coastal ports for cruises and training to keep him a ready sailor with drills and practice. Besides summer cruises, Lou has gone to many naval schools and participated in recruiting for his reserve organization.

"The Inland Coast Guard is changing," says Louie. "A good example is this year, instead of traveling to seaboard ports, our group will cruise the Missouri within a 25 mile radius of Omaha. The main purpose of our activity will be to enforce federal water regulations and instill water safety."

According to Lou, the Coast Guard mission since 1969 has been oriented to civilian projects. Teaching a boating safety course (a 2 hour slide program) at the local marinas along the Missouri is one example of a changing Coast Guard. The Coast Guard



## Sandy Baker

### Talent, Beauty and Dedication

Presently, on the inactive reserve roles, Sandy did spend 2½ years in the active reserve. But this doesn't look like Sandy will end her military Service, someday she might re-enlist.

"You'd be surprised at all the people, especially a lot of the women who are curious about the military life," Sandy said. "A lot of the mothers of teenagers are always asking me if the Marines is a good place for their daughters."

"I get teased a lot about being Gung-Ho and a lifer, but I take it as a compliment," Sandy added. "The only drawback I find for women in the Military is a slight domestic discrimination. Women are still given the ordinary female tasks, like clerk typist and accounting. I want to be more active, I feel there is nothing wrong with wanting to be a soldier."

If your curiosity about the Marine Reserve program is more than you can stand, call Sandy, extension 3085, she's more than willing to give you information about the program.

foreign and U. S. ports of call to fulfill his reserve obligation. The third year a school would be offered. This is beside other schools that are offered throughout the year.

I asked Jim what he thought of all volunteer military concept and my question seemed to hit a sore spot. "The only bad thing about a all volunteer fighting force is the pressure forced on the recruiter. With the military's preoccupation with headcount—a future fighting unit might suffer from lack of quality in the ranks and not quantity."

If any of our members would care to find out about going Navy and traveling two weeks out of the year to exotic ports of call, call Jim Black. He feels buying Navy is better than buying bonds.

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Anybody interested in the Army Reserve can Norm at Ext. 3164. He'll be glad to help you.

## Jack Wonder

### The Reservists ARE the Initial BACKBONE of the Regular Military

Jack Wonder of Dept. 253 recently enlisted in the Army Reserve for one year. Most of the reserve units offer this short enlistment opportunity; it's part trial for a guy or gal who might be interested but who does not want to make a prolonged commitment.

Jack is a Vietnam veteran who served with the 101st Airborne, and because it was infan-

try learned a variety of military skills to make his service back-

### Valuable Skills; Worthwhile Job

ground valuable to many reserve organizations.

Jack enlisted at Sgt. E-5 and admits it is on trial basis. "I have no patriotic or monetary motivation in joining," Jack says, "I just wanted to give the reserves a try."

There are many readers in our audience who might want to give the Reserves a try. Give Jack a call at Ext. 3164. Knowing Jack Wonder, he'll give you an honest appraisal.



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Millard

Teaching a boating safety course (a 2 hour slide program) at the local marinas along the Missouri is one example of a changing Coast Guard. The Coast Guard is also playing a role in pollution control and keeping a check on the natural resources the inland waterways provide for a leisure-conscious America.

If any members want to become part of a changing Coast Guard, they can contact Chief Gasper at Ext. 3233.



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# The Vice-President and Grievance Co-ordinator's Report

by Harlan "Whitey" Clark

In 1971 your local union officers bargained a cost-of-living escalator that was a first in the Western Electric System.

With the increased inflation it is probably a good thing we were able to get a cost-of-living with no ceiling on it.

Before the end of winter, the price of regular gasoline will be around 50 cents per gallon. This rise will begin to occur next month. These rises are coming despite and partly because of the price control regulations.

Despite price control, prices for domestic crude oil have been advancing steadily this year—mainly because the controls have so many holes they are all but ineffective. Ineffective it seems, as far as prices are concerned but seem to be much more effective in the area of wage increases.

One out of every three barrels of oil consumed in the U. S. comes from abroad. That is the key to the bad news awaiting you and the rest of the U. S. fuel consumers.

There has been some relief in the area of meats and food prices but even they are still much higher than 2 years ago.

Agriculture Secretary Butz seems to be pleased about the farm boom and he says "That man is proud of being a farmer. He's got his head held up high—and he walks down the street with an air of confidence, the money jingling in his pocket. And it's about time!"

Others in the Nixon Administration and a bevy of outside experts say they are worried and a little confused about the new farm boom and how to handle it.

While Mr. Butz is gloating about the money jingling in the farmers pockets, others are trying to explain to food shoppers such as yourselves why less is jingling in yours.

If you were to ask the policy makers about agriculture, they would lace their language with mention of the U. S. balance of trade, the energy crisis, population control, changes in dietary habits and other subjects that on the surface appear to have little to do with planting corn in Nebraska or Iowa.

The current focus is on inflation and consumer pleas for relief. Food prices in the first eight months of this year accounted for more than 60 percent of the entire rise in the consumer price index.

Can you imagine the impact all of this would have had on our membership's pocketbooks if we had been unsuccessful in getting the cost-of-living allowance in the last negotiations or if there had been a ceiling as in most other Union Agreements?

Even with the cost-of-living we have some steps that have to be taken to curb this rising inflation.

Most Unions have been very co-operative in staying within the federal guidelines but I am not so sure this can continue to be.

We don't limit our bargaining to cost-of-living but also must demand a standard-of-living increase.

\* \* \*

At the time of this writing, your President Mike Quinlan and I are preparing to go into the arbitration case of hiring testers off the street. I hope to be able to elaborate on that and also the overtime arbitration that was heard last month in the next issue of the Short Circuit.

\* \* \*

If you are going to be traveling over the Thanksgiving Holiday, drive carefully and have an enjoyable and festive holiday.

## Nixon's Veto Holds

President Nixon's veto of the minimum wage bill — which would have raised the floor to \$2.00 an hour immediately and extended coverage to state and local government employees and domestics—will stick.

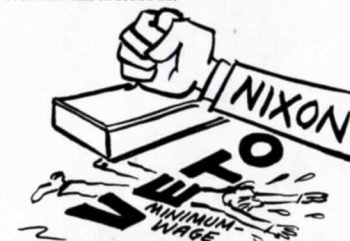
The House of Representatives failed by 23 votes to muster the necessary two-thirds margin to override.

Attempts are expected to pass another bill but Nixon is openly opposed to bringing either state or local government employees or domestic workers under the measure.

For the record, Nixon has become the first President in history to veto a basic minimum wage bill.

Organized labor and liberal members of Congress denounced his action as cruel and hitting hardest those who can least afford it.

The President claimed in his veto message that the bill was inflationary and would increase joblessness. This was sharply denounced as counter to economic realities and even studies in the Department of Labor under his administration.



Many of the statements criticizing Nixon's veto contrast it with the fact that executive salaries are soaring along with profits, interest rates and the cost of living. And he is opposed to a reform of the tax structure.

## Financial Sec. Report

by Kenneth B. Meyer

I am happy to report that our membership stands at 89 percent as of October 1.

Hiring should resume into full swing and all people brought

## Editorial

Last year the Short Circuit received a lot criticism for using this cartoon on its cover. Many of the remarks aimed at this cartoon said we slighted the President.

We feel this cartoon proved an

## Late News Item

H. Whitey Clark Vice President of Local 1974, I.B.E.W. announced that the grievance involving the hiring of testers off the street, due to be arbitrated November 9 has been

**ATTEND  
YOUR UNION  
MEETING**



I am happy to report that our membership stands at 89 percent as of October 1.

Hiring should resume into full swing and all people brought back from layoff and leaves of absence by the time this paper goes to press.

I would like to remind everyone that with negotiations just around the corner, it is imperative that we show a united front to the Company in backing our negotiators' demands at the bargaining table.

I urge everyone to sign up as many of these new employees as well as old employees that are eligible.

Remember, we are still paying 2 bucks for new employees.

ceived a lot criticism for using this cartoon on its cover. Many of the remarks aimed at this cartoon said we slighted the President.

We feel this cartoon proved an insight into the past, present and we hope not future events.



H. Whitey Clark Vice President of Local 1974, I.B.E.W. announced that the grievance involving the hiring of testers off the street, due to be arbitrated November 9 has been postponed.

Carl Warns the arbitrator selected for this case is also the permanent arbitrator and umpire for airline labor disputes. Due to TWA being on strike, he was called to a special meeting on November 9 which necessitated him postponing the arbitration case.

Therefore, due to the airline dispute; other commitments Warns has scheduled; other commitments President Michael Quinlan and Vice - President Clark have concerning the upcoming negotiations and the Manager's Split Court Case which is tentatively scheduled to be heard in December in the Washington, D. C. Circuit of Appeals; the earliest available date for rescheduling the Tester Case is January 17, 1974.

## MEETING

profits, interest rates and the cost of living. And he is opposed to a reform of the tax structure.



H. Whitey Clark, Vice President of Local Union 1974, I.B.E.W. receives certificate of completion from Paul Menger, Director of Manufacturing I.B.E.W. for the Labor Law and Collective Bargaining Course conducted by the International in Washington, D.C.

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## THE SHORT CIRCUIT



Omaha, Nebr.

NOVEMBER, 1973

Vol. 16, No. 4

Published by

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## How It Is Done

by Robert Gaddie, Dept. 421

In 1935, the Wagner Act established the *NLRA* National Labor Relations Act. It is a Federal Government Department with a board of men serving and ruling on matters concerning Unions and employers. Many new features have been added over the years by amendments as the Anti-Racketeering Acts, Subversive Activities Act, Unfair Labor Practice Acts, Union responsibility to injunction Acts, Disclosure and Reporting Acts. But the basic concept of the NLRB is collective bargaining in good faith between Unions and employers.

If a group of people working for a company want a Union there are some rules to follow to achieve it. At least 30 percent of the employees must sign a petition saying they want to be represented by a Union. The petition is filed with the NLRB. A competitive Union may also file. They need only 5 percent or so of the employees interested. The Federal Government (NLRB) conducts the secret ballot election usually on company property. The employees are given advance notice of this upcoming election. The Union selected by a majority of the employees in the appropriate bargaining unit shall be the exclusive represen-

tative of all the employees in the unit. The appropriate bargaining unit is determined by the Board for example: the size of unit, the type, multi employer or single employer unit, plant wide or departmental. Craftsmen may or may not be included. Professional employees may be excluded, plant guards are not included in any bargaining unit. Office, plant clericals and technical employees are considered together because the work they perform is similar and is distinct from the work done by production and maintenance employees. These three groups usually bargain as a separate unit. Also, confidential and managerial employees are excluded.

These groupings show why the NLRB is needed to establish a bargaining unit definition. The other phrase *exclusive* representative of *all* employees is two fold. (1) By being the only agent, strife between organized and unorganized portions of the unit is eliminated also no other Union can get involved which again simplifies bargaining; (2) As a safeguard against abuse of this exclusive power, the Board has developed the rule that the Union must exercise its power *fairly* on behalf of all the employees in the unit.



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Special thanks to Ms. Nancy Emshwiller, Editor of the West-erner, for the trouble she went through to get the pictures of Whitey Clark and the Cannone Twins touring the Plant that we used in the October issue.



"I've come about that last operation, doctor . . . !"

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**Union Dance—**

# Western Octoberfest

## Elsa/Kanesville Four Will Return

Pictures by Eldon Whale



**Let The Dancing Begin . . .**



(Continued from Page 1)

President Michael D. Quinlan of Local 1974, I.B.E.W., realizing that Elsa and the Kanesville Four played the widest assortment and style of music that any of us have ever heard one band play before, immediately made plans for a St. Valentine's Dance with a return engagement of the band.

The security guard commented that if tickets were available right then on the spot, that everyone of them would have been bought up immediately by the excited happy crowd.

The dance floor never ceased to be packed while young and old alike danced the evening away.

A special thanks is again in order for Vice President Whitey Clark and Executive Board Chairman, Jack Thraen for their efficient handling of the bars. Also, a special thanks to the volunteers that helped make the dance the success it was. Among those donating their time were: Dan Langdon, John Sutej, Bob Osterman, Gus Palmer, Dean Frye, Bob Alberts, Jim Stuart, Bob Balik, Walter Bolton, Charlie Trouba, Bob Gaddie, Jerry Pote, Al Benkus, Neal Smith, Guy Davis, Lloyd Zoll, Elmer Johnson, Betty Dannevik and Denny Laaker.



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The people in the hall gyrated on, and on, and on . . .



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Local Union 1974 COPE Registrar John Sutej meets with Democratic Candidates at the Sarpy County Democratic Picnic. From left to right—John Sutej, Dan Lynch—candidate for the 2nd Congressional District; State Senator Orval Keyes; State Senator Frank Lewis, State Democratic Party Chairman Heis Dyas—candidate for the 3rd Congressional District; and Dwain McIntosh—candidate for Sarpy County Sheriff.

### Cope Corner—

## Political Picnic Is Successful Event

The Sarpy County Democratic picnic was held September 22 and gave the people a chance to meet possible candidates in the upcoming elections next year.

Aside from all the food you could eat, all the beer and soft drinks you could drink and the games—handshaking with prospective office holders was certainly a big feature of the picnic.

The Democratic Party raised \$1,000 that will be used in the next election for their candidates campaigns.

Local Union 1974 C.O.P.E. Registrar, John Sutej, met with the Democratic hopefuls and commented that "this was one of the finest political gatherings I have attended this year. It's really a shame that Senator Jackson was called back to Washington and could not attend. Although his presence was missed, I'm sure everyone

enjoyed themselves and were impressed by the many politicians that could make it. One in particular that impressed me was Duane McIntosh, who has filed for Sarpy County Sheriff. I'm sure he'll make a good Sheriff and I hope our Membership will get behind him and vote for him next year."

Also in attendance was State Senator, Orville Keyes of Springfield and State Senator, Frank Lewis of Bellevue, two strong labor supporters.

Continued from Page 1

blades in good weather and they won't let you down in bad. When icing occurs, take a few extra minutes to clean your entire windshield, front and rear.

Be alert when the sun goes down. As dusk falls don't take the road for granted. Watch for sudden changes in road surface. Don't make the mistake of assuming that weather must be freezing to make roads treacherous.

If you find yourself half-blinded by snow or sleet, don't play the hero, pull over and park. Better yet, don't start out in the first place.

### Driving Tactics

The main trick on ice and snow is to do everything gradually. Drive slowly. Steer slowly. Accelerate slowly. Brake slowly. Take your time when you drive.

What if you skid despite your caution? Think, don't panic. Remember, the key is easy control. Pull your car from a skid by turning the steering wheel in the direction the rear of your car is sliding. If the rear skids left, steer left. If it skids right, steer right. Try to avoid oversteering, this could also create problems in a skid.

### Survivor's Dozen

Here are twelve safe driving tips to keep in mind when the mercury starts to dip:

1. Use a rag to wipe your soles when you slide into the driver's seat during snowy weather. Wet feet could slide off the brake and cause an accident.
2. To aid traction, in case you get stuck, carry a supply of sand, ashes, rock salt, or an old burlap bag or blanket.
3. Adding dead weight to the

7. Keep tires inflated at normal pressure; letting some air out doesn't improve traction as some people believe.
8. Never leave your engine running while asleep in a closed vehicle.
9. Don't let your fuel tank run down to low, the more gas you have, the less chance of condensation and fuel line freeze-up.
10. When the road is slippery, keep a substantial distance between you and the car in front of you.
11. When driving in snowy weather, use lower headlight beam. Don't blind.
12. When starting a garaged oncoming drivers with your brights.

Remember, it's not enough to winterize your car, but winterize yourself as well.

## The Record

### Deaths:

Bill Brazeel, 245 ..... Father-in-law  
Zelmz Brazeel, 143 ..... Father  
Richard Lempeck, 137 ..... Son  
William Egr, 246 ..... Mother  
Pat Nowak, 431 ..... Mother  
Dave Smith, 241 ..... Father-in-law  
Ann Horst, 423 ..... Father  
Doretta Henderson, 142 ..... Sister  
Ellen Dobbs, 482 ..... Husband  
D. R. Morris, 421 ..... Father  
Bob Matulka, 344 ..... Father  
Mike Lewis, 253 ..... Brother  
A. Bishop, 411 ..... Father  
Larry Anderson, 245 ..... Father-in-law  
Julie Bumgardner, 422 ..... Father  
Jim L. Johnsen, 244 ..... Father  
Sandra Riepl, 142 ..... Step-Father  
James Sempek, 135 ..... Father

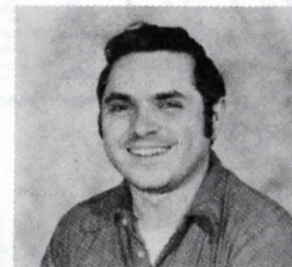
### BIRTHS:

Twin Sons, Jeremy and Jared, born to Jerry Carnes, Dept. 133.

### NEW STEWARDS:

Marie F. Cook, Dept. 433, 2nd Shift, Ext. 3393.  
Judy P. Flott, Dept. 432, 2nd Shift, Ext. 3301.  
Cindy Goldapp, Dept. 132, Day Shift, Ext. 3019.  
W. Don Loring, Dept. 434, 2nd Shift, Ext. 3089.

## "Caruso's Cuisine"



The time of the big bird is upon us again. Just as important as the turkey, of course, is the stuffing. My favorite recipe and the one I want to share with you is the one my Mom always put together for the holiday bird. This stuffing is not only good at the big meal, but as a left-over. A good friend told me I should add a can of oysters to this recipe. He said it does absolutely nothing for the flavor, but when the kids find out they (the oysters) are in there, they won't want any and there will be more left over.

### STUFFING

1 cup chopped celery	1/2 cup parsley
1 cup chopped onion	1/2 teaspoon pepper
1 cup chopped carrots	1/2 teaspoon salt, or to taste
1 clove garlic	1 heaping tablespoon sage
6 cups bread crumbs	1/2 teaspoon rosemary can be added
1 cup parmesan or romano cheese, grated	

Saute celery, carrots, onion and garlic in 1/2 cup margarine. Mix dry ingredients together in very large mixing bowl or pan. Add cooled sauteed mixture to dry ingredients and mix thoroughly. Add approximately two cups of water. It should have a loose moist feel.

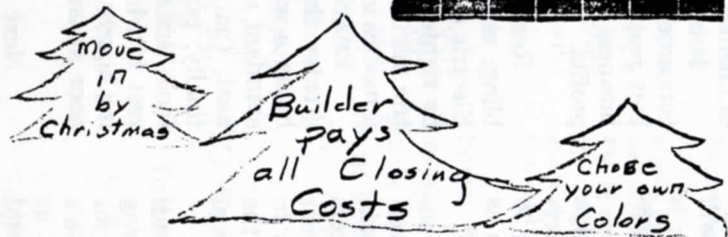
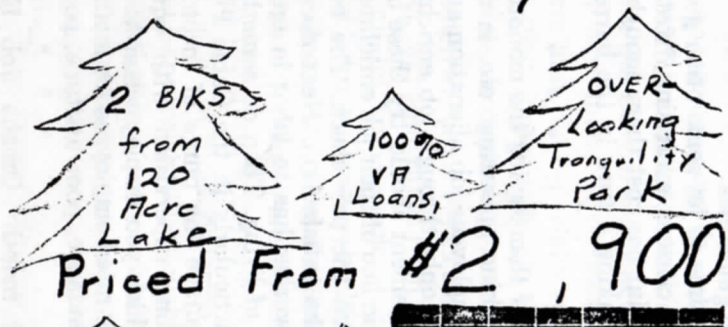


Jackson was called back to Washington and could not attend. Although his presence was missed, I'm sure everyone

Senator, Orville Keyes of Springfield and State Senator, Frank Lewis of Bellevue, two strong labor supporters.



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  - Carrying a shovel is a good idea. But over exertion isn't. Hospitals report hundreds of heart attacks every winter by snowed in motorists.
  - Add a good fuel additive from time to time to avoid fuel line freeze-up.
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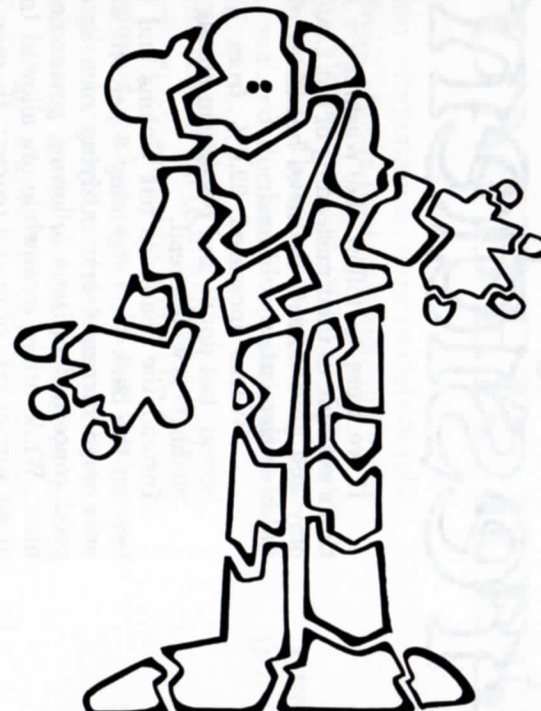
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6 cups bread crumbs  
1 cup parmesan or romano cheese, grated  
½ teaspoon rosemary can be added

Saute celery, carrots, onion and garlic in ½ cup margarine. Mix dry ingredients together in very large mixing bowl or pan. Add cooled sauteed mixture to dry ingredients and mix thoroughly. Add approximately two cups of water. It should have a loose moist feel. One small can of diced mushrooms can be added. You can also boil the giblets, chop them and add them to the mixture. The water can be used in the stuffing or in the gravy. This should be enough for a ten or twelve pound turkey.



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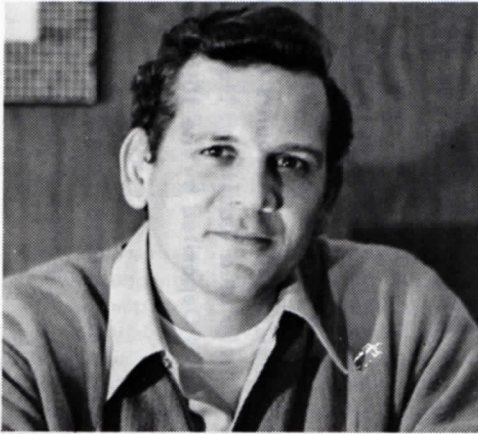
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# The Report Of The President



by President Michael D. Quinlan

It is interesting to note recently that large magazines and newspaper editorials and comments have been very laudatory to Labor Unions as a whole for their "restraint" during recent major contract settlements.

They are not only pleasantly surprised but indeed "puzzled" by labors "restraint" in the face of unprecedented spiraling prices and zooming profits.

Simultaneous with their praise of labor on another page of the same publication one would find the headlines:

"Profits of 556 major concerns rose an average of 32.6% from levels of like '72 period; but pessimism among industrialists widespread."

It is really amazing what a \$100,000 or so campaign investment contribution to the '72 election winner will return one year later. Particularly if the contribution is legally or illegally made by or in behalf of big business or corporate interests.

With business posting unbelievable all-time high profits; interests rates going out of sight; prices skyrocketing at a streaking clip, it is rather surprising to me why the Government chose union wage increases as the economic group to exercise "restraint." Why us?

Incidentally, the largest single contributors to increased overall prices reputedly are increased food prices. When one sees a list of profit reports and comes to chain grocers, it is noted that profits in selective chain grocers have risen 529.4 percent over a similar period one year ago. Even the most die-hard, anti-Union citizen has to wonder what their '72 contribution was; and, is the American farmer the real culprit in the astronomical rise in food prices?

In view of the fact that the call for *Union* prudence and *reasonable* contract wage settlements is coming from the most corrupt, money oriented, favoritism for Big Business oriented administration in our Nation's history; it is truly remarkable that labor doesn't do as the administration does, rather than as they say; and get as much money as it can and the hell with the means.

If we were to follow the Washington administration's example in their misleading of our Country's economy and government, the news headlines of our negotiated settlements should read:

"Wages increased 32.6% from like '72 period; but doubt and pessimism among Union members is widespread."

Instead the headlines pat Unions and their members on the back for bargaining 6 percent average first year wage increases and ratifying such agreements as good concerned citizens following governmental guidelines: While prices meanwhile are allowed to accelerate at an annual rate of over 8 percent, thereby allowing all time high profits.

If the politicians think that Union members are going to continue to tolerate this lop-sided economic favoritism, they are nuts!

As one 34 grade wireman recently put it, "A 6 percent wage increase just ain't going to cut it. Hell, I'd be losing money!" And I agree!

I believe the time has come for labor to start bargaining *whatever is necessary* to protect our members from erosion of pay checks through inflation and the gross mishandling of our Nation's economy; and, as the wireman said "6 percent sure as hell ain't going to cut it."

Watch the editorial sentiment change when labor starts demanding and getting their just due at the bargaining table. Overnight, it will be those "irresponsible Unions," wage demands that will be causing inflation and for that matter most of the nation's troubles.

But I say after two years of getting the short end of the stick: "to hell with the critics and partisan governmental guidelines."

It is time to let some other group or groups be the concerned citizens exercising "restraint!" Union members restraint has cost them enough already. How about business taking a turn in the barrel with some of their profits.

\* \* \*

Rather than saying the monotony of wiring, assembling, machine operating, etc. is causing the Western Electric employees job alienation and boredom, that can be righted only through job enrichment, Western Electric management should try these heretofore overlooked remedies in lieu of their job enrichment.

Enrich the pay check. The better the wages, the greater the satisfaction. Next decrease the number of hours a worker has to labor in order to earn a decent standard of living. Then do something about the noise, heat, (particularly in the Cable Plant) and fumes and finally, pursue the purge of incompetents, bigots, and fools among supervision with equal enthusiasm and zest to which you display when hounding and tormenting hourly rated employees for inefficiency, poor quality, poor attendance, poor attitude, poor . . . ad infinitum.

\* \* \*

Next month: Omaha Job Enrichment, Fact or Farce.