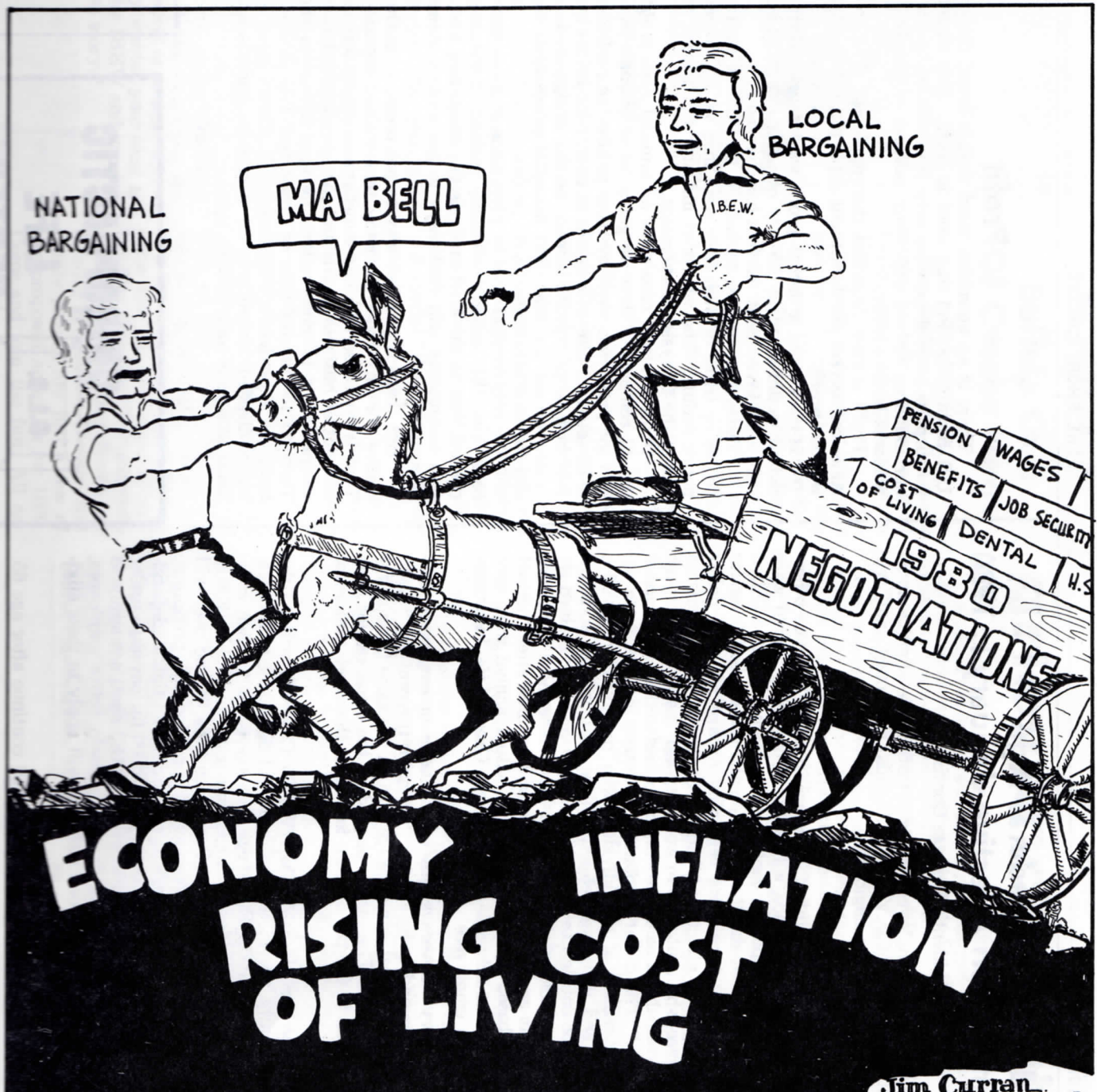


The Short Circuit



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



"We've All Got to Pull Together"

The Short Circuit

January 1980



Vol. 20, No. 37

Union Savings Plan to Pay 10.40%

OMAHA—Local Union President Michael D. Quinlan recently announced that the guaranteed interest rate to be paid by the union sponsored savings and security plan has been raised from 9.50 percent to 10.40 percent for 1980.

According to President Quinlan, "This rate is effective from January 1, 1980 and will be paid on existing deposits from 1979 as well as all new deposits in 1980. This is the highest guaranteed rate of tax sheltered interest available on a pay roll savings plan and I strongly urge every union member to take advantage of it."

"This rate of 10.40 percent," President Quinlan reviewed, "compares very favorably with the 10.5 percent being credited to the company sponsored guaranteed interest fund. As a point of information, AT&T stock which traded at \$64 per share in February, 1979, is currently trading for around \$52 a share. This is a decrease in market price of about 18 percent."

"All participants who are properly registered with the union sponsored plan will receive a statement of account in February of 1980 and this will cover all of 1979's deposits. Keep in mind, President Quinlan reminded the membership, "the more members we have in the plan, the more bargaining strength we have for higher interest rates."

To take advantage of the higher interest rates of the union savings plan, contact your union representative, call the union office, 895-4080, or call toll free 800-223-7608.

International Office Per Capita to Increase

OMAHA — Local Union 1974 Financial Secretary has been notified by I.B.E.W. International President Pillard that the monthly per capita tax for each member shall be increased by 50c per month. This is in accordance with convention action taken by the delegates to the 31st Convention of the IBEW which

Pillard reminded, "nor is it required for the Local Union to amend the local union's bylaws to collect the increase in per capita tax to be forwarded to the International Office. No action is necessary on the part of the Local Union to automatically change the amount of per capita tax charged each individual member because of this action of

1980 - Tough Year For Bargaining

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Collective bargaining, never an easy or predictable process, may well be more difficult and challenging in 1980 than in any year in recent memory.

On the one hand, workers will be anxious to recover the spending power they lost as a result of 1979's staggering inflation rate.

But, on the other hand, they'll be looking over their shoulders at what most economists agree will be substantially higher unemployment. A jobless rate of about 7.5 percent is the consensus prediction for 1980, while some forecasters put the rate slightly lower or significantly higher.

Add to the variables the still-to-be determined second year guidelines of the Carter Administration and the result is a confusion of legitimate needs, frightening possibilities and undefined restraints.

Negotiators for some 3.7 million workers in "major" collective bargaining units—those with 1,000 or more workers—will be confronting all these realities and more as they go to the table this year to bargain new agreements or wage reopeners on old ones.

The number of workers in bargaining this year is roughly the same as last, but 1980 should be busier in that there are more actual agreements to be negotiated.

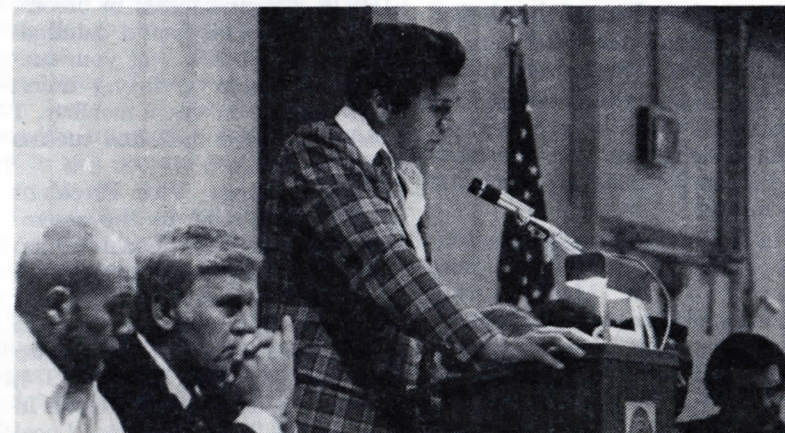
National Negotiators Meet in Washington, D.C.

Meetings to Resume Late January

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Preparations for the upcoming 1980 national negotiations continued in Washington, D.C. between the I.B.E.W. EM-3 Council and the Telephone Councils. The week long meetings which took place at the International Headquarters are scheduled to resume the last week in January.

According to Local Union President, Michael D. Quinlan, "these meetings, of which the primary purpose is to coordinate national demands between the manufacturing and telephone branches of the IBEW, brought to surface many questions and problems that remained unresolved at this time."

"It was generally agreed," Local Union President Michael D. Quinlan continued, "by both national bargaining bodies that the upcoming negotiations will be the toughest we've seen in the history of the EM-3 Council."



Quinlan: "It was generally agreed by most of the people who will be doing the bargaining that the upcoming negotiations will be the toughest we have seen in the history of the EM-3 Council."

A combination of high inflation rates and high unemployment figures coupled with the current energy crises and a hostile federal government in Washington were cited by President Quinlan as the reasons the Western Electric Company has been so bold and eager to take on the Union at this time.

"With President Carter and his pro-business advisors spout-

pany and the federal government think that we are going to settle for seven percent they are all nuttier than fruit cakes," Quinlan reviewed. "It's more important than ever that the rank and file members of the EM-3 Council locals be aware of the true picture confronting the 1980 negotiations."

"Their support is crucial throughout the 1980 bargaining

member shall be increased by 50c per month. This is in accordance with convention action taken by the delegates to the 31st Convention of the IBEW which was held October 2 to 6, 1978.

The delegates at this convention voted to increase the per capita tax payments for all IBEW members an additional one dollar (\$1) per month effective January 1, 1979; an additional fifty cents (\$.50) per month January 1, 1980; and an additional fifty cents (\$.50) per month January 1, 1981.

I.B.E.W. President Pillard reminded the Local Unions, "that per capita tax payments to the I.B.E.W. is the duty of every individual member. The Local Union in essence acts only as a collecting agency for the per capita tax which is then forwarded to the International office."

"It will not be necessary," I.B.E.W. International President

International Office. No action is necessary on the part of the Local Union to automatically change the amount of per capita tax charged each individual member because of this action of the convention."

In accordance with Article XIX, Section 4 and 5 of the I.B.E.W. constitution, it is the responsibility of each financial secretary to collect and forward the monies due for per capita tax payments.

In accordance with Article 30, paragraph 2 of the general agreement, Local Union Financial Secretary, Kenneth B. Meyer has given the Western Electric Company notice of the dues deduction amount to become effective with the March, 1980 union dues deduction.

The Local Union portion of the total dues (\$7.18 per month) as reported earlier will continue to remain the same at least through August of 1980.

The number of workers in bargaining this year is roughly the same as last, but 1980 should be busier in that there are more actual agreements to be negotiated. And unlike 1979, when bargaining was concentrated in a few key months, talks in major industries are scheduled throughout 1980.

In This Issue

Special Election Notice Page Four

Social Security Changes January

WASHINGTON (PAI)—Effective January 1, the maximum amount of earnings subject to the Social Security tax will increase from \$22,900 to \$25,900, according to the Social Security Administration.

The change in the tax base will mean that workers earning above \$22,900 will have greater protection because a larger amount of their earnings will be credited towards benefits than before. They will be eligible for higher benefits in the event of retirement, disability or death.

Other changes, to be made January 1, mandated by law, include an increase, from \$260 to \$290, in the amount of earnings required to earn a quarter of coverage. Four quarters of coverage will be credited for earnings of \$1,160, up from \$1,040.

The annual amount that beneficiaries may earn without losing any benefits will increase from \$4,000 to \$5,000 for those aged 65-71 and from \$3,480 to \$3,720 for those under 65. Benefits are reduced \$1 for every \$2 of earnings which exceed the ceilings. The higher ceilings will provide some \$280 million in additional benefits next year to nearly 1.4 million people, SSA said.

Beneficiaries 72 years of age and older may earn any amount and still receive their Social Security checks.

**Union Dues in
1979 - \$122.16**

NOTICE
The Monthly Meeting
of the Membership
will be held
Friday
January 18, 1980
at the Union Hall,
13306 Stevens Street,
Millard.
Second Shift Meeting:
12:30 A.M.
First and third shift meeting:
8:00 P.M.
\$100.00 Drawing

NOTICE
Absolute Deadline for
Articles is the
1st of Each Month

ern Electric Company has been so bold and eager to take on the Union at this time.

"With President Carter and his pro-business advisors spouting off about holding wages down to a seven percent increase in the face of unprecedented double digit inflation and business profits, the Company has never had a better ally in the White House."

Local President Quinlan who serves as a member of the EM-3 National Bargaining team, went on to point out that labor has not been getting its fair share over the bargaining table during the past year and particularly in recent settlements.

"If the Western Electric Com-

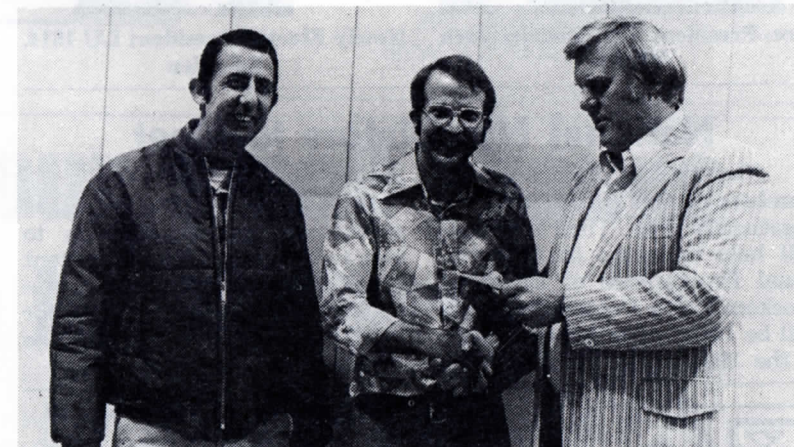
cil locals are aware of the true picture confronting the 1980 negotiations."

"Their support is crucial throughout the 1980 bargaining because when the Western Electric Company knows that our members support our demands, they start to listen with keen interest and talk sensibly."

According to EM-3 Council President, Pasquale Gino, "it is going to be rough sledding and we must tell it like it is if we want the members' confidence and support."

President Gino went on to say, "we are indeed fortunate to have the returning experience of four

(Continued on Page 2)



Trades Coordinator Woody Woodrum and Vice-President Whitey Clark congratulate Dick Oglevie for winning the 100 dollar drawing.

December Meeting

Oglevie Last Winner of the 70's

Dick Oglevie started the new decade off by winning the last \$100 drawing of the last decade. Dick finished the seventies by being a winner for the eighties.

Start the new decade off like Dick Oglevie did by being a winner. Attend your monthly meeting every month.

To be informed and up to date on your union's progress during the eighties and especially during this contract negotiation year of 1980, attend your monthly business meeting. We are at the same place and time every third Friday of the month.

December losers:

1. L. E. Gosch
2. J. M. Richardson
3. R. E. Hinline
4. M. E. Van Ampting
5. R. F. Oglevie — Winner



From L-R Director of Manufacturing, I.B.E.W. Tom Hickman, Union Organizer Bill Eads, Vice-President LU 1614 Tom Welchert, President LU 1614 Lee Allen, Vice-President 11th District Jack Moore, Recording Secretary LU 1614 Dean Trudeau, and I.O. Rep. Craig Hoepner.

New Local 1614 Elects Leaders

OMAHA—In an election held at the Union Hall January 3, 1980, the members of the clerical union elected three officers to run their newly organized union.

The clerical workers voted for Lee Allen to serve as President, Tom Welchert as Vice President and Dean Trudeau as Recording Secretary.

In attendance and representing the IBEW at the election were Director of Manufacturing Thomas Hickman, 11th District Vice President Jack Moore, Chief Organizer for the clerical people Bill Eads, International representative Craig Hoepner, President Local Union 1974, Michael D. Quinlan and Vice President Local Union 1974 Whitey Clark.

Director of Manufacturing Tom Hickman addressed the as-

sembled members and welcomed them under the banner of the IBEW. "Your success in becoming a union has been a culmination of hard work, but your success to remain a strong union will depend on each member. I wish you good luck and success in your future."

11th District Vice President Jack Moore said to the assembled members of Local Union 1614 that he greatly appreciated their success and he thought that with the help of the officers of Local Union 1974, it would also become like Local Union 1974, one of the most effective locals in the IBEW. "And, I feel Local Union 1974's cooperation was very instrumental in getting the clerical workers organized into a union. They wanted your local to be part of the IBEW and you are their success story."



Buffalo Club Of Omaha News

By Chris Pluta

The Buffalo Club of Omaha wants to wish everyone good health, peace and prosperity in 1980!

In 1979, a fantastic time was had by all who attended our Christmas Dinner Dance on Saturday, December 15th. Santa Claus made a surprise appearance and melodious voices rang with the words of "The Twelve Days of Christmas."

Secret arrangements were made to have Santa Claus visit our monthly meeting of December 23rd. The sack he brought held gifts for all the children who attended the party following the meeting.

The installation of new officers will take place at the Installation Dinner which will be held on Saturday, January 19th at Mr. Kelly's.

A special "thanks" goes to our outgoing officers: Al Myers, President, Tom Pluta, Vice President; John Francavilla, Treasurer; Adrienne Reese, Secretary. They did a tremendous job in guiding our young club through the year of 1979.

Our next meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, January 20th at the Union Hall. We would like to invite anyone interested in having a good time to come and join our club. Scotch Doubles Bowling Tournaments, a night at the Dog Races, an evening at a Dinner Theatre, and family picnics are just a few of our proposed activities for 1980. Come and join the fun. All are welcome!

Union to Monitor

Vice President Bob Kalaski, of the Machinists, says

grievance guide

PERILOUS CROSSING

A school bus driver was properly discharged for stopping her bus on railroad tracks in order to lecture students for their disruptive behavior, arbitrator George T. Rounell, Jr., decides.

At the end of a school day, the bus driver was transporting a load of "unruly" high school students home. After stopping at a railroad crossing to listen for oncoming trains, the driver started to cross the tracks. However, according to two passengers on the bus, the driver intentionally stopped the bus on the tracks, removed the key from the ignition, stood up, and began to reprimand the students for their behavior. Only after the students shouted at the driver to move the bus did she finally start the engine and drive across the tracks. Subsequently, the driver was discharged for seriously imperiling the lives of her passengers. Protesting the discharge, the driver maintained that the bus had stalled midway over the railroad tracks, and that she had immediately restarted the bus and drove it off the tracks. The employer, however, insisted that the driver had intentionally stopped the bus.

Rejecting the employee's claim that the bus was mechanically defective, the arbitrator points out that, even if the bus had stalled after it started across the tracks, its "forward momentum" would have been sufficient to carry it through the intersection. The arbitrator also finds "no logical explanation" for the driver's removing the key from the ignition, and decides that this action was designed to demonstrate that she "would leave the vehicle upon the tracks until such time as the students became disciplined." The arbitrator concludes that the discharge was proper. (Lake Orion Community Schools and AFSCME, 73 LA 707)

DELIBERATE DECEPTION

An employee who disobeyed a supervisor's order not to leave work was improperly discharged for insubordination, arbiter Edward P. Archer rules.

The employee, who had been under psychiatric care for a long-term depression, became angry after repeatedly being struck by cardboard separators thrown by a co-worker. When the co-worker refused to stop throwing the separators, the employee slapped her. The two workers subsequently met with a supervisor, who decided to suspend the employee. During this meeting, the employee suddenly announced that she was going home because she was too upset to work. Although the supervisor ordered her not to punch out, she left the plant. Management then discharged her for insubordination. Maintaining that the employer knew that she had been under psychiatric care for severe depression for some time, the employee produced a letter from her doctor, stating that her early departure from work was "psychologically necessary."

"Under normal circumstances," the arbiter says, a supervisor's order not to clock-out is "reasonable." He adds, however, that in the present case "there were extenuating circumstances" that served to "mitigate" the employee's refusal to comply with the order. Dismissing the employer's contention that the doctor's letter was "meaningless," the arbiter says that, in view of the employee's "prior severe depression and her continued treatment and medication," the note should have clearly indicated that the employee's mental health might have been "jeopardized" if she remained at work. Although deciding that the employee should be reinstated, the arbiter refuses to grant her back pay. (Clevopak Corp. and United Paperworkers, 73 LA 641)

Did You ???

By Marie Cook

HOW MANY OF YOU put the American people out of work over the holidays?

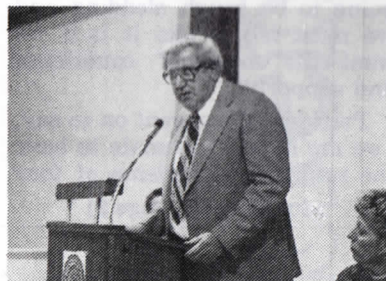
HOW MANY OF YOU looked for the "MADE IN THE USA"

to be a street sweeper because that's the only thing left that big business and government can't send overseas to be done.

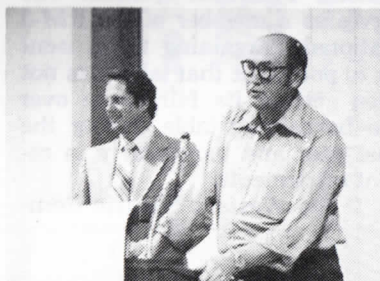
Let's start thinking about what



I.B.E.W. Organizer Bill Eads addresses the members of LU 1614. From L-R on stage Vice-President 11th District Jack Moore, Director of Manufacturing I.B.E.W. Tom Hickman, President LU 1974 Michael Quinlan, I.O. Rep. Craig Hoepner, and Vice-President LU 1974 Whitey Clark.



Vice-President 11th District Jack Moore



Newly Elected President LU 1614, Ed Allen

National Negotiators to Meet

(Continued from Page 1)

members of the successful 1977 negotiating team. Their expertise will help to insure the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers EM-3 Council members will be listed among the winners of the 1980 negotiations and not

the losers."

Locally, President Quinlan has announced that in addition to himself and Vice President Clark, local officers have commenced working on demands for local union negotiations. (See President's Message).

Union to Monitor

Vice President Bob Kalaski, editor of *The Machinist* gave ILPA convention delegates a run-down on the IAM's nationwide project to monitor TV news and entertainment programs.

Starting Feb. 1 union members will monitor programs continually for fairness in presenting labor, labor issues and working people. In the case of offenders the IAM will then challenge the stations before the Federal Communications Commission when they seek their periodic license renewal.

Kalaski reported that more than 450 union representatives have been trained in monitoring techniques. They in turn are now training union members as monitors in every TV station area where there is significant membership.

Honor A Muckraker

INDIANAPOLIS (PAI)—He was known as a writer, yet during his 40 short years of life he had worked at a variety of jobs—seaman, lumberjack, cannery worker, fisherman, hobo and oyster pirate.

Jack London, who died in 1916, wrote 152 short stories and articles, three plays and 19 novels and, like Lincoln Steffens and Sinclair Lewis, was a "muckraker" during the infamous robber baron era of American growth. London, more than his contemporaries, also best identified with working people, according to "Steellabor."

Steelworker editors recently presented their first annual "Jack London Award" to a journalist who performed in the spirit of the muckraker tradition. At a District 30 Legislative Conference here, Mike Flannery of the Chicago Sun-Times was honored for co-authoring a 1978 series on job safety and health titled "The Working Wounded."

HOW MANY OF YOU put the American people out of work over the holidays?

HOW MANY OF YOU looked for the "MADE IN THE USA" markings on your Christmas gifts?

HOW MANY OF YOU want to be able to have a nice Christmas with your families next year?

HOW MANY OF YOU want other people to buy foreign made telephones and put us out of work?

It's exactly that simple . . . if we don't make ourselves aware of what is going on, we are buying the American laborer out of a job.

I did a lot of shopping for the holidays, but I didn't find the cost of foreign products much, if any, cheaper than the ones made in the USA. So, I am wondering, if the foreign labor is supposed to be so low paid and their product so much cheaper than ours, than who got all the big profits again. Sure wasn't the average income person.

SO TELL ME WHY we can't get the American person to think what they are doing to the future of American labor which is our own families, friends and neighbors. Pretty soon the only thing left for the American laborer is

to be a street sweeper because that's the only thing left that big business and government can't send overseas to be done.

Let's start thinking about what we are doing to our own future and that of our families. Start buying the USA MADE PRODUCT. Let's tell the retail stores we aren't buying foreign products.

JUST HOW FAR DOES A BRANCH BEND BEFORE IT BREAKS???



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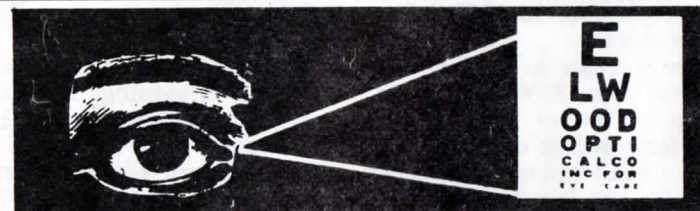
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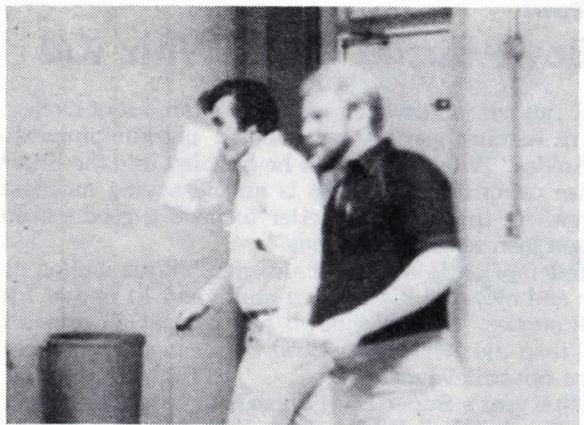
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T. Blasing sheepishly accepts his Christmas prize.



Executive Board Officer Jim Perryman passes out gifts.



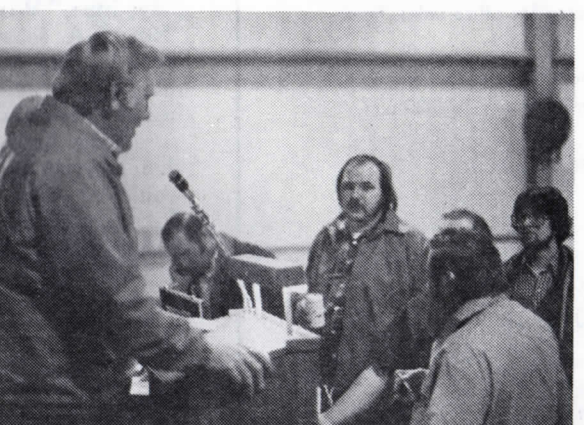
"Thank you, 10 dollars worth."



"For me? How did I get so lucky?"



"Aw, you don't have to call me Johnson."



Vice-President Whitey Clark talks to several union members after the A.M. meeting.



Ms Kmieciak hands name of gift certificate winner to Financial Secretary Ken Meyers.

December Giveaway Certificate Time

One hundred union members were in the right place at the right time to win a \$10 gift certificate at the December meeting. It was the second year in a row that local union 1974 had made the switch from canned hams to gift certificates. As every winning member received their gift certificates, the non-winning members at the meeting cried fix. It was all good before holiday fun.

A.M. MEETING

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Jerry Maas | 21. Carolyn Dooley |
| 2. George F. Sims | 22. M. P. George |
| 3. Jim Norgard | 23. Rose Wentworth |
| 4. Hal Lyons | 24. Jim Farley |
| 5. Mary Jo Pinkerton | 25. Cliff Mindrup |
| 6. Elmer Johnson | 26. Ron Ohme |
| 7. Dennis McCauly | 27. Bertha Heavican |
| 8. Larry Simonson | 28. Jim Meek |
| 9. R. M. Hug | 29. Rose Larson |
| 10. Terry Latimer | 30. Anna Fast |
| 11. Frank Nagel | 31. Jackie Stephenson |
| 12. Rich Flynn | 32. Marv Harris |
| 13. Annette Mihols | 33. Evelyn Reimer |
| 14. Manny Alba | 34. Don Streeter |
| 15. Chris Kreick | 35. Judy Harris |
| 16. Dennis Fleming | 36. Dennis Parker |
| 17. Charlie Wililam | 37. Y. Russell |
| 18. Vicki Steere | 38. D. Britter |
| 19. Dean O. Donaldson | 39. James West |
| 20. Sharon A. Justsen | 40. G. Wilson |

P.M. MEETING

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Joyce Wermuth | 31. D. Koltes |
| 2. Terry Price | 32. Eloise Klosky |
| 3. Tom VanDyke | 33. Les Rue |
| 4. Doug McGuire | 34. Jon Black |
| 5. Monica Peterson | 35. G. Stollengery |
| 6. Don Kramer | 36. Bob Shafer |

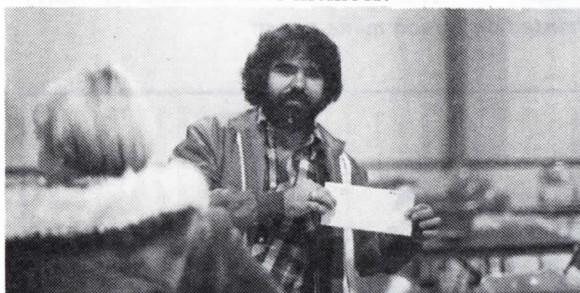
"Aw, you don't have to call me Johnson."



Executive Board Officer Jim Curran hands out gift certificates.



Executive Board Officer Ken Mass passes certificate to member.



"I got mine, Merry, Merry Christmas."

Deane Trudeau — 331-8476
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Fashion Two Twenty
COSMETICS

Vice-President Whitey Clark talks to several union members after the A.M. meeting.



"Darn! This is the 5th year in a row I didn't win!"



"Well, I sure feel now that the waiting was well worth it."

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Tues. & Thurs. 6 pm-9 pm
Sat. 12 noon - 4 pm

1. Joyce Wermuth
2. Terry Price
3. Tom VanDyke
4. Doug McGuire
5. Monica Peterson
6. Don Kramer
7. Dottie Myers
8. Judy Hunt
9. Elmer Pete Peterson
10. Linda Kmiecik
11. Joe Alvarado
12. Virginia Hyslop
13. S. Michel
14. Dean Anderson
15. C. Newell
16. Kathy Hughes
17. John Rosno
18. E. Z. Kutenbrink
19. Marlene Wilson
20. Dale E. Meisinger
21. Charles Trouba
22. V. McGarity
23. Bob Belter
24. T. Blasing
25. Angie Alvarado
26. W. Woodrum
27. R. Sellink
28. Nancy Godios
29. Sally Maxwell
30. R. Hoffmann

31. D. Koltas
32. Eloise Klosky
33. Les Rue
34. Jon Black
35. G. Stollengery
36. Bob Shafer
37. Butch Colanino
38. Ram Raabe
39. W. Lockhart
40. Ed Palensky
41. Dewey Pickett
42. Don Israelson
43. M. L. Timmerman
44. Don Lubash
45. R. Kostek
46. Cathy Placzek
47. R. Lorenz
48. M. G. Kmiecik
49. Judy Coffee
50. Gary Reese
51. John Sutej
52. Ruth Thrasher
53. Dan Hagerty
54. Dick Oglevie
55. Edger Jenny
56. R. J. Anderson
57. G. W. Pote
58. Betty Wilson
59. Russ Rudeen
60. Ruth Jenny

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LOCAL UNION NO. 1974

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers



NOTICE!



OF NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Local Union 1974, IBEW, will hold a special meeting on Sunday, February 10, 1980, for the sole purpose of nominating candidates for the following offices:

President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary,
Treasurer, and Seven (7) Members for the Executive Board

This meeting is scheduled for 2:00 p.m. at the
IBEW Local Union 1974 Auditorium
13306 Stevens Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68137

Any member who is in good standing for a period of two years prior to nominations and has attended at least one-half (1/2) of the regular meetings of the Local Union in the twelve (12) month period immediately preceding the nomination meeting, shall be eligible to hold office, except those persons barred by law. Nomination of candidates for office must be made from the floor at the time of the nomination meeting and seconded by two (2) members in good standing. No member shall be nominated for office unless he or she is present or signifies his or her willingness in writing.

For Underwood Union members, the election of Local Union Officers will be held on Tuesday, March 4, 1980, at the Underwood Fire Hall, Underwood, Iowa. The polls will be open from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

and

The election of Local Union Officers will be held on Wednesday, March 5, 1980, at the
IBEW Local Union 1974 Auditorium
13306 Stevens Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68137

The polls will be open from 12:01 midnight to 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

A run-off election, if necessary, will be held on Tuesday, March 11, 1980, at Underwood Fire Hall, Underwood, Iowa. The polls will be open from 2:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

and

A run-off election, if necessary, will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 1980, at
IBEW Local Union 1974 Auditorium
13306 Stevens Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68137

The polls will be open from 12:01 midnight to 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Whiz Eyes Super Bowl

Holiday Bowl Buster Sinks Whiz Kid

I'm sure glad I ran out of bowl games before I ran out of money, the Union's resident handicapper and sure-footed pigskin prognosticator Arnie "Bad Ankles" Whiznuts said as he hobbled into the Short Circuit's news office on crutches. "There is an old saying amongst football touts everywhere that says it's better to have a good season and a bad bowl season than to blow both ends."

"But luckily redemption is around the corner," Whiz smiled as he fell into a chair and elevated his swollen ankle and lit one of his patented cold black stogies. "If you're down any coin at all or want to double your roll, then the 1980 Super Bowl is free money for those who love to bet. You can believe me!"

"On the surface, this year's Super Bowl appears to be the first really big mismatch of the decade," Whiz grimaced shifting his weight and slowly moving his leg. "The Rams are a 10 point underdog to the Steelers and Pittsburgh looks like they'll blow L.A. away by 50 to make Super Bowl 14 look like a rout."

"Right now the Steelers are on a roll and it would be like trying to drive a semitruck loaded with dynamite blindfolded to bet against them," Whiz said as he pulled out his paper thin Hibbsack full of NFL stats and proceeded to write down each player's match up, position by position. "But that's what gambling is all about. If you think Los Angeles has a chance against the Steel Curtain, then bet your hunch, but if you like L.A. to cover the spread, save your money. Pittsburgh should have the spread covered before the first quarter ends."

"In a small way you have to admire L.A.'s gutty performance leading up to the Super Bowl. They are 9 and 7 in the weakest division in football—the NFC West. Their really big games came against Minnesota (27-21 in overtime). They beat St. Louis but lost to the N. Y. Giants. They dominated Atlanta and San Francisco. So what are they doing here?"

"I've always said in the big money games, give me the team that plays hurt," Whiz winced as he moved his sore leg and bit his cigar. "But, L.A. is so hurt they are ridiculous. They are playing with a second string quarterback, minus two wide receivers, and a partially rebuilt offensive and defensive line. They only got here by beating an injury laden Dallas and an unexperienced Rookie Tampa Bay."

"One final note to remember is that Pittsburgh is healthy and their offense is hot. When Bradshaw gets rolling, he is a wild man. It would be more sane to burn money than to bet against Pittsburgh. Pittsburgh will win the Super Bowl. They'll be the first team to do it four times. And another historic note, they will be the first team to shut out the other in the Super Bowl. Don't commit suicide, Pittsburgh will win by 21."

*Jim's
Galley*



IBEW Local Union 1974 Auditorium
13306 Stevens Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68137

The polls will be open from 12:01 midnight to 3:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

All members in good standing are eligible to vote. All voting shall be by secret ballot. The election shall be decided for the candidates running the most votes for a specific office.

The election will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Article III of the Local Union Bylaws.

LOCAL UNION 1974, IBEW

Even Record Oil Profits Understated

The big oil companies have every right to be embarrassed.

Here they are, explaining themselves in full-page newspaper and magazine ads and over radio and television: Profits are not that high; earnings are reinvested in costly exploration; the industry is vital to the national security.

But a recent analysis of oil company earnings charges that the profits are substantially understated and the industry is deceiving the public. What's more, the big oil companies are taking over energy-related companies and are moving aggressively into political spending.

The record third quarter profits reported by oil companies inspired an analysis by the Citizen/Labor Energy Coalition, the Tax Reform Research Group and the Energy Action Educational Foundation.

The 18 largest oil companies reported \$6 billion in profits for the third quarter, up 103 percent from the same period a year earlier. They made \$15 billion in the first nine months of 1979, up 71 percent over a year earlier.

But the analysis of oil company accounting techniques and tax deferrals shows how they understated even these record profits.

"By expending the costs of their unsuccessful exploration wells, by deducting 'phantom taxes' from income and by the way they account for petroleum

inventories, oil companies have been able to under-report their earnings by at least 33 percent," the analysis showed.

And contrary to oil company claims that they reinvest profits in oil and gas exploration and production, the analysis revealed that "13 of the largest oil companies spent only 42 percent of their 1978 cash flow of \$24 billion in exploration and production investments."

If this is so, then what are the oil companies doing with the rest of the billions of dollars?

According to several reports, they are moving into the rest of the energy field as well as diversifying into other industries. They smell the billions of dollars floating their way as oil price decontrol continues and as government "incentives" become available to develop other energy sources.

Instead of exploring for more domestic oil and gas, for example, Mobil Oil spent 37 percent of its global capital budget this year to buy a competitor, General Crude, for \$800 million.

A few years ago, Mobil put out \$1.8 billion for Montgomery Ward and the Container Corp. of America. Exxon diversified. Gulf Oil took over the model city of Reston, Va., and looked at the price tag for the Barnum & Bailey Circus.

It seems that an energy crisis for ordinary Americans is seen as a golden opportunity by big oil. (PAI).

Galley

BEEF STICK SAUSAGE

5	lbs. Hamburger		(Spice Island Brand).
5	round teaspoons Morton Tender Quick Salt.	1	teaspoon garlic powder.
2½	teaspoons whole mustard seeds.	1	teaspoon coarse ground pepper.
2½	teaspoons Hickory Smoke Salt		teaspoon celery salt.

Mix spices in small bowl, then add them to the hamburger. Let stand in refrigerator for 3 days. Mix well each day.

On 4th day, shape or roll into 5 rolls and place on broiler pan. Bake in oven at 150° for 8 hours. Turn rolls every two hours. May be frozen. This makes a great lunch or snacking sausage.

THE SHORT CIRCUIT

Omaha, Nebr. January 1980 Vol. 20, No. 37

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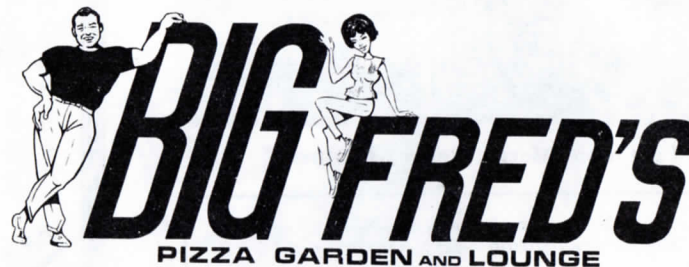
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Amendments to Federal Age Discrimination Effective January 1, 1980

(President's Message Continued)

sion eligibility to any employee who is not otherwise eligible under the Benefit Plan. Years of service after "normal retirement date" will not count towards pension eligibility.

Group Life Insurance—

Basic—The dollar amount of insurance in effect, for those otherwise eligible for such insurance, will be based on actual annual wage rate received by the employee continuing to work beyond or hired after "normal retirement date" reduced on the same schedule as for service and disability pensioners beginning at age 66. The dollar amount of insurance in effect upon retirement for any service pension eligible employee who continues to work beyond "normal retirement date" will be calculated as if the employee had retired at "normal retirement date." The dollar amount of insurance in effect upon resumption of retirement of an individual who previously received a service pension and then was rehired will be that amount such individual would be entitled to receive if such person had remained on service pension. Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance will be provided to employees working beyond or hired after "normal retirement age" based on such employees' actual annual wage rate reduced on the same schedule as for Basic Group Life Insurance coverage for such employees.

Supplementary—Coverage will be available to employees continuing to work beyond or hired after "normal retirement age" based on such employees' actual annual wage rate on the same basis as for other active employees. The rate to be paid by the employee for such coverage shall be \$1.65 per month for each thousand dollars of coverage.

Health Insurance—H-S-M/EME/WE-65 Coverage will be the same as is presently provided for service and disability pensioners. Coverage under the WE-65 Plan begins at age 65 and, when combined with Medicare, provides coverage comparable to H-S-M/EME. Therefore, employees and their eligible dependents 65 and over will be covered under WE-65 and reimbursed for Medicare premiums. Existing H-S-M/EME coverage will continue for eligible dependents under 65. The lifetime maximum of \$15,000 for coverage under the Extraordinary Medical Expense Plan (EME) shall not apply to employees over age 65 so long as they remain active employees, except that such \$15,000 lifetime maximum will apply to their eligible dependents who are over age 65.

Dental Insurance—Existing coverage will continue after age 65.

Long Term Disability—Coverage will be provided for eligible employees beyond "normal retirement age" at the same benefit level as for other employees (50% of annual wage rate less any applicable offsets) provided that the duration during which such benefits will be paid shall vary depending on the employee's age at the time of the onset of the disability in accordance with the schedule set forth

Profit

There is an unwritten word that is found throughout our U.S. constitution and that word is profit. This should come as no surprise since there were very few calluses on the hands of our founding fathers and many calluses on the brains of our business leaders today.

Profit is more American than apple pie. The poor and the American worker can do without apple pie, but the rich can't do without profit.

It used to be a decent profit was enough. Only the most radical would stand in the way of a fair return on company or individual investment. All that has changed now.

Today, we are led to believe that unless profits are not double or triple of what they were then we are doomed to economic failure. The wheels of industry will squeak to a halt—like at the Chrysler Corporation.

If an industry does show an unusual high profit, such as the oil companies, then we get a lot of mumble-jumble about how the profit was made overseas or how the profits have to be re-invested for alternate means of energy for future generations. Just how large a profit is made on the foreign crude sold to us twice—we are not told. But domestic prices keep creeping up and in some subtle way so do profits.

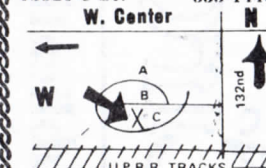
We can demand laws to plow some of those excess profits back into the national economy instead of the stockholders pockets, but in the final analysis the companies and the business community will find ways to get around many of those laws.

But there is one sure way to put pressure on the oil companies—or any other company that makes excessive profits. That is to conserve. The American workers' defense against the glut of business profits and the spiraling inflation that accompanies it is conservation. Drive a little less and slower. Turn off the unused light or unwatched T.V. Turn down the heat, use a product a little longer. It doesn't seem like much, but multiplied by millions of American workers and households like your own, it adds up.

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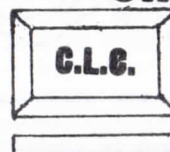
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employees beyond "normal retirement age" at the same benefit level as for other employees (50% of annual wage rate less any applicable offsets) provided that the duration during which such benefits will be paid shall vary depending on the employee's age at the time of the onset of the disability in accordance with the schedule set forth in Attachment 1.

Sickness Disability/Accident Disability—Benefit payments will be based on years of service before and after "normal retirement age" and rate of pay when disability begins.

Accident Death Benefits—For death resulting from accidental injury arising out of and in the course of employment, the amount of the benefit will be based on the rate of pay in effect at the time of death.

Sickness Death Benefits—For death by sickness (other than accidental injury arising out of and in the course of employment) the amount of benefits will be based on the actual annual wage rate of the employee continuing to work beyond or hired after "normal retirement date" reduced by a factor of .1 for each year beyond "normal retirement date." Upon retirement of a service pension eligible employee, the amount of death benefits will be calculated as if the employee had retired at "normal retirement date." Upon resumption of retirement of an individual who previously received a service pension and then was rehired, the amount of death benefit will be the amount such individual was entitled to receive while on service pension prior to being rehired.

Other—Participation in ESOP and the Bell System Savings and Security Plan (Non-Salaried Employees) or in the case of certain employees the Bell System Savings Plan for Salaried Employees will be the same as for all other employees, as will holidays, vacations, and Excused Work Days.

Subject to the approval of the IRS, as applicable, the Company will undertake to amend its benefit plans, as necessary, to conform to the above understanding.

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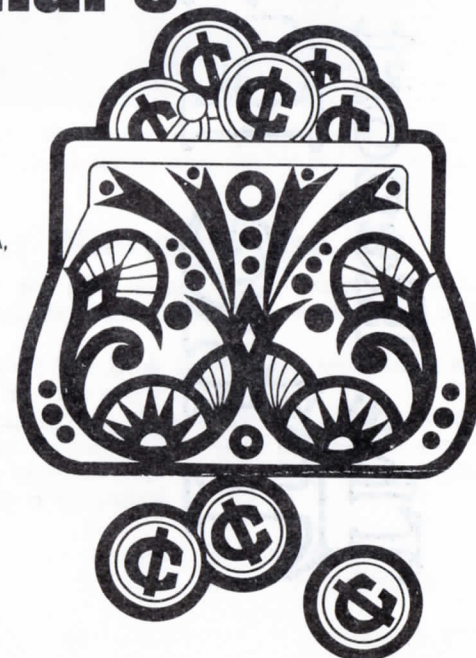
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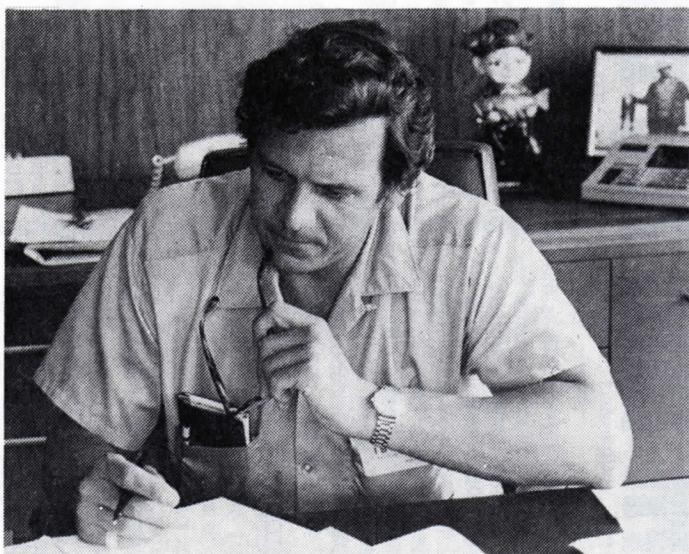
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The Report Of The President



by Michael D. Quinlan

Recently, I received the following letter confirming my appointment as a member of the I.B.E.W. E.M.-3 Council National Bargaining Committee:

January 3, 1980

Michael D. Quinlan, Pres.
Local 1974, I.B.E.W.
13306 Stevens Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68137
Dear Brother Quinlan:

This is to advise you that you will be serving on the National Negotiations Bargaining Committee in the forthcoming negotiations between I.B.E.W. EM-3 Council and Western Electric Company in 1980.

As Vice President of EM-3 Council, I am appointing you Chairman of the following committees: Job Security and Health Insurance (H.S.M.) As you can well appreciate from the delegates at our Council meetings, these items are of great importance to the membership of our Council. I feel that the Council will be best served by yourself in view of your demonstrated knowledge on these matters.

Your involvement in 1977 bargaining was a big asset to the EM-3 Council and a very important ingredient in its success. I know that once again you will not only meet your responsibilities in 1980 but once again exceed it.

Looking forward to working with you for a better agree-

ment for the membership of our EM-3 Council.

Fraternally yours,
/s/ Pasquale Gino, Pres.
EM-3 Council

It is, indeed, gratifying to hear that I have again been chosen by my EM-3 Council peers to be part of the five member National Bargaining team representing not only our local, but the entire 19 Local Unions affiliated with the EM-3 Council.

It is expected that the additional responsibility of serving on the National Negotiating Committee will necessitate my periodically being gone from Omaha while preparing demands, planning bargaining strategy, and actually negotiating the 1980

agreement. It is further expected that the actual negotiations of the national items will, in most instances, take place simultaneously with local negotiations.

Because of these expected absences, I will appoint the Local Union bargaining committee which will be headed by Vice President Clark in my absence, several months sooner than customary. By commencing and completing our bargaining preparations sooner than usual, it is my hope to eliminate any possible conflict between national and local bargaining preparation agendas.

As I mentioned earlier, in my absence Vice President Clark will head the Local Union Committee.

His years of negotiation experience and expertise will insure the successful conclusion of local negotiations and daily communications between Whitey and myself will permit me to continue to make decisions on local negotiations and insure the necessary coordination between national and local bargaining.

Effective January 1, 1980, Amendments to the Federal Age Discrimination in Employment Act will be applied by the Western Electric Company. The mandatory Retirement Age will be 70 years of age and for those employees opting to work beyond age 65, Western Electric Company will accord the following treatment.

Pensions—Years of service credited, the 5-year wage base and covered compensation base will be frozen as of the end of the month in which the employee reaches age 65. Employees electing to work beyond "normal retirement date" shall be entitled to receive no less than the improvements or increases in pension benefits as are granted to then retired employees. Nothing herein shall be construed as granting pension eligibility to any employee who is not otherwise eligible under the Benefit Plan. Years of service after "normal retirement date" will not count towards pension eligibility.

(President's Message Continued on Page 5)