Guidelines for protecting benefits and services members are entitled to was the main theme of reports presented by Local 338 President Emanuel Laub at the Union’s semi-annual area meetings in late September and early October.

Noting that some members lose benefits or services they are eligible to enjoy because they fail to comply with simple rules and procedures, brother Laub urged everyone to protect their rights by complying with various Union requirements.

Outstanding contract

Brother Laub opened his reports expressing the opinion that the present contract under which members are employed is outstanding in the retail food industry.

“We have a splendid contract, and we feel that we can point with pride to the rates, benefits and working conditions our members are enjoying as a result of the last collective bargaining agreement negotiated,” the Local 338 chief executive officer said.

“Splendid terms”

“We made many needed and significant gains in every aspect of our contract in our last negotiations,” brother Laub declared. He explained that the Union’s current administration likes to use a “low key,” “no boast” approach in administering the affairs of the Local.

“However, most people in the labor movement know who we are and the kind of wages and benefits you members enjoy,” he pointed out.

(Continued on page 4)

Union supporting Iowa Beef boycott

Following the lead of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, Local 338 is supporting the current consumer boycott against products of Iowa Beef Procesors, Inc. The boycott was instituted late in the summer when 2,000 members of the United Food and Commercial Workers struck Iowa Beef Processors’ plant in Dakota City, Nebraska, after more than three months of unsuccessful attempts to secure a new contract. The company refused to grant any concessions after a “final” contract offer made in early June calling for a four-year wage and cost-of-living freeze. The offer also included a demand for wage cuts affecting 700 workers and entry-level wage rates far below those paid workers currently.
The Way I See It

By EMANUEL LAUB
President

When Ronald Reagan was elected President of the United States in 1980, the people who voted for him hoped that he would halt inflation, which six previous Presidents were unable to accomplish.

Now that Reagan has been in office for two years, the American people have had plenty of opportunity to study and weigh his achievements, and many are giving him low marks.

Reagan may have stalled inflation, and even reduced the growth rate by a couple of percentage points. But this has been at the price of increased unemployment. He has also put into operation economic policies that have plunged the country into the worst mess we have seen since the Great Depression of the 1930's.

Right now, although the official government figures indicate there are over ten million people out of work, the actual figure is probably twice this number, counting the jobless, the underemployed and those people entering the work force but unable to find jobs.

Many things in this world are connected in one way or another. For example, events and developments that affect our nation as a whole also affect the states and cities, as well as the smallest municipalities. Thus, Reaganomics, as the President's economic policies have come to be known, is not limited to national reference alone.

Cuts in money appropriations on the excuse of balancing the Federal budget have affected many state, city and municipal programs and projects. Here in New York City we can see what these slashes have meant for older persons in the form of new restrictions on Social Security eligibility and higher premium rates for Medicare; on child day care centers; on improvements in public transportation; on urgently needed repair of bridges and tunnels; on hot lunches for children; on appropriations for libraries, and numerous other items. The list is long.

The area in which the Reagan cuts have been most apparent in our own industry is the food stamp program, where eligibility has been tightened considerably. This has hit poor people very hard, especially because the Reagan administration has also seen fit to curtail emergency unemployment insurance benefits. Also, the cutbacks in the food stamp program have contributed to a further decline in retail store sales volume.

As you have probably read, many small businesses are going bankrupt these days, and this has a ripple effect because businesses that are dependent on retail food stores (suppliers, truckers, maintenance companies, refrigeration specialists, etc.) suffer when store business gets worse.

Our nation has always taken pride in the dynamic character of its economy. For many years we were continually seeing new products and new industries develop. However, in recent years, because of foreign competition from cheap imports and the failure by American industry to keep up with new mechanical techniques (retooling) our nation's heavy industry has been going downhill (as exemplified by the automobile, steel and shipbuilding industries).

If you travel through various parts of the country, you will see steel plants closed down, automobile plants idle, and textile and other factories either quiet or shut down altogether.

Here in our own city and state the wounds of Reaganomics are apparent everywhere—in closed plants and stores; in closed schools and hospitals; in closed libraries; in a higher crime rate; and in the number of people who sleep in parks, subways and tunnels.

The social costs of these changes are being ignored by the Reagan administration. What is more, the continuing expressions of optimism and self-praise in which Reagan indulges in the face of growing human tragedy is something that boggles the mind.

Meanwhile, major corporations continue to earn huge profits and top executives continue to enjoy outrageously large salaries and expense allowances. They apparently care little about the human cost of recession and unemployment to the nation.

Every day brings us new reports about how the jobless, the disadvantaged and poor grow more frightened as they are engulfed in debt, desolation and despair.

I know it may sound familiar, but I think that the time has come for a change. The 1982 elections are the first of a series of judgments against the Reagan administration. Between now and 1984, the nation must gird for the next Presidential election and start thinking about electing a chief executive who cares about all the people rather than seeing that the rich get richer.

The Impact of Reaganomics

The state of the nation's economy has been devastating for working people. Since July, 1981 the unemployment rate has increased from 7.2 percent to 10.4 percent, the highest level in 40 years. An additional 1.5 million had given up searching for work, and 5.7 million were forced to work part time. Thus, Reaganism has resulted in 17.6 million working people suffering job loss and income loss, and the situation is getting worse every day.

The important 1982 election

For many years political observers have been referring to non-Presidential elections as "off-year" elections, in line with the idea that these are less important than the main events every four years. While there is a certain amount of truth in this, "off-year" elections should be regarded seriously because candidates on national, state and city levels are always on the ballot, as well as measures that affect all of us.

The 1982 elections are a case in point. On the national level, some Senate and all House of Representative members were running. The same applies to members of the New York State Senate and Assembly, not to mention legislative representatives in every other state. Finally, as we know, there was the contest for governor, which involved a race between Mario Cuomo, Democrat, and Lewis Lehrman, Republican.

Even though voters were not electing a President, this year's elections represent the most important "off-year" contests in more than half a century. The reason for this is because voters casting their ballots for candidates on every level were demonstrating how they feel about Ronald Reagan and his policies.

Consider, to begin with, the congressman or congresswoman running in your district. He or she represents you and many thousands like you. If he or she is a Democrat, you can depend on the fact that he or she is squarely opposed to Reaganomics, and if elected will vote against Reagan-supported measures in Congress.

The same applies to senators and assemblymen from New York State. For the most part, Republicans in the State Legislature have supported President Reagan's budget cuts, tax measures and other measures, and a vote against every one was a vote in protest of Reaganomics.

On the one hand, Mario Cuomo is a friend of labor, a public servant with valuable experience in state government and a progressive. On the other, Lewis Lehrman is a conservative, a rich business man with no political experience, and totally indifferent to the interests of wage earners.

Behind races being run by Republicans was a great deal of money, and this applies to the contests on every level of government—national, state and city.

Let us hope that the 1982 elections produce deserving candidates who believe in people programs rather than public officials who right-wing and conservative money can buy.

Now that more friends of labor are elected, this means the beginning of the big campaign that will reach a climax with the 1984 Presidential election. Many Americans would like to see Ronald Reagan retired at that time.
Iowa Beef dispute illustrates new kind of bargaining tactics

A new kind of collective bargaining based on give-bailes along with outright undercutting of wage structures and freezing of other items is reflected in the present dispute between Iowa Beef Processors and the United Food and Commercial Workers in Dakota City, Nebraska. (See story on page 1).

The AFL-CIO executive council and the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union are supporting a consumer boycott against IBP by the United Food and Commercial Workers. The dispute has been marred by violence resulting from confrontations between picketing workers on the one hand and scabs, state police and National Guard troops on the other.

Four boycotts

The boycott is the fourth that has been held in recent years of collective bargaining between the Union and the company. Since its first efforts to win a contract in 1969, UFCW workers — especially meat cutters — either have been locked out or forced to strike to gain a settlement. Starting in July, 1973, Iowa Beef locked out its employees in a dispute that lasted 189 days. Again for 14 months beginning in February, 1978, the Union struck the company and secured a contract that expired May 1, 1982. But the Union asked for a contract extension.

Give-backs demanded

In addition to having hired scabs, the company wants to start new hires at $2.00 an hour less than current workers for the first two years, and at $1.50 under present scale for the third year and $1.00 under scale for the fourth year.

One of the factors protested by the Union is an employee turnover at the plant which runs at 100 percent a year and which would make it difficult for the Union to maintain a membership. (Nebraska, by the way, is a “right-to-work” state.) The UFCW accuses the company of paying strikebreakers the lower wage rates it demanded of UFCW.

The Union offered to accept a two-year wage freeze with a wage re-opener in the third year of a three-year agreement. It also agreed to some other concessions which the company turned down or ignored.

Executives’ pay is outrageous

While the nation’s big corporate officers and wealthy private individuals talk about workers’ wages being the main cause of inflation, earnings and expense allowances of top executives are soaring.

“Industry Week,” a publication which calls itself “The management magazine for executives in industry,” recently carried a report with a headline that read, “Fat pay in lean times.” It named 16 executives whose pay last year exceeded a million dollars (each) and another 24 who received more than $200,000.

Recession or not, top executives of large America corporations (in addition to those indicated above) received huge pay increases in 1981. In its annual survey of executive pay, Business Week magazine found that total compensation of top officers in 288 companies rose an average of 15.9 percent in 1981. But salaries and bonuses are only part of what most corporate bigwigs receive. Assorted extras like stock options and stock appreciation rights sweeten the pot.

So-called “incentive stock options” — now under the Reagan economic program adopted last year by Congress — permit an executive to withhold tax payments until he sells shares, and then up to $100,000 of his gain is taxed only at the capital gains rate of 28 percent.

Three veteran members honored for long service

The Union’s executive board took time out of its mid-September meeting to recognize three long-standing members for their long service to the Local. They are Milton Wolikis, Max Baskin and Charles Packard. Together the three have approximately 150 years of service in the industry. All were members of the Union’s executive board. All are now retired.

At the conclusion of the board meeting, President Laub called on brother Wolikis to appear before the board. He was then given a certificate citing him for his long membership. Brothers Baskin and Packard were not present, and staff members accepted certificates in their behalf.

FOR LONG AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE. Certificates citing three veteran members, all former executive board members, were presented at Union’s September board meeting. Left to right: President Laub; Milton Wolikis; Secretary-Treasurer James Johnson; Business Agent Joseph Paul and Business Agent Hector Torres. Brothers Torres and Paul accepted certificates for two others — Max Baskin and Charles Packard, who could not be present.

Economic injustice closing in on elderly

Unemployment among older workers is rising faster than among younger groups, union witnesses recently told a House Select Committee on Aging. A committee report noted that a rising tide of unemployment is wiping out jobs of older workers whose seniority had spared them from earlier lay-offs.

Joblessness among workers 55 years of age and older has increased by 24 percent since January, 1983. Some 1.7 million workers 55 years of age and older are unemployed, with hundreds of thousands of others not counted because they gave up looking for work out of discouragement.

In addition to less jobs, older citizens are fighting a losing battle against all the economic ills caused by the present depressed character of the nation’s economy, namely consumer goods, health care, insurance, environmental pollution and safety at home and in the streets.

Speaking Frankly

By JIMMY JOHNSON
Secretary-Treasurer

Throughout world history the attitude towards older persons and their treatment at the hands of their fellow human beings are interesting subjects for study. There was a time, in some ancient civilizations, when old people were either killed outright or left to die in some wilderness on the principle that they had outlived their productivity and/or usefulness. In those societies where such cruelty did not prevail, the reason why senior citizens survived was not out of concern by the nation or state but because their families took care of them, respecting them for the contributions they had made to the family.

The world has changed. Today older persons have come to enjoy greater respect and kinder treatment, not because they have changed so much but because today’s civilization places more value on human life than it was rated two thousand or more years ago.

The labor movement, not only in the United States but in other countries where workers are represented by unions, has been mainly responsible for changes in attitude towards older people and for better retirement provisions for the aged. Unions in this country were chiefly responsible for the enactment of Social Security and Medicare. They also can claim credit for having helped win passage of Federal legislation which protects workers’ pension rights. (This legislation, by the way, is known as the Employee Retirement Income and Security Act—ERISA.) It was passed by Congress after many thousands of private pension plans were found to be worthless because of dishonest practices with pension by industry or careless administration of funds for one reason or another.

By the way, one of the reasons why trade unions have contributed so much to protecting older workers in their retirement is because the labor movement has always been a champion of human dignity and individual rights—economic, social, racial and cultural.

Evans as I write this, the attitude towards older persons is still changing for the better, which is a good thing. Part of this is due to the fact that our nation’s over-65 population is growing and they are more influential. The United States Administration on Aging estimates that by the year 2020 at least twenty percent of the nation’s population will be 55 years of age or older. Advances in health care are enabling older persons to continue working longer and to keep active in other ways outside of their job.

Of course, as the over-65 population grows, so do the problems encountered by senior citizens. Typical examples are the Social Security system and Medicare, both of which have been studied continuously by the Reagan administration. We view towards their reducing benefits to help balance the Federal budget. Health care is also an increasingly serious problem for older persons because the older they get, the more they are apt to fall victim to illness and infirmity, and this means more money needed for medical services. Finally, older persons are more seriously affected by the increasing cost of living than younger persons because they have special needs that the younger folks do not have.

Organized workers owe an everlasting debt to the pioneers who built the labor movement, braving violence, sacrifice and great dedication to this cause. Many of them have died or retired, but they have remained active and productive until their last days. Typical examples are Samuel Gompers, first president of the former American Federation of Labor, and the late George Meany, first president of the AFL-CIO, both of whom always supported the dignity of the working man and woman, no matter how old.

Today more people are facing retirement with the attitude that it’s like a new beginning. This is because there are many more outlets for their leisure time energy, like learning how to draw, paint or write; play a musical instrument; study some subject they never had time for when they worked, etc.

Our own family of pensioners is growing all the time, and we have good reason to be proud about our pension plan, which has been improved steadily over the years.
Business Agent John Fitzpatrick field in Jamaica while executive officers actives listen in. Photo is a composite pix frames and then put together.

President Laub to follow Union

(Continued from page 1)

He singled out the following as safeguards members should observe to protect their benefits and services.

Lie detector tests

In recent years some companies have been insisting that employees take lie detector tests, Brother Laub reminded members.

"The contract says that employers shall not require employees to submit to lie detector tests," he noted. "Remember that people who give lie detector tests are professionals, and you are amateurs. Don't at any time take a lie detector test. If you are asked to do so, notify your business agent. Management may have the right to ask that you take the test. You have the right to refuse."

Many members are sending mail in to the Union office, especially medical claims, without putting their Social Security number on both the claim form and mailing envelope. President Laub urged members to put their Social Security number on all correspondence.

Address change

For the most part, members who live in Manhattan and the Bronx are failing to notify the Union when they move. As a result, President Laub explained, the Union is receiving many returns of mail undelivered because of improper address. He said that the Union still has many drug prescription cards which members have not received because the Union does not have their correct address. The Union also gets numerous copies of 328 News returned for the same reason, and this is an additional
urges members regulations

expense for the Union.

Beneficiary

Members were reminded that the Union must have on record the correct name of the person they wish as their beneficiary if they expect this person to be the recipient of benefits in the event of their death. President Laub urged members to notify the Union by registered letter if and when any change in family status or death occurs so that the name of the beneficiary is up to date.

Life insurance

Members who take a leave of absence for any reason and then return to active employment enjoy continuity of coverage for life insurance and other benefits, President Laub declared. He reminded all such members to keep their business agents informed so that all changes will be recorded.

Worker replacements

Brother Laub devoted part of his report to comment about full time and part time employees. He noted that the number of part-time employees has grown steadily, and that this was part of a management policy to control employees more easily, as well as to get more short-time work assignments handled efficiently. He explained that the Union has held fast to the contract provision that every full-time employee who stops work must be replaced by another full-time employee.

Job security

The Union's chief executive officer talked about the current number of jobless workers throughout the nation and

(Continued on page 6)
President Laub urges members to follow Union regulations

(Continued from page 5)

that the more than 10,000,000 unemployed were contributing to the depression state of the nation's economy.

"Remember that there are ten people competing for every one job today, and that's why you should protect your own jobs," he told members.

1982 Election

Finally, President Laub spoke about Reaganomics and the accepting of the Reagan administration's program on the country's economy. He urged members to vote for friends of labor in the coming election and to get co-workers, family and friends to do the same.

Secretary-Treasurer Johnson

Secretary-Treasurer Johnson devoted his report to the problems caused by unions as a result of union-busting techniques, and urged members not to take relatively tranquil time on the job for granted.

"Things may be running smoothly these days, but they weren't like this in the 1980's, when there were bread lines and nearly 17,000,000 Americans were out of work," he declared.

"Today you and your fellow workers walk into a job where your pay is all set forth in contracts, your benefits spelled out meaningfully, your job security backed by our contracts, and any other violations or irregularities on the job protected through grievance procedures," brother Johnson said. "Well, it wasn't always like this, you can believe. He recollected the days when he had to picket before he did a minute's work, and when strikers were apt to have their heads broken without recourse to justice.

"Everything is different now," brother Johnson observed. "But don't think that things can't change. We have an organization known as the 'Right-to-Work' committee (which labor has come to call right-to-wreck). This organization claims that every person has the right not to work under a union contract—that every worker has the right not to be represented by a union."

He also talked about legislation that weakens various provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, passed in 1947, which gave workers the right to be represented by unions of their own choosing. He explained that the worst anti-labor change in the NLRA was the Taft-Hartley Law, enacted by Congress in 1947.

"Today everything is hunky-dory. But don't be complacent. Behind the scenes big business, many reactionary lawmakers and other special interests are doing their best at union-busting to see that unions are wiped out," brother Johnson concluded.

Most doctors follow their own advice

Physicians do a better job of following their own advice than does the general public, according to a survey of physicians affiliated with the Harvard Medical School.

- 92% don't smoke;
- almost three quarters use seat belts when riding in cars;
- two out of three use margarine instead of butter;
- almost half have restricted the intake of red meat;
- 80% eat three or less eggs a week.

About 600 of the 1,013 who received the questionnaire responded.

Members have wide choice of dentists who participate in Union Dental Plan

The participating dentists of Local 338 listed below have agreed to accept the fees allowed by our dental program for general dentistry, which includes examinations, X-rays, cleanings, fillings, simple extractions and partial and full removable dentures. These dentists also have agreed to limit their fees for other procedures. You are not required to use a panel dentist. However, the Union will not be responsible for charges by dentists not on the panel in excess of fees set forth under the Union dental plan.

PARTICIPATING DENTISTS WITH LOCAL 338

MANHATTAN

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
233 West 45th St., NYC
212-546-3639

JOHNNY BROWNSTONE, DDS
2711 1st Ave., NYC
212-370-1110

LEONARD A. ROSE, DDS
211 W. 79th St., NYC
212-406-3939

BROOKLYN

GEORGE J. FLEISHER, DDS
1609 Avenue M
674-8280

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
1211 Kings Highway
Bet. E. 12th & E. 13th St.
376-6700

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
434 A. Albee Srq. Opp.
Albee Theatre-Wilburg
and Fulton Sts., Brooklyn, NY
212-583-9211

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
1609 Ave. M, Brooklyn, NY
212-645-8200

WALTER SILVERSTEIN, DDS
2240-36th St.
Brooklyn, NY
372-2800

BRONX

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
1975 Grand Concourse
Corner of 160th Street, Bronx
212-266-3690

DAVID L. ROSENBERG, DDS
968 Southern Blvd. and
Westchester Ave., Bronx
212-452-3456

QUEENS

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
36-34 Main St., 1, Block off Northern Blvd., Flushing
212-339-1290

PAUL OSHER, DDS
72-03 Queens Blvd.
Elmhurst, NY
212-487-3323

NEW JERSEY

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
1106 Summit Ave.
Union City, New Jersey
201-689-3366

WHITE PLAINS, WESTCHESTER

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
290 Hamilton Ave.
914-949-6605

SCARSDALE, WESTCHESTER

HOWARD GRAYDON, DDS
50 Dordrecht Rd.
914-545-5480

NEW ROCHELLE MALL
New Rochelle, N.Y. 10801
914-965-8040

SUFFOLK

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
6180 Jericho Tpke., Between
Comma & Larkfield Rds.
Commack, NY. 516-499-0040

HARVEY CAPLAN, DDS
Hauppauge Professional
Center, Suite 217
111 Smithtown By-Pass
Hauppauge, 516-724-0900

HAROLD JACOBSON, DDS
891 Jericho Tpke.
St. James, 516-295-0110

STEPHEN FLUGER, DDS
691 Montauk Highway
Shirley, 516-399-4470

NORMAN LUXEL, DDS
The 400 Building
400 Montauk Highway
West, off Rte. 109, Babylon
516-422-6066

NASSAU

JULIE V. LANE, DDS
111 Old Country Rd., Corner of Jerusalem Ave., Hicksville
516-822-9232

ROOSEVELT FIELD MALL
Garden City, N.Y. 11530
516-742-4200, 212-895-3331

EPHRAM ROSENBERG, DDS
247 Merrick Rd.
Lynbrook, 516-599-3338

PAUL OSHER, DDS
72 Fulton Ave.
 Hempstead, 516-483-2220

JOSEPH SCANCARELLO, DDS
MICHAEL BUFFA, DDS
377 Lindenmere Dr.
Merrick, 516-646-0651

STEPHEN GOLDBERG, DDS
3601 Hempstead Tpke.
Levittown, 516-579-7577

HAROLD JACOBSON, DDS
1020 Hicksville Rd.
Massapequa, 516-785-1325
Healthy Living
Health linked closely with eating habits

Health food faddists for years have been claiming that eating habits have a lot to do with health, and that the more you eat the better the risk of getting cancer. Now there is more evidence to support this in the form of a 500-page report from the National Academy of Sciences. It concludes by saying that cancer can be controlled in some cases by careful diet.

The report, entitled “Diet, Nutrition and Cancer,” sets forth guidelines that people may follow to help reduce the risk of cancer. They are as follows:

1. Cut down consumption of fat, both saturated and unsaturated, to about a third of the total number of calories in your daily diet.

2. Eat fruits, vegetables and whole grain products every day, particularly food high in vitamin C, citrus fruits, and dark green and deep yellow vegetables.

3. Avoid salt-cured, pickled or smoked foods, such as smoked sausages, smoked fish, bacon, bologna and hot dogs.

4. Drink alcohol only in moderation, especially if you also smoke cigarettes.

“Fiber-rich” foods

According to the report, certain types of food are better for people than others, and play a factor in avoidance of cancer. They include oranges, grapefruit, blackberries, strawberries, blueberries, bananas, apples, pears, prunes, peas, beans and lentils. Whole grain products, nuts, seeds, lentils, lima beans, beans and lentils, and legumes are particularly rich in fiber.

City offering free flu shots for all

As a routine safety precaution and in line with the pandemic threat, this will be a cold winter, the New York City Department of Health is offering free flu shots to everyone interested. The department urges persons 65 years of age or older and persons suffering from chronic illness to get a shot. Walk-in clinics will be in operation at 15 locations throughout the city, and health authorities are hoping that senior citizens will take advantage of the service.

Exercising studies

The nation’s obsession with health has resulted in the opening of hundreds of exercise studies, the Wall Street Journal reported on July 26. These studies are “no frills enterprises,” operating only with an instructor and a room, unlike some of the deluxe health clubs.

Letters to the Editors

Dear Sirs:

Thank you so much for being so great at this time when I’ve been so very sick. I wish you to know I’m really grateful and thank you again. I bless every penny I pay in dues because without the Union I’d be really worried let alone sick. I feel I have people who are concerned and are rooting for me to get better.

Martha Cataldo

Dear Mr. Rosenberg:

We wish to thank you for the past attention you have given us. May we wish all of you a very happy and healthy New Year. Do give our best regards to Dr. Silbermann. He, too, has been most helpful in the past.

Mr. and Mrs. Abe Nadler

Dear Sir,

The highest rank that a boy can achieve in the scouting movement is the Eagle Scout Award. Did you know that only about one percent of all boys in Scouting in the United States achieve the Eagle Scout Award?

When a young boy follows the Eagle Trail, which on the average takes three years, he earns a total of 24 merit badges, serves in a troop leadership position, plan, develop and give leadership to others in a project service helpful to his community, church or school.

We would like to bring to your attention that on September 24, 1982, a member of your union, Rudy Petruzzi, had the honor of being presented with the Eagle Scout Award. Rudy is employed by Waldheim’s Inc. Huntington Station and has been a member of the union for three years.

Mrs. S. Petruzzi

Robber: “Ferk it ever, man, I feel like having a good cry.”

Sally: “Is your boy friend a good driver?”

Mike: “Well when the road turns the same direction he does, it’s just a coincidence.”

Epitaph for a swinger: “Here lies poor Val. ... At last he sleep alone.”

Timely for the hunting season: Sportsman (After emptying his shotgun at a rabbit): “There, Jack, I’m sure I hit that one.”

Jack: “Well, he certainly did seem to go faster after you shot at him.”

Current musical review: The Super Art Quartet played Brahms last night. Brahms lost.

Tollly for Election Day: “They were such refined and delicate palates that they can discover no one worthy of their ballots, and when someone terrible gets elected they say, ‘There, that’s just what I expected!’”

—Ogden Nash

Questions and answers

Q. My husband died last month. Can I cash the Social Security check that arrived this month, or am I supposed to return it?

A. If a person who gets Social Security benefits dies, a check isn’t payable for the month of death. For example, if the beneficiary died in October, the check dated November 3 (which is payable for October) should be returned unless the check was properly executed by the deceased’s spouse or by his or her authorized representative.

Q. When my first child was born, I quit my job as a medical hygienist. Now that all the children are in school, I’ve decided to return to work. Were the Social Security credits I earned in my former job taken into my record when I stopped working?

A. No. Any Social Security credits you earn, regardless of when you earn them, remain on your Social Security record. Of course, if you stop working before you have enough credits, no benefits will be payable on your Social Security record. But, if you return to work, you can earn any additional credits you need to get benefits.

Q. My wife died several weeks ago. I know I’m supposed to file an application for Social Security survivor benefits, but I don’t know what papers to take with me. Can you tell me what I’ll need?

A. Some of the proofs you may need to apply for survivor benefits are your Social Security number and the deceased worker’s number, proof of your age, proof of marriage, the children’s birth certificates, if they are applying for benefits; and the deceased worker’s W-2 forms, or if self-employed, income tax returns for the 2 years before death.

Don’t delay applying because you don’t understand all these proofs. The people at the Social Security office can suggest other proofs that can be used.

Q. I’m thinking about having my Social Security payment deposited directly into my checking account. If I do, will the bank notify me when my benefit is deposited? Or, will I have to wait until I get my monthly bank statement to find out if the bank got my benefit?

A. Financial institutions are required by the law to notify direct depositors in their Social Security statements either have been received and deposited or have not been received. Written or oral notice must be given within 2 business days after the payment is received. If the payment was scheduled to be received but was not, the law also requires financial institutions to provide a readily available telephone line direct depositors can call to find out if their benefits were deposited.

Q. I started getting Social Security retirement payments last year. I also worked part time and plan to continue working this year. What’s the amount a person can earn this year without losing benefits?

A. If you are 65-70, or will reach 65 before the end of the year, you can earn $8,000 in 1982 and get full Social Security benefits. If you are under 65, you can earn $4,440 in 1982 without losing any benefits. If your earnings go over the annual amount, $1 in benefits is withheld for each $2 of earnings above the limit. (For people in their first year of retirement, the monthly test also applies. Details are available at any Social Security office.)

Chuckles

The elderly gentleman approached the check-out counter. The only purchase was a bottle of soda. As he moved past the counter near the register, a stout woman with an overwhelming cart pushed rudely past him into the check-out lane.

“I’m in a hurry,” she said bluntly.

The gentlemen stood aside, mouth open at her rudeness. It took the checker several minutes to ring up the woman’s bill. Then she paid and the packer followed her out the door to help her with her overflowing cart.

At last the gentleman put the bottle of soda on the counter. With a knowing wink the checker brushed aside his dollar.

“It’s all taken care of, sir,” she said with a smile. “I put it on her tab.”

Joe: “In the first place, what did you get drunk for?”

Stroller: “I didn’t get drunk in the first place. I got drunk in the last place.”

“I have nothing on me, and my watch has only sentimental value.”

People have diets rich in vegetables and fruits and low in fats.”

Reagan and food health

The Reagan administration has seen fit to act as expert when it comes to providing the people with practical advice about nutrition and health. Recently, meat and egg industry lobbyists complained that the United States Department of Agriculture should not tell people what to eat. The USDA had been publishing Food & 2, a magazine in which people were told how they could moderate consumption of fat and cholesterol. When the meat and egg spokesmen complained about the publication, it was canceled.

While nutrition is far from a new health concept, it is ignored by most people, whose eating habits are open to question. Many medical experts claim that human beings would enjoy far better health if they ate more intelligently.
American Labor History Highlights

Industrial beginnings in America

After the Revolutionary War, the American colonies cut down sharply on the number of imports secured from England. This resulted in a marked growth of manufacturing in general, and of the textile industry in particular. Drastic reduction in the volume of goods and products imported from England and other European nations encouraged American merchants to focus attention on developing domestic industries. Hundreds of factories sprang up along the Atlantic seaboard. By the end of the War of 1812 some 100,000 workers were employed in the textile industry alone.

In those days the textile industry depended largely on child labor. One factory near Baltimore in 1822 employed 184 workers, of whom only six were men, the remainder including 120 girls and 58 boys between the ages of seven and eighteen.

Practices in employment were dictated by recommendations made by the American secretary of the treasury who, in 1791, was Alexander Hamilton. In a famous report about the huge potential of American industry, an apprentice to a wagon maker in Delaware worked out the details for the world’s first automatic factory, a mechanical flour mill suitable for mass production. This inventor, Oliver Evans by name, used water-powered machinery and devised various operations which could take place without a single manual operation. For the first time an uninterrupted process was available for manufacturing which enabled production from raw material to finished product. At first Evans’ invention cut labor requirements of a flour mill by half. Earlier, Evans had invented an automatic machine for making metal teeth used to comb raw wool and cotton before they were spun into yarn. Workers had only to turn one crank.

They gave their blood and deserve your praise

Lots of folks are takers, not givers, and they don’t attempt to hide this fact. But blood donors are a special breed of human beings, especially when it comes to the act of giving a gift of life by donating their blood.

A group of members demonstrated that they are givers on Sept. 30th when they turned out in Massapequa to donate their blood to the Greater New York Blood Program. They included the following:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donors</th>
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<td>Rosanne Atkins</td>
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<td>Jack Balmis</td>
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<td>Anthony Barone</td>
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<td>Theresa Harisch</td>
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<td>Edward Hughes</td>
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<td>Elisie Katt, Marialaina</td>
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<td>Maul, Irene Szollosicky</td>
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<td>Denise Telekama, Carolyn</td>
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<td>Walters, Irene Ward</td>
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<td>Robert Woodruff</td>
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Also: Marilyn Cowan, Coleen Gilmartin, Theresa Harisch, Edward Hughes, Elisie Katt, Marialaina Maul, Irene Szollosicky, Denise Telekama, Carolyn Walters, Irene Ward and Robert Woodruff.

Business Agent John Fitzpatrick, who supervised the blood donor arrangements, paid tribute to all those who turned out.

"Blood donors are a special kind of citizen, and we’re very proud of those who came out again to demonstrate their concern for themselves and their fellow citizens," brother Fitzpatrick declared. “I wish that more members would follow suit, in all areas where our Union is represented,” he added.

Jobless rate now tops 10%

Rising unemployment was worrying nearly every state in June as 47 states and the District of Columbia reported higher jobless rates that month compared to a year earlier.

Eighteen states reported joblessness of 10 percent or higher, the Bureau of Labor Statistics said, in a month when the national unemployment rate hit a seasonally adjusted 9.5 percent. State and local rates are not adjusted for seasonal variation.

The highest jobless rate was in Michigan, where 14.8 percent of workers were jobless in June. A year earlier, the rate was 11.1 percent.

After Michigan, the highest rate was 13.9 percent in Alabama, which compared with a year-earlier level of 11.4 percent. Others with rates over 10 percent included Illinois, 11.7; Indiana, 11.5; the District of Columbia, 11.5; Indiana, 11.5; Ohio, 12.3; South Carolina, 11.5; Washington, 12.4; and West Virginia, 12.3.

States with heavy industry remained hardest hit by the recession. Jobs in manufacturing, transportation and public utilities, and construction were lost in most states. On the other hand, service industries showed job increases in most areas.