

Pay raise due in August

State workers in the three major units represented by CSEA will receive their first salary increase under the new 3-year CSEA-State contracts plus a lump sum retroactive to April 1 in their first paychecks in August, it has been announced by CSEA President William L. McGowan.

Payment of the increases was held up because the State Legislature did not approve the necessary appropriation bill until June 16. President McGowan said employees on the administrative payroll will receive their increase on August 1 and those on the institutional payroll will see their first increase on August 8.

The union leader said employees will receive a lump sum to cover the period retroactive to April 1. And, he said, CSEA has worked out an agreement whereby the State will compute the tax deduction on the retroactive amount on a pro rated basis rather than a lump sum basis to minimize the tax withheld from that check.

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AFSCME INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT JERRY WURF, center, discusses the varied program for CSEA's recent 3-day County Delegates Workshop held at Monticello. Wurf, who addressed delegates during the program, is shown with Mary Sullivan, president of Herkimer County CSEA Local 822 and co-chairman of CSEA's County Division, and Joseph Lazarony, County Division chairman. For a complete report on the workshop, turn to pages 5-8 of this issue.

Prescription, dental programs start July 1

ALBANY — CSEA President William L. McGowan said this week that state employees in the Administrative, Institutional and Operational bargaining units can expect to receive their first prescription drug cards and details on improved dental insurance within the next week.

President McGowan, chairman of the CSEA Employee Benefit Fund's Board of Trustees, announced that the Fund will be mailing prescription drug cards and dental insurance program details to employees in the three bargaining units starting this week.

"The mailing will provide the eligible employees in the units with their first prescription drug insurance cards," the union president said, "With this card, the employee and his or her dependents can go to virtually any drug store in New York, present a prescription and have it filled for just one dollar. This is a major benefit won during the negotiations for our new contract."

Fund Administrator Thomas P. Collins explains that the drug card, about the size of a standard credit card, will be sent to all full time employees in the three units who are participants in the CSEA Employee Benefit Fund by virtue of the negotiated agreement with the state. Blue Cross of New York administers the drug program which has about 95 per cent participation among the state's pharmacists.

"Participating pharmacists simply take the card, give the employee a form to fill out and the prescription is provided for just one dollar," Mr. Collins explains, "but if the employee wishes to get a prescription filled by a non-participating pharmacist, then the employee pays for the prescription directly, submits a

receipt to us and we will reimburse the employee for the cost of the prescription less one dollar. It's a very flexible system."

The Benefit Fund will also be mailing full details on the improved dental insurance program which in addition to improvements in scheduled benefits, eliminates the former \$50 deductible under the old plan provided by the state. Claim forms for the Fund program are being sent to all state personnel offices, CSEA Regional and Satellite offices, and to all CSEA State Division Local Presidents to allow them to assist if any early shortage of claim forms should occur.

Both the prescription drug program and the dental program will be ready to go into effect on July 1 when the present state-provided dental insurance program expires. Presently there is no state prescription drug program except what is reimbursable under major medical insurance benefits.

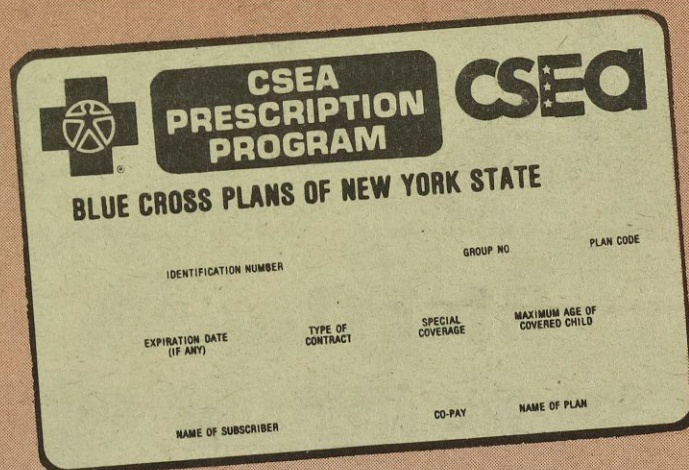
President McGowan said all present full time employees in the three bargaining units are automatically included in coverage by the Benefit Fund's prescription drug and dental programs. Employees hired after July 1, however, will wait 90 days before being eligible for participation. This waiting period represents a significant reduction from the former state program which required a 180 day waiting period for eligibility.

In addition to employees in the three units, spouses of the employees and dependent children under 19 years of age (and under 25 years of age in the case of full-time students) are covered.

"This is the single biggest improvement in benefits in many years for our members in state service,"

President McGowan said, "but this is only the beginning. In future negotiations we will seek to expand

the participation in the CSEA Benefit Fund and we will seek to improve the benefits provided."



YOUR NEW PRESCRIPTION CARD — State employees represented by CSEA in the three major bargaining units will shortly be receiving cards similar to this. The prescription drug program is a major new benefit won by the union during recently concluded negotiations with the State.

CSEA blocks reclassifications

ALBANY — CSEA has won a victory over the Governor's Office of Employee Relations by blocking an attempt by OER to have 154 positions removed from CSEA-represented bargaining units and reclassified as management-confidential.

Joseph J. Dolan, Jr., Executive Director of the state's largest public employee union, announced that following a conference before the Public Employment Relations Board, OER was denied its application for reclassification of the positions.

The decision by the state to abandon its attempt to remove the positions from the bargaining units came after CSEA Research Director William Blom presented the union's case against the application based on restrictions in such proposals contained in the state's Taylor Law.

In addition to ending the state's efforts as far as the CSEA-represented bargaining units, the union's presentation will set a precedent to prevent similar moves by OER in the fourth major state bargaining unit.

The state's Taylor Law provides that no positions can be removed from a bargaining unit the last year of a period of unchallenged certification by an employee union. Since that period will not occur in CSEA's three state bargaining units until 1981, the applications for the change was denied.

Legislature passes 3 laws approving contracts, pay

ALBANY — Three major bills spelling greater financial security for thousands of CSEA-represented court employees passed during the last hours of the 1979 state legislative session, thanks to union lobbyists and the grass-roots efforts of the employees themselves.

One was the bill implementing a long-awaited plan reclassifying all 10,000 employees of the state's 12 judicial districts to the salary schedule of the Unified Court System. The plan allocates former city and county court workers to the salary schedule of the state Office of Court Administration (OCA), which is higher than that of the local jurisdictions. CSEA's judiciary members stand to gain thousands of dollars from the plan. Target date for payment of the monies due the employees is the last payroll period in August, according to the OCA.

"This bill passed by the smallest of margins. It just squeaked by, thanks to intense efforts by the court workers we represent throughout the state, as well as our professional lobbyists in Albany," said CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist Pat Monachino. "Everyone worked hard for the bill's passage, and this shows what the union can do when everyone pulls together." The legislation had been opposed by employee groups in New York City who did not stand to gain as much as the others by its passage.

The second major bill passed grants permanent Civil Service status to those Unified Court System employees currently classified as competitive. This will affect about 1,000 employees statewide.

"Something like two-thirds of all CSEA-represented court employees had been provisional appointees, so this bill was desperately needed by

them," Mr. Monachino noted. The bill was sponsored by Sen. Jay P. Rolison, Jr. of Poughkeepsie.

This "grandfathering" bill excludes court employees in New York City, except uniformed court officers.

The third major bill gave legislative approval to CSEA-negotiated contracts for court employees in the cities of White Plains, Peekskill and Mt. Vernon.

"CSEA had recently won representation elections in those cities, and I think this bill's passage demonstrates what political clout we carry," Mr. Monachino noted. "Other jurisdictions in that region where the court employees do not have CSEA as their union, also do not have their contracts negotiated and implemented."

CSEA Local presidents across the state had conducted a massive telephone campaign on all three bills, calling legislative leaders of both houses as well as their local legislators. In a combined 2-prong attack, CSEA lobby specialists confronted legislators at the same time in Albany.

Union defeats several bad bills

The first half of the 202nd annual legislative session is now history, and while a number of significant pieces of legislation were passed that benefit public employees, this session may well be remembered as the year CSEA turned back an onslaught of bills that would have crippled the unions effectiveness in its role as an advocate of the public employee.

From Proposition 13 fever to the many so-called civil service "reform" proposals, the list of bills that would have adversely effected CSEA members was almost endless.



CSEA'S MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR BUDGET is constantly monitored not only by the union's professional accounting staff, but also by a standing budget committee which meets at least monthly to review the accounting operation. Audits by outside accounting firms are also part of the system of checks and balances on the budget. Shown above at this month's budget committee session are, from left, committee member Beatrice McCoy, staff member Joseph Salvino, Statewide Treasurer Jack Gallagher, committee member Howard Cropsey and John Weidman, and CSEA's Comptroller David Stack.

No less than nine pieces of legislation to allow for Initiative and Referendum were introduced. With the Proposition 13 mentality running rampant, any sort of legislation that would allow for government funding by emotion rather than reason could only result in a significant cut in revenues with a resulting loss in jobs for CSEA members. President McGowan stated the position of the union well when he said, "It should be remembered that public employees pay taxes just like everybody else, and CSEA will not stand by and watch

local government take a meat ax approach to government spending at the expense of the public servants and their families." Happily, we can report that, as a result of intense lobbying on the part of CSEA, no Initiative and Referendum bills were passed this year.

Another frontal attack was launched against the public employee under the guise of civil service reform. Mayor Koch, among others, led this assault. Various proposals were offered, including bills to expand the exempt class, to increase the managerial class, to allow for the indiscriminate consolidation of bargaining units and to allow for the arbitrary transfer of public employees at the whim of management. While all of these proposals were supposed to lead to increased government efficiency, the actual result would have been to return public service employment to the "Boss Tweed" era of government by spoils system. Again, after constant effort, CSEA was able to turn back these outrageous ideas, and none of the civil service "reform" bills were enacted into law.

It is impossible to list all of the legislation introduced during this session that would have adversely effected CSEA members if enacted. However, to indicate the magnitude of the anti-union employee effort, the CSEA legislative office identified over fifty bills that were introduced which, if enacted into law, would have had a negative effect on all of us. This year we were able to turn away this undertaking, and CSEA will continue this fight until that time when it is put to rest forever. To quote President McGowan, "I don't know when the legislature will show its appreciation for the public servant, but until and unless they do, CSEA will be around every corner to remind them that the public employee is not a burden for the state to carry, but the most efficient, cost-effective work force New York State has today."

Elections Timetable

Statewide Officers and State Executive Committee

The following dates are to be used as a guideline for the 1979 CSEA Election. To the extent possible, each date will be complied with unless intervening circumstances beyond the control of CSEA make compliance with the exact date impractical.

- July 9—Final day for Nominations to Fill Declinations
- July 9—Final day for Petitions to be Filed
- July 13—Request to each candidate for spelling of name as it will appear on Ballot. To be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested. Deadline for changes is July 20, 1979
- July 13—Drawing for Position on Ballot — 10:30 a.m., CSEA Headquarters Conference Room. Candidates (or proxies) may attend as observers
- July 13—Mailing of printed copies of Rules and Regulations for the Election to all candidates and local presidents
- July 25—Publication of Names of all candidates in the Official CSEA Newspaper
- August 6—Ballots delivered to Post Office for Mailing
- August 16—Replacement ballots may be requested as of this date if Original Ballot has not been delivered
- August 30—Return of ballots — 6:00 p.m. Deadline
- August 31—Ballots to be removed from envelopes to prepare for counting. Ballots which cannot be machine-counted will be counted manually during this period
- September 7—Return of Replacement Ballots — 6:00 p.m. Deadline
- September 7—Ballots to be Counted. Candidates to be notified by telegram by September 11
- September 7—Official Results Announced
- September 17—End of Protest Period (10 days after Official Results are announced)

NOTE: Those eligible to vote shall be dues paying members in good standing as of June 15, 1979

New contract for East Hudson Parkway



CONTRACT SIGNED — CSEA-East Hudson Parkway Authority contracts are signed by, from left seated, CSEA Bargaining Specialist Manny Vitale, CSEA Local 051 President Charles Zoffer, Authority Executive Director Raymond Radzirila, and Arthur Pasco, Supervisor-Division of Administrative Services. Looking on are union negotiating committee members William Bernard, Alanna Hoey, chairman Ray Celentano; and CSEA representative John Deyo.

PLEASANTVILLE — The Civil Service Employees Assn., which represents 350 employees of the East Hudson Parkway Authority, has announced a one-year contract has been signed by representatives of the union's East Hudson Parkway Local 051 and the Parkway Authority.

The new pact, retroactive from April 1, 1979, contains a general salary adjustment of seven percent across-the-board to be incorporated into the base pay of employees and into the new salary schedule.

Employees hired after April 1, 1977, who did not receive the five percent and four percent increases during the 1977 fiscal year, will be brought up to the hiring rate of the new schedule, thereby receiving a 16 percent increase.

Other contract benefits include:

- Institution of a new salary schedule, performance advancement, awards, and a performance evaluations committee.
- An improved Health Insurance Plan, including increased maternity and surgical benefits, and establishment of a Benefit Trust Fund (Union Welfare Plan).
- New language regarding allowed meal units, vacation buy-back time, worker's compensation leave, sick leave, jury duty leave, and driver's license leave.
- The agreement also includes new language changes for out-of-title work, uniforms for toll collectors, free parkway toll charges for employees to and from work and for employees with 15 years of service or more.
- An increase in mileage allowance from 11 to 17 cents per mile.

The new contract was negotiated by chief negotiator Emanuele Vitale, CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist; Raymond Celentano, Chairman of the Negotiating Committee; Charles Zoffer, President of CSEA Local 051 and a committee member. Alanna Hoey, William J. Bernard, and Charles Allen also served as committee members.

Lyons unit wins 7%

LYONS — Workers of the Village of Lyons, represented by Wayne County CSEA Local 859, will receive raises of 7% in each year of a new two-year contract effective June 1, 1979.

Also under terms of the pact, shift differential has been increased from \$200 to \$400 minimum of 3 hours pay on callout, up to \$1 million coverage for long term illness and fully paid Blue Cross/Blue Shield on retirement for individual coverage and after 15 years of service for family coverage.

The Village also agreed to maintain Social Security coverage, new seniority job posting language and vacation increases.

CSEA Field Representative Vincent Sicari was chief negotiator. Negotiating team members included President Bob Wykle, Vice President Edward Muir, Gary Barclay, Gary Lester, Jack Dayton, and Secretary-Treasurer Peter Zacharilla.

CSEA victory in Hudson vote

HUDSON — The Civil Service Employees Assn. has gained the right to represent the aides and monitors in the City of Hudson School District by a vote of 23 for CSEA representation to 2 for no representation. CSEA plans to begin negotiations with the School District in the near future.

John D. Corcoran, Jr. CSEA Regional Director commented on the victory, "The employees saw through the administrations promises and want a legally binding contract rather than just a pile of worthless promises."

CSEA has filed an improper practice charge against the employer concerning the conduct of School Administration officials during the representation election period.



MARY JAROCKI HONORED — Mary Jarocki is all smiles upon being presented a special meritorious award at a recent party marking her retirement from state service and union offices. At left is CSEA Executive Director Joseph J. Dolan, and at right is CSEA Executive Vice President Thomas McDonough. At time of her retirement, Mrs. Jarocki was president of SUNY Albany CSEA Local 691. She was a very active member of CSEA, and at one time served as treasurer of Region IV.



NON-INSTRUCTIONAL MEMBERS of Vestal Unit of CSEA Local 866 make presentation of one of eight fans to the Vestal Teachers Association in recognition of teachers from all Vestal schools. From left to right are Angie Ford and Reta Kriska, President and Vice President of Vestal School CSEA Unit; and Pat Huda and Connie Eno, President and President-elect of the Vestal Teachers Association. The fans were awarded as part of Appreciation Day for Vestal teachers, and one fan will be distributed to each of eight faculty rooms in the district. (Photo by Tony Rossi, Jr.)

Union halts Long Beach layoff plans

LONG BEACH — The jobs of 25-35 CSEA members were saved in the city of Long Beach as a result of a demonstration of strength and unity by Nassau County CSEA Local 830, according to Local President Nicholas Abbatiello.

More than 800 members of the local demonstrated in support of the Long Beach Unit and attended that city's council meeting recently to oppose the proposed layoffs and the elimination of the Long Beach Recreation Department, Abbatiello said.

Published reports claimed the council had voted 3-2 in private session to eliminate the recreation department. However, following the CSEA show of strength, the budget, including the recreation department, was approved.

Palmyra pact includes many job upgradings

PALMYRA — Workers of the Wayne County Village of Palmyra, represented by CSEA Local 859, will receive raises of 5.5% effective June 1, 1979 and another 6.5% on June 1, 1980 under terms of a new two-year agreement ratified recently.

More than half of the workers will benefit from job upgradings. They will also have a new vacation schedule, an added floating holiday and in the second year two added sick leave days. A streamlined grievance procedure rounds out contract language changes.

Members of the negotiating team led by Unit President Fred Trowbridge were David Shulters, Charles Young and Finley Cox.

Nayman wins in Tompkins

ITHACA — Tompkins County CSEA Local 855 election results have been announced by President-elect Lou Nayman. He said the winners were:

President — Lou Nayman.
First Vice President — James Morris.
Second Vice President — James Hennerty.
Secretary — Antoinette Napier.
Treasurer — Ruth Morris-Doane.
Board of Directors — John Wyrrough.
Delegates — Bonnie Barber, Claude Colleyacme, Mitch Gray, Hennerty, Dana Morgan and Nayman.

Nominees named for Local 350

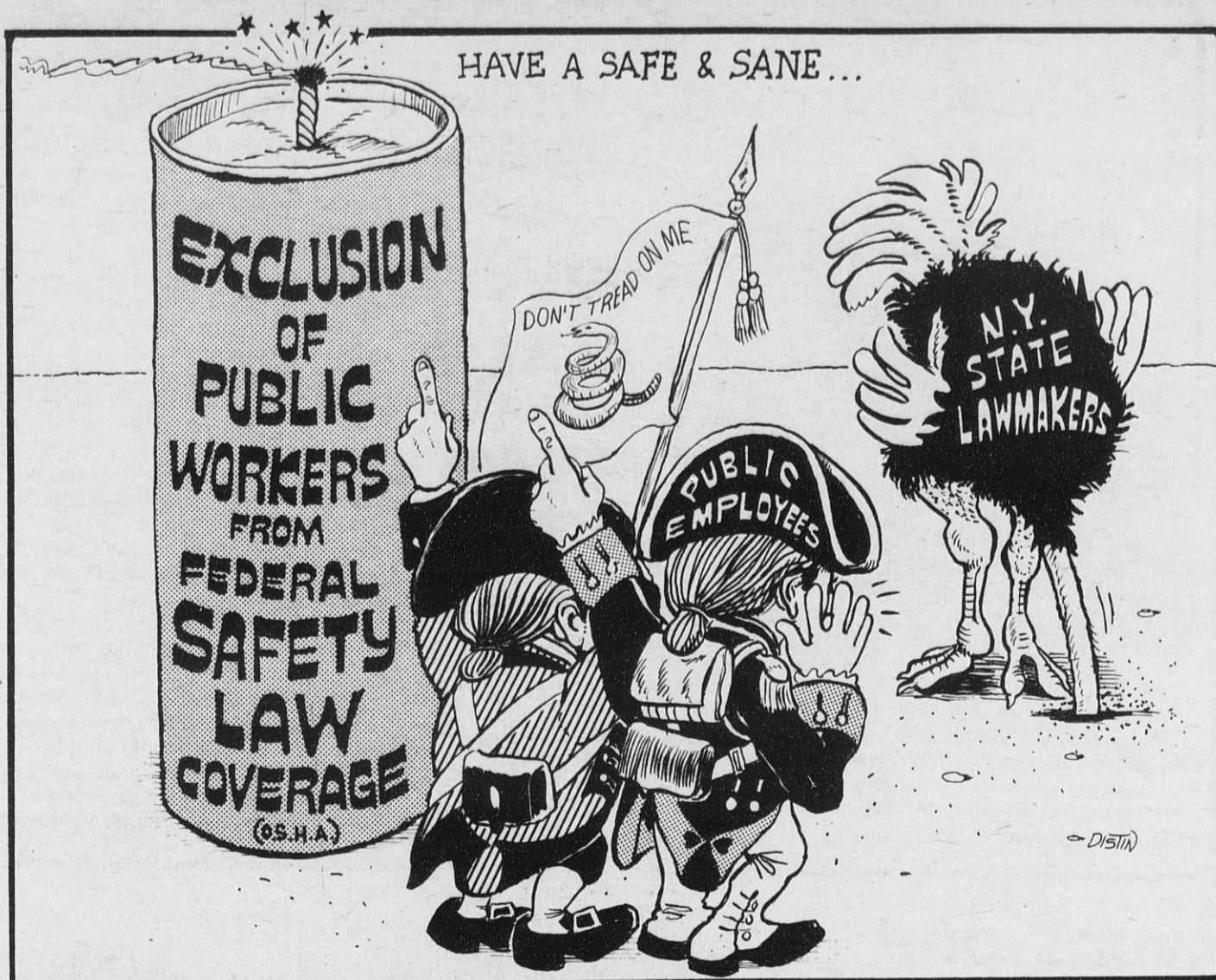
NEW YORK CITY — Nominations for officers of Labor Department CSEA Local 350 have been announced by Nominating Committee Chairman John Gianguerchio. He said the nominees are:

President — George Caloumeno.
First Vice President — Katherine E. Melfi and Betty L. Matthews.
Second Vice President — Leah Winstein and Steven A. Tanzer.
Third Vice President — Queen E. Dickens, Dolores A. Lipari and Dennis J. Tobin.

Treasurer — Gladys F. Ritter and Celestine G. Asbury.

Recording Secretary — Pina L. Packer and Dorothy M. Daniels.

Gianguerchio said the deadline for filing petitions to run for office in Local 350 was July 9.



Health insurance plan developed

As a result of recent Federal mandates and negotiations between the State of New York and its various employee unions, the Department of Civil Service has developed a new Health Insurance Plan for State

employees and local government. Participating Agencies to be implemented no later than January 1, 1980. Benefits available from the GHI Option will also be improved.

The revised Statewide Plan will consist of Blue Cross for hospitalization, a Major Medical Plan, and a separate prescription drug program which requires the employee to pay \$1.00 for each

prescription. Payment for physicians' services, previously provided by Blue Shield, will be available under the Major Medical portion of the Statewide Plan, subject to deductible and coinsurance provisions.

Carriers have been notified of all the changes in maternity benefits and, effective back to April 1, 1979, are paying claims in a manner which more than satisfies Federal requirements.

KEEP CSEA INFORMED ON MAILING ADDRESS

In the event that you change your mailing address, please fill out the below form and send to:

CSEA, Inc., P.O. Box 125, Capitol Station, Albany, New York, 12224.

This form is also available from local presidents for CSEA members, but is reproduced here for convenience. It is to be used only by those CSEA members or agency shop payors who are currently employed as civil service workers or by those retirees who are paying full active membership dues.

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Calendar of EVENTS

JUNE

28—Local 804, Broome County Unit Installation Dinner 5:30 p.m. at The Fountains Restaurant, Vestal, N.Y.

30—Herkimer County Local 822 Installation Dinner 6:30 p.m. at Manor House, Herkimer, N.Y.

JULY

14—Region V AFSCME Leadership Training Workshop, Hotel Syracuse, Syracuse.

20-22—Region IV Summer Workshop, Sagamore Hotel, Lake George.

21—Franklin County Local 817 Annual Picnic, noon at Recreation Park, Malone, N.Y.

22—Buffalo Local 003, annual family picnic, Kloc's Grove, 1245 Seneca Creek Road, Gardenville.

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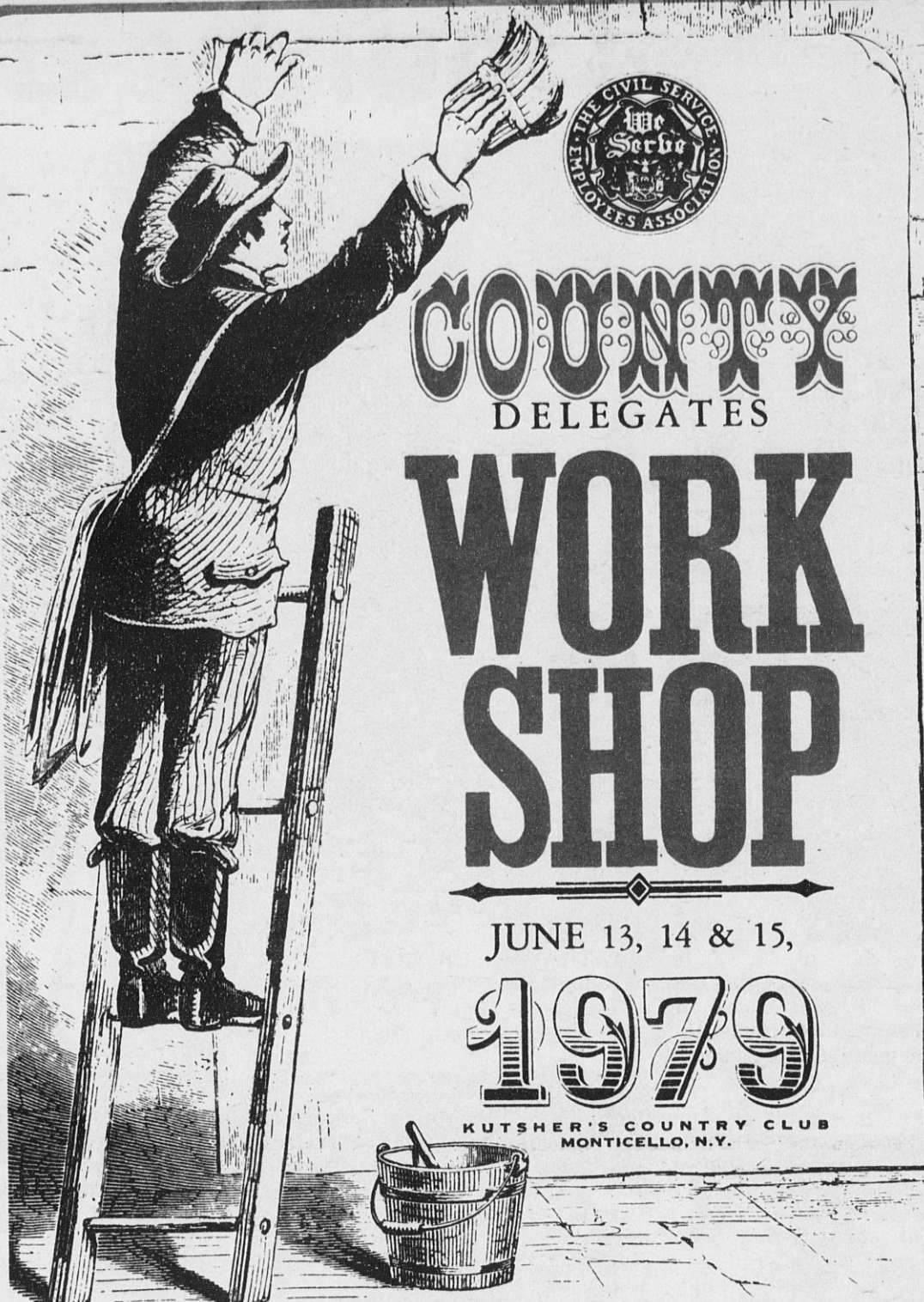
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CSEA PRESIDENT William L. McGowan, who participated in a number of programs during the workshop, this time sits back and listens during one of the sessions.



CSEA EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT Thomas McDonough, right, and his wife Pauline, are shown with Pat Mascioli, left, President of Westchester County CSEA Local 860.

County Workshop attracts 400 delegates, staff, guests

MONTICELLO — More than 400 persons attended the annual County Delegates Workshop at Kutcher's Country Club July 13 to 15.

Thirteen workshop sessions were held, including:

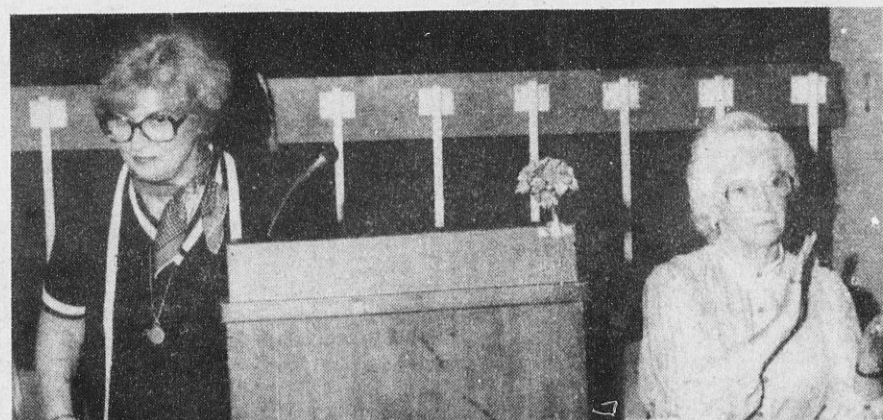
- Affiliation, with William Hamilton, assistant to the president, AFSCME International.
- Leadership Development, with Celeste Rosenkranz, chairman, CSEA Education Committee; and Robert McEnroe, director of training, AFSCME New York State.
- CETA, with Paul Burch, CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist; and Marge Karowe, CSEA attorney.
- Probation Committee, with Joseph Reedy, staff coordinator.
- Non-Teaching School Personnel Committee, with Arne Wipfler, staff coordinator.
- Social Services Committee, with Timothy Mullens, staff coordinator.
- Local Government Nursing Committee, with Timothy Mullens, staff coordinator.
- State Health Insurance

Coverage with John Carey, CSEA director of member services; Michael Carroll, director CSEA insurance programs; and Thomas McCracken, State department of Civil Service.

- Organizing for the Crisis, with Nicholas Abbatiello, Local 830 president; Bernard Ryan, CSEA legislative and political action director; William Griffin, acting Region I director; and Gary Fryer, CSEA communications director.
- Women in Public Employment, with Irene Carr, CSEA statewide secretary, and members of the CSEA statewide women's committee.

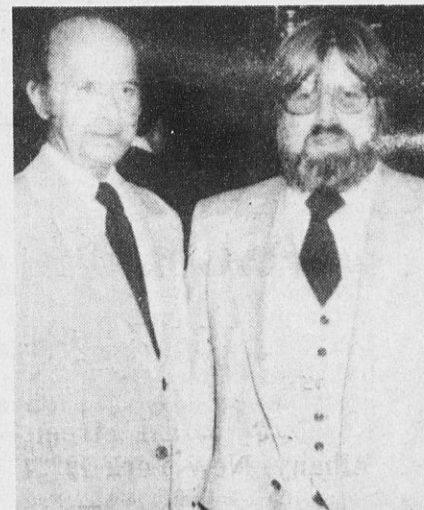
Moderators of the workshops included: Maureen Malone, Sid Grossman, Carlo Guardi, James Brady, Hugh Crapser, Grace Vallee, Regina Nemcek, Mary Sullivan, Ellis Adams, Millicent DeRosa and William McTygue.

The delegates also heard speeches by AFSCME International President Jerry Wurf and AFSCME District Council 37 Executive Director Victor Gotbaum.



STATEWIDE CSEA SECRETARY IRENE CARR, right, applauds a speaker during workshop program on "Women in Public Employment." Millicent DeRosa, left, President of Putnam County CSEA Local 840, was moderator for the program. Both are members of CSEA's Statewide Women's Committee.

CSEA TREASURER JACK GALLAGHER, left, and CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist Nels Carlson. Carlson presented a program on the occupational safety and health act (OSHA) during the workshop.



Extended coverage of CSEA's County Delegates Workshop held June 13-15 at Kutcher's Country Club, Monticello is contained on pages 5, 6, 7 and 8 of this issue.

County delegates meet

County growth noted

MONTICELLO — The growth of CSEA's County Division was noted by Long Island Region I President Irving Flaumenbaum, the union's highest ranking County Division member.

Flaumenbaum said with the continued growth of the County Division and with the loss of PS&T from the State Division, for the first time in the history of CSEA the membership of the County Division was equal to the membership of the State Division.

The workshop delegates passed a resolution urging the equalization of CSEA Board of Director representation criteria for county and state representation.

At present, the criteria for the state is one board member for every 3,000 members. The criteria for the county is one board member for every 10,000 members.

The resolution asks that both state and county membership be based on 3,000 members.



REGION I PRESIDENT IRVING FLAUMENBAUM (right) makes a point with George Caloumeno, State Labor Department Local 350. Caloumeno was one of a small group of State Division members who attended the County Division Workshop.



MAKING THE MOTION requesting the change in County Division Board of Directors representation is Nicholas Abbatiello (left). He and Kenneth Cadieux, are from Nassau County Local 830.

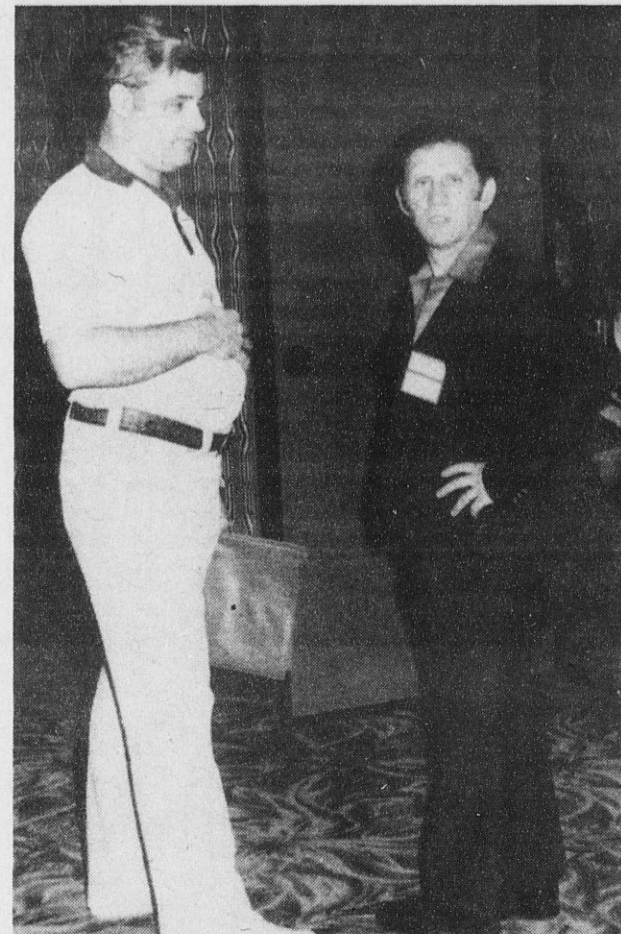
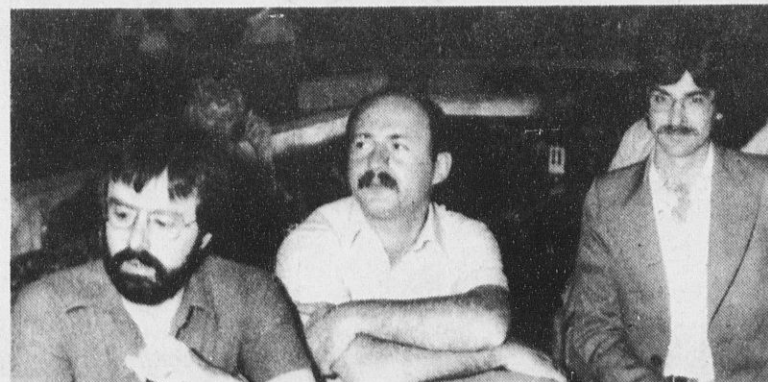


SUFFOLK COUNTY LOCAL 852 was represented by Charlie Novo, Kitty Sexton, Rose Orenda, John Desmond and Sylvia Cheatham.



WHAT A COINCIDENCE! The president of Rensselaer County Education Local 871 is Ed Evans (left). The president of Rensselaer County Local 842 is Dick Evans.

DURING THE COUNTY WORKSHOP, word came that (from left) James Hennerty, Lou Nayman and John Wyrrough had been elected second vice president, president and Board Representative of their Tompkins County Local 855.



STATEWIDE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE Kenneth Cadieux (left) chats with Rick Paradiso of Westchester County Local 860. Cadieux is from Nassau County Local 830.

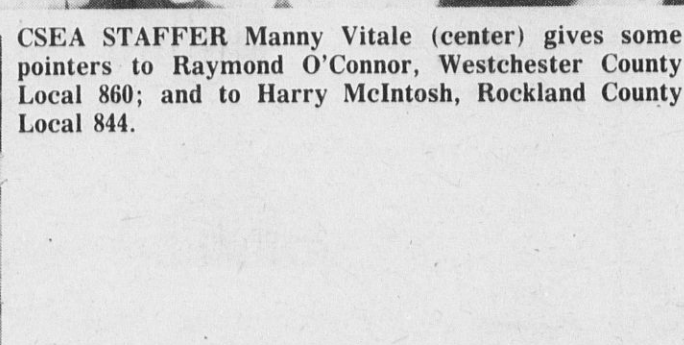


SARATOGA COUNTY LOCAL 846 President John Miller (left) chats with local's vice president-elect Larry O'Bryan.

THE BRAVERMANS, otherwise known as Mike and Ruth, are members of Nassau County Local 830.



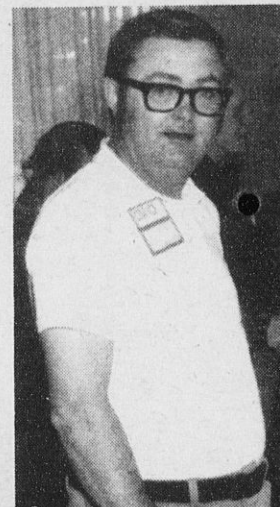
CSEA STAFFER Manny Vitale (center) gives some pointers to Raymond O'Connor, Westchester County Local 860; and to Harry McIntosh, Rockland County Local 844.



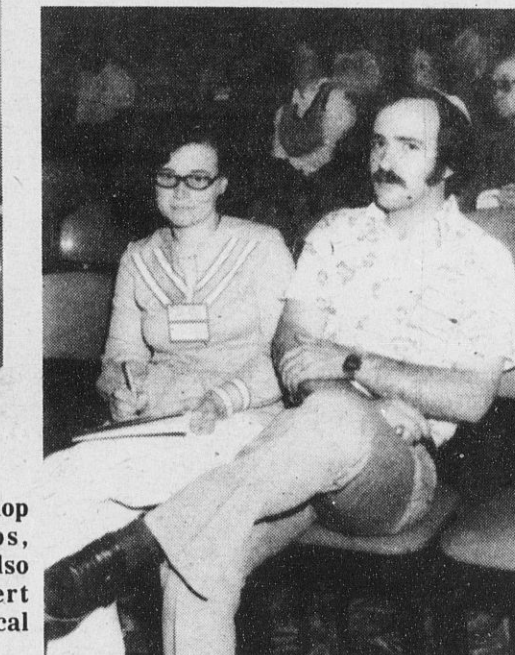
CORTLAND COUNTY Local 812 had Virginia Colton as one of its delegates.



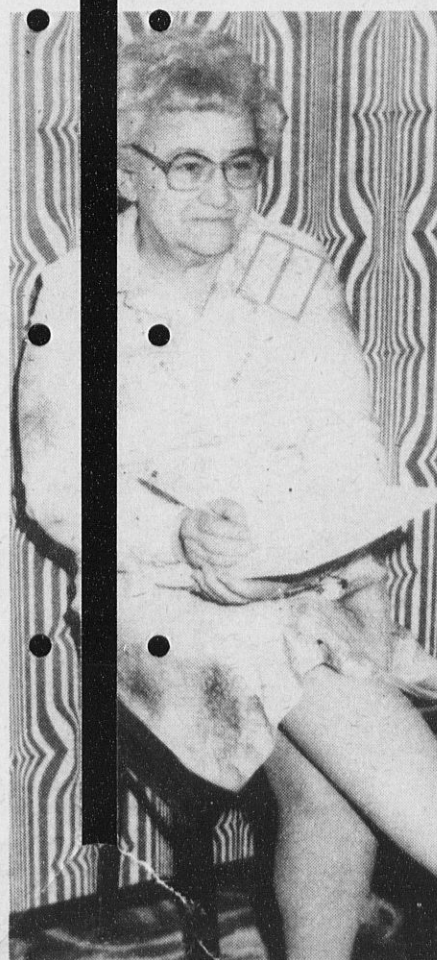
NORTH COUNTY was represented at the County Division Workshop by Richard Grieco of Jefferson County Local 823.



CSEA ATTORNEY RICHARD BURSTEIN (right), discusses a recent court decision with Fran Miller, Oswego County Local 838.



MAKING NOTES at a workshop session is Peggy Coombs, Cortland County Local 812. Also at the session was Robert Jhalvi, Oswego County Local 838.



CO-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY DIVISION Mary Sullivan (right) of Herkimer County Local 822 speaks with Pat Crandall of SUNY Cortland.

How to meet a local crisis

MONTICELLO — Utilizing the resources of CSEA/AFSCME to meet crisis situations was one of the sessions at the County Division Workshop.

The participants in this session explained how the various services of CSEA and of AFSCME came together to assist Nassau County CSEA Local 830 during the winter when it was threatened with 2,000 layoffs and a miniscule pay increase.

Taking part in the session were Local 830 President Nicholas Abbatiello, Acting Region I Director William Griffin, Field Representative George Peak, CSEA Legislative and Political Action Director Bernard Ryan and CSEA Communications Director Gary Fryer.

The speakers told how the union's political, budget analysis and public relations capabilities combined with local organization to avert disaster in Nassau County.

"We didn't realize how powerful we were, we could be" until the union was faced with the crisis, Peak said.

He said two of the keys were alerting all the union resources that you might need their help and making sure your membership is aware of the potential crisis.



A LARGE NUMBER of delegates from Nassau County Local 830 attended the County Workshop, including (from left) John Alioso, Pat D'Alessio, Nick Abbatiello and Tom Gargiulo.



COUNTY DIVISION CHAIRMAN Joseph Lazerony checks with the registration desk personnel of CSEA headquarters staff, (from left) Marcel Gardner, Rosemary Redmond and Mary Bingham.



WESTCHESTER COUNTY LOCAL 860 was represented by Eleanor McDonald (left) and Grace Ann Alioli.

Gotbaum warns delegates of rough road ahead

MONTICELLO — Victor Gotbaum, executive director of AFSCME District Council 37 of New York City, warned the delegates to the CSEA County Workshop of a rough road facing public employee unions in the near future.

Gotbaum, speaking of the Proposition 13 mentality, said: "You must analyze what is going on. We are going to take a beating."

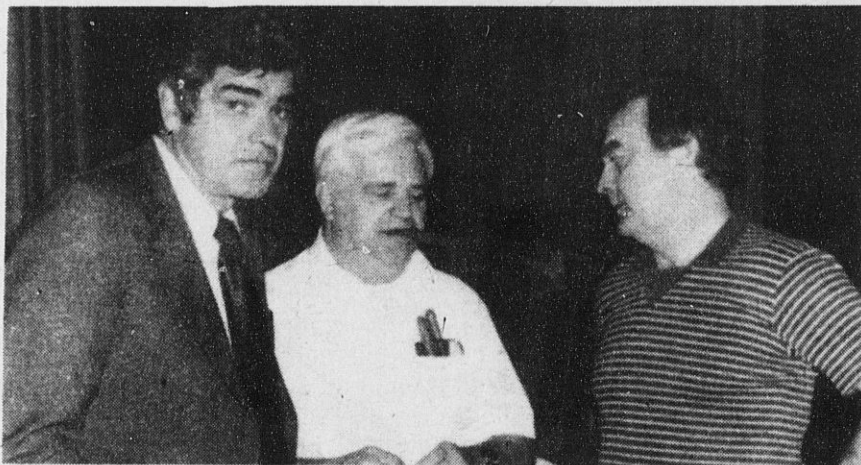
He said services were being cut back to those who need government service. He said in California 25,000 public service jobs have been eliminated.

The current tax mentality is: "Government that services the other guy is bad. They only want what helps them," Gotbaum said.

On a hopeful note, Gotbaum said public sector employment was growing. Today, 17 percent of the workforce are public employees; and by the turn of the century, the percentage should be 20 percent, he said.

To meet the problems ahead, Gotbaum urged unity, cooperation and responsibility from public employee labor unions.

"The negative conditions can be turned around. We are on the verge of a tremendous breakthrough," he said.



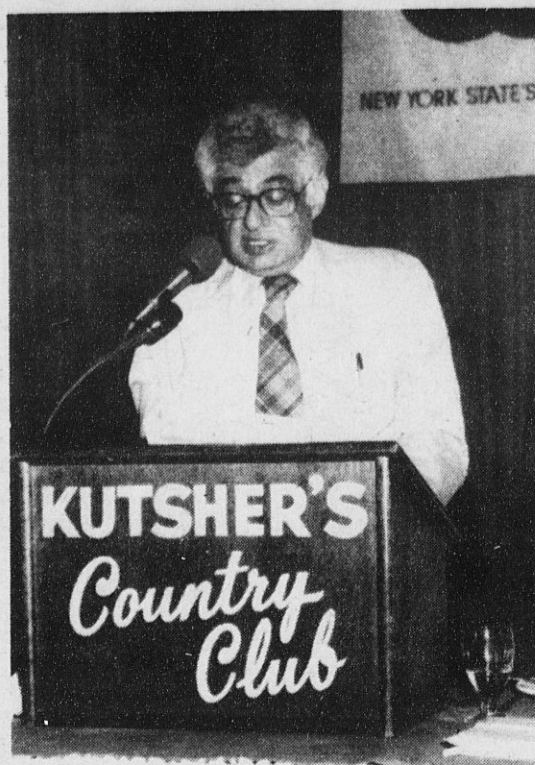
CSEA PRESIDENT WILLIAM L. MCGOWAN (center) joins AFSCME District Council 37 Executive Director Victor Gotbaum (left) and CSEA Executive Director Joseph Dolan in conversation at the County Division Workshop.



COUNTY DIVISION WORKSHOP delegates were addressed by Victor Gotbaum (left), executive director of AFSCME District Council 37 of New York City. Listening attentively to his speech are CSEA President William L. McGowan and statewide Secretary Irene Carr.



CSEA REGIONAL PRESIDENTS attended the County Division Workshop, including (from left) James Lennon, Region III, Sol Bendet, Region II, and Irving Flaumenbaum, Region I.



AFSCME INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT Jerry Wurf was one of many AFSCME representatives at the County Division Workshop. He spoke to the delegates, urging them to utilize the technical capabilities of AFSCME to help meet their problems.

Wurf urges utilization

MONTICELLO — AFSCME International President Jerry Wurf urged the delegates to the CSEA County Workshop to utilize the technical capabilities of AFSCME to meet the problems facing CSEA.

Wurf said that capability includes the areas of CETA, pensions, health insurance, budget analysis, political action and legislative actions.

He said CSEA and the other AFSCME affiliates are not using the technical capabilities as much as they should.

"The affiliates are only scratching the surface of our

capabilities," Wurf said.

Those capabilities are needed to meet the problems public employees face from the Proposition 13 mentality.

Wurf was critical of three lobbying groups — League of Cities, Conference of Mayors and Association of Counties — which are supported by tax money "yet criticize union membership."

He called upon the collective strength of CSEA and AFSCME to counter the strength of the three lobbying groups both in Albany and in Washington, D.C.



ASSISTANT TO THE AFSCME INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT William Hamilton spoke on the affiliation at the County Division Workshop. Maureen Malone, Madison County CSEA Local 827, introduced Hamilton at the workshop.



THREE CSEA regional presidents at the County Division Workshop were (from left) Robert Lattimer, Region VI; Joseph McDermott, Region IV, and James Moore, Region V.

Scholarship awarded by Greenburgh Unit

ELMSFORD — The Robert Bason Memorial Scholarship has been awarded to Nicholas P. Sauter, son of Pete Sauter, a senior civil engineer for the Town of Greenburgh.

The award was announced by Eleanor McDonald, president of the Town of Greenburgh Unit of Westchester County CSEA Local 860.

Sauter graduated May 27 summa cum laude and co-valedictorian from Fordham College with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. He successfully completed the Honors Program and has received the Biology Award. He plans to attend the University of Chicago Pritzker School of Medicine in the fall.

Ms. McDonald said: "It is deeply gratifying to present this award to a young man of such great promise." The Scholarship Committee, under the direction of Florence North, named the scholarship after Robert "Robbie" Bason, who was General Foreman of the Greenburgh Sanitation Department and a member of CSEA.



SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENT NICHOLAS P. SAUTER, second from right, receives the award from Town of Greenburgh Unit President Eleanor McDonald, second from left. Attending the ceremony were, from left, Peter Sauter, Nicholas' father; and scholarship committee members Florence North, Joan Giampoli and Russ Imlay. Committee member Frank Amodeo, Greenburgh Unit vice president, is not in picture.

CSEA program bills

All bills on this status report are supported by CSEA

Week of June 18, 1979

| CSEA Program Bill Number Summary of Provisions | Bill Number, Sponsors | Status |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| P-79-1, Agency Shop—Agency shop would become permanent and mandatory. | A-6748 Barbaro | |
| | S-4458 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-2, OSHA—Minimum health and safety standards for public employees would be established. | A-6619 Weprin, DelToro, Marchiselli, et al | Ways & Means Comm. |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-3, Two-for-One—The fine for striking would be reduced from two day's pay for each day struck to one day's pay for each day struck. | A-4169 Connor, Greco, Barbaro | Governmental Employees Comm. |
| | S-4457 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-4, Injunctive Notice—Unions and employees would be required to receive notice and have an opportunity to be heard before a temporary restraining order could be issued against a strike. | A-4167 Barbaro, Greco, Johnson, et al | Passed |
| | S-4452 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-5, Presumption of Arbitrability—The presumption of arbitrability for contract grievances would be restored. | A-4168 Connor, Johnson, Marchiselli, et al | Vote expected |
| | S-4451 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-6, Limited Right to Strike—Strike would be redefined to mean a work stoppage that threatens irreparable injury to the public health, safety and welfare. | A-6423 Barbaro | Governmental Employees Comm. |
| | S-7588 | |
| P-79-7, 1979 Contract—The provisions of the CSEA-State contract would be implemented. | A-8246 | Passed |
| | S-6235 | Passed |
| P-79-8, Triborough—A public employer would be required to continue an expired contract until a new agreement is reached. | A-4165 Greco, et al | Vote expected |
| | S-4454 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-9, Redefine Daily Rate of Pay—Strikers assessed a two-for-one penalty would be fined based on net take-home pay, not on gross pay. | A-4171 Connor, Finneran, Nine | Governmental Employees Comm. |
| | S-4456 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-10, Alternative Disciplinary Procedures—Unions, including subdivision employers, would be allowed to negotiate disciplinary procedures. | A-4166 DelToro, Greco, Finneran, Barbaro, et al | Governmental Employees Comm. |
| | S-4453 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-11, Retirees Death Benefit—State employees who retired before Sept. 30, 1966, would be eligible for a \$2,000 death benefit. | A-4416 Greco | Passed |
| | S-3221 Flynn | Passed |
| P-79-12, Permanent Cost of Living—Starting in 1980, retirees would receive an increase in the retirement allowance based on increases in the cost of living for the previous year. | A-6618 Rules | Governmental Employees Comm. |
| | S-4158 Rules | Civil Service Comm. |
| P-79-13, Extension of Supplementation—Pension supplementation would include those who retired before April 1, 1969, would be extended to those who retired before Jan. 1, 1970, and would increase supplements to reflect increases in the cost of living. | A-4509-A Barbaro | Passed |
| | S-3361-A Flynn | Passed |
| P-79-14, Education Law Parity—The financial advantage school districts receive when contracting out for student transportation would be eliminated. | A-4877 Orazio | Ways & Means Comm. |
| | S-3441 Donovan, et al | Passed |
| P-79-15, Division of Youth Transfer—Division of Youth employees transferred to a non-profit corporation would not lose benefits of State service. | A-2519 Budget | Ways & Means Comm. |
| | S-1719 Budget | Finance Comm. |

| CSEA Program Bill Number, Summary of Provisions | Bill Number, Sponsors | Status |
|--|--------------------------------------|--|
| P-79-16, Office of Court Administration—Unified Court System employees would be transferred to the State payroll as of April 1, 1977, and would receive permanent status in their competitive class if they have performed the duties of their positions for one year prior to the effective date of this law. | A-6194 Connor | Passed |
| | S-4142 Rolison | Passed |
| P-79-17, Employee Indemnification—Additional instance in which public employees should be indemnified from suit by the employer for acts which arise in the course of performing their duties. | A-5963 Greco | Governmental Employees Comm. Judiciary |
| | S-2766 Schermerhorn | |
| P-79-18, Sheriff's Reopener—Approximately eight employees of the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department would be allowed to choose the provisions of the Retirement and Social Security Law (optional 20-year retirement). | A-Pending | |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-19, State University Unclassified Service—The power to remove State University employees from classified service would be returned to the Civil Service Commission from the State University Chancellor. | A-3836 M. Miller | Governmental Employees Comm. Civil Service Comm. |
| | S-3754 Cook | |
| P-79-20, University of Buffalo Buy-Back—State employees working at the University of Buffalo before it was acquired by the State would be allowed to purchase retirement credits for the time they were employed by the University. | A-7559 Rules | Ways & Means Comm. |
| | S-4928 Volker | Rules |
| P-79-21 (a), Veterans Buy-Back—World War II veterans would be allowed to purchase up to three years of credit toward retirement. | A-Pending | |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-21 (b), Veterans Buy-Back—Korean War veterans would be allowed to purchase up to three years credit toward retirement. | A-Pending | |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-22, Sanitarians—Sanitarians working for public and private employers would be certified by the Department of Education. | A-Pending | |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-23, Suffolk County Retirement—The Suffolk County contract allowing investigators to elect 20-year retirement would be implemented. | A-4204 Hochbrueckner | Ways & Means Comm. |
| | S-3079 Johnson, Lack, Trunzo | Passed |
| P-79-24, Pension Advisory Board—Power to invest pension funds would be vested in a board of trustees with meaningful public employee representation. | A-Pending | |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-25, Correction Officers—Correction officers employed by Westchester County would be eligible to elect participation in a 20-year retirement plan. | A-Pending | |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-26, Showing of Interest—The procedure for verifying a showing of interest in a representation determination would be changed. | A-Pending | |
| | S-Pending | |
| P-79-27, Court Employees Contract—The collective bargaining agreement for employees of the Unified Court System be implemented. | A-1773 McCabe, et al | Passed |
| | S-1304 Barclay, et al | Passed (Ch. 4, Laws of 1979) |
| P-79-28, Employer Improper Practice—An employee organization would not be determined to be guilty of violating the no-strike provision when the strike was caused, in whole or in part, by an improper employer practice. | A-4170 Greco, Barbaro, Lentol, et al | Ways & Means Comm. Civil Service Comm. |
| | S-4455 Rules | |

A-Assembly

S-Senate

OPEN CONTINUOUS STATE JOB CALENDAR

| Title | Salary | Exam No. |
|---|-------------------|----------|
| Pharmacist (salary varies with location) | \$14,388-\$15,562 | 20-129 |
| Assistant Sanitary Engineer | \$16,040 | 20-122 |
| Senior Sanitary Engineer | \$18,301 | 20-123 |
| Clinical Physician I | \$27,942 | 20-118 |
| Clinical Physician II | \$31,055 | 20-119 |
| Assistant Clinical Physician | \$25,161 | 20-117 |
| Attorney | \$14,850 | 20-113 |
| Assistant Attorney | \$12,397 | 20-113 |
| Attorney Trainee | \$11,723 | 20-113 |
| Junior Engineer | \$12,890 | 20-109 |
| (Bachelor's Degree) | | |
| Junior Engineer | \$13,876 | 20-109 |
| (Master's Degree) | | |
| Dental Hygienist | \$8,950 | 20-107 |
| Licensed Practical Nurse | \$8,051 | 20-106 |
| Nutrition Services Consultant | \$13,404 | 20-139 |
| Stationary Engineer | \$10,042 | 20-100 |
| Senior Stationary Engineer | \$11,250 | 20-101 |
| Occupational Therapy Assistant I | \$9,029 | 20-174 |
| Occupational Therapy Assistant I | \$9,029 | 20-174 |
| (Spanish Speaking) | | |
| Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor | \$14,142 | 20-140 |
| Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Trainee | \$11,983 | 20-140 |
| Medical Record Technician | \$9,481 | 20-143 |
| Histology Technician | \$8,051 | 20-170 |
| Professional Positions in Auditing and Accounting | \$11,250 | 20-200 |
| Computer Programmer | \$11,250 | 20-220 |
| Computer Programmer (Scientific) | \$11,250 | 20-222 |
| Senior Programmer | \$14,075 | 20-221 |
| Senior Computer Programmer (Scientific) | \$14,075 | 20-223 |
| Mobility Instructor | \$11,904 | 20-224 |
| Instructor of the Blind | \$11,250 | 20-225 |
| Health Services Nurse | \$11,250-\$12,025 | 20-226 |
| (salary varies with location) | | |
| Senior Heating and Ventilating Engineer | \$18,301 | 20-227 |
| Senior Sanitary Engineer (Design) | \$18,301 | 20-228 |
| Senior Building Electrical Engineer | \$18,301 | 20-229 |
| Senior Building Structural Engineer | \$18,301 | 20-230 |
| Senior Mechanical Construction Engineer | \$18,301 | 20-231 |
| Senior Plumbing Engineer | \$18,301 | 20-232 |
| Assistant Stationary Engineer | \$7,616 | 20-303 |
| Electroencephalograph Technician | \$7,616 | 20-308 |
| Radiologic Technologist | \$8,454-\$10,369 | 20-334 |
| (salary varies with location) | | |
| Medical Record Administrator | \$11,904 | 20-348 |
| Food Service Worker I | \$6,456 | 20-352 |
| Mental Hygiene Therapy Aide Trainee | \$7,204 | 20-394 |
| Mental Hygiene Therapy Aide Trainee | \$7,204 | 20-394 |
| (Spanish Speaking) | | |
| Associate Actuary (Casualty) | \$18,369 | 20-416 |
| Principal Actuary (Casualty) | \$22,364 | 20-417 |
| Supervising Actuary (Casualty) | \$26,516 | 20-418 |
| Assistant Actuary | \$10,714 | 20-556 |
| Nurse I | \$10,624 | 20-584 |
| Nurse II | \$11,904 | 20-585 |
| Nurse II (Psychiatric) | \$11,904 | 20-586 |
| Nurse II (Rehabilitation) | \$11,904 | 20-587 |
| Medical Specialist II | \$33,705 | 20-840 |
| Medical Specialist I | \$27,942 | 20-841 |
| Psychiatrist I | \$27,942 | 20-842 |
| Psychiatrist II | \$33,705 | 20-843 |
| Social Services Management Trainee | \$10,824 | 20-875 |
| Social Services Management Specialist | \$11,450 | 20-875 |
| Social Services Management Trainee | \$10,824 | 20-876 |
| (Spanish Speaking) | | |
| Social Services Management Specialist | \$11,450 | 20-876 |
| (Spanish Speaking) | | |
| Industrial Training Supervisor | \$10,624-\$12,583 | 20-877 |
| (salary varies depending on specialty) | | |
| Physical Therapist | \$11,337 | 20-880 |
| Physical Therapist (Spanish Speaking) | \$11,337 | 20-880 |
| Senior Physical Therapist | \$12,670 | 20-881 |
| Senior Physical Therapist (Spanish Speaking) | \$12,670 | 20-881 |
| Speech Pathologist | \$12,670 | 20-883 |
| Audiologist | \$12,670 | 20-882 |
| Assistant Speech Pathologist | \$11,337 | 20-884 |
| Assistant Audiologist | \$11,337 | 20-885 |
| Dietician Trainee | \$10,624 | 20-888 |
| Dietician | \$11,250 | 20-887 |
| Supervising Dietician | \$13,304 | 20-886 |
| Stenographer | \$6,650 | 20-890 |
| Typist | \$6,071 | 20-891 |
| Senior Occupational Therapist | \$12,670 | 20-894 |
| Senior Occupational Therapist | \$12,670 | 20-894 |
| (Spanish Speaking) | | |
| Occupational Therapist | \$11,337 | 20-895 |
| Occupational Therapist (Spanish Speaking) | \$11,337 | 20-895 |

You may contact the following offices of the New York State Department of Civil Service for announcements, applications, and other details concerning examinations for the positions listed above.
State Office Building Campus, First Floor, Building I, Albany, New York 12239 (518) 457-6216.
2 World Trade Center, 55th Floor, New York City 10047 (212) 488-4248.
Suite 750, Genesee Building, West Genesee Street, Buffalo, New York 14202 (716) 842-4260.

The in depth, incisive articles concerning Masten Park, its employees, its clients, and its possible future were researched and written by Public Sector staff writer Dawn LePore, who also took the Photographs accompanying the articles.

Masten Park



MASTEN PARK — This is the front entrance to Masten Park. The once bustling facility is now empty, except for a handful of clients in the detoxification unit.

Drug treatment center at Masten Park closed

BUFFALO — Just ten years ago, there were 14 drug rehabilitation treatment centers operating across New York State. Six of those were closed in 1972, five more were shut down in 1976. By early this year, only two such centers remained open. Now both are closed.

The Masten Park Rehabilitation Center was the last to go. In operation since 1968 with 140 employees, the facility was phased out this spring by state officials who said its \$2.4 million budget was too expensive in the face of a declining client population.

Plans to convert the center, once a home for wayward girls, into a Division for Youth facility was held up in the State Legislature for nearly all of this session as part of the supplemental budget. Then, in the closing moments as the lawmakers rushed for adjournment, the DFY facility concept at Masten Park was suddenly funded as a separate bill, with CSEA getting it removed from the supplemental budget because of uncertainty that the budget would be acted upon before adjournment.

DESERTED — This hallway, like the facility itself, is empty and silent.



A rocky trip on the road to transition from drug care center to youth facility

BUFFALO — The clients — 150 inpatients and 400 others on aftercare — are gone now from the sprawling block-wide complex. But the fate of Masten Park's employees and the complex itself are still up in the air.

"We were told in January that Masten Park would be going out of business September 1 with no new occupant," said Peter Blake, president of CSEA Local 269, which represented Masten workers. "That's when it started. There were rumors that it was going to the Division for Youth as a correctional facility. On March 13, it was confirmed."

At a meeting in Albany attended by state and CSEA officials, the details were explained.

"We were assured the facility would remain open under the Division for youth. A number of the employees would be kept and no one would lose a job," said Robert Lattimer, CSEA Region 6 president. "The state said it would guarantee jobs in Western New York for the permanent employees."

About three-quarter's of Masten Park's 140 employees were on permanent status.

"Jerry Anthone of the Budget Division said 'no one will hit the street,'" Blake said. "Everyone was to get a job at the closest comparable title with no loss of income."

"We came away with the feeling that the transition would be smooth. We were very optimistic," Blake said. "But what appeared to be a tranquil transfer just didn't happen. The whole thing has been totally destroyed."

Employee interviews were conducted at the center in late March to determine who would be qualified to fill the approximately 70 DFY openings. Those who couldn't be matched to a position there were to be offered jobs within two pay grades of their permanent positions within reasonable commuting distance of the employee's home, generally, within 50 miles.

The closing date was pushed up to April 1, the clients were evacuated, but the staff stayed on, waiting for some word.

"Two weeks after the interviews, we hadn't heard anything," Blake said. "I called Albany and was told all bets were off."

The finance committee of the state legislature had recommended that no money be used to expand services. The DFY's proposed budget of \$2.2 million was frozen, to be considered later in the state's supplemental

budget. Then, just a few days ago, funding was approved for Masten Park under a separate bill just as the state legislature adjourned for the summer.

All employees at Masten Park were to be maintained on a temporary basis until June 30. The Budget Division created an excess of positions at several other state-run facilities in the area for the displaced workers.

"The budget and executive branches have bent over backwards to get people employed or keep them employed," said Paul Burch, CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist. "In other cases where a facility is closing, they simply give layoff notice and the people are usually thrown to the wolves."

"We did interview 106 or 107 — just about all of them," said Paul Elisha, DFY Director of Public Relations. "There are approximately 75 or 80 percent who appeared to have qualifications we could use. But the question is moot, depending on the availability of funds."

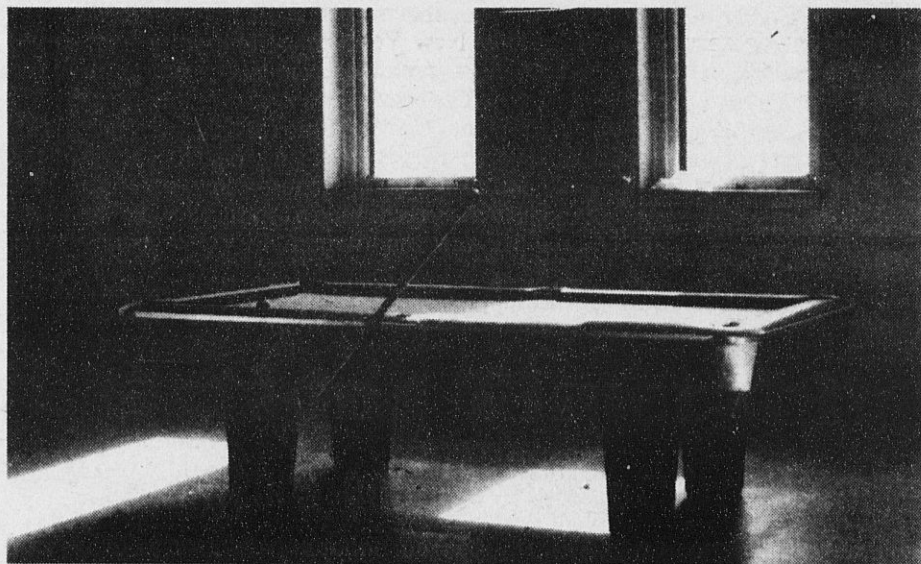
"A group of about 20 administrative people have been offered other permanent positions and have taken them," Blake said. "Ten or 12 members of the treatment staff left for Buffalo Psychiatric Center on loan. Another 15 or 18 went over to Roswell Park Memorial Institute, functioning as nursing aides — positions they had no training for. Seven or eight went to the West Seneca Developmental Center. To the best of my knowledge, everyone is working somewhere."

Twenty-five employees, including Blake, stayed on at Masten Park to run the detoxification unit, which will remain in operation indefinitely, until arrangements can be made to transfer the unit to another local facility, possibly the Erie County Medical Center.

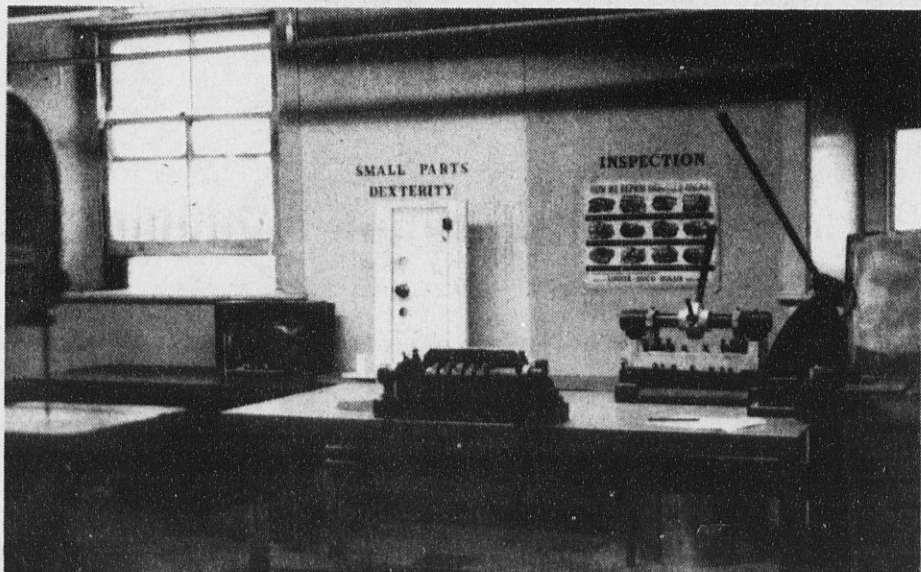
Blake said he had been offered one job as a Grade 9 Mental Health Treatment Aide at the Rochester Psychiatric Center. He has worked at Masten Park since the facility opened in 1968, as a Grade 14, until the position was reclassified as Grade 11 in 1977. His vocational counseling class was one of the most popular at the center.

Some employees had been offered jobs in Franklin County — at the other end of the state, Blake said. Those who haven't taken permanent jobs by June 30 will be placed on preferred lists to continue waiting.

"I've been on one preferred list since 1977," Blake said. "I haven't had a call once. If nothing fits, you can wither and die on a preferred list."



SILENT NOW, the Masten Park recreation room and auditorium once was the scene of activities, movies, weekly meetings.



MASTEN PARK CLIENTS were tested for aptitude skills at this vocational evaluation center upon entering and leaving the facility. Now everything stands still and unused.

Where are the clients?

BUFFALO — With the closing of the last drug rehabilitation center in the state, many of the facility's workers were left wondering what would happen to their jobs. But another question also exists: what has happened to the 150 clients who lived at Masten Park and the 400 more, who regarded the center as a "home base" for drug and vocational counseling?

"We had a major evacuation plan. Twenty-five or thirty a week — going back to their home towns or to probation officers — whatever — it was catch as catch can," said Peter Blake, CSEA Local 269 president.

"Those people on aftercare were faced with the possibility of being totally cut loose. Some were. We recommended counseling that was available but we didn't have any jurisdiction to send them there," he said.

"Throughout this whole thing, I haven't seen one instance where anyone gave any thought to the clients," said Robert Lattimer, CSEA Region 6 president. "Naturally, our first concern is our members and employees, but I'm just wondering what the hell is going on?"

"I guess somebody just decided there wasn't a drug problem," he said.

"I don't think they should have closed it in the first place," said Paul Burch, CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist. "We tried to fight it but no matter what we said, it was going to close. It has left Western New York without a drug treatment center. I'm sure the state had some reason for closing it, but I don't know what it was."

According to Masten Park's director, A. Louis Cid, the cost per client was lower than keeping a person in jail.

"We are very sensitive that there is a vacuum in the area and I would hope some agency would come in, recognizing that need, and pick it up," said Paul Elisha, a spokesman for the Division for Youth, which plans to take over the facility. "It's very important to understand that we are not trying to push the center out. We were given to understand that funds were being cut off."

"When someone is arrested on a drug-related charge now, he is taken to the holding center, detoxified, and depending on the nature of the crime, there is the slight chance he would be sent to the Allentown Counseling Center or something like that," Blake explained. "But if it's anything other than a minor offense, he will be arraigned, detoxified and be sentenced."

"It's either walk in to a satellite center and say 'Hi, I think I have a problem' or it's Attica. There's no in between anymore."

'The most dangerous employer ... is the State of New York.'

ALBANY—The president of the state's largest public employee union told an Albany press conference June 18 that the continuing failure of the state's Legislature to extend occupational safety and health protections to New York's public employees was costing taxpayers millions in needless compensation claims and costing public workers pain and suffering that can be prevented.

William L. McGowan, president of the 220,000-member Civil Service Employees Assn., said that while the state refused to extend occupational safety protections covering all private sector workers in America to its own employees, thousands of public employees are being injured, maimed, even killed in on-the-job accidents that in many instances are preventable.

"The plain fact of the matter is that the most dangerous employer to work for in the State of New York is the State of New York," McGowan said.

"In recent weeks a public employee in Westchester County was electrocuted while performing out-of-title work, three laborers with the Department of Transportation were killed by a runaway truck in Newburgh, and a major state facility ignored the orders of its own "safety officer" and dumped toxic chemicals in an open pit, yet no one points a finger at the State of New York and yells about its safety practices," McGowan said.

CSEA is leading a fight in the state Legislature to extend the protections of the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act to public

employees. Presently the OSHA protections that have been directly responsible for a drastic decline in the number of job-related injuries in the private sector are not extended to public employees unless state legislatures adopt them. To date, New York has failed to extend those protections to its own employees.

"In an era when all private sector American working men and women are protected by the federal Occupational Safety and Health Act, it is a disgrace that the State of New York continues to keep its head in the sand and allow sloppy management habits and hazardous working environments to threaten public employees and fleece the taxpayers," McGowan said.

"The Legislature has to date asked for and received three state Labor Department studies of the need for an occupational safety statute to protect New York's public employees and every single study has recommended extension of OSHA protection to our people. Yet the Legislature still refuses to move and the injuries continue," McGowan said.

CSEA supported legislation which it had hoped to get through the Senate and Assembly in this legislative session to extend occupational protections to public employees, but early Saturday the Legislature adjourned without dealing with the subject. Opponents of the legislation claim OSHA protections for public employees would be too expensive, but the union believes the costs would be more than covered by the savings in compensation claims.

Joe McDermott:

Asbestos exposure has been verified

ALBANY — Joseph E. McDermott, President of CSEA's Capital Region, contributed a regional view of the need for safety legislation and air quality.

McDermott explained that the Capital Region has been concerned with the overall safety of 50,000 public employees, who live within the limits of the Capital Region, especially with the air quality at all public employee work locations.

"Recently, the press has been filled with numerous stories of the reports of the dangers of asbestos. Surveys have been conducted, results have been released and then additional surveys have been announced which supposedly contradict the former research reports," McDermott stated.

"However, nothing has yet been done to change the situations which exist. Areas where potential asbestos exposure have been verified are still in existence. The state has done nothing to correct the situations except to reiterate that it will study the situation," McDermott continued.

The regional president then revealed that the State Department of Education had issued a bulletin on asbestos contamination to the superintendents of public schools throughout New York State on April 5, 1979, but so far the CSEA president stated that there has not been a follow-up report on just how many public school buildings were found to have asbestos used in their construction, nor how many areas were found to have asbestos contamination, nor what was done to correct the situation.

McDermott then issued his air

quality safety demands, "as a vice president of CSEA and as the regional president in this area, I insist that positive, protective action to prevent the development of asbestos related lung diseases be initiated now."

"I insist that the State of New York implement an immediate medical examination program for all workers in each building where asbestos contamination has been verified. I demand that all buildings in the public sector from the new Troy City Hall to the Clinton County Government complex and, more importantly, every public school in the State be inspected for possible asbestos material use and contamination."

McDermott explained that research has indicated that asbestos contamination sources can be treated with plastic sprays, glue-based paints to stop the flaking and deterioration of the asbestos material and also, in some cases, the asbestos material can be removed.

The regional president ended his press statement with a note of concern for the ongoing air quality problems in the Health Department Labs area. He noted that several lab employees showed positive tuberculosis tests, and that this situation developed after another labs employee nearly dies from an exposure to a rabies serum. "The excuses such as the area being overcrowded with equipment, etc. will never satisfy the family of a deceased public employee."

"Rhetoric on the part of the State of New York is no safety device," McDermott concluded.



CSEA PRESIDENT WILLIAM L. McGOWAN tells members of the news media that the union will request a special session of the state legislature, if necessary, to deal with extending health and safety standards to public workers in New York State. At left is CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist Nels Carlson. Next to President McGowan is CSEA Region IV President Joseph McDermott, and at far right is Region IV Director John Corcoran.

CSEA Safety Hotline

The Civil Service Employees Assn. has established a toll-free 800 hotline to receive information relative to unsafe working conditions and reports on job-related mishaps. If you believe you know of any unsafe work conditions, please call:

800-342-4824