

# 'Reaganonomics'

## developing disaster dominates delegate discussions

DELEGATE MEETING COVERAGE, Pages 5, 6 & 7



CSEA PRESIDENT William L. McGowan warns delegates of dangers of Reagan Administration approach to budget matters.

## Public SECTOR

Official Publication of  
The Civil Service Employees  
Association

Vol. 3, No. 25

Wednesday, April 1, 1981

(ISSN 0164 9949)

## Want to seek union office? Well, time is running out

ALBANY — If you are a CSEA member and you want to take a more active role in the leadership of your union, time may be running out on running for union offices this year.

CSEA operates an open and democratic election process to choose its leadership, but time is running out for persons who might be interested in running for office by petition.

On all levels of the union, various nominating committees meet to review applications for candidacy from members seeking elective office. The committee selects candidates whose names appear on election ballots, but that is not the only way of gaining ballot placement.

Reflecting the union's democratic policies, the election process allows for eligible members to have their names put on the official election ballots if they can obtain the necessary number of signatures from members eligible to vote in the election in which the would-be candidate seeks office.

But there are time limits on this process and time is

running out in some instances and may have already run out in others.

In the cases of statewide offices (State Executive Committee of the Board of Directors and County Educational Representative to the Board of Directors), the deadline for filing petitions is April 15. In the case of Regional Offices, the deadline was April 1. In the case of Local and Unit offices, the dates vary since these elections are controlled by different committees guided by the Model Local and Unit Constitutions.

If you are interested in seeking union office through election, there is still time for petitions to be filed for statewide offices and there may still be time in the case of various Local and Unit elections.

For details on Local and Unit elections, contact your Local or Unit Election Committee. In the case of statewide offices, petition forms are available at Region Offices and must be filed with Joseph J. Dolan, Jr., CSEA Executive Director, 33 Elk St., Albany, N.Y., 12207, by no later than April 15, 1981.

## Retroactivity of comp benefits is still in question

ALBANY — CSEA attorneys are studying a recent Appellate Court decision regarding workers' compensation benefits to determine if the decision will have any retroactive effect.

As reported in last week's Public Sector, an Appellate Court has ruled that state employees who are required to charge to their leave credits the first 10 days of absence due to an occupational injury should receive workers' compensation benefits for those 10 days. In the past, the workers' compensation benefits were paid to the State.

"We are carefully studying the decision and we have discussed its possible impact with the Workers Compensation Board," said CSEA counsel James Roemer. "But, at this point, we really don't know if the decision will be in any way retroactive."

Atty. Roemer pledged to keep CSEA members informed about the effects of this decision through the Public Sector.

## New regulations governing dues rebates adopted

ALBANY — New guidelines to regulate the use of membership dues rebated to CSEA Locals and Units have been adopted by the union's Statewide Board of Directors.

CSEA President William L. McGowan proposed the guidelines as modifications to the Model Local, Unit and Regional Constitutions and his plan was first endorsed by the Board of Directors' Charter Committee, then by the full Board.

"CSEA rebates part of the dues paid by its members to our Locals, Unit and Regions so that they can provide representation and union services to the rank and file at the grass roots level," commented the union president. "But there is a responsibility that goes with these rebates to control the expenditure of funds. These common-sense guidelines will help our union protect the use of its memberships' hard earned money."

In the past the expenditure of rebated dues by Locals, Units and Regions was controlled by broad guidelines that left most discretion in expenditures to locally elected Executive committees. While this system worked well in the vast majority of cases, in some isolated instances appropriations were made that were questionable, but not technically improper under the rules then in effect.

"With the advent of increasing demands for resources and the escalating amount of rebates, there is a clear need for more definitive guidelines today than existed in the past," commented CSEA Comptroller David M. Stack. "These new guidelines, for example, require certification and training for all treasurers of Locals, Units and Regions. This helps protect our resources at the local level and also provides more guidance for local leadership on how to handle the funds that we provide to them."

Specifically, the new guidelines require Regions, Locals and Units to file budgets in a form approved by CSEA. Units must file their budgets with Locals

and Locals and Regions must file their budgets with the Statewide Treasurer of CSEA.

Executive Boards of Units, Locals and Regions will have a fiduciary responsibility to their membership and will be required to approve any expenditures in excess of the budgets as filed with an explanation of the excess and documentation of expenditures.

Funds may only be paid to individuals for reimbursement of "reasonable, actual and necessary expenses incurred in furtherance of union business" or for reasonable honorariums. Honorariums may only be created after an intervening election has occurred and upon notification to the Local, in the case of Units, or to the Statewide Treasurer in the cases of Regions and Locals.

Expenses may only be reimbursed to individuals upon submission of vouchers in a form approved by CSEA and with submission of receipts. Reimbursements for delegate expenses will be limited to the reimbursement schedule approved by the Board of Directors.

Locals, Units and Regions cannot make "gifts of appreciation or contributions to any cause . . ." No contributions may be made or expenses incurred for any political causes.

Reimbursements may not be made to individuals who have been reimbursed by any other source. Indebtedness cannot be incurred without the approval of the Board of Directors and no leases, contracts or other agreements can be entered without Board of Directors approval if they extend beyond the period for which Local, Unit or Regional officers have been elected. The Board may approve such agreements after review.

Office expenses must be within usual and customary levels for the area in which any offices are located and staff for such offices cannot be retained without approval of the Local, Unit or Region Executive Committee and no loans may be made by Locals, Units or Regions without approval of the Board of Directors.



# Pre-exams insuring prudent legal decisions

## Evaluations result in high percentage of case approval

NORTH AMITYVILLE — CSEA members of Long Island Region I who require legal assistance have been benefiting from prudent examination of cases at monthly meetings being held by the region's two members on the statewide Legal Committee.

Since Ralph Spagnolo's appointment last July, he and committee member Edwin Garcia have been meeting in advance of the statewide committee meeting to review the region's requests for legal assistance.

Meeting with Spagnolo and Garcia has been CSEA Field Representative Rigo Predonzan who lends technical assistance and advice.

Both committee members said since they have been working together almost all requests for legal assistance from the region have been approved by the statewide committee.

Spagnolo said: "We evaluate each case that will be acted on that month in Albany. We have had as many as 40 cases in a month."

Garcia said: "We check the merit of each case so we can intelligently plead for backing of those cases which are meritorious."



STATEWIDE LEGAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS Edwin Garcia, left, and Ralph Spagnolo, right, meeting with CSEA Field Representative Rigo Predonzan at Long Island Region I headquarters to discuss requests for legal assistance which will come before the statewide committee.

## Health Department Local questioning why safety inspection report being delayed

ALBANY — Health Department CSEA Local 664 officials are concerned over an expected delay in the return of a report from the Occupational Safety and Hazards Act bureau after it conducted a safety inspection of sections of the Empire State Plaza's Tower Building in January.

CSEA Local President Al Mead said the Local's safety committee had hoped to receive the results by mid-February at the latest. At Public Sector press time the report had still not been received, despite calls by Mead to OSHA.

"It's been eight weeks now and we don't have a report. It's ludicrous. There's no excuse. If there are violations here we want to take action to have them corrected," Mead told The Public Sector.

The print shop, maintenance rooms and loading docks in the Tower Building are in poor physical condition, but since CSEA is not sure of what actual violations exist, it has called upon OSHA for its expertise.

The inspector took several pages of notes during his visit, so the CSEA suspects there are some violations, Mead said.

CSEA's list of complaints includes poor ventilation, possible harmful chemical fumes in the air, cracked walls and floors and a general state of deterioration.

Meanwhile the Office of Administrative Services has called in an exterminator at the request of the union after the safety committee received complaints from employees about rodent sightings.

The rodents, it is believed, were being drawn by food scraps left in trash cans during the night. The night cleaning crew was transferred to days, so any food thrown in the cans late in the afternoon remains until the next morning, Mead said.

As of Public Sector press time, he commented, the extermination has been effective.

"We've had mice running across the tops of our desks. It's not very pleasant," said one employee.

## Union applauds Troy city officials for instituting concept of contracting in

TROY — During the past several years the Capitol Region of the Civil Service Employees Association has been telling management within its area that contracting out of jobs that can be done by public employees to private contractors is a waste of tax payers dollars, not a tax savings. Apparently City of Troy Department of Public Works Commissioner Thomas Murley is becoming a believer in "contracting in", comparing the costs of a job when done by an outside contractor versus the cost of the job when done by City of Troy DPW employees.

In 1980, the City of Troy Council bonded \$1.6 million for a city paving program. City Manager John Buckley estimated that about \$160,000 was saved when the city crews completed a portion of the work. This savings was realized by the city with the employees using old equipment. "The city employees used a drag-box paver," Murley explained. "It hooks on the back of a garbage truck. It wasn't very efficient," he noted. "Every time the truck emptied, the employees had to unhook it, let the empty truck back away and a full truck pull up. We lost time and that is critical when you are using hot blacktop."

The City Council is supportive of better utilization of the public employee work force, for it has authorized the purchase of a motorized paver, a \$170,000 investment. Now the DPW commissioner is full of positive comments about the investment in public employee potential in the City of Troy. "With the new machine, we'll be able to do a lot more paving and a better job. The DPW men are enthused about the new equipment. They always wanted a big machine, so we fought for that machine and we both won."

Commissioner Murley explained how savings to the City of Troy taxpayers would be realized: "The contractor gets paid to rip up the old street, clean it, prepare it for paving and brining in the paving crew. We pay for his trucks and labor. It's a higher pay scale and they only work six to eight months per year. This way the men, the city DPW employees, will work full time."

"The change over will take several years before DPW is in charge of the city wide paving program," Murley noted.

Joseph Cassidy, president of the City of Troy CSEA Unit, said, "It's a good example of how a municipality can use its own work force to accomplish big jobs and also save taxpayers money."

## Calendar of EVENTS

### April

- 1 — Long Island Region 1 Mental Hygiene Task Force meeting, noon, Region 1 Satellite Office, Hauppauge.
- 2 — Southern Region III Mental Hygiene locals meeting, 7 p.m., Holiday Inn, Fishkill.
- 7 — Southern Region III retirees meeting, 1 p.m., Region III headquarters, Fishkill.
- 7 — Westchester Unit Shop Stewards Training Session, "Duty of Fair Representation," 7:00 p.m., County Office Building, Room 108, White Plains.
- 8 — Pilgrim Psychiatric Center Local 418 open house, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Assembly Hall, Pilgrim Psychiatric Center, West Brentwood.
- 9 — Southern Region III county locals meeting, 8 p.m., Bear Mountain Inn, Bear Mountain.
- 10 — Central Islip Psychiatric Center Local 404 open house, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., Club House, Central Islip Psychiatric Center, Central Islip.
- 10 — Statewide Non-Teaching School Employees Committee meeting, 8 p.m., Coachman Hotel, White Plains.
- 10-11 — Region 6 Women's Committee Seminar, Rowntowner, Rochester.
- 11 — CSEA Region V Combined Stewards Training Seminar; Raymond Hall, 8th floor; SUNY Potsdam; 8:30 a.m. Those Locals invited to participate are: No. 613 SUNY Potsdam; No. 603 ATC Canton; No. 423 St. Lawrence P.C.; No. 845 St. Lawrence County.
- 11 — Statewide Non-Teaching School Employees Committee meeting, 11 a.m., Ramada Inn, Newburgh.
- 13 — Long Island Region I Executive Committee meeting, 7 p.m., Machinists Hall, Melville.
- 14 — Southern Region III corrections locals meeting, 8 p.m., Holiday Inn, Newburgh.
- 14 — Westchester County Unit meeting, 7:00 p.m., 85 Court St., White Plains.
- 15 — Buffalo Local 003, Executive Committee meeting, Plaza Suite, Buffalo.
- 20-22 — Long Island Region 1 Annual Workshop, Gurney's Inn, Montauk.
- 23 — Southern Region III SUNY locals meeting, 7 p.m., Holiday Inn, Fishkill.
- 25 — CSEA Region IV Women's Committee Meeting with guest speaker attorney Marge Karowe on "Women's Legal Rights," Best Western Thruway House, 9 a.m. registration.
- 28 — Southern Region III DOT locals meeting, 8 p.m., Howard Johnson's, Middletown.



# Costello's action prevents major fire

## SUNY Delhi custodian gambled his safety to keep a dormitory fire from spreading

By Charles McGeary

CSEA Communication Associate

DELHI — Lunch hour on the campus of SUNY Delhi is usually rather quiet, especially during the January vacation period when the students are away.

Eluid (Elliott) Costello, a member of CSEA Local 638 at the College, was enjoying a noon break from his normal custodial duties when an excited passerby mentioned he saw smoke coming from an upper window of the building.

Costello immediately raced to the second floor of the dormitory, found no evidence of a fire, then quickly ran to the third floor. After opening several doors, he discovered the right room.

"When I opened the door, the room was filled with smoke; it looked like a mattress had caught fire. I started to move into the room, but turned back to catch my breath and grab a fire extinguisher," Costello explained.

"When I returned to the room with the extinguisher to put out the fire, I discovered the container was nearly empty," Costello continued.

"I tried to cover my nose and mouth and crawl toward the window. I managed to

slide it open, then moved back to drag the mattress across the room and push it out the window. By this time, the room rug and furniture were also smoldering," Costello continued.

"After catching a breath or two of fresh air, and waiting for most of the smoke to clear from the room, I made sure the fire was out by removing a part of the rug. A piece of furniture was scorched, but we saved it," Costello said.

Fortunately, Mr. Costello was not seriously burned, but he did suffer some discomfort from smoke inhalation and later made several visits to the University Infirmary for treatment.

According to an unofficial source, the fire was attributed to spontaneous combustion. It might have been caused by a magnifying glass effect from several glass objects on a window ledge.

Ted Beers, President of CSEA Local 638 at SUNY Delhi, praised the actions of Mr. Costello by saying, "Elliott happened to be in the right place at the right time. His quick thinking probably prevented a major fire from breaking out in the dormitory and causing severe damage. He gambled with his own safety, and we are proud of him."



SUNY DELHI CSEA MEMBER Elliott Costello, center, is presented with CSEA Certificate of Appreciation for his action during a recent fire on campus. Making the award is Ted Beers, left, President of CSEA Local 638 SUNY Delhi; and Gerry Phelan, Region V Field Representative. Photo courtesy of Hugh Lee, Instructional Resource Center, Delhi College.

## Cayuga employees demonstrate ire over no pact

AUBURN — Almost 300 members of the Cayuga County Unit of CSEA Local 806 crowded outside the Cayuga County Office Building recently to demonstrate their concern for a fair contract settlement.

Cayuga County Unit members have been working without a contract since Dec. 31, 1980.

CSEA Field Representative Jack Miller said: "We've been extremely adamant about getting a fair and square wage settlement, which has always been part of bargaining in good faith."

The members also crowded the hallways of the Cayuga County legislative chambers to further show their unity for a fair settlement during the contract negotiations.

The Cayuga County Unit represents 430 CSEA members.



INSIDE THE CAYUGA COUNTY OFFICE BUILDING, members of the Cayuga County Unit, from left, Kevin Daly, Karen Currier, Karen Seibert and Krista Neville show their unity for a fair contract.



CAYUGA COUNTY UNIT President Charles Donato, left, and CSEA Field Representative Jack Miller, center, are interviewed by a radio reporter during the demonstration outside the County Office Building in Auburn. The unit was demonstrating their concern for a fair contract settlement. The previous contract expired Dec. 31, 1980.

## Two field reps complete class in arbitration at Meany Center

ALBANY — Two CSEA field representatives from the Capital Region will begin conducting arbitration hearings in the union's county division after completing arbitration procedure training at the AFL-CIO-run George Meany Training Center in Maryland.

After the week long, con-

centrated, course Field Representatives Aaron Wagner and James Cooney are qualified to replace CSEA retained attorneys at county arbitration hearings, said Capital Region CSEA Field Services Director John Corcoran.

"We view this training as an added service to the members and feel

the reps will do an equally effective job as the attorneys," Corcoran said.

The two will also be called upon to conduct training workshops in grievance basics and techniques at the first and second stages for other staff and CSEA shop stewards, Corcoran said.



## Potsdam seminar

POTSDAM — Four CSEA Locals in the St. Lawrence County area have scheduled a combined Stewards Training Seminar to be held Saturday, April 11, in Raymond Hall on the campus of SUNY Potsdam.

Mary Lauzon, President of CSEA Local 613 at SUNY Potsdam and Statewide Chairperson for the CSEA Educational Committee, announced the full day session will begin at 8:30 a.m. and include stewards and CSEA members interested in becoming Union stewards.

Richard Brown, Vice-President of Jefferson Local 823 and Chairman of the CSEA Region V Educational Committee, will conduct the seminar expected to draw representatives from Local 613 SUNY Potsdam, Local 603 ATC Canton, Local 423 at St. Lawrence Psychiatric Center, and Local 845 St. Lawrence County.

The combined Locals represent more than 2,500 State and County public employees in the greater St. Lawrence County area.

## Region IV names candidates

The Region IV CSEA Nominating Committee has announced the following persons have been nominated for regional office:

President: Joseph McDermott; First Vice-President: C. Allen Mead, John Gully; Second Vice-President: Joan Tobin, Carmen Bagnoli; Third Vice-President: John Vallee, Dann Wood, Barbara Skelly; Secretary: Grace Bevington, Shirley Brown, Mazie Fort; Treasurer: Gerald R. Toomey, Bea McCoy.

Those persons nominated for the Region IV Non-Teaching Board Seat are Myrtle Major, Mazie Fort and Ruth Hathaway.

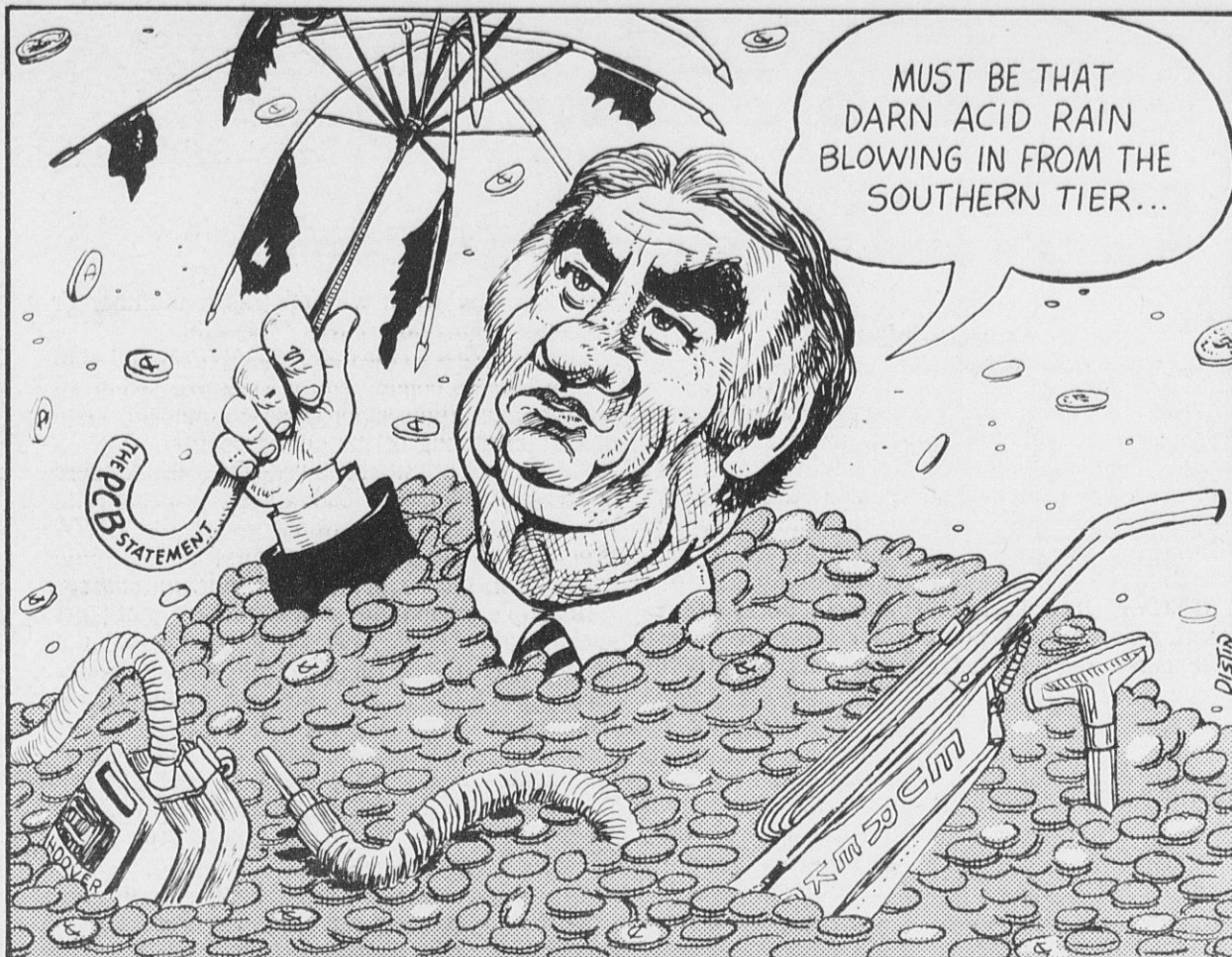
The drawing for Region ballot positions will be April 20 at noon at the CSEA Capital Region Office, 1215 Western Ave., Suite 308, Albany.

## Labor seminar slated

BUFFALO — The importance of the Labor/Management Meeting and its role in labor relations will be addressed at a seminar sponsored by CSEA Western Region VI, Region President Robert L. Lattimer has announced.

The seminar will take place at the Treadway Inn, Batavia, on Saturday, April 4, 9:30 a.m., and is open to all CSEA members. CSEA Western Region VI comprises the 14 westernmost counties of New York.

Guest speakers and workshop leaders will include Thomas Hines, Assistant Director of the Governor's Office of Employee Relations, Robert Ahern, Executive Director, Buffalo and Erie County Labor/Management Council, Paul Burch, CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist, and Thomas Quimby, CSEA Director of Education and Training.



## Suffolk nominations are announced

HOLTSVILLE — Persons receiving nominations to run for office in Suffolk County Local 852 from the Local 852 Nominating Committee have been announced.

The nominees for each office in alphabetical order are:

President: Ben Boczkowski, John Desmond, Charles Novo and Robert Villa.

Executive Vice President: Shirley Germain, Robert Kolterman, Nicholas Marrano and Terry Robado.

First Vice President: James Carthy, James Davour, Frank Kost and Kevin Mastridge.

Second Vice President: James Farrell, Lynn Martins, Ralph Mele and Daniel Savi.

Third Vice President: Peter Caliendo, Jacqueline Dawson, Kenneth Horsford and Rose Orenda.

Fourth Vice President: Ernst Dinda, Anthony Lagnese, Richard Protosow and John C. Stein.

Treasurer: Mark Dawkins, Jo Ann Fleischman, Henry Heissenbuttel and Isabelle Jones.

Recording Secretary: Susan Dugan, Mary Frances Gregg and Barbara Rotunno.

Corresponding Secretary: Teresa Goodman, Susan Jaffe and Yvette Warren.

Sergeant at Arms: Charles De Martino, Samuel Iadicco, Geroge Kuyava, James Maritado and Patrick O'Farrell.

Executive Representative: Michael Antonelli, Donald Gallerani, Edwin Garcia and Cathy Green.

Members of Local 852 wishing to run for local office by petitioning to get on the ballot must contact the Local 852 Election Committee, 755 Waverly Avenue, Holtsville, to obtain the petition forms, the local reported. Completed petitions must be delivered to the Election Committee at 755 Waverly Avenue, Holtsville, no later than April 13, 1981.

## OK Orleans County contract

ALBION — The Orleans County Employees Unit of CSEA Local 837 has signed a two-year collective bargaining contract with Orleans County, according to union officials.

The PERB-mediated settlement calls for across-the-board wage increases of three per cent and four per cent, effective January 1, and July 1, 1981, respectively. The second-year wage increases will be four per cent and three per cent, effective January 1 and July 1, 1982, respectively.

Local President Andrew Lucyszyn said the

agreement was "the best we could get under the circumstances."

"We felt the next step would have been an imposed settlement by the county," he said of the agreement that also includes Rider 8 Blue Cross-Blue Shield coverage and an increase in shift differential pay and clothing allowance.

CSEA Chief Negotiator Thomas Pomodoro was aided by a negotiating committee that included Lucyszyn, Cheryl Dunning, Frank Zona, Elaine Ryan, Steve Dides, Irene Smith and Barbara La Barge.

## Public Sector

Official publication of  
The Civil Service Employees Association  
33 Elk Street, Albany, New York 12224

The Public Sector (445010) is published every Wednesday weekly except for Wednesdays after New Years, Memorial Day, Fourth of July and Labor Day for \$5 by the Civil Service Employees Association, 33 Elk Street, Albany, New York 12224.

Second Class Postage paid at Post Office, Albany, New York. Send address changes to The Public Sector, 33 Elk Street, Albany, New York 12224.

Publication office, 75 Champlain Street, Albany, New York 12204. Single copy Price 25¢

Thomas A. Clemente—Publisher  
Roger A. Cole—Executive Editor

Dr. Gerald Alperstein—Associate Editor  
Gwenn M. Bellcourt—Associate Editor

Deborah Cassidy—Staff Writer

Dawn LePore—Staff Writer

John L. Murphy—Staff Writer

Arden D. Lawand—Graphic Design

Dennis C. Mullahy—Production Coordinator



Published every Wednesday by Clarity Publishing, Inc. Publication Office, 75 Champlain Street, Albany, N.Y. 12204 (518) 465-4591

Got a problem?  
Need CSEA's  
help?

**INFOLINE**  
1-800-342-2027

A referral service  
created  
for you

## Local 913 meets

The Syracuse Area Retirees' Local 913 will have a Luncheon-meeting at the Fireside Inn, Baldwinsville, N.Y. on April 14, 1981 at 1:00 p.m. Reservations should be made by April 10 to one of the following:

E. Boardway (Oswego) .....343-8989  
E. Chapman (Syr.) .....457-5839  
E. Cummings (Fulton) .....598-8099  
J. Tanzi (Auburn) .....252-6932



# Reaganomics a disaster for the poor, the middle class, the public worker, delegates are warned

By Gwenn Bellcourt  
Associate Editor

The alarming effect of President Reagan's proposed budget will pave a grave future for public employees in New York State. That was the message from keynote speakers to the nearly 800 CSEA delegates attending the union's Special Delegates Meeting in Syracuse March 22-24.

Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm and AFSCME International President Jerry Wurf both painted bleak pictures for the state under Reagan's federal budget proposals, and both pleaded with union delegates to fight vigorously for the maintenance of public employee jobs at stake.

During a briefing session entitled "Reagan Economics and New York State," Congresswoman Chisholm sharply criticized Reagan's "new beginning" for America. Federal budget cuts will be carried out at the expense of the public worker, the poor — and even the middle class, she said.

What the Republicans call a "masterpiece," Chisholm said, the Democrats call a "disaster-piece." A total of 83 major budget changes proposed will drastically diminish the standard of living for the average American. And the sad fact is that unless Congress hears from its constituents, she said, Reagan's budget cuts will pass.

"None of us can afford to be the passive recipients of our government," Chisholm proclaimed, "and none of our jobs are secure. The budget cutters are sharpening their knives ... while so much of what labor and civil service leaders have worked for will be wiped out by the stroke of a pen."

When Chisholm asked delegates a third time, "How can you sit back and be secure in your job?" the membership rose from their seats in rousing applause. "Workers are the backbone of the country. No president has the right to take away from us what is rightfully ours. We are America."

Chisholm warned that the American people are being held hostage to poverty and persistent discrimination. Like Iran, America will not be freed until this country's political leadership is pressured to conform to the public will.

The number of labor legislators in Congress is dwindling, she stressed, "that's why Congress needs to hear about the programs that are working."

"The few of us that are left (labor legislators) want to be able to look back and see you coming ... you must come," Chisholm concluded.

As he approached the podium, AFSCME International President Jerry Wurf commended Chisholm for her dedication to the public worker.

"It's a rarity when we can find a member of Congress who really cares," he said.

In his address to the delegates, Wurf pointed to recent studies conducted by AFSCME. What all the facts and figures boil down to, he said, "is a drastic shrinking of the public sector."

Wurf urged members to recognize the dangers of Reagan's proposed budget cuts, especially in areas such as the elimination of the CETA program and the massive layoffs which would result from the "capping" of Medicaid funding.

Reagan's economic proposals are not just short-term spending reductions, Wurf said, but a severe attempt to abolish the vital services public employees provide in all levels of government.

In closing, Wurf pleaded with the CSEA delegation to use "the political machinery" created by the state's constitution. "If Congress knew how you felt, we wouldn't be victims of this unreasonable blindness."

The AFSCME president brought with him from Washington two key staff members, Director of Economic Research Marcia Caprio and Political Lobbyist Joe Beeman, who presented delegates with the economic and political dangers of Reagan's budget proposals.

According to Caprio, New York receives the largest amount of federal aid of all the states in the nation. Similarly, New York will suffer the most from Reagan's budget axe.

Caprio translated the facts and figures into a typical example. Of those families with a gross income of \$15,000, approximately \$185 will be saved under the highly publicized Kemp-Roth personal income tax rate reduction. Yet what Reagan supporters have failed to reveal, Caprio said, is that this same family will be forced to spend an extra \$200 for fuel as a result of Reagan's decontrol on oil prices.

AFSCME lobbyist Joe Beeman reiterated this theme. Presenting delegates with an insider's view of Capitol Hill, Beeman said Reagan is "pulling one of the greatest con jobs in American history."

Reagan's promise to give taxpayers a break is an "outright deception," he said. "Those making \$10-20,000 a year will be the biggest losers under Reagan's administration."

Beeman warned that during his campaign, "Reagan promised to cut waste fraud and deception. But his proposed budget is really cutting the meat, bone and blood of the American people."

The briefing session on Reagan economics concluded with a few words from Region VI President Robert Lattimer. He called for a highly organized campaign to change the apparent fate of the public worker. "If we don't write to Congress, a hell of a lot of people won't be here a year from now. We must take this threat seriously."



**CHARTER COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN** Francis Miller, left, announces his retirement effective in May 1981 ending his long career as an active member of CSEA. CSEA President William L. McGowan, rear, and statewide Secretary Irene Carr, right, joined with the rest of the Board of Directors to give Miller a standing ovation.

## Fran Miller announces his pending retirement to board of directors

SYRACUSE — Francis Miller, chairman of the statewide Charter Committee and a long-time CSEA activist from Oswego County, has announced his retirement effective May 1981 and thereby ending his active service as a CSEA member.

Miller made the announcement at the statewide Board of Directors meeting in Syracuse immediately preceding the delegates meeting.

He said he would be 75 in May and "being on the Board helped keep me young."

CSEA Attorney Richard Burstein, on behalf of the Charter Committee, praised Miller for his seven years of service on the committee.

Following Miller's announcement, the board voted unanimously to thank him for his service to the union.

Also at the board meeting, Long Island Region I President Danny Donohue thanked all who contributed to the Stop Arthritis Telethon for making many donations in the names of the late Irving Flaumenbaum and James Lennon.

The board voted approval to have the records at CSEA headquarters in Albany microfilmed because of a shortage of storage space at 33 Elk Street.



**LONG ISLAND REGION** Board of Directors members, from left, Nicholas Abbatiello, Nassau County; and Edwin Garcia, Suffolk County; get together with Sergeant at Arms Nicholas Cimino.

Coverage of CSEA's Special Delegate Meeting continues on pages 6 & 7 of this issue. Further coverage will also appear in the next issue of The Public Sector.



# Political action training specialists, health and safety get delegate backing

## Many constitution, by-law changes are also adopted

SYRACUSE — CSEA delegates last week amended a number of union Constitution and By-Laws provisions; proposed the creation of a CSEA Health and Safety Department; and proposed adding regional political action training specialists to the union staff.

Those were among several actions taken by delegates during the union's Special Delegate Meeting here March 22-24.

The proposal to create a Health and Safety Department was referred to the union's budget committee for consideration, while the training specialist idea was referred to the personnel committee for study.

One article of the CSEA Constitution was amended by the delegates and is now in effect. Under amended Article VIII, CSEA locals shall file with the statewide secretary a list of their delegates by July 15 each year instead of by June 1 of each year as the constitution previously required.

The amendment eliminates problems caused by local elections conflicting with the previous June 1 requirement.

Four articles of the CSEA By-Laws amended by the delegates are also now in effect.

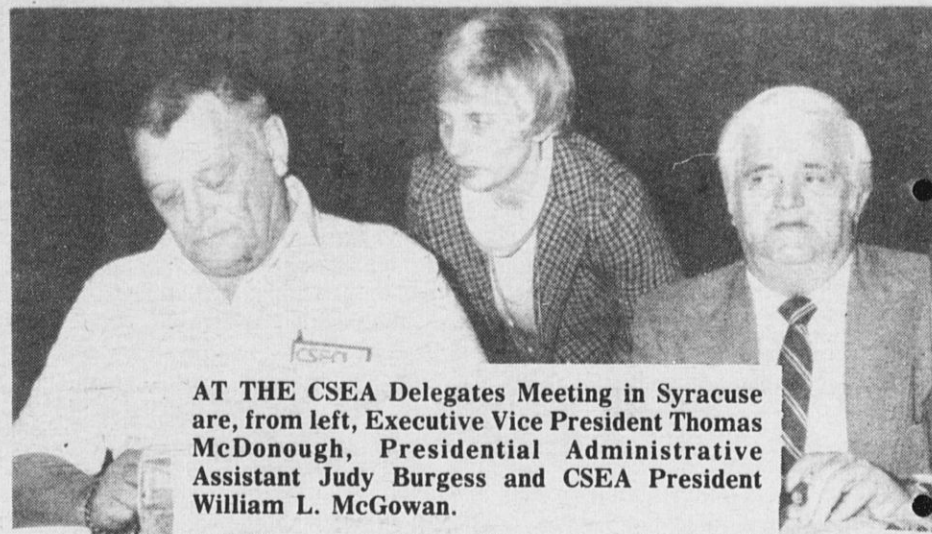
Article II was amended to require that requests for special meetings of the statewide Board of Directors, State Executive Committee, County Executive Committee and the CSEA delegate body "must set forth the reason for calling the meeting and the proposed agenda."

Article IV was amended to require as of April 1, 1982, the CSEA dues and agency shop fee "be the equivalent to the minimum due for local unions established by" AFSCME.

Article IV also was amended to require locals to comply with the CSEA Constitution and By-Laws in addition to the mandated model constitution before the locals can qualify for their rebates.

The delegates amended Article V to no longer requires the keeping of verbatim minutes at trial boards and the expenses for the minutes being paid by the charging local or region.

Article VI was amended to elevate the Women's Committee from an ad hoc to a special committee of CSEA.



AT THE CSEA Delegates Meeting in Syracuse are, from left, Executive Vice President Thomas McDonough, Presidential Administrative Assistant Judy Burgess and CSEA President William L. McGowan.

Proposed amendments to three articles of the CSEA Constitution were passed on first reading and must be passed by a two-thirds vote at a future delegates meeting to become part of the constitution.

Article IV would be amended to change the mechanics of selecting and functioning of the statewide Nominating Committee.

Article VI would be amended to permit the statewide President with statewide Board of Directors approval to fill the unexpired term of a State Executive Committee seat without an election when there are six months or less remaining in the term of office.

Article VIII would be amended to permit locals to split their votes on any issue which comes before the delegate body. Under the present constitution, locals only can split their votes if directed to do so by their membership.

A proposed amendment to Article VII to change the qualifications for creating education locals was referred back to the statewide Constitution and By-Laws Committee.

A recommendation by the statewide Methods and Procedures committee that the Constitution and By-Laws and Charter committees eliminate the position of immediate past president was tabled by the delegates.



CAPITOL REGION IV President Joseph McDermott, standing, joins with, from left, Dolores Farrell, Civil Service Department; and Joan Tobin and John Cassidy, DOT; at the statewide Board of Directors meeting in Syracuse immediately preceding the statewide delegates meeting.

## Leaders urged to be alert to tactics of management

SYRACUSE — Felton King, the former president of Staten Island Developmental Center Local 429 who was terminated recently by New York State as a disciplinary action for his role in protesting management action against other employees at Staten Island DC, warned the almost 800 union delegates meeting in Syracuse to be aware of the tactics employed by management when union leaders defend members' rights.

King told the delegates that due to his termination this would be the last time he would be speaking before the delegates, and he explained the circumstances which led to himself and a number of other Local 429 officials being either terminated or suspended. King concluded by wishing the best for CSEA and its members.

The disciplinary charges followed demonstrations protesting the docking of paychecks for employees alleged to have participated in a sick out to protest staff shortages at the facility.

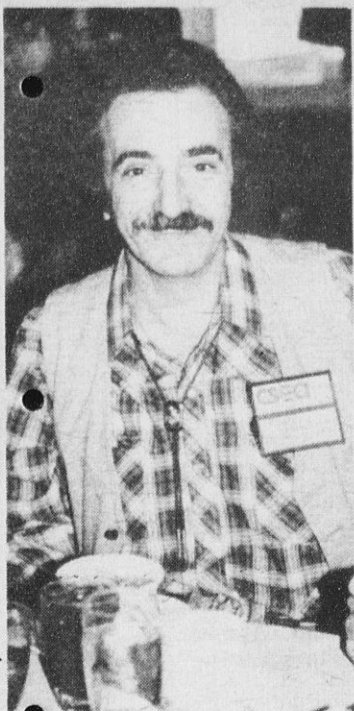
STATEWIDE OFFICERS, below from left, Region III President Raymond O'Connor, Region II President James Gripper, Region I President Danny Donohue and statewide Treasurer John Gallagher, attend the Board of Directors meeting in Syracuse.



BOARD MEMBER John J. Weidman, left, of Agriculture & Markets makes a point during Board of Directors meeting held in conjunction with delegates meeting.







**MONTGOMERY COUNTY REPRESENTATIVE** William Zippiere.



**WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION WORKSHOP** attracted John Francisco, Thruway Local 058; Ralph Spagnolo, Nassau County Local 830; and William McTygue and Cheryl Sheller, Saratoga County Local 846.



**CSEA REGION V PRESIDENT** James Moore listens attentively to a region member's point during discussion.

## Retirees legislative clout gains as membership continues to grow



**MELBA BINN**, statewide retirees committee chairperson, discusses proposed supplemental pension legislation. At right is Thomas Whitney, CSEA Member Services Administrative Director.

SYRACUSE — Retirees attending the CSEA Special Delegates Meeting were in agreement that the best way to receive favorable State retirement legislation was to strengthen their efforts by building membership.

CSEA Member Services Administrative Director Thomas Whitney said, "The State legislators hear votes and if we can get our membership up to 45,000 or 50,000 they will have to listen."

To broaden their membership, CSEA has been contacting retired public employees throughout the state. In a recent direct mailing, nearly 9,000 new retirees joined, making the present number of CSEA retiree members 30,000.

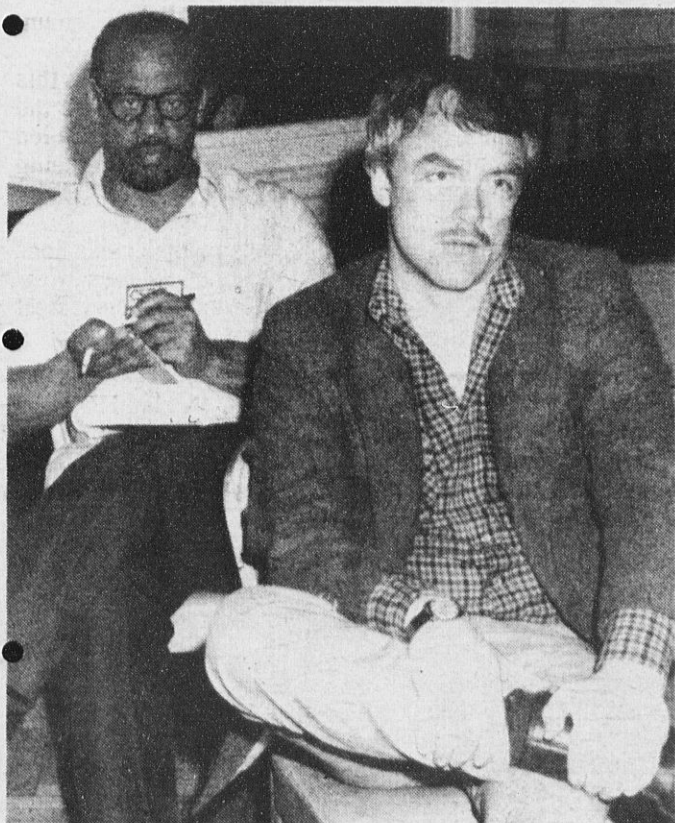
Carmine LaMagna of Westchester County Retirees Local 921 said his local's membership jumped from 900 to 1,350 as a result of the direct

mailing. A second mailing campaign was recommended by the retiree delegates.

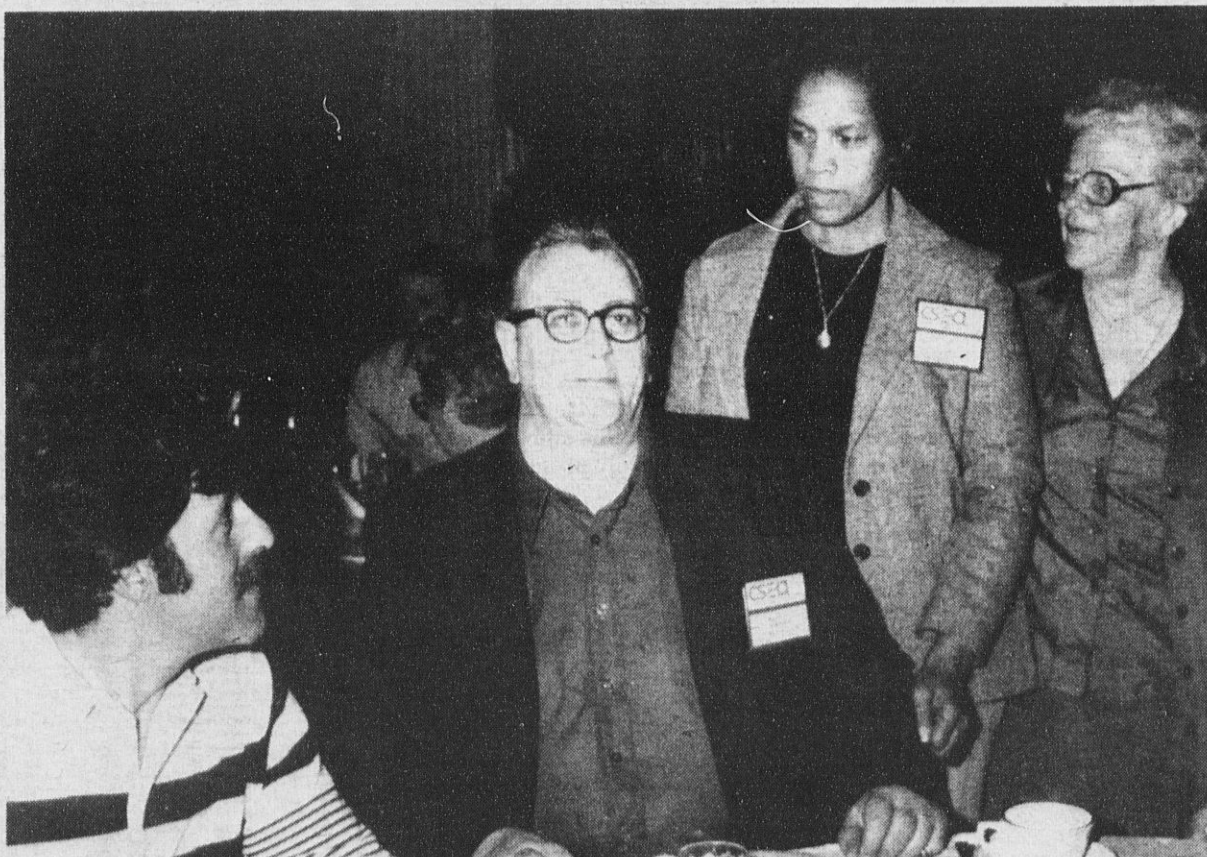
The distinction between Gov. Hugh L. Carey's proposed supplemental pension legislation and CSEA's own was discussed by the retirees. The CSEA-supported bills could mean up to eight million dollars more.

The retiree delegates urged that Assemblyman Joseph R. Lentol's A. 3806 bill and State Senator Richard E. Schermerhorn's S. 2934 bill be supported. Those bills more clearly represent CSEA's position.

CSEA Director of Regiree Programs Thomas A. Gilmartin and Statewide Retirees Committee Chairperson Melba Binn said CSEA retiree locals should continue using the existing retiree constitution while a new model constitution is in the process of being drafted.

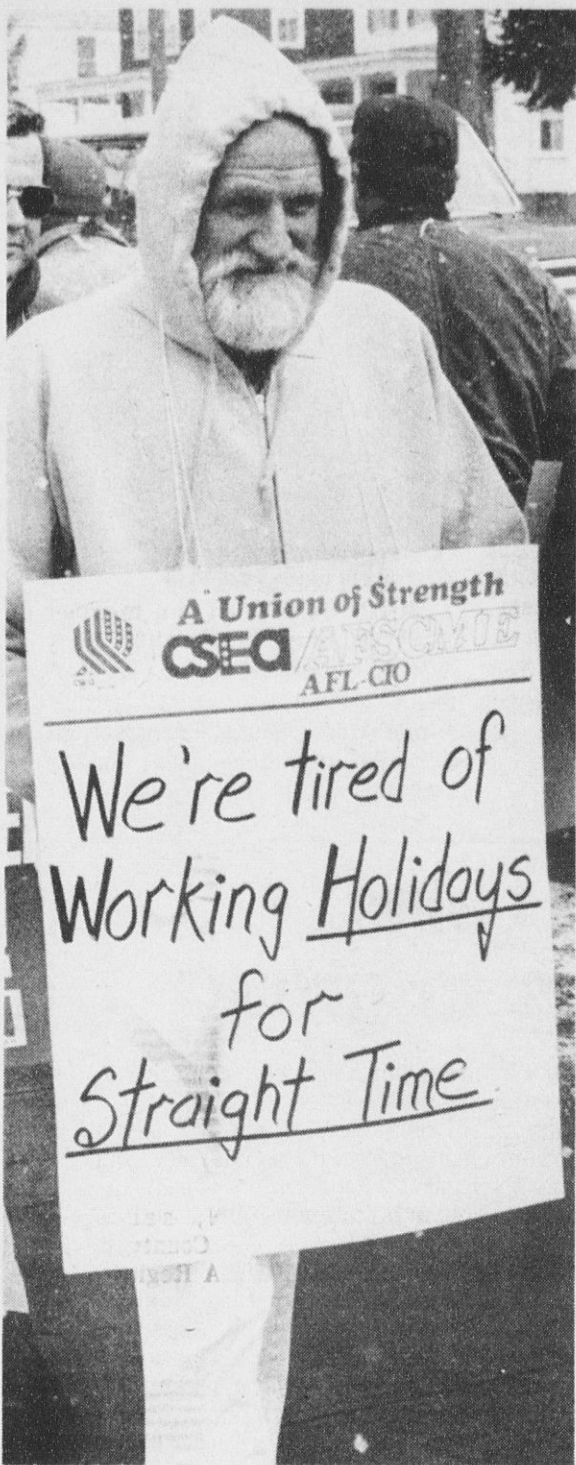


**ATTENDING THE DELEGATES MEETING** in Syracuse are, from left, Francois Frazier, New York City Local 010; and James Bond, Monroe County Local 828.



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS**, from left, Richard Grieco, Jefferson County; George Caloumeno, Labor Department, Elaine Mootry, Mental Hygiene Region VI; and Genevieve Clark, Health Department; attend a meeting in Syracuse.





CSEA MEMBERS from Local 846 demonstrated in bitter cold weather to make their point about a lack of movement in their contract negotiations.

## Foul weather doesn't dampen spirit of Saratoga workers

BALLSTON SPA — Citing a lack of positive progress in ongoing contract mediation, members of Saratoga County Local 846 of the Civil Service Employees Association turned out in force recently to picket a meeting of the full County Board of Supervisors.

CSEA Crisis Committee Chairman William McTygue explained that the members mandated a second showing of support after three mediation sessions failed to produce progress. "The members want to see that the administration's team is making an effort. So far, they believe that little has been resolved and much remains unaddressed. . . ." McTygue noted that the members hope that by picketing the full board that the board would make its team answer some questions and explain why the mediation process seems to be bogged down.

John Miller, Local 846 President and a

member of the bargaining team, spent most of the afternoon walking with his fellow CSEA members thanking them for the support and answering press inquiries.

The determination of CSEA was tested by changing weather conditions. The informational picket line had started an hour early because of membership desire to walk the line before reporting for a 3 to 11 infirmity shift. The weather was warm and the sky clear. During the next two and a half hours 350 members walked the line in conditions that ranged from cool to frigid, from clear to snow blown. At one point the wind whipped through the line at 30 miles per hour and the wind chill factor made it feel like nine below zero.

"We're determined," one wind-whipped picketer said. "We want a good contract and we plan to get one."



CRISIS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN William McTygue, right, tells a TV newsman why members of Saratoga County CSEA Local 846 are marching in protest of a lack of progress on their contract difficulties. Local 846 President John Miller, center, observes the interview.

## Union defending employee it claims management coerced into resignation while under the influence of alcohol

(Editor's note: The following story is taking place in a Long Island town. The information was acquired from a number of CSEA sources, including members, field staff and a regional attorney. All names and locations are being withheld.)

SOMEWHERE ON LONG ISLAND — CSEA is going to court under Article 78 to have an employee reinstated after management coerced a resignation from the employee when he was extremely intoxicated.

The employee, who had recently learned that his son is dying of cancer, started drinking heavily and for a few weeks became an attendance problem at work where he is employed as a laborer.

One afternoon, management sent a high level security official on his work day to a tavern where the employee was drinking. According to witnesses at the tavern, the employee was extremely intoxicated.

According to those witnesses, the official convinced the employee to sign a resignation,

which the employee signed on a piece of scrap paper supplied by the bar tender.

The barely legible scribble reads: "I resign" with the date and a signature and with no other information.

When the employee sobered up, he did not remember signing the so-called resignation nor even speaking with the official in the tavern.

When he was told by other bar patrons what happened, he contacted CSEA.

His unit president, local president, field representative, regional legal committee and regional attorney all are in agreement that management was extremely underhanded in its actions which they said are clearly an attempt to undermine the employee's rights under the law.

Management knew the tragic family situation the employee was going through, made no attempt to help the employee through available employee assistance, never counseled the employee or even brought him up on disciplinary charges for his attendance and drinking problems, sources stated.

## CSEA scholarship deadline April 30 for applications; 18 grants will be awarded

Has your son or daughter applied for a CSEA Scholarship yet?

The deadline for filing scholarship applications is approaching — April 30. Remember that all completed forms must be sent to CSEA Headquarters, c/o the Special Scholarship Fund Committee, 33 Elk St., Albany, N.Y. 12207.

The CSEA Irving Flaumenbaum Memorial Scholarship Fund for 1981-82 gives children of CSEA members a headstart on their college costs.

Under the program, now in its second year, 18 grants of \$500 each will be awarded to three students in each of CSEA's six regions — for a total of \$9,000 to be awarded statewide.

All CSEA members' children who will be graduating from high school this spring are eligible to apply.

The scholarships will be granted on the basis of high school rank and average, test scores, school and community service, career goals, recommendations and financial need.

The scholarships will be given in June. All information obtained from the applications will be kept confidential. Forms are available through Local and Regional offices.





**ROBERT LATTIMER**, Region VI President, calls for enlarged union education department.



**VICTOR MARR** of Erie County Local 815.



**SYLVIA EBERSOLD**, president of host Rochester City Local 012, listens attentively during a meeting.

## Region VI issues call for union to expand education effort to members

By Dawn LePore

ROCHESTER — Long a proponent of a strong educational program for CSEA, Region 6 President Robert Lattimer took the opportunity recently to call for the expansion of the union's Education Department.

Speaking at the regional meeting here at the Rowntowner Motor Inn March 13 and 14, Lattimer said that education should be a vital component in planning for CSEA's future.

"We have to do more for our membership. It should be one of our number one priorities to see the educational staff increased," he said, after reading from a newspaper article which stated that, in many cases, big labor has lost touch with its members.

The article was written by Ed Kelly, labor editor at the "Buffalo Evening News." Lattimer pointed out that beside the News, only one other newspaper in New York State (The New York Times) still has a full-time labor editor.

"What does that tell you about how labor is perceived?" Lattimer asked the audience. He went on to cite a survey in which people were asked to rank 20 different occupations. Labor leaders placed third from the bottom on the list above car salesmen and advertisers.

Lattimer emphasized that under the Reagan administration the labor scene was only going to become more difficult.

"We must stay in touch with our members. Let's give them the tools they need to be effective," he said. "Unless we beef up our education department, all we have accomplished will go downhill."

In the areas of Medicare, child nutrition, economic development, revenue sharing, educational grants and others, Reagan budget cuts will be affecting our members, he said.

"People aren't speaking out against the budget the way they should. Because they don't realize the impact these cuts are going to have on them," Lattimer said. "We've got to get the facts before our members."

In response, members of the region voted to go on record in support of expanding the education staff by three persons and encourage each local to write letters to President McGowan on the issue.

In other union business:

— During the Friday evening session, CSEA Attorney James Roemer addressed the group on the recently revised Model Unit Constitution.

— CSEA's Director of Insurance Programs Tim Mullens and representatives from Bache Ter Bush and Powell, Metropolitan Life, Travelers and GHI answered questions on insurance during the state and county workshop sessions.

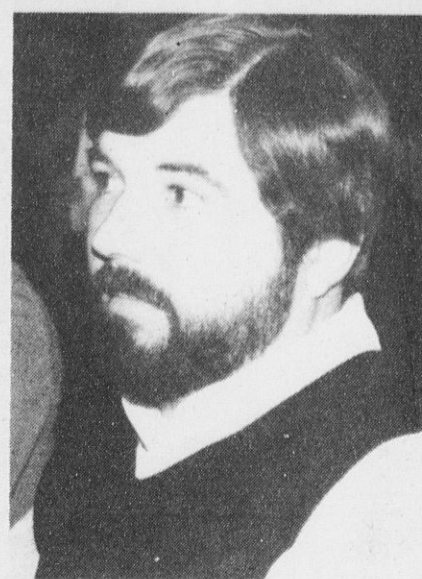
— Region 6 PEOPLE organizer Sheila Brogan announced that \$665.50 has been raised so far this year for the PEOPLE fund.

— CSEA/AFSCME Political Action staffer Ramona Gallagher announced that an in-house training program is being planned for any union members who may be considering running for public office this year.

— Anyone wishing to set up an Employee Assistance Program at their local should contact EAP Representative Lori Hartrick at the Union Road office.

— Lattimer announced that an OSHA representative will be appointed for Region 6 in the near future.

— The next region meeting is scheduled for June 12-13 in Jamestown.



**JOHN GIZOWSKI** is a member of SUNY Fredonia Local 607.



**PAT GOODEN**, secretary-treasurer of the County Division workshop of CSEA Region VI.



**MONROE COUNTY Unit President Flo Tripi** was among Region VI delegates at meeting.



**JUDICIARY LOCAL 335** officials attending regional session included, from left, Vice President Nancy Castaldo, Treasurer A. Samuel Notaro and President William Johnson.



**DOMINIC SPACONE**, president of Niagara County Educational Employees Local 872.



# CSEA Legislative Program Bills

BILL NO.	PROVISIONS	STATUS
81-1 A.6492	The 1977 Agency Shop legislation would be made both permanent and mandatory for both State employees and those in the political subdivisions. (AGENCY SHOP)	A. Governmental Employees
81-2 A.6512	This bill would remove the loss of two days' pay for each day of a strike. (REPEAL OF 2 FOR 1)	A. Governmental Employees
81-3	The final resolution of an impasse in negotiations would be resolved with the system of last offer binding arbitration. (LOBA)	
81-4 S.4594 A.6482	This bill would give unions and employees the right to notice and an opportunity to be heard before the issuance of a restraining order. (INJUNCTIVE NOTICE)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Operations
81-5 S.4593 A.6472	This bill would restore the presumption of arbitrability for New York State public employees which disappeared because of Liverpool. (LIVERPOOL)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-6 S.3086 A.6462	This bill would require an employer to continue an expired collective bargaining agreement until a new agreement is reached. (TRIBOROUGH)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-7 A.6502	This bill would prevent the imposition of penalties against the union representing public employees when it is found that an employer improper practice was responsible for a strike. (NO UNION LIABILITY — LOSS OF DUES DEDUCTION PRIVILEGES)	A. Governmental Employees
81-8 S.3267	This bill would prevent the imposition of the two-for-one penalty against employees when it is found that an employer improper practice was responsible for a strike. (NO INDIVIDUAL LIABILITY — LOSS OF 2 FOR 1)	S. Civil Service & Pensions
81-9 S.4592 A.2196	Civilian employees of the Division of Military and Naval Affairs would become "public employees" under the Taylor Law, and, therefore, could organize and bargain collectively with the State of New York. (ARMORY EMPLOYEES)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-10	This bill would provide civil service status for employees of the New York/New Jersey Waterfront Commission. (AUTHORITY FOR EMPLOYEES OF NEW YORK/NEW JERSEY WATERFRONT COMMISSION TO NEGOTIATE)	
81-11	This proposal would guarantee public employee voting membership on the Board of Trustees for the Employees Retirement System and investment decisions would require the vote of at least one such member. (BOARD OF TRUSTEES FOR RETIREMENT SYSTEM)	
81-12 S.1115A A.1535A	This bill would allow the veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam to purchase up to three years of credit in the Retirement System for service in those wars. (VETERANS' BUY-BACK)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-13 S.2934 A.3806	This bill would provide a modest cost-of-living increase for those retirees who retired prior to 1980. This bill would also provide supplementation, for the very first time, to those who retired after April 1, 1970. (RETIREE SUPPLEMENTATION)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-14 S.3569 A.4583	This bill would make state employees who retired before December 30, 1966, eligible for a death benefit in the amount of \$2,000. (\$2,000 DEATH BENEFIT)	S. Civil Service A. Governmental Employees
81-15 S.3547 A.4530	This bill would allow district attorney investigators in counties which so elect to participate in a 20-year retirement plan similar to that plan which has been available for deputy sheriffs. (20 YEAR RETIREMENT PLAN — DISTRICT ATTORNEY INVESTIGATORS)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-16	The proposal would amend the Retirement and Social Security Law to provide that correction officers employed by counties would be eligible to participate in a 20-year retirement plan. (20 YEAR RETIREMENT PLAN — CORRECTION OFFICERS)	
81-17	This bill would simply allow retirees to be eligible for dental insurance under the group coverage. (DENTAL INSURANCE PLAN — PRESENT RETIREES)	
81-18 S.6548 A.4563	This bill would provide that the surviving spouse of a retiree who had family coverage in the health insurance plan would be allowed to continue such coverage after the employee's death, at no more than 25% of the full cost. (HEALTH INSURANCE PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FOR RETIREES AT 25% OF COST)	A. Ways & Means
81-19	This would allow employees who were on the payroll prior to the cutoff date for eligibility in the lower tier and who, through no fault of their own, were both eligible for membership and reasonably believed they had properly applied for the membership, to file to become members of the lower tier. (TIER I AND II REOPENERS)	
81-20 S.3436 A.4277	This bill would allow State employees working at the University of Buffalo before it was acquired by the State of New York to purchase retirement credits from the New York Retirement System for the time they were employed by the University. (UNIVERSITY OF BUFFALO BUY-BACK)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-21	This proposal would provide retirement system credit for employees of the Rome Community Store in the Department of Mental Hygiene who have been denied service credit for years of service prior to June 21, 1973. (RETIREMENT SYSTEM CREDIT FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE ROME COMMUNITY STORE)	



AMONG THOSE ON HAND for a recent Suffolk Education Local 870 OSHA workshop are, from left, John Drenehahn, Anthony Caterarelli, Millie Vassallo and Local 870 President Walter Weeks. Local 870 is among the largest locals in CSEA, with more than 4,000 members.

## Herkimer arbitration upheld

**HERKIMER** — In a recent decision by a Supreme Court judge, the County of Herkimer has been denied a motion staying arbitration and vacating the demand for arbitration.

In its petition the County of Herkimer contended that no valid agreement for binding arbitration was made in the current contract between the County and CSEA Local 822, representing Herkimer County employees.

CSEA legal counsel argued that the new grievance procedure in the contract called for a third step binding arbitration clause that County authorities had failed to observe.

In his decision, the judge declared "The laws does not relieve a person merely because he has failed to read a document which he has executed. A competent person is held responsible for his signature to a document which has not been fraudulently procured. He is bound to read what he signs."

He further referred to the fact that members of the Herkimer County Legislature had negotiated the contract and referred it to the County attorney for review. However, between April, 1980, and September 23, 1980, the County had made no mention of what it interpreted to be an error in the contract language.

The decision closed with the statement, "It is the holding of this Court that a valid agreement for binding arbitration was made."

In a comment following the release of the decision, Ted Modrzejewski, CSEA Field Representative, said, "It's an important victory for Herkimer County employees. The arbitration language is spelled out in the contract. It was agreed to by both sides and both sides must abide by that contract language."



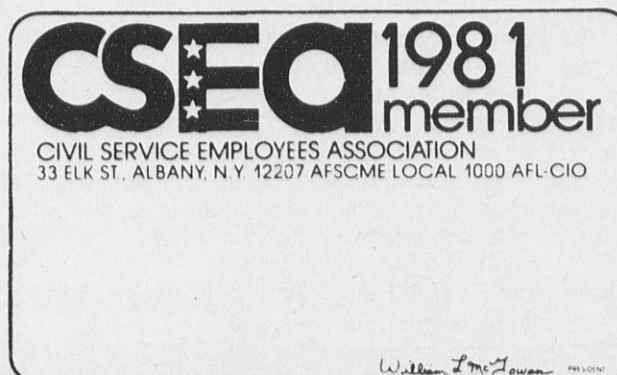
81-22	The Employees Retirement System has distinguished between various categories of 10-month employees in the County of Monroe. Some employees are awarded retirement system credits on a 10-month basis, while those in a similar category performing similar job functions receive a full 12-month credit. This bill would equalize the treatment of such employees. (MONROE COUNTY — 10-MONTH EMPLOYEES)	
81-23 S.3463 A.4467	The Education Law presently encourages the contracting out of transportation services by school districts by giving private contractors a more favorable state-aid formula. This bill would eliminate that advantage. (PARITY BILL)	S. Education A. Education
81-24	This legislation would eliminate the cap imposed on school districts that does not allow them to receive state aid for more than 7% of the prior year's budget for transportation services. (RELIEF FROM 7% CAP)	
81-25 A.3515 S.4846	The Transportation Law would be amended to require motor vehicles seating 11 passengers or more, and used in the business of transporting school children, to be equipped with padded seat backs at least 24 inches in height rather than 28 inches in height. (BUS SEATS)	A. Transportation 2/10/81 Reported to Codes 3/4/81 S. Transportation 3/23/81
81-26	This bill would put cafeteria services in the mandated part of the school budget. (CAFETERIA OPERATIONS — CONTINGENCY BUDGET)	
81-27	This bill would conform the practice of litigation with school districts to that which obtains in litigation against other public employers. (NOTICE OF CLAIM REFORM)	
81-28 S.2077 A.2692	The New York Court of Appeals, New York's highest court, has recently determined that the provisions governing military leave for public employees provides for paid military leave for 30 calendar days, instead of for 30 work days. As a result, employees who work on the second shift or who have pass days on other than weekends, may be required to attend ordered military drills without being paid. This bill would merely restore the practice as it existed prior to the Court of Appeals decision. (MILITARY LEAVE)	S. Codes 1/29/81 Reported 2/18/81 to: 1st report Moved 2/23/81 to: 2nd report Moved 2/24/81 to: 3rd reading A. Governmental Operations
81-29 S.1833 A.2469	Martin Luther King Day	S. Judiciary A. Gov. Operations 1/27/81 Reported 2/10/81 to: A. Judiciary Reported 2/18/81 to: A. Ways & Means
81-30 A.4951	This bill would prevent persistent labor law violators from seeking public contracts. (PERSISTENT LABOR LAW VIOLATORS)	A. Labor
81-31 S.2805 A.3150	This proposal provides funding at a minimum of \$500,000 for the Clinton-Essex-Franklin Library System. (MINIMUM FUNDING FOR THE CLINTON-ESSEX-FRANKLIN LIBRARY SYSTEM)	S. Education 2/11/81 Reported 2/10/81 to: Senate Finance A. Higher Education 2/5/81 Reported 3/18/81 to: A. Ways & Means
81-32 S.3314 A.5772	Section 41.11 (c) of the Mental Hygiene Law provides that no employee of the Department may be appointed as a member of a community service board or a sub-committee thereof. This unfair exclusion should be deleted. (EMPLOYEES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HYGIENE TO SERVE ON COMMUNITY SERVICE BOARDS)	S. Mental Hygiene A. Mental Health
81-33	The New York State Department of Civil Service recently changed the classified service rules in a number of significant respects, including lengthening the probationary period. This proposal would change some of the more undesirable aspects of the revision. (CHANGE IN CLASSIFIED SERVICE RULES)	
81-34 S.1710A A.2149A	Public employees are frequently sued for decisions which they have made in the course of their employment. Public Officers Law Section 17 was recently amended to provide a systematic procedure and increased protection for employees of the State under those circumstances. This proposal would provide a parallel procedure, and similar protections for employees of the political subdivisions and the authorities. (POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS INDEMNIFICATION)	S. Judiciary 1/26/81 Reported 3/12/81 to: 1st reading Moved 3/16/81 to: 2nd reading Moved 3/17/81 to: 3rd reading A. Governmental Operations
81-35 S.3773 A.5073	This bill would eliminate a \$5.00 examination fee for present State employees and its political subdivisions on competitive examinations. (EXAMINATION FEE)	S. Civil Service & Pensions A. Governmental Employees
81-36 S.4194 A.5728	Indemnification for the Thruway Authority	S. Transportation A. Corporations, Authorities and Commissions
81-37	The Civil Service Commission, rather than the Chancellor of the State University, would determine which positions shall be removed from the classified service and placed in unclassified service. (U-GRADES)	
81-38	This bill would provide unemployment insurance for non-professional school district employees who do not have a job clause in the collective bargaining agreement. (UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FOR NON-PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT EMPLOYEES)	

A-ASSEMBLY S-SENATE NO.—CSEA PROGRAM BILL NUMBER

## Annual membership cards being mailed

ALBANY — CSEA members across the state will soon be receiving the union's first annual membership cards as part of a new union communication program implemented by CSEA President William L. McGowan.

The three-color membership cards bear the name, address and Social Security/Membership



number of the union member. The cards also contain important toll-free telephone numbers for: CSEA's new InfoLine, a referral service on dealing with labor relations problems; CSEA's Safety Hotline, a central source to receive information on occupational safety problems; the CSEA Employee Assistance Program; a service to help members deal with personal problems that may impact on their professional careers; and Bache, Ter Bush and Powell insurance information for CSEA sponsored insurance programs.

Until now, new CSEA members were issued "permanent" membership cards, but the annual cards will allow members to have more up to date information on their membership status and up to date information on union resources available to help them. In some areas, local merchants provide discount services for union members which would be an additional benefit possible with the annual cards.

Cards are now being processed and final mailings are expected to be complete within two weeks.

## Officer slate announced for local election

BUFFALO — Judiciary Local 335 Nominating Committee Chairman Joseph Hartman has announced the closing of nominations for office and issued the slate of candidates that will appear on election ballots.

The candidates and offices being vied for are as follows; President, George H. Werner and William W. Johnson; Vice President, Beverly (Nancy) Castaldo, unopposed; Secretary, Betty Farrell, unopposed; Treasurer, A. Samuel Notaro, unopposed.

Ballots will be mailed to all eligible voters soon, Hartman reported.



Historic Albany train station needed plenty of work

# World of movie making fascinating for public workers who helped ready set

By Tina Lincer First  
CSEA Communications Associate

ALBANY — CSEA members are everywhere these days — even on movie sets.

In recent weeks, six members of CSEA Local 660, the Office of General Services, played a small part in the making of a major motion picture.

The movie is Universal Studios' "Ghost Story," which is being partially filmed at Albany's historic Union Station. It focuses on four elderly men who get together regularly to share spooky stories — and end up scaring up a few ghosts from their past.

But before any stories could be swapped or movies made, the 80-year-

old train station — once a bustling depot and abandoned now for a dozen years — had to be made safe and sanitary for cast and crew.

Enter public employees.

The six CSEA members who appeared on the scene are Al Feulner, Ed Bradt, Carmen Cirincione, Guy Newton, Ed Walker and George Matthews.

Feulner, a senior stationary engineer with the plant utilities section of OGS, spent about a week on the site in December installing a water line, faucets and a fire hose rack. The 43-year-old father of four says he's an infrequent moviegoer, but nonetheless found a certain satisfaction in getting a behind-the-scenes look at moviemaking. "It's amazing how they make the sets," he said.

The last time Feulner remembers seeing Union Station in all its glory was in 1957 when he joined the Navy. "I left from the station, but I really don't remember it too much," he said.

One who remembers more is plumber Ed Bradt, who helped install plumbing facilities in the old station.

"The last time I was in that station was when I came home from the service in 1946," recalled Bradt, a grandfather of three. "That's 35 years ago and there's been quite a change. One thing I did notice was they still have a sign up telling when the next train to New York is."

Plumber Carmen Cirincione also remembers Union Station in its heyday. "I used to get the trains to travel to New York and Boston," said the 63-year-old, who says the moviemaking there is "quite a thing."

Maintenance Assistant Guy Newton admired the film construction crew's skill at making changes in the sets and scenery. "Like the farmhouse they built. They changed it from new to old and back to new again," he said.

Plumber's helper Ed Walker, 36, said he's sorry he missed out on some of the more glamorous aspects of filmmaking. "I wish we could have seen some of the actors," he said. But he did enjoy seeing the sets mounted. "They were doing some nice work, some fancy woodwork," he observed.

George Matthews, assistant surplus property manager of the Bureau of Technical Services of OGS, is the CSEA member who helped coordinate plans for the state workers to bring sanitary facilities to the train station.

But Matthews was less impressed than the others about having a tiny role in the making of the film.

"I've seen this type of thing many times. To me, this is just another show," said Matthews, who has been singing in opera choruses in the Capital District for many years, and once sang with the Metropolitan Opera when it performed in Saratoga.

"If you want to see frills and bonnets, you won't see it here," Matthews said while walking through Union Station recently during a day of shooting. Inside, the deteriorating building was a picture of cold, crumbling chaos — filled with rubbish, rotting plaster, ripped out fixtures, dirt and an occasional dead mouse.

"When we first went in, the place was a real mess," he said. "They've fixed it up since. This is the Taj Mahal, compared to what it was."

"Ghost Story" began filming Feb. 5 at various Saratoga locations and started about 10 days of shooting at the Albany train station in early February. It features Fred Astaire, John Houseman, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., Melvyn Douglas, Patricia Neal and Craig Wasson. The movie is scheduled to be released this Christmas.



**MEMBERS ON THE MOVIE SET** — The CSEA members who helped prepare Albany's Union Station for the making of a movie there are shown on the movie set. They are, from left to right: Al Feulner, Carmen Cirincione, Ed Walker, George Matthews, Al Bradt and Guy Newton.

## Workers respond: 'our work is dirty and unglamorous, but we have pride and believe we do a good job'

STONY BROOK — Angered by what they felt was "unfair" reporting by the campus newspaper about alleged dirty bathrooms, members of the CSEA Local 614, SUNY at Stony Brook, wrote a letter to the editor putting forward their side of the story.

An article in the March 9 edition of *Statesman* under the heading, "Residents Complain of Insufficient Maintenance," quoted several students complaining that dormitory bathrooms were "disgusting," were cleaned only once a week and rarely after weekends. One student claimed that no cleaning was done for a period of eight days recently.

"Our members were very upset by those allegations," said Charles Sciafani, Local 614 President, "we didn't have a chance to refute the charges in the original article so we wrote a letter that the 'Statesman' editor promised to print."

Mr. Sciafani's letter pointed out that

bathrooms are cleaned every morning, five days a week, and then inspected by supervisors. But, he added, after janitors finish cleaning bathrooms, "they can not be held responsible for conditions there during the remainder of the day nor should they be blamed for conditions that occur in bathrooms over the weekends when there are no janitorial cleaning employees working."

Mr. Sciafani said that Local 614 members find, "dirty dishes and food refuse in the bathroom sinks, clothes hung up to dry on bathtub curtain rods, light bulbs removed or unscrewed, toilet paper rolls missing and generally dirty conditions after a weekend."

The letter, which was approved by members who work in the dormitories, concluded: "Our work is dirty and unglamorous, but we have pride and believe we do a good job. We should not be blamed for the mess made in bathrooms by those few residents who make life difficult for us and the rest of the generally clean and orderly students."