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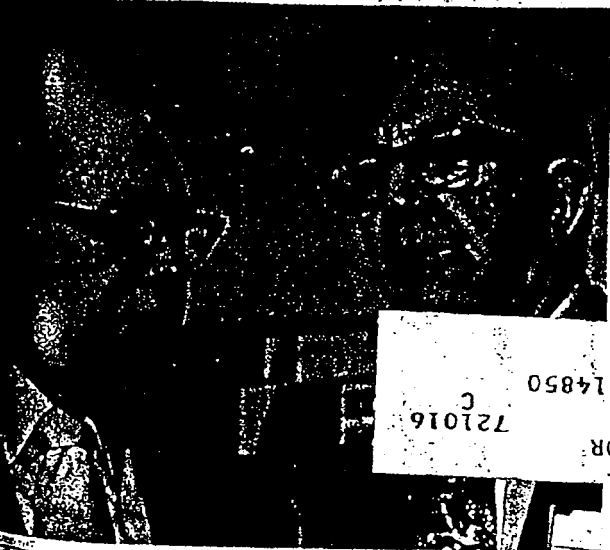
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'With Us, Job Safety Is Not a One-Shot Deal'



The 23rd General Convention was the site of the kick-off of the Brotherhood's most important and ambitious programs of the coming years—job safety.

About 1,300 IBPAT delegates heard General President S. Frank Raftery declare that this will be a decade of job safety. Delegates also heard Dr. Irving J. Selikoff, the nation's leading authority on environmental medicine, discuss the health problems faced by Brotherhood members, and describe details of IBPAT's health and safety program.

Some 400 delegates also received physical examinations and x-rays at the Convention hotel and in the Brotherhood's new mobile testing van, which was fully staffed by medical professionals and parked in front of the convention hotel.

General President Raftery told the assembled delegates that the mobile testing van represented the "start of what is going to be the most thorough occupational safety and health program ever undertaken by any international union."

"This is the launching of the first phase of a three-part program which will tell us what we need to know about our members' health, about the hazards they face on the job and about the potential new dangers that lurk in the constant introduction of new materials and coatings that crafts use every day," General President Raftery said.

"With us, safety is not a one-shot deal," he said. General President Raftery also said that IBPAT efforts on behalf of job safety go back to the hard years the Brotherhood worked on passing the Occupational Safety and Health Act. "We finally got it passed in December of 1970 and it went into effect in 1971," he



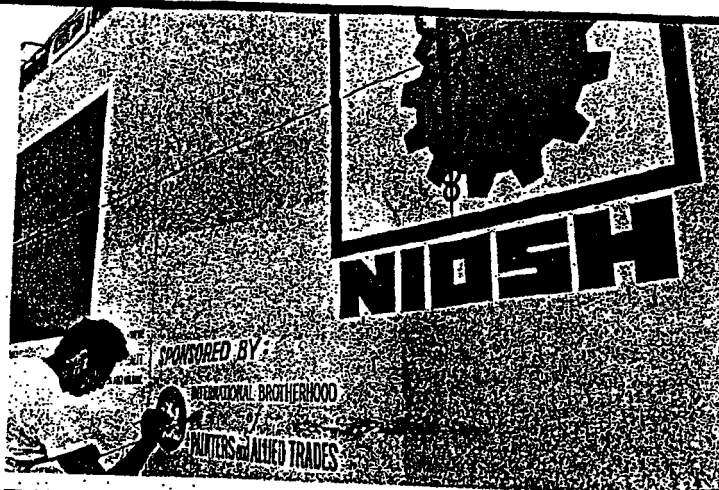
convention. The Occupational Health and Safety Administration is the important Department of Labor agency which oversees health and safety on the job site.

The new mobile diagnostic van, a cooperative effort of the Brotherhood and the National Institute of Occupational Health and Safety, which contracted with the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine to operate the van, received its "test" run during the convention and will now start on a pilot study of IBPAT members in 20 locations throughout the nation. About 800 members are to be tested during this clinical survey, the first phase of the three-year-long clinical survey, there will be a mortality study and an industrial hygiene survey.

The first phase—funded for \$600 by NIOSH—will take place over a year, according to Dr. Irving Selikoff, Director of Environmental Medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, 1.

With the help of slides, Dr. Selikoff explained to delegates the potential health hazards faced by all members of the Brotherhood. Dr. Selikoff said that IBPAT members are tested for exposure to titanium, asbestos, lead, silica, wood dust, quartz and polyvinyl chloride. General President Raftery presented Dr. Selikoff with keys to the van after the doctor spoke.

Presidents that are possible on the mobile van constitute a thorough health survey, covering every phase of an individual's health record. Results of the tests will be passed back to the member so that they can be on record by the member's physician.



The member will be alerted to any condition which he should bring to the attention of his doctor. The team of physicians manning the mobile van will release information only with the written permission of the member.

For the purposes of evaluating the work surroundings of Brotherhood members, particular attention will be paid to those with 15 or more

years experience in their particular craft. The 15-year time period is important because a primary goal of the program is to detect exposure to carcinogenic substances, which have been known to cause cancer in individuals over long periods of time. Contact with vinyl chloride, for instance, has been known to show signs of cancer after 30 years exposure.

The NIOSH contract with Mt. Sinai calls for a re-evaluation of the program after the first year.

In addition to Dr. Selikoff, delegates heard remarks of Dr. Justin Stein, president of the American Cancer Society, who said that IBPAT "has been most helpful" in establishing the Society's Environmental Cancer Research Project. Dr. Stein, the first cancer society president ever to address a major union, said that the Society was happy to make available its statistical services and the services of its volunteers to IBPAT.

One Tumor Found In Time for Cure

It was announced during the convention that one delegate had been tested earlier in the week and that the x-ray had revealed a tumor on his lung.

Physicians said that thanks to his early detection, the tumor is curable.

And that one life makes our job safety program a success.

Secretary-Treasurer Michael D. Silvestro said.