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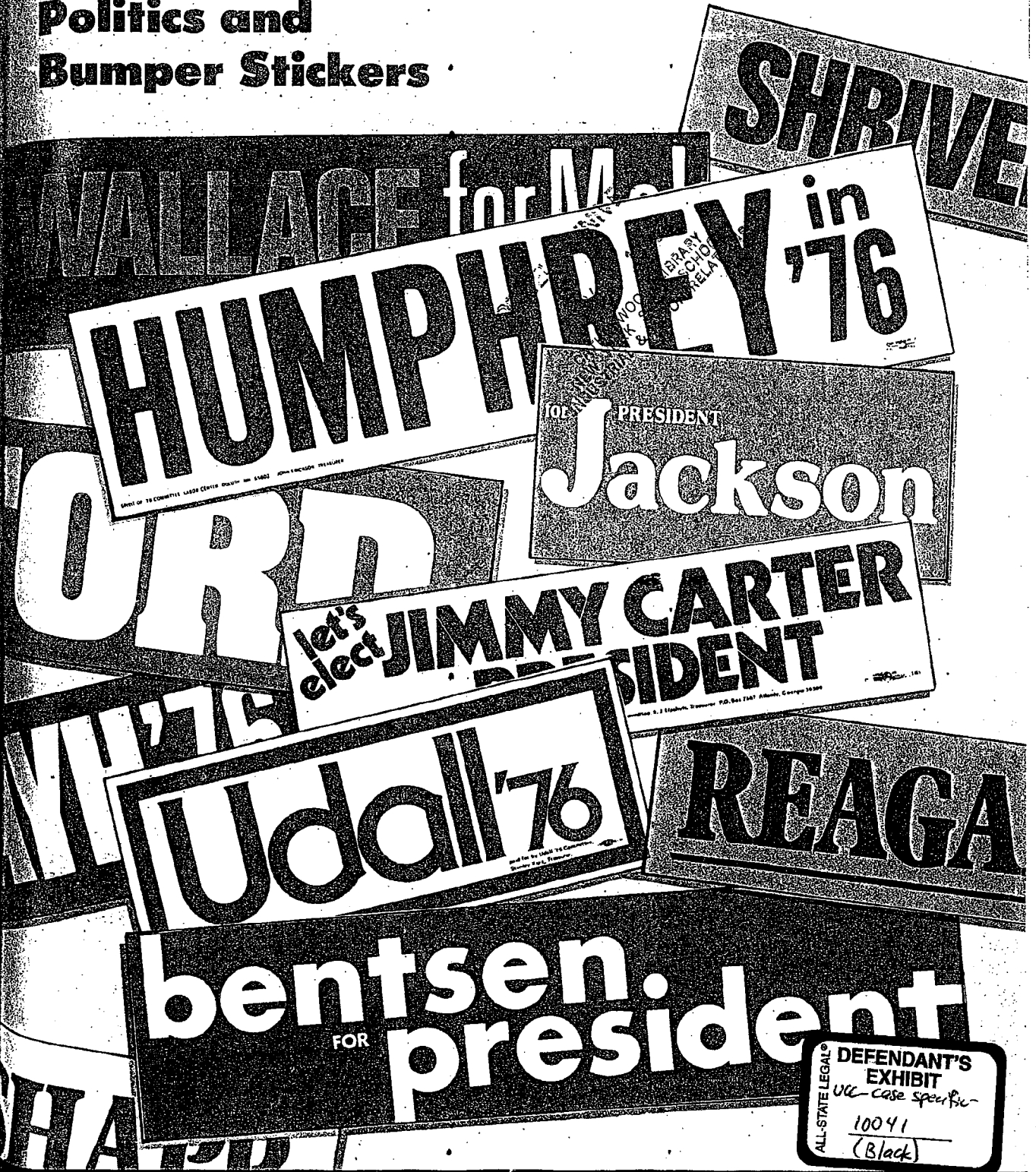
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**Politics and
Bumper Stickers**



Painters & Allied Trades Journal

NEWS AND FEATURES

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On the Cover

Bumper stickers have become a colorful part of American politics, and IBPAT members have a hand in making them.

DEVOTED TO THE TRADE INTERESTS OF
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL •
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ARCHITECTURAL GLASS WORK •
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TILE • PAINT AND VARNISH MAKING
BRUSH MAKERS AND TO THE TRADE
UNION MOVEMENT IN GENERAL

Any member or subordinate body publishing programs, souvenirs or other documents of any description must not designate them as "The Official Journal of the Brotherhood," or as "The Painters and Allied Trades Journal," either upon the publication itself on their advertising contract forms or stationery.

MICHAEL DISILVESTRO
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S. FRANK RAFTERY
General President
1750 New York Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

MICHAEL DISILVESTRO
General Secretary-Treasurer
1750 New York Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

General Vice Presidents

BERNARD SNIEGOWSKI
1st District
1443 Westchester Blvd.
Westchester, Ill. 60153

A. L. MONROE, 2nd District
7909 Bayberry Drive
Alexandria, Va. 22306

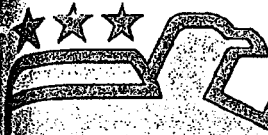
JAMES WOLFORD, 3rd District
100 Devon Lane
Williamsville, N.Y. 14221

JACK T. COX, 4th District
2212 DuPont Dr.
Irvine, Calif. 92664

GUY LEBER, 5th District
1930 Bishop Lane
Louisville, Ky. 40218

ROBERT J. PETERSDORF
6th District
13639 Ferris Ave.
Apple Valley, Minn. 55068

WILLIAM A. DUVAL, 7th District
1750 New York Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006



LABOR BEAT

A U.S. District Court in Lincoln, Neb., has ordered a construction company to give back pay plus interest to five workers who were fired when they refused to work in unsafe conditions.

The court order was handed down in response to a petition by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. An OSHA spokesman said he believed it to be the first such decision handed down by the courts.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 prohibits discipline or termination of workers who refuse in good faith to expose themselves to dangerous conditions if an employer refuses to correct such conditions. ■

AFL-CIO affiliates are being asked to cooperate in a Labor Studies Center survey of any historical materials they possess that may be useful to the development of national labor archives.

One of the long-range objectives of the federation's Studies Center is the establishment of labor archives at its new campus, AFL-CIO secretary-treasurer Lane Kirkland noted in his letter to the affiliates. ■

The United Farm Workers reportedly has surged ahead of the Teamsters in its bid to represent California field hands.

Since a state law requiring secret balloting went into effect on August 28, the UFW has won 135 elections and the Teamsters 61, a recent tally shows. Results

appear to bear out a recent statement by AFL-CIO Vice President Paul Hall that if the state's new farm labor law is conducted fairly, votes would go to the UFW.

Hall, president of the Seafarers, was chairman of a special panel the AFL-CIO Executive Council sent to California for a first-hand look at farm labor election practices. The AFL-CIO

convention in San Francisco recently renewed the federation's commitment to the UFW. ■

Organized labor urged the National Safety Council to spearhead a campaign against occupational diseases, the silent killers which take the lives of more than 100,000 workers each year.

William W. Winpisinger, vice president of the Machinists, told a session of the Labor Conference at the council's annual National Safety Congress in Chicago that up to now the stress has been on accident prevention—the "dropping hammer" syndrome.

But "the primary threat to workers today is constant exposure to toxic substances," Winpisinger said. "Workers wind up selling not labor, but years of their lives to employers." He noted that 97 percent of materials workers handle are untested for their long-range dangers to health.

Meanwhile, a revised federal job health standard to reduce worker exposure to cancer-causing asbestos fibers was being proposed by the Labor Department, along with new exposure limits on lead, beryllium and 13 additional toxic chemicals.

Other toxic substances in the proposed standards are toluene, trichloroethylene, p-tert-butyltoluene, cumene, ethyl, benzene, alpha-Methyl styrene, styrene, vinyl toluene, cyclohexane, camphor, mesityl oxide, 5-methyl-3-heptanone, and ozone. ■

Consumer Prices

The U.S. Consumer Price Index (1961 = 100), for September 1975 was 163.6, a 0.5 percent rise over August's figure of 162.8 and a 7.7 percent increase for the 12-month period since September 1974.

Periodically, after an index figure becomes too large, governments reestimate price increases beginning with a new base year. The percentage increase, however, from one year to another is not affected; the index number only will appear lower. Statistics Canada reports a revision of the base year for Canada's CPI to 1971. Thus Canadian statistics now are measured against what \$100 would buy in 1971.

Statistics Canada reports the September 1975 CPI (1971 = 100) was 141.5, a slight 0.2 percent increase over August's figure of 141.2. This amounts to a 10.6 percent increase for the 12-month period since September 1974. Canada's CPI had been increasing at an annual rate of 11 percent or more.