

# IRR newsletter

Volume 9 - No. 3

December 5, 1968

Date: Tuesday, December 17, 1968

Time: 6:00 p.m. - HOSTED XMAS PARTY  
 7:00 p.m. - Dinner - \$3.75  
 8:00 p.m. - Speaker

Place: The Boardroom Restaurant  
 3361 West 8th Street  
 Los Angeles

Speaker: Joseph T. DeSilva  
 Executive Secretary-Treasurer  
 Retail Clerks Union, Local #770

Subject: FOOD NEGOTIATIONS - 1969

Please make reservations by calling Rita Sann, 825-3180 or returning the enclosed self-addressed card by December 13, 1968. If you are unable to attend the dinner you are most welcome to come and listen to Mr. DeSilva's address at 8:00 p.m.

NEWS BRIEF  
 ON SPEAKER  
 FOR DECEMBER

Joseph T. DeSilva, Executive Secretary-Treasurer of Local #770 of the Retail Clerks Union and one of its charter members, will discuss Food Negotiations - 1969. In addition to being the principal spokesman for eight other Southern California Retail Clerks locals, he observes employment conditions and security for the 23,000 members of Local 770. During the past quarter century, Mr. DeSilva has earned the reputation of a tough and skilled negotiator, gaining employee benefits for the retail clerks that are difficult to match almost anywhere in the United States. For example, he has established the highest wage scale for clerks in Los Angeles County and such excellent fringe benefits as 20-year pensions and complete medical and hospital protection, including dental and psychiatric care. Among many tributes and honors, he received the John F. Kennedy Peace Award "for 28 years of service in the field of human relations," and former Governor Edmund G. Brown's trophy for "an outstanding contribution to the field of mental health by an individual outside the medical profession."

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PAST  
PROGRAM

Robert K. Fox, president of the Food Employers Council, Inc., discussed some of the issues that arise in negotiating 119 contracts covering 125,000 to 135,000 employees in the food industry. His organization bargains with teamsters, meatcutters, retail clerks, and building maintenance workers, to mention just a few. There are many subtle relationships among these groups which further complicate collective bargaining. He stated that it is the purpose of the Food Employers Council to achieve a balance of economic strength with these unions. Mr. Fox compared the food industry to a public utility, and the consumer to an invisible third party at the bargaining table. He spoke of the need for reevaluation of industry-wide and company-wide bargaining, and he believes that legislation eventually will be required to deal with that problem. He said, "the Food Employers Council does a vigilant job in fulfilling the trusteeship responsibilities in negotiated benefit plans," and, "the late Senator Robert A. Taft, in the Act that bears his name, left employers a legacy in this respect, which many employers have not recognized."

COMING  
EVENTS  
IN  
1969

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- January 21- Mr. Sigmund Arywitz, Executive Secretary  
Los Angeles County Federation of Labor
- February 18- Mr. Odgen W. Fields, Executive Secretary  
National Labor Relations Board  
Washington, D.C.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ Zone \_\_\_\_\_  
Occupation \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_  
Employer's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Bus. Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ -Zone \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby apply for membership in the Industrial Relations Alumni Association.  
Enclosed is my check in the amount of \$5.00 payable to the Industrial Relations  
Alumni Association.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and mail to Rita Sann, Institute of Industrial Relations, UCLA,  
Los Angeles, California 90024.