



The History  
of

**IRONWORKERS  
LOCAL 167**

BRIDGE, STRUCTURAL,  
& ORNAMENTAL  
IRON WORKERS  
(AFL-CIO)



JONES EQUIPMENT COMPANY of Dyersburg, TN, a NON-UNION COMPANY, came in to Memphis to erect a BUTLER type building at the FAIR GROUNDS in Memphis, to be used for show cattle during the Mid-South Fair; this Company was representative for Butler Building Company in this territory.

LOCAL NO. 167 made an effort to have this work done by UNION IRON WORKERS, being unsuccessful a PICKET was placed on the project. On Thursday, August 26, 1954, about 20 unemployed UNION IRON WORKERS selected one member as spokesman and went to this job site to try to get JONES EQUIPMENT COMPANY to use some union members to help complete the project. These men were not given an opportunity to discuss the situation — the non-union men were armed with shot guns, rifles and pistols; they began shooting our UNION MEMBERS and hospitalized five men with gun-shot wounds. One member lost a right eye, one had a lung and liver damaged and the bullet was removed from his spine; one man received a painful injury to his right arm — the others were less seriously injured. This appeared to be a PREMEDITATED SLAUGHTER of UNARMED UNION IRON WORKERS seeking employment.

This cattle barn was completed by UNION IRON WORKERS — One day was set aside and 38 UNION IRON WORKERS worked on this project and the proceeds of their day's work was donated to the FUND for assistance of the members and their families who were injured and those who were under bond, charged with "COMMON AFFRAY".

THIS PHOTOGRAPH SHOWS MOST OF THE MEN WHO WORKED ON THIS PROJECT AND DONATED THEIR LABOR.

THE FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF THE MEMBERS:

E. L. NOLEN, JR. B.A.	S. E. CHENAULT	JAMES W. DENNIS	THOS. H. ALLEN
THOS. F. KELLY	FRED MYNATT	JOE ELMORE	J. R. PATTERSON
H. B. CUNNINGHAM	WM. J. KAISER	PAUL T. PRINCE	PAUL H. VIOLETTE
JAS. L. YARBROUGH	HENRY MERRELL	RICHARD CARR	ROBT. L. SMITH
JAS. P. HUTCHENS	JOHN D. OAKES	C. R. CISSELL	TOLLIE MARCUM
IRA S. WOOTEN	WM. O. DENTON	JAS. P. MARSHALL	JOEL D. WILSON
WILLARD F. WILSON	J. L. PITTMAN	JAS. D. GEORGE	TAYLOR M. BENSON
W. C. POOLE	L. O. TRUMBO	SCOTT SMITH	AUBREY SMITH
M. H. TABOR	E. MORGAN	H. S. PRINCE	WALTER GORDA
T. I. PRICE	FRANK PRINCE		

## **Iron Workers Local 167 Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Iron Workers**

The leadership of Local 167 is pleased to present to you our members and fellow brothers the past history of our organization.

For those of us who have dedicated our lives to the Building and Construction Trades, this history traces Local 167's roots from the day of February 10, 1915. To say that we have come a long way would certainly not be an understatement.

In looking back we find that the first meetings were at the Carpenters Union Hall, we then moved to Beale St. about 1925, known as the old Labor Temple, later moving to 2881 Lamar and from there to 1254 Lamar and a final resting place, 2574 Lindawood Cove. We find that there has been a total of 23 different Business Agents over the past 75 years, with two of them going to the International staff. About 1928 the F S T & B A was split making them two different offices. They later combined them in 1949. In 1961 the first Health and Welfare Plan was started at seven and one-half cents per hour. In 1967 a Pension Plan started at fifteen cents per hour.

It is important that we pay tribute to our former brethren, who more or less, "paved the way" for the successes we enjoy today. Local 167's reputation as an accommodating and thoroughly professional organization is due in part to the contributions of our brothers of past generations.

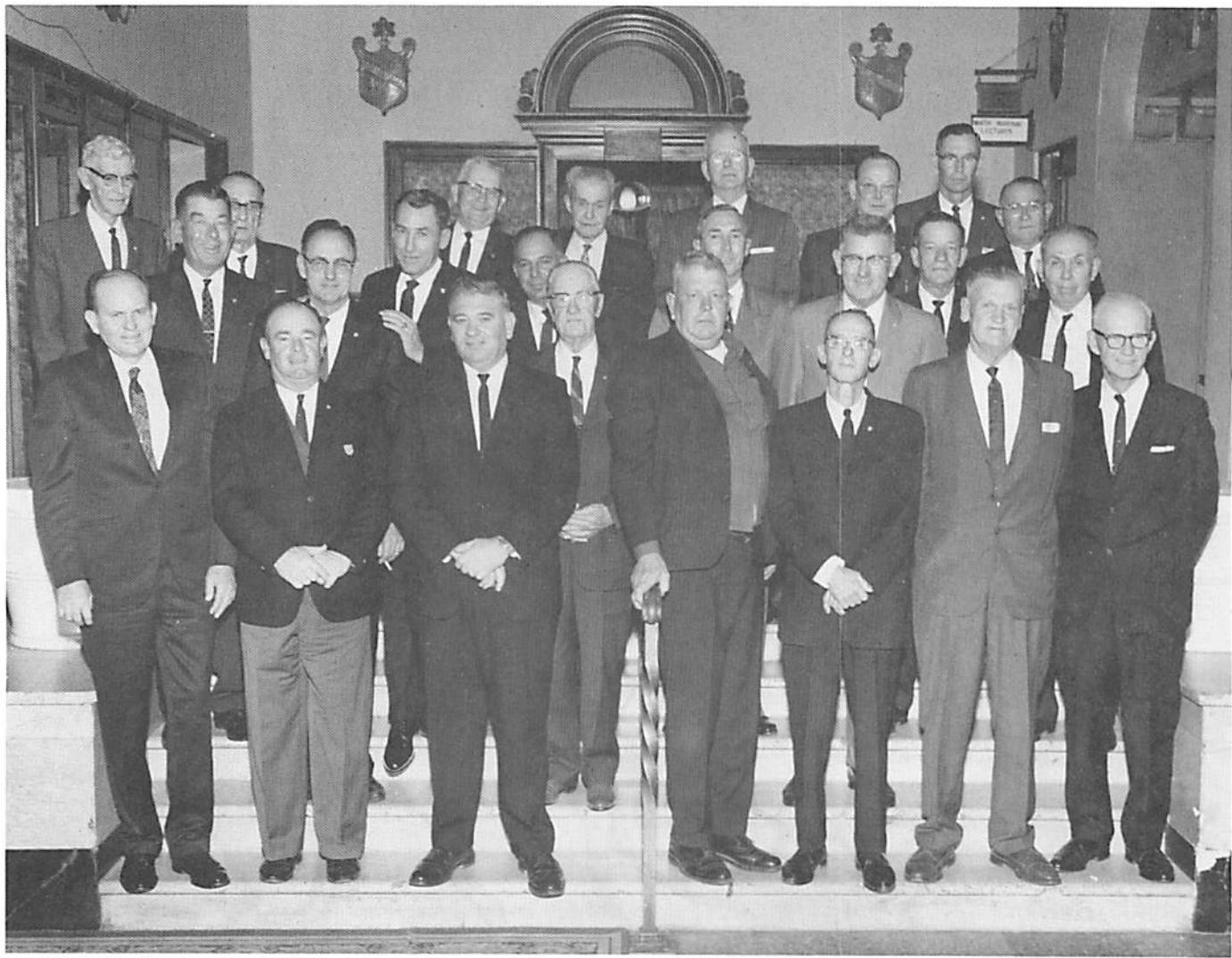
We have had the duty and responsibility of erecting architectural wonders throughout the jurisdiction of Iron Workers Local 167 — the bridge to Missouri from Dyersburg, TN — both the bridges to West Memphis, AR — Helena Chemical Plant — Allen Steam Plant, many skyscrapers downtown — Schlitz Brewery — Many jobs at the airport including Federal Express — Agricenter — and under construction now, a 32 story Pyramid, the only one in the United States — we have a signed contract on 1.2 billion dollar Kellogg Plant, but it is on hold now. All of us can be proud of our achievements, there is no doubt Local 167 will continue to have an important role in future construction of our great area.

A spirit of good fellowship has always been evident throughout the ranks of our local. At times perhaps, we begin to lose focus of what we are, what we stand for and who we represent — this history is to show you where we came from and where we are at now. We are always working to improve our trade for future generations of Local 167 members. We must never lose perspective of this idea, prepare for tomorrow with skilled Iron Workers.

We hope that you enjoy "THE HISTORY OF IRON WORKERS LOCAL 167" and will come to realize just how much we have endured throughout the past 75 years. We wish you a happy 75th Anniversary. Please enjoy!

Fraternally,

Cecil Crowder, Sr.  
Business Manager  
Local 167



## MEMBERS OF A PAST BANQUET

### First Row, left to right

Tracy I. Price  
James P. Hutchens  
Earnest Nolen  
James D. George  
Jack Tucker  
Howard F. Giddens  
Jack Page

### Third Row

Henry Hull  
Barton Payne  
Roy Johnson  
Bill Barry  
Walter Vandenburg, Sr.  
Edward V. Liles  
Edgar E. Crowe

### Second Row

Porter Watkins  
James Yarbrough  
Fred Mynatt  
John L. Guy  
Bennie D. Baer  
James P. Marshall  
Odie C. Cummings  
Otho Burns  
Henry Merrell

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## MEMBERS OF A PAST BANQUET

### First Row, left to right

James (Shorty) Elliott  
Leonard Lucas  
Harold (Stumpy) Presley  
Roy Johnson  
Arthur (Shorty) Burns  
Juel D. Drake  
Ernest Nolen  
Ed Holeman  
Ralph Patysch, Jr.

### Second Row

J. W. Vanderburg, Jr.  
James C. Stanley  
William A. (Bill) White  
Red Graves  
Andy M. Payne  
Reese Talbot  
William (Bill) Kaiser  
Eugene Spilling

### Third Row

Leonard P. Mahoney  
Taylor M. Benson  
Chester Armstrong  
Clyde (Scottie) Scott  
Mack McGuire  
O. C. Lancy (in the rear)  
Lawrence Tatum  
Lonnie Bevel  
Ovid T. Goff  
Ernest Fowler  
Bryant Balylock



















Headquarters  
International Association of Bridge, Structural and  
Ornamental Iron Workers  
1615 SYNDICATE TRUST BUILDING  
ST. LOUIS, MO.  
October 23, 1930

167

Dear Sir and Brother:

Please let me know the date your Local Union charter was issued and the name of the International President and General Secretary who signed the same. You can fill in the answers below and return this letter to the undersigned:

Our charter was issued Feb. 15 1915.

The name of the International President who signed charter is J. E. McClosky.

The name of the International Secretary who signed charter is Harry Jones.

Trusting you will fill in the above and return to me at once, I remain with best wishes,

Fraternally yours,

W. J. McCain

General Secretary.

# CHARTER DOCUMENTS

## Local

### 167

### Memphis, Tennessee

RECEIVED  
OCT 27 1930  
MAILING DEPT., THE IRON WORKERS  
1615 SYNDICATE TRUST BUILDING  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

Memphis Tenn.  
Oct. 24, 1930.  
Mr. W. J. McCain  
1615 Syndicate Trust Bldg  
St Louis Mo

Dear Sir and Bro.  
Your letter of the  
23 inst received. And I find that  
the charter granted to Local  
167 on the tenth day of February  
nineteen hundred and fifteen was  
not signed by either the  
International President or  
Secretary. Please advise if you  
want me to send the old charter  
in and get a new one. This one  
is in a delapidated condition.

For long this has not been  
looked after before this  
I beg to remain  
Yours truly  
W. H. Adams  
762 Piedmont  
Memphis Tenn

# International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers

## Application for Charter

The undersigned, residents of Memphis, Tenn., believing the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRIDGE AND STRUCTURAL IRON WORKERS to be well calculated to improve our social and intellectual condition, and promote our industrial well-being and advancement, respectfully petition the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRIDGE AND STRUCTURAL IRON WORKERS to grant them a Charter to form a LOCAL UNION, to be located in the City of Memphis County of   
State of Tennessee

We pledge ourselves, individually and collectively, to be governed by the constitution, rules and usages of the INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF BRIDGE AND STRUCTURAL IRON WORKERS.

*The following are the names of the officers:*

Address		R. S.	
Address			
NAME (in full)	Reg. No.	ADDRESS (in full)	Never a Member
W. L. Boyd	28607		
F.M. Parsons	36888		
Stephen Gercheck	2398		
John McKinzie	13063		
W.N. Walker	36011		
Geo. Goltfelter	7638		
Jack Denver	16479		
J.F. Moriarty	32482		
R. Rock	38332		
Ernest Hastings	13502		

December 3, 1930.

Mr. W. D. Adams  
762 Richmond  
Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Sir and Brother:  
I am returning your charter today and  
have attached the signatures of former President  
J. E. McClory and former Secretary Harry Jones, as  
they held the respective offices in the Internation-  
al Association at the time your charter was issued.  
With best wishes, I am  
Fraternally yours

General Secretary.

WJM:HO  
STBAA  
17707

No. 167

**NOTICE**

This space will be filled at the Office of the Secretary-Treasurer.

N. B.—Applications from members who have been members of this Association shall receive the approval of the Secretary-Treasurer before being

**Application for Charter**

FROM  
E. J. McCain  
Local Union No. 167  
LOCATED AT  
Memphis, Tenn.  
ATTACHED TO

ORGANIZED  
Feb. 16th, 1915  
BY  
E. J. McCain  
CHARTER SENT  
Feb. 16th, 1915  
TO  
J. P. Moriarity  
380 E. Georgia St.,  
Memphis, Tenn.

October 28, 1930.

Mr. W. D. Adams  
762 Richmond  
Memphis, Tenn.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Your letter of the 24th inst., re-  
ceived and note what you say about the charter  
of Local 167 not being signed by the President  
or the Secretary and that the charter is in  
bad condition, and if you will return the same  
I will have it signed or else issue a duplicate  
charter and have the proper signatures attached  
thereto.

With best wishes, I am  
Fraternally yours

WJM:HO  
STBAA  
17707

General Secretary.



# **FORMER BUSINESS AGENTS AND FINANCIAL SECRETARIES OF IRONWORKERS LOCAL 167 MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

J. F MORIATY (At Issuance of Charter).....	February 10, 1915
J. E. GLASS.....	1915-1916
FRANK ROCK.....	1916-1917-1918
M. J. O'GRADY.....	1918
FRANK ROCK.....	1918-1919-1920-1921
D. SUTHERLAND.....	1921-1922
J. R. WILLIAMS.....	1922-1923
W. D. ADAMS.....	1923-1924
J. R. WILLIAMS.....	1924-1925-1926-1927-1928
W. M. BARRY.....	1928-1929
O. R. WILSON.....	1929-1930
W. D. ADAMS.....	1930-1931
H. D. BRAZZELL.....	1931-1932-1933
W. M. BARRY.....	1933-1934
H. D. BRAZZELL.....	1934-1935
W. M. BARRY.....	1935-1936-1937-1938
W. GLOTFELTER.....	1938-1939
JAMES SMITH.....	1939-1940-1941
H. C. ALLEN.....	1941-1942-1943-1944-1945
JAMES SMITH.....	1945-1946-1947
ELMER WEBER.....	1947-1948
JACK PAGE.....	1948-1949
ELMER WEBER.....	1949-1950-1951-1952
ERNEST NOLEN.....	1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959
V. ROBERSON.....	1959-1960-1961
T. M. BENSON.....	1961-1962-1963-1964
W. C. DUKE.....	1964-1965-1966-1967-1968
G. VINCENT.....	1968-1969
LONNIE BEVELL.....	1969-1970-1971-1972
V. ROBERSON.....	1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978
THOMAS GRAVES.....	1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983
CECIL CROWDER.....	1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990

VOL. XX

January, 1920

No. 1



"SEPTEMBER 1924  
This critter forfeited all nine lives  
When he ran afoul of Iron Worker  
Carl D. Morgan."



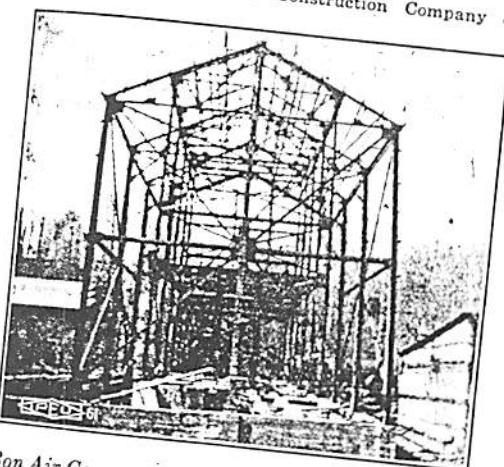
Morgan and "critter"  
Morgan snared this 73-lb. catfish  
in the Spring River near his home in  
Williford, Ark. Brother Morgan is a  
member of Local 167 in Memphis,

## EXCERPTS FROM PAST BRIDGEMEN'S MAGAZINE

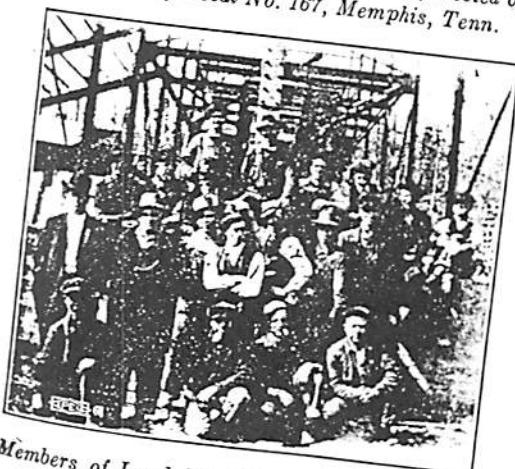
### Local Union No. 167.

MEMPHIS, TENN., April 19, 1919.

*Editor Bridgemen's Magazine:*  
A contract has been let to Coucker & Hodger for  
a \$350,000 Methodist hospital at Memphis.  
The James Alexander Construction Company of



Bon Air Company Plant at Lyle, Tenn., erected by  
members of Local No. 167, Memphis, Tenn.



Members of Local No. 167 at the Bon Air Coal  
and Iron Company Plant at Lyle, Tenn.

### Mississippi Mud Cake

1 3/4 cups sugar  
1 cup oil  
4 eggs  
1 1/2 cups flour  
1/3 cup cocoa  
3 teaspoons vanilla  
1 cup chopped nuts  
1 package miniature marshmallows

Cream shortening and sugar together, add eggs and beat well. Sift together flour, salt, and cocoa. Add to creamed mixture. Add vanilla and nuts. Pour into greased and floured pan (13 x 9). Bake 35 minutes at 300 degrees. Take out of oven and spread marshmallows evenly over cake. Return to oven for 5 minutes.

### Frosting

1 1/2 sticks butter  
1/3 cup cocoa  
1 box powdered sugar  
1/2 cup evaporated milk  
1 teaspoon vanilla  
1 cup chopped nuts

Blend all ingredients well before frosting cake.

Submitted by  
Polly Rhodes  
Office Secretary  
Local 167, Memphis

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THE BRIDGEMEN'S MAGAZINE

### Local Union No. 167.

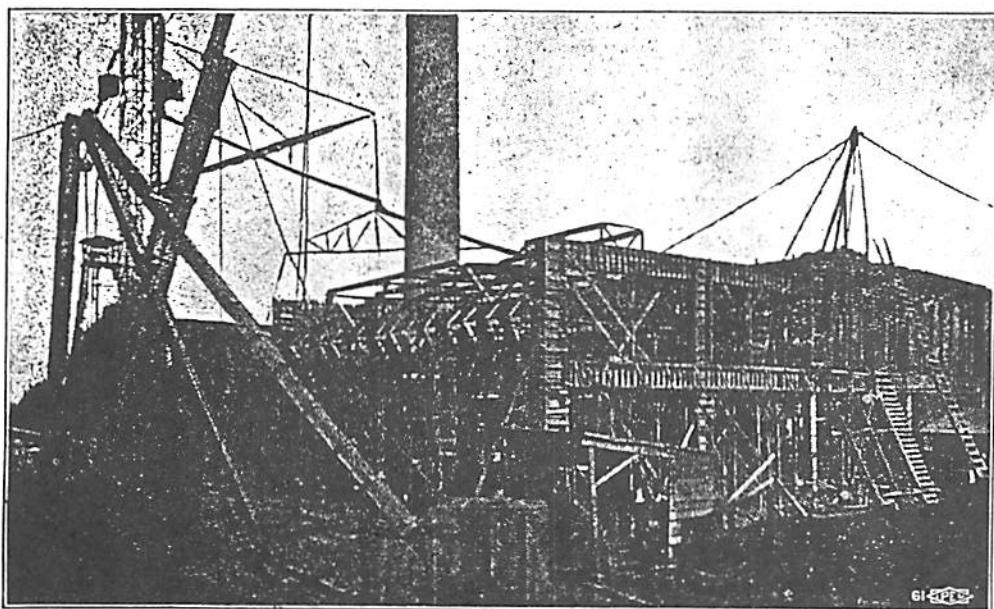
MEMPHIS, TENN., February 10, 1920,  
Editor Bridgemen's Magazine:

The scale of wages of Local No. 167 will be \$1.00 per hour on and after April 1, 1920. Apprentices, 50c for first six months, 65c thereafter. Things are beginning to look good for these parts for some time to come. The steel for the Lowes

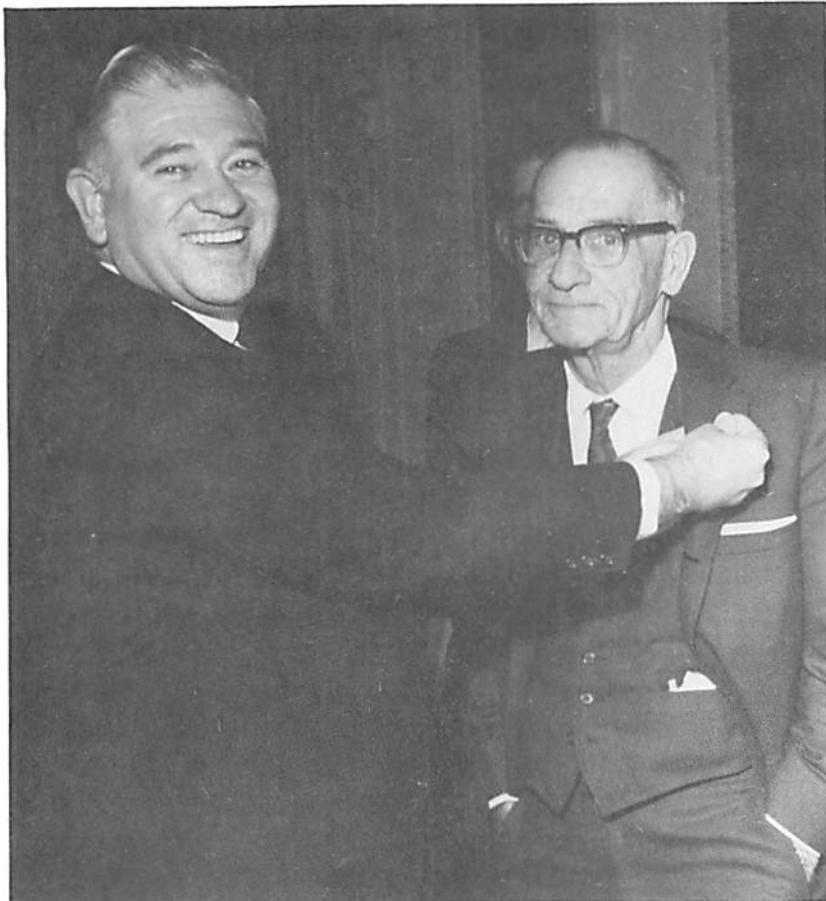


FEBRUARY, 1977

Cindy Howell Walker, daughter of Carl D. Howell from Local 167 in Memphis, sang an operatic selection from "Faust" to win the Grand Award in the Mid-South Fair Youth Talent Contest in Memphis. Mrs. Walker, 20, a freshman at Memphis State University, won \$500, a trip to Hollywood to audition for CBS, and an offer to sing at Libertyland.



Shelby County, Tenn., Cotton Oil Mill, Memphis, Tenn. Steel erected by members of Local No. 167, Memphis, Tenn.



**Earnest Nolen and Barton Payne**



**Robert (Bob) Cooney and William (Bill) Barry**



## SERVICE AWARDS

### First Row, left to right

John F. Walsh  
Henry Huff  
Jack Page

### Second Row

James Yarbrough  
Porter Watkins  
Walter Vanderburg, Sr.  
Jack Tucker  
Bill Barry (hidden in rear)



**Earnest Nolen**

THESE TWO MEN ARE  
ARE FORMER BUSINESS  
AGENTS WHO WERE  
LATER APPOINTED  
TO THE INTERNATIONAL  
STAFF

*The Local Is Very Proud  
Of These Two Men*



**T. M Benson**

# **Ironworkers Local 167**

Bridge, Structural and Ornamental Ironworkers  
2574 Lindawood Cove  
Memphis, Tennessee 38118-1503

