Labor of Love

By President Ray Maggard

As the summer is well upon us the work of most of our committees is completed or grind to a halt while a report of their work is being prepared for the Annual Business Conference. Having been a committee chairman the responsibility for a committee's success is well known to me, it is a tough job. As your President the success of our committees also have a special meaning, because it also is a measure of the accomplishments of a President. I am especially proud of the work that has been accomplished this year.

One committee, The Solar Energy Committee, deserves some special recognition. As many of you will remember last year's conference a resolution was passed by the members which among other things directed the President to appoint a special committee to develop a Code for the installation of solar energy equipment and to present it to the membership for consideration at the Annual Business Conference.

In selecting a chairman for this important project consideration was given to selecting a person who had an interest in solar energy applications, and the ability to get the job done. Vince Canzario from Scottsdale, Arizona was that man. This was a job that some said, after our first meeting could not be completed in time for this year's conference. If you haven't received your copy of this proposed Uniform Solar Energy Code (USEC) you will shortly because the job was completed on time.

Vince placed two conditions on accepting the Chairmanship, that being, the meetings be held in Scottsdale and during weekends. These conditions did give reason for me to be a little concerned but a decision was made to accept Vince on his terms.

The meetings were held on weekends and about half in Scottsdale as he did relinquish somewhat of this one condition. Committee members did turn out for the meetings giving up their week-ends and thanks to Vince to produce a Solar Energy Code, something for the benefit of all of us and to further promote the prestige of our Association. In all my years as a member of IAPMO I have never seen as much work accomplished in as short a period of time, especially under these conditions. I don't mean to infer that the U.S.E.C. was thrown together, on the contrary much thought and deliberation went into the document you will be considering at the conference this year.

None of us are solar energy experts but the engineers and industry people who were a part of this Committee fed in the technical information to make this a complete Code. We could not have done this big job without them. We hope you will find the U.S.E.C. acceptable to bear the IAPMO label.

Although I have singled out the Solar Energy Committee the other standing and special committees have been producing much work making our association the most progressive and viable Association of its kind in the U.S.A. Each month the Plumbing Research Committee cranks out work which is sent to you in the form of Research Recommendations, none of us have the time or expertise to duplicate. You have received the report of the Plumbing Standards Committee. Only a part of their work shows in their report to the conference. As Standards are now part of the Uniform Plumbing Code book the work of this committee really takes on new meaning. The other committees also equally share in the success of IAPMO.

This article is titled the "Labor of Love," work that one enjoys doing, for that is just what it is. None of us have to do more than our routine jobs. Fortunately there are people who will do more than is required or expected because of the love for his profession. These persons are the foundations of our Association and without them we would be nothing. The success of IAPMO is not by chance but by the dedication and hard work of its members, a "Labor of Love."

Behind every successful man there is a woman or so the saying goes. Behind our successful committees there has been staff personnel to produce the necessary paperwork, make meeting arrangements, supply special information to the committees and to maintain the continuity of the work. We are fortunate to have persons on the IAPMO Staff who are willing to put in the extra effort to insure the committees are used to the fullest advantage and that the committees are given every opportunity to succeed.

I can't help think back to 1926 when the small group of Los Angeles City Plumbing Inspectors, having coffee, made the decision to start this association. What would they think of it now? I feel certain they would be pleased. There is still much work to be done and battles to be won but with people like you there is no reason we can not prevail. My thanks to each of you.