



The UMWA presidential election took place on December 9, 1969. Jock Yablonski expected that since the government had refused to supervise the election, he would likely lose. Vote tallies did show a loss, but Yablonski vowed to take the results to court, convinced of massive illegalities on the part of the UMWA president.

Jock Yablonski's efforts to get the assistance of the Federal Government investigating the election were going nowhere. Then, he, his wife and daughter were murdered.

On January 5, 1970, one of Yablonski's sons discovered the murders. Police, newsmen, and finally the FBI went to work on the case. Through an amazingly thorough and persistent effort, the FBI found the killers, the middlemen between them and Tony Boyle. In April of 1974, Tony Boyle was convicted of three counts of murder in the first degree and was sent to prison.

For those of you who would like to know more about these events, read *Act of Vengeance: The Yablonski Murders and Their Solution* by Trevor Ambrister (Saturday Review Press, E.P. Dutton & Co., Inc., New York, 1975).

Collector's Talk

A UMWA Button

Harry Jones of Palmdale, California, sent in this photo of a UMWA button. The button is black and yellow and is shown in actual size. Harry asks if anyone knows what the large 4 over the 1905 means? He's heard that it meant that the miner was hired in the fourth month of 1905, is this correct?

UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA

