SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA, OCTOBER 30, 1951

HARRY WRINKLE, EDITOR

## General Construction Strike Vote November

## **G-C TAKES ACTION** IN PER DIEM DISPUTE

After many meetings with PG&E on the question of an increased per diem subsistence and lodging allowance, General Construction members have instructed Your Union to take a firm stand. The result is that a strike ballot has gone out to the more than 1500 members and the ballots will be counted by a special committee on Nov. 2, 1951.

Back in 1946 the company granted general construction workers operating at some distance from home areas an allowance for subsistence and lodging of \$2.50 per day or \$17.50 per week. Living costs since that time have skyrocketed and in some of the remote areas, meals are triple what they were in 1946. Hotel rates have kept pace.

#### LIVING COSTS SKYROCKET

This allowance now in effect is limited to 180 days, and G-C members point out that it costs just as much to live after the 180 days have elapsed. General construction workers want the time limit removed and \$5.00 per week added to the \$17.50 now granted, for a total of \$22.50 per week.

Actually this amounts to a gain of 71 cents per day. The company, however, meeting with union officials and Federal Conciliation Service Mediator V. Wayne Kenaston on October 11, refused any of the requests. Without delay, Acting Business Manager W. A. Smith, I-O Representative M. G. Snyder, and G-C Business Representative Paul Smith announced that the strike vote, as authorized in general construction meetings called earlier all over the system, would be taken.

#### MORE MEETINGS SLATED

Mediator Kenaston has slated meetings between Paul St. Sure, PG&E's attorney who is the utility company's legal advisor on labor matters, Harold Carr, the personnel manager of the company, and Local 1245 officials.

Union members only will be allowed to cast a strike vote and the ballots must be in the mail and postmarked not later than midnight of November 1 in order to be counted.

W. A. Smith, acting business manager of the local, is emphatic in wanting a free, uncoerced ballot from the membership. If he is then

will know that his general construction members mean business and will proceed accordingly. Non members of G-C are signing up in large numbers in order to be eligible to vote and are solidly behind this positive action by the union.

#### G-C CONTRACT CANCELLED

PG&E Company was notified on October 16 that the contract covering general construction department workers of the company is being cancelled. The general construction workers can now strike if demands are still ignored by

### ATTENTION, MEMBERS!

Got a problem? Okay, then bring that problem to your union. That is what your union is for. It's a fine crutch when things get a little beyond your ability to handle

- (1) Write your grievance down.
- (2) Give it to your steward.
- (3) He'll tell you if it is a violation of the contract.
- (4) He may be able to straighten things out even if it isn't a contract violation.
- (5) He'll start the ball rolling immediately.

That's the way an IBEW union works, and it is working every day successfully for more than a half million members in the United States and Canada.

GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO YOUR BROTHER G-C MEMBERS-BEauthorized to call a strike, Smith | CAUSE THEY ARE RIGHT!

## Date Set to Discuss Orange Book Proposals Increase in Wages

Pacific Gas and Electric Company has agreed to sit down with officials of your union on Wednesday, Oct. 31, to discuss a general increase for all employees of the company. A recent ruling by the National Wage Stabilization Board, called Regulation 8, permits workers to receive an increase in pay in accordance with the rise in the cost of living since the time the last increase was granted.

Local 1245, IBEW, gained a 5.8 per cent increase, amounting to about \$3,500,000, on April 1 of this year under old Regulation 6. Living costs have again mounted and when Regulation 8 came out in August, W. A. Smith, acting business manager of the local, promptly dispatched a letter on Aug. 23 to the company requesting the allowable increase.

#### COMPANY READY TO TALK

After much of the usual filling and stalling, using the excuse that Harold F. Carr, the personnel manager, was new in his job, the PG&E was finally prodded into setting a date for the meeting. With the company asking for a new electric rate increase due to rising costs with \$16,000,000 already and granted in the past 10 months in gas rate increases, PG&E will be putting itself on the spot with the general rate paying public if it refuses to recognize that its employees also have increases to meet. In this case it is increased taxes and everything the worker has to buy.

Under Regulation 8, the cost of living index prepared by the federal government, showing the percentage increase in a particular area, is used in bargaining for more money.

LIES GENERALLY CATCH UP WITH THE TELLER TO DEFEAT

## Ready for Negotiation

Proposals for changes in job classifications and definitions and in the overall agreement for physical workers on the PG&E system. commonly known as the Orange Book (due to the color of the cover) are now ready to be negotiated with the company. All were checked over for discrepancies with a special committee on Monday, Oct. 15, and copies were mailed to all committee heads for approval and return.

#### ASK COMMITTEE APPROVAL

Committee heads who will be asked to approve and to note any desired changes in the Orange Book are William White of Drum for Hydro; Claire Haenggi of Sacramento for Gas; George Latshaw (Continued on Page Three)

## New President Pro Tem For Local

At the next meeting of Local 1245's Executive Board, a new president pro tem for the Local Union will be chosen to replace Chester D. Sorenson, of Fresno, who recently resigned as president. In the interim, Eugene F. Hastings, of Concord, who is vice-president, will act as Your Union's top executive.

The membership of Local 1245 regrets Sorenson's resignation at a time when many important issues are being resolved by Your Union, and Brother Sorenson is thanked for his past efforts. There are many able men on the Executive Board and the new acting president will be chosen by the board in accordance with Section 16 of the IBEW Constitution which reads:

"Vacancies occurring in any Local Union Office shall be filled by the L.U. Executive Board until the next regular election, except when filled by the International President."

## **Clericals Show Interest** In IBEW Program

Convinced that Your Union is sincere in its aims for clericals, the organizing campaign for clericals by Local 1245 is being accepted by office workers of PG&E all over the system. Five divisions, Sacramento, Humboldt, Shasta, Colgate and Coast Valleys work under IBEW negotiated contracts with PG&E.

A unit has been organized in Drum and awaits only an election to be certified by the NLRB into the IBEW bargaining unit. Much interest is being shown in the San Joaquin and De Sabla divisions and in Stockton, Al Kaznowski, former Shasta division payroll clerk who is on leave for IBEW clerical organizing, has enough signed pledge cards to set up a unit.

#### S. F. GROUP MEET

In San Francisco, a group of office employees of PG&E made a tour through Local 1245's offices at 450 Harrison street and then attended a very interesting meeting. Aims of Local 1245 were discussed by Harry Wrinkle, clerk from the Sacramento office, who is on leave for clerical organizing, and the steward system was explained by Paul Smith, business representative who handles General Construction for the union.

#### POLICIES ARE OUTLINED

W. A. Smith, acting business manager of Local 1245, outlined general union policies to the visitors and the meeting was thrown open for questions and answers. The San Francisco office people asked the kind of questions that only clerks who are really interested would ask.

A meeting is slated for this group again in November and other San Francisco offices, plus East Bay and Central Supply will be invited to attend. North Bay and San Jose will soon come in for more attention in the organizing campaign.

Clericals are, generally speaking, the "forgotten people" in most companies and those who plan to stay with PG&E must work to get ONE UNION on the utility's property so that something construc-

#### UTILITY FACTS

Official Organ of LOCAL 1245, I. B. E. W.



450 Harrison Street San Francisco 5, Calif. SUtter 1-0082

## Units Vote to Back Up G-C

All units of Your Union who have held meetings in the past few weeks voted to back up General Construction members of Local 1245 in its drive for 71 cents per day increase in subsistence and lodging allowance when working outside home areas, as this was written.

## **PG&E Policy Shortsighted**

PG&E employed a shortsighted policy when it refused to grant a per diem increase to 2500 general construction workers in subsistence and lodging allowance. At the hearing before V. Wayne Kenaston, the federal mediator, it was disclosed that the utility company was one of the most tightfisted outfits in California in per diem allowances to its men.

This stand puts the company in an unfavorable light with the public, especially the public that has been asked to pay more for its gas and electricity. Seventy-four contracts covering construction work in California were surveyed and introduced as evidence at the hearing.

#### 74 COMPANIES SURVEYED

There was only one company among the 74 surveyed paying less than PG&E in the whole state. Four paid \$3 per day, 10 paid \$3.50; 13 paid 4 a day, two paid \$4.50; 26 paid \$5 per day, one paid paid \$5.50, one paid \$5.60, 11 paid \$6 per day, two paid \$6.50 and two individual contracts called for \$7 and \$8, respectively. State and Federal agencies pay from \$7.60 to \$9 per day. PG&E division employees receive full expenses. General construction has 161 crews working at present.

tive can be accomplished in the way of a strong contract.

#### 76 CLERICAL CONTRACTS IN U. S.

It is interesting to note that IBEW has 76 clerical contracts with major power companies and utility districts all over the United States, many of them among the greatest in the gas and electric industries.

Contact the clerk next to you and write in today to Clericals, Room 210, 450 Harrison street, San Francisco 5, Calif., for pledge cards and copies of proposed changes in the IBEW clerical contract with PG&E, which will be negotiated with the company in a matter of

WORK TO ELIMINATE UWUA!

## PG&E WORKERS WARNED TO IGNORE CIO PROMISES!

workers in four Bay Area divisions threw out the CIO Utility Workers Union of America in an election nearly two years ago by a 21/2 to 1 margin, former CIO members who now belong to Local Union 1245, IBEW (AFL) warn PG&E workers not to take its promises and accusations seriously.

#### MEMBERS WANT GOOD SERVICE

UWUA's lack of service to its members before the 1950 election and rumors of connivance between the CIO union's representatives and the company caused all but a handful of clerical workers to bolt to IBEW at the first opportunity. With the same "alleged leaders" running the show, more of the same can be expected should UWUA win in the forthcoming election (which probably won't take place for at least three months).

PG&E workers are too smart to fall for UWUA's "line", with its promise of "pie in the sky". Your union's members are receiving good service in the field from 12 full time business representatives. None of the representatives has more than two divisions to service.

#### EXECUTIVE BOARD RUNS SHOW

Local 1245's executive board is running the show, despite untruths spread in the field on this score by persons who allow themselves to be duped into being tools for the UWUA. At the last meeting of the executive board, campaign plans on every phase of Your Union's activities were written out and presented to the board piece by piece for approval.

#### SUGGESTIONS WERE INVITED

All executive board members were invited to present suggestions for any desired changes in the plans and all voted to accept the plans submitted. Any organization must have a carefully mapped out schedule of activities to get anywhere. The fact that W. A. Smith, acting business manager, and M. G. Snyder, I-O representative, who are heading up Your Local until ONE UNION is put on PG&E property and a strong 1245 is ready to go on its own, wanted to put everything done or planned down in writing for an acceptance or rejection by the executive board should be proof enough that the International office of the IBEW wants THE MEMBERS TO RUN THE LOCAL. UNITY IS A MUST

If the membership doesn't unite to eliminate CIO's UWUA completely from the PG&E property, then the old "divide and conquer" into private construction work.

Pointing to a past record of in- theme can be maintained. If that sincerity so bad that physical happens, wage security, job security and pension security must stand aside and wait, hat in hand, while two unions tug at one another. Such a situation can be avoided by a membership that wants to get down to the business of making PG&E working conditions a shining example to the gas and electric industry of what ONE GOOD UNION CAN DO.

## Copper-Steel Shortage Slows Line Construction

The acute shortage of copper wire and steel for towers is seriously hampering line construction by private contractors, says Paul Yochem, Local 1245 bus. rep. who handles the affairs of old Local 50, now amalgamated with Your Union. About 350 to 400 linemen and line construction workers work out of Local 1245 for the companies and contractors building tower lines and stations for the Bureau of Reclamation and others.

#### MASSIVE TOWERS BUILT

At the present time, line construction members are building tower lines from Shasta Dam to the Tracy switchyards as part of the Bureau of Reclamation west side transmission line program. Two huge 437-foot river crossing towers south of Rio Vista and two 337-foot towers east of Antioch have just been completed. These are the tallest bolted towers in the world, most tall towers being welded affairs. The Macco Corp. has charge of this building program.

Construction workers of Local 1245 probably will do most of the work on the new \$80,000,000 transmission switchyard to be built by PG&E at Pittsburg. These men also had a large part in building the massive PG&E steam plant at Antioch, which adds many millions of kilowatts to the PG&E system.

#### CHECK BEFORE QUITTING

Folsom Dam construction soon will be under way, with a halfdozen major contractors in the picture. If critically short material can be found, Local 1245 men will get a lot of work on this project. Yochem calls attention to the fact that PG&E personnel cannot hope to switch from the utility company into this kind of work at will. The first call on the work goes to the members of the Line Construction Division, so that the union can maintain enough work in this area to keep everybody busy. Check with Yochem at SUtter 1-1685 (San Francisco) before quitting your job at PG&E to get

## Cast Your PSEA **Vote Carefully**

Four members of Your Union, who also have been active in PSEA, were nominated from the floor at the annual business meeting of the Pacific Service Employees Association a couple of weeks ago. The meeting was held at 447 Sutter street, San Francisco, and 10 names were placed in nomination. Counting of the ballots takes place on Nov. 6.

Dwight Porter of De Sabla Section, Edward Jackson of Drum Section, Verner Madsen of North Bay Section and Floyd Ridens of San Joaquin Section, are members of Local 1245 on the ballot and are worthy of your support.

It was noted at the meeting that six candidates nominated by the nominating committee of PSEA for the six openings on the Board of Trustees did not contain a single union member's name. There were also no union members on the nominating committee.

A vote for Porter, Jackson, Madsen and Ridens will insure rank and file participation on the board. These four can be counted upon to work for the best interests of all employees of the utility company and continue PSEA's program of social, recreational and educational activities in the best tradition of the association,

## FREE RIDERS MUST BE ELIMINATED

When the time for a showdown comes, sides must be taken and those fighting for a cause must put their shoulders to the wheel. That is the case in PG&E, where a lot of "free riders" have ridden on the backs of Your Union's duespaying members for years.

In the interest of saving a couple of bucks per month, these people have offered one excuse after another why they should delay signing a membership card. Look around at any major industry where top wage and working conditions prevail and you will see that everybody there belongs to a union.

#### SIGN UP WORKERS

Get after that man or woman next to you and secure membership and check-off cards from your steward. It may be necessary for union members to "deep freeze" the free riders, but the time has come where sides must be taken. Our dues structure of \$2.50 per month, with no initiation fee at present, is just about the lowest in the nation. Let's change that "free rider" into a willing member of our team!

SIGN YOUR FELLOW WORK-ER TO AN IBEW CARD!

## **UWUA** Can Apply For Membership **Burlington Liars Club** the

out from under the nearest rock periodically to blast Your Union in one of several types of publications, are at it again. This time "The Thing" was a pamphlet called 'Program Bulletin No. 3" of the UWUA and was appropriately printed on yellow paper. Local 1245 again was "the villian of the piece."

Emblazoned on the cover was the big caption "PG&E Employees Measure Their Losses . . . \$2,000,-000 in Wages Alone!" Then came two pages of the type of hokum that should qualify the UWUA-CIO and its "steering committee" for a lifetime membership in the famous Burlington Liar's Club.

#### YOUR UNION'S ANSWER

Here's how IBEW didn't lose \$2,000,000 for employees of PG&E:

1. In Sept. 1950, in spite of the plea of PG&E that it was short of money due to rising costs and the fact that rates hadn't been increased in 25 years (a rate increase request was pending before the Public Utilities Commission), IBEW pushed through a 3 per cent and a 1 per cent general wage increase.

It was small, but nobody else in the electric and gas industry in this area was getting any raises at that time. J. Scott Milne, the Intl. Secretary, was called in by old Locals 1324 and 1245, to head up the joint committee. All local units ratified the settlement.

#### OVER \$3 MILLION

2. Meanwhile PG&E had finally gotten a portion of its rate increase request and was in a better position to bargain with. So in March 1951, when the new Wage Stabilization Directive No. 6 came out, permitting raises up to 10 per cent, Local 1245 immediately negotiated the balance still due the workers, namely 5.8 per cent or roughly \$31/2 million. Since this was "tops" under wage stabilization, no ratification was necessary, but again all local units approved the increase (who wouldn't?).

#### IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?

No one is idiotic enough to believe that the same company that tightfistedly refused to grant the general construction workers a measly 71c a day in increased lodging and subsistence allowances as late as Oct. 11, 1951, would offer a \$31/2 million wage increase voluntarily. It took plenty of pressure from a BIG UNION to put that one across.

#### PITCH FOR MORE MONEY

3. Again on Aug. 23, 1951, Wage Stabilization Directive No. 8 was issued, taking cognizance of another cost of living boost and per-

mitting a percentage increase to from a public relations standpoint workers. This allowable increase is based on a cost of living index in given areas. It may or may not be 3 per cent at this time. Immediately Local 1245 made the pitch for more money to afford its members relief from increasing costs. A letter was dispatched that very

#### MEET ON OCT. 31

Unfortunately, PG&E's personnel manager, L. J. Nevraumont, had died just a few days before. So the company promptly went into a stall while a new man was picked. Harold F. Carr is the new personnel manager and he has agreed to a meeting Oct. 31, 1951, to discuss the proposed increase. Since the company has received \$16 million in gas rate increases in the last 10 months and is now asking over \$17,000,000 in electric rate increases, PG&E will find itself in an unfavorable position

if it refuses to come up to the level permitted under Regulation 8.

#### PENSION PLAN SOON

4. IBEW wanted a year to look into the best pension plans in industry throughout the United States. It wants a plan that will do the most for YOU, and one that is economically sound. Pension plans have a lot more to them than a simple wage negotiation. When Local 1245 offers a plan, it will have real stability.

#### MORE UWUA BALONEY

The "penny postcard union" (the UWUA, that is) claims that thousands of postcards demanding a raise reached top PG&E officials. The truth is that less than 200 came in, with all signers sticking their necks out a mile. Local 1245 does a job for its members, and the last thing it wants a member to do is to stick his neck in a

## IBEW "A" MEMBERSHIP PAYS OFF

A good many years ago, members of the IBEW asked the International Office to set up a pension plan and death benefit insurance payment plan. This was in the days when most of the members of the union moved from job to job and contractor to contractor, the same as those who wire houses and buildings and build substations and transmission lines do today.

The result was an "A" membership plan, which gives old age protection to the brotherhood in the form of a \$50 per month payment upon reaching retirement age of 65 and a \$1000 payment to the widow or heirs when the member dies. An "A" membership costs only \$5.40 per month, or \$2.90 per month more than the "BA" membership which does not provide for a pension plan or a death benefit plan. Ten cents of the present fee is used to keep up the payments for members who have been called into the armed forces.

#### SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE

Life expectancy for a man or woman past 65 is about eight years. So in pension benefits, a minimum of about \$4800 would be drawn and an additional \$1000 would be paid at death. If a member joined at age 20 (to use an extreme) and paid in \$34.80 per year for 45 years, he or she would have paid in a lifetime total of \$1566. Where else in the world can one buy pension and life insurance so cheaply?

#### AN ADDITIONAL PLAN

This pension plan, added to your

## **Orange Book Proposals** Ready for Negotiation

(Continued from Page One) of De Sabla for Water: Ray Michael of East Bay for Steam; Paul Zimmerman of East Bay for Underground; E. A. Anderson for Central Supply; Leo Gilleran of Sacramento, Substations; Gordon Kerker, Santa Rosa, Meter Department; Kenny Groff, East Bay, for Commercial; Glen Mosier, San Joaquin, for Electric Service; D. Champlain for Natural Gas and Holden Hayden, San Francisco, for Electric Overhead.

#### CLERICAL PROPOSALS READY

Clerical proposals have also been sent over the company to be ready for negotiation. The examining committee on the 15th sought to bring any discrepancies in the various proposals into line with the Agreement.

company pension plan and the Federal Old Age pension plan, adds up to some nice security for you. Local 1245 does not want to offer the "A" membership in lieu of an improved pension plan it intends to negotiate within the year with PG&E, but to offer it to you as a well worthwhile additional plan, just like a private insurance company might like to sell you.

#### CONTRACTORS HELP PLAN

Helping to finance the IBEW pension and death benefit plan is a 1 per cent per month contribution by private electrical contractors.

ONE UNION! MAKE IT IBEW!

# G-C Business Changes Win Field Approval

Changes in the manner of handling the business of general construction members of Local 1245 have been favorably received in the field. After little more than 30 days, much ground has been covered and members of this far flung group are receiving really good service through personal contact.

Paul Smith, business representative, assigned full time to genera) contruction members, reveals at the end of the first month that:

- (1) All activities have been cen tralized under one head.
- (2) General construction is now administered under a single set up.
  - (a) Correspondence from members is processed immediately.
  - (b) Dues are handled separately.
  - (c) One clerk has been assigned to handle the office work in connection with G-C.

#### STEWARD SYSTEM IMPROVED

- (3) The steward system has been greatly strengthened (there are now 114 stewards) and each steward has received a complete packet so that new members may be quickly signed and that grievances and other questions may be easily recorded and sent in to Paul Smith at 450 Harrison Street, San Fran cisco 5, California, for immediate processing.
- (4) The grievance committee, composed of Alex Purmal, line construction; Steve Tattics (chairman), gas construction; John Kelly of hydro and John W. Michael, stations, handled 29 formal and in formal grievances in the last 30 days, settling the majority satisfactorily. More than \$800 in back pay due members was collected from PG&E in settlement of infractions of the contract during this period. Eleven business representatives in the field helped the committee.

#### CARD INDEX SYSTEM

(5) A card index system has been set up for stewards, showing who they are and where they are located, with changes made immediately on the record as the crews move from place to place.

#### BRING PROBLEMS TO UNION

Representative Smith invites all general construction men to bring their problems to the union. He is now in the field to assist the 11 other representatives in servicing the membership. His whereabouts are known at all times at 450 Harrison Street. Either phone in to SUtter 1-0082 for Smith or write him in person or through the shop steward.

GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO YOUR BROTHER G-C MEMBERS-BE-CAUSE THEY ARE RIGHT!

### REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

Up in Drum Division the gang at Grass Valley welcomed Bro. Al Frisch, who formerly worked in the General Const. Line Dept. Illness in his family prompted Al to seek a job in Drum Div., where he could be at home and lend a helping hand. Best wishes and good luck, Al. . . . Drum's clerical unit is champing at the bit, awaiting its chance to vote.

Sacramento Division has a new executive board member in the person of Ray Pembroke, who has been very active as grievance man for the physical workers. Ray succeeds Gordon Strazzo, who was one of the wheelhorses of Local 1245's exec. bd. for years. Best wishes to Ray, and thanks to Gordon for a job well done. . . . Bob Glasgow, joint grievance committee member from Placerville, has his El Dorado stewards in fine fettle and the spirit is high in the district. . . . Sacto. Mun. Utility Dist. members are backing Jimmie Hicks, Labor Bulletin editor, who is a candidate for Sacramento's City Council.

#### ESTIMATORS FEEL PINCH

Estimators who voted themselves out of the bargaining unit nearly two years ago are still feeling the pinch of being unrepresented. True, they are professional men, but they have voted themselves into a spot where they have no voice in anything that goes on. So-o-o, their gains (if any) will be practically non-existent unless they decide soon to sign up enough pledge cards to get back in the fold via an election.

Joint grievance committee reports show that the 12 full-time representatives in the field are successfully handling a lot of grievances for the membership. There is a business representative in your area, so if you have a problem contact your steward and the ball will start rolling. also are invited to write your business representative direct at 450 Harrison St., Room 210, San Francisco 5, if you have any questions on the contract or other matter you think he can help with.

#### HERE'S A JOB TO DO

Executive board members of Local 1245 are urged to get out to unit meetings in their respective

## Save Time and Money With Check-Off Cards

Once again your union's office in San Francisco reminds the membership that you can save your money in office expense by using the payroll deduction check-off card to pay monthly dues. It takes just half as long and half as many clerks to post dues under the check-off system.

#### MEMBER GAINS ALL WAYS

Under the check-off system:

- (1) Member is always paid up in his or her dues.
- (2) Requires only a simple posting to your file card.
- (3) Receipt gets back to you

- (4) Steward doesn't have to do a lot of paper work in handling money and transmitting it,
- (5) Is a permanent record for your income tax. (Union dues are fully deductible from state and federal income tax returns.)

#### SEE STEWARD TODAY

See your steward today and get a check-off card authorization, or write in for it direct to your union's main office at 450 Harrison street, Room 210, San Francisco 5, Calif. While you are at it get a Union Shop petition card and send that in too.

GIVE FULL SUPPORT TO YOUR BROTHER G-C MEMBERS-BE-CAUSE THEY ARE RIGHT!

> Sec. 34.66, P. L. & R. U. S. POSTAGE

#### PAID

San Francisco, Calif. Permit No. 5700

division as much as possible. They know what is going on in the union and can throw much light in the right direction to assist the business rep. in keeping the membership posted.

Members in the field like the stand taken by Your Union in regard to the abuse of hiring casuals. In new contract negotiations, an effort will be made to eliminate casuals entirely. Then all employees hired will have a probationary status and if kept on for any reason after six months will have permanent status.

Estimators have been invited by letter to assist Local 1245's office in setting up a special committee to make up a program suitable to the estimators. When the program is ready all estimators of PG&E will be asked to look it over and its acceptance will pave the way for this group to get back into the bargaining unit.

#### NEW UNIT AT FT. BRAGG

Fort Bragg now is Unit 12 of Your Union. The organization was formed Sept. 4 and Bros. Louis Gomes and Karl Standard were elected chairman and secretary respectively. Richard Irvine, a troubleman, and Karl Standard, clerkdriver, are the stewards. Welcome, Unit 12!

#### 92% ORGANIZED

San Francisco's Overhead Line Dept. is 92 per cent organized and going for that 100 per cent! Stewards on every line truck, all doing a fine job, are responsible for this showing. Congratulations ards H. Barcus, C. Buzzell, D. K. Dunn, J. E. Gallagher, H. Hayden, N. F. Rickson, E. D. Roberts and E. A. Seekamp. These boys not only see that new men sign, but they handle grievances with neatness and dispatch. This group sets the pace for all other units in Local 1245 to follow.

Sorry to hear that Ben Goodman, a San Francisco Division operator, lost his wife in a recent car accident while on vacation. Our deepest sympathy and condolences.

IF WE MUST LIE TO WIN, THEN WE'D RATHER LOSE!