



PRESIDENT FREEMAN SECRETARY KEENAN

Freeman, Keenan In Bay Area Visit

International Union President Gordon M. Freeman and Secretary Joseph D. Keenan met with IBEW local union officers and staff representatives during a brief visit late last month.

The meeting, held at San Francisco's Hotel Bellevue on Sunday, April 22nd, was attended by more than 100 IBEW members from northern California and Nevada. I.V.P. Oscar Harbak presided during the informal session and introduced our top-level officers. International Executive Council member Charles J. Foehn was also present, and assisted in arrangements for the gathering.

President Freeman advised that he had not been in the Ninth District since the 1946 IBEW Convention, but that he was happy to renew old friendships and meet with union delegates in his new capacity of President.

Numerous committees are functioning, at the international union level, to resolve jurisdictional problems, according to Freeman. These involve meetings with the Carpenters' International Union, the International Association of Machinists, the Structural Iron Workers, the International Union of Operating Engineers, and others.

The Edison Electric Institute, according to Freeman, is planning to spend \$8 million on advertising during 1956 to aid the adequate wiring program of the industry, and the IBEW is cooperating in this program. He urged local unions in the construction branch of the trade to carefully police all small wiring jobs to insure that Union Wiremen are used in the work.

Quoting U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics figures, Freeman reported that the electric light and power industry is now about 85

per cent organized. The IBEW represents 75 per cent of these organized workers, while the balance are represented by the UWUA, and several other international unions. In this connection, Pres. Freeman also reported on his address to the April convention of the Utility Workers Union of America and of the interest both groups have displayed in the possibilities of merger.

President Freeman also reported on the current status of IBEW members in the manufacturing industry, the telephone and communications industry, the radio television fields, the railroad branch and the electric sign industry. While there are problems of a serious nature confronting nearly every branch of the electrical trade, he reported that the IBEW is making good progress and continuing the organizational campaign. He announced gains of more than 30,000 new members during the past few months — an impressive result of organizational work.

With respect to the Utility Branch, Freeman stated that, at

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Union's Program Pressed In P. G. & E. Negotiations

At press time, the System Negotiating Committee reports progress on our 1956 negotiations with the PG&E Company. The Company committee now has our complete set of proposals before it, following four full days of explanatory discussions.

Meeting on May 9, 10, 23 and 24, the parties reviewed the Unions proposals in a thorough and detailed manner. At the conclusion of the May 24th session, the Company committee advised the Union that they are now in a position to prepare counter-proposals on working conditions.

As reported by special bulletin, the parties appointed a sub-committee consisting of Russell E. Stone, Jr. and L. L. Mitchell for the Union and R. J. Tilson, V. J. Thompson and W. Bonbright for the Company. The sub-committee met on May 16 and 17 and "clarified" the issues in order to move negotiations along. The summary on physical working conditions was covered at the meeting of the full negotiating committees on May 23rd. Clerical working conditions and the wage inequities were explained on the 24th.

The Company committee has advised that our wage proposals are clearly understood and need no explanation at this time.

The Union's committee is well armed with facts and figures to support our proposals, and these will be brought into play when the parties get down to the business of bargaining. Actual collective bargaining will commence at the first meeting following the Company's submission of their counter-proposals to the Union committee.

The Union's committee, in addition to the sessions with management, has had a number of meetings of their own. During part of these sessions consultations were held with International Representatives E. J. France, Jr. on technical matters involved in portions of our proposals. Representative France was dispatched by International Vice President Harbak, at the request of Local 1245, to offer consultative assistance on questions concerning other utilities.

Business Manager Weakley has been assured of the full cooperation of the International Union Office in obtaining any assistance which may be requested which may be of value to Local 1245 and the Negotiating Committee in the current negotiations.

Joint meetings of the parties have been recessed during the next several days to enable the Company's Committee to complete work on their counter-proposals. The Union Committee will also meet individually during the interim period.

The next session of the full committees will take place shortly after the Union has received the Company's counter-proposals.

Present at the meetings between the parties during the full committee sessions were the following:

FOR THE UNION:

Russell E. Stone, Jr., Committee Chairman; Frank A. Quadros, M. Scotty Shaw, Dan J. McPeak, John M. Michael and Arthur M. Justis, Jr., Committee members; R. T. Weakley, Bus. Mgr.; L. L. Mitchell, Asst. Bus. Mgr.; George L. Rice, Director, Research and Education, and Elmer B. Bushby, Bus. Rep.

FOR THE COMPANY:

H. F. Carr, Manager, Personnel

Dept.; R. J. Tilson, Director of Industrial Relations; V. J. Thompson, Asst. Director of Industrial Relations; L. H. Anderson, Vice-President and Asst. General Manager; A. J. Swank, Vice President in Charge, General Construction; G. A. Peers, Vice President in Charge, Electrical Operations; P. E. Beck-

man, Vice President in Charge, Gas Operations; L. W. Coughlan, Comptroller; C. L. Yager, Administrative Assistant; R. D. Smith, General Superintendent of Transmission and Distribution; R. B. Thompson, Accountant, General Construction; William Murray and Whelan Bonbright, of the Personnel Department.

Informational bulletins will be issued immediately after the next session of the Negotiating Committee.

REACH WAGE PACT WITH SIERRA PACIFIC

The 1956 wage settlement with the Sierra Pacific Power Company was unanimously ratified at a well attended meeting of Unit 3311, held at Reno, Nevada on April 26, 1956. Members from Carson City, Portola, Truckee, Tahoe and the Reno area heard Business Manager Weakley report the results of two days of bargaining on the wage opening clause of the current agreement.

Terms of the settlement include:

1. A 4 per cent general wage increase.
2. An additional increase of 2 cents per hour to all employees whose old wage rate had been \$2 per hour to \$2.49 per hour, inclusive.
3. An additional increase of 5 cents per hour to all employees whose old wage rate had been \$2.50 per hour and above.
4. An inequity adjustment of 5 cents per hour to Gas Servicemen and Engineering Assistant, Senior, applied before the application of the other wage increases.
5. Effective date of all increases is May 1, 1956.

Following are some examples of the wage schedule after application of the increases:

LABORER — \$1.91 per hour or \$76.40 per week.
HELPER OR GROUNDMAN — \$2.035 per hour or \$81.40 per week.
FLUME REPAIRMAN "A" — \$2.23 per hour or \$89.20 per week.
GAS SERVICEMAN — \$2.505 per hour or \$100.20 per week.
MACHINIST — \$2.50 per hour or \$100 per week.
OPERATOR (Washoe) — \$2.475 per hour or \$99 per week.
LINEMAN — \$2.65 per hour or \$106 per week.
CLERK — (Electric Distribution) — \$2.37 per hour or \$94.80 per week.

TRUCK DRIVER — \$2.29 per hour or \$91.60 per week.

ENGINEERING ASSISTANT, SENIOR — \$2.495 per hour or \$99.80 per week.

COLLECTOR and/or METER READER — \$2.23 per hour or \$89.20 per week.

WORKING FOREMAN (Gas and Water) — \$2.55 per hour or \$102 per week.

LINE WORKING FOREMAN — \$2.91 per hour or \$116.40 per week.

ELECTRICIAN and/or METERMAN, SENIOR — \$2.67 per hour or \$106.80 per week.

TROUBLEMAN — \$2.71 per hour or \$108.40 per week.

An able Union negotiating committee, composed of Brothers Orville Owen, Gas; Silvano Buonanno, Engineering; and Lloyd Clark, Electric, was assisted by

Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley, Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell and Bus. Rep. Al Kaznowski in the Sierra talks.

Sierra Pacific Power Company was well represented by President Frank A. Tracy and Vice Presidents H. P. Dayton and F. G. Barnett. All sessions were carried on in a manner which is a credit to the principles of collective bargaining.

Our members did not receive all they sought, but they feel that, all factors considered, a fair settlement was reached.

The power company reports a healthy financial position and has plans for expansion in the fast growing area served. The membership has grown considerably and plans are being made by the Business Office to intensify organization in our Northern Nevada jurisdiction.

The unit officers, consisting of Chairman Thomas Lewis, Recorder Clarice A. Rigby, executive committee members Paul R. Jesch and Mildred Lambert, and Policy Committee member George Kaiser have all done a good job in operating one of our best unit organizations. These good Union members are all deserving of our commendation for their fine effort.

TAX RELIEF

Washington Rep. Victor L. Anfuso, New York Democrat, has introduced a bill that would increase the basic tax exemption from \$600 to \$800 and would allow a deduction for college expenses up to \$1,000. "For the average wage earner," he said, "adoption of my bill would mean about \$3 more each week in his pay envelope, or about \$150 additional per family per year."

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PG&E Profits Jump

Operating figures released this month by President Norman R. Sutherland of the Pacific Gas and Electric Company reveal a jump in net profit to \$72,439,628, for the 12 months ending March 31, 1956.

Net earnings for the common stock amounted to \$55,065,000, equivalent to \$3.39 a share on the 16,255,733 shares of common stock outstanding during the entire period. On the basis of the increased profits, the Board of Directors increased the quarterly dividend from 55 cents to 60 cents a share, a 9.1 percent gain.

Net profit for the prior 12 months period amounted to \$66,947,422, or \$3.10 a common share.

Gross operating revenues amounted to \$453,841,248 for the

year, a gain of more than \$50 million over the 12 months period ending March 31, 1955. After deduction of all operating expenses and dividends applicable to preferred and common stock, the company retained a healthy \$18.5 million for reinvestment in the business.

The President's report also announced plans to start construction on a number of major projects which will increase generating capacity by 360,000 kilowatts. These include the Butt Valley and Caribou hydro plants on the Feather River, an additional unit at Hunters Point Power Plant in San Francisco and a second unit at the Humboldt Bay Power Plant.

Vote and Get Out the Vote on Tuesday, June 5th!



The UTILITY REPORTER



RONALD T. WEAKLEY Editor
Editorial Board: Frank D. Gilleran, President; George Wagner, Grace M. Baker, Herbert C. Macy, Patrick McEvoy, Howard H. Hill, Marvin Wagner, Ray D. Reynolds.

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Goldwaters' Bilgewater

It seems that this world will always be plagued by the spectacle of immature and exceedingly dangerous actions by persons in high positions of responsibility. We make reference here to U.S. Senator Barry Goldwater, Republican of Arizona.

According to the press, Goldwater has attacked certain labor leaders by accusing them of forcing Union members to contribute to political campaigns. Among those under attack is our own Joseph D. Keenan, who is a vice president of the AFL-CIO.

Some prominent and powerful industrialists who haven't the nerve to say openly that "American Labor must be smashed," are using Goldwater as a mouthpiece in order to express their real, if pathetic, desires. Joe Keenan stands as one who will not allow American Labor to be smashed.

We add it up this way: Goldwater's own ideas on labor are well known in Arizona. They are well known in Washington. The thing is, he is identified as somewhat of a spokesman for the Republican Party on labor matters, as a result of his publicity.

While we know that some Democrats are not a credit to the principles of democracy, their party's national chairman, Mr. Paul Butler, stands by American Labor in the face of this unwarranted attack.

It may be that Goldwater does not express the majority view of the leadership of the Republican Party. In that case, the party leadership had better set the record straight.

Goldwater's utterances don't square with the Republican platform. They have the effect of insulting the intelligence of the average American worker. Party policies which are designed to destroy the unity of Americans have no place in this Atomic age.

How can the members of our Brotherhood, 650,000 strong, look without real suspicion on a political party which allows this man to express such views without official challenge by his party's leadership?

Goldwater's attack on Joe Keenan is unprincipled, unfair and downright dirty.

Keenan's history is one of hard work, community service, governmental service and, most important, service in the cause of true Americanism. In the face of this, Goldwater accuses Keenan, along with other labor leaders, of forcing members to contribute to slush funds for favored candidates. This is a bald-faced lie.

How anyone in his right mind can have the gall to accuse American labor leadership of forcing workers to match the disgusting spectacle of "government by slush-fund control" is beyond us.

Certainly we try to raise voluntary funds to help elect decent candidates who are up against the millions provided by the wealthy. We regret that we don't do very well, but it is unthinkable that we could ever compete seriously in matters of campaign expenditures.

We submit the following for the record: It is true that Joe Keenan headed up the political education arm of the A.F.L. It is true that our Union, the IBEW, was foremost in voluntary contributions to the L.L.P.E. It is true that movement was developed to combat the sad spectacle of the crucifixion of honest legislators whose honesty was sneered at by the money bags of our nation.

Joe Keenan has rightfully referred to Taft-Hartley as a "time-bomb." The latest effect is the extension of section 14 (b) of the Act to allow the states to enact more infamous laws against labor, while denying the protection of federal legislation. We refer to laws which say, in effect, that you will work under the restrictions of government but you will not have any of the protection of government.

Keenan reminds us of a very significant fact. He knew Germany well since, as a governmental official, he spent several years there. When labor was smashed, the churches and, yes, the very industrialists who encouraged Adolf Hitler were also smashed, one after the other.

Somebody with some "horsepower" and interest had better set the record straight on this matter within the Republican Party. Until that is done, American workers will look with well-founded suspicion on any so-called "labor plank" in their platform preceding the general elections in 1956.

Mail Bag

The Editor, Dear Sir:

We would like very much to have the following message placed in the next publication of the Utility Reporter.

We have lost a good friend and brother in the untimely death of Harold Begbie, who passed away April 17, 1956. As head clerk at Davis Yard and Warehouse, Harold was also very well known and liked by many who knew him in the field.

Harold was involved in an automobile accident near Davis on February 5, 1956. Injured very seriously, he never regained consciousness after the accident.

Respectfully yours,
Nick Kirk,
Willowbank,
Davis, California

EDITOR'S NOTE: We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of our late Brother Harold Begbie of the General Construction Forces. Harold was indeed well liked by all who knew him and we shall miss him.

The Editor, Dear Sir:

Although we have seemed to be rather slow in sending you our thanks for your very generous gift to us at the trying time of the flood, we sincerely wish to express our thanks and also to let you know it came at a much needed time.

Please convey to the membership who gave to the Union's Disaster Aid Fund our very deep appreciation.

Thank you again,
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred L. Porter
and family,
20570 Almadan Rd., San Jose

The Editor, Dear Sir:

Enclosed you will find an application for membership signed by Larry R. Bardacos. With this application for union membership, the Brentwood Gas Control Terminal is now 100 per cent union!

Rodney R. Trowbridge,
Shop Steward
Route 1, Box 140,
Brentwood, Calif.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Congratulations, Brother Trowbridge for your effective work as a union shop steward — and to the entire membership at Brentwood Gas Terminal for joining the ranks of divisions and departments which has the 100 per cent mark.

May 15, 1956

The Editor,

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is a letter requested by all members of Unit 1211 to be drafted to our Chief Steward Barry Dolan who transferred to Coast Valleys Division Operating Unit at Santa Maria Service Group. The members also would like to have the letter entered in the Utility Reporter.

Unit 1211
Salinas, Calif.

Dear Brother Barry Dolan:

It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to you at the request of all the members of Unit 1211.

They wish to extend their sincerest thanks, gratitude and congratulations to you for the fine job you did for them while Chief Steward here in the Salinas District. The Unit regrets your leaving but know that your endless and tiring duty to help them was of the highest quality and set a good example for all stewards to work towards.

The members extend their best wishes for success in your new job and say thanks again for a job well done.

Yours truly,
ROYCE R. HERRIER
Unit Recorder

All that keeps some families from having a home of their own is a popular teen-age daughter.

If you want your wife to pay attention to what you're saying, tell it to another woman in a low voice.

Some girls spend four years learning how to behave in polite society, and the rest of their lives trying to find it.

Local Union Election Procedure

Article IV of the by-laws, "Local Union Elections—Qualifications for Voting," is printed in this issue of the UTILITY REPORTER for the information and guidance of each and every member.

It is strongly recommended that each member become familiar with the procedures for our elections in order that your ballot may be marked and mailed in conformance with the rules.

ARTICLE IV

Local Union Elections — Qualifications for Voting

Sec. 1. Nominations of Local Union officers shall be made a special order of business at the first meeting of the Local Units in April, every two (2) years beginning in 1956 at 8:30 p.m. local time. Election of officers shall be conducted in accordance with Article XVIII IBEW Constitution and in the manner as further provided in this article.

The nomination and election of Local Union Policy Committee members and delegates to the International Convention shall be held in conjunction with and in the same manner as prescribed for Local Union officers. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 2. The election of Local Union officers shall be held between the 1st and 15th days of June, unless they fall on Sunday, when the election shall be held between the 2nd and 16th days of June in election years. The ballots must be returned not later than 10:00 a.m. on the 15th day of June, or the 16th when the 15th falls on Sunday. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 3. The Election Committee shall consist of seven (7) or nine (9) members appointed by the Local Union President during the month of April of any year that a Local Union election occurs. Any member of the Election Committee who becomes a candidate for a Local Union office shall immediately be removed from the Committee and a substitute shall be appointed by the Local Union President. The Election Committee shall meet as soon as practicable after appointment and elect one (1) member from the Committee to act as Chairman of the Committee and Judge of the Election. The remaining members of the Committee shall serve as Tellers for the Election.

The Judge of the Election shall direct the conduct of the Local Union election in strict accordance with these by-laws and the Constitution of the IBEW. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 4. The Business Manager and the Recording Secretary shall cooperate with the Judge of the Election and make available to him alphabetical lists of all members of the Local Union eligible to vote, together with their last known mailing address and all other records necessary to hold the Election in the manner prescribed herein.

Sec. 5. After nominations have been made and it has been determined that the members are qualified in accordance with the requirements of the IBEW Constitution and these by-laws, the Judge of the Election shall have appropriate ballots prepared, listing in alphabetical order the names of all candidates for each respective office.

Sec. 6. To qualify as a candidate for a Local Union office, Policy Board member, or delegate to the International Convention, a member must have at least two (2) years continuous good standing in the Local Union immediately prior to April 1st of any election year and provided an official dues receipt for the month of February of any election year shall have been written. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 7. In order to be a candidate for any Local Union office, Policy Committee member, or delegate to the International Convention, a member must be present at the Local Unit meeting where he is nominated, or notify the Local Union Recording Secretary in writing on or before April 1 of election year that he will run for a specific Local Union office if nominated. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 8. A member shall not accept nomination for more than one office of the Local Union unless combined under these by-laws. If a member is nominated for more than one office, he must notify the Recording Secretary promptly in writing not later than May 15 for which office he will be a candidate and decline all other nominations for Local Union offices.

Candidates nominated for the Policy Committee or other Local Union offices may also be nominated as delegates to the International Convention. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 9. Only member of the Local Union whose dues are paid for the month of March on or before June 5th of any election year shall be eligible to vote for Local Union officers.

Sec. 10. Election of officers of Local Union 1245 shall be by secret mail ballot, conducted as follows:

The Judge of the Election shall mail or have mailed to every eligible member, a ballot listing the candidates nominated for the Policy Committee and Constitutional officers of the Local Union as provided herein.

Sec. 11. Ballots shall be mailed to all members meeting the requirements set forth in Section 4 before June 1st, and they shall be addressed to the last known address of the member. There shall be enclosed with the ballot or ballots, voting instructions to each member, and two envelopes with gummed flaps so that they may be sealed. One such envelope shall be smaller than the other so that it may be enclosed in the second envelope without folding. The smaller envelope shall not contain any marks, numbers, or words. The large envelope shall be self-addressed to the Election Committee and shall contain thereon appropriate identification space where the member using same shall write on his name, complete address, and membership card number. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 12. Ballots will remain in the Post Office box until 10:00 a.m. June 15th unless this day falls on Sunday, then June 16th, at which time the Election Committee will open the box. Ballots will be taken to the headquarters of Local Union 1245 in Oakland where they will be checked against the records of the Local Union to see that no one except those qualified have voted, then the envelopes will be opened and the ballots still enclosed in the unmarked envelope will be placed in a container and mixed with other ballots. This assures secret voting. Any member may witness the entire procedure from the time the ballots are taken out of the Post Office Box until counted. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 13. Any member eligible to vote who does not receive a ballot shall be supplied a duplicate ballot by the Business Office, providing the member requests same by addressing a communication to the Judge of the Election or by appearing in the office of Local Union 1245 in Oakland. (Approved 3-31-52)

Sec. 14. Ballots must be in the Post Office Box in Oakland on or before 10:00 a.m. on June 15th, unless this day falls on Sunday, then June 16th, in order to be counted. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 15. The results of the Local Union Election shall be reported to all Local Unit Recorders immediately after the Election Committee has tabulated and certified the Election results. All ballots shall be preserved for at least sixty (60) days after the date of election, after which time such ballots shall be destroyed unless a question has arisen in connection therewith. Any ballot returned to the Local Union by the Post Office Department, because of change of address or other reasons, and any ballot received after 10:00 a.m. on June 15th, unless this day falls on Sunday, then June 16th of the Election year, shall be likewise retained unopened for a period of sixty (60) days and the Election Committee shall note on the eligibility list such returned ballots. The Election Judge shall decide all challenged ballots. (Approved 3-20-56)

Sec. 16. The candidates receiving the highest number of votes for each respective office shall be declared elected.

Research and Education Corner

The U.S. Supreme Court has handed down three decisions this month that can have far reaching effects as to management and Union relationships.

Under one, the door is opened for a labor union to take a look at a company's books when management claims it cannot afford a wage increase.

STOCK OPTION PLANS

The second makes stock option plans to employees subject to union collective bargaining.

The decision as to financial records was limited to a particular case. The majority of the court—by vote of 6 to 3—states:

"We do not hold that in every case in which economic inability is raised as an argument against increased wages it automatically follows that the employees are entitled to substantiating evidence. Each case must turn on its particular facts."

However, this decision will have that effect—open a company's records when they claim inability to pay a wage increase. It holds this in the case of the **Truitt Manufacturing Company of Greensboro, S.C.**, that the company in refusing to open its records failed to bargain in good faith.

In the stock purchase plan, the NLRB ruled the **Richfield Oil Company** was adopting unfair labor practice by refusing to negotiate this issue with the union.

The federal appeals court upheld the Labor Board. The Supreme Court refused to rule on an appeal taken by the company from the decision of the lower court, thus the ruling stands.

RAIL UNION SHOP OK

In the third decision reported here, the Supreme Court struck down state "right to work" laws as they apply to railroad workers.

In a unanimous decision, delivered by Justice Douglas, the Court upheld a 1951 amendment of the **National Railway Labor Act** which authorized the railroads and labor unions to enter into union shop agreements.

Under the union shop conditions negotiated with railroads, workers must join the unions representing their craft within 60 days or lose their jobs.

The "right to work" ruling was given on an appeal by sixteen non-operating railway labor organizations (including the IBEW) from ruling by the Nebraska State Supreme Court, Nebraska, one of eighteen states to adopt so-called "right to work" laws, which are invited by Section 14-b of the Taft-Hartley Act, had ruled that the union shop provision violated the state law. **Not so, said the U.S. Court—the federal law is paramount—and the state "right to work" act cannot apply to railroad workmen.**

Legislation is now pending before the U.S. Congress to strike Section 14-b from the T-H Act, thus ruling out the host of "right to work" provisions adopted or contemplated by the states. It does not appear now that this proposed amendment will be acted on by Congress before the adjournment which is tentatively set for late July.

Walt Morris Wins Safety Award

The San Jose Division Suggestion Committee of the PG&E Company has announced the selection of Brother **Walt Morris**, Union System safety Committee member, for a preliminary award.

Bro. Morris has suggested that the PG&E purchase for limited use a new type of warning flag which is fluorescent red and has a

stiffening material sewed diagonally across its face.

This new type of warning flag will give greater protection to the worker as it displays a full sixteen-inch square area of eye-catching red warning to approaching motorists. Increasing speeds of today's motor vehicles, it is felt, warrant this added protection.

DAVIS-BACON IS DROPPED FROM NEW ROADS BILL

The Senate Public Works Committee voted to substitute the authorization provisions of the bill by Sen. Gore (D-Tenn.) which passed the Senate last year for the highway program passed by the House.

The move struck a direct blow at one of the sections of the highway legislation in which organized labor has a direct interest. The provision in the House-approved measure which provides Davis-Bacon prevailing wage protections to workers employed on the huge road building program was eliminated by the action.

ADDS MILEAGE

The Senate bill would add 2,500 miles to the 40,000-mile interstate system of super highways authorized by the House, but authorizes less construction of primary and secondary roads.

VOTE JUNE 5th!

Freeman, Keenan Visit Bay Area

(Continued from Page One)

present, 362 privately owned utilities are under agreement with the IBEW, plus 165 REA's, 28 PUD's, 61 MUD's, 90 gas utilities, 50 water utilities, 75 Canadian utilities, as well as numerous other firms and governmental agencies.

KEENAN URGES ACTION

In speaking to the gathering, Secretary Keenan urged renewed political action by union members to counteract the "right to work" laws, fast tax write-off provisions granted by the Eisenhower Administration, and the resultant effects these laws and practices have in establishing a highly competitive situation in many industries. "Right to work" states, he advised, often grant free factory sites and free factory facilities as well, to attract new industries. These factors, plus the reduced economic power of labor unions in "right to work" states, work to the disadvantage of fair employers who are willing to pay a decent wage.

Keenan spoke of the troubles that U. S. Senators who have given "more than lip service" to labor are having in their bids for reelection this year. These include Senators Wayne Morse of Oregon, Lister Hill of Alabama, Herbert Lehman of New York, and Warren Magnusen of Washington.

"These men have cut themselves off from all business contributions to their campaigns," he stated, "by supporting liberal and labor legislation. So — they must depend entirely on labor and the liberal citizens for voluntary contributions to aid their campaigns."

"We need money — and we need it right now," said Keenan. Union members should make voluntary contributions to COPE, he explained, so that the campaigns of labor's friends can be aided.

Keenan then reviewed his experiences as the first director of the LLPE, established as the political arm of the AFL by the delegates to the 1947 Convention.

He reported on the hotel strike in Miami, Florida, and an IBEW strike in North Dakota — and the effects of court decisions stemming from these strikes on union activity all over the nation.

When relating some of his experiences from service as Deputy Administrator of the Allied Military Government in Germany following World War II, Keenan advised that Hitler had a five plank program when he came into power. These were 1, the detention of Jews; 2, the destruction of trade unions; 3, the destruction of the Church; 4, taking over all means of communications, and 5, the abolition of the right of free assembly. After successfully implementing all his planks, Hitler then turned on his industrialist benefactors and destroyed them, too!

"The first act of any dictator is the destruction of the free trade union movement," Keenan said. "Here in the Americas — Argentin-

1245 Election Committee OK's Union Candidates

Local 1245's Election Committee, under chairmanship of Clyde Weddle, met at Union headquarters on Sunday, May 6 to make final determination as to the eligibility of the nominees for the local union offices and the Policy Committee. Following a careful check and re-check of the records, the following candidates were ruled eligible to seek office and were ordered placed on the ballot by the Committee.

UNION OFFICES

President: Frank Gilleran, John C. Loschy and Charles Massie.

Vice President: Marvin C. Brooks, Gerald G. Cannon, Ray Douglas Reynolds, Russell E. Stone, Jr., and William Yochem.

Recording Secretary: Milton Shaw.

Treasurer: Walter H. Martin.

Business Manager and Financial Secretary: Ronald T. Weakley.

Southern Area Executive Board Member: Marvin P. Wagner and Charles B. Watson.

Central Area Executive Board Member: Joseph S. Kriens, Patrick F. McEvoy, William M. Morrison, Frank A. Quadros and Edwin B. White.

Northern Area Executive Board Member: Walter R. Glasgow and J. M. Snodgrass, Sr.

General Construction Executive Board Member: Everett T. Basinger and John W. Michael.

POLICY COMMITTEE

11—San Joaquin: Gerald Bayless and Robert W. Irwin.

12—Coast Valleys: Robert E. Staab and Edward L. Sunkler.

13—Dept. of Pipe Line Operations: Walter G. Kreusch and Jack E. Wilson.

15-14—San Jose and Santa Clara M.U.D.: Jean T. Hiam and Addis O'Conner.

23-21 — East Bay and Central Supply Dept.: H. Gonzales, H. C. Halbach, Jr., Robert K. Hudson and Loren C. Middlekauff.

22-26-27-29 — Key System and East Bay Municipalities: Louis Bonino.

24—San Francisco: Dorwin E. Robinson.

25-28 — Stockton and City of Lodi: Albert M. Bolter, Willard A. Lehman and Donald Joseph Rasmussen.

30 — Transit Authority of the City of Sacramento: William H. Bowser.

30(a)—Citizens Utilities Co. of California: James Dwyer and Viola M. Morrill.

31—Humboldt: Clifford J. McMahon.

32—Sierra Pacific Power Company: George W. Kaiser and Sylvester E. Kelley.

34—De Sable: James E. Gibbs, Jr.

35—Drum: Paul Bernardis and Woodrow N. Stephenson.

36—Colgate: Frank E. Moran.

37—North Bay: Albert Carpignano and Clarence T. Chastain.

Sacramento: Edward W. Mills and John Dale Pedroia.

39—Sacramento M.U.D.: C. E. Ray.

41—PG&E General Construction: Robert L. Du Bois and E. C. Elmore.

PG&E Clerical: Morris G. Carpenter, Francis R. Gans and Verna O. Leonard.

Following the determination of the eligibility of the candidates, a three-man subcommittee was selected to oversee the mailing of the ballots. The sub-committee, composed of Chairman Weddle and Brothers Donald Lucot and Luther Hoover will mail all ballots on Thursday, May 31, 1956.

The Election Committee urges that every member, immediately upon receipt of his ballot, MARK THE BALLOT and return it immediately in the self-addressed, postage free envelope which is provided.

Electricians Get 15c On S.F. Construction

San Francisco

Wage increase of 15 cents hourly, bringing their rate to \$3.40, was reported to Bay Cities Metal Trades Council last week by Joe Ziff, delegate from Electrical Wks. Local 6. In addition there will be 2½ cents more paid into the health fund starting January 1.

tina is proof of that!"

In concluding his remarks, Secretary Keenan paid high tribute to the work of our late President, J. Scott Milne, for his good work in building up the IBEW Pension Plan. At present, he reported, 7200 retired members are receiving more than \$3.5 million in benefits each year, while an additional \$2.5 million is paid out annually in death benefits.

Following brief remarks from IVP Harbak and IEC member Foehn, as well as a question and answer session, the gathering was adjourned.

During their tour in the West, Freeman and Keenan also visited members in Seattle, Portland and Los Angeles, thus covering the major cities of the Ninth District. The international union officials also participated in the Annual National Union Label show, which was held in Seattle.

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ELECTION COMMITTEE

I. B. E. W. — LOCAL UNION 1245

P. O. BOX 1979

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Care should be taken when PRINTING your name, address Union Card number on the return envelope. This must be done in a clear and legible manner or the work of the Election Committee will be made more difficult, plus

the risk of cancelling out your vote if the committee is unable to read your name and, thus, check against the lists of eligible voters.

Every member is urged to participate in this union election. This is the democratic process provided

for you to cast your vote in the determination of the leaders who will serve you and your union for the next two years.

In the event you DO NOT RECEIVE A BALLOT, please contact the ELECTION COMMITTEE in

care of union headquarters and a duplicate will be sent you. All such requests MUST be addressed to the JUDGE OF THE ELECTION, and not to the Business Manager or any other present officer of the local union.

YOUR Business Manager's REPORT

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

This will be a short report inasmuch as the primary business at hand for this office is the PG&E negotiations. Top priority on time and activity is being devoted to this major project.

Elsewhere in this issue is an account of the wage settlement with Sierra Pacific Power Company in Nevada. This writer has been privileged to represent our union in annual negotiations with the SPP Company for the past five years. The gradual improvement in conditions and wages has been gratify-

Municipalities Round-Up

(By Alfred M. Hansen, Bus. Rep.)

There is action this month in every one of our Bay Area municipalities, as well as in the Sacramento MUD. Here is a brief rundown on the status of union representation for each group.

SACRAMENTO M.U.D.

Union proposals for wage increases and condition improvements were submitted to the general manager of the utility district on May 17, following unanimous approval by the membership. The Union's negotiating committee will be selected at the next regular unit meeting and we expect to enter discussions with SMUD early in July.

CITY OF OAKLAND

Union proposals for classification wage increases were sent to City Manager Wayne Thompson and Electrical Department Superintendent L. H. Soare on May 24, following approval by the membership. Research Director Rice and myself met with the members at a special shop meeting to go over the proposals. The committee representing the city's electrical department employees under jurisdiction of Local 1245 will include Brothers WILLIAM YOCHEM, FRANK SCHOOP, ED BROWN, LYLE SMITH, plus RICE and HANSEN.

PINOLE L. & P.

Since our discussions with the management of Pinole Light and Power leading to establishment of a pension plan have been unproductive, despite more than a year of effort on the part of the Union, we have opened the contract for general wage discussions. A substantial wage increase should be possible for these members, since the pension plan has thus far failed to materialize.

ALAMEDA BUREAU

The Unions committee, consisting of Brothers WILLIAM MORRISON, DAN LIEBEL and JACK CHAPMAN, assisted by RICE and HANSEN, has drafted its proposals for submission to the bureau's general manager on June 1. The proposals will first be gone over by the members at a special meeting set for Tuesday, May 29th.

CITY OF BERKELEY

Following special shop meetings with the membership, Research Director GEO. L. RICE appeared before the city's Personnel Board on February 29th to present wage requests, elimination of time progression, and medical insurance proposals. The membership committee includes Brothers NEWTON COATES, HANS SEPPANEN, L. ELLIS, JAMES ARMSTRONG and MERLE JOHNSON.

The Committee again appeared before the Board on April 25th, at which time the recommendations of the city's personnel director were adopted by the personnel board for recommendation to the city council. Since the membership did not agree with these recommendations, RICE was instructed to make an appearance before the city council on May 15th, accompanied by Bus. Rep. HANSEN. Following this appearance, and the introduction of additional economic data, it is expected that the city council will announce its decision in the immediate future.

KEY SYSTEM

There will be no wage negotiations with Key System Transit Lines this year as the 2-year contract provides for a 6 cent hourly gain effective July 1, 1956.

However, there is a great deal of activity arising out of the request

ing. While we still have some goals to achieve, the record speaks well due to the membership's support and the good relations between the parties.

Wage-wise, Sierra has now reached the same weighted average of straight-time hourly wages as those paid to PG&E employees. Wage rates for many of our members at Sierra surpass PG&E for the moment.

It might be noted here that the management of Sierra Pacific has always handled its industrial relations program on the basis of mutual recognition, respect, and understanding of the problems and interests of the parties.

On PG&E, we believe that the general record of accomplishment over the past years bodes well for the future. Very serious handicaps have been overcome by the members of our Union who are numerically stronger despite reduced employment opportunities and a semi-open shop situation.

Relationships between the parties have improved and we hope that this year will bring even greater stability, mutual recognition, and mutual benefits through collective bargaining.

The needs of our people are greater this year than in the past, but the health of the Company's financial position is very good. The members of the System Negotiating Committee and this office sincerely believe that our negotiating program is a sound one and one which will result in a satisfactory settlement through fair bargaining across the negotiating table.

The program, initiated by the general desires of our members, is fully supported by the officers of the Union. It is receiving additional important and valuable support through a stream of supporting expressions from unit after unit. It is a program developed from mem-

Seeing in the Dark

A new technique of amplifying light up to 50,000 times the brightness of the original image was recently invented by Baltimore scientists. Using television cameras and viewers with special circuits, the new method, which engineers saw can almost "see in the dark," will have important immediate application in medical diagnosis and treatment with X-rays.

But some Americans apparently need a similar invention to enable them to see the facts staring them in the face. Articles in *Business Week* (April 14, 1956) and *U. S. News and World Report* (April 6, 1956) stress severe tensions rising in Southern unions. A number of unionists are falling for the White Citizens Councils "divide and rule" tactics and are considering seceding from the AFL-CIO.

Georgia Congressman James C. Davis has been promoting a petition among United Auto Workers members in Atlanta opposing UAW support for integration. W. A. Hemslee, president of the UAW Local 34, answered by pointing out:

"Congressman Davis hasn't threatened to withdraw from the House yet, though it is not segregated. Local 34 intends to stay in business working for the benefit of our members and their communities."

Boyd Campbell, president of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce, and a Mississippi businessman, revealed the hopes of those who profit by weak and divided unions when he said recently that there is a "not inconsiderable number of Southern union men . . . who will put the issue of 'states' rights' far above any pronouncement in favor of integration that may come from national labor union leaders."

The question is: Will our union brothers see the light or battle each other in the dark?

of the company to the Public Utility Commission to substitute busses for the present Bay Bridge trains. Public hearings before the PUC will be resumed on June 4, 5 and 6, which will be attended by attorney Stanley Neyhart and myself, in a union effort to protect the interests of our members employed by Key System.

bership desires and the research of this office on current economic and operational developments. We seek not merely the status quo with smaller neighboring utilities, but gains commensurate with the stature of the largest utility in the nation. This is in line with our members' never ending desire to advance the economic position of PG&E employees and their families in our California communities.

With your support we shall endeavor to negotiate the best possible settlement, and submit to you, for a democratic decision through Unit vote, a 1956 contract which will be a credit to our Union and the industry.

California Primary Election—U. S. Senate Nomination Key Issue

Voters of the Democrat and Republican parties will qualify their respective candidates for the office of United States Senator at the June 5th Primary election this year. And—with the Democratic party now maintaining control of the U. S. Senate by a 1-vote margin, the eyes of the nation will be focused on this key contest, both now and in the General Election in November.

The U. S. Senate Seat, now held by Republican Thomas Kuchel, is open to contest this year for the full 6-year term. With Kuchel facing only token opposition for the nod of his party, the key contest is between State Senator Richard Richards and former Representative Sam Yorty, on the Democratic ticket.

Democrat Richards, who represents Los Angeles County's 5 million citizens in the State Legislature, appears to have the edge in this one, as he is the official candidate of his party and enjoys the endorsement of the AFL-CIO groups in California. Yorty, an unsuccessful candidate at the 1954 election, does not appear to be making a strong bid for the Democratic nomination, according to the political experts.

Kuchel's record in the Senate, according to AFL-CIO views, is not good.

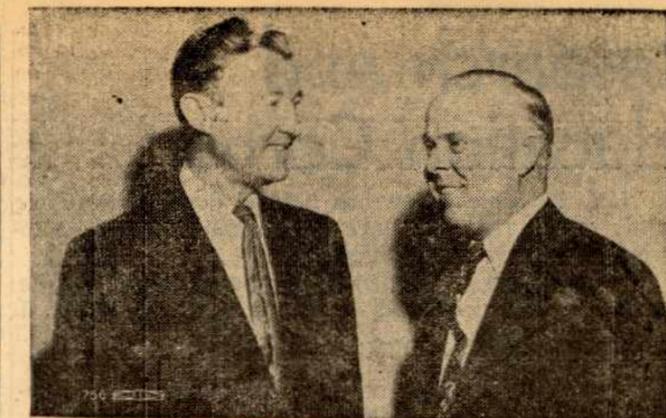
He voted FOR destruction of civil service protection for career



SEN. THOMAS KUCHEL

government employees; FOR continued hiring of Mexican labor at low wages; AGAINST a motion requiring the states to raise weekly unemployment benefits and provide 26 weeks of coverage; AGAINST use of revenues from offshore leases to aid public education; AGAINST an increase of \$15 million in the appropriation for hospital construction; AGAINST the \$100 increase in personal tax exemption for all taxpayers (a bill designed to give wage earners a lower federal tax rate); and FOR the controversial Natural Gas Act which was later vetoed by the President.

Senator Richards fooled all the experts two years ago when he was victorious in a bitter election contest for the seat representing Los Angeles county. Anti-labor forces waged an expensive and, at times, a vicious campaign against young Richards but he showed



State Senator Richard Richards of Los Angeles discusses his campaign for the United States Senate seat from California with Thomas Pitts, president of the California State Federation of Labor.

phenomenal vote-getting ability in the contest.

Richards' record in the State Legislature is reported by the AFL-CIO as being friendly to the "little guy." His votes on key issues were recorded as follows: FOR continuation of state support of child care centers; FOR a state policy against discrimination in the hiring of teachers; FOR the prohibition of interference with the rights of teachers and school district employees to join labor unions; AGAINST a proposal to permit easy amendment of the federal constitution by state legislatures; and AGAINST the Millionaires' tax amendment.

Treas. George Wagner Resigns

Local 1245 Treasurer George Wagner submitted his resignation from office late this month and requested that his name be withdrawn from the Union election ballot which is now being mailed to all members.

Brother Wagner's resignation was made necessary because he has been working within the jurisdiction of IBEW Local 302 of Richmond during the past few months, and that local union has accepted his traveling card.

Initiated into Local Union 283 on October 31, 1906, Brother Wagner has maintained continuous good standing for nearly 50 years. He served Local 283 as Financial Secretary for several years, then transferred to Local 50, which he also served in the same office from 1914 to 1951. George next transferred to Local 1245 on February 28, 1951, when Local 50 was merged with this local union. He was elected Union Treasurer on March 24, 1952, and has served us since that date.

Brother Wagner is an outstanding example of a conscientious, dedicated trade unionist—one who has always put the best interests of Brotherhood and his fellow workmen ahead of his own self interest. The thousands of members who have known and worked with George during the past half-century have all been enriched by their association with him.

It is with deep regret that the Editorial Board of Local 1245 acknowledges the departure of Brother Wagner. We wish him the best of success in his new affiliation with our sister Local 302—and extend the invitation to him to visit with our membership whenever the opportunity presents itself.

President Frank Gilleran has appointed Brother Walter Martin, a member of the Union Trustee Committee, to fill the vacancy until the next regular meeting of the Executive Board. At that time, an official appointment will be made, to fill the office until the candidates selected by the membership at the June election have been obligated to their regular term of office.

VOTE JUNE 5th!

Senator Richards also has the distinction of being the first member in the history of the State Senate to introduce a fair employment practices bill for the construction of the Senate.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The United States Senate Seat is very important to all Californians. Local Union 1245 does NOT make endorsements for political office, but the Editorial Board does RECOMMEND that every voter go to the polls and cast his or her ballot on June 5th. By reviewing the record—and then voting—every member may express his own individual conviction.

San Francisco N. Cal. Executive Conference Meets

The Bellevue Hotel in San Francisco was the scene of the first semi-annual Conference of the Northern California Executive Conference of the IBEW, which was held on May 12, 1956.

Some 50 delegates heard reports from all northern California local unions during an all day session chaired by Henry Tornwall, Business Manager of Local 482, Eureka. Reports from I.V.P. Oscar Harbak, International Executive Council member Charles J. Feohn and International Representative Otto Reiman highlighted the day's discussions.

The meeting marked the first time in years that our brothers from the railroad branch of the IBEW were in attendance. Local 360 of Oakland was represented by two delegates.

Items of discussion included reports on the building construction employment picture, jurisdictional problems, N.E.C.A.—IBEW relations, "right to scab" legislation and other matters of interest to our Union.

Brother Bryan Deavers, new president of the California Building and Construction Trades Council, was introduced and addressed the delegates. He pledged efforts toward increased activities of the Council toward organization and assistance to local councils, and urged cooperation with the State Council by the IBEW affiliates.

(EDITOR'S NOTE: Deavers has succeeded Otto E. Never, who was the focal point of an unsuccessful drive to raid the jurisdiction of Local 1245. While we desire cooperation with all labor groups, we shall continue to insist that they keep their hands off our legal jurisdiction. We hope Deavers will see to it that cooperation is a two-way street).

Business Manager Ron Weakley and Asst. Business Manager Mert Walters represented Local 1245 at the Conference.

The next meeting will be held at San Mateo, probably during the month of November, with Local 617 hosting the group.

To be democratic, a union needs an active, interested membership.