WIN IBEW BONNEVILLE RAISES

INCREASES FOR ALL CLASSIFICATIONS

As a result of recent IBEW negotiations on behalf of employees of the Bonneville Power Administration and approved by them, a contract embodying many improvements and substantial wage raises went into effect on March 27.

The new rates and conditions were announced from the San Francisco office of Oscar Harbak, IBEW vice-president of the ninth district, which includes four western states, Alaska, and Hawaii, and are continuing with other improvements expected.

Ftast on the heels of the UWUA Local 124 stand (reported in Utility Facts) opposing the proposed construction of a standby-steam plant for waterpumping power by the Central Valley project comes word out of Washington that the PG&E is now actually fighting the proposed construction, too.

Thus the UWUA and the PG&E find themselves on the same side of a question which the workers on the system (except in one small meeting) have had no chance to express themselves on.

It is not the policy which IBEW men are criticizing so much as how it was adopted without consulting the opinions of the majority of workers on the system on a matter so vital to their interests.

The IBEW believes in fair competition in the light and power industry between public and private—but, believes this fairness should extend to the wages, hours and conditions of the employees permitted by government regulations.

Other important features which the IBEW Bonneville employees have had in their contracts for some time past were, of course, carried over into the new contract. They include:

- Twenty-six annual days of paid leave each year, which may be accumulated in succeeding years at the employees' option until a total of 60 days are available.
- Accumulated paid sick leave which may total as much as 60 days at the rate of one-and-one-quarter days per month.

On promotions, Section 4, Article X, of the contract says: All vacancies or promotions shall be advertised on all Union bulletin boards for not less than 15 days before appointment is made. In promotion of employees to better positions, ability being equal, seniority shall govern.

First the PG&E; now the UWUA

As a result of IBEW's recent organization of Kittitas County Public Utility workers, Business Manager C. N. Kunz reports that negotiations just completed resulted in important gains for the workers of that utility.

"We were granted a 30 cents an hour increase," Kunz states, "bringing the scale to $2.10 per hour. We also got a clause that provides for maximum paid vacations of 15 days for 15-year employees and also an additional paid holiday. We are continuing negotiations for the State Pension Plan available to subdivisions of government in the State of Washington."
Chicago's biggest IBEW Local and its business manager, Frank Darling, got a lot of good publicity around the country recently in a copyrighted article written by Labor Newswriter Victor Riesel.

Some of the IBEW progressives publized to the general public is old stuff to members of the IBEW. The Chicago local, N 1031, for instance, has participated in 23 bargaining agent elections against the United Electrical Workers-CIO. In each of these 23 elections, held consecutively, the IBEW has emerged victorious. That fact indicates that the IBEW has something to offer working men besides windy promises.

Long story short, the IBEW has been notified that duly elected representatives form the local union. It also states: "The local is a sham, anything the Company does is a fraud on the public."

The above news item from the daily press gives point to contentions of top officials of CIO unions such as the UWUA, the CIO United Farm Equipment Workers union is collecting a war chest of $220,000 to fight the CIO United Auto Workers in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where the International Harvester and other farm equipment manufacturers have plants.

The CIO News publication has given great publicity to the IBEW. The Chicago Local's jurisdiction takes in 44 plants in the radio and television industry.

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FACTS

Because the Chicago local typifies the sort of unionism and union leadership that is possible under the International constitution and by-laws of the IBEW, PG&E workers will undoubtedly be interested in the salient facts about Local 1031 and its business manager:

The local is organized along industrial lines similar to system organizational lines wanted by the IBEW.

The Chicago Local's jurisdiction takes in 44 plants in the radio and television industry.

BIG BUSINESS

Serfing the membership of this huge setup is big business and Business Manager Frank Darling has adopted some of big-business's administrative technique to do the job. His car is equipped with a radio telephone, which is not an affliction for a union man in an industrial setting, as he uses such equipment.

In the past decade the IBEW local has had no strikes, wildcats, or lockouts yet its wage rates are the highest in the electrical manufacturing industry.

Democracy in the conduct of union business is obtained by proportional efforts that get from two to three thousand members to meetings.

LIBERALIZATION OF G-I LOANS ASKED IN BILL

Washington.—Senator Elbert D. Thomas of Utah introduced a bill to liberalize GI home loans by spreading payments over 30 instead of 25 years and providing a $1,000,000,000 expansion of the mortgage system.

But interest rates would be raised 4 to 4 1/2 percent "to attract investment money into the GI home loan market" under the bill.

Judge: "What started the trouble between you and the plaintiff?"

Defendant: "Well, your honor, it was like this. He threw a cup of hot tea over me; I hit him in the face with my bag of tools; then he broke a chair over my head—and the next thing we knew we were quarreling."

Signs of the times: The laws of supply and demand are being used to force those who have the supply to do the demanding. Reno Gazette.

The doctor was very pleased with his patient's progress. "You are coughing more easily this morning," he observed.

The impatient patient answered: "Well, for gosh sakes, I ought to be. I've been practicing all night."
Union Lesson—
PG&E Men a Step Ahead of UWUA

"Good Union Men Stay Out!!"
That sign did not appear over the entrance to the church in Redwood City where the UWUA had a meeting scheduled March 24. From the way the meeting was publicized, however, they might just as well have put up such a sign. Here’s why:

A pamphlet announcing the meeting stated that only members of the UWUA-CIO in good standing would be admitted. Such a member was defined as one who was willing to sign a pledge reaffirming loyalty to the local, and willing to take an oath of membership in the UWUA as prescribed by the by-laws and constitution. (Two men are supposed to have signed.)

CONTRAST
In contrast to this sort of requirement, the meetings of Local 1324, IBEW, have been open to all PG&E employees regardless of union affiliation, so that they could acquaint themselves with the issues involved.

IBEW officials have repeatedly said: "Go to the meetings of the local union. There you will find out what they are getting into later.

And this is the Oath of Membership:
"I hereby promise to bear true allegiance to the principles of the IBEW. I hereby promise to maintain the Constitution and By-Laws of the Local Union. I hereby promise, and I do hereby, in the presence of all the officers of the Local Union, sincerely promise, and I do hereby, in the presence of all the officers of the Local Union, and all other members present, hereby promise to keep the discipline of the IBEW, to do the best in performing my work, to be industrious and frugal, to be faithful to employer and public service, to help maintain the Brotherhood of fellow workingmen, to abide by and support the Constitution and By-Laws, and to faithfully contribute to the financial support of the Local Union."

FLEXIBLE
The flexibility of such a system includes employees fully participating in the union. These men have the right to attend the meeting on March 24, 1949 at the entrance to the church in Redwood City, where the UWUA-CIO will be formed, by PG&E men we have had two visits in recent weeks. The workman's basic common sense, loyalty and honesty were factors in securing these gains.

Lakeport is not on the main line traffic. Consequently we have been chosen by the local unit to be a part of the union. The UWUA has not only been careful that the physical protection of the worker is not isolated in union affairs. We have represented the fact that we got no consideration from the UWUA, which never even bothered to let us know what was going on.

Since Local 1324 IBEW was formed by PG&E men we have had two visits in recent weeks. The only difference in the union news we have been wanting to do for so long but failed to do, along with Chuck Hughes, in setting up the nearby Ukiah unit of Local 1324.

Because of these events and the thought and consideration given us we feel that we are now on the map, and are now a part of a real movement—One Union on the System, the IBEW.

—MILT INGRAHAM.

NLRB Rejects CIO Election Petition
Recently the CIO United Steel Workers petitioned the NLRB for a jurisdictional election in California Steel Trade Association shops. The NLRB refused to grant the petition.

The petition was denied on the ground that the members of the union had not signed anti-communist affidavits, as required by the Taft-Hartley law.

"Was she furious when he broke off the engagement?"
"Furious! Why, she took off her ring and flung it on his right hand."

What About Local 1324?
Questions Asked and Answers Given on Membership Rights

How would the IBEW serve the varied classifications and widely separated employees of the PG&E?
Local 1324’s charter was granted for a mixed “A” and “B” local union. This charter covers every classification and its jurisdiction is restricted to the employees of the company. Unit agreements can be fine-tuned at convenient points to enable each member to attend the meetings without undue hardship. Where units are established, all units comprise the local and are bound by the local union’s actions.

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—MILT INGRAHAM.

First: Through its International President, International Secretary, International Treasurer, and International Executive Council of nine members.

Second: Through its 12 International Vice-Presidents, 11 of whom are assigned to certain geographical districts in all parts of the United States and Canada. The vice-presidents are assisted by a corps of International Representatives.

Third: Through its local union officers.

Fourth: Through International Conventions at which delegates elected by the local unions embody the wishes of the individual members into the International Constitution.

Fifth: Through local union by-laws.

What is the nature of the work of the International Vice-Presidents and International Representatives?
Each vice-president has the responsibility of supervising the activities of the Brotherhood in the district to which he is assigned and is aided by local union representatives, who work under his instructions. These duties consist of assisting local unions in negotiating agreements with employer groups; maintaining harmonious relations between local unions; assisting local unions in organizing workers; and investigating proper legislative contacts are maintained with the various law-making bodies. Any disputed decision of an International Vice-President is subject to appeal: first, to the International President, then to the International Executive Council, and finally to the International Convention.

How Are the International Officers Elected?
They are elected on the floor of the International Convention, which, under provisions of the International Constitution, is held every two years unless postponed by referendum vote of the membership; or when a vacancy occurs, are appointed by the International President between conventions. All appointments are subject to ratification by the International Executive Council.

Does This Method of Electing Officers Make for Democratic Control of the Officers?
Yes. In the case of local union elections, the individual member makes his or her own choice; and in elections at the International Convention, delegates elected to represent the local union do the electing of International Officers.
**Varied Reponses to Taft-Hartley Wires**

The five units of Local 1324, along with hundreds of other AFL-union locals in California, sent out letters urging Congressmen to repeal the Taft-Hartley act and reenact the Wagner law. Wires went not only to Senators Downey and Knowland, but to Congressional representatives as well.

This week Local 1324 had answers from two senators: One from Knowland, which was non-committal, and one from Sheridan Downey, which stated that he would vote for repeal.

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**Know the Facts! Here’s WHERE and WHEN to ATTEND MEETINGS**

**UNIT No. 1—MARTINEZ**

2nd and 4th Monday of each month, IOOF Hall, 829 Ferry St., Martinez.

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**UNIT No. 2—REDWOOD & SAN MATEO**

2nd and 4th Monday of each month, Community Hall, Belmont, 8 p.m.

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**UNIT No. 3—SAN FRANCISCO**

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month (day workers), Building Trades Temple, AFL-Progress Hall, 14th and Guerrero Streets, 8 p.m.

Last Monday of each month (night workers).

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month (Executive Board), 85 South Van Ness, 8 p.m.

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**UNIT No. 4—SANTA ROSA**

3rd Wednesday of each month, Labor Temple, Santa Rosa, 8 p.m.

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**UNIT No. 5—UKIAH**

2nd Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m., in the Palace Hotel.

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**Local Union and Unit Officers**

**LOCAL 1324**

L. G. GLABSON ... President
M. A. WALTERS ... Vice-President
DEAN BEAN ... Recording Secretary
ED WRIGHT ... Financial Secretary
DONALD HARDIE ... Treasurer

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**UNIT No. 1—MARTINEZ**

R. L. LIEBERSON ... Chairman
SAM COLLINS ... Vice-Chairman
JOHN FUNTE ... Recording Secretary
F. J. CARTER ... Ass't Financial Sec.
DONALD HARDIE ... Executive Board
M. D. DAVIS ... Executive Board

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**UNIT No. 2—REDWOOD AND SAN MATEO**

EML HINTZ ... Chairman
M. MURPHY ... Vice-Chairman
R. PLACE ... Recording Secretary
W. LEWIN ... Ass't Financial Sec.
N. COSTA ... Executive Board
FRED WAGNER ... Executive Board

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**UNIT No. 3—SAN FRANCISCO**

ALBERT VOGT ... Chairman
HENRY VAN ENKELSEN ... Vice-Chairman
BILL JAMES ... Recording Secretary
W. M. MENG ... Ass't Financial Sec.
W. KENNEDY ... Executive Board
W. E. RAY ... Executive Board
LEVANDO H. BURKE ... Executive Board

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**UNIT No. 4—SANTA ROSA**

ERNEST J. WAGNER ... Chairman
JAMES W. FAUTLEY ... Vice-Chairman
W. H. CARRUTHERS ... Recording Sec.

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**Poetic But Pointed**

Some people will, some people don’t.
Some people do, some people won’t.
Join a union, I’m trying to say.
Here’s my version of the proper way:
I speak for the intelligent things they say.
E is for better living, the union way;
E is for equality for everyone now.
W is for winning, they’ll do it and how!!

Put them all together, it’s up to you,
But I’m joining IBEW, how about you?
Leos Riley of the 1324 Office.

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**Job Contracting Threatening the Security of Steam Plant Men**

Many PG&E employees at Steam Plant A in San Francisco were wondering just where a recently instituted policy of contracting out maintenance work that they normally do was going to lead.

Other employees on the station might well wonder if similar contracting was going to threaten their jobs.

The work in question at Plant A involved the overhauling of a feed station, which was done by C. C. Moore, contractor. This is not the first work at Plant A that business has been farmed out by the Company. A bigger job was recently let out there to contractors. Now the smaller jobs do not seem safe either.

The PG&E is supposed to be protected from such practices by a clause in the contract wherein the PG&E and the UWUA claim is now in effect. Article XIII, Section 17 says:

"It is recognized that the company has the right to have work done by outside contractors. In the exercise of such right Company will not make a contract with any firm or individual for the purpose of dispensing with the services of employees who are engaged in maintenance or operating work."

The above language seems to cover the situation at Plant "A" clearly enough, for "overhauling" a feed station certainly falls in the maintenance or operational class.

The purpose of including in collective bargaining agreements clauses such as Section 17 is to provide certain types of workers with job security, and to prevent the placing of contracts as a means of intimidation.

It appears that since 17 has an important relation to job security on the System. It is also apparent that Section 17 has been and is being violated at Plant "A."

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**MORE IBEW QUESTIONS**

What are the duties of the first group of International Officers?

They are entrusted with general supervision over the affairs of the Brotherhood and have the responsibility for safeguarding the security of its finances and the accuracy of its membership records. They maintain proper legislative contacts with Congress, the U.S. Department of Labor, the National Labor Relations Board, and other government agencies, and keep in close touch with American and foreign labor unions through the American Federation of Labor and the International Labor Organization.

How Are the Local Union and Unit Officers Elected?

By a secret ballot of the entire membership of the local union or local union membership of the unit for unit officers at regular elections and at local union elections held every two or four years. Term of office shall be determined by the membership when they prepare their by-laws.

What Officers Do Local Union and Units Have?

The L.U. shall have a president, vice-president, recording secretary, financial secretary, treasurer, and executive board.

The units shall have a chairman, vice-chairman, recorder, assistant financial secretary, and executive committee.

The union may also have a business manager and as many assistants as the membership deems necessary to properly serve them.

The dollar doesn’t go as far as it used to, but what it lacks in distance it makes up for in speed.

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