UWUA CAPTIVES HOPEFUL AS "ISLAND" CAMPAIGN BEGINS

IBEW 1245 Plans For Full Support

PG&E captives of the UWUA in the four Bay divisions of the company were heartened this week by the latest developments in the IBEW campaign and were waiting only for a chance to vote in an NLRB election to end for good the handicap of two organizations on the system.

The highlight of those developments was the announcement last week that IBEW 1245 was getting into the campaign with both feet now that an NLRB election was near.

Also, in Washington this week IBEW General Counsel Sherman vigorously protested to the NLRB the UWUA's effort to delay the election by opening up the PG&E case again through an oral hearing.

CONFERENCES

Meanwhile, conferences were scheduled between IBEW unit officials and IBEW International Representatives on the best ways and means for throwing the full weight of IBEW PG&E representation into the campaign.

In active dues-paying members this representation amounts to well over 17,000 members in the outlying 11 divisions of the system, while in the four Bay divisions comprising the UWUA "island" the UWUA could not honestly claim that it represented a majority of the employees.

A look at the map at the right should convince any PG&E employee of the hopelessness of the UWUA position.

In the shaded areas of the map in nine counties are the 7,000 PG&E employees represented now by the IBEW. In the unshaded area are the 5,000 PG&E employees captured by the UWUA through a quickie contract executed last January while an NLRB election petition was pending.

Most of those 5,000 employees are either now active IBEW members or awaiting an opportunity to vote for the IBEW in an NLRB election.

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UTILITY FACTS
Official Organ of IBEW Local 1234

L. G. GLASSON, President
ED WHITE, Financial Secy.
1918 Grove Street
Oakland, Calif.

One Organization
If the News caster and officials of the UWUA run true to past form this week they will be ignoring their past inferences that the IBEW has not had the full support of its PG&E membership in the "One Organization—IBEW" campaign. The UWUA's actions this week could well be "pooh-poohing" the official Local 1245 action which puts its 7,000 members into the campaign.

In a recent issue of the News caster some UWUA writer even had the gall to state that an IBEW official, Charles Mason, was not in accord with official IBEW policy, to-wit: one organization on the system. This, of course, was part of the UWUA campaign of deliberate confusion.

That one was answered in Utility Facts with the publication of a letter from Mason which put him squarely behind the One Organization idea several months ago. Mason's position is also re-stated in a new letter published in Utility Facts this week. However, as it has been frequently pointed out in Utility Facts, IBEW locals are democratically run by the members themselves. The constitution and by-laws of the IBEW ensure democracy and autonomy in matters affecting the welfare of the membership. Local 1245, like all other IBEW locals, operates along those lines.

So much confusion was spread throughout the system by the UWUA about the issues in the current campaign that the interest of the membership of Local 1245 demanded a thorough canvassing of all of these issues before entering any campaign.

When the decision was made by unanimous action of the Local 1245 Executive Board it was made in the knowledge that thorough canvassing of the membership, that was what the membership wanted.

The Local 1245 Board meets every three months due to the vast territory covered by their jurisdiction, which is composed of scores of units scattered all over northern California. The Board's regular quarterly meeting was held last week.

That action was not taken on entering the campaign at the previous meeting held in April was

Pictured above are members of the IBEW Local 1245 Executive being presented with specially designed gold emblems for their outstanding service to the 7,000 IBEW members they represent in the outlying districts of the PG&E system.

The emblems are a new departure in union circles from the customary handshake, backpat or verbal tribute for a job well done. They are of gold and possession of one of them will be lasting evidence that the person has performed the duties of his union executive in an outstanding manner.

MILNE APPROVES
The idea for such an emblem originated with Charles Mason, Business Manager of Local 1245. Industry has long recognized that their employees will put forth their best efforts to win similar awards. His conviction that such an award would work in the same way to the best interest of the IBEW was referred to IBEW International Secretary J. Scott Milne, who gave his wholehearted approval.

Oscar Harbak, Ninth District IBEW vice-president (covering Washington, Oregon, Nevada, California, Hawaii and Alaska) made the presentation.

IBEW SERVICE
Receipt of the emblems was no hollow honor. The jurisdiction of IBEW Local 1245 covers all of the PG&E network outside the Bay Area or nearly two-thirds of California which is the second largest state in the Union.

Bringing IBEW type of service to IBEW employees in the far reaches of the big PG&E system is a big job in itself. Performing that job as the members want it performed has been complicated by the presence on the system of the UWUA "island" in the four Bay divisions, for they were often confronted with UWUA acumen, in the UWUA sector, of UWUA modification of contract clauses guaranteeing basic union rights. The execs insisted that their IBEW membership be accorded their full rights, at all times, under the IBEW contract.

With an election impending on the PG&E, field efforts of the Local 1245 executive board members had been intensified recently so that every effort could be extended when it counted most toward accomplishing the "One Organization on the System" slogan.

LEFT TO RIGHT
It was fitting, therefore, that the hard-working Local 1245 Executive Board members should get the honor of receiving their first merit emblems.

Standing in line above receiving their emblems are left to right: Elmer Bushby, Colgate; Drew Baker, De Salva; Shep Shepheard, Coast Valleys; E. O. Bruntrick, general construction; Mitch Mitchell, Humboldt; Gordon Strazzo, Sacramento; Bill White, Drumm; Frank Gilleran, Stockton; Ward Anderson (sub for Pete Dailey of Shasta who was on vacation), and Gene Ripperdan, San Joaquin Power. In the foreground are Oscar Harbak and Chet Sorensen, president of Local 1245, and Charles Mason, business manager.

Rye, sown in the garden when it is too late in the season to plant fall vegetables, makes an excellent winter cover and good green fertilizer when plowed under in the spring.

Official Data Shows 'Island' Surrounded
(Continued from Page 1)
15 per cent were independent, un-affiliated, UWUA or other CIO unions.

THAT UNION
Thus the UWUA is left with a representation of approximately 45,000 private utility employees. Twenty-five thousand of these are in the company union, the UWUA Brotherhood of Consolidated Edison Employees.

The 45,000 membership estimate of national UWUA strength is very liberal. When the CIO granted the UWUA its charter it gave the new national union an organizing fund of $1,000 per member or $40,000.

Carrying the figuring a little further and it will be evident that there are only about 15,000 UWUA members outside of Consolidated Edison.

The UWUA's President Fisher breaks his power "empire" into five regions. Consolidated Edison with its 25,000 employees is in Region No. 1. The remaining 15,000 UWUA members are distributed throughout the other four regions covering the United States.

PLAIN ADDITION
The UWUA claims to represent 5,000 union members in the four Bay divisions of the PG&E. Adding the 300 employees it represents at the Long Beach and Redondo Beach steam plants of Southern California Edison to those 5,000 and even throwing in the only other groups UWUA represents on the Pacific Coast—the UWUA can come up with total Pacific Coast representation of approximately 6,800 workers.

These workers are in UWUA Region No. 3. They amount to only 25 per cent of the total UWUA national membership. Twenty-nine per cent by UWUA is distributed throughout four other UWUA regions. The New York region, made up practically entirely of Consolidated Edison employees contains the balance of UWUA's captive members, 56 per cent of them.

CONTRAST
By contrast the IBEW represents 25,000 utility workers on the Pacific Coast alone. In this sea of progressive unionism, the spongy UWUA island on the Pacific Coast in the four Bay divisions looks tiny indeed. However, the UWUA sits on this "island." It does not own it, for most of its UWUA captive members have signed IBEW applications or pledge cards.

Advantages of ramie fiber, now being grown in America, include the fact that it is several times stronger than cotton and has high immunity to shrinkage, mildew and abrasion; it can be combined easily with such fibers as cotton and rayon.

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(Continued from Page 1)
"ISLAND" CAPTIVES HOPEFUL

IBEW 1245 Plans For Full Support

(Continued from Page 1)

Letter to the Executive Board of Local 1245

Executive Board of Local 1245 IBEW,
914 Central Tower,
703 Market Street,
San Francisco 3, Calif.

Attention: C. W. Mason, Business Manager

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

At the regular meeting of the Executive Board of Local 1324, held in our office at 85 South Van Ness, San Francisco, July 21st, the members who are representative of all units in the four bay divisions, were very happy to hear of the action you took to support Local 1324 in putting One Organization—the IBEW on the PG&E system.

Your action which is representative of all PG&E employees in the 11 divisions now served so well by Local 1245 officials will not doubt eliminate the unnecessary friction between the employees that has been going on these past several years. Your action definitely shows those of us who have joined the IBEW the real Organization that is interested in Labor for the benefit of the IBEW employees.

Words cannot express how grateful we are to you who are officials of Local 1245 when you will take time out from the many problems you no doubt have in servicing 7000 members to discuss the welfare of all PG&E employees regardless of where they are located. Further, to offer to throw your entire strength behind this campaign to bring to all PG&E employees an organization that will unite them together for the benefit of all parties, knowing it will double the work you are now doing, is without saying one of unselfishness and sincere belief in the IBEW.

Our executive board together with the International Representatives who are assisting us in this campaign plus all unit officers and entire membership of Local 1245 desire to cooperate with you in every manner. Our unit meetings are listed in Utility Facts and you and your members are more than welcome to attend. It is our sincere desire to arrange joint meetings between the membership of both locals in those areas where both have established units.

In closing, again please accept our sincere appreciation for your action and our assurance of our full cooperation not only in this election but future programs which affect the PG&E employees.

With kindest regards, I remain,

Fraternally yours,

FRANK MERCER,
Secretary, Local 1245 Executive Board.

Know the Facts!

Here's WHERE and WHEN to ATTEND MEETINGS

1324 EXECUTIVE BOARD — 3rd Thursday of each month, 8:00 p.m., 85 So. Van Ness, S.F.

UNIT No. 1—MARTINEZ
2nd and 4th Monday of each month, Martine Hall, 14th and Guerrero Sts., Martinez, at 7:30 p.m.

UNIT No. 2—REDWOOD & SAN MATEO
2nd and 4th Monday of each month, Community Hall, Belmont, 8 p.m.

UNIT No. 3—SAN FRANCISCO
1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month (day workers), Building Trades Temple, AFL—Progress Hall, 14th and Guerrero Sts., S.F.

UNIT No. 4—SANTA ROSA
3rd Wednesday of each month, Labor Temple, Santa Rosa, 8 p.m.

UNIT No. 5—UKIAH
2nd Wednesday of each month, 8 p.m., in the Odd Fellows Hall.

UNIT No. 6—RICHMOND
2nd Thursday, 8 p.m., 237-5th Street, Richmond.

UNIT No. 7—OAKLAND
1st Wednesday, 8 p.m., 1918 Grove Street, Oakland.

MONOPOLY: INCLUDES THE KITCHEN SINK

Washington—Monopoly has reached out for everything including the kitchen sink. The Justice Dept. announced July 13 that four kitchen equipment manufacturers in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland had been indicted for violation of anti-trust laws. The four manufacturers had clubbed together to prevent competition and keep prices high, the Justice Dept. charged.

Know the Facts!

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1324 EXECUTIVE BOARD — 3rd Thursday of each month, 8:00 p.m., 85 So. Van Ness, S.F.

UNIT No. 1—MARTINEZ
2nd and 4th Monday of each month, IFOO Hall, 829 Ferry St., Martinez, at 7:45 p.m.

UNIT No. 2—REDWOOD & SAN MATEO
2nd and 4th Monday of each month, Community Hall, Belmont, 8 p.m.

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Local 1324 Executive Board Meet of July 21

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of Local 1324 was held in the San Francisco office, 85 South San Ness Avenue.

Correspondence was read and filed with the exception of one letter from the former counsel of the UWUA which was referred to the Editor of Utility Facts. This letter gave his approval to print certain data in the Oakndal office concerning the official of the UWUA which should be very enlightening to the membership. It will further bring out the high-handed method by which the UWUA came about and the absolute dictatorial control by Fisher & the other former Con Edison officials now heading up the UWUA.

Reports to the board were made by both international representatives, Hughes and Snyder. Local 1324 is still continuing to make progress throughout the four divisions despite UWUA's propaganda to the contrary.

The actions of several in units in accepting the support of Local 1245 was read plus the letter written by Unit 2 (Redwood City) to Business Manager, Chas. Mason. It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the executive board write a letter of appreciation and thanks to Local 1245 for their cooperation to put one organization, the IBEW, on the System. It was very heartening to the board members that all IBEW locals, not only in the four Bay divisions but throughout the state have offered their all-out support to the PG&E employees.

It was regularly moved, seconded and carried that the international representatives meet with the officials of the UWUA to set up joint meetings of Locals 1245 and 1324 in those areas where both have established units, such as San Francisco and Santa Rosa. Also, that members from these locals be encouraged to attend and help make the meetings a success. Moreover, the group suggested that the PG&E employees be paid by the membership of the IBEW for their publications. The PG&E employees have never had an opportunity to join together until now.

The program for increased activity by Local 1245 gives the lie to frequent charges made by the UWUA wherein they have attempted to create the impression that Local 1245 is not backing our present union drive. Such charges have been lies. They have been discredited before and now again they are discredited.

As requested by the membership, discussion was continued concerning the need to train more members for publicity work. There was complete agreement that the most suitable way to accomplish this would be to elect members from all the units to serve on a Utility Facts editorial board. It was suggested that these members should assist in the makeup of the paper each week in order to gain the necessary technical experience and an understanding of how to shape editorial policy. It was pointed out that although at the present time the burden of being carried out by full-time representatives, there soon will be a need to run a paper with volunteer members of the local union. A recommendation was voted urging other units and Local 1324 to adopt such a program.

UNIT 3 PUBLICITY COMMITTEE.

Santa Rosa Unit No. 4

The IBEW as promised, is giving our unit good service in that two international representatives showed up at our last meeting. Both representatives, Merritt Snyder and Chuck Hughes, gave us a complete report of the activities of the campaign to put one organization on the system. Those of us in attendance can assure that the IBEW gives you facts that are correct, no mud slinging, except the proving of mis-statements made by the UWUA in these publications.

In Unit 4 are very anxious for an election to clear up this confusion on the part of the UWUA and can't understand why they do everything possible to prevent an election. As reported by Representative Snyder the UWUA is trying to delay the election by requesting an oral hearing in Washington. Most of us don't understand all about the NLRB but imagined the hearings in San Francisco were for the purpose of hearing the arguments from all sides and it looks to most of us that this could be accomplished for just some unnecessary expense to be paid by the membership of the UWUA.

Our unit went on record of controversy with the Executive Board of Local 1245 to set up a program outlining points of interest to all of us. This program will be further discussed by all units and when finally drawn up, referred back to us for our approval. We like this action, as it makes us feel like we are a part of building a real union for the benefit of all PG&E employees, regardless of where you are in the big city or a small town in the country several miles away. Well, we don't know how you feel, but I imagine the same as us about the NLRB, but imagined the hearings in San Francisco were for the purpose of hearing the arguments from all sides and it looks to most of us that this could be accomplished for just some unnecessary expense to be paid by the membership of the UWUA.

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