



# UWUA Rumors Debunked

## 'Layoff Scare' Home to Roost

A king-sized UWUA rumor came home to roost last week but not without first doing a lot of damage to the morale of PG&E employees and the PG&E itself.

The rumor was thrown out by a minor UWUA official in the Napa district and it spread like wild-fire around the four Bay Divisions until it was picked up by the San Francisco Examiner and brought to the attention of company officials who denied it.

The Napa UWUA official had been going around his sector telling employees that 3000 layoffs were pending. He inferred that unless employees stayed close to the UWUA they could expect little protection if seniority provisions of the current UWUA-PG&E contract were violated by the company. That contract is supposed to protect all PG&E Bay division employees regardless of their union affiliations.

### SIGNIFICANCE

It is significant that on the same day that Utility Facts was deploring such tactics for organizational purposes, and explaining to employees the groundlessness of such rumors, the company also denied them after they were called to its attention by the Examiner. Utility Facts had no "inside" information on the matter. In fact Utility Facts story, "Deplore Scare Tactics Near Napa," was actually written a couple of days before the Examiner story appeared. The Utility Facts debunking of the rumor was based on common knowledge: that the PG&E expansion program is not yet complete; that as important phases of it are completed more power will go out on the lines and more work will result for everyone; that Northern California's population is still expanding and there will be plenty of utility work so long as that is a fact.

Aside from the irreparable damage done to the company and to

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## That Spongy UWUA "Island"— Seven Ghosts Walk In UWUA Headquarters

The ghosts of seven UWUA locals are walking around the union offices of the UWUA Joint Council in Oakland. After nine months of furious effort to salvage an organization out of the Fisher-inspired interference that broke up the old UWUA Joint Council, Local 134 is the only UWUA prop that is left. It is far from the closely knit, effective organization needed to bargain effectively for the UWUA members left in the four Bay divisions, let alone the 5,000 employees in those divisions covered by the UWUA's "quickie" contract.

Yet Local 134 is the principal mouthpiece and front for all that remains today of the UWUA in the Bay Area. There appears to be little liaison between the other UWUA locals which are supposed to be members of the Joint Council. As was often the case before the bolt to the IBEW, the remaining few UWUA locals go their individual ways and UWUA executive officer Shedlock is the receiver, trustee and vote caster for the paper UWUA locals.

### DO-NOTHING

Today, the UWUA Joint Council, supposed to coordinate the aspirations of the membership of eight UWUA locals, is really composed of Local 134 in the majority and executive officer Shedlock, who represents the paper unions.

Practically nothing of benefit to the 5,000 Bay employees covered by the UWUA "quickie" contract has come out of the Council since Brotherhood of Consolidated Edison Employees President Fisher sent Shedlock out here from the East to run things the ConEd way.

Mr. Shedlock now represents on the Joint Council the employees from Redwood - San Mateo, Richmond, Martinez, Santa Rosa, Willits, Ukiah, Lakeport and San Francisco, who are in fact solidly IBEW.

An example of the liaison between the ghost representatives of the Joint Council is well illustrated

by the story in this issue of Utility Facts telling about a Napa UWUA official peddling rumors of impending layoffs, while Shedlock was denying them. The ghosts were recently unable to take effective action on layoffs out of seniority, mainly because the ghosts from the paper unions had no such problem so they couldn't be bothered.

### NO PUSH

Other examples which typify the Joint Council's lack of cohesion and unity were the passage by the Oakland local of a resolution affecting the interest of PG&E members, and the negotiations of another local with the company which eliminated valuable system-wide seniority rights of certain steam plant employees. Only the repeated blasts from IBEW officials and from Utility Facts have prevented a repetition of such shenanigans.

The present state of Joint Council impotency stems from the lack of democracy and autonomy in local matters in the UWUA locals. Meeting turnouts for the paper locals have been nil and not much better for the more authentic locals. Interest shown by those who do show up at meetings has been languid, no proposals for doing something about the Joint Council's inactivity or about present conditions in the four Bay divisions have come from the floor. There has been a general air of

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## Ed White Reports On N. Bay Activity

By ED WHITE

We continue to make gains in membership in the North Bay Division. Much whistling in the dark by a certain member of the UWUA in certain parts of the North Bay hasn't changed the situation. Perhaps some of supposed information that this member was putting out was given to him as gospel truth. In these days of rapid communication, however, the putting out of mis-information might bounce back at once.

We are sure a much safer way is to make sure of the facts before going overboard and spreading something that sounds like good propaganda.

We will have more on organizing in the North Bay Division in the near future. Meanwhile, let's have nothing but the facts on the subject. Facts are what the PG&E employees are going to insist on.

### Economic Program

After exhaustive study by committees of the needs and aspirations of PG&E workers an 18 point economic program has been adopted by the representatives of all seven L. U. 1324 units.

The program will be presented in an article in Utility Facts next week.

It is a long-range program and flexible to the extent that it may be modified or expanded after IBEW becomes the official bargaining representative through the initiative of the employees themselves.

Watch for it next week. The program will contain some of the most popular items now in force in West Coast contracts where the IBEW is the one organization on the system plus some items especially tailored to the needs of PG&E workers.

**UTILITY FACTS**Official Organ of IBEW  
Local 1324L. G. GLASSON, President  
ED WHITE, Financial Secy.  
1918 Grove Street  
Oakland, Calif.**BETTER UNIONISM DUE**

Ed White, the Local 1324 IBEW Financial Secretary, who spends practically all of his spare time away from his Berkeley sub-station job in IBEW organizational work (in all sectors of the four divisions) brings an interesting observation to the attention of Utility Facts.

It is this: That there are plenty of union-minded people in the four divisions who are presently under the UWUA thumb. When the IBEW emerges from the NLRB election with a good majority vote behind it, these people will be a big help in building a real system-wide IBEW organization—one that every member can be proud of and participate in without fear of reprisal of any sort.

Many of these employees are comparatively new employees, who came to PG&E from former places of employment that enjoyed the benefits of coming from one strong union. When they can talk to Ed without fear of eavesdropping supervisors or UWUA officials they deplore the present working conditions and UWUA methods of operation.

Some of them, who have heretofore been isolated from the true state of affairs in the Bay divisions and the fact that a majority of PG&E employees belong to the IBEW, have despaired of ever having a real union on the property. It is the feeling of these people, Ed says, that in UWUA areas no union at all exists.

Ed's reply to these men is there are scores of other employees with similar thoughts; that these people along with those already active in the IBEW campaign can aid immeasurably in building a strong union once the election wipes out the last vestige of UWUA chain-gang-ism on the property.

Ed points out that with the IBEW already representing 7,000 employees in the outlying divisions, we are certain that when we put IBEW in the four Bay area divisions that there will be evidence of real unionism here as elsewhere where one organization works effectively in the interest of its members.

**More About the UWUA 'Scare' And The Real Score on the 'Layoffs'****'Layoff Scare' Home to Roost**

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the morale of individual employees the Napa UWUA leader's rumor-mongering should be considered and evaluated with reference to the current organizational campaign thus:

1. The rumor was manufactured to bring the younger and more recently hired PG&E employees closer to the UWUA in areas where the UWUA still has a working organization. Many of such employees are not familiar with their rights under the existing contract.

1. It points up the lengths to which the UWUA will go to force itself permanently on the employees.

3. It points up the UWUA warped interpretation of unionism. There is an inescapable implication that the UWUA has no conception of its duties as stewards of the contract for UWUA officials should realize that any time provisions of that contract are ignored for the benefit of strictly UWUA members at the expense of other employees, union members or not, the contract is weakened; further violations of it are, in effect, invited.

4. It spotlights the UWUA lack of unity. While the Napa official was trading on the insecurity created through non-enforcement of the contract, the UWUA's Area Leader Shedlock was telling a nearby group of about 20 employees that there weren't going to be any layoffs. (See story on this elsewhere in this issue.)

Officials of Local 1324 IBEW have been in close contact with several key IBEW members in the Napa district. Those members reported that the counter UWUA statements succeeded in compounding the confusion of the UWUA members. Fostering confusion has been one of UWUA's favorite tactics for maintaining its position where it still has operative locals.

The IBEW will continue its efforts to cut through that confusion with facts bearing on all issues wherever and whenever it can. Reports indicate that Utility Facts has been helpful in this respect.

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

However, Local 1324 organizational meetings are soon to be held in some of the remaining UWUA local union areas. When they are held, PG&E employees are urged to get to these meetings. The important issues will be discussed

Below are two stories that came about because an irresponsible UWUA official in Napa went around his district saying that 3,000 PG&E employees were about to be laid off. He thought such a scare would bring the members of his deteriorating local closer to the UWUA because he was the boy who would deal with the company for any members laid off out of seniority.

The rumor spread so rapidly that it came to the attention of the San Francisco Examiner, which asked PG&E officials for comments, which were published on October 5th. Local 1324 IBEW through the columns of Utility Facts sought to allay the hysteria generated by the Napa rumor, in a story which appeared in an issue of the same date, October 5th.

**What The Examiner Said About the Jobs Rumor:**

"Recurrent rumors of 'mass layoffs' by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company were denied today by both officials of the utility here and in San Francisco.

"A spokesman in P G and E's East Bay Division said that not only was the firm not reducing its work force here, but actually is hiring additional help.

"In San Francisco, a company official confirmed the report of an overall reduction in manpower, but pointed out that such a move is normal at this time.

"It's just our usual change-over from summer to winter operations," he explained, "plus the fact that a large number of major construction projects started since the war are being completed."

"Many of those laid off were students who returned to school, it was pointed out."

**What Utility Facts Said About the Jobs Rumor:**

"To still the swelling resentment against UWUA do-nothingness, a UWUA official of the Napa local—supposed to be a responsible individual—has been telling UWUA members there that they had better stay in line—3000 layoffs were in the making.

"The inference was unmistakable—stick with us or we'll stand aside when you get sacked.

"So long as the company's multi-million dollar expansion program is incomplete, P G & E employees

there in detail. Questions will be welcome and invited.

Meanwhile, those employees who are desirous of learning more about IBEW and who feel that the eyes of the boss or the UWUA may be watching askance at IBEW meeting attendance are urged to look at the schedule of Unit meetings in other areas. Attend those meetings. Any PG&E employee is welcome to them at any time. So is any UWUA official.

Now look at the adjoining column for the text of the Examiner and Utility Facts stories debunking the layoff scare.

can rest assured that any lay-offs that are made will be in restricted areas and of a temporary nature for every department is going to carry a heavier work load so long as the expansion is going on.

"It is likely to be enlarged, if anything, because California is still the fastest growing state in the Union and the Bay Area is showing the largest percentage of that growth.

"True, the big jobs in the Feather River Canyon are nearing completion. But some of the biggest have yet to throw their loads out onto the lines. Preparations to receive those loads are still going on and will continue to go on for some time to come.

"Additional lines and heavier line loads mean more work for everybody for the Utility worker's basic commodity is electricity. The more of it handled the more work for every department.

"The huge Moss Landing and Antioch steam plants are still building. Their prospective loads will make a lot of work for PG&E employees.

"Not only will their production help eliminate existing shortage of facilities, but it will go a long way toward attracting in new industry to serve the growing population, thus making more jobs for utilities workers.

"Of course the speedup permitted by the UWUA has made possible some of the recent spotty layoffs. The UWUA would do well to see that the temporary layoffs that do occur take place according to the seniority provisions of the contract it is supposed to enforce instead of going around creating hysteria in some sectors for organizational purposes."

**Martinez Member Ill**

Leo G. Garner, an IBEW member from the Martinez unit, is seriously ill in the Merritt Hospital, it is reported. He will be there for some time. Fellow unionists have asked that his co-workers make a special effort to visit him during his incarceration.

Garner is an operator at the Contra Costa sub-station.

# Look For NLRB Election Soon

## IBEW President Talks With NLRB

An election date was expected to be set soon so that PG&E employees can select what they deem to be the best union to represent them in collective bargaining with the company. Those who have worked so diligently and earnestly in the IBEW campaign are confident that the bargaining representative chosen will be Local 1324 IBEW.

For the past three weeks Local 1324 members and officials have been preparing vigorously for the election in the expectation that an NLRB announcement would be forthcoming soon.

Basis for this optimism, which has been reflected in the columns of Utility Facts recently, is a letter from Intl. Pres. Dan W. Tracy, dated September 12.

In that letter Tracy states that he personally contacted Paul Herzog, chairman of the National Labor Relations Board, in Washington, D. C., requesting a progress report on the IBEW petition for an election.

### BEING PROCESSED

Tracy was advised that the PG&E case is now being processed by the Board, and that this processing will be speeded up and a decision forthcoming as rapidly as possible.

The International President's personal assistance was provided immediately after it was requested by Intl. Rep. Merritt Snyder to debunk UWUA propaganda to the effect that the case would never be processed and no election would be held.

That such propaganda was spread at all (and we can quote the Newscast of the UWUA) is an insult to the intelligence of PG&E workers, who know that the NLRB is set up to give escape from organizations such as the one now going through the motions of enforcing a contract supposed to represent 5,000 PG&E employees.

Text of the Tracy letter appears in a box on this page.

John Hopkins University, a great American medical institution, located near Baltimore, Md., was founded in 1876 by John Hopkins, an American philanthropist.

The Erie Canal was an important event in American early history. It is credited with being the greatest single factor in the development of the state of New York.

Oysters are good to eat the year around, but from May to September fewer are marketed because this is the spawning season.

## PROGRESS OF IBEW ELECTION PETITION

Sept. 12, 1949

Mr. Merritt G. Snyder  
215 Ottawa Street  
San Francisco 11, Calif.  
Dear Sir and Brother:

This will acknowledge receipt of yours of August 30, 1949, in re case of Local 1324 IBEW, now before the NLRB, Washington, D. C.

This office had not received any information of interest on this case of L. U. 1324 before the board until I appeared before the chairman of the board, Paul Herzog, and I am informed by him the case is now being processed and will be speeded up and a decision will be forthcoming as rapidly as possible.

Because of the back-log of cases before this board I do not look for a decision during the month of September. Regardless of any rumors being circulated (by the UWUA) the board is processing the case. I now feel that we will get some action on it following the first of October. It is my feeling that there will be no further delays except any instituted by the board.

Hoping this information will be of benefit to you, I am with kindest regards,

Sincerely,

D. W. TRACY,  
International President

## Meter Readers Hit By UWUA Laxity

A bulletin which apparently came out of the office of Personnel Manager H. C. Day was recently posted on September 30th for the special attention of meter readers.

That date is important. We'll come back to it later.

More important is the bulletin which in effect advises the Meter Readers that they are going to have to work in the rain henceforth and that they had better buy a lot of special clothing to protect their health.

**"With the approach of the rainy season, the bulletin begins, "this is to advise each meter reader of the necessity of being properly equipped with sufficient water proof clothing to protect (himself) in rainy weather."**

The bulletin then goes into a detailed description of the sort of clothing the Company will expect each meter reader to purchase (at the meter reader's own expense and without any compensating raise in wages) and ends with the warning that lack of proper clothing will be no excuse

## L. U. 1324 Sends Attorney to D. C.

Matt Tobriner, Local 1324 IBEW attorney, who handled the IBEW election petition before the San Francisco NLRB Regional Hearing Officer and who prosecuted the successful suit to prohibit UWUA collection of IBEW members dues, was in Washington, D. C. last week checking up on the progress of the PG&E case before the NLRB Board.

Tobriner's visit was mainly concerned with checking legal aspects of the progress. IBEW President Tracy recently talked with NLRB Board Chairman Paul Herzog and was told that the case was being processed and a decision would be forthcoming as rapidly as possible.

Because of propaganda circulated by the UWUA to the effect that no election would ever be held the top International officers of the IBEW have interested themselves in progress of the election petition before the Board.

### NO UWUA 'IN'

The implication of the UWUA that they have a special pipeline or connection with the NLRB has so far proved to be groundless. IBEW officers find that the case is getting the same consideration as other important cases before the Board.

It should be born in mind that the Board has a large backlog of cases; that the Company's effort to have 51 classifications excluded from the bargaining unit will require exhaustive study; and that the UWUA itself kept the case out of the Boards hands until only recently by resorting to every legal delay it could muster.

Tobriner planned to confer with Tracy on legal aspects of the L.U. 1324 campaign and then stop off at the American Federation of Labor convention in St. Paul, Minn., on his way back to San Francisco.

Upon his return he will have a timely report on his findings.

for not completing routes.

Apparently the meter readers are expected to make the same number of calls during the rainy season as they have been making in the dry season. There is of course no reference to the fact that too many trips in the rain could result in a trip to the hospital.

But that is beside the point. What is to the point is that in the past the meter readers have not been required to work outside in inclement weather. The reason why they have not lies in Article

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## Ghosts Walk in UWUA Offices

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frustration and defeatism that is inescapable.

Members know from past experience that it is futile and un-healthy to propose anything that is not agreeable to the top brass in the UWUA who sit back East within the cozy confines of the company-dominated Brotherhood of Consolidated Edison Employees' union offices.

Local 1324 IBEW officials know that there are many sincere union members and officials among the local UWUA group who would act, if they could, to do something about contract infringement, grievances, the speedup, and the general feeling of insecurity that has crept over the Bay division employees because of UWUA interference with local autonomy.

### CONFIDENT

Local 1324 is confident that once the NLRB election is set, these members and these officials will be in there pitching for a big IBEW "One Organization on the System" vote.

Meanwhile, UWUA Local 134 and Mr. Shedlock (with the ghosts) run the Joint Council, which is the only UWUA instrument in operation today for unified dealings with the company.

Despite the passive affiliation of some of the old UWUA locals in the old Joint Council, the progressive delegates (they now are almost solidly in the IBEW) used to at least see that the interest of their local union members was looked after and that the contract was enforced. But much more could have been accomplished with every UWUA local participating actively.

The reasons for UWUA's ineffectiveness today are related to the lack of UWUA Bay-wide representation. If the employees could be heard, if their voice could be reflected in Joint Council deliberations, perhaps there would be a reformation of UWUA do-nothingness. But ghosts can't talk.

That is the picture today of the outfit that negotiated the current "quickie" contract—a non-representative contract covering 5,000 employees. This is the outfit that tells the employees: "We have the contract that covers your conditions of employment—you have to stick with us."

It is the same outfit that approved the contract, negotiated it, and then ratified it.

It is going to take an IBEW vote in the coming NLRB election to give it back to the employees.

The clearer that picture becomes, the surer it is that IBEW Local 1324 will emerge from the election with a majority that will carry weight at the bargaining table.

## Local Union and Unit Officers

### LOCAL 1324

L. G. GLASSON ..... President  
 M. A. WALTERS ..... Vice-President  
 FRANK MERCER ..... Recording Secretary  
 ED WHITE ..... Financial Secretary  
 DONALD HARDIE ..... Treasurer  
 B. E. LIEBSCHER, EMIL HINTZ, ALBERT TIEGEL, JEROM WOERNER,  
 WILLIE TOWE, KARL J. ADKINS and  
 WILLIAM HAARS ..... Executive Board

### UNIT No. 1—MARTINEZ

B. E. LIEBSCHER ..... Chairman  
 E. S. SETCHELL ..... Vice-Chairman  
 JOHN FANTE ..... Recording Secretary  
 F. J. CARTIER ..... Asst. Financial Sec.  
 DONALD HARDIE ..... Executive Committee  
 STAN DAHLIN ..... Executive Committee

### UNIT No. 2—REDWOOD AND SAN MATEO

EMIL HINTZ ..... Chairman  
 L. MUSCANTE ..... Vice-Chairman  
 R. PLACE ..... Recording Secretary  
 W. LEMON ..... Asst. Financial Sec.  
 J. COSTA ..... Executive Committee  
 FRED WOLGER ..... Executive Committee

### UNIT No. 3—SAN FRANCISCO

ALBERT TIEGEL ..... Chairman  
 HENRY VAN ERKELENS ..... Vice-Chairman  
 JESSE NASH ..... Recording Secretary  
 WM. M. RENO ..... Asst. Financial Sec.  
 WM. KENNEDY ..... Executive Committee  
 LEONARD H. RIAVE ..... Executive Committee

### UNIT No. 4—SANTA ROSA

JEROME D. WOERNER ..... Chairman  
 WILLIAM CARITHERS ..... Vice-Chairman  
 DEAN BEAN ..... Recording Sec.

### UNIT No. 5—UKIAH

WILLIE TOWE ..... Chairman  
 ORRIN HOWELL ..... Vice-Chairman  
 ROY V. LOBERG ..... Rec. Sec.-Treas.  
 WALT MILANDER ..... Asst. Financial Sec.  
 E. I. CROCKER ..... Executive Committee

### UNIT No. 6—RICHMOND

KARL J. ADKINS ..... Chairman  
 CHAS. GALYEAN ..... Vice-Chairman  
 E. A. ANDERSON ..... Recording Secretary

### UNIT No. 7—OAKLAND

WILLIAM HAARS ..... Chairman  
 PATRICK McFADDEN ..... Vice-Chairman  
 JOHN F. SHEA ..... Recording Secretary  
 RICHARD BROWN ..... Asst. Fin. Secretary  
 STEPHEN L. TINGLEY ..... Executive Board  
 ERNEST E. J. LEWIS ..... Executive Board

## Know the Facts!

Here's WHERE and WHEN to  
**ATTEND MEETINGS**

**1324 EXECUTIVE BOARD** — 3rd  
 Friday of each month, 8:00 p.m.,  
 85 So. Van Ness, San Francisco.

**UNIT No. 1—MARTINEZ**  
 2nd and 4th Monday of each  
 month, 100F 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, Bel-  
 mont, 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., 8  
 p.m.

Last Monday of each month  
 (night workers), 1:00 p.m.  
 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each  
 month (Executive Committee),  
 85 South Van Ness, 8 p.m.

**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., 257 - 5th  
 Street, Richmond.

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

## Meter Readers Hit

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XIII, Section 9A of the contract, the PG&E-UWUA contract, that is:

"Weekly employees who report for work on a work day, but are not required to work in the field because of inclement weather (heretofore the meter readers have not been required to work in inclement weather) or other similar cause, shall receive pay for the full day. During such day they may be held pending emergency calls, and may be given first aid, safety or other instruction, or may be required to perform miscellaneous work in the yard, warehouse, or in any other sheltered location. This subsection shall not apply to the Central Supply Department or to the Building Department of Company's General Office."

Earlier in this article it was pointed out that the company's bulletin on what the well dressed meter reader must wear this winter was posted on September 30. However, it was originally drawn up on September 13 for it bore that date.

**Apparently a lot of thought and discussion went into the matter before it was decided to post it. Seventeen days elapsed, in fact.**

The paragraph in the contract covering working conditions during inclement weather was originally written especially for the meter readers. The Company knows the history of that paragraph as well as the union men who helped to write it.

We are wondering if the stewards of the Contract, the UWUA, were not consulted on this matter or at least advised of the company's intention's during those 17 days.

**If not, the IBEW Local 1324 is advising the UWUA here and now, not only of the existence of Article XIII, Section 9A but of its violation.**

Lately the UWUA has been boasting to its captive members that "we have the contract—you gotta stick to us". Alright, UWUA, here is a clear cut chance for you to show the PG&E employees how well you can enforce that contract.

Back East where the bulk of UWUA members are tied up to the Brotherhood of Consolidated Edison Employees Union UWUA President Fisher is very cooperative in overlooking little matters that annoy ConEd.—and some big ones. Utility Facts has been saying all along that that is the type of unionism PG&E employees can expect on their Bay divisions, especially if Fishers Friends should ever win an election here.

But maybe we are wrong. Maybe you'll do something about the meter readers. Maybe you'll do something about the other grievances which have been called to your attention. We hope so.

## L.U. 1324 Requests Even Break On Bulletins

L. U. 1324 officials are asking the Company for an even break this week in the use of employee bulletin boards after it became known that 1324 IBEW members had been told not to post meeting notices and other information pertinent to the campaign.

We assume the Company feels it is under obligation to bargain with UWUA because that outfit has the quickie contract negotiated early this year while the IBEW was seeking an election to prove that a majority of PG&E employees were fed up with UWUA misrepresentation.

### SENTIMENT

Naturally at the time the election petition was filed by IBEW nothing short of an election could have foretold the real sentiment of the employees. However, the IBEW was confident enough of its position to ask UWUA and Company for a consent election. The UWUA was not interested.

At the time a similar situation had arisen in reference to use of the bulletin boards and the Company apparently cleared it up.

That is as it should be for the act upon which the NLRB is based

says that the employer has no right to intimidate his employees in an election campaign.

### EMPLOYEE RIGHTS

With its personnel department in close touch with the progress of the current campaign, the Company should also be aware of the preponderance of IBEW sentiment around the system.

L. U. 1324 is certain that the Company does know of this sentiment, that it also knows full well the rights that its employees enjoy relative to the use of employee bulletin boards, but that it may not know about the recent intimidation of certain of its supervisors.

L. U. 1324 feels that these supervisors, in forbidding the posting of L. U. 1324 IBEW meeting notices, may have acted out of personal favoritism to the UWUA without Company blessing or knowledge.

If this is the case the interference with L. U. 1324's right to use the bulletin boards—based on the principle of free speech and guaranteed by the National Labor Relations Board—will undoubtedly be stopped.

## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### San Francisco Unit 3

A letter from International President D. W. Tracy, I.B.E.W., concerning L. U. 1324, N.L.R.B. case in Washington and I.B.E.W. Attorney Matt Tobrina being on a trip east to the capitol on union business were news items given in a short report to members by International Representative Snyder. Reason for the brief report by Bro. Snyder being that he wanted full time for a membership discussion on P.G.&E. worker contracts and opinions on union company issues in the San Francisco area. Committee reports followed and a bar-

rage of member-fellow worker contact reports were given, pensions, seniority clauses, lay-offs and a new type button for campaign purposes coming under discussion.

Brother Hastings, from the Martinez unit, a believer in I.B.E.W. and in unions to the extent of consistently attending various unit meetings besides his own, and doing active organizing work for the I.B.E.W., gave a report of substantial progress in the Napa, San Rafael and Vallejo areas.

PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

UNIT 3

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