LETTERS SHOW UWUA TRIED FOR ELECTION EVE 'DEAL'

But No Pension Plan Included

Photostatic copies of letters exchanged between UWUA and PG&E definitely prove that the UWUA sought to bind the PG&E employees in the four Bay divisions to a new contract without their consent—a contract which did not contain any CIO pension plan—just 29 days before the National Labor Relations Board rendered its decision on the IBEW petition for an election.

Copies of these letters, which are in the possession of IBEW Representative Merritt Snyder, will be shown to any interested PG&E employee attending any IBEW meeting.

NOT SHOWN

The letters themselves, which have not been shown to UWUA members or mentioned to them, were designed to foist the UWUA and other conditions of employment which are now in effect between UWUA and PG&E employees on the backs of PG&E employees for another year or more despite the fact that an NLRB election petition was then pending.

One of the letters, addressed to PG&E Personnel Manager Nevaumont, began thus:

"Pursuant to provisions of the Labor-Management Relations Act as amended, you are hereby notified that the union (UWUA) desires to MODIFY all of the collective bargaining agreements covering wages, salaries, job titles, definitions and descriptions, working and other conditions of employment which are now in effect between the union and the company.

"Specific proposals from the union will be submitted within the next seven days and within a reasonable time thereafter, your convenience, we wish to be advised when we can meet to commence negotiations."

Not only do none of the UWUA publications carry any reference to the letters, but the UWUA has not denied their existence in court or in any formal proceeding.

AFL Organizations Get Behind IBEW

About 350 delegates to the San Francisco Labor Council listened last week in silent scorn as IBEW Representative Merritt Snyder described to them the scurrilous UWUA attacks upon top officers of the IBEW in an effort to win, by such methods, the confidence and votes of 12,000 PG&E workers.

When Snyder had finished his story of UWUA red-baiting and character assassination he was enthusiastically applauded and dozens of AFL Council delegates walked up to him to personally pledge the assistance of themselves and their unions to the IBEW PG&E campaign.

Dan Flanagan, personal representative of AFL President William Green, who was present at the meeting, also pledged his assistance. (See letter page 3.)

The AFL, which has long been dedicated to the fight against communism, and has never found it necessary to execute wholesale purges such as the CIO is presently engaged in, thus vindicates the Americanism of Local 1324 officials and members by throwing its full weight behind the IBEW campaign to put democratic unionism on the PG&E system.

List of Voting Places

PG&E employees in the four Bay Divisions will vote at the following places on Jan. 25. Clip this list and return it for reference:

NORTH BAY DIVISION

Petaluma—Warehouse, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
Santa Rosa—Warehouse, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Vallejo—Warehouse, 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

San RAFAEL DIVISION

San Rafael—Warehouse, 4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

SAN JOSE DIVISION

San Jose—Service Group, 7:00 to 8:30 a.m.

REDWOOD CITY—Service Group, Continued on Page 3

Oakland Next on IBEW Org. List

IBEW Rep. Kenny Favell, who has been assigned to the Oakland PG&E territory, reports that an organizational machine has been completed and will go into high gear after New Year's.

Favell says that every PG&E establishment in the Oakland area now has a key IBEW contact man who is ready to join in the all-out campaign to sweep the UWUA Oakland structure right out from under UWUA President Fisher and the Local Oakland UWUA officers.

Favell is certain, from the tone of reports he has been getting from UWUA Local officials and UWUA members, that Oakland, hitherto among the staunchest of UWUA champions, has now seen the light and is ready for the IBEW. The current vicious and lying literature being distributed by UWUA was a major reason for the outburst of IBEW sentiment.

IBEW educational literature in the hands of all key contact men, a person to person campaign is all set, and things will begin happening in Oakland shortly.

Favell urged the members of all units to keep in touch with the current campaign by attending their scheduled meetings regularly.

UWUA 'Scorched Earth' Plan Fails

Employees of PG&E have certainly witnessed an increase in the tempo of smear tactics and red baiting by the UWUA since Joe Fischer and Harold Straub made their debut into the Pacific Coast theater of operation. The type of smear tactics they are using here was also used in Duquesne Light and Power a year ago and a half ago.

The Joe Fischer Consolidated Edition outfit lost the election in Duquesne and they will lose the election here.

The type of smear campaign which the UWUA is carrying on is one which bespeaks the vindictiveness of a leadership that knows it is on its way out. It is a scorched earth policy but won't win for the UWUA nor can it benefit, in the least, future bargaining relations between PG&E and its employees.

When the votes are all counted in this election, the UWUA will find that it represents very few employees on the Pacific Coast.

Let each PG&E employee stop and ask himself if he wants as his bargaining agent an outfit which will stoop to the lies, innuendoes and the chicanery which the UWUA is now practicing. How many utility employees have bought that UWUA organization in the U.S.? The answer is about 40,000 and a large part of that 40,000 are now unsold.

When the election is over and the IBEW is the certified bargaining agent for PG&E employees, we will build our organization anew—despite the fact that UWUA has practiced a scorched earth policy in this campaign. We started out to build a union for obtaining better wages, hours and working conditions and that is what we intend to have. The lies, innuendoes and chicanery of the UWUA leadership won't stop us.

ED WHITE, Financial Secy.
Local Union 1324, IBEW, AFL
Letters Show UWUA Tried for 'Deal'

(Continued from Page 1)

this bid for modification of the collective bargaining agreement, but they contain no record of any proposals having been submitted to the company.

Why? Because the UWUA was seeking to open the agreement only for the purpose of extending it for another year without the permission of the people it would have covered.

No proposals were ever submitted to the company.

It is very significant that despite the fact that UWUA went through the formalities of opening its agreement with the company it did not submit the pension plan nor any other proposal that would have affected the PG&E worker.

The UWUA sought only from the company a device by which it could force itself down the PG&E employee's throat again.

PROPAGANDA PLAN

The CIO had the UWUA no bona fide pension plan, or any other proposal which had been approved by a majority of PG&E employees affected, ready for the company. The present pension proposal was borrowed from the CIO after the UWUA got the news that a system-wide election would be held and that PG&E employees did, after all, have some democratic rights about how and by whom his company conditions should be negotiated for him.

CRESTFALLEN OUTFIT

First, the great majority of its members had repudiated it for such "dealing" in the first place. Then the company refused to go along with it because it could see the handwriting on the wall. The UWUA had deteriorated so badly that even its mistakes were no longer useful.

So the UWUA then ran to the NRLB, which was about to issue its decision anyway on the election, and changed its application to "make it look as if we were not wanting an election. This is the same UWUA that says in its carpetbag propaganda: Vote for a clean, honest, real American union. (See other stories elsewhere in this issue on the UWUA letters to the company.)

The Sherman Anti-Trust act was passed by Congress in 1890.

Here's How Company-Unionism Operates in UWUA Territory

In past articles we have talked about UWUA-Consolidated Edison type company-unionism. It is precisely that type of too-close company-union collaboration that has contributed to UWUA's steady demise as a National union during the past two years.

Read the following affidavit very carefully. It was made by Jesse Tomkins, a former official of a UWUA-CIO utility organization in New York State.

The local union found that National UWUA officers, acting in the COMPANY'S interest, interfered with contract negotiations just as the National UWUA officers interfered with local autonomy on the PG&E during contract negotiations.

The local union finally got tired of such shenanigans and joined the IBEW just as PG&E employees in the Bay divisions did.

Read the story contained in the affidavit very carefully. It has been circulated before during the present campaign and the UWUA never attempted to refute it; it is food for thought and adds to the accumulating evidence that UWUA is not the kind of union needed to properly represent the interest of 12,000 PG&E employees.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

We employees of the Rockland Light and Power Company (New York State) had our independent union. In 1948, I was the Secretary-Treasurer. A CIO Utility Workers organizer, Eugene Tester, painted a grand picture of the CIO to us. He told us of all the legal and other help and support the CIO would give us. So we decided to affiliate with the CIO. The CIO put us in four separate bargaining units, with each unit striving for a separate contract of its own. After about two and one-half years battling through Government agencies and negotiations with the Company, one unit got a contract and a retroactive wage increase. CIO Organizer Jesse Straub then wanted us to contribute 19 per cent to the CIO National Office.

We objected and in a few days we received a bill for $4,500 from the CIO attorney. The attorney said if the bill was not paid soon it would be turned over to a collection agency. The other units had received no raise and the CIO lawyer refused to do any work for them until we paid him. Our members felt we should pay nothing extra because our per capita tax payments to the National Office were to take care of this.

Director Harold Straub, brother of Jesse, then visited us and said he felt the lawyer would finish the work for $3,500. We were "over a barrel" and agreed to raise the money. After the lawyer was paid we received notice of a raise of only 4 cents per hour. We told Director Straub in his New York office we would not accept the 4 cents as final. Our members felt we should pay nothing extra because our per capita tax payments to the National Office were to take care of this. The CIO National Office.

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WRITE US GROW!!!

MAILED BALLOTS are being sent out beginning January 6th to all areas and outlying points NOT LISTED UNDER VOTING PLACES on Pages 1, 3. Those employees who will vote by mailed ballots are urged to VOTE YOUR ballot immediately and return in the envelope provided to insure YOUR vote being counted.

Vote IBEW—Center Box on the Ballot

Questions and Answers About the IBEW

The following questions and answers are part of a series intended to show PG&E employees how the IBEW is set up to operate in the interest of its members.

B. A. MUST ATTEND

The business manager of the local union, or one of his assistants, shall be present at each unit meeting, in order to present to the body the verbal report of the actions, trends and decisions of other units, and also to gather at first hand the expressed opinion of the unit, for the guidance of the officers.

and executive board of the local union, as a whole, in carrying out the desires of the entire membership.

The representative of the local union office also serves as a grievance representative, contacting the local officers of the company, and if a satisfactory solution of the presented grievance is not obtained, taking the matter up directly with the general offices of the company and negotiating a satisfactory settlement.
The workers on the PG&E system are now being treated to the hilarious spectacle of a Fischer-Pachler-Straub-Doyle-Agers "organizing campaign". When the fun is over, every worker can see for himself why these people can't win collective bargaining representation elections where the workers get the facts and know the score.

**Skeletons**

While they rove about the system, even into what Fischer terms "cows" they are getting. Their skeletons keep trailing them and now, that the closets are open, their only program appears to be one of "hate thy brother".

They fanatically shout, in terms strangely reminiscent of the old Hitler days, that the workers are crowded with "reds" and they, in white armor will deliver the poor slaves from themselves at 2 bucks a copy.

The wild claims that they are going to keep the Transport Workers in New York State are no better than nothing, and the haunting memory of how Phil Murray took away Sad Sam Wolf's charter because he failed to organize the wholesale and retail workers into the CIO must keep the workers from thinking about the fact that they are being laughed off the system by 1245's members as well as ours.

Where is the advertised militant spirit have they brought about? They do not realize that the CIO must keep our Gaalshads awake at night. Wolf's "red" could scream "red" with the best day Fischer ever saw. However he has lost that support line they conveniently ignore.

While Fischer and crowd are beating their dead horse out here, the Transport Workers in New York are still in their hair, and the haunting memory of how Phil Murray took away Sad Sam Wolf's charter because he failed to organize the wholesale and retail workers into the CIO must keep our Gaalshads awake at night. Wolf's "red" could scream "red" with the best day Fischer ever saw. However, his talents weren't sufficient to save his skin or his charter.

Of course, Fischer & Co. can always go independent again and hide behind the skirts of Consolidated Edison, but maybe his boys who gave him a "resounding" two-thirds vote in a union election might dump him this time.

How they can brag of a two-thirds vote of confidence from workers who have been in their outfit for years is really funny when nearly all union shop elections under the infamous Taft-Hartley law have run well over 90 per cent union.

Fischer & Pachler made a deal with the CIO when the sentiment of their members was pro-CIO and their days were numbered as an independent outfit. Now, with the sorry list of election failures hanging around their necks, they are trying to make whippings boys out of loyal American PG&E workers to cover their own inept, Tammany-type leadership.

The latest dimming "Light" edition lists Fischer's concepts of their leaders with a group of British utility workers being entertained. One should tip off the boys from England on how the UWUA leaders got run out of all the utilities they have lost, since they wangled themselves a CIO charter in 1945 and why.

Assuming that PG&E workers hate each other, the ghost riders are out trying to disrupt the boys in 1245 in the false hope of sinking up the system as a goodbye gesture. That they are falling miserably is evidenced by the fact that they are being laughed off the system by 1245's members as well as ours.

Where is the advertised militant spirit have they brought about? Their small support is a sad array of a few people who have bought the program of "hate thy brother" and who have nothing else to be militant about.

We hear that it is nice and warm on the East Coast for this time of year. Next week we know, Joe will be blaming us for the cold snap out here if he can think up some way to explain the chilly reception he is getting.

When that long-awaited day of reckoning arrives and Fischer-Pachler-Straub-Doyle-Agers finish their mad scramble around the system, we can then laugh long and loud at the funeral of the UWUA which is really funnier than any other funeral in their days. And while the votes are being counted during the election, the boys will be held at the election vote counting ceremonies.

From the record of the top UWUA leaders and the total inadequacy of National Executive Board Member Harold Doyle's program in his fast disappearing Region 5, it appears that the head men from the East will abandon their step-child and scurry back home before they are reduced to making deals to get the jurisdiction of the donkey drivers operators of the Barnum & Bailey Circus caliposes. Come to think of it, they could get jobs as circus clowns on the record of their comedy of errors but the clowns have a union, too—too bad.

**Election After Election**

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**We've Talked About Ghosts—Now Meet 'Em**

It is interesting to note that the photostated letter (story elsewhere in this issue) UWUA sent to the PG&E seeking to negotiate another quick contract, like that executed after the bolt in December, 1948, is submitted in the name of Utility Workers Union of America, CIO.

Edward T. Shedlock signed for UWUA in his capacity as national executive board member.

Below Shedlock's signature appeared the eight local unions of the UWUA Ghost Utility Workers' Joint Council.

Ghost Local No. One was the San Francisco outfit, Local 133. Otto Schwarz signed for that one.

Ghost Local No. Two was the UWUA Martinez paper Local 169, and National Representative Wm. Agers had to sign for that one.

Ghost Local No. Three was Redwood City Local 197. National Executive Board Member Shedlock had to sign for that one personally.

Ghost Local No. Four was the Santa Rosa Local 241, which lost its membership to IBEW Unit 4 early in the campaign. Harry Wallace signed for that one.

Every PG&E employee who attends union meetings in the territory listed above knows what the score is on the unions in the towns listed. It is strictly IBEW territory and has been for over a year, in addition to other districts such as Richmond, Ukiah, Willits and Lakeport.

Lately the UWUA has lost large chunks of its most active membership in San Jose, Petaluma and San Rafael. It appeared that the employees were buying IBEW wherever they were able to hear both sides of the issue.

Prospects today are that after the election PG&E workers would be represented by real, live and active union men of the IBEW and not by ghosts.

**An Ode to Joe Fischer, President of UWUA-CIO??**

As election day approaches, Joe, You shouldn't feel so bad. You never had the real support Our rank and files had. You tried to wield a heavy hand Against some good advice. The net result of your mistakes Leaves you without the dice. You never should have buttled In To our negotiations. We got along for many years Without Clem's machinations. You really have the legal right To choose your salariad aides. You overlooked the salient fact— We held the ace of spades. You tried to deal us a hand From deep beneath the deck. We bet you wish you'd dealt 'em right As you survey the wreck. For now, in spite of slander, Threats and phony deals, Some of your lieutenants Will miss some high-priced meals. You overran the bases when You took some liar's words And called us all "subversives" So now, you're out at third. Our guys are not so stupid As you evidently thought. We'll run you off the system And your smears will get you naught. Here's a little bit of wisdom, You've never seemed to learn. Your knife clean missed the workers And cut off your own head. We'll run you off the system As you evidently thought. Your memory's but a ghost. You've never seemed to learn. Our guys are not so stupid As you evidently thought. We'll run you off the system And your smears will get you naught. Here's a little bit of wisdom, You've never seemed to learn. Your knife clean missed the workers And cut off your own head.