

The UTILITY

Gas, Electric, Water, Clerical,
and Construction Workers



REPORTER

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JULY 17, 1953

Inequities in Gas Dept. Tackled by 1245 Committee

The union's Gas Department Negotiating Committee—long eager to start bargaining with the PG&E group—is now hard at work.

Committee members Frank Quardros, S. F. Gas Service Department, and Ray Heyl, Chico Gas Distribution, assisted by Asst. Bus. Mgr. Mert Walters, met at the union headquarters on July 15 and began talks with the company committee the following day.

Primary issues before the negotiators are: correction and clarification of job descriptions; establishment of lines of progression; and discussions leading to correction of specific inequities.

The union committee was aided by Bro. Milt Jacobs, East Bay Gas Service Department, who presented some valuable data regarding service operators.

A report of the progress of these important negotiations will be given at unit meetings by the business representatives and members of the committee.

Redding—

New Hydro Plant On Pit River

Still another big hydroelectric plant will be constructed on the mighty Pit River, according to the PG&E.

The newest project will consist of a diversion dam, a 54,000-kilowatt powerhouse and a small after-bay regulating dam. Cost is estimated at \$16,250,000.

The company is now constructing Pit 4 Powerhouse, and a 4-mile tunnel to divert water to it. This 25 million dollar project is scheduled for completion in 1955 and will add 84,000 kilowatts to the Pit's power capacity.

The company also has applications pending before the Federal Power Commission for four plants on the North Fork of the Feather River and three plants on the Kings River. This additional proposed construction will generate 604,000 kilowatts.



FRANK GILLERAN

Stockton— OUR PRESIDENT SPEAKS UP!

As your union president I have become well acquainted with the many problems of administration which confront our business office and staff every day. One of the major problems which constantly crops up is that of reminding some of our units that official actions taken by our union are based upon the will of the majority.

It is understandable that the members of a unit, working together in one specific area, will be disposed to think that the union should work for the solution of their own particular problems. Most unions, serving only a relatively small geographical area, can do just that.

But our union has a much broader base—a base which covers all of Northern California and Northern Nevada in fact. We have found that the only effective means of conducting meetings in this vast area is through the establishment of units which cover a relatively small area. These units—and there are nearly one hundred of them—form the backbone of our union. The actions of each unit and the recommendations of its members are transmitted to the union's policy committee and executive board through the minutes which are sent into the business office. And the members of a unit, rightly enough, expect the union to act on their recommendations. But that brings up one of our major administrative problems—very often a recommendation which is adopted by one unit will not meet with the approval of the majority of the units of our union. And we have also found that the hasty solution of a reported problem in one unit's area will create new problems in other areas.

In order to meet problems of this nature in the most democratic (Continued on Page Two)

PGE Gets Our Proposals; Union Ready to Bargain

Alert Committee Shapes Contract, Wage Demands

As a result of three intensive sessions at the union's headquarters—seven days and nights of hard work—the 1953-54 negotiating committee has formalized all the wage and contract proposals which will be submitted to the company.

In the notification to the company, which was served on July 1st, the union requested negotiations on the following issues:

- All unresolved issues still hanging fire from previous collective bargaining sessions, including the Pension plan revision, a health and welfare plan, job definitions and lines of progression and elimination of certain classification inequities.

- A general wage increase for all employees in the clerical and physical bargaining units.

- Certain contract revisions and inequity eliminations for physical workers.

Following a thorough study of



Pictured above are the union members of our 1953-54 wage and contract negotiating committee, one from each of the five major departments of the P.G. & E. From the left they are: Milton J. Kelly, Roy D. Murray, Everett Rypinski, Joseph McCauley and Everett Basinger. The committee selected Murray as their chairman and Rypinski as secretary.

all recommendations submitted by individual units and policy committee members, the committee has formulated the following proposals:

- A general wage increase of 8 percent or \$28 per month, whichever is greater, for clerical and physical workers.

Revisions to the physical agreement as follows:

- Improved union security — a union shop clause.

- Guaranteed 40 hour work week for all general construction and divisional employees on the system.

- A jointly administered apprenticeship training program to be applied to employees of all divisions and departments of the company.

- A joint safety program.

- Improved over-time pay provisions.

- Premium pay for scheduled Sunday work.

- Improved time and travel expenses for divisional workers reporting to isolated job headquarters.

- Replacement of clothing, tools and equipment damaged or destroyed on the job, at company expense.

- Improved provisions for changing shift schedules.

- Improved seniority and job bidding provisions for General Construction workers.

- Improved General Construction expense provisions, including a change to payment for road miles to replace the existing radius set-up, and improved expense provisions for G. C. truck drivers.

(Continued on Page Three)

IBEW-NECA Pension Plan Is Growing

The annual report on the IBEW Pension Benefit Trust Fund has just been distributed, and it is heartening to know that the fund is growing in financial stability—as well as in usefulness to our retired brothers.

Reorganized as a joint venture of the International Union and the National Electrical Contractors Association just seven years ago, the fund is now paying \$50 monthly pensions to 4697 retired electrical workers. In their report, Trustees Paul M. Geary of the NECA and J. Scott Milne of the IBEW state that 14,034 persons are expected to be receiving payments totaling \$8,420,400 yearly by 1961! It is certain that the extra \$50 per month provided by the Pension Benefit Trust Fund, added to a retired worker's social security and savings, makes all the difference in the world between just getting by and being comfortable.

The Fund is supported jointly by contributions from members of the IBEW who hold "A" cards, and by additional contributions from all members of the NECA in the United States and Canada.

Washington, D.C.

Milne Chosen AFL Envoy to British Labor

Secretary J. Scott Milne of the Electrical Workers has been chosen by the AFL Executive Council as a fraternal delegate to the 1953 annual meeting of the British Trade Congress. This carries on a tradition of exchange of delegates established almost 60 years ago by the late Samuel Gompers, founder of the AFL.

Milne and President William A. Lee of the Chicago Federation of Labor will speak for the AFL to the British trade unionists at sessions opening September 7 on the historic Isle of Man in the Irish Sea.

Milne, who also is editor of the Electrical Workers' Journal, reported that this is the first labor gathering in a foreign country he has attended as a delegate. He said he is looking forward to it with a great deal of interest.



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A "Well Done" to Outgoing Officers

With the installation of newly elected unit officers taking place during July meetings, most units will see some new faces at their officers' table. And the outgoing officers, having gained valuable experience during their terms of service, will make their units stronger and healthier as a result of their training.

To all of you who have completed a term in office, President Frank Gilleran and Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley extend their hearty congratulations for a job well done.

Nearly all of you were elected

campaign. Your hard work and willing leadership were responsible to a great extent for the success of our organizational drive.

We hope you will all continue to be active trade unionists, in every sense of the word! Your new officers will need the benefit of your advice and there are tremendous challenges facing our union still. The hard fight to constantly improve our economic and social position as workers in a free society is a never-ending one. Your willingness to "carry the message" will prove invaluable in

Union's Clerical Agreement Is Signed

Another milestone was reached this month, with the signing of the first system-wide clerical contract ever to exist on the PG&E properties.

The agreement, which was concluded in June after several months of negotiations between the union's Clerical Negotiating Committee and the company representatives, was signed July 1. Clerical units throughout the system had met last month to discuss the contract and vote on its acceptance. The agreement was rati-

ed, and will remain effective until Aug. 31, 1954.

With the adoption of the agreement, clerical workers will now become entitled to more contractual advantages than they have ever before enjoyed. Clerical Bus. Rep. Elmer Bushby reports that the new agreement contains some 37 improvements over the prior IBEW clerical agreement which was adopted several years ago for a portion of the company's clerical workers.

Bushby will be meeting with shop stewards in all areas of the Clerical Department to go over

SIGN UP THOSE NON-MEMBERS
HELP BUILD YOUR UNION



The UTILITY REPORTER

RONALD T. WEAKLEY Editor
GEORGE L. RICE Associate Editor
Editorial Board: Frank D. Gilleran, President; George Wagner, Marvin C. Brooks, Frank R. Brown, Cecil Davis, Walter R. Glasgow, Grace M. Baker, Alexander Purmal.

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OUR PRESIDENT SPEAKS UP!

(Continued from Page 1)
manner possible, we have established our policy committee—made up of rank and file members elected from each division of the PG&E and from each of our other bargaining units, such as SMUD, Sierra Pacific Power Co., Outside Line Construction and others.
When our local union received autonomy from the International Office, your other officers and I insisted upon the establishment of a policy committee—to insure that the viewpoint of every part of our jurisdiction will be presented.

The 27 members of our policy committee are all elected—and they are all "rank and file" members in the true sense of the word. All work full time for one of our employers and serve our union in addition to doing their daily work. This is also true of myself and all the other members of our executive board. In addition to our policy committee and executive board, we have the active day-to-day help of another large group of our "rank and file" members—our shop stewards. These stewards, more than 800 of them, are truly the work horses of our union. They handle thousands of on-the-job problems every month and aid in countless ways in the effective policing of our working agreements, and in the general administration of our union. Many of them spend as much as 40 and 50 hours a month of their own time in helping to make ours a better union! They spend their own time and money visiting members who have a real or fancied grievance—and they receive no compensation from the union for their services. But I am sure they are recompensed, just as I am, in the feeling of personal satisfaction that comes from working for an ideal in which we all believe. Even though some of our stewards tell me that they are sometimes rebuffed and criticized by our own members, they continue to do this good work—because they realize the need for a strong, democratic union, and they are working for those principles which will bring about the greatest good for the greatest number.

So, you see, our union is really run by "rank and filers." Those of us who are your elected representatives meet frequently to formulate the policies of our union—and we base our decisions on the recommendations of your units, your stewards and your elected officers. We constantly try to adopt policies which will be of benefit to the majority of our members, no matter where they work or live. And those recommendations which, in our judgment, would provide short-lived gains for one group of members at the expense of another must be rejected. I know that we make mistakes from time to time, but you may be assured that they are honest mistakes. It has been my experience that all of our stewards, our policy and executive board members, and our business staff are honest, sincere people who work hard to formulate and carry out the policies of our union.

During my term of office I have been proud to be your president and I have been grateful for the friendship and support all of our officers have received from the great majority of our members. But I want to close with a plea for even greater understanding and support from all of you in the months to come. A few days ago, one of our able policy committee members sent me his resignation. He stated that a few members in his area persisted in grouching and crying about some conditions—but they just would not even try to understand the challenges which face the entire local union. And so a fine union man grew tired of listening to the same old griping and the whole union is the loser—all because of a lack of understanding on the part of a few.

It is the right and responsibility of all of us, working together, to build a strong, democratic and progressive trade union on the structure that has been developed thus far. We've made a lot of progress already, but we can and must work even harder to build

Stockton STUDIES COMPENSATION ACT

Stockton Unit No. 2511 reports the establishment of a committee for the purpose of studying the Workmen's Compensation Act. Made up of one member from each department and outlying district, the committee meets frequently to acquaint themselves with the provisions of the Act which have a bearing on industrial accidents common to utility workers.

Members of the committee, strategically placed, are then in a position to serve as advisers to any worker who suffers an industrial accident, or is taken ill as a result of conditions arising from the job.

Bro. John R. Holmes, chairman of this important committee, suggests that other units establish similar committees so that the general membership can be served to better advantage.

The Editorial Board wishes to commend the Stockton members for their initiative in starting this

program. The intricacies of Workmen's Compensation are many and varied, and only through such studies can our members be assured of receiving their full rights in event of injury. The establishment of similar committees in each unit will be a valuable contribution to the success of the unit . . . and may help some of the injured brothers and their families at a time when they are in real need of such aid.

The union headquarters and Research office will be happy to assist any unit by furnishing up-to-date information on the Act, and in every possible manner.

MERGER--OR 'NO RAIDING'?

The trade publication "Electrical World" reported in its July 6 issue that the CIO Utility Workers Union of America is looking over prospects of merging with another union. The report stated, "Discussions have been held with the AFL International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, its rival in the electric industry . . ." Two meetings had reportedly been held thus far, and another planned for the middle of July, the item declared.

CIO President Walter Reuther, meanwhile, issued a statement just before leaving for a conference in Europe which indicated that such talks are for the purpose of reaching "no raiding" agreements only. And this statement was supported by top leaders of the UWUA! The Washington office of the IBEW, meanwhile, has issued no statements regarding the "discussions."

The oft-expressed desire for organic unity between the two major labor federations, coupled with the establishment of committees from both headquarters to explore such possibilities, appears to be bearing some fruit. A number of "no raiding" agreements have already been reached, and in some cases AFL and CIO unions undertake joint action on bargaining where both have contracts with the same employer or industry.

Settlement of the old differences can have a healthy effect for the entire labor movement—and for our country. The real job which needs doing today is to "organize the unorganized." And arriving at organizational stability will give all of us extra forces to do just that.

Injured Members Are Recovering

Two of our members who were seriously injured in a pole accident on Roberts Island, near Holt, late last year are now back to work. Brother Jack Holmes, who sustained a broken arm and jaw, was hospitalized for about two months. Brother Clair Sowers, who suffered a crushed vertebra and broken leg, was in the hospital for four and one-half months! He is now back on light duty as a PG&E company mail car driver. Brother Sowers was assisted to the tune of nearly \$300 by his fellow workers in Stockton during his long period of convalescence, and he is very grateful to all his friends for their generosity.

Brother Charley Peeler of Red Bluff is now hospitalized as a result of an on-the-job accident which occurred early last month. He suffered a serious eye injury. And also in Red Bluff, Brother Arthur Taft of the Clerical Unit is reported off sick and is expected to be a patient for about three months.

The union's business representatives report that our members who are injured or taken ill are usually anxious to receive visitors—at home or in the hospital. How about dropping in to visit that sick brother or sister in your community—and give them the latest "word" on what the gang is doing? Your visit will help to pass the long, slow hours which a bed-ridden patient must endure.

Phantom Counter-Proposal

On March 20, 1953, Local 1245 formally submitted its counter-proposal on the matter of an improved pension plan to the Pacific Gas & Electric Company. In the intervening 120 days we have repeatedly requested an answer in order to get this issue settled. The PG&E has not yet made any concrete reply to our union!;

In line with the company's written promise to bargain in good faith on the pension issue (given in August, 1952), it would seem reasonable to assume that an answer could have been prepared by now! Yet, our requests for action still go unheeded. It is beginning to appear that our union's Pension Negotiating Committee has embarked on a career rather than a collective bargaining assignment!

The rumble in the field is fast becoming a roar as a result of the unwarranted delay in getting action from the company. PG&E employees, including supervisors, are getting sore about the delay. The man or woman who is concerned about his or her security at retirement is voicing plenty of dissatisfaction.

WHAT'S WRONG? Is this a deliberate move to create dissatisfaction? If so, it is succeeding to the extent that any belief in the company's promise of "good faith" negotiations in the matter is dwindling.

We are not speaking of our customary annual wage and contract negotiations. Rather, we are talking about an issue which spells the difference between a decent standard of living after retirement—an issue in which this company has a real responsibility—as opposed to the spectacle of workers spending the declining years of their lives on an inadequate income.

The members of Local Union 1245 are carrying the ball on this issue. We started this ball rolling and we mean to see it through to a respectable conclusion. The union initiated the demand for an improved pension plan and our committee has bargained in good faith. The responsibility, or the lack of it, rests solely with those who promised to bargain in good faith—and who have reneged on their given word.

Western AFL Directors Map Vital Organizational Program

Harry E. O'Reilly, the AFL's national director of organization, met with all western regional organizers in San Francisco on July 14. Purpose of the meeting was to acquaint all organizers with the new plans and policies of the AFL which have been formulated since the selection of President George Meany and Secretary Wm. F. Schnitzler.

Dan Flanagan has left his post with the Federal Government in Washington, D.C., to resume his duties as western regional director for the 14th Region. His area includes Alaska, Washington, Oregon, California and Nevada.

Brother Tom Randall, who has been acting regional director for the past year, will become district director for California.

Randall, who has headed up the regional office in San Francisco, has appeared before many labor groups throughout the West. His theme that organized labor IS the community and must live up to its community responsibilities in every manner has been well received by unions everywhere.

A firm believer in an ever-

expanding program of membership education, Randall believes that we must realize that not all of our union objectives are economic. Community, state and national politics, which affect our daily lives, are of equal importance to union members, in his belief.

"We can't get any degree of security—that for which we earnestly strive—unless we have better, truer political representation," says Randall.

"It's just like the desire to get recognition of unions in our public schools. Our womenfolk must take part in PTA groups and actually reach for this improvement.

"Organization never stops until we have acquainted the working family with its obligation to the community. Most of us put our unions first. But how can we have unions without a community? We ARE the community. We represent ALL the people and set the pattern of working standards for all the workers."

When unions adopt an educational program to this end, Randall believes, most if not all of our organizational problems will be automatically solved.

Oakland—Line Work Picks Up As Laborers' N. Cal. Strike Ends

The five-week strike of AFL Laborers and Hod Carriers, coupled with the shut-down by numerous Associated General Contractors has greatly curtailed work in the outside line unit. A bright



note was reported just before press time, however. After large contractors had broken away from the association, signed up with the Laborers, and had resumed their construction activities, the AGC and the union reached agreement on July 14.

Our negotiations with the National Electrical Contractors' Association have just been concluded. The new agreement calls for an employer contribution of 7½¢ per hour to a jointly administered health and welfare plan, effective October 1. A shift provision for projects requiring shifts—where such shifts will last four weeks or more—is also included in the agreement.

On the personal side, Brother Carl Johnson, who has been running a job for Foothill Electric at Hawthorne, Nev., was flown to a Reno hospital for treatment.

Brothers William Fry, Tom Blazak and "Slim" Andrews, whose injuries were previously reported, are still undergoing treatment at their homes.

Brothers Jess Griffith, newly elected unit chairman, and Paul "Cy" Yochem, outside line business representative, urge all members to attend the regular unit meetings, held on the first Friday of each month at the union headquarters in Oakland!

Speaking of crops, the new farm creed 'pears to be faith, hope, and parity.

better wage structures and working conditions. This goal will only be accomplished by continually strengthening our union—by encouraging more and more workers to join with us, and by working together in harmony for our mutual benefit

Union Committee Submits Pay-Contract Items to PGE

(Continued from Page 1)

- Equalization of certain specific working condition provisions between General Construction and Divisional workers.
 - Inclusion of Dispatchers and Davis Yard and Warehouse workers in Part Two of the contract.
 - Discussions seeking to clarify the intent of additional sections of the agreement.
- In addition, the negotiating committee has formulated proposals aimed at the elimination of a number of existing general inequities. They propose to negotiate on:
- Elimination of over-laps between helpers, groundmen and starting rates of apprentices.
 - Elimination of wage rates based on time progression for all journeymen workers.
 - Standardization of apprentice wage scales, utilizing various periods of training, dependent upon the skills required of specified classifications.
 - Correction of certain intraplant inequities in the present

wage structures of all departments. The negotiating committee has been given the full power to act in the best interests of the membership. They report that priority will be given to bargaining upon issues which, in their judgment, are of greatest importance.

By the time the UTILITY REPORTER is in your hands, all of the union's proposals will have been submitted to the company in writing. Your negotiating committee is ready to commence the collective bargaining sessions in the immediate future.

Up-to-the-minute information concerning the progress made by the committee in their sessions with company negotiators will be made available at all unit meetings on the system. And, since the membership must approve all tentative agreements reached by the committee before such agreements can be officially accepted and signed, you are strongly urged to attend every meeting of your unit during the course of these very important negotiations.

San Francisco—

Supervisors Dump Rent Controls

When you look at a map of California or of the PG&E system, you will note a comparatively tiny area and Division called San Francisco. In comparing the numbers of em-

ployees in each Division, one is impressed with the heavy concentration of workers in San Francisco. One of the Nation's larger cities with a population of 800,000, the "City by the Golden Gate" is compressed into an area of only 49 square miles—and much of this is taken up by military reservations, parks, public buildings and commercial developments!

Sacramento—

CITY AND MUD NEGOTIATIONS

Brother Al Hansen, business representative for our numerous city, PUD and MUD groups, is working with membership negotiating committees in many Northern California communities.

Contracts are now open and negotiations in progress in the cities of Oakland, Berkeley, Alameda, Santa Clara and Lodi. It is expected that the results of the collective bargaining will be ready for submission to the membership of these units by the end of July.

Negotiations for our members employed by the Key System are presently at a standstill, due to the inability of the company and the Carmen's Union, Local 192 to reach agreement. The Carmen's group was granted strike sanction by the Alameda County Central Labor Council on July 10th. No strike call had actually been issued at press time.

The Sacramento City Lines agreement will be opened for talks on working conditions and wages on August 15th. Meantime, Hansen reports that every one of our members employed by this firm has contributed to the 1953 Labor's League for Political Education drive!

Our members employed by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District, City of Lodi and all Bay Area Cities have also responded well to the request for L.L.P.E. memberships.

Our membership continues to increase in all City, PUD and MUD units, despite the inevitable delays in many cases in getting our agreements renewed. The members in all these units are active unionists, and are all working for 100 percent union organization!

Speaking of an increase in membership, Bro. Brown of the City of Lodi Unit reports that the bargaining unit is now 90 percent organized and the members won't rest until they have attained a 100 percent organized unit! These boys appreciate the strength of a highly organized group when it comes to negotiating improved conditions and wages!



Hansen

Major Defensive Victory Won at '53 Legislature

Thirty-nine state senators and eighty assemblymen packed their ditty bags and left for their homes on June 10, the final day of legislative activity.

These 119 men and women, who comprised what Atty. Gen. "Pat" Brown characterized as "the most reactionary Legislature since the days before Hiram Johnson," had considered a fusilade of measures introduced by members of the Republican majority and aimed at the long-standing benefits won by the people of our state. Hundreds of the more than 5,000 bills introduced had been aimed at labor, at the destruction of housing programs, and had sought to "give away" California's natural resources.

"RIGHT TO WORK"

On the labor front, bills introduced by Assemblymen Levering and LeRoy Lyon were defeated in committee. AB 2623, by Assemblyman Ernest Geddes (R., Claremont), which would have denied unemployment insurance benefits to some 150,000 California workers, was finally killed on the floor of the Senate, after having been approved by a majority of members of the Assembly Finance and Insurance Committee.

Another Levering bill, AB 1825, which would deny unemployment benefits to workers who quit jobs "voluntarily" (such as a wife seeking to move with her husband to a new community), was defeated after bitter arguments. A bill sponsored by Hearst newspapers, which would deny unemployment insurance to workers until severance pay, vacation pay, etc. was used up, was defeated by an Assembly committee, only to turn up on the Senate side sponsored by Tenney. This vicious piece of legislation was passed by both houses, and is now on the Governor's desk, where it is expected to be vetoed.

On the brighter side, nearly all dubious bills affecting the welfare of workers were soundly defeated. Disability insurance benefits were raised from \$30 to \$35 per week and hospital payments were increased from \$8 to \$10 per day for a maximum of 12 days. Private insurance companies did not

oppose this measure because the bill provides they may now seek out the "good risks," leaving all the "bad risks" for the State plan to cover!

VOTING TIME

The law requiring employers to grant workers two hours time off in which to vote was amended—for the worse! Advance notice to an employer is now required if a worker wishes to take time off the job to vote. And the attempts to pass a Fair Employment Practices bill again came to naught. Among Northern California assemblymen voting against the measure were Belotti (Eureka), Bradley (San Jose), Coolidge (Felton), Creedon (San Mateo), Dolwig (Redwood City), Hansen (Fresno), Hobbie (Oroville), Kelly (Shafter), Lindsay (Loomis) and Sherwin (Oakland).

Levering again made a concerted effort to put over three anti-housing measures. These bills would have: (1) permitted negotiations or elections for abandonment of uncompleted housing projects; (2) allowed local governing bodies to dismiss housing commissioners without cause; and (3) established restrictions on the start of new housing. The bills sailed through the Assembly but opposition developed in the Senate, led by Miller (Contra Costa), O'Gara (San Francisco) and Burns (Fresno). The bills were finally defeated by a vote of 18 to 15 in the Senate.

WATER BILL

Vigorous, young Assemblyman Wally Henderson (Fresno) led the fight against AB 863, which proposed to lump all the State's water agencies into one big department. The bill was introduced by Cloyd (R., San Diego). It passed the Assembly on a straight party vote—the only such recorded during the session—with 45 Republicans voting "aye" and 22 Democrats voting "no." On the final night of the session, the Senate killed the bill after learning that the Governor proposed to veto it, if passed.

The bill would have set up a separate State Water Authority, which would supplant the State Attorney General as the people's representative in all water litigation. It also prohibited signing of contracts by irrigation districts where the 160-acre water limitation is included. As this is a provision in all federal contracts, the bill actually would have stopped signing of such agreements between districts and the federal agency.

Henderson, former schoolteacher and member of the AFL Winery Workers Union, also led the fight for Assembly passage of a bill to improve the lot of State civil service workers. The bill later was dumped by the Senate.

NEW HIGHWAY PLAN

All told, about 2,000 bills on

a variety of subjects were passed by the Legislature. Of major importance on a state wide basis is passage of the compromise 10-year highway financing program. Gas taxes now will go from 4½¢ to 6¢ per gallon and truck and other highway users will receive corresponding tax increases. The additional taxes will raise about \$700 million during the forthcoming 10 years, bringing the total money available for highway construction to \$2½ billion! We should get some modern, safe highways for all this money!!

"LOYALTY" IS ISSUE

Also passed were bills: providing funds for surveys for more bridges across S. F. Bay; reducing tolls on the Golden Gate Bridge to 25¢; (just vetoed by Governor Warren) increasing pensions of retired school teachers; providing funds for construction of a four-lane highway over the Sierras, provided matching federal funds are obtained; increasing the minimum teacher salary from \$3,000 to \$3,400; continuing Child Care Centers for another two years; permitting Indians to legally purchase liquor; banning the Communist Party from the California ballot; requiring "loyalty oaths" of all persons and charity organizations seeking property tax exemptions; permitting revocation of liquor licenses when owners "knowingly" permit B-girls to operate on the premises; and ending secrecy in local government by providing that meetings of local agencies must be announced in advance and opened to the public.

The Governor, back from the coronation of the Queen of England, now faces the king-sized task of completing the legislative process of the 1953 session. By his actions in approving or vetoing the more than 2,000 bills passed by the Legislature, the Chief Executive of our state will place in motion a series of event which will affect every resident in California.

Future issues of the UTILITY REPORTER will present a detailed report on the voting records of every senator and assemblyman elected from the 47 counties of our union's jurisdiction. Meanwhile, individual requests for information concerning specific legislators will be answered promptly by our research and information office.

Free Rider's Creed

(Composer Unknown)

The dues-paying union member is my shepherd; I shall not want. He provideth me with paid holidays and vacations. So I may lie down in green pastures beside the still waters. He restoreth my back pay; He guideth my welfare without cost to me, Even though I stray in the paths of unrighteousness—for my money's sake. Yea, though I alibi and pay no dues from generation to generation. I fear no evil, for he pays my way and protecteth me. The working conditions he provideth they comfort me. He appointeth my head with the oil of seniority. He solaces my soul with a contract that protecteth my salary and provideth me with merit increases. He fighteth my battles for pay raises and, even more, he speaketh strongly for my rights. Yea, my cup runneth over with gratitude. Surely, his goodness and loving kindness shall follow me all the days of my life—free of cost. And I shall dwell in the union house he hath built forever and allow him to pay the bill.

AMEN.

London, Eng.—

Americans Inspect British Power

An American team of electricians, representative of workpeople, technicians and management, from Government agencies such as the Tennessee Valley Authority and from privately owned companies, have toured Britain for six weeks and inspected its power stations.

Their report praises spick and span power stations whose colour-schemes took the eye, the high standards of maintenance, and the good relations that are being fostered at all levels.

They admired the way in which a unified system of power supply is developing out of the separate undertakings that British Electricity Authority inherited, and say that "the calibre of representation on both the management and union sides of the Labour relations machinery is good."

They were impressed by the training schools maintained by the British Electricity Authority at Buxton and Horsley Towers, and felt the courses were thoroughly practical, aiming at an early return in lower operating costs through training in latest techniques. They are submitting recommendations to their own concerns in America, including a study of British methods of cooling tower construction when water is in short supply.

They suggest to the British that they adopt a more complete programme of safety education, and that aptitude tests be used when taking on workers or making selections for promotion, and that educational standards for lower-level supervising and technical jobs should be reviewed.



Try This for Size

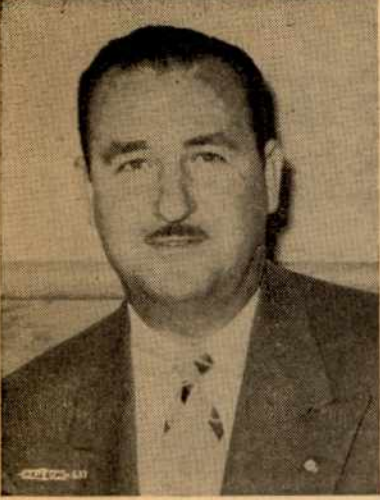
IBEW Local 1031, Chicago, Ill., announced on June 11th that a new agreement had been signed with the Hedco Manufacturing Co. of that city. The Agreement, among other things, provides for one year of vacation with pay after ten years of continuous service!

In the event an employee works during the eleventh year, he shall receive double time for all such work!

The "Wall Street Journal," in commenting on this contract, reported that the plan would not actually become operative for eight years, since the oldest present employee of the company has only two years of service!

One can readily see that 'round-the-world cruise bookings will increase considerably when Hedco employees finish their tenth year of employment!

LOOK FOR THE UNION LABEL
IT'S YOUR GUARANTEE OF GOOD WORKMANSHIP!



By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

YOUR Business Manager's REPORT

the employee in the shop, the field, the plant or the office who works right alongside doesn't belong to the Union.

Beefs against Unionism are many and are magnified by the best experts in the world, the columnists, press and radio propagandists and others who confine their activities to accusing Labor as being responsible for the ills of the world and of our economy.

On the other hand, many enlightened employers in major industries have come to the realization that doing business with a responsible Union under our system of government is good business.

As an example, I quote from a letter to the employees of the Duquesne Light and Power Company of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania: "There is a third party that is of extreme importance to the welfare of the Company and the employees. That party is the Union, which represents many of our employees—the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. Relations between the management and the IBEW have been placed on a sound basis of good faith and mutual respect, and both parties have demonstrated in the last three or four years that they can engage in real collective bargaining. Our wages are higher than those of any other company in the IBEW district in which we are located, which includes Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, and Delaware. No other company in this district has better working conditions."

The letter is signed by Philip A. Fleger, Chairman of the Board. This is no "company union". It was organized the hard way, through the combined efforts of the workers and the Brotherhood. I have met workers from Duquesne and they will testify to the facts contained in the above letter. Duquesne didn't hand them top wages and conditions on a silver platter but when self-organization for improvement became a reality, Duquesne wisely recognized it.

Any IBEW member on Duquesne will tell you that the efforts to gain and maintain peak organization never stops. Like you, the members ARE the Union and they work at organizing the unorganized on a daily basis.

Let's talk to the unorganized worker next to us or who just came on the job, about joining the Union, and build complete organization which is our goal.

All slogans are meaningless if we fail to learn from those who pioneered Unionism through the simple process of talking to a fellow worker about joining the ranks of Labor for combined effort to secure a better standard of living for himself and his family.

Uncle Remus says that a good turn is one that gets the blankets back on your side of the bed.

Carpenter Pete, who danced with a beautiful blonde at a banquet said she was the belle of the ball until someone tolled on her.

Ukiah Unit 3714 has selected Bro. R. A. Meek as their press secretary.

The UTILITY REPORTER will welcome reports from this unit, and all the other units which have items they wish to see published. Our Marysville Unit advises that Bro. Kenneth Reusser will report on their activities in the future.

From down South comes word that Bro. Jack D. McCotter, a member of Local 1245, is now in complete charge of the Electrical Training School of Naval Schools Construction, Port Hueneme, California. Congratulations, Brother McCotter!

One of our newly established Clerical Units reports some real progress. The Hayward Unit, representing clerical employees in San Leandro, Niles, Livermore and Hayward is now firmly established, and announces that 87 per cent of the Hayward clerical force are now union members! And the outlying areas are reported to be gaining new members rapidly, too.

The members give credit for much of the organizing success to Mrs. Joan Bynum, who is the newly elected chairman of the unit. The recorder is K. R. Groff, and remaining officers will be elected at the next meeting. Sister Bynum urges all members in the area to attend the meetings—which are held on the last Thursday of the month at the Hayward Labor Temple. "Coffee and" is served after the meetings.

The Oroville Unit reports that Bro. C. H. Brown, a veteran of 37

years membership in the IBEW, attended their July meeting. Bro. Brown, who left the PG&E last year after 20 years of service, was welcomed by the members and urged to attend meetings frequently.

Many units have reported that the interest shown in the unit elections held during June was most encouraging. Competition for all offices was generally keen, and many good natured contests were held. To those of you who were selected to serve your unit and your union, the Editorial Board offers its hearty congratulations—and the hope that you will all receive a great deal of education and personal satisfaction from your term in office. And to all the defeated candidates, we offer our sincere thanks for your interest in our union and your willingness to be of real service. Keep up the good work!

Don't turn your back on economic freedom—the union!

I know quite a few people who sow wild oats all week and go to church on Sunday to pray for a crop failure.

Tune in on Frank Edwards—at home or at union meeting.

Jed Somers says the average woman has a smaller stock of words than the ordinary man, but the turnover is greater.

'Round and About

LOCAL 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE

August 1953 Meeting Schedules

Meetings are established for the members living or working in the various areas. General construction members are requested to participate in the meeting activities of the unit nearest their work.

San Joaquin Division

- FRESNO**
Knights of Pythias, 1312 "R" St.
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m.
- SELMA**
L. F. T. Hall, 812 E. Front St.
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- MERCED**
Grange Hall, Bear Creek Road
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- DINUBA**
American Legion Hall
Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.
- COALINGA**
Fire Station
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.
- BAKERSFIELD**
Carpenters Hall, 911 - 20th St.
Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.
- LOS BANOS**
Fire Hall, 520 J St.
Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.
- WISCONSIN**
Community Hall
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m.
- TAFT**
Power Club
Wednesday, Aug. 12, 7:30 p.m.
- MORCORAN**
Community Hall
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m.
- MADERA**
Italian-American Hall
Thursday, Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m.
- SANTA MARIA**
O. E. S. Hall
Wednesday, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m.
- PASO ROBLES**
Hot Springs Hotel
Monday, Aug. 24, 7:30 p.m.
- SAN LUIS OBISPO**
Labor Temple
Tuesday, Aug. 25, 7:30 p.m.
- MASCOC**
American Legion Hall
Thursday, Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m.
- FRESNO CLERICAL**
Hotel Californian, Van Ness & Kern Sts.
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- BAKERSFIELD CLERICAL**
Hotel Padre, Bakersfield
Thursday, Aug. 20, 7:30 p.m.
- SELMA-DINUBA CLERICAL**
McDonald's Cafe, 99 Hiway, Selma
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Coast Valleys Division

- SALINAS**
American Legion Hall, Municipal Airport
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.
- MONTEREY**
Carpenters Hall, 778 Hawthorne
Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.
- WATSONVILLE**
Central Labor Council, 462A Main St.
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 8 p.m.
- KING CITY**
Jimmy's Place, Soledad
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Gas Supply and Control

- HINKLEY-BARSTOW**
Desert Inn (Linwood), Hwy 66
5 miles west of Barstow
Tuesday, Aug. 25, 8 p.m.
- KETTLEMAN**
Veterans Memorial Hall
Wednesday, Aug. 26, 8 p.m.
- HOLLISTER - SAN MARTIN**
Friendly Inn, San Martin
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m.
- TOPOCK-NEEDLES (bi-monthly)**
V. F. W. Hall
Monday, Aug. 24

San Jose Division

- SAN JOSE**
Labor Temple, Room 107,
45 N. Santa Teresa St.
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 8 p.m.
- BELMONT**
Community Hall, 5th Ave.
Monday, Aug. 10, 8 p.m.
- BELMONT CLERICAL**
Community Hall
Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.

East Bay Division

- HAYWARD**
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St.
Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m.
- OAKLAND**
Porter Hall, 1918 Grove St.
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.
- RICHMOND**
257 - 5th St., Hall No. 1
Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.
- CONCORD**
Farm Bureau Hall, Farm Bureau & Walnut Ave.
Monday, Aug. 8, 8 p.m.

- MARTINEZ**
I. O. O. F. Hall, 829 Ferry St.
Monday, Aug. 10, 7:45 p.m.
- OAKLAND CLERICAL**
Union Office, 1918 Grove St.
Tuesday, Aug. 25, 5 p.m.
- HAYWARD CLERICAL**
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St.
Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m.
- CENTRAL SUPPLY CLERICAL**
Union Office, 1918 Grove St.
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m.

San Francisco Division

- SAN FRANCISCO**
Harmony Hall, 200 Guerrero St.
(cor. 14th) Bldg. Tr. Temple
Thursday, Aug. 6, 8 p.m.
- SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO**
Butchers Hall, 220 Cypress St.
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8 p.m.
- SAN FRANCISCO CLERICAL**
Retail Clerks Hall, 149 Powell St.
Wednesday, Aug. 12, 5:30 p.m.

Stockton Division

- LODI**
Veterans Hall, 23 1/2 W. Pine St.
Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m.
- OAKDALE**
V. F. W. Hall, 4th Street
Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.
- MODESTO**
Burbank - Paradise Hall, Vernon & Beverly
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 8 p.m.
- JACKSON**
Native Sons Hall, 20 Court St.
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7 p.m.
- STOCKTON**
Labor Temple, 805 E. Weber
Thursday, Aug. 20, 8 p.m.
- SONORA**
Patton Building
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.
- TRACY**
Bo's Cafe, 207 W. 11th St.
Wednesday, Aug. 12, 8 p.m.
- STOCKTON CLERICAL**
Clark Hotel
Wednesday, Aug. 26, 8 p.m.

Humboldt Division

- GARBERVILLE (bi-monthly)**
Diesel Plant
Tuesday, Aug. 25, 7:30 p.m.
- EUREKA**
Labor Temple, 9th & "E" Sts.
Wednesday, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m.
- EUREKA CLERICAL**
Labor Temple, 9th & "E" Sts.
Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m.

- Shasta Division**
- RED BLUFF**
Veterans Memorial Hall
Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.
- REDDING**
A. F. of L. Hall, Shasta and California Streets
Wednesday, Aug. 12, 7:30 p.m.
- FALL RIVER MILLS**
Club House Pit No. 1
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.
- BIG BEND (bi-monthly)**
Club House
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 8 p.m.

De Saba Division

- PARADISE**
Eagles' Hall
Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m.
- WILLOWS**
Fire Hall
Friday, Aug. 28, 7:30 p.m.
- LAKE ALMANOR**
Bull Room
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 8 p.m.
- CARIBOU**
Club House
Thursday, Aug. 20, 8:30 p.m.
- CHICO**
Teamsters Hall, 412 Wall St.
Wednesday, Aug. 26, 7:30 p.m.
- STORRIE**
Club House
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8:30 p.m.

Drum Division

- ALTA**
Fire House
Friday, Aug. 28, 8 p.m.
- GRASS VALLEY**
Labor Temple, 110 1/2 E. Main St.
Thursday, Aug. 20, 8 p.m.
- AUBURN**
Eagles' Hall
Friday, Aug. 21, 8 p.m.
- Sierra Pacific Power**
- RENO**
AFL Labor Temple
Tuesday, Aug. 25, 7:30 p.m.

Colgate Division

- OROVILLE**
Carpenters' Hall, Mitchell Ave., East of Myers
Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.
- COLUSA**
Hotel Espanol, Market Street
Thursday, Aug. 6, 8 p.m.
- MARYSVILLE**
V.F.W. Hall, 9th and "E" Sts.
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.

- MARYSVILLE CLERICAL**
V.F.W. Hall, 9th and "E" Sts.
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 5:30 p.m.

North Bay Division

- NAPA**
Labor Temple, 1606 Main St.
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m.
- VALLEJO**
Labor Temple, 316 Virginia St.
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 8 p.m.
- SAN RAFAEL**
Painters' Hall
Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.
- FORT BRAGG**
Eagles' Hall
Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8 p.m.
- PETALUMA**
Labor Temple, 225 Western Ave.
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.
- UKIAH**
I.O.O.F. Hall, State & Standley
Wednesday, Aug. 12, 8 p.m.
- SANTA ROSA**
Labor Temple, 636 Third St.
Wednesday, Aug. 19, 8 p.m.

Sacramento Division

- SACRAMENTO**
A. F. of L. Labor Center,
Stockton Blvd. & 2nd Ave.
Tuesday, Aug. 4, 8 p.m.
- DAVIS**
I.O.O.F. Hall, "G" Street
Friday, Aug. 7, 7:30 p.m.
- PLACERVILLE**
I.O.O.F. Hall
Wednesday, Aug. 12, 7:30 p.m.
- WOODLAND**
I.O.O.F. Hall
Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.
- VACAVILLE**
Youth Center, Merchant St.
Tuesday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.

Other Units

- OUTSIDE LINE CONSTRUCTION**
1918 Grove Street, Oakland
Friday, Aug. 7, 8 p.m.
- SACTO MUNIC. UTILITY DIST.**
C.E.L.&T. Assn. Hall, 2nd Ave. & Stockton Blvd., Sacramento
Wednesday, Aug. 12, 8 p.m.
- SACTO CITY LINES**
C.E.L.&T. Assn. Hall, 2nd Ave. & Stockton Blvd., Sacramento
Monday, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.
- CITY OF LODI**
Veterans Hall, Lodi,
Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.
- OAKLAND, BERKELEY, ALAMEDA, KEY SYSTEM**
1918 Grove St., Oakland
Meet with Oakland Unit
Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.
- MT. VIEW G. C.**
190 Sterling Rd., Mt. View