Union's Clerical Agreement Is Signed

A Well Done" to Outgoing Officers

Inequities in Gas Dept. Tackled by 1245 Committee

PGE Gets Our Proposals; Union Ready to Bargain

Alert Committee Shapes Contract, Wage Demands

Reading—New Hydroplant On Pit River

FRANK GILLEAEN

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 crop up is that of remining some of the decisions taken by the company are based upon an official majority.

It is understandable that the company, being a unit, will not be a single unit, so that the important issues will be disposed of one by one instead of all at once, and the company will be able to act quickly on the important issues. But if the company should work in the direction of their own particular problems, most union members have a relatively small geographical area, and 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 overwhelming number of meetings are conducted in this base, so that the establishment of units which cover a relatively small area are often one hundred of them—something which is lacking from the backing of our union. The actions of each unit and the recommendations that they submit are transmitted to the union’s policy committee and executive board through the members 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 right solution of a reported problem in one unit’s area will create new problems in other areas.

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

Inequities in Gas Dept. Tackled by 1245 Committee

The union’s Gas Department Negotiating Committee—long eager to meet all of you in the PGE group—is now hard at work.

The committee members Frank Dues- sers, F. F. Gas Service Department, and Ray Heyl, Chico Gas Distribu-
tion, 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 negoti- ators are: correction and clarification of job descriptions; establish- ment of lines of authority and procedures leading to correction of specific inequities.

The union committee was aided by Bus. Mgr. Jacks, East Bay Gas Service Department, who presented some facts and data regarding serv- ice operations.

A report of the progress of these negotiations will be given at each unit meetings by the business representatives or members of the committees.

Alert Committee Shapes Contract, Wage Demands

As a result of three intensive ses- sions at the union’s headquarters during the past days and nights of hard work—the 1953-54 negotiating commit- tee has formalized all the wage and contract proposals which will be submitted to the company in the notification to the com- pany, which was served on July 1st, the union requested negotiations on the following issues:

• All unresolved issues still hang- ing fire from previous col- lective bargaining sessions, includ- ing the Pension plan revision, a Fraternal delegate to the 1953 annual meeting of the British Trade Congress. This carries on the tradition of exchange of delegates between labor sides and has formalized all the recommendations submitted by individual units and policy commis- sion in the electrical and physical bargaining units.

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

A joint committee on grievances and inequities for electrical and physical workers.

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

Revisions to the physical agree- ment 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 divi- sions and departments of the company.

• A joint safety program.

• Improved over-time pay pro- visions.

• Premium pay for scheduled Sunday work.

• Improved time and travel ex- penses for divisional workers re- questing to be paid the same as traveling expenses of the company.

• Improved pension benefits for those employees leaving the union.

• Improved provisions for managing shift schedules.

• Improved seniority and job holding provisions for General Con- struction workers.

• Improved General Construc- tion expense provisions, including a clause to account for price increases in measurable items.

• Improved expense provi- sions for O. C. truck drivers.

Union's Clerical Agreement Is Signed

Another milestone was reached this month, with the signing of the first system-wide clerical con- tract ever to exist on the PGE properties.

The agreement, which was con- cluded in June after several months of negotiations between the union’s Clerical Negotiating Committee and the company rep- resentatives, was signed July 1. Clerical units throughout the sys- tem had last month to discuss the contract and vote on its ac- ceptance. The agreement was ratified, and will remain effective until Aug. 31, 1954.

With the adoption of the agree- ment, clerical workers will now be entitled to more contract- ual advantages than they have ever before enjoyed. Clerical Bus. Rep. Elvis Bukasi reports that the new agreement contains some 17 important and far-reaching IBEW clerical agreement which was adopted several years ago for a portion of the company’s clerical workers.

Bukasi will be meeting with shop stewards in all areas of the Clerical Department to go over
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 13 days we have repeatedly urged an end 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, 1953), it was from 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 contract—though we hope and believe that this is not the case.

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’s intransigence in the face of its obligations both to its employers and serve our union in every way is another mark of its abysmal faith. This is also true of myself and all the other members of our executive board. In addition, our policy committee and executive board, have the active day-by-day help of another large group of our members, who have volunteered to shop stewards. These stewards, more than 100 strong, keep a close watch over the work hours of our union. They handle a vast number of grievances, both large and small, and are making a real, substantial contribution to making our union a better place.

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 is in a state of misery.

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 situations 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.

Ronald T. Weakley
Editor
San Francisco—

Supervisors Dump Rent Controls

When you look at a map of California, you'll notice a comparatively tiny area marked “San Francisco.” In this small area, politicians are making some major decisions.

In the complex world of local government, rent control is a controversial issue. Recently, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors voted to override a mayoral veto and renew rent control laws.

The vote was a significant victory for tenant rights advocates and a major setback for real estate developers. The renewed rent control laws will protect tenants from excessive rent hikes and ensure more affordable housing for San Francisco residents.

SACRAMENTO—

CITY AND MUD NEGOTIATIONS

Brother A. Hansen, business manager for the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 192, announced that he has reached an agreement with the city of Sacramento on the renewal of the current collective bargaining agreement.

The agreement covers all employees in the city, including firefighters, police officers, and public employees. The contract includes provisions for wage increases, health care benefits, and job security.

The negotiations were long and contentious, but both sides are pleased with the outcome. The agreement will take effect immediately and run until June 30, 2023.

LONDON, Eng.—

Americans Inspect British Power

An American team of engineers, technicians, and managers from American companies such as the Tennessee Valley Authority and the Electric Power Research Institute, toured the United Kingdom to inspect power plants and research facilities.

The American delegation was led by the American Power Conference Committee, which promotes the exchange of information and technology between the United States and the United Kingdom.

The tour included visits to power plants, research centers, and government offices. The delegation was impressed by the British power industry's innovative and efficient practices.

Try This for Size

BBBH Local 1001, Chicago, Ill., announced on June 17th that a new agreement had been reached with the Honduras Manufacturing Co. for a new three-year contract.

The agreement includes wage increases, improved health care benefits, and job security. The union will hold a ratification vote on the new contract next week.
LOCAL 1245 UNI UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE
August 1953 Meeting Schedules

Meetings are established for the members living or working in specified areas. Various Local and Central construction members are requested to participate in the meeting activities of the unit nearest their work.

San Joaquin Division
FRESNO
San Joaquin, 1312 "B" St., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

MERCEDES
Grange Hall, Bear Creek Rd., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

Bakersfield
Carpenters Hall, 811 - 20th St., Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

LOMAS
Fire Hall, 529 Soto St., Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

PAPT
Power Club, Lemoore, Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

Corcoran
Community Hall, Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

KADERA
American Legion Hall, Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

SANTA MARIA
American Legion Hall, Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

NAPA
Hot Springs Hotel, Monday, Aug. 24, 7:30 p.m.

SAN LEOS OBSIDIAN
Labor Temple, Thursday, Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m.

BAKERSFIELD CLERICAL
Harmonia Hall, 220 Cypress St., Thursday, Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m.

MONTEREY
Carpenters Hall, 1181 Grove St., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

SALINAS
American Legion Hall, Municipal Airport, Thursday, Aug. 6, 5 p.m.

SAN FRANCISCO
San Francisco Labor Temple, 9th & "E" Sts., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

SACRAMENTO
Butcher's Hall, 235 Cypress St., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

BAY DIVISION
Central Labor Council, 406 Main St., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

KING CITY
Jiminy Cricket, Place, Salado, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Gas Supply and Control
HINKLEY-BARSTOW
Desert Inn (Lawwood), Hwy 65 miles west of Barstow, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 5 p.m.

KELOWNA
Veterans Memorial Hall, Wednesday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

TROLIP-NEEDLES (bi-monthly)
Church of Our Lady of Lourdes, Saturday, Aug. 23, 7:30 p.m.

San Jose Division
SAN JOSE
Loma Bella Club, 107, 45 N. Santa Teresa St., Tuesday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.

BELMONT
Community Hall, 5th Ave., Monday, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.

BELMONT CLERICAL
Harmony Hall, 200 Guerrero St., Thursday, Aug. 27, 8 p.m.

East Bay Division
HAYWARD
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St., Thursday, Aug. 27, 7:30 p.m.

OAKLAND
Clark Hotel, 1818 Grove St., Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.

EBONY
257 - 8th St., Hall No. 1, Thursday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

CONTRA COSTA
Farm Bureau Hall, Farm Bureau & Walnut Aves., Monday, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.

MARTINEZ
I.O.O.F. Hall, 829 Ferry St., Monday, Aug. 10, 7:45 p.m.

OAKLAND CERICAL
Union Office, 1918 Grove St., Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8 p.m.

HAYWARD CERICAL
Labor Temple, 855 Soto St., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

CENTRAL SUPPLY CERICAL
Union Office, 1938 Grove St., Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m.

San Francisco Division
SAN FRANCISCO
Harmony Hall, 2930 Guerrero St., Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7 p.m.

CARMEL BY THE SEA
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

FALL RIVER MILLS
Club House Pit No. 4, Tuesday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.

BIG BEND (bi-monthly)
C.E.L.A.T., Thursday, Aug. 4, 8 p.m.

De Sabina Division
PARADISE
Eagle's Hall, Thursday, Aug. 7, 8 p.m.

WILLOWS
Club House Pit No. 4, Thursday, Aug. 11, 8 p.m.

LAKE ALMANOR
V.F.W. Hall, 529 Soto St., Wednesday, Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m.

CHICO
Club House, Thursday, Aug. 6, 8 p.m.

STORIE
Club House, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8:30 p.m.

Drum Division
ALTA
Fire House, Friday, Aug. 7, 8 p.m.

SIERRA PACIFIC POWER
AFL Labor Temple, Tuesday, Aug. 25, 7 p.m.

Humboldt Division
GOVILLE
Palos Verdes Hall, Mitchell Ave., East of Myers, Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

COLUSA
Hotel Expanse, Market Street between 6th and 7th, Thursday, Aug. 6, 6:30 p.m.

MARIPOSA CERICAL
V.F.W. Hall, 6th and 7th Sts., Wednesday, Aug. 5, 5:30 p.m.

MARIPOSA CERICAL
V.F.W. Hall, 6th and 7th Sts., Wednesday, Aug. 5, 5:30 p.m.

North Bay Division
SAFETY MEETING
Labor Temple, 1606 Main St., Tuesday, Aug. 4, 7:30 p.m.

VALLEJO
Labor Temple, 1918 Grove St., Tuesday, Aug. 11, 8 p.m.

SAN RAFAEL
Pioneer Hall, Thursday, Aug. 13, 7 p.m.

FORT BRAGG
Eagles Hall, 20th Ave., Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8 p.m.

PETALENGUE
Labor Temple, 225 Western Ave., Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.

BERKELEY
Meals Club House, Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.

SANTA ROSA
Labor Temple, 630 Third St., Wednesday, Aug. 5, 8 p.m.

Sacramento Division
NERA CLUB
A. F. of L, Labor Center, 1918 Grove St., Tuesday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.

DAYS
I.O.O.F. Hall, "Q" Street, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 8 p.m.

PLACE CERVINE
I.O.O.F. Hall, P. W. Club House, Tuesday, Aug. 18, 7:30 p.m.

WOODLAND
I.O.O.F. Hall, Thursday, Aug. 13, 8 p.m.

VACAVILLE
Youth Center, Merchant St., Tuesday, Aug. 13, 7:30 p.m.

Other Units
OUTSIDE LINE CONSTRUCTION
238 Green, C.E.L.A.T., Tuesday, Aug. 11, 7:30 p.m.

BAY DIVISION
LEASE, Assn. Hall, 2nd Ave., Thursday, Aug. 6, 7:30 p.m.

WALNUT CREEK
Meeting House, Wednesday, Aug. 5, 7:30 p.m.

MACO CITY LINES
C.E.L.A.T. Assn. Hall, 2nd Ave., Thursday, Aug. 6, 8 p.m.

SACRAMENTO
Senior Citizen, 8th Ave., Monday, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.

VETERANS
Virginia Hall, 13th Ave., Monday, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.

OAKLAND
Concrete Hall, Monday, Aug. 10, 7:30 p.m.

BERKELEY, ALAMEDA, CONTRA COSTA, Marin, Contra Costa, San Francisco, San Mateo, and Alameda Counties.

The UTILITY REPORTER will welcome reports from this unit, especially those items they wish to see published. Our Hayward clerical unit, under the able leadership of Brother McCotter, has many principles. The American Federation of Labor was built around the worker who knew the value of association with his fellow worker in order to improve his lot. Industry certainly recognizes this most important principle. The American Federation of Labor was built around the worker who knew the value of association with his fellow worker in order to improve his lot. Industry certainly recognizes this most important principle. The American Federation of Labor was built around the worker who knew the value of association with his fellow worker in order to improve his lot. Industry certainly recognizes this most important principle.