

The UTILITY

Gas, Electric, Water, Clerical,
and Construction Workers



REPORTER

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OCTOBER 15, 1953

Charter Member Alex Purmal Succumbs Sept. 30

Members of Local 1245 paid their final respects to Brother Alexander Purmal last week at funeral services held in San Francisco. Executive Board member Purmal had passed away on September 30th.

CHARTER MEMBER

Brother Purmal, a charter member, was initiated in Local 1245 on May 1, 1941. His record as an outstanding union man included service as Shop Steward, Grievance Committeeman, Organizer, Negotiator and elected officer of our union. For the past year and one-half he had served as Executive Board member, representing the Outside Line and General Construction Divisions.

Brother Purmal was born in Russia on July 23, 1897. His parents immigrated to Canada in search of a better way of life in 1903, taking with them their six sons and one daughter. Settling on a farm in their new country, the family underwent years of struggle to wrest a living from the soil.

FROM FARM TO UTILITY!

Purmal entered military service with the Canadian Army in 1917 and served until the end of World War I. He then took a Motor Mechanic's course and became a garage mechanic. In the mid 1920's he returned to farming, but found this an unsatisfactory way of life for himself. He studied bookkeeping and re-entered the garage business in partnership with a brother-in-law. Finding that he was interested in the field of electricity, he went to Chicago, Illinois, and studied at the Coyne College of Electrical Engineering. Upon his graduation in 1929, he was recommended to the PG&E in far-off California, where he reported for work. He had served with the company continuously since that time.

Brother Purmal is survived by five brothers, Wesley, Nicholas, Alexis, Fred and Peter. Pall bearers at his funeral included Union Members Al Hansen, Ed White, Gerald Moran and George L. Rice.

The charter of our local union will be draped for thirty days out of respect for the memory of this sincere and conscientious union brother.

TEN WAYS TO KILL AN ORGANIZATION

1. Don't go to the meetings.
2. If you do go, be late.
3. If it is bad weather, don't even think of going.
4. When you do attend a meeting, find fault with the president and other officers.
5. Never accept an office. It is much easier to sit back and criticize.
6. If you should be appointed on a committee, don't go to the meeting. If you are not appointed, get peeved about it.
7. When your opinion is asked, reply that you have nothing to say; but after the meeting tell everyone how things should be done.
8. Do nothing more than is absolutely necessary; but when others do the lion's share, tell everyone how the organization is run by a clique.
9. Don't worry about paying your dues. Wait until you receive two or three notices from the secretary. That will keep him from running out of anything to do and getting lazy.
10. Don't bother about getting new members; let the ones who do all the other work do that, too.



ALEXANDER PURMAL

Sacramento—

SMUD Members Reject Wage Offer

With 3 down and 4 to go, Bus. Rep. Al Hansen paused this week long enough to give us a rundown on the Municipal Utility District and Transportation picture.

The City of Alameda unit committee negotiated a 5.31 per cent general wage increase, plus an additional 3 cents per hour for operators, 2 cents per hour for two other day shift classifications and 4 cents per hour for two night shift classifications. Shift differentials were increased to 8 cents premium for second shift and 12 cents for the third shift. Linemen's rate is now \$2.38 per hour.

GOOD RAISE WON!

City of Oakland members congratulated their negotiating committee on securing a \$35 monthly increase for Linemen, Electricians and Operators while Foremen will receive a \$45 monthly increase.

Members employed by the City of Berkeley received a general wage increase of 7 per cent for all Electric Department employees. Lineman's rate in Berkeley is now \$2.505 per hour! The results of the negotiations were ratified by the unit membership at a recent meeting.

City of Lodi negotiations are in high gear and it is expected that the final results will be arrived at late next week when the negotiating committee meets with City Manager Douglas Weller.

Members employed by the Sacramento City Lines rejected a 5-cent offer last week. Their original demand for a 10 per cent general increase is still before the respective negotiating committees, with additional meetings scheduled.

KEY STRIKE SETTLED

With the strike of the Carmen's (Continued on Page Three)

Exec. Bd. Certifies Vote Approving PGE Contract

Union Votes Aid to Key Strikers

The Union's Executive Board, meeting at Oakland on Sunday, September 27th, certified the unit vote on ratification of the new PG&E agreement, after studying reports from all involved units. Total vote showed that the new agreement carried by better than 2 to 1.

The Board also approved full support of the strike of Carmen's Union, Division 192, against the Key System Transit Lines and authorized a contribution of \$500 to their strike aid fund. Members of Local 1245, employed in the Electrical Maintenance Department of the transit company, had been forced back to work, after more than 60 days of respecting the Carmen's picket lines, by court action.

In attendance at the regular bi-monthly meeting were: President Frank Gilleran, V. P. Cecil Davis, Treasurer Geo. Wagner, Rec. Secretary Grace Baker, Bus. Mgr. Weakley, Central Area Member Marvin Brooks and Northern Area Member Robert Glasgow. Excused were Southern Area Member Frank Brown and Outside Line and G.C. Member Alexander Purmal.

The Board also approved the following proposals:

Affiliation with the Humboldt County L.L.P.E. and Central Labor Council.

Contribution for members employed by Sierra Pacific Power Co. of an additional 5 cents per member to the Nevada State Federation of Labor to combat that state's "Right to Work" Law.

Concurrence with unit proposals to amend Article 13, Section 13.5 to include 10 cent assessment, out of the regular dues, for each member's subscription to the UTILITY REPORTER.

Approved full support of the current United Crusade Fund Drive, with the request that full credit be given contributors as members of Local 1245.

Extension of appreciation by the Board to Brothers John Beale, Woody Stephenson, Wm. "Red" Vinagre, Lyman Emerson and Al Kaznowski, who gave so generously of their time to install the TV set at Weimar Sanatorium.

Purchase of Apprenticeship Training Manuals for the Union's library, for use of interested members.

(Continued on Page Three)

Eureka—

Weather, Roads No Obstacle to Alert Humboldt Division

Picture at right shows Eureka Unit Chairman "Pete" Albonico giving the Union Obligation to several new members of the unit. Union Grievance Committee Chairman Fred Lucas looks on.

Eureka, located in the far northern portion of our PG&E jurisdiction, is in the heart of the great redwood lumber country. Many of the roads are treacherous, the weather is often worse, and there is as yet no television to confuse and confound the residents! But—not for long. IBEW members from one of our sister locals are presently constructing the towers and transmission station for the first local TV station.

The finest fishing and hunting still to be found in California is in the Eureka (Humboldt County) area. Notwithstanding these distractions, the attendance at unit meetings is usually very good. Many of the members (pictured below) journeyed 40 or 50 miles to attend this unit meeting! And—40 or 50 miles in that country, on backwoods roads, is often a two or three-hour drive!

Our members in Eureka are a vital part of Local 1245. Employees in the Humboldt Division, among the first to join the local union more than 10 years ago, have consistently maintained a high percentage of organization. These brothers have proven themselves to be alert, informed trade unionists—and the local is indeed proud of them all!

Said a Cabinet member named Durkin:
"I don't mind the millionaires smirkin'
But what I don't like
Is this welshin' by Ike—
Double-crossin' the folks who
are workin'."



Richmond—

18 IBEW Locals at No. Calif. Meeting

Nearly 100 representatives from 18 I.B.E.W. local unions attended the regular quarterly meeting of the Northern California Executive Conference of Electrical Workers on October 10th. The session, held at the beautiful Civic Center in Richmond, was chaired by Bro. Deidrickson of Local 617, San Mateo, California.

The delegates exchanged information concerning wage rates, working conditions and job opportunities in their respective districts. While wages generally are high, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the opportunities for employment are steadily decreasing. This is due in large part to the present Administration's "hard money" policy, which restricts new construction because of excessive interest charges on mortgage money. The cut-backs in defense spending, ordered by the new Congress, have also caused lay-offs.

Special messages were brought to the gathering by International V.P. Oscar Harbak, who reported on several jurisdictional problems which currently face our local unions. Brother George L. Rice, Research Director for Local 1245, also addressed the delegates and reported on potential legislative proposals which the 1954 sessions of the State Legislature and the Congress may consider.

Local 1245 was represented at the conference by Bus. Mgr. Weakley, Asst. Bus. Mgrs. Mitchell and Walters, and Brothers Paul "Cy" Yochem, Gene Hastings, and George Rice.

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Play it safe—follow safety regulations. Report all job injuries.



EUREKA HEARS P. G. & E. TERMS—Pictured above is a group of members of our Eureka (Humboldt Division) unit, listening attentively to a discussion of the terms of the new P. G. & E. contract. (See story elsewhere on this page.)



The UTILITY REPORTER

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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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Union Security Now?

One of the most repeated demands made upon our negotiating committees by units all over the system is for a UNION SHOP CLAUSE in the PG&E agreement. While members in attendance at meetings are always unanimous in this demand—it must be pointed out that just demanding—isn't enough. **It takes organized strength, supported to the hilt by alert unionists—to achieve a union shop clause.**

Generally, during periods of hard times, union membership dwindles, and when jobs are plentiful, unions grow and grow. History records two significant exceptions to this theory. During the 1890's, in the course of a depression, union membership jumped skyward—the first large-scale manifestation in this country of the tremendous unrest of workers. During the 1920's, on the other hand, when "everyone was making money"—unions lost tens of thousands of members—and nearly died of malnutrition. The "American Plans," foisted upon all workers by organized corporate management, with help from the reactionary Harding-Coolidge-Hoover Administration, were of course largely responsible for this near-death of the labor movement. Many competent observers believe that another attempt to stifle the economic strength of labor is now being readied, despite the formidable strength of more than 16 million organized workers!

First step in this direction in our own industry came on September 25th, when the California Electric Power Company served notice that it will not renew its present agreement with our sister union, Local 47. The utility company plans to propose a new contract which does NOT retain the Union Shop clause! CEP officials claim that this is aimed at restoring to employees the right to decide for themselves whether they shall belong to a union!

Our own membership is increasingly aware of these trends. Discussions of the proposed "right to work" legislation, beaten at the recent State Legislative Session, were to be found all over our jurisdiction. Letters to legislators were written as they had never been heretofore! And a full realization of the real need for the collective strength brought about by a UNION SHOP was brought home.

There are few "easy ways" to achieve UNION SHOP. Most unions which enjoy this contractual benefit—have obtained it the hard, slow, painstaking way—by organizing the vast majority of the workers in their unit. In most instances which we know of, 90 per cent OR MORE of the workers were UNION MEMBERS—when the security clause was finally negotiated. It then became mandatory for a small handful of "free riders"—and all the newly hired—to become union members and contribute to the support of the organization which represents them and protects their rights. We can take a leaf from the pages of our sister unions' books—and do this same job. And the time to start—is NOW!

In the final analysis, a union grows because of the activity of the men and women on the jobs—it is they who preach the gospel of collective action through unionism to their fellow workers who have not yet seen the light. It is they who bring newly hired workers—and old-timers who are "doubting Thomases," too, into the fold. Every shop steward and Unit Officer has application cards and payroll deduction authorizations in their possession. Get the necessary blanks from them—or directly from the union headquarters—and sign up that non-union worker TODAY!

This isn't just idle chatter. This kind of job has been done—and is being done now—among PG&E workers! Some of our divisions have achieved 90 per cent OR MORE of organization! This didn't "just happen"—it came about because loyal, self-sacrificing union members didn't rest until all around them were members of the union! And—it is significant to note that in those divisions where a high percentage of organization exists—the grievances are most often settled at the local level, in a fair and equitable manner! But where our organization is not yet as strong as it might be—the shop stewards and representatives are snarled up in a maze of unsettled grievances!

It's YOUR union—and it's YOUR responsibility to add to its strength and growth. Your elected officers, most of whom are also employees of PG&E—are confident that none of us will rest until this job is done—and done well!

Sign up those non-members on YOUR crew TODAY! Bring them to your unit meetings—show them the benefits already achieved through collective action—get them acquainted with their brothers from other departments. You'll feel better—and you'll be adding to your own strength. No grandiose "American Plans" will then be able to rob you of your economic benefits and working conditions.

Stockton— Here Is Steward Of the Month



Pictured above is Brother John H. Maxwell, Apprentice Fitter, Gas Distribution Department, Stockton Division

Brother Maxwell commenced employment with the PG&E on January 10, 1951, in the classification of laborer. He found the employment to his liking and has been with the company since that date. Chosen as a Shop Steward just a few months ago, Bro. Maxwell has proven himself a hard-working, conscientious union man. During the past month, for example, he has brought twelve new members into our union! And due to his efforts, and the help of his fellow workers who are also loyal unionists, the Gas Distribution Division is now nearly 100 per cent unionized!

Bro. Maxwell is 27 years old, and makes his home in Stockton with his wife and little daughters Sherrylyn, 4, and Sandra, 3 years old.

The Editorial Board of the UTILITY REPORTER salutes you, Brother Maxwell, for your fine union spirit and the good work you are doing as Shop Steward and as Executive Committee member with the Stockton Unit! Our congratulations—and best wishes for your future success are cordially and fraternally extended to you!



Retail furniture prices, which have not risen since last January, are expected to continue firm through this winter.

Many stores have special sales now in progress or planned for the Holiday season, and there are always bargains to be found on odd pieces and showroom samples.

When buying carpets or rugs, add the cost of a lining pad for true economy. Tests made by the National Bureau of Standards indicate that carpets wear almost twice as long when used with a pad.

Don't neglect your present furniture! Heat and humidity can cause special damage and wooden surfaces, especially, need regular care to prevent cracking and drying up. A mixture of one part turpentine and two parts linseed oil is most effective in protecting surfaces against wear and weather—and it brings out the natural tones of the wood. Prepared "no-rub" furniture polishes work well for painted and varnished surfaces, but untreated woods need old-fashioned wax and elbow grease for adequate protection!



'Round and About

United Crusade, the annual fund raising drive which supports 108 service and welfare agencies in our communities, got off to a good start in the East Bay area. Division Manager Wm. Park of the PGE is the fund chairman, and is working closely with labor and management groups in every conceivable business and industry in the area. Shop stewards from our units in the division are active in this worthwhile cause, and the funds raised will be reported in by a joint labor-management committee. It's good to see real cooperation in this much-needed work!

LOCAL COOPERATION

From Kettleman Station of Gas Supply and Control comes word that a grievance involving a job award has been settled amicably by the local grievance committee. The union committee had filed a grievance contending that Section 205.7(d) of the agreement had been violated by the company's award of the job. The joint investigating committee, after interviewing all applicants in order of their seniority, agreed that the award was wrong and the job was re-awarded to the proper man. Let's have more of this kind of prompt, amicable settlement of some of our "beefs"!

HOSPITAL SENDS THANKS

The Hospital Central Committee of the Weimar TB Sanatorium has sent a wonderful resolution of thanks to the union to express appreciation, on behalf of the tubercular children, for the television set installed by Local 1245. The resolution concludes: "BE IT RESOLVED that the Hospital Central Committee of the Weimar Joint Sanatorium gratefully accepts this fine gift and extends to the Electrical Workers Union, Local No. 1245, its sincere thanks and appreciation."

We know that Brothers Beale, Stephenson, Vinagre, Emerson, Glasgow and Kaznowski, who spent

an entire Saturday installing this set, will be especially pleased by this resolution.

NEW GRIEVANCE MEN

San Francisco Unit reports the election of a new Grievance Committee at their last meeting. Chosen were Brothers John Lappin, Electric Dept.; Frank Quadros, Gas Dept.; and Ross Price, Steam Dept. Brother Lappin was selected as chairman of the union committee. Brother Quadros, who served on our PGE Negotiating Committee, is a gas serviceman who has come up the hard way. Frank worked for several years with the gas street crews—not always fun in San Francisco's rain and fog! Another note about Brother Quadros—he is an outstanding Marine who had combat service through all of World War II and for more than a year early in the Korean war. He has Purple Hearts for two combat wounds, but refuses to discuss his other decorations. We know he has several combat distinctions, though—he was in the forefront of some of the toughest fighting of both wars and richly deserves more than medals for his splendid service record!

LIKE FIGHTS?

Some fun in one of the PGE divisions! Seems that a local manager, in an alleged state of inebriation, poked an employee in the eye. Respective weights—manager, over 200 pounds; employee, 140 pounds! The union's Grievance Committee, armed with affidavits from eye-witnesses, took the issue before the company on the assumption that drinking and fist-cuffing were not to be tolerated among the PGE's employees. Company response? A whitewash of the case, a slap on the wrist to the local manager. This is an example of failure on the part of higher management to accept the responsibility of stopping such disgraceful actions on the part of a local manager who is already an example of poor public and employee relations.

Suggested Courtesies For 'Cash Members'

When you loan your neighbor your lawn mower—its a courtesy, and the loan is revokable at any time. When the mower is loaned again and again, the recipient sometimes becomes demanding—and assumes that this courtesy is now his right! He has thus forgotten his own responsibilities to the lender. Unfortunately, a few of our cash dues members are in the same position as the borrower of this fictional lawn mower!

Most of our jurisdiction is covered by voluntary dues deductions procedures. This improves the efficiency of the union's financial management and assures reasonable protection against dues delinquency. The great majority of our members, who can take advantage of the pay roll deduction plan of paying their union dues, have done so.

A minority elects to pay dues by cash, even though the pay roll deduction plan is available to them. This, of course, is their right. Other members do not have the advantage of the deduction plan, so must pay their dues personally to protect their union standing.

READ YOUR CONSTITUTION!

The basic union ruling regarding the payment of dues is contained in Article XX, Section 1, of the International Constitution. The rule provides that dues are payable monthly or quarterly IN ADVANCE. In addition, Article XXIII, Section 1 provides that "No member is entitled to notice of the monthly or quarterly dues of his local union, nor of arrearages, but must take notice when payments are due." Thus is spelled out the duties and responsibilities of all members with respect to payment of their dues.

Our local union, in trying to give the most efficient service to its membership, extends certain cour-

tesies in the form of dues reminders when members forget this obligation. We feel it our responsibility to do all in our power to assist a member to maintain his good standing in the union.

While this has become a very costly procedure, these courtesies are consistently extended, unless they are abused to the point of foolishness. In that event, the courtesy becomes revokable, since all members share in this cost of collecting and processing cash dues—and we hesitate to waste their money!

Surely, in those units where dues deduction is NOT available, the policy of the union must be to continue being as cooperative as humanly possible.

SIGN UP FOR P. R. D.

—But—where deduction is available—and a few members continue to abuse the courtesies extended them—the undue financial burden placed on the entire membership must be eliminated. If a member feels that such a courtesy is his "right"—month after month—then the Union must withdraw the courtesy.

This every-day example is presented in the hope that it will clarify any misunderstanding which may occur regarding "rights, duties and courtesies" concerning the cash payment of union dues.

Our union hopes to be able to continue its liberal policy of service to the membership. Notice is hereby served, however, on those who habitually abuse the courtesies extended them that the Constitution rules over all courtesies, extensions, notices, etc.

We all want to share equally—in both providing and accepting the responsibilities and courtesies which make ours a healthy and democratic union. Let's cooperate with each other to make this a reality.

RESEARCH and EDUCATION Corner

A great many members have requested the editors to institute a regular monthly feature devoted to educational items. One of the most frequent suggestions is that an analysis of a section of the union agreement be presented. Preparations are now underway to fulfill these requests—and the feature will commence just as soon as the new contracts are printed and distributed.

Meanwhile, many unit chairmen have urged us to stress some of the most important rules to be observed in the conduct of a membership meeting. Perhaps the most important general breach of good meeting practice is the lengthy discussions which take place on the floor of the meeting—when no motion has been made and seconded!

CONDUCT OF MEETINGS

It has been said again and again, "THE BUSINESS OF A MEETING—IS MOTIONS!" And this is an excellent rule to follow. For example, should a member wish to take action on any item presented under the headings "Communications", "Reports of Officers," or "Reports of Delegates and Committees". It is proper to make a motion that the specific item be referred to "new business." When the motion is properly seconded and passed by vote of the members in attendance, it then becomes the responsibility of the unit recorder to so note in his minutes. When the "new business" portion of the order of business of meeting is reached, it is in order for the unit chairman to remind the members that such-and-such was referred to "new business."

MAKE THAT MOTION!

When a member wishes to bring any matter of union business to the attention of the unit, he should first MAKE A MOTION and wait until it is recognized by the chairman and be properly seconded before attempting to speak to the question. The recorder should ALWAYS enter the motion in his minutes WHEN IT IS FIRST OFFERED so that later confusion can be eliminated. Once a motion has been accepted, discussion may continue so long as the members wish it, subject to the usual rules of parliamentary procedure. When the discussion is concluded it is proper for the chairman to ask, "Are you

ready for the question?" When one or more members calls out, "Question!" the motion may be put to a vote. The recorder, of course, should always enter in the minutes the results of the vote.

Often, we have seen the time of 40 or 50 members wasted for an hour or more during a rather pointless general discussion of several topics—when it was obvious that all in attendance were fairly well in agreement! This unhappy event can be eliminated—by insisting that a specific motion be offered and accepted before such a discussion ensues.

The "catch-all" section of the order of business is the "Good of the Union" topic. Under this heading, any matter which may properly be considered as union business may be discussed by any member—without the necessity of having a motion offered first. Matters of general community interest, such as participation in a civic program, assisting in the UNITED CRUSADE Fund Drive, or discussions of local, state or national political issues or candidates are properly held under this heading. Motions MAY be offered for a vote of the members, if so desired, but on the other hand nearly any matter may simply be brought to the attention of the unit without the necessity of asking formal action. It should be reiterated that all subjects discussed under this order of business should be recorded in the minutes as well!

BOOKLET AVAILABLE

For those who wish to learn more about the proper conduct of meetings, the Union Headquarters has a limited supply of small booklets which briefly set forth proper rules of order. In the event you wish to become a very proficient parliamentarian, purchase a copy of "Robert's Rules of Order"—and you'll be busy for some time memorizing some prize meeting rules to pull on your friends!

Seriously though, a little attention to the main ruling set forth above will result in more orderly—and enjoyable—union meetings for all of us! Unless, of course, you wish to except the poor unit recorder—he may get "writer's cramp" if you offer too many motions!

Give it a try at your next meeting, won't you?

UNION MEMBERS NOMINATED FOR P.S.E.A.'S BOARD

Two of our outstanding union members were honored last week by being nominated for election to the Board of Trustees of the P.S.E.A. They are Sister Grace M. Baker, Clerical member from San Jose Division, and Brother Donald H. Chave, member of the Oakland Physical Unit.

Sister Baker, a 25-year employee of PG&E, is an officer of the San Jose Clerical Unit and has been one of our most active union members since the earliest days of the Clerical bargaining unit formation. Her previous P.S.E.A. work included service as secretary, North Bay Section, and Educational Committee member in the San Jose Section. Her willingness to serve her fellow workers, coupled with her excellent educational background, make her an outstanding candidate for this important position. Sister Baker is well known throughout the system and is highly regarded by all.

Brother Don Chave is very well known in the East Bay Division for his many P.S.E.A. activities. He has served as vice chairman and chairman of the Benefit Committee. Don has an AB degree from Bradley University in Peoria, Illinois, and had a considerable amount of experience with the actuarial department of a large midwestern life insurance company prior to moving to California. He is an active member of the Oakland unit of our union, and is endorsed for this P.S.E.A. position by all his fellow workers.

In view of the important benefit programs which are administered by the P.S.E.A., your Executive Board recommends that all union members support the candidacy of these two able members.

SMUD Talks To Be Continued

(Continued from Page One)

Union against the Key System Transit Lines finally over—after 77 days—the negotiations for the maintenance workers under jurisdiction of Local 1245 will be resumed this week.

SMUD TROUBLES

The only real trouble spot thus far is the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District. An offer of a 4% per cent increase for the physical group was rejected by our membership late last month. District officials, however, put the increase into effect on September 27th. At a special meeting called by the unit on October 6th, the membership instructed their negotiating committee to re-enter negotiations with the Board of Directors of the District, and to hold fast for an additional wage increase. Meantime, the "battle of the news bulletins" is on—with no gains reported or claimed by either side! The Sacramento Central Labor Council of the A. F. of L. is reported to be very interested in the outcome of this bargaining session!

"POLITICS—AND POLITICIANS!"

By The Onlooker

A Bay Area daily newspaper reports that State Senator Arthur H. Breed, Jr., of Alameda County, has called on newly-installed Governor Knight to call a special session of the State Legislature. The Senator, it seems, finally became aware of the strike against the Key System, which tied up all public transportation in the East Bay area!

PROPOSES STRIKE CURB

Senator Breed wants this special session to pass a bill, with an urgency clause, providing for compulsory arbitration, under the administration of the Public Utilities Commission. Such a law, of course, would affect all types of public utilities—including gas, water and electric companies.

Fortunately, the parties to this dispute negotiated a settlement a few days after the Senator's demand for a special session was publicized. It is doubtful now, that his proposal will receive immediate attention. But—don't run away—the Legislature will meet again, shortly after the first of the year, to consider the biennial State Budget. It is entirely possible that a special session could follow this meet—at which time all manner of anti-labor, or anti-strike legislation could be introduced! We'll keep our eyes on this one!

KRONINGER A CANDIDATE

A special election of real interest will take place in Oakland on Nov. 10th. Former Governor Warren, in one of his last official acts, appointed Assemblyman Marvin Sherwin a Superior Court Judge. The vacancy is being sought by three Alameda County men—one Republican from each wing of their party, and a single Democrat, Attorney Robert H. Kroninger. While the district has always elected a very conservative Republican heretofore, the split in that party's ranks could contribute to Kroninger's election this trip!

NEW LIEUT. GOVERNOR

Another special election will probably be called soon in the First Senatorial District of California. Senator Harold J. "Butch" powers was elevated to Lieutenant Governor when Knight assumed the Governorship.

This should prove to be an interesting election to watch, too! Rumors are that the North Woods are full of candidates, so there should be no lack of campaigning to enliven things in the far Northern section of our great state! We'll report more on this one at a later date.

Exec. Bd. Certifies PGE Contract

(Continued from Page One)

Printing of new union agreements, including current wage scales, in sufficient number to permit distribution, at unit meetings, to our entire membership.

Following a general discussion of the problem of advancing union dues for sick or distressed members, the Board agreed that such assistance must be considered as a loan in accordance with Article 13, Section 13.8 of the by-laws. The Business Office was delegated authority to make exceptions in cases of unusual hardship.

The subject of improving safety conditions on the PG&E properties was discussed by the Board. It was agreed that each unit should be requested to establish Unit Safety Committees to assist in improving safety conditions for our membership.

Brother Leonard Gehringer was appointed to the System Review Committee, replacing Brother Don Garndstaff, whose resignation was announced last month.

Thirty unit recommendations were considered by the Board and appropriate actions taken. For a complete report on these items it is recommended that you attend the next regular meeting of your unit.

Following reports given by Bus.



CLERICAL ROUND-UP

Sisters Nancy Wright and Marion Fritz are pictured below, attentively listening to Shop Steward John Kelleher report on the status of grievances. In the above picture are shown several of the members of the Eureka Clerical Unit who attended the regular meeting on Sept. 24. From left to right, they are: Verner Humes, Nancy Wright, Marion Fritz, Bob Walker, Marjorie Brazil, Marion Tremain, Jack Kelleher, Gene Erickson and Dick Prangley. Brother Prangley is the unit chairman.

These fine clerical members in the far north are especially interested in the political action aspects of the union, since they presently are represented in both the State Senate and Assembly by men who



consistently vote for special interest and against the people.

Brother Jim Cochrane, Policy Board member from this unit, promises that his group will play an important part in the selection and election of candidates who will represent ALL the people in the district!

HAYWARD UNIT ACTIVE!

Announcing that they intend to "take the bull by the horns," the members of our Hayward Clerical Unit have set as a goal for themselves the complete organization of the East Bay Division clerical employees.

Unit Chairman Joan Bynum has appointed several committees to work with the union's business office for the purpose of contacting all non-members in the division. These committees will discuss the benefits to be derived from complete organization and hope to sign up non-members in every part of the division's clerical forces. The Oakland and Central Supply Clerical Units have promised complete cooperation in this organizational drive. The members believe that

Mgr. Weakley, Asst. Bus. Mgrs. Mitchell and Walters and Research Director George Rice, the Board concluded their day-long session at 6:30 p.m. Next regular meeting will be held on the first Sunday in December.

ANNUAL NINTH DISTRICT'S PROGRESS MEET OCT. 23, SF

The annual 9th District I.B.E.W. Progress Meeting will be called to order in San Francisco on October 23rd by Int. V. P. Oscar Harback. Business Manager Weakley and President Gilleran have been designated as official Local 1245 delegates by the Executive Board. Purpose of the meetings is to bring together representatives of all local unions in the district, which includes California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii, to hear reports from Int. Pres. D. W. Tracy and Secretary J. Scott Milne. The exchanges of

information between the local unions is also most helpful in planning ahead for future negotiations.

On the day prior to the official meeting, Int. Secretary Milne and his assistant, W. W. Robbins will meet with all Financial Secretaries in the District. Discussions of modern office management techniques will be held to assist local unions in improving their office efficiency.

Reports of these District Progress Meetings are usually well covered by the "Electrical Workers' Journal". A forthcoming issue of this paper will also report on activities of our own delegates.

Stewards will now submit regular written monthly reports, advising of all grievances settled at the local level and reporting the status of unsettled problems. Reports of this nature will materially aid the Grievance Committee in the settlement of grievances which reach the Divisional Committee.

Similar plan could no doubt be effectively used in other large divisions where the Grievance Committees are not able to maintain regular personal contact.

Our San Joaquin Division clerical stewards are to be congratulated for their interest in serving the membership!



Attend meetings!

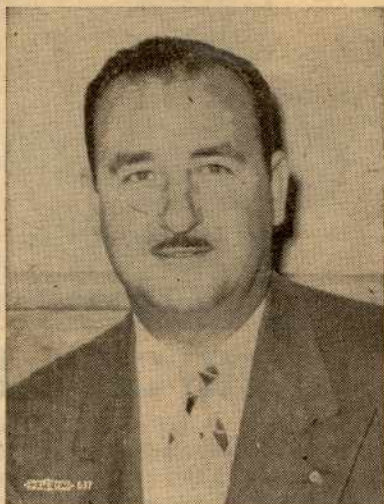
Hear Frank Edwards!



"Would you mind bringing canned apple sauce until I get my new false teeth?"

YOUR Business Manager's REPORT

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY



About a year ago, the main topic of discussion around our nation was the national election. Promises filled the air, candidates duelled with income tax reports, politicians invaded homes via TV, and even little dogs got into the act!

A review of events following the election reveals a number of interesting situations. Our foreign policy has not been changed greatly except that we are experiencing more difficulty with respect to the support of our Allies. The Korean war now appears to have been justified after all, according to former critics, although it was an issue which was used to blame the Truman Administration for the "mess in Asia." The maintenance of a firm attitude toward Communist aggression has not been relaxed. We are still in the United Nations, despite the hue and cry. The development of new and more powerful methods of destruction makes it very probable that, basically, our foreign policy doesn't have much room to change for the present!

DOMESTIC AFFAIRS

The domestic picture reflects some changes insofar as Administration policy is concerned. A shift of control toward "private interests" is reflected in recent policy decisions on control of natural resources, industrial use of atomic energy, and the operation of government constructed defense manufacturing plants. Farmers now are showing signs of resentment toward a vacillating price support program. The usurping of what

have always been considered "executive prerogatives" by the legislative branch in Washington is confusing to the average citizen—and to our Allies!

PRESS ANGRY!

The press, most of which beat the drums for a "change," is griping over the fact the President didn't hold a press conference for a couple of months.

It is only natural that the Administration in power is going to catch it for any broken promises, economic difficulties, or leadership shortcomings. That is the way it should be. Truman got his share, as did Roosevelt and Hoover before him. Criticism, especially in the area of domestic policies, is

both necessary and healthy. There will be plenty of it—because some 26 million voters liked Stevenson better than Ike, anyway!

BAD FAITH SHOWN

There is one gripe which organized labor has—and that concerns the lack of good faith exhibited by the Eisenhower Administration with respect to restrictive labor laws.

Martin Durkin, a staunch Democrat, was appointed to the office of Secretary of Labor by the President. Durkin was willing to serve with a Republican Administration in order to work for the good of all the people. The treatment he received was shabby, indeed, in contrast to that accorded former President Hoover by Truman, when he served as a consultant on governmental reorganization. This must be considered a slap in the face to American labor—and it will not soon be forgotten.

When labor voices its protest on a given issue, it is depicted as a pressure group which seeks to serve only the interests of a minority. That is just not so! Labor makes up a great part of the so-called "public," and speaks out for millions of men, women and children who have no other voice, in addition to organized labor.

LABOR SPEAKS FOR PEOPLE

Laws which restrict the legitimate rights of labor on either the economic or political fronts affect the rights of millions who make up the purchasing power—and the manpower—of our nation. These

millions are vital to our economic and military defense.

It is most significant that where Communism or Fascism flourish, the voice of free labor is stifled. Free American labor is an integral part of our system of government—and our way of life. History teaches that where the freedom of all has been destroyed, free unions were first shackled—and then destroyed! We have no intention of sitting back quietly and allowing this tragedy to overtake our land!

The same voices which attack labor—and place labor in a secondary position to other segments of our society when national issues are raised—are usually the voices which say, "Labor should stay out of politics!" Politics is the science of government—and is the business of all the people and their chosen representatives! Well, when we read of the millions of dollars spent annually on lobbying—and note who spent them—we wonder just who should stay out of politics.

CHECK THE RECORD

Working people cannot spend millions on lobbying and on paid advertisements which have so much to do with who gets elected—and which bill is passed! Working people can, however, look at the record, ADVERTISE THAT RECORD, discuss it, and then vote for their free choice of candidates.

The American Federation of Labor, over 10 million strong, is in politics for keeps. This means we WILL watch the record of public servants. It means we WILL acquaint our members with the record. And it means we WILL endeavor to live up to the responsibility of leadership when the



welfare of working people and their families is threatened by unsound or punitive legislation.

A. F. OF L. ACTIVE

We shall oppose those public officials whose record indicates they care naught for the welfare of the people. And we shall support those whose record proves they are concerned with the welfare of working people, their families, and our country as a whole. Our support shall not be granted to any specific party, but rather shall be based on the record of the individual. We are affiliated with the American Federation of Labor—and we join with it in opposition to any policies or legislation which attempts to place labor in the category of second-class citizenship. We cannot agree that working people should receive only the crumbs from the table of plenty in this great land of ours!

LOCAL 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE

November 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, Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m.
- SELMA**
L. F. T. Hall, 812 E. Front St.
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m.
- DINUBA**
American Legion Hall
Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.
- COALINGA**
Fire Station
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m.
- BAKERSFIELD**
Carpenters Hall, 911 - 20th St.
Thursday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.
- WISHON**
Community Hall
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 7:30 p.m.
- TAFT**
Power Club
Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7:30 p.m.
- CORCORAN**
Community Hall
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
- MADERA**
Italian-American Hall
Thursday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- SANTA MARIA**
O. E. S. Hall
Wednesday, Nov. 25, 7:30 p.m.
- PASO ROBLES**
Hot Springs Hotel
Monday, Nov. 23, 7:30 p.m.
- SAN LUIS OBISPO**
Labor Temple
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 7:30 p.m.
- WASCO**
American Legion Hall
Thursday, Nov. 27, 7:30 p.m.
- FRESNO CLERICAL**
Hotel Californian, Van Ness & Kern Sts.
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 7:30 p.m.
- BAKERSFIELD CLERICAL**
Hotel Padre, Bakersfield
Thursday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- SELMA-DINUBA CLERICAL**
Dixie Drive-In, Dinuba
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.
- MERCED**
Grange Hall, Bear Creek Road
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m.
- LOS BANOS**
Fire Hall, 520 J St.
Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Stockton Division

- LODI**
Veterans Hall, 23 1/2 W. Pine St.
Thursday, Nov. 26, 8 p.m.
- OAKDALE**
V. F. W. Hall, 4th Street
Thursday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.
- MODESTO**
Burbank - Paradise Hall, Vernon & Beverly
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 8 p.m.
- JACKSON**
Native Sons Hall, 20 Court St.
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m.
- STOCKTON**
Labor Temple, 805 E. Weber
Thursday, Nov. 19, 8 p.m.
- SONORA**
Patton Building
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.
- TRACY**
Bo's Cafe, 207 W. 11th St.
Wednesday, Nov. 11, 8 p.m.
- STOCKTON CLERICAL**
Clark Hotel
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 8 p.m.

Coast Valleys Division

- SALINAS**
American Legion Hall, Municipal Airport
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.
- MONTEREY**
Carpenters Hall, 778 Hawthorne
Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.
- WATSONVILLE**
Roma Hotel, Main & First Sts.
Monday, Nov. 16, 8 p.m.
- KING CITY**
Grange Hall, Oak & 101 Hwy, Greenfield
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 7:30 p.m.

Gas Supply and Control

- HINKLEY-BARSTOW**
Desert Inn (Linwood), Hwy 66 5 miles west of Barstow
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 8 p.m.
- KETTLEMAN**
Veterans Memorial Hall
Wednesday, Nov. 25, 8 p.m.
- HOLLISTER - SAN MARTIN**
Friendly Inn, San Martin
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 7 p.m.
- TOPOCK-NEEDLES (bi-monthly)**
V. F. W. Hall
No meeting in November.

San Jose Division

- SAN JOSE**
Labor Temple, Room 107, 45 N. Santa Teresa St.
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 8 p.m.
- BELMONT**
Community Hall, 5th Ave.
Monday, Nov. 9, 8 p.m.
- BELMONT CLERICAL**
Community Hall
Thursday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.

East Bay Division

- HAYWARD**
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St.
Thursday, Nov. 26, 8 p.m.
- OAKLAND**
Porter Hall, 1918 Grove St.
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.
- RICHMOND**
257 - 5th St., Hall No. 1
Thursday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.
- CONCORD**
Farm Bureau Hall, Farm Bureau & Walnut Ave.
Monday, Nov. 2, 8 p.m.

- MARTINEZ**
I. O. O. F. Hall, 829 Ferry St.
Monday, Nov. 9, 7:45 p.m.
- OAKLAND CLERICAL**
Union Office, 1918 Grove St.
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 5 p.m.
- HAYWARD CLERICAL**
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St.
Thursday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.
- CENTRAL SUPPLY CLERICAL**
Union Office, 1918 Grove St.
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m.

San Francisco Division

- SAN FRANCISCO**
Harmony Hall, 200 Guerrero St. (cor. 14th) Bldg. Tr. Temple
Thursday, Nov. 5, 8 p.m.
- SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO**
Butchers Hall, 220 Cypress St.
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 8 p.m.
- SAN FRANCISCO CLERICAL**
Retail Clerks Hall, 149 Powell St.
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 5:30 p.m.

North Bay Division

- NAPA**
Labor Temple, 1606 Main St.
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 7:30 p.m.
- VALLEJO**
Labor Temple, 316 Virginia St.
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 8 p.m.
- SAN RAFAEL**
Painters' Hall
Thursday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.
- FORT BRAGG**
Eagles' Hall
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 8 p.m.

Petaluma

- Labor Temple, 225 Western Ave.
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.
- UKIAH**
I.O.O.F. Hall, State & Standley
Wednesday, Nov. 5, 8 p.m.
- SANTA ROSA**
Labor Temple, 636 Third St.
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m.

Humboldt Division

- WEOTT**
School House
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 7:30 p.m.
- EUREKA**
Labor Temple, 9th & "E" Sts.
Wednesday, Nov. 25, 7:30 p.m.
- EUREKA CLERICAL**
Labor Temple, 9th & "E" Sts.
Thursday, Nov. 26, 7:30 p.m.

Drum Division

- ALTA**
Fire House
Friday, Nov. 27, 8 p.m.
- GRASS VALLEY**
Labor Temple, 110 1/2 E. Main St.
Thursday, Nov. 19, 8 p.m.
- AUBURN**
Eagles' Hall
Friday, Nov. 20, 8 p.m.
- Sierra Pacific Power**
RENO
AFL Labor Temple
Tuesday, Nov. 24, 7:30 p.m.

Sacramento Division

- SACRAMENTO**
A. F. of L. Labor Center, Stockton Blvd. & 2nd Ave.
Tuesday, Nov. 3, 8 p.m.
- DAVIS**
I.O.O.F. Hall, "G" Street
Friday, Nov. 6, 7:30 p.m.
- PLACERVILLE**
I.O.O.F. Hall
Wednesday, Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m.
- WOODLAND**
I.O.O.F. Hall
Thursday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.
- VACAVILLE**
Youth Center, Merchant St.
Tuesday, Nov. 10, 8 p.m.

Colgate Division

- COLUSA**
Hotel Espanol, Market Street
Thursday, Nov. 5, 8 p.m.
- MARYSVILLE**
V.F.W. Hall, 9th and "E" Sts.
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.
- MARYSVILLE CLERICAL**
V.F.W. Hall, 9th and "E" Sts.
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 5 p.m.

Oroville

- Carpenters' Hall, Mitchell Ave., East of Myers
Thursday, Nov. 5, 7:30 p.m.

Shasta Division

- RED BLUFF**
Veterans' Memorial Hall
Monday, Nov. 10, 7:30 p.m.
- REDDING**
A. F. of L. Hall, Shasta and California Streets
Wednesday, Nov. 11, 7:30 p.m.
- FALL RIVER MILLS**
Recreation Hall, Pit No. 1
Tuesday, Nov. 12, 7:30 p.m.

De Saba Division

- PARADISE**
Eagles' Hall
Thursday, Nov. 19, 7:30 p.m.
- WILLOWS**
Fire Hall
Friday, Nov. 20, 7:30 p.m.
- QUINCY**
Club Room
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m.
- CARIBOU**
Club House
Thursday, Nov. 19, 8:30 p.m.
- CHICO**
Veterans' Memorial Bldg.
Wednesday, Nov. 25, 7:30 p.m.
- LAS PLUMAS (bi-monthly)**
No meeting in November
- STORRIE**
Club House.
Tuesday, Nov. 17, 8:30 p.m.

Other Units

- MT. VIEW G. C.**
190 Sterling Rd., Mt. View
Thursday, Nov. 19, 8 p.m.
- SACTO MUNIC. UTILITY DIST.**
C.E.L.&T. Assn. Hall, 2nd Ave. & Stockton Blvd., Sacramento
Wednesday, Nov. 18, 8 p.m.
- SACTO CITY LINES**
C.E.L.&T. Assn. Hall, 2nd Ave. & Stockton Blvd., Sacramento
Monday, Nov. 9, 7:30 p.m.
- CITY OF LODI**
Veterans Hall, Lodi,
Thursday, Nov. 12, 8 p.m.
- OAKLAND, BERKELEY, ALAMEDA, KEY SYSTEM**
1918 Grove St., Oakland
Meet with Oakland Unit
Wednesday, Nov. 4, 8 p.m.
- OUTSIDE LINE CONSTRUCTION**
1918 Grove Street, Oakland
Friday, Nov. 6, 8 p.m.