

The UTILITY

Gas, Electric, Water, Clerical
and Construction Workers



REPORTER

Official Publication of I.B.E.W. Local Union 1245, A. F. of L. 1918 Grove St., Oakland 12, Calif.

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JUNE, 1954

System Safety Committee Aims Are Reaffirmed

Following just 5 months of activity, the System Safety Committee has already become a well established and useful function of our Local Union. This is due not only to the need for such a Committee but also to the high type of service which has been performed by the members. The Committee is composed of the following Brothers: Marvin C. Brooks, Clarence F. Elliot, Vernon L. Franklin, Clyde W. Weddle.

The aims of the Committee, as stated in the minutes of its first meeting held on January 11, 1954, are as follows:

"The Committee shall work toward the long range objective of establishment of a Joint Safety Committee with equal representation from the Company and the Union.

"Appropriate suggestions for revision of the Company Safety Rules shall be drafted and tendered to the Company, as set forth in Section 105.3 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement currently in force.

"The Committee shall participate in conferences and hearings scheduled by State agencies dealing with Safety, since the information presented at such conferences is used as a basis for changes in the State Codes and Safety Orders."

Each unit of Local 1245 has been authorized to establish its own Safety Committee, to work with the System Safety Committee. Unit Committees can cooperate with the System-wide group by distribution of educational information, the gathering of facts relative to unsafe working conditions and the making of periodic progress reports to the System Committee.

At present there is no provision in our Pacific Gas and Electric (Continued from Page 4)

CV Conference in Obispo Meeting

The IBEW Central Valley Joint Executive Conference delegates gathered at San Luis Obispo for their regular quarterly meeting on Saturday, June 12. Local 639 and its business manager, A. M. "Doc" England, hosted the meeting.

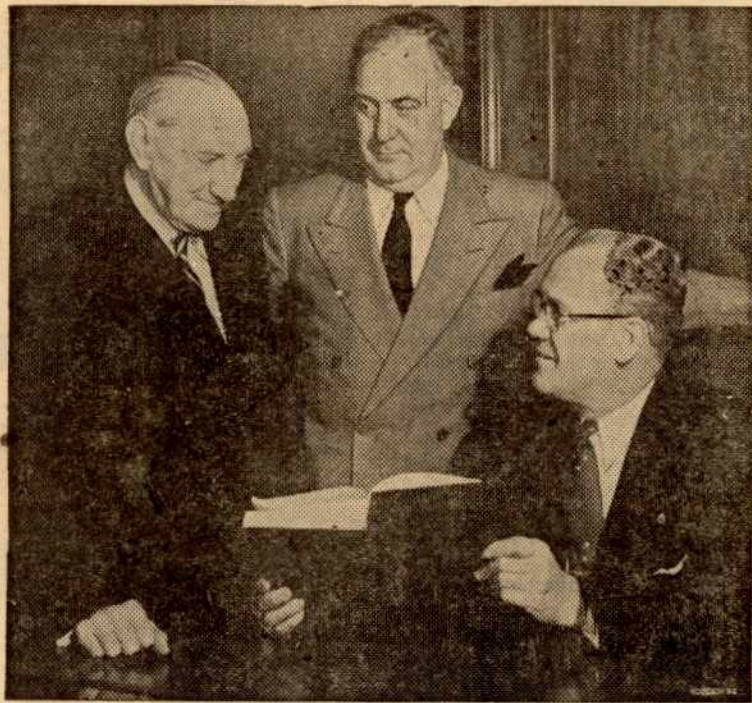
The well attended conference heard reports on wage settlements, contract negotiations, jurisdictional items, wiring standards, and political action. The high degree of unemployment which still plagues many IBEW local unions was a matter of serious concern to the delegates.

Intl. Reps. Vern Breuillot and Wally Barrett reported on several matters of interest to the Valley locals.

Bus. Mgr. Vern Hughes of San Diego Utility Local 465 was a visitor and the Southern Joint Conference was represented by its president, Dave Milne of Santa Barbara Local 413.

Representing Local 1245 were Ron Weakley, L. L. Mitchell, and Scott Wadsworth of the business staff. Brothers Robert Staab of Santa Maria and Bill Wyatt of San Luis Obispo were also in attendance.

Next meeting of the Conference is scheduled for Fresno during the month of September.



Shown above conferring after the IBEW name had been placed on the historic AFL-CIO no-raid agreement, are, left to right, Pres. Emeritus Dan Tracy, Secy.-Treas. Joseph Keenan, and Pres. J. Scott Milne. (See story below.)

HISTORIC NO-RAID PACT IS SIGNED BY MANY UNIONS

A long step toward better relations between the various unions in the labor movement was accomplished early this month with the signing of a "No Raid" Agreement by member unions of the two great federations.

Heart of the pledge reads as follows:

"The American Federation of Labor and The Congress of Industrial Organizations and each union signatory hereto affiliated with it, and each of them, agrees that neither it nor any of its locals, will directly or indirectly, (a) organize or represent or attempt to organize or represent employees as to whom an established bargaining relationship exists with the American Federation of Labor or with any union which is signatory hereto affiliated with the American Federation of Labor (including any of the locals of such union); (b) seek to represent or obtain the right to represent, such employees or to disrupt the established bargaining relationship; or (c) engage in any cessation of work or refusal to transport, install or otherwise work on or with materials or any other form of concerted activity in support of an attempt to organize or represent such employees by a union other than the union which has the established bargaining relationship."

Machinery is provided in the agreement for settling any dispute that may arise. If negotiations, successively, between the local unions, international unions, and parent federations fail, the facts go to an impartial umpire. His decision will be final and binding.

The agreement came about as a result of painstaking study spread over more than a year between joint AFL-CIO unity committee members. It is based on the agreement between the IAM and the UAW, which has operated successfully for more than four years.

The joint committee, in its final report, states: "The results of the study made by the subcommittee, as well as the experience and knowledge of the members of the full committee, compel the conclusion that 'raids' between AFL and CIO unions are destructive of the best interests of the unions immediately involved and also of the entire trade union movement.

"In addition to the antagonisms between unions created by such raids, the welfare of the workers and the public is damaged. The overwhelming majority of such attempted raids fail, creating unrest, dissatisfaction and disunity among the workers.

"Even in the small proportion of cases where such attempts are successful they involve a drain of time and money far disproportionate to the number of employees involved. They create industrial strain and conflict and they do nothing to add to the strength and capabilities of the trade union movement as a whole."

In other words, the subcommittee found that labor piracy is an expensive substitute for labor unity. This is a luxury that American labor can no longer afford.

Our Brotherhood, represented by Intl. Pres. J. Scott Milne, signed the agreement on June 9, 1954.

Take part in union affairs. Your union is as democratic as you make it.

A Page From History

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

In the files of our growing Research and Education Department we have a number of interesting items bearing on the history of Labor-Management relations between unions and the Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

Among them is a copy of an agreement dated July 26, 1910, which was executed by the PG&E and the IBEW. While the contract is contained in just 15 small pages, it is interesting to review some of the conditions and wages which were agreed to just 44 years ago.

We'd like to quote a few of the terms of this historic document.

Under the definition of "Journey-men" are listed "Linemen," "Country Linemen," "Station Construction Wiremen," "Armature and Transformer Winders and Repairers," "Lamp Repairers and Testers," "Meter Repairers and Testers." All Journeymen received "not less than \$4.25 per day." Foremen working in the Central Area, having charge of more than 3 men, got \$5.00 per day. All other fore-

BOARD READIES CONVENTION ACTION

Newest of our important standing committees, the Health and Welfare Committee made its first report to the Executive Board of Local 1245 on Sunday, June 6th. Composed of Brothers Mark Cook, San Jose, Donald Chave, East Bay, and Frank Mercer, North Bay, the committee had prepared its report during a full day of study on Saturday.

The following Committee recommendations were concurred in by the Executive Board: a) the Committee meet once each month and report its progress to the Board following each meeting;

b) The Committee attend such conferences as are deemed necessary in the study of existing Health and Welfare plans; and

c) All "out of pocket" expenses incurred by members of the Committee be reimbursed by the Local union.

The Board meeting was attended by all members except Southern Area Member Frank R. Brown, who was excused. Visitors included Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell, Bus. Rep. Paul "Cy" Yochem, Research Director Geo. L. Rice, International Union Rep. C. P. Hughes, Bro. Mark R. Cook of the H & W Committee and Mr. Stanley Neyhart from the law firm of Tobriner and Lazarus. The day-long session was chaired by President Frank Gilleran.

Among other actions the Board approved the following items:

1) purchase of 20,000 union buttons for 1955.

2) participation in the Workers' Education Section of the California Bureau of Adult Education at a conference to be held in Santa Barbara in July.

3) payment of advance dues on a loan basis for I. O. Convention Delegates who are unable to pay their dues in advance and thus qualify for a seat at the convention.

4) ratification of the resolution amending Art. XXVII, Section 2 (16) of the International Constitution, "listing and publicizing records of candidates for local union office in the official publication of the local union."

5) ratification of the resolution amending Art. 11, Section 9 of the International Constitution, which proposes to limit the maximum number of Convention delegates from any one local union to 20. The above resolutions will

now be submitted to the International Union office.

6) printing of a supply of Sierra Pacific Power agreements for distribution to the members in the SPP unit.

The 15 unit recommendations which were considered by the Executive Board were acted on as follows: 8 were referred to the Negotiating Committee; 4 to the Business Office; 1 to the Constitution and By-laws committee; and 1 was concurred in while the remaining recommendation was voted down.

Mr. Neyhart, an attorney who specializes in the handling of Workmen's Compensation Insurance cases, reported at length to the Board on the results obtained during the past two years. He summarized a number of cases which have been successfully completed and explained the status of other cases which are still being argued. Mr. Neyhart was given the sincere appreciation of the members of the Board for the fine manner in which he has represented members of Local 1245 who have suffered industrial disability.

Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley and I. O. (Continued on Page Four)

Employees of Coast Counties Look to Merger With PG&E

Freedom, California, located near Watsonville, was the scene of a meeting of employees of the Coast Counties Gas & Electric Company on June 11th. Called for the purpose of discussing merger problems and the operations of Local 1245, IBEW, the meeting was well attended by CCG&E workers from Santa Cruz, Hollister, Watsonville and Gilroy.

Invited guests included Local 1245 Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley, Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell and Bus. Rep. Gerry Moran.

Following a well-conducted business session, the representatives of Local 1245 were questioned at length regarding working conditions, employee benefits, wages and the structure of our Local union. Questions were serious and well put and indicated a genuine interest in our organization.

When the meeting had been concluded, the refreshment committee served plenty of world famous valley strawberries covered with cream, and quantities of well-brewed coffee.

Local 1245 representatives were impressed by the well organized group and the courteous welcome given them. They are looking forward to attending more fine meetings of this type.

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The UTILITY REPORTER



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Cost of Labor Disunity

(An editorial)

AFL and CIO unions spent \$11,418,000 either in raiding or defending themselves from raids during the 3 year period 1951-1953. So reports the joint AFL-CIO Unity Committee following a painstaking study which lasted more than a year.

During this period AFL unions filed 791 petitions for elections in cases where the CIO had bargaining right. The AFL won 250 of these elections, involving 44,000 workers.

CIO unions, filing in 936 election cases where an AFL union was the bargaining agent, won 290 of them and gained representation for 40,000 employees. The AFL gained a slight edge in the number of employees represented although the CIO won more elections.

The change of only 4,000 workers, less than 2 per cent of the total number of employees involved in all cases, was more than offset by the loss of 4,456 workers who voted against any union representation in these elections.

The practice of "raiding" was condemned by the joint Unity Committee in these words:

"The results of the study made by the subcommittee, as well as the experience and knowledge of the members of the full committee, compel the conclusion that "raids" between AFL and CIO unions are destructive of the best interests of the unions immediately involved and also of the entire trade union movement.

"In addition to the antagonisms between unions created by such raids, the welfare of the workers and the public is damaged. The overwhelming majority of such attempted raids fail, creating unrest, dissatisfaction and disunity among the workers.

"Even in the small proportion of cases where such attempts are successful they involve a drain of time and money far disproportionate to the number of employees involved. They create industrial strain and conflict and they do nothing to add to the strength and capabilities of the trade union movement as a whole."

The UTILITY REPORTER hails the "no raid" pledge as a long step forward in modern labor relations. Adherence to its terms will enable all unions, irrespective of their label, to do the job they are organized to do, namely: the organization of unorganized workers and the constant seeking of improved wages, hours and conditions of employment.

These are the primary goals for which we must constantly strive, using every legitimate means. These are the goals to which we in the IBEW are dedicated.

Register to Vote

With the primary election now behind us our attention should be directed toward the registration of every eligible voter. Deputy registrars in every county in California are available to register voters for the general election from now until September 9th.

One of the prime functions of a Union newspaper is to serve as a reminder to its readers on matters such as this. We intend to exercise that function to the fullest.

If you or any member of your family could not vote in the primary election because you failed to register—please do so at your earliest opportunity. And—you will serve your responsibilities as a citizen by reminding your friends and neighbors that they too must be registered in order to vote.

The general election of 1954 is certain to be one of the most interesting and important in the history of California politics. We know you want to do your part; we know you want to be registered so you can vote.

Detach and send to Office Manager, Local 1245
 1918 Grove Street, Oakland 12, California

PLEASE CHANGE MY ADDRESS!

OLD ADDRESS
 Street.....
 City..... Zone..... State.....

NEW ADDRESS
 Name.....
 Street.....
 City..... Zone..... State.....

the farmer's daughter sez:

ho hum, sunday morn—yesterday was saturday—no work—tomorrow's a holiday no work then either, with pay too. . . . i guess we're all so used to it that we don't give it a thought—40-hour weeks, paid holidays, etc., etc. . . . pretty interesting story . . . about the men and women who with great forethought and complete lack of selfishness began to organize our ancestors—it had to be done—gracious sakes, you wouldn't want to still be working 60 or 70 hours a week and to heck with overtime if you don't want to do it we'll find someone who does. . . .

shouldn't wonder that it took some time and effort to work up to these things . . . i shouldn't wonder that the men and women who dreamed about them aren't just sitting up there with their harps and all—glad they hadn't lived in vain . . . the merchants set a price on their goods and sell them at that price, the utility companies put a price on gas and electricity and sell them at that price—we put a price on our time and abilities and sell them to the merchants and the utility companies. . . . they get the best prices possible—and we do too . . . any difference? . . . ? . . . ? . . . ?

ho hum, still sunday morn . . . sitting in my nice sunny kitchen at my typewriter, every once in a while looking out the window and across the gully at the pheasant that's sitting over under an almond tree hollering insults at me knowing full well his open season isn't until next november. . . . the cat's out filling up on the dog's food while the dog's outside and can't get in to clobber him . . . the old black hen and her four black chicks are out in the flowers digging them up as fast as they can . . . guess i never told you about road apple ranch . . . we raise weed seeds and have a very fine crop of poison oak, bermuda grass, and a pair of guinea fowl we call Christine and George because no one can tell them apart . . . we have a .22 handy, a target set up across the gully so we can sit out in the back yard and have a little target practice while we're barbecuing and relaxing . . . a job, the fence needs paint and so does the house, but paint costs money and tomorrow is another day. . . . THE GIRLS GOT BACK FROM TEXAS—they had a wonderful time, unawed by it all, and california is the place for our roving women. . . .

everyone seemz to be in accord up here in red bluff because the next UNION MEETING is going to be in my back yard with beer and barbecued hamburgers afterward . . . a farewell party for jim & roy . . . sure do hope you voted—it's a terribul waste of tax money to send out all those sample ballots . . . and hire all those people to take care of the polls and count the votes and then nobody turns out to play their part in the big show . . . ten years ago WANDAclark started working for the company, she joined the IBEW right away—held several offices in the unit and was clerical shop steward too . . . about five years ago DON DONALDSON came along and changed her name. . . . wanda has been very active in the red bluff jr. women, a very worthy organization, and is just the type of gal fitted to carry on the race which is exactly what she has decided to do—and everybody's just as happy as a bug about the whole thing . . . she's getting her WITHDRAWAL card from the union, which is something no one should ever neglect to do. . . . vacashuns coming up—do you reelly want to get that job and work? . . . ? . . . REMEMBER you have a job and you probably are taking the work away from someone else who needs it and besides you owe it to the PG&E and to YOURSELF to relax and come back refreshed and ready for another year . . . if you don't believe me, ask your doctor.
 YRS for relaxation
 SHOOK.

Fresh tuna from Japan comes in two varieties these days, with tincture of hydrogen or the old-fashioned atom flavor.



A Page From History

(Continued from Page One)

ranged from \$95 to \$110 per month. The vacation clause provided that all men on monthly rates get one day off with pay for each month of service while "Water Power Men" got two weeks with pay each year after one year of continuous service.

A few Sub-station and First Operator pay rates were: Temescal, San Jose, Sacramento—\$100 a month; Berkeley, Elmhurst, Piedmont, 23rd Avenue—\$95 a month; Operators at Ridge, South Tower, Sebastopol and Grass Valley received \$85 per month, while men at Mission San Jose, North Tower, Redwood City, Davis, Marysville, Petaluma, San Rafael and Chico wer paid \$80 a month. Hammond, Mountain View, Davenport, Napa, Cement, Oroville and Richmond operators received \$70 a month.

The hydro plant schedule listed first operators at \$100 a month and second operators at \$85 for De-Salva, Colgate and Electra powerhouses. Operators at Centerville, Deer Creek and Folsom received \$95. Alta men were rated at \$90, and Newcastle at \$80 a month.

San Francisco "Lamp Trimmers" were paid \$95 and an extra \$35 for the keep of a horse and cart. In Oakland, the company furnished the horse and cart. San Jose "Lamp Trimmers" received \$95 a month but only got \$20 for the keep of their horse and cart. (Editors note: must have been a thin horse, like the patrolmen's!) Sacramento paid \$95 a month for Trimmers and the company threw in the horse and cart.

Foremen, Cable Splicers and Helpers were paid full expenses when working away from their home towns. Others received board and lodging and traveling expenses when out-of-town on temporary jobs up to 14 days in duration.

Apprentices were not allowed to work alone and journeymen were not allowed to work on voltage in

excess of 600 V, unless accompanied by another journeyman. City limits were used as a reporting point in most cases, and from that point workers traveled on company time.

The Union Security clause reads: "The company agrees to employ none but members of the IBEW in the branches of the trade covered by this agreement, when available!"

Most employees enjoyed an 8-hour day. Excepted were "Country Linemen," who's work hours were from 7 a.m. to 12 noon, and from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. on a "camp to camp" basis.

DOUBLE TIME was paid for all overtime, such as hours worked between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m., for the 16-hour period between shifts for shift men, on Sundays, holidays, noon hour or continuous overtime. Workmen received 8 holidays each year and an additional 2 hours off with full pay on election day.

The foregoing is a brief summary of the 1910 IBEW-PG&E contract. The agreement was signed by John A. Britton, then vice president of the PG&E. Hugh Murrin, president, and John S. Wilson, secretary-treasurer, Pacific District Council No. 1 signed for the IBEW.

From time to time we shall review other such documents with the hope that our members will enjoy a look at the "good old days."

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Fill fireplace cavern with potted greens during the summer season. Comes a chill evening, the pots can always be moved away for a fire.

Keep all small appliances covered with plastic or cloth protectors when not in use. Keeps dust and dirt out and retards tarnishing. Saves you hours of polishing.

The halter neckline is noted on many sun dresses. A very short shoulder line on sleeveless dresses suggests the halter effect. Many of the dresses add brief jackets of matching fabric or of knitted cotton or wool.

A coin holder, torn from an old wallet and tacked to a kitchen drawer, will keep change handy for the newsboy or ice cream vendor.

Just a few hot appetizers served before dinner are always popular with guests. Here's one that becomes a conversation piece:

Combine 1 cup grated American cheese with 2 teaspoons flour and a dash of salt and cayenne pepper. Fold in 1 beaten egg white and shape mixture into small balls. Roll in chopped walnuts and fry in deep hot fat until golden brown. Serve on cocktail picks. These can be made ahead and reheated.

Crisp bacon-wrapped prunes are an interesting addition to a mixed grill. Fasten strips of bacon around the moist cooked prunes with a pick and broil with the other meats.



'Round and About

Reports of real progress in organizing activities continue to come in from our Stockton Division clerical organizing committee. Meeting on June 2, 1954, all members of the committee recognized the tremendous value of home contracts and declared that this work will continue until all non-members have been interviewed and given the facts about our union.

The members of the committee have found that presentation of factual information about the union in personal visits has convinced many clerical employees that they serve their own interests best by joining and becoming active in the union. It is becoming increasingly evident, according to these hard working sisters and brothers, that so long as our clerical unit remains, only partially organized it will be increasingly difficult to deal effectively at the bargaining table with the company. **Complete organization, they feel, is certain to result in maximum gains for all clerical workers.**

With the committee well organized and new members coming in at a steady rate it is more than ever necessary that all union members join in assuring the success of this drive. **Stockton members, whether clerical or physical, are urged to give the organizing committee a helping hand.**

Lots of news from Stockton this month. Business Representative Charles Massie reports that Bro. Otto Horst, who was retired by the Pacific Gas & Electric Company the first of the year, has finally succeeded in obtaining his unemployment insurance benefits. This has been a frustrating and complicated case, according to Massie, and **Brother Horst is extremely grateful to the union for assisting him in obtaining these benefits.**

Benefits of another type were secured for Brother Joe Pulizzi, also of Stockton Division. As a result of effective union representation in the processing of his grievance, **Brother Pulizzi is now richer by \$111.45.** This is the amount that was paid him by the company for retroactive reimbursement for the work he had performed.

So you think you would like to travel around a little bit?

Perhaps you will change your mind when you learn of the travels of this general construction crew. Recently transferred to Sonora, with the possibility of staying there most of the summer, the crew had hopped from Redding to

"If your mother gave you a large apple and a small apple and told you to divide with your brother, which one would you give him?" asked the teacher.

"Do you mean my little brother or my big brother?" asked the pupil.

"Dad, what does college-bred mean?"

"They make college bred from the flower of youth and the dough of old age."

Wife (trying on hats): "Do you like this turned down, dear?"

Hubby: "How much is it?"

Wife: "Twenty-five dollars."

Hubby: "Yes, turn it down."

The covetous man is ever in want.—Horace.

Chico to Lodi to Bakersfield and to Oakdale in a short period of time.

A heavy sub-station crew with Foreman Beck and Shop Steward Irving H. Bettenhausen, the men are looking forward to the finishing in the Sonora area. Business Representative Lee Andrews reports that the brothers have expressed satisfaction with their new location where they will build a complete sub-station.

Brother Earl McDaniel of SMUD has advised Unit Reporter Ken Barner that the underground crews have had a new experience in the installation of a new oil-o-static cable.

The new cable, which was installed in the SMUD system for the north city sub-station to Station A, required 8 pulls before the job was finished.

A projection was blown through, attached to a 5/32" air plane cable, with a speed of approximately 12 1/2 mph. A 3/8" cable was then pulled through, tied to a 1" cable from the pulling rig. Following this 3 single cables were pulled into the conduit with the pulling rig and a night cap was placed at each terminal.

The next step was to place a vacuum on the line and exhaust the air. The nitrogen was left in the conduit until future splicing takes place.

Each day one pull was completed and the next day's set up made ready for the following morning. This procedure was followed throughout regardless of the time at which the day's work was finished. A good deal of overtime was required to perform the job properly.

There are two crews working on this cable job at present. The Davis crew is putting on the pot-heads at the north city sub-station, while McDaniel's crew is assembling the transformers at Station A.

3 PG&E Linemen Get Honors for Poletop Rescue

(PG&E Release)

Three Pacific Gas and Electric Company linemen who saved a fourth lineman in a dramatic poletop rescue last January 18 in San Jose were honored by company officials and key operating men at a luncheon in San Jose today.

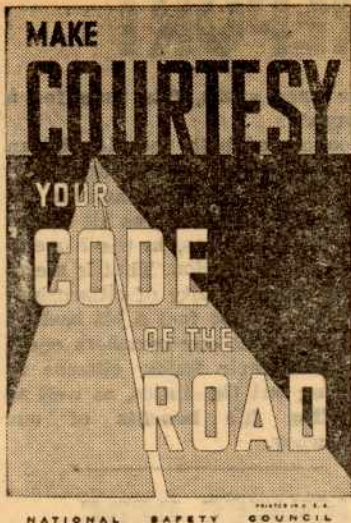
Heading the trio was Ray C. Gossett, of 2930 Conway Ave., Sunnyvale, who received a John A. Britton Silver Medal from PG&E and a bronze medal and plaque from the Edison Electric Institute of New York. Receiving EEI bronze medals and plaques for assisting in the artificial resuscitation were Mark Cook, of 2318 Walnut Grove, San Jose, and Howard Gaghagen, of Walnut street, San Jose.

The man whose life was saved after he had come in contact with a 12,000-volt line and, according to official investigations, had stopped breathing, was George Ranney of 3600 Keswick Drive, San Jose.

While Ranney and Gossett were working on a pole top on Phantom Avenue, near Hamilton Ave., in San Jose, Ranney contacted the high voltage, and shouted as he fainted. Gossett, with little regard for his own safety, swung around the pole and grabbed Ranney, who was suspended in his safety belt.

Gossett promptly started artificial resuscitation, using a pole top method in which all PG&E linemen are trained. He also called for help, and Cook and Gaghagen who were working several hundred feet away on the ground, ran to the pole and climbed up to assist.

Gossett worked on Ranney for between three and five minutes, and as the injured man began regaining consciousness he started to fight his fellow workmen. All three had difficulty in preventing him from again contacting the "hot wire," but finally calmed him and lowered him to the ground. An ambulance had been summoned meanwhile and soon took him to a hospital, where he was treated for third degree burns on the right



Safety Tips On Carbon Tet

(By C. F. ELLIOT, Member, System Safety Committee)

Industrial accident reports indicate that more and more workers are being killed or injured by carbon tetrachloride, commonly called carbon tet.

Carbon tet is used as a dry cleaner, a fire extinguisher fluid, a grease remover and as a solvent for rubber cement and quick-drying lacquers, in addition to numerous other uses. A pleasant sweet-smelling liquid, carbon tet is clear and colorless at normal temperatures. While it is non-flammable, it turns to vapor easily at room temperatures. This vapor is more than 5 times as heavy as air.

At high temperatures carbon tet decomposes and forms very strong poisons, one of which is phosgene. Breathing just a little phosgene may produce death or very serious illness.

You can be injured by carbon tet in several ways: by breathing the vapor; by swallowing the liquid; and by contact with the skin or eyes. Just one exposure to carbon tet may harm you or even kill you if the concentration is high. Lower concentrations may also be harmful if you are repeatedly exposed.

Exposure to carbon tet can cause severe and often fatal cases of liver and kidney damage. It can cause inflammation of the skin and it can cause painful eye irritations.

Susceptibility to carbon tet is especially high among those who have high blood pressure, nervous disorders, diseases of the vital organs, or who are either overweight or undernourished. It should also be noted that people who drink alcoholic beverages in excessive quantities will usually have susceptibility to carbon tet.

When a person shows symptoms of carbon tet poisoning, he should be removed immediately from the contaminated atmosphere and placed under the care of a physician. Symptoms include dizziness, loss of consciousness, nausea, mental confusion.

All contaminated clothing should be removed at once. If eyes or skin have been touched by carbon tet they should be washed thoroughly with large quantities of water for at least 15 minutes. Whenever carbon tet touches the eyes medical attention should be provided as soon as possible.

Make no mistake about it—carbon tet is one of the most dangerous and harmful of the common solvents. Special care should be taken to store it out of the reach of children.

A few simple precautions in the storing and use of carbon tet may save you much needless pain or even death. Safety measures should be stressed at all times with respect to this dangerous solvent.

hand, second degree burns on the left foot and flash burns about the head.

Presenting the awards was Raymond W. White of San Francisco, manager of the PG&E claims and safety department; W. R. Bowler, San Jose division manager, presided at the luncheon held at the Hawaiian Gardens.

PLENTY OF NERVE

"The bravest man I ever knew," said the explorer, "was the chap who took a taxi to the bankruptcy court and invited the driver in as a creditor."

SCANNING THE LABOR PRESS

Oregon LABOR PRESS—"The most heartbreaking job in American Politics is to persuade people to vote in their own self-interest." (From a speech by the late George W. Norris, Nebraska Senator, who fathered the TVA project.)

THE MACHINIST—"Despite the nation's urgent need for more journeymen, June high school graduates will find only limited opportunities for apprenticeship this year. In a "Memo to Management" the IAM invites all companies to join in helping to expand apprenticeship training."

U. S. Dept. of Labor NEWS RELEASE—"In 1870 there were only 400 electricians in the United States; by 1900 this group had increased to 51,000; and by 1950 the craft totaled 324,000. This illustrates trends in the growth of the various crafts during the past 50 years."

AFL NEWS-REPORTER—"Business is showing a reasonable pick-up but the over-all picture is not as rosy as some economists and government officials paint it, according to Dr. Jules Backman, professor of economics at New York University."

"Backman said there has been only a relatively small decrease in unemployment this year and relatively modest increases in steel and total industrial production and in carloadings."

Oregon LABOR PRESS—"There is no truth to the rumors that the Carpenters' union will issue temporary working permits to Senators and Congressmen running for reelection. If there's any fence-mending to be done, they'll do it on their own time."

East Bay LABOR JOURNAL—"It was universally recognized Wednesday morning (June 9th) as

How to Lose Your Freedom

Two significant results of the primary election this year indicate that people are deliberately confused by some unprincipled politicians and by their own lack of responsibility as citizens.

First, in the 38th Senatorial District, State Senator Jack Tenney and Mrs. Mildred Younger were pitted against each other for the Republican nomination. Backers of Tenney found a Mrs. Hazel Younger, and qualified her for the ballot. The confusion around the Mrs. Youngers was supposed to split the vote and permit Tenney to be re-elected. The charge that Mrs. Hazel Younger had recently been a patient in a mental hospital, and that the doctor who committed her was a Tenney supporter, has not been refuted. How cruel, indeed, to use an unfortunate woman to fool the citizens in an election for high public office! Despite these tactics, Tenney was defeated by Mrs. Mildred Younger because enough people took the trouble to look into the situation before they voted.

Secondly, Assemblyman William Clifton Berry, of the 23rd Assembly District in San Francisco, passed away more than three weeks prior to the primary election. Nonetheless, his name remained on the ballot as required by the Election Code. Since Berry's death was widely publicized in the press and on the radio, the voters who were interested in their rights and responsibilities should have known that he was dead.

Notwithstanding the excellent news coverage of the situation, and aggressive campaigns by other candidates, Berry received the Democratic nomination at the polls by an overwhelming majority!

These instances bear out the sad fact that our people will capriciously waste their time and their precious ballot because they are not interested enough to become informed as to the public officials and candidates whom they elect.

Apathy among the people of a free nation can easily lead to the loss of freedom. Either Fascism or Communism would be glad to "take over." Let's heed these warnings—and wake up before we hand our country over to those who despise our Free America.

the election returns kept rolling in that the major significance of the action taken by the voters Tuesday was that party responsibility had been restored in California."

"A genuine final election in November was guaranteed in California for the first time in some 40 years."

United Mine Workers JOURNAL—"The United Mine Workers of America has assumed the position over the years that the cost of caring for the human equity in the coal industry is inherently as valid as the cost of replacement of mining machinery, or the cost of paying taxes, or the cost of paying interest indebtedness, or any other factor incident to the production of a ton of coal for consumers' bins."

S. F. MEMBERS NOTE!

San Francisco LABOR—"Wednesday night, June 30, is AFL 'family night' at Seals Stadium."

"The head of the family, along with the wife and all the kids under 18, will be admitted for one family price: \$1.25. But members are warned that the family price doesn't cover the mother-in-law, grandpa, or cousin Susie."

"The Seals are aware, too, that working people support the club, it's their money at their turnstiles that keeps things going. For that matter, their players, too, are drawn by and large from working families."

The Bishop Turned His Other Cheek

(Reprinted from the Oregon LABOR PRESS of June 11, 1954)

Bishop Bernard J. Sheil of Chicago made newspaper headlines all over the country last month, following his speech at a UAW-CIO education conference. At this meeting Bishop Sheil brought forth cheers when he lashed out at the undemocratic and un-American methods used by Senator McCarthy. These cheers were echoed by millions of people throughout the country who share Bishop Sheil's concern for the dignity and freedom of the individual.

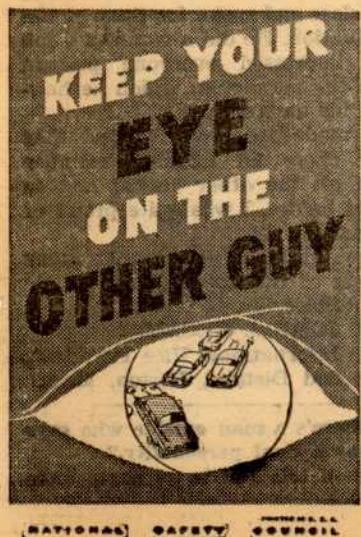
The bishop's courageous and forthright stand came as no surprise to people familiar with his past record. Of the many inspiring stories that are told of the bishop's courage and sincerity there is one which we think is worth repeating. It was told by Saul Alinsky a few years ago in an issue of The Progressive.

The episode took place just before Pearl Harbor, when the bishop, overriding the protest of associates, went unannounced and uninvited to a mass meeting sponsored by a number of groups, such as the Christian Front. Here in a hall full of hate, Bishop Sheil for 15 tense minutes denounced anti-Semitism, white supremacy, and every vile lie that had been belabored by a demagogue on the platform. The audience listened restlessly, seething with hostility.

Finally, he ended, turned and slowly began to walk down the center aisle. Suddenly the silence was shattered by a scream of anger. "It came from a fanatical old woman who stepped out and blocked the Bishop's way just as he was passing her row. She shrieked: 'I'm a Catholic, but you, you—you're not a Catholic bishop. God damn you! Nigger lover! Jew lover! A bishop! Ha, ha; Rabbi Sheil!'"

Now completely hysterical, she deliberately cleared her throat, and with all her strength spat over one side of the bishop's face. The bishop did not raise his hand to wipe it off. By this time, most of the people were standing on their chairs. A mad roar began and suddenly died. The bishop, with the dignity of immortality, had turned the other cheek. He waited. The old woman froze, as did hundreds about her. Then, as though a sudden chill had gripped her, she began to shake violently. What an instant before had been a mob of snarling faces became hundreds of lowered heads.

The bishop waited a long moment, then spoke softly: "Rabbi? That is what they called our Lord." He walked out in silence.



YOUR Business Manager's REPORT

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

This column predicted in April that a fundamental change in the California political atmosphere was in the making. It is now conceded by the political editors of the daily press that the little designations on the ballot after the name of each candidate were responsible for the change. Party responsibility has re-emerged as a serious consideration of both voters and candidates. A so-called "non-partisan" position may now be reason enough for the defeat of a candidate.

The Republican and Democratic parties have platforms — that is, written statements as to their aims and objects. The platform is the yardstick by which the voter may measure the record. This is healthy, in that office holders must support a popular platform while in office or the voter may look to the platform of the opposite party.

Cross-filing in California has obscured pre-election party platforms and has deliberately confused the voters. When "Dem" and "Rep" appeared after the names of the candidates who cross-filed in the primary, we find the result is that the two parties will be pitted against each other in the great majority of contests in the November general election.

Party responsibility must again be assumed by state and national committees in order to seek voter support. Our state committees and legislators are giving serious thought to the abolishment of cross-filing because the value it once had for either party or for individual candidates was dissipated in the recent primary election.

The general election in California will be watched closely by the entire nation. The campaigns will now be based upon the records of incumbents and the programs of their opponents. There will, however, be lots of mud slinging, personal attacks on individual candidates and worse, an extension of the current Washington squabble to California.

The Republican attack on the loyalty and personal lives of some Democratic candidates has been matched by Democratic charges of graft and corruption surrounding

Red Bluff Social Meet Is a Success

Our Red Bluff unit, known for its hospitality and the unity between clerical and physical members, held its June 10 meeting out in the evening air. This, it was agreed, beats a smoky room all hollow!

With husky linemen sprawled over lawn chairs, girls bustling around a massive barbecue pit, birds singing and coals crackling, the business meeting got under way. After routine reports were completed, Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley, Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell, and Bus. Rep. Roy Murray and Jim Gibbs addressed the gathering.

Brother Gibbs thanked the Red Bluff members for their support and encouragement to him during his assignment in the area. In turn, Jim received the plaudits he so well deserves.

Edith Shook turned her home over to the group and served as hostess. With assistance from Roxie Newing, Polly Montgomery, Marian Butman, "Taffy" Taft, Virgil Shook and other volunteers, a fine supper was served after the business meeting. The wives and husbands in attendance enjoyed the refreshments and the company of a fine group in the atmosphere of a country yard replete with guinea hens, wagon wheels, and blazing oak logs.

An invitation to the next social meeting is extended by Red Bluff unit to all good members and their better halves. Watch these columns for announcements as to time, date and place.

Incidentally, hostess Shook is the gal who writes the amusing but thought-provoking column "the farmer's daughter sez," which appears frequently in these pages.

some Republican office-holders in our state.

While the contests will be lively and, in some cases very nasty, it is hoped that the people of California will review the issue and the record in deciding on their selections.

Of course, unless EVERY eligible voter is registered and carries out the obligation of citizenship by going to the polls in November, we will not have a completely true expression of the wishes of our citizens.

Economics will be the major election issue this year. To attempt to cover-up unemployment, reduced purchasing power and an inadequate defense program by raising goblins will not fool the people. To call millions of people the "party of treason" will not produce one single job for an unemployed worker. To consistently blast that we are "merely experiencing an orderly economic re-adjustment and expect an upward swing in the near future" will not place any money in the tills of the small business man from either worker or farmer. To discontinue or to transfer military and defense installations from California's vital seaport will not discourage one single aggressor from an attack on our shores.

A close examination of the pre-election platform of the Republican party in 1952 should be made by the voters. The record of accomplishment or failure of each Republican incumbent may then be properly examined. Should a careful investigation reveal that a good job has been done, then the Republican party will remain the party in power. On the other hand, should it be revealed that such is not the case, we may expect to

So. Cal. Local 47 Names Officers With Large Vote

Members of the Election Board of IBEW Local 47, our sister utility local in Southern California, completed the tabulation of votes on June 12th, 1954.

The Board, composed of Brother Keith L. Haskell, John M. Cassidy, Gerald H. Rohner, certified that the following candidates had been elected or re-elected to office: President, Charles H. Keeney; Vice-President, Charles R. Mills; Recording Secretary, Frank X. Coughlin; Business Manager-Financial Secretary, Richard R. Rapattoni; Treasurer, Ralph D. Webster; Executive Board—Northern Division—Edison, George D. Newman; Executive Board—Western Division—Edison, John P. Kirkhuff; Executive Board—Coast Division—Edison, Glen E. Earnshaw; Executive Board—Southern Division—Edison, Kenneth S. Lennon; Executive Board—Eastern Division—Edison, John H. Hodge; Executive Board—Northern Division—C.E.P., Robert Shaffer; Executive Board—Southern Division, C.E.P.I.T., Robert C. McDowell; International Union Convention Delegates: Albert J. Coughlin, John H. Hodge, Mike Kelly, Kenneth S. Lennon, Edward L. Merkle, F. E. Niemeyer, Mitchell H. Piwowarski, Richard R. Rapattoni, Charles J. Sanders, Richard E. Underwood.

Approximately 50 per cent of all ballots mailed out in the referendum election were properly marked and returned. Considering the huge area covered by the Local Union this is considered a good return.

Interestingly enough one member, with an obvious sense of humor, wrote in "Joe Blow" for one of the offices!

Brother Richard R. Rapattoni, who was re-elected Business Manager-Financial Secretary by a margin of nearly 3 to 1, is commencing his third term as the leader of the Local Union. Rapattoni expressed his very sincere thanks to the members of the organization for their outstanding support of his candidacy and assured the entire membership that he would do his utmost to continue to deserve their confidence.

hear once again, "its time for a change."

Leaders of both the Republican and Democratic parties urge that every citizen register, examine the record and then vote, as his or her conscience dictates, in the November general election. That is merely the responsibility of citizenship; thus, we do not feel a bit bashful in urging that our members equal or excel their fellow citizens in carrying out the duties, as well as accepting the benefits of our Democracy.

BUSINESS REPS. RETURN HOME

Returned to their jobs with the Pacific Gas and Electric Co. this month were two Business Representatives who have loyally served the members of Local 1245. These men will now have an opportunity to get acquainted with their families once more—and to enjoy regular hours of work.

Bro. Ed. White, veteran organizer and representative, has returned to Station "Y" in E.B. Division as a First Operator, Emergency Relief. With some 30 years of Company service, Ed wants to work out his span and then retire under our fine pension plan which was negotiated last year. An old "fire horse" like Ed will never slow down but will continue to be a very active member for years to come.

Bro. Jim Gibbs has gone back to his old stamping grounds, the fast growing San Jose Division. Jim is a Light Crew Foreman in the Gas Department, the job he held prior to taking a leave of absence for union activity.

Both Ed and Jim have worked hard over the years to build our union and have devoted a good portion of their lives to working for the principles of organized labor and the welfare of PG&E employees. They have earned the respect of their fellow workers and of management representatives for their diligence, patience and honesty.

Upon the expiration of the leaves of absence, as set forth in the Agreement, they have returned to their old jobs with the company. Bro. Roy Murray has replaced Jim as the Bus. Rep. in Shasta and De Sabla Divisions, while Charlie Massie takes over from Ed in the Stockton Division.

Brothers White and Gibbs have asked the UTILITY REPORTER to extend their sincere thanks to the membership for the cooperation they have received. The Editorial Board is proud to wish them the best of good luck and good health. See you at the next meeting, boys!

Wife and Son Strike Employer

St. Louis.—The wife and oldest son of a small manufacturer were on strike today for higher wages, but the husband and father said he can't afford them.

Mrs. George V. Harrison, who led her son, George Jr., 19, and the plant's only other employee on a picket line, said her husband had been "a brick" about their joining the AFL Carpenters Union.

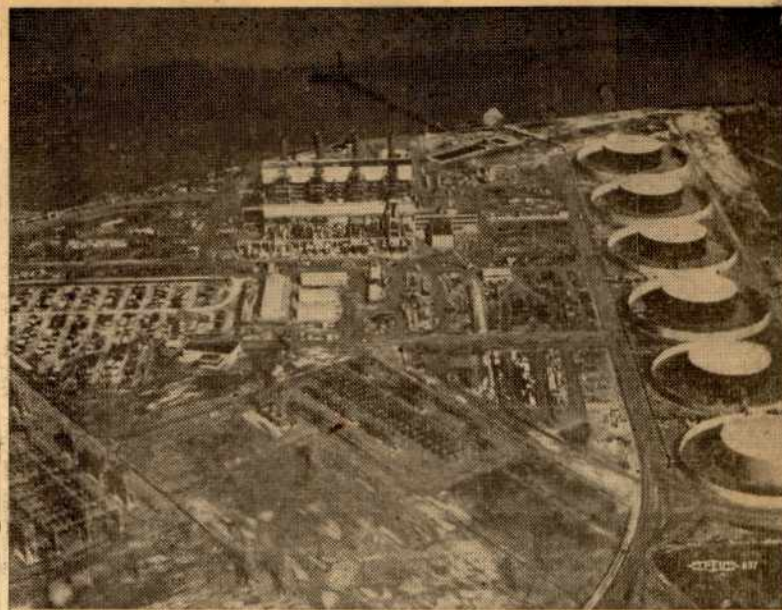
"But he's going to be sore before it's over," she said.

Mrs. Harrison said she has worked in her husband's venetian blind factory for the last eight years without any pay. George Jr. complained that he has made only 75 cents an hour for the last four years and can't afford to marry.

Bus. Agt. Tom Hathaway of the Carpenters Union said he didn't take their application for membership seriously until they threatened to join another union.

"I've never heard of anything like this before," he said.

Hathaway declared Harrison had told him he can't afford union recognition, which would mean \$1.75 an hour for George Jr. and \$1.47 an hour for Mrs. Harrison and the other woman employee.



Largest power plant in the west, the \$80 million giant being completed for PG&E by Bechtel at Pittsburg, is shown above. At right are fuel storage tanks, in center is main plant. Similar plants are being completed at Moss Landing near Monterey and at Morro Bay near San Luis Obispo. The Pittsburg plant is 80 per cent finished, and it won't be long before Local 1245 members will be operating the plant, which may be one of the last conventional fuel steam giants to be built, due to the quick rise of atomic energy development.

Safety Aims

(Continued from Page One)

Company contract which requires recognition of our Unit Safety Committees by the management. Therefore, questions regarding safety, which have not been resolved on the job, should first be taken up by the Shop Steward with the appropriate Company supervisor. If the problem cannot be remedied by the steward or the Business Representative then all of the facts should be turned over to the Unit Safety Committee for their consideration. If the situation warrants, all of the pertinent information should be sent to the System Safety Committee for study and possible presentation to the Company's Safety Committee at the top level.

The Committee urges every member to bear in mind the necessity for safe working conditions at all times. Certainly the lives of our friends and fellow workers are worthy of all the protection that can be given.

Work safely—play safely and you will be happier and healthier for the little inconvenience it may cause you.

Board Readies Convention Action

(Continued from Page One)

Rep. C. P. Hughes reported in detail on the plans for our renewed organizational drive, which is now getting under way in the San Francisco Division. Brother Hughes emphasized that he has been assigned to work WITH the officers of Local 1245 and stated that his presence on the properties should not be misinterpreted by any member. Policies to be followed in the organizing drives will be adopted by officers of the Local and Brother Hughes will do his utmost to aid in carrying out these aims.

Following reports from Bus. Rep. Yochem and Research Director Rice, the Board adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

For the complete details of the activities of your Executive Board, it is recommended that you attend the next meeting of your unit, where the minutes will be read.



"What'll keep my head above water?"
"Why, a good strong union, of course!"

Arbitration Case No. 4 Is Heard

The case of John Malcomson was partially heard Wednesday, June 16, 1954, by an Arbitration Board composed of Chairman Arthur M. Ross; Elmer B. Bushby, Ray Michael—Union's members, and R. J. Tilson, Howard Jackson—Company's members.

Malcomson's grievance is based on the Company's invoking Section 205.11 of the Agreement in the awarding of a Turbine Tender's Vacancy at Station "C" in Oakland. This Section allows Company to reject the bid of any employee who does not possess the necessary qualifications required for the job on which the bid is made. The board will determine whether the Company had grounds for invoking such Section in this case.

The witnesses for the Company were Mr. L. G. Dawson, Superintendent of Steam Department, East Bay Division and Mr. D. W. Phipps, Assistant Station Chief, Contra Costa Steam Plant. However, Company expects to have further witnesses to testify in their behalf.

Union's witnesses were Mr. William Vann, retired Turbine Tender; Dr. John Alden, Psychiatrist; and Mr. John Malcomson, the aggrieved.

The Company proceeded first in presentation of its side of the controversy and the entire day was spent in hearing testimony and cross examining of Company witnesses.

Dr. Ross, Impartial Chairman, recessed the hearing until June 22 or 23, at which time it is expected that the Board will hear the remaining testimony. As soon as possible after the hearing the Arbitration Board will render a decision based on the vote of the majority of the Board members.

The decision in this case will be reported in a future issue of this paper.

Praise Mitchell Talk

May 21, 1954

Mr. Ronald T. Weakley, Bus. Mgr., Dear Sir and Brother:

I attended the graduation exercises of the Trade Union Group at Harvard College yesterday afternoon at which time your assistant, L. L. Mitchell, received his diploma. He had been elected chairman of the class and spoke for them at the graduation. He did a wonderful job and impressed everyone present with the manner in which he handled his assignment.

It made me proud to feel that they chose an I.B.E.W. member from all the other crafts; and as I said before, I was quite proud of the job he did.

Best wishes to you and the other officers of the Local Union.

Sincerely,
JOHN J. REGAN,
International Vice President,
2nd District, Boston, Mass.

"There's a man outside who says he has a dual personality."
"Then tell him to go chase himself."