

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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OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

September, 1954

What is the Cal. LLPE?

Many members have contacted the business office or their business representative to ask, "What gives, here? The State AFL is endorsing Knight and here the State IBEW is supporting the campaign of Dick Graves!"

It IS a confusing situation, we must admit. To begin with, the California State Federation of Labor—the official arm of the American Federation of Labor—has not endorsed ANY candidates for ANY office this year.

More than 2,000 local unions and councils, representing a million and a quarter AFL unionists in California, are affiliated with the State Federation. Primary purpose of the Federation is to act as legislative representative for the affiliated unions and to assist in a variety of ways in helping local unions and councils.

The political arm of the State AFL is called the California Labor's League for Political Education. It is separate and distinct from the State Federation, and has its own constitution and by-laws and its own officers. Membership is on a voluntary basis, with each affiliated local union being required to pay a monthly per capita tax of three cents per member. Since this is a voluntary association—and since it does cost money—only a small percentage of the California AFL local unions have affiliated.

At the Santa Barbara convention, for example, more than 1,500 local unions sent in excess of 2,000 delegates to the State Federation of Labor gathering. Yet only 234 local unions advised the State Labor's League for Political Education that they wished to be represented at that organization's one

night meeting, and fewer than 200 delegates actually presented their credentials and attended the session.

Now, to further confuse the picture, there is the National Labor's League for Political Education, which is headquartered in Washington, D. C. Primary function of this national political arm of the AFL is to raise funds from VOLUNTARY CONTRIBUTIONS of AFL members for use in helping to elect friendly candidates to FEDERAL OFFICE—that is, U. S. Senators and Representatives in Congress. The State LLPE funds, on the other hand, which are per capita tax monies from union treasuries, may ONLY be used to help elect candidates for STATE offices—that is, State Senators and Assemblymen, and Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and other State constitutional officers.

This division of functions—and the necessity for both a state and national LLPE—was brought about by the provision in the Taft-Hartley Act which prohibits contributions from union treasuries to campaigns of federal office seekers.

The California Labor's League for Political Education CAN be a most effective tool of the trade union movement in seeking to elect public officials who will represent the people with fairness and impartiality. The base MUST be broadened to include a majority of the AFL unions in California—not just the handful which presently maintain affiliation.

This is a problem for the leadership of all AFL unions in California. It must be met if we are to preserve and enhance our democratic processes within the trade union movement.

I.B.E.W. Sparks Huge Drive To Get Out the Vote Nov. 2

Voting and membership gains were No. 1 on the agenda of the world's largest labor convention—Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, meeting August 30 to September 3 in Chicago. The I.B.E.W., rated as the nation's most outstanding labor union, will take the lead in a nation-wide drive to get out a record vote on November 2.

Membership growth, gains in wages and conditions, re-election of its officers, and great progress to a stronger union, were chief subjects coming before 3600 delegates in Chicago's huge Amphitheatre.

Highlight of the 25th convention was a speech by Adlai Stevenson, who was introduced by Intl. Pres. J. Scott Milne as "the man who rightfully should be President of the United States."

Stevenson sharply attacked the Eisenhower Administration for its labor policy and declared that "politics dropped to new low plane, indeed, in connection with the matter of revising the Taft-Hartley Act."

The 1952 Democratic Presidential nominee told delegates "this has been a year of futility—or worse—in meeting what may be considered the particular problems of labor-management relations."

RECALLS '52 TALK

Recalling that President Eisenhower told the voters in 1952 that union-busting provisions of the Taft-Hartley law should be removed, Stevenson said:

"Well, they haven't been."

He declared "there appears to be, although it is hard to tell from the juggled figures, about 5 million men and women out of work," and he said the Administration had "a disturbing attitude." Stevenson added:

"Don't worry," they insist, "the economy is, as a matter of fact, only a little bit behind last year's. 'Unemployment,' they said with pride, is 'leveling out'; farm income is 'only \$2 billion off, and last year it was only \$2 billion off the year before'; 'almost as many homes are being built'; foreign trade 'is not very much worse'; the national product 'is only a little lower.'"

MEASURE OF FAILURE

"What this current official attitude reflects is not only apparent satisfaction with the present state because it is no worse, but indifference to the fact that these 'yesterday answers' are inadequate; that yesterday is today, a measure not of success, but of failure."

"To you people there must be something faintly familiar about this proposition that everything will work out fine if you just be quiet and leave things up to the management."



ADLAI E. STEVENSON

"I can't help thinking, too, when I hear it urged that 'faith' is the answer to things like unemployment, of that old limerick about the faith healer from Diehl who said, 'I know pain isn't real, but when I puncture my skin with the point of a pin I dislike what I fancy I feel.'"

Then Stevenson asked: "Don't they realize that America is busting its buttons, that there are 2 million more Americans this year than last; that 1 million new jobs are needed for the bigger work force; that a much higher rate of new building is needed; that we need more foreign trade, a greater national

product . . . that the American workingman's ambition is not just to keep up to yesterday's cost of living, but to get ahead."

The former Illinois governor stressed that "there is only one basic answer to America's short-term and long-term economic problems — to unemployment, to butter surpluses, to slums and all the others."

MUST EXPAND

"The answer," he said, "is that we have to expand this economy of ours, that we have to use to the fullest the unbelievable richness of this land and this people, that we have to push aside the artificial barriers which are the gates to markets here at home and throughout the world for everything we can conceivably produce."

The Democratic leader said that President Eisenhower destroyed the confidence of labor when he suggested that strikes should not be permitted before a secret vote under supervision of government or the employer.

He charged that the National Labor Relations Board has been reconstituted with men who have for years been pro-management—"one of them even admitting that he could be described as a union-buster."

"And these three men," he added, "seem to be rewriting the law on labor-management relationships in this country in accordance with their hardly disinterested views."

"The rules restraining employer interference in union organizing campaigns and representation elec-

(Continued on Page Three)

PG&E CONTRACT RATIFIED

Approval of the results of the 1954 negotiations with the PG&E Company became a certainty on August 27th when the final ratification meetings, held at Willows and Hollister, were completed. By a majority of nearly 7/2 to 1, the membership ratified the contract.

A total of 47 meetings was held throughout the system, starting with Stockton on August 16th. During the ensuing two weeks all members of the Business Staff devoted full time to "getting the word" out regarding the regular

and special meetings.

Unit officers and shop stewards in each area were either contacted by their business representative or mailed a special bulletin.

In several areas it was necessary to conduct joint meetings of two or more units. In these instances, each unit voted separately, following the explanation of the changes and general discussion.

The final vote tabulation, as certified by the Local Union Executive Board, will be available at your next Unit meeting.

Sacramento

SMUD Grants Wage Raise, Other Gains

Negotiations with officials of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District were concluded early this month and the results ratified by the membership of the unit.

Effective Sept. 26th, all employees earning up to \$96.99 per week will receive a general wage increase of 2.8 per cent. All employees earning \$97 or more per week will receive a 10-cent hourly increase.

In addition, shift differentials were increased from 4 to 6 cents for second shift and from 6 to 9 cents for third shift workers. Sick leave accumulation will be increased from a maximum of 120 days to a new maximum of 150 days.

Both a Safety Program and an Apprenticeship Training Program will be worked out by the management of the District and submitted to the Union for approval in the near future.

The Union's Negotiating Committee was composed of Brothers

Harry Kessler, Kenneth Barnes and Mike Burke, assisted by Bus. Rep. Al Hansen. The S. M. U. D. committee included Asst. General Managers Carl Ritchie and Harold Warmoth, Line Supt. Ray Eggers, and Personnel Director William Warner.

The new agreement will be for a one-year term, extending to Sept. 25, 1955.

Members of the unit have asked that their appreciation be extended to their Negotiating Committee and to Bus. Rep. Hansen for the fine representation at the bargaining table.

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'Graves for Governor' Is Cal. IBEW's Unanimous Choice

A highlight of the annual convention of the California State Electrical Workers' Association was the appearance of Richard P. Graves, Democratic candidate for Governor of California. Speaking to the 200 IBEW delegates in Santa Barbara on August 20th, Graves received a rousing ovation.

Mr. Graves warmly thanked the officers of the State Association and the representatives of our 50 California local unions for the sup-

port his candidacy had been given in the primary election.

"I am especially grateful for your wonderful help," he said, "because it was freely given me in the face of the endorsement of Knight by the California Labor League for Political Education. I know we share the belief with many thousands of friends in Labor that this was an incredible endorsement."

In commenting on the split in the California A. F. of L. with respect to political endorsements Mr. Graves said: "It is neither my intention nor desire to be here in Santa Barbara during the State A. F. of L. convention as a 'disruptive influence.' I am here at the invitation of A. F. of L. friends who have chosen to support my campaign and not to seek any overthrow of the CLLPE endorsement."

Following the appearance of Mr. Graves, the delegates voted unanimously to reaffirm their support for Graves for Governor and voted a substantial contribution to his campaign fund.

Mr. and Mrs. Graves, with daughter, Perrin, and son, Steve, were the guests of honor at the Saturday night dinner given at historic Del Paseo by the State Association.



Pictured here, left to right, are RICHARD GRAVES, Democratic Nominee for Governor, PERRIN GRAVES, STEFFANIE RICE and DANIEL RAEBURN, Democratic Nominee for Secretary of State. The picture was taken at the annual dinner of the California State Association of Electrical Workers, held at Santa Barbara on August 21st.



The UTILITY REPORTER



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We Recommend Graves

The UTILITY REPORTER pointed out a few months ago that labor endorsements for political candidates are worthless unless they stem directly from the rank and file membership. We still believe that is a valid premise.

We further believe that fewer than 200 delegates to the California Labor's League for Political Education convention, held on August 26, cannot authorize an endorsement for Goodwin Knight and Harold Powers which will have any meaning. These delegates represent only a small percentage of the AFL membership in our state — they are a minority voice.

In the final analysis the union member — just like any other citizen — will vote for the candidate whom he believes will best represent him. This is as it should be.

It is true that most union members wish advice from their elected representatives as to the background and record of candidates for public office. Local 1245 published detailed information on nearly 200 candidates in the May issue, as a guide to the record of the candidates.

In the current Gubernatorial campaign we have Republican Incumbent, Governor Goodwin Knight and Democratic Nominee Richard P. Graves. Neither man has any legislative voting record which can be accurately used as a measuring stick.

Knight, during his seven years as Lieutenant Governor, appeared to be running constantly for the office of Governor, which he now holds due to the appointment of Earl Warren as Chief Justice of the United States.

Knight's performance during the brief 1954 session of the State Legislature leaves much to be desired. Nearly all the serious major issues confronting the people of California were left untouched — obviously a political maneuver, since this is an election year. Gov. Knight showed no disposition to face up to the realities of efficient operation of our state government. He preferred to spend "rainy day" funds and other savings rather than achieve a truly balanced budget. He ignored the serious implications of our rising unemployment. He has remained silent on many of the serious problems of our time — under the guise of "studying" them. Surely during seven years as Lieut. Governor and one as Governor — he has had ample time to acquaint himself with the problems — and their remedies — if he ever intends to do so.

Richard Graves, on the other hand, is a new-comer to the ranks of office seekers. He is, however, no newcomer to the science of Government. He served for 20 years as Executive Secretary to the League of California Cities — a non-profit, non-partisan organization of all California cities. He has also taught Governmental Administration at the University of California and achieved outstanding recognition for this work.

Mr. Graves has proven himself a strong man — one who is unafraid to speak his mind on all issues confronting us. This he has consistently done, even at the expense of stepping on some political toes — and alienating some would-be supporters who wished to exact, later on, their pound of flesh.

His political speeches have been distinguished by their clarity, their candor and their reasonableness — qualities which are lacking all too often in candidates for public office.

We believe that California has need of a chief executive who will be strong yet fair-minded, and who will dedicate himself to a positive program of preserving and improving the richness of California. In the choice on our November 2nd ballot, we believe that Mr. Graves is by far the better man.

We believe that Graves will make a great Governor for all of California — and all Californians.

Labor and Schools

The passage of Labor Day is always an appropriate time to reflect on labor's strength, its contributions to the development and prosperity of America, and its never-ending fight to uphold the principles of freedom, equality and fair play on which this country was founded.

In the struggle to preserve American ideals and the dignity of the individual the American Federation of Labor has played a conspicuous role. From national leadership to local unions, its members have fought against religious and racial prejudice, against discrimination. They have realized that bigotry weakens the foundations of democracy and that

Steward of Month PG&E Merges With Coast Counties G&E



Our City of Alameda Unit is proud to present Brother William (Bill) Morrison as Steward of the Month for September.

Bill started work with the City of Alameda Bureau of Electricity 8 years ago as a Helper. He was soon indentured under the Apprentice Training Program of the State and the City of Alameda as an Apprentice Lineman. Upon completion of the training course he was classified as a Journeyman Lineman.

One of the aspects of Bill's training program was the rebuilding of a transmission line near Susanville, Calif., using the "hot stick" method. The men who worked with Bro. Morrison attested to his fine mechanical ability and sound judgment.

Bill started his Union work as a member of a safety committee which drew up a set of safety orders and induced the City management to accept them. These safety orders are now singled out for high praise in the Electrical industry.

Bro. Morrison has also served on the Unit Negotiating Committee and has helped to bargain for numerous wage and inequity adjustments.

Bill has won a reputation as an exceptionally tactful and discreet shop steward. He has won the respect of both the management and his fellow workmen for the patience he exhibits in resolving grievances.

Bro. Morrison served with the U. S. Navy during World War II, and spent 3½ years in the Hawaiian area as a Machinist Mate First Class. His hobbies include machine shop work, fishing and hunting. **The picture above, showing Bill with a good bag of ducks, will attest to his accurate shooting!**

Bill lives in Alameda with his wife and daughter, at 1215 Willow Street.

His fellow workmen report that he is "a fine fellow, a staunch union man, and a good sport." They also want it known that the City's Bureau of Electricity is 100 percent union.

The UTILITY REPORTER is pleased to salute Bro. WILLIAM MORRISON as our Shop Steward of the Month. Congratulations, Brother Bill!

organized labor can flourish only under a free democratic way of life.

One of the latest evidences of that continuing struggle to uphold civil rights — and it comes appropriately close to Labor Day — is the recent action of the Georgia Federation of Labor in adopting a resolution supporting the decision of the United States Supreme Court banning segregation in the public schools of the nation.

The resolution, passed at the recent convention of the Georgia AFL, voices strong opposition to a state constitutional amendment now before the Georgia electorate calling for abolition of the public school system as a means of circumventing the high court's decision.

It praises the "magnificent service" rendered by the public schools of the state and points out that the amendment, besides being wrong in principle, makes no provision for teachers' pensions or teachers' tenure.

The resolution concludes: "We strongly advise that the necessary adjustments to be made within the framework of our present school system to meet the demands of the United States Supreme Court and furthermore we urge our members to interpret the danger of passing the amendment to the voters in the local communities of Georgia."

That, indeed, is a forthright statement based on real Americanism — a stand that gives added meaning to Labor Day.

The filing by PG&E of a certificate of ownership with the Secretary of State of California completed the merger of the Coast Counties Gas and Electric Company on August 31st.

The only noticeable change taking place in the service area is the substitution of PG&E signs on offices and equipment and the disappearance of signs and service emblems of the Coast Counties company.

A total of 139,283 gas, electric and water customers of Coast Counties are now customers of the PG&E. In communities where both PG&E and Coast Counties have maintained offices, the offices are being consolidated.

All of the 611 employees of Coast Counties are now members of the PG&E organization. Seniority, pension rights, group life insurance and other benefits will be maintained for all former Coast Counties employees.

The former Coast Counties employees who have been integrated into the bargaining units of the IBEW, Local 1245, have disbanded their old union and are joining Local 1245 at a rapid rate. Special meetings have been conducted at Watsonville, Santa Cruz and Concord to explain the IBEW program to the newly-integrated workers.

In addition, a joint committee of representatives of Local 1245 and the disbanded Coast Counties Employees Organization met with top-level officials of the PG&E company. Purpose of the meeting was to insure that these employees would receive full protection of their seniority rights and to extend the maximum possible wages, working conditions and benefits to them.

Officials and members of the former organization have been high in their praise of IBEW Local 1245 for the manner in which they have been welcomed into the union — and for the immediate steps which were taken to give assistance in the matter of protecting and extending the rights of former Coast Counties employees.

ALUMINUM RAISE

St. Louis (PAI) — The AFL Aluminum Workers have announced a tentative agreement with the Reynolds Aluminum Company calling for an average 7 to 8-cent increase for 2,800 workers here, Richmond, Va. and Sheffield. The agreement also provides for more liberal hospitalization, life insurance, vacation and retirement benefits.

Your wardrobe can be protected from dust which seeps into any closet by the very simple method of using plastic shoulder covers or full length plastic bags and keeping your closet doors closed when you're not making your selection of a costume.

Santa Cruz Moore Running For Dist. Attorney

Some of our members in Santa Cruz County are interesting themselves in political contests of all kinds—right on down the ballot to the County District Attorney.

A young Santa Cruz attorney, CHARLES L. MOORE, has issued a campaign statement which is re-



freshing, indeed, as compared to most of today's releases.

MR. MOORE states:

"An essential ingredient of successful democratic government is a vigilant and enquiring people, and their appointed agent to exercise that watchfulness is the District Attorney.

"The office of the District Attorney is denominated non-political, but the vigilance and fairness of the District Attorney go far to re-establish a political climate, which will foster and not retard the healthful development of business within the community.

"Every public official should expect to be criticized more than praised. His obligation is to act in conformity with the law. In executing that obligation it is inevitable that some will disapprove and object.

"A genuine pleasure may be derived from the serious exercise of the duties of public office, and no person should hold public office who does not enjoy the prospect of aiding his community. A person whose principal pleasure is the accumulation of money for himself has no place in public office.

"Our freedom depends upon the sincere belief of the people that their legal system guarantees their liberty. It is not good that the people should fear the law, for most people are above the law. It is vital that the people should take pride in the law, but it is not possible to take pride in the law when those officials who administer it have become blinded to the reasons for the rules they enforce."

The editors of the UTILITY REPORTER read many statements from candidates which arrive in the mail. This is one of the best we have read—and we commend Mr. CHARLES L. MOORE for his honest and direct approach to the voters.

AUTO STRIKE GOES ON

Sheboygan, Wisc. (PAI) — The strike of 3,300 Auto Workers at the Kohler Manufacturing Company moved into its 21st week here. Negotiations have started and stopped five times. New talks have not been scheduled. At least 2,000 of the striking workers are on the union relief rolls.

Machine shop work was long handicapped by a theory that tool steels would be ruined by heating above red hot temperatures. Around the beginning of the 20th Century it was discovered that the theory was false.



'Round and About

Executive Board Member HOWARD H. HILL reports that the Vacaville Unit is highly pleased with results of an organizational meeting held recently.

Following a discussion of the pros and cons of joining the Brotherhood, 100 per cent of the non-members in attendance signed up with Local 1245!

The new members were formally initiated into the Union at the succeeding unit meeting and congratulations were extended by the unit officers and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Vern Mitchell.

HUNTING TIME AGAIN

First reported deer of the season to be bagged by a Local 1245 member was taken by Brothers ERNIE LAINE and BERT BARRINGER of our Monterey Unit. The boys got a fine big buck in the Coast country near Palo Colorado Canyon.

Coast Valleys members held a divisional meeting last month with members in attendance from Monterey, Moss Landing, King City and Salinas units. Conducted in Salinas, the meeting was presided over by Monterey Unit Chairman FRANCIS AGUSTA. Following the business meeting, attendance award was given and refreshments were served. Bus. Rep. GERRY MORAN reports a good time was had by the whole gang.

Bro. GEORGE McKEE, Policy Committeeman for the Department of Pipe Line Operations has finally bested Eddie Cantor! George and his wife, POLLY, after having five girls, finally welcomed a fine, red-haired baby boy last month. We are happy to extend congratulations to George and Polly and their newest addition.

REFRESHMENTS POPULAR

Woodland Unit No. 3814, in the Sacramento Division, celebrated moving into their new meeting hall with a Bean feed after their September 9th meeting. The unit now meets at the Moose Hall on the second Thursday of the month.

Bro. PAUL DEVLIN, Grievance-men from Woodland district, presided over the meeting in the ab-

sence of Unit Chairman DALE PEDROIA, who was out with his Electric crew on emergency work. We undersand the crew did get the job finished in time to help eat the beans, though!

STOCKTON IS ORGANIZING

Bus. Rep. CHARLIE MASSIE reports that only 32 physical employees in the entire Stockton Division remain to be organized into Local 1245. Clerical organizing, too, is moving right along with new members signing up each week.

Attendance at all Stockton Division unit meetings called for contract ratification was very good. The great majority of the members expressed themselves as being well pleased with the gains in wages and conditions.

DeSABLA MEMBER PASSES

Bro. DONOVAN PAUL HUMPHREY, Centerville Powerhouse Operator, passed away at work on August 16th, according to word received from DeSabra Bus. Rep. ROY D. MURRAY.

Bro. HUMPHREY had worked for PG&E for 18 years. He had served at Lime Saddle, Centerville, DeSabra and Chico Substations.

Our deepest sympathy is extended to wife Marjorie, mother, Mrs. Maud Humphrey, brother, Marion (also a member of Local 1245), and sister, Mrs. Doris Wingett.

From our Alameda Unit comes the sad word that Brother BILL COOK, long a most active member and Union officer, has lost an eye.

Bill, a former officer of IBEW Local 50, and former Unit Chairman, Policy Committeeman, Alameda County Central Labor Council Delegate advises that he intends to keep right on being an active and hard working member, just as soon as he's able to get back on the job. That is certainly the kind of spirit that distinguishes a 100 per cent union man!

DANCERS ON STRIKE

London (PAI) — Ballet dancers with the internationally famous Sadler Wells are on strike for more money. They are members of British Actors Equity. The dancers complained that their salaries "compared unfavorably with the West End Chorus Girls." This is no compliment, to be sure!

Catty: "I've got a husband who spends all his money on me."

Kitty: "Stop, you make me jealous."

Catty: "It should, dearie. He's your husband."

roduced to the convention by President J. Scott Milne, received a roaring ovation from the entire assemblage.



BRO. JIMMY LANCE, at microphone, is pictured as he advised the delegates to the State Association meeting that he is retiring as State Secretary so that "some younger man can carry on." Lance has served the IBEW in numerous capacities for more than 40 years. Mrs. Lance is seated at Jimmy's right.

Malcomson Case Ruling

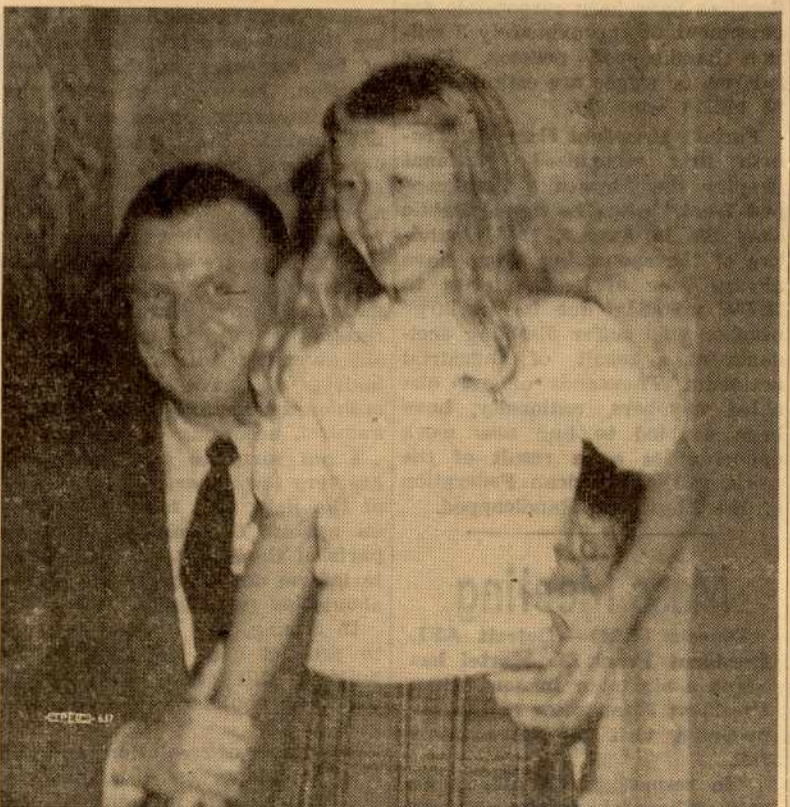
Union and Company members of the most recent Arbitration Board met at the headquarters of Local 1245 on September 8th to hear the decision of the arbitrator in the case of Brother John Malcomson. Dr. Arthur M. Ross, the jointly selected arbitrator, ruled in favor of the Company.

The Board's hearing, held last July, involved the by-pass of Bro. Malcomson on a Turbine-Tender's job at Station "C" in Oakland. When all witnesses had been heard, exhibits entered into the record and briefs presented by both parties, Dr. Ross studied the record. He found that the Company had proper grounds for invoking Section 205.11 of the agreement in rejecting the bid of Bro. Malcomson.

In developing his decision, Dr. Ross ruled that the burden of proof for alleged lack of qualifications lies with the Company, under terms of our union agreement. Thus, an important clarification of the contract was spelled out . . . which will be of value to the Union in future cases.

Members of the Arbitration Board were R. J. Tilson and H. H. Jackson for the PG&E Company, and R. T. Weakley and Elmer E. Bushby for Local 1245. The arbitrator, Dr. Ross, is Director of the Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California.

Bro. Malcomson is to be commended for his interest and cooperation in the development and presentation of his case. While he will not receive his promotion, as a result of the decision, he thanked the Union for the time, money and effort expended in his behalf.



RICHARD P. GRAVES proudly presents his attractive, blonde daughter, 11 year old PERRIN. Mrs. Graves and son, Steve, were not in the picture. The entire Graves family were guests of honor at the annual dinner given by the State Electrical Workers' Association in Santa Barbara during the recent Convention.

Research and Education Corner

An interesting analysis of the "trickle down" theory of economics has just been presented by the Public Affairs Institute of Washington, D. C.

"Trickle down," as the name implies, means the giving of aid and tax relief to the wealthy, to the owners of the mines, the factories, the mills and to large businesses.

According to this theory, which was just approved by President Eisenhower when he placed his signature on the new tax law, following these policies will encourage private investment. Then the wheels of industry will be speeded up, new wheels will be built, and unemployment will dwindle.

Spokesmen for organized labor, liberal and consumer organizations and many economists dispute this theory vigorously. They say it puts the cart before the horse. Few would risk an investment unless they could be sure they would get some return, they say. And they would not get any return on their investment if the great mass of people do not have enough money to buy the goods their investments produce.

Therefore, they urge policies which would help provide this purchasing power: higher wages, lower taxes on the low and middle income groups, price supports for farm products, to name a few.

Even the U. S. Chamber of Commerce is worried about the new theory. In the September issue of

its publication "Economic Intelligence," the Chamber admits that the "trickle down philosophy is not likely to be popular or have many defenders." Still, it insists, the approach is best for America.

No economist worthy of the title can dispute the importance of investment and economic expansion. It is strongly felt by many, however, that investment is on a sounder basis if it is encouraged through a healthy, heavy spending, heavy consuming economy.

Many economists are asking whether we really need new investments at a time when unemployment is high, many factories idle or working only part time, and warehouse inventories are still high.

During the less than two years since Eisenhower was elected, farm income has been cut by 13 per cent, unemployment has markedly increased, and industrial production has fallen steadily. Steel production, for example, is now at less than 68 per cent of capacity. Retail sales have fallen and the national debt grows larger.

So, while President Eisenhower takes great pride in his tax bill and the claim that it represents a savings of 11 per cent for the average taxpayer, labor must dispute this claim. Actually, the small taxpayer gets little or nothing in the way of savings, while corporations and those belonging in the 8 per cent of the taxpayers who derive their income from stock dividends get 90 per cent or more of the benefits of the GOP tax reform.

The labor position was—and still is—that an increase in the exemption for small taxpayers would have been a far superior method of granting tax relief on a broad scale. The tax savings passed on to working families would have had an immediate and direct effect on our economy—through stimulating the purchases of needed consumer goods.

It will be interesting to watch to see when—or if—the benefits of the "trickle down" theory will begin to manifest themselves to Mr. and Mrs. working American.



Adlai Blasts Ike At IBEW Meet

(Continued from Page One)

tions have been changed to permit the employer to throw his full weight against an organizing movement. The requirement that he bargain with the union his employees select has been reduced to meaningless words.

"But the employer's right to lock out and his right to discharge employees who engage in 'concerted activities' has been enlarged. And the board has now announced that it will deny its services and will not apply the law at all in literally thousands of situations in which it has been previously applied."

ISSUE AT ELECTION

Stevenson in looking to the future, stated:

"Yes, I am convinced that in this Nation's forthcoming elections a great issue hangs in the balance; whether democracy is going to be viewed as a means of hanging on to yesterday or whether it is going to be recognized for what it is and has to be — as a way of meeting tomorrow."

"America has everything it needs to keep on growing — to raise the standard of its living — to keep all of its hands at the job of production. It is inevitable that occasional mistakes will be made and that there will be stumbling. But the great fault will not be in falling short. The fault will be in NOT seeing there is a higher goal, that democracy's star moves in the orbit of mankind's growth — never to be reached but to forever be pursued. Democracy's leadership must look for its guidance at that star instead of at last year's statistics. For where there is no vision of a free society's goal it will perish.

"We must say this fall — to ourselves and to a world that wants to hear it — that we believe in a democracy which lives only as it grows."

Mr. Stevenson, who had been in-

HOME TIPS

You can clean porcelain with salt sprinkled on a flannel cloth.

* * *

When you serve cream-of-chicken soup, garnish each cup with chopped, toasted nuts, preferably walnuts or almonds.

* * *

A rolling cart is a real energy-saver to any busy housewife—for taking laundry from hamper to tub to line; for carrying soap, brushes, and other cleaning equipment from one job-site to another; and for carrying baby's bath supplies from nursery to bathroom.

A versatile newcomer along this line is a wheeled aluminum frame with a tier of three trays. It's light and easily manageable for the workaday chores—yet a brisk sudsing sparkles it up for service at a buffet supper. When not in use, it folds neatly for storage.

Don't discard the wing tips, giblets or neck of a chicken. Use them to make chicken broth for use in a soup or a sauce. Cover the chicken parts with a couple of cups of water and add a small onion, a few celery leaves and parsley sprigs, a small carrot, a bay leaf, salt and peppercorns.

* * *

When wallpaper on a wall wrinkles in spots, it's a good sign that moisture is reaching the paper either through a leak in the wall or through condensation. In any event, the chances are that when the paper dries out it will shrink back and the wrinkles will disappear.

* * *

You'll have better and more uniform results in baking if you have ingredients at room temperature when you mix them. They will blend more readily that way, too.

ATOM BETTERS PROSPECTS FOR ELECTRICIANS

Chicago.—J. Scott Milne, president of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, believes the atom has given the electrical industry the brightest future of all industries in North America.

Milne told delegates to the 25th convention of the union that "we are only on the border of the atomic age, but already the effect of the atom in industry, defense and medicine is a going concern." He said powerhouses to be run by atomic energy already are under way in five areas of the U. S.

The IBEW head criticized the Taft-Hartley Act but praised employers in the electrical industry.

"We are at peace and have a good relationship with the vast majority of our employers," he declared. "Our conditions and wages are the best in history."

REDS NO PROBLEM

Milne estimated that more than 500,000 of the union's 625,000 members received pay increases this year, ranging from 4 to 25 cents an hour. He said raises must be granted to help make up for buying power lost by layoffs and to adjust Electrical Workers' rates in several areas in the U. S.

Milne and IBEW Secy. Joseph Keenan said that Communists and racketeers "are no problem at all in the Electrical Workers'."

"We're about as clean, so far as Communists and hoodlums are concerned, as any international union in the country," they said.

Observe safety rules!

YOUR Business Manager's REPORT

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

While a summary of the accomplishments of our 25th convention of the IBEW is to be found elsewhere in this issue, certain observations appear to me to be worthy of mention in this column.

With a membership of 625,000 in the United States, Canada, Alaska, and Hawaii, the IBEW is one of the big unions in organized labor. Its convention was the largest of any union. While a remarkable job was done to keep order and to handle the regular business of the convention, there was a need for the exchange of ideas among the delegates within each branch of the industry.

In order to supplement the convention sessions and to meet the various delegates from the utility branch, your delegates maintained headquarters for informal evening gatherings of utility delegates. We were able to chat briefly with some 400 Utility workers during the week in Chicago.

One of the most heartening developments was the universal loyalty to the IBEW as the union for utility workers and the willingness to approach utility problems with the brotherhood rather than around it. Another was the active interest and participation of the gas people.

There was no doubt as to the

support available to President Milne and Secretary Keenan in their progressive organizing program for all branches of the union.

Particular interest was displayed in the AFL-CIO "no-raid" pact and the possibility of completing organization in the utility field. The change in our constitution in which Article I was amended to cover "All other workers in public utilities," gave recognition to utility workers of all classifications as a matter of firm record.

One of the items which came up in informal discussions and which caused grave concern was the appalling lack of adequate regulations nationally, covering the transmission and distribution of gas wherein safety to the workers and the public is concerned. With the tremendous advancement of the gas industry, it would appear that the adoption of adequate safety rules by the industry must surely come or state and federal legislation will be forthcoming. Some managements are recognizing this, but altogether too many are slow to move on it.

On safety, a bright spot was Detroit Edison, where Local 17 reported an amazing safety record which attests to the excellent union-management cooperation in this respect.

Our paper, the "Utility Reporter" was well received and our exchange list for contracts and other research was swelled considerably through our "get-togethers."

We cannot list all the fine people we met for the locals represented due to space limitations. Let it suffice to say that we talked to IBEW utility workers from New England to Hawaii and from Alaska to Florida and found a common understanding as well as a high type of representation.

The problems which beset Local 1245 are the same that give headaches to locals all over the jurisdiction. We are unique in our geographical and organizational set-up but otherwise very little differences exist.

Probably the greatest benefit derived from mutual discussions regarding utilities lay in the development of a forthcoming utility progress meeting which President J. Scott Milne plans to call as soon as time permits and adequate arrangements can be made. It is hoped that such a meeting of all utility groups will provide a means of completing organization, development of research and education, and acquainting our union people with the program of the IBEW in regard to the utility industry.

The tremendous expansion in gas, electrical and other public utilities is necessary to the maintenance of service to our fast growing population as well as the increased use of these facilities in industries. To understand the technological advancements, the necessity of an adequate and trained labor force and the labor-management aspects of the industry, requires that the International office provide leadership. We have that leadership and it must be supported by understanding, patience, and the willingness of our local unions to cooperate in a total endeavor to do our share in the advancement of the program of the IBEW in the public utility field.

Physically Handicapped Are Good Workers

Paul A. Strachan, President of the American Federation of the Physically Handicapped, announced the observance of the 10th annual "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week", during October 3 to 9.

"Each year this week dramatizes the growing and acute problems of the physically handicapped", Mr. Strachan said. "We want to stress to employers that qualified physically handicapped men and women can, through selective placement, do a good job", he points out.

The Federal-State Employment Services have been responsible for placement of approximately 3 million handicapped persons. Their salaries or wages are estimated at \$3 billion annually.

Former President Harry S. Truman first recognized "National Employ the Physically Handicapped Week" when he signed Public Law 176 in August, 1945. Activities of the sponsoring group have always been of keen interest to IBEW members due to the large number who suffer disabling accidents as a result of industrial accidents. Thousands of our disabled members, nationally, have been enabled to find new work opportunities as a result of the work of the American Federation of the Physically Handicapped.

Mass Meeting

Detroit (PAI)—Detroit AFL President Frank X. Martel has urged a big labor turnout when President Eisenhower makes his proposed visit to Detroit this fall.

"In respect to his office," he said, "there should be a large crowd at the station. If we all cannot meet him, we should get the unemployed in this area to welcome Ike at the train; that will make a good-sized gathering."

Santa Barbara

Delegate Reports on Calif. AFL Convention

By FRANCIS E. GOSS
East Bay Division

This is a short report on some of the highlights of the 52nd Convention of the California State Federation of Labor, as I saw it.

As one of Local 1245's delegates, I had the pleasure of listening to several distinguished speakers. These included Governor Goodwin Knight, Secretary of Labor James Mitchell, and William F. Schnitzler, secretary-treasurer of the American Federation of Labor.

When you boil down these three main speeches, I as a member of labor received the impression that the primary thought concerned the coming elections in November.

When Governor Knight spoke he made an "about face" and promised labor just about everything we could ask for. Through my own knowledge of the Governor and his running mate, Mr. Powers, I know they have a very anti-labor record—a record which isn't hard to find. I am very sorry to say that a small portion of the delegates, including the leadership of the State Federation, apparently failed to learn the lesson taught them in the 1952 election—they seemed to swallow the Governor's promises.

It is my most humble prayer that this small portion of the delegates will open their eyes to see what is going on—before it is too late.

Secretary of Labor Mitchell, in his speech, reaffirmed the promises that our President had made during his campaign of 1952 with regard to labor legislation. To prove how insincere the Administration is when making such statements, I will quote from the speech of the secretary-treasurer of the AFL, William F. Schnitzler:

"When the apologists for the present Administration and the grab-bag Congress try to tell us that the Government we have had during the past two years has been friendly to labor, we may well exclaim, 'May the Saints preserve us from an unfriendly one!'"

Brother Schnitzler was handed a news clipping which he read to the delegates. It read, "President Eisenhower today killed a five per cent pay increase voted by Congress for one and a half million Federal workers."

In my opinion, this shows how "devoted" is President Eisenhower, and, I think, Governor Knight, to the working men and women. We will have to try to change this "devotion" by going to the polls and voting for our friends!

Edmund G. Brown, Attorney General of California, spoke on the second day. In addition to thanking the delegates for their support of his campaign in the Primary Election, he reported that the most important duties of his office include the preservation of our natural resources, the forests, the mines, and the recreation areas.

Attorney General Brown also stated there are millions of anti-Communists in the labor movement in Western Europe. Through recognition of their problems, and aid given by American trade unionists, we have built a great cushion against the threat of Communism, according to Brown.

I am sorry to say that there are very few Americans who know of the fight that labor is putting on against Communism in many parts of the world. It is up to us to inform our brothers and sisters about this great fight.

In closing, Mr. Brown urged us to proceed with our program to build a still better way of life which an abundant California can give us all.

A number of resolutions and policy statements were adopted by the convention, including a demand that the present 75-cent minimum wage be increased to \$1.25 on both state and federal levels.

Policy statements were also adopted on such topics as Work-

men's Compensation, Health Insurance, Social Security, and Welfare.

Other speakers included Whitley P. McCoy, director of the Federal Mediation Service; Edward F. Park, California labor commissioner, and Walter Gordon, chairman of the California Adult Authority. Mr. Gordon's short but interesting speech included a report on how the Adult Authority is trying to place paroled convicts in jobs which will help them to become good citizens again. He thanked the labor unions for helping the Adult Authority to find such jobs.

On Thursday, a floor fight took place on a resolution protesting the appointment of Mrs. Norman Chandler, wife of the publisher of the anti-labor L. A. TIMES, to the Board of Regents of the University of California. When the chairman of the Resolutions Committee asked that the resolution be filed, this was immediately protested. Delegate Robert Ash of Oakland offered a substitute motion, namely that the original resolution be adopted. After numerous speeches, the motion by Ash was carried by a heavy majority.

One of the most important occurrences of the convention took place Thursday night when the AFL Committee for Graves and Roybal held its own meeting during the same hours that the California LLPE was holding its convention.

The State LLPE meeting was attended by only about 200 delegates. As you know, they endorsed Knight and Powers. To me this endorsement does not represent the AFL of California. At the Graves-Roybal meeting we had more than 300 delegates who heard Edward Roybal make a fine speech. It was obvious that most of the people were more interested in the Democratic candidates.

In conclusion, I would like to say that I think I learned an awful lot at this, my first convention, on how the AFL operates in the State of California.

I would like to thank the members of Local Union 1245 for the opportunity to be one of the delegates representing them at this important state AFL convention.

I hope that as a result of the experiences gained I can do a better job as a member of the union who wants to see 100 per cent organization.

Sincerely and fraternally,
FRANCIS E. GOSS,

Recording Secy. Honored at Intl. Convention

GRACE M. BAKER, the charming Recording Secretary of Local 1245, was chosen for an unusual honor at the recent International Convention in Chicago.

From a field of 14 candidates, Grace was elected Lady in Waiting to the Queen of the IBEW Grand Ball.

In addition to being presented to the entire convention, Grace was awarded a lovely corsage of flowers and a crisp new \$50 bill!

Queen of the Ball was Rosemary Kennedy Hyman of Local 134, Chicago, Illinois. Queen Rosemary was presented with a diamond tiara and a wrist watch.

The delegation from Local 1245 was proud indeed of the honor bestowed on Sister Baker. It is especially fitting that one of the few lady Clerical members to hold a local union office in the IBEW should be so honored.

As for Grace, she announced that she was well pleased to have been elected a delegate to the convention, and that she would put the \$50 winnings to good uses!

A smile is a curve that sets many things straight.

Milne Keynotes IBEW Convention

"Today we stand 625,000 strong. We have locals in cities large and small; we have embraced every phase of electrical work."

Thus, President J. Scott Milne reported in his keynote address to delegates to the 25th International Convention.

Milne continued, "We wire skyscrapers and bungalows; we man power plants and distribute electricity into the veins of industry and into the lamps of a continent. "We have members in every field of communication—telephone, radio and TV. We have hundreds of thousands of members engaged in manufacturing tools and equipment that dispense electricity to make life easier for the citizens of the two great countries which we serve."

In continuing his concise review of the organization's progress since the 1950 convention, President Milne added:

"We have a pension plan second to none in the labor movement and it grows stronger every day. Several years ago we had a million and a half dollars in our Fund. Today we have \$35 million.

"We have cause to be proud of the good labor-management policy that is being built up in our industry. It has improved mightily since 1950. We are at peace and have a good relationship with the vast majority of our employers."

Milne added, "Strikes have been few and far between. We have earned the respect of management—a management that prefers a closed shop because it insures competent workmanship and fulfilled contracts. We must work, all of us, to build even better labor-management relations and a good public relations policy."

President Milne reported that the total membership had grown from 450,000 in 1950 to the present strength of 625,000.

During that same period, according to Milne, the number of retired members drawing an IBEW pension has risen from 3775 to 5652. Based on estimates made by actuaries, this figure will be increased to 22,503 by the year 1966.

On the third day of the Conven-

tion, President Milne and International Secretary Joseph D. Keenan were unanimously returned to the offices they had only recently assumed. All incumbent Vice-Presidents, including V. P. Oscar Harbak of San Francisco, were also returned to office.

Free Riders Rebuked As Parasites by Priest

Youngstown, Ohio.—Rev. William Smith, writing in the official paper of the Youngstown Catholic Diocese, charged workers who accept benefits of union organization, but who contribute little or nothing in return, with being "parasites" and "chiselers."

Trade unions, Father Smith pointed out, have won the eight-hour day, seniority provisions, assured pensions, premium pay for overtime, and many other gains. Speaking directly to the worker who fails to participate in union activity and to "free riders," Father Smith noted:

"You are content to reap the harvest of benefits which has been sowed in the seeds of sacrifice and suffering by many who have gone before you and others who are actively engaged in union work today. . . .

"You are a parasite. You are a chiseler. You should reflect on the meaning of the words, 'self respect.'"



Detach and send to Office Manager, Local 1245
1913 Grove Street, Oakland 12, California

PLEASE CHANGE MY ADDRESS!

OLD ADDRESS

Street.....
City..... Zone..... State.....

NEW ADDRESS

Name.....
Street.....
City..... Zone..... State.....