

Participants in the June gathering of the Bay Area Labor Seminar included, l. to r., DAN FLANAGAN, Western Regional AFL Director; DR. PETER ODEGARD, Dean, School of Political Science, Univ. of Calif., JOHN HUTCHINSON, Labor Programs Coordinator, Institute of Industrial Relations; U.C.; and MANUEL DIAS, President, California CIO Council.

Dr. Odegard, the speaker of the evening, commented on the role of labor union members in the political life of our state and nation. His speech was enthusiastically received by the gathering of trade union representatives and labor attorneys.

The Labor Seminar, recently initiated under sponsorship of the U.C. Institute of Industrial Relations, provides an opportunity for interested AFL, CIO and Independent Unionists to get together for interesting discussion periods.

Major Legislative Gains For California Workers

Prior to adjournment, the California State Legislature approved bills calling for increases in the maximum benefits under the state's unemployment, disability and workmen's compensation insurance programs. All three measures were awaiting signature by Governor Knight at press time.

The State Federation of Labor reports that this is the first time in history that benefits under all three plans were boosted at the same session of the legislature.

Unemployment insurance benefits are boosted from a maximum of \$30. to \$33. a week but the bill also raises the qualifying wage from \$300. to \$600. in the base period year. This provision will eliminate 28,000 workers, formerly eligible for benefits, from the coverage of the act. However, about 1,800 workers, not previously eligible, will now be covered by the benefit program. Worst feature of the bill is the provision granting the State Department of Employment the right to disqualify workers from receiving benefits for refusal to accept what the Department deems "suitable employment". The disqualification period has been increased from a maximum 5-week period to 10 weeks.

The disability insurance bill boosts weekly benefits to a maximum of \$40. from the present \$35. top. This coverage applies to off-the-job illness or injury.

The Workmen's Compensation measure increases maximum weekly benefits from \$35. to \$40. for temporary disability, and from \$30. to \$35. weekly for permanent disability. It also raises industrial death benefits from \$7,000. to \$10,000. for a widow only, and from \$8,750. to \$12,500. for a widow with a dependent child.

Other measures approved by the legislature include:

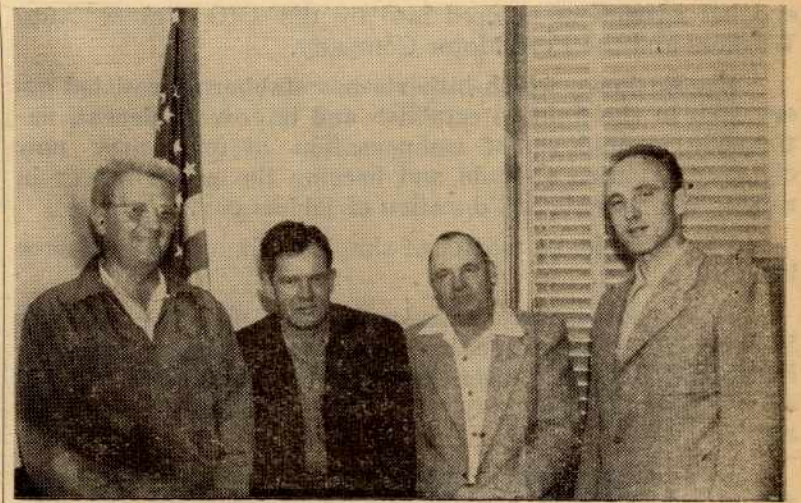
1) A liberalized jurisdictional strike law. The new law provides that if an employer has been guilty of forming a "company union" within 1 year of commencement of a strike, such action will prevent the employer from obtaining injunctive relief against a bona fide labor union. The measure also allows civil action for damages against parties responsible for formation of company union.

2) A Transit District Enabling act: The measure provides that privately owned transit companies may be purchased by the public, using condemnation proceedings if necessary, and protects the rights of workers to their collective bargaining agreement.

3) A 5 percent general increase in the salaries of state employees.

4) A measure which recognizes

(Continued on Page Three)



Oakland Negotiating Committee

Here is the Negotiating Committee which is representing City of Oakland Electric Department employees in current wage talks. L. to r., Frank Schoop, Cable Splicer; William "Buzz" Yochem, Lineman; Lyle Smith and Edmund G. Brown, Fire Alarm Operators.

The municipality group is demanding wage parity with the rates paid for similar work by the cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles. The unit bargains in behalf of Linemen, Cable Slicers, Fire Alarm Operators and Lineman Helpers. Research Director Geo. L. Rice is assisting the committee in the presentation.

85 Cents An Hour!

Strike Threat at Citizens Utilities

As we go to press, the California State Conciliation Service advised that a resumption of negotiations has been arranged between Local 1245 and the Citizens Utilities Company of California. Negotiations had been broken off on June 11th when the company refused to offer a wage increase which was deemed satisfactory by the membership bargaining committee. Present wage rates range from 85 cents an hour for Telephone Operators to \$1.95 per hour for skilled Linemen.

Union members employed by the company had voted overwhelmingly on June 2nd to authorize the bargaining committee to take strike action in the event the negotiations proved unproductive. In a last-ditch attempt to resolve the disputed issues without resorting to a strike, the union asked the Conciliation Service to intervene.

In agreeing to resumption of joint meetings, the union bargaining committee warned that a strike would be called in the event the company refused to satisfactorily increase its wage schedules.

Local 1245 was certified as collective bargaining representative of the employees last January 28th as a result of a National Labor Relations Board election. The company provides telephone service to the communities of Alturas, Susanville, Elk Grove, Rio Vista and Ferndale.

Negotiations have been conducted at the company headquarters in Redding for the past several weeks. Union committee members are Edwina Bush, Traffic Department, Alturas; James Dwyer, Plant, Susanville; Diane Hastings, Commercial, Redding; Bus. Reps. Al Hansen and Roy D. Murray, and International Union Reps. Della MacIntyre and C. P. Hughes.

The committee is seeking an initial union agreement with the company. More than 100 members, employed in the plant, commercial and accounting department, will be affected in event of a strike call.

DILLON ATTENDS SIGNING CEREMONY

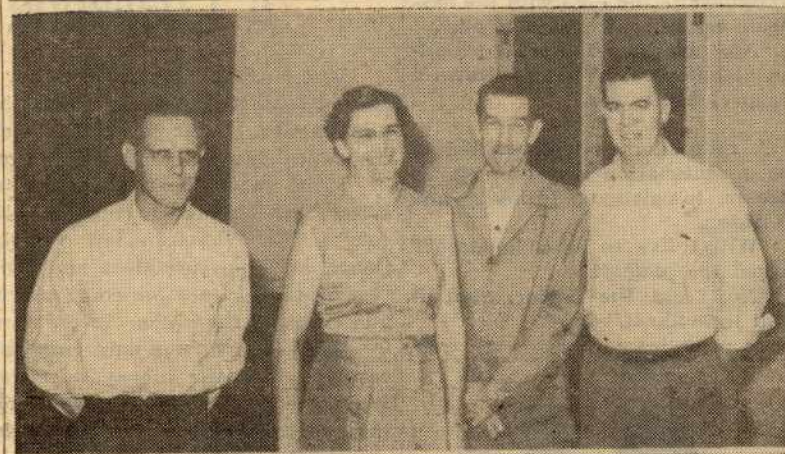
Local 1245 Vice President Frank Dillon, SMUD Unit, visited the Governor's office on June 9th to witness the signing of the Transit District Act. Also present were representatives of the Carmen's Union and others interested in this legislation.

Governor Knight, in signing the bill, made it possible for a public agency to be created for the purpose of purchasing and operating a public transportation system.

The bill was introduced by Sen. Breed of Alameda County as a result of the 75-day strike against the Key System in 1953, which resulted in total shut down of public transportation facilities in the East Bay area.

KICKED OVER!

"If the Democrats defeat Silliman and elect Farr" to the State Senate, they may soon "kick over the political apple cart in the Senate."—Squire Behrens in May 2 S. F. Chronicle. And the Democrats did!



Clerical Unit Elects Officers

Pictured here, l. to r., are the newly elected officers of the Marysville Clerical Unit, No. 3601, chosen at the June 1st meeting. They are: DON BOLYARD, chairman; ZOE SCHOOF, Recorder; DAMON PEMBROKE, Exec. Com. (and former Unit Chairman), and AL BROKAW, Vice Chairman. Bro. Pembroke is also the unit delegate to the Marysville Central Labor Council.

All Labor Unites For Minimum Wage Law

Washington, D. C.—This city, long accustomed to the art of lobbying in high places, is going through one of the most extraordinary lobbying experience in its history—the first joint AFL-CIO grass roots drive in behalf of the \$1.25 minimum wage.

For almost two months, delegations from AFL and CIO unions, most of them rank and filers, have been coming into Washington and then spreading out to tackle their Congressmen in their own offices with arguments for boosting the minimum wage from the present 75 cents to \$1.25 and for extending coverage widely.

Many of the delegates are men and women right out of the shops and they talk in terms of experience. They need no briefings to understand the issues involved—all they need to know is where their Congressmen is located and they take over from then on.

That they are getting results is strongly indicated. Almost nowhere do they find Congressional sentiment against a minimum wage or in favor of keeping it where it is. They have found many Congressmen for \$1 or \$1 plus, including many Republicans. Very rarely do they find even Republicans determined to cling to the 90 cents proposed by President Eisenhower.

They feel strongly that they have been making progress and their delegations are going to keep right on coming into Washington until the minimum wage bill is finally passed.

A Senate Subcommittee already has held hearings and is now writing its report. All of the Democrats are expected to go for at least \$1 and possibly more. Most of the Republicans are willing to go higher than the President's 90 cents.

Now a new hurdle has been leaped. For some time there were strong reports that Chairman Graham A. Barden of the House Committee on Education and labor would bottle the minimum wage bill up in his Committee. Last week Chairman Barden assured one of the visiting joint labor delegations that he wouldn't. He has kept his word and House Committee hearings are now getting under way.

Barden made no commitments as to his own position on the amount or coverage—but at least the bill will not be buried in Committee and prevented from reaching the floor this session.

Headquarters in Washington are at the Congressional Hotel, just a stone's throw from Capital Hill. Here a suite of rooms has been taken over by the Joint Minimum Wage Committee under the operating direction of CIO Counsel Arthur Goldberg. The Committee was set up by the AFL Ladies Garment Workers, the AFL Hatters, the CIO Clothing Workers and the CIO Textile Workers.

The presidents of the four unions came to Washington and saw Pres. Eisenhower and Secretary of La-

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The UTILITY REPORTER
RONALD T. WEAKLEY Editor
GEORGE L. RICE Associate Editor
Editorial Board: Frank D. Gilleran, President; George Wagner, Grace M. Baker, Herbert C. Macy, Frank Dillon, Howard H. Hill, Marvin Wagner, Ray D. Reynolds.
Published monthly at 1918 Grove street, Oakland 12, Calif., by Local Union 1245 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, A. F. of L.

Historic Move To Guaranteed Annual Wage

(AFL Release)

Detroit.—The United Auto Workers (CIO) paved the way for the guaranteed annual wage in a historic agreement with the Ford Motor Company providing cash benefits for laid-off workers and other contract improvements.

The compromise pact is expected to set a pattern for the automotive and other mass production industries.

Union President Walter P. Reuther said the company was entitled to "a great deal of credit" for having the courage to pioneer in a new field—providing workers and their families with greater security against the hardships of unemployment.

The agreement, reached after many weeks of bargaining, averted a strike of 140,000 Ford employees. It was criticized by the National Association of Manufacturers as a blow to the national economy but it was greeted in Wall Street with a sharp upsurge in stock prices.

The major feature of the new contract provides for creation of a \$55 million fund from which workers could draw layoff pay supplementing unemployment compensation. The company will start contributing money immediately to this fund at the rate of 5 cents per hour for each worker.

Benefits will not be available to workers until a year from now. The plan would be dovetailed with unemployment compensation so that a laid-off worker would receive 65 per cent of his normal take-home pay during the first four eligible weeks and 60 per cent of his take-home pay for the next 22 weeks. Total duration of the benefits is 26 weeks.

While this plan is still a far cry from a guaranteed annual wage, it is the opening wedge in that direction in that it establishes the principle of employer responsibility for disemployment of workers. Other contract gains included:

1. An increase in the annual improvement factor based on greater productivity which will provide au-

tomatic pay rises of 6 cents an hour or 2 1/2 per cent of base pay, whichever is greater, in each of the next three years.

2. A more liberal pension and retirement plan.

3. Longer paid vacations for employees with 10 to 15 years of service.

4. A higher rate in the cost-of-living wage escalator clause.

5. Half holidays on Christmas and New Year's eves, constituting a seventh paid holiday.

6. Triple pay for holiday work by most employees and upward adjustment of pay schedules for workers in certain skilled classifications.

7. Extension of medical and hospital benefits to wives and children of workers.

Reuther estimated the contract improvements aggregate in excess of 20 cents an hour.

Will Probe Low Income

A Congressional committee is set to launch an intensive study of the perennial and persistent problem of the low-income family.

A subcommittee of the Joint Committee on the Economic Report aims to find out whether chronic low income is a problem arising from lack of education, limited training in skills, or from other reasons.

Some of the questions the committee will try to answer are:

Are people who lose their jobs to machines unable to find—or unequipped to hold—other well-paying jobs? Do they need retraining?

How big a factor is age in relegating workers to poor-paying jobs? How seriously do pension factors enter into the problem?

How about the disabled workers?

What can people in depressed areas do to help make ends meet when the community's job opportunities shrink or disappear? How mobile is the average worker who loses his job?

The subcommittee is headed by Senator John J. Sparkman (D., Ala.), Senator Ralph Flanders (R., Vt.), and Congressman Augustine B. Kelley (D., Pa.).

The Auto Pact

There may be some strange repercussions from the epochal agreement entered into by the CIO United Auto Workers and the Ford Motor Company.

Big Business, which hitherto has stubbornly resisted every step in the fight to establish and improve a decent, nationwide unemployment compensation system, may now change its entire attitude and become the prime mover in raising the benefits and duration of jobless pay.

Why? It's just a matter of simple arithmetic. It will save business money.

Here's how it works. Under the Ford plan, the company is obligated to supplement state unemployment insurance benefits to laid-off workers up to a maximum of 65 percent of average take-home pay for a total period of 26 weeks for any one year.

If the law provided unemployment compensation benefits of two-thirds of a worker's pay for 26 weeks, the company wouldn't have to kick in with any of its own money.

The two-thirds standard is not unreasonably high. It has been favored by the American Federation of Labor and leading experts in the field for many years. In fact, the President of the United States has repeatedly appealed to state governors to work for the enactment of the state laws providing standards of not less than half nor more than two-thirds of average pay for unemployment compensation.

Up to now, not a single state has met this standard. Maybe, if Big Business does a turnabout on this issue, we may get action on the part of the state legislatures before long.

More On Automation

Lots of talk going on these days about Automation. Most people seem to think this is something which MAY face us in the future—some day. That is fallacious.

Automation is with us right now—more than most people care to admit. A major TV manufacturer in Chicago has an automatic assembly line—run by TWO people—who, with the machinery, replace 200 assembly line workers.

The remarkable "thinking machines" developed by IBM and Remington Rand are replacing thousands of office workers when they are installed. And let's not forget about right here at home. The utility industry is now adapting to automation in a big way. Look around you at some of the new steam plants, for example. Machines are replacing men—and large numbers of them. But, as the old saying indicates, "we ain't seen nothin' yet!" The industry's plans for use of atomic energy call for full utilization of automation.

Labor learned long ago that it is unrealistic to resist technological improvements. Properly adapted, these wondrous scientific devices can be made to work for the enrichment of all of us. That's where we come in. It IS our job to keep abreast of technological changes—for the protection of our fellow workmen. We must seek safeguards for the economic security of all our members when we sit at the bargaining table. Should it become necessary to relocate workers from one industry to another, the job must be accomplished in a smooth and orderly manner. We can develop these procedures through the medium of free collective bargaining.

Relocation of workers in our industry hardly seems likely. Recent industry studies indicate that uses for electric power in California will increase by nearly 700 per cent between now and 1970! That's only a 15-year period. Corresponding increases will affect the gas portion of the industry as well.

With such rapid changes comes a need for more skillful workmen—able to adapt themselves to the changing needs of the industry. So, we seriously recommend to all of you in this great industry a continuing program of self-improvement. Keep up with these new developments. Study everything you can lay your hands on. Prepare yourself for another related job in the industry if the signs point to elimination of your present classification.

You're on the job every day. You can see the changes as they are taking place. It is up to you to protect yourself as well—by being ready to meet them when they come.

Lewis Holden Honored at Dinner



Brother Lewis Holden receives an IBEW lapel pin from Bus. Mgr. Ron T. Weakley at the dinner honoring Holden on his retirement. Pictured, left to right, are Ray Michael, Robert O'Lincoln, Holden and Weakley.

More than 50 members gathered at a dinner in Concord on June 10 to honor Brother Lewis Holden, who is retiring from active service with the PG&E Company. Tom Riley headed the committee which arranged the successful affair.

Unit Chairman George Hanford, acting on behalf of friends of Holden, presented him with a case of shotgun shells and a cash gift to supplement his hunting equipment. Lew, of course, is widely known as

an ardent duck hunter.

Business Manager Ron Weakley presented Bro. Holden with an IBEW lapel pin and complimented him on his many years of loyalty to the union.

Brother Robert O'Lincoln served as master of ceremonies for the dinner. In attendance from the union's business office, in addition to Weakley, were Ass't Bus. Mgr. Mert Walters and Bus. Reps. Del Petty and Gene Hastings.

A Challenge to Workers

Bro. HARRY HOLLINS, Editor of the Kern County Labor Journal, offered some thoughtful remarks in a recent column about labor political action. Commenting on the enactment of legislation in Wisconsin which prohibits political contributions from labor unions, Hollins wrote:

"This should be a challenge to all AFL members, for what the Wisconsin legislature can do, other legislatures can also do. Of course, the Wisconsin law will be eventually declared unconstitutional, as its perpetrators and the governor knows, but it will take two or three years for court procedure to declare it unconstitutional and get it off the books. In the meantime, it will be in force.

Then, it will not only cost unions money in court, but will also cost the taxpayer money in trying the cases from court to court. But some people are so anxious to win an unethical political victory they don't care about the money that the taxpayer must spend.

It might point up, however, that evidently unions have been somewhat effective in electing decent candidates who are not pledged to any special interests, and the reactionaries are running scared.

It might also point up a lesson that AFL members better support their national and local LLPE organizations to prevent the election of senators and assemblymen to the state capitol (or governors) who will lend their name and vote to an unconstitutional and muzzling law such as the Wisconsin one.

Because if the workman is going to hang on to his present standard of living, he is going to have to get into politics with both feet.

The tramp entered the doctor's office. He looked worried.

"Doctor," he said, "you've got to help me. I swallowed a silver dollar about 15 years ago."

"Good heavens, man," ejaculated the doctor. "Why have you waited 15 years? Why didn't you go to a doctor the day you swallowed the coin?"

"To tell the truth," replied the tramp, "I didn't need the money at that time."

"You know, I'm 5 foot six inches stripped?" said the cute young thing.

"But, you don't have to strip to have your height read," said her friend.

"That's what I told the doctor," replied the girl.

"You don't make very good music with that instrument," said a bystander to the man with the bass drum as the band ceased to play.

"No," admitted the drum-pounder, "I know I don't; but I drown a heap of bad music."

A railroad man who wanted to be a centenarian was told by his doctor to give up drinking and smoking.

"Will I live to be a hundred?" asked the patient.

"No," said the doctor, "but it will seem like it."



"IF YOU CAN KEEP YOUR HEAD WHEN ALL ABOUT YOU ARE LOSING THEIRS... MAYBE YOU DON'T FULLY UNDERSTAND THE SITUATION"

'Round and About

Well, we have a yachting story for you this month. Concerns Bro. KENT CLARK, Control Operator at the Moss Landing Steam Plant.

On Saturday, May 29th, Brother Clark boarded his sleek Mercury Class sail boat at famous Stillwater Cove, near Pebble Beach and made preparation to enter a race. The day was clear and sunny and the wind looked good to Kent. All in all—he felt pretty good about his chances. Tension was running a bit high as the boat skippers wondered just who would take home the perpetual trophy award by Stuart Haldorn of Pebble Beach. BANG!

The gun sounded and the racing craft were off.

Two days—and five races—later, Bro. Clark again stood on the deck at Stillwater Cove. He was the winner of all five events!

Sailing and winning is not new to Kent. Last year, he took his Mercury boat over to Honolulu and won the Hawaii Mercury Class event. Bro. Clark brought home a beautiful Monkey Pod bowl on a silver plate from that one.

We are happy to join the Coast Valley members in sending our congratulations to Bro. Kent Clark for his victories in this wonderful sport.

PREDICTION ACCURATE

Last month we predicted that the United Auto Workers WOULD settle their contract with the Ford Motor Company—and would achieve a settlement averaging about 18 cents per hour. They exceeded that—as the settlement came to 20 cents! And—the establishment of the principle of the Guaranteed Annual Wage is certain to affect all of us in labor in the future. We say to the UAW men—a good job well done.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The State Federation of Labor has just announced that 3 lucky—and informed—high school seniors

have been awarded the annual state labor scholarships valued at \$500 each. The 3 are: Eleanor Rosch, San Fernando High, Lester O'Shea, Lowell High, S. F., and Paul Wadsworth, Westchester High, L. A. We congratulate them all!

Incidentally, these scholarships are an annual event. It would pay you members who have a son or daughter entering their senior year in high school to advise them to take the examination for next year's scholarships. Just drop a note to the Union headquarters—we'll gladly furnish you the details.

INTERESTING

Mr. JOHN R. CHELEW, lobbyist for the Merchants and Manufacturers Association of So. California made an interesting comment a few days ago in Sacramento. Speaking before the Senate Committee on Labor, in opposition to the labor-supported FEP measure, Chelew said:

"We don't need this law. Our jobs are offered on a basis of experience and skill—and sometimes an employer is foolish enough to think he might get aptitude and a willingness to do an honest day's work from an employee."

Interesting to hear such a crass statement from the largest and most powerful employer association in the west!

JUNE ELECTIONS

Just in case your unit hasn't yet had its June meeting—please don't forget to turn out to nominate and vote for the best candidate for your unit officers. Don't forget—just as we sometimes judge an employer group by the quality of its spokesman, so does the general public judge us by the quality of our local unit leadership.

Mid-Calif. IBEW Meet at S.L.O.

The Central Valley Executive Conference of the IBEW assembled in day-long session in San Luis Obispo on Saturday, June 11th. Present for Local 1245 were Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley, Research Director George L. Rice, Bus. Reps. Gerry Moran and Scott Wadsworth.

Other utility locals in attendance were Local 47, Alhambra, represented by Mike Kelly, and Local 465, San Diego, represented by Vernon Hughes and Jack Loftus.

The session, held at the Tower Restaurant, was devoted to reports from representatives of the 10 local unions present, and talks by International Representatives Verne Breiulot and Wally Barrett.

Host duties for the conference were shared by Locals 1245 and 639 of San Luis Obispo. Presiding over the conference was Bob Conn, Bus. Mgr. of the S. L. O. local union, and Lloyd Myers, Local 100 of Fresno, served as secretary.

Steward of Month



Brother CHARLES HASTY makes the grade this month as our outstanding shop steward. Pictured is Charlie with two of his sons. Three daughters and three more sons are included in Charlie's family, and he has already become a grandfather 10 times!

Starting with the PG&E as First Operator at Kern Canyon Power House in May, 1947, Bro. Hasty has been an active trade unionist from the first.

Bidding to Rock Creek Power House in 1950 as a Relief Operator and Utilityman, Bro. Hasty was soon assigned as First Operator, a position he still holds.

Bro. Hasty, a member of the De Sabla Division Grievance Committee, has also served as Shop Steward since 1953. He is now the Chief Steward for the Feather River District.

Charlie's principal community service activity is with the Boy Scouts of America. He organized a new scout troop in the Feather River Canyon country in May, 1953, with nine Tenderfoot candidates and one Second Class Scout. In just two years, five of these lads, including his own two sons, had advanced to the rank of Star Scout. Those of our readers who know Scouting will agree this is an enviable record for any troop—and reflects the high quality of Charlie's leadership.

Bro. Hasty is known as a first-rate, conscientious shop steward and a good union man in every respect. The UTILITY REPORTER is happy, indeed to salute, as Steward of the Month, Brother CHARLES HASTY. Keep up the good work, Charlie!

The Right to Eat

Two years ago, only the bus station eating place in downtown Baltimore was open to Negroes. Today, all downtown dime store lunch counters serve everyone, regardless of race or color.

Behind this story is the Congress of Racial Equality (CORE)—which includes in its membership many trade unionists.

Baltimore's CORE began a campaign of negotiations and leaflet distribution, which soon brought results in Woolworth's and Kresge's. These companies had already faced CORE campaigns in St. Louis, where CORE members had worked patiently for years before getting all dime store lunch counters opened to Negroes.

But Baltimore's Grant's was a holdout. Colored and white CORE members sat at Grant's lunch counter at busy hours and tried to get service. No results. The Governor's Commission talked with management. Still no results.

New York CORE then picketed Grant's Harlem store, asking customers not to buy there as long as the Baltimore store refused to serve Negroes.

Finally one CORE member—acting as proxy for a stockholder—raised the issue at Grant's annual stockholders meeting. Company officials promised to look into the matter.

A week later they announced that their Baltimore store would welcome customers regardless of race.



Marysville Physical Unit

Unit No. 3611, Marysville Physical group, selected their new officers for the coming term at their regular meeting held on June 1st. Chosen were (l. to r.): FRANK MORAN, Chairman; BILL POOLE, Vice Chairman; GEORGE KENNEDY, Recorder; PAUL BURKS and PETE MENCHINI, Exec. Committee. Also selected, but not pictured here, are JOHN BAKER, Exec. Com., and N. L. GORDON, Shop Steward. Bro. Moran is Policy Committeeman for Colgate Division and Bro. Burks also serves on the Divisional Grievance Committee. Social Chairman DEAN PENNEBAKER and his committee provided an excellent smorgasbord which was enjoyed by all in attendance.

BOARD OK'S NEW INS. PLAN

A new life insurance plan for employees of the Pacific Gas and Electric Co., to become effective July 1, 1955, was approved by the Executive Board of Local 1245 at a special meeting held on May 20. Following approval, Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley entered into the Memorandum of Understanding with the company which sets forth the terms of the new plan.

Major provisions are as follows:

(1) The eligibility period will be reopened for 30 days for all em-

ployees, commencing July 1, 1955. No medical examination will be required to qualify for insurance benefits.

(2) Present participants may—
(a) Continue participation in the present plan, but their insurance will be "frozen" at the maximum now in effect.

(b) Participation in the new plan, which provides a flexible schedule geared to the wage level of an employee.

(3) Present life insurance coverage will be doubled—to approximate 2 years' salary for each employee.

(4) Maximum coverage limits will be increased to \$50,000.

(5) Employees suffering total and permanent disability may receive up to \$20,000 cash settlement. Balance of the insurance, if any, will be paid as a death benefit.

The contribution rate for the revised plan is unchanged. Employees will still pay 50 cents per \$1,000 of insurance, and the company will pay the balance of the premium.

Major Legislative

(Continued from Page One)
the right of school teachers to join labor unions.

5) A policy statement on Fair Employment Practices which, unfortunately, makes no provision for enforcement.

On the negative side, a great many measures which would have been harmful to labor unions, and to citizens generally, were defeated. These include:

1) Defeat of all attempts to initiate so-called "right-to-work" or secondary boycott legislation.

2) Defeat of numerous union regimentation bills designed to cripple labor independence.

3) Defeat of the Millionaire's Tax Amendment which would have called for a constitutional convention to impose a 25 percent ceiling on federal income taxes. This, if enacted, would have shifted the federal budget almost entirely on the shoulders of the wage earner public.

Other measures strongly supported by labor, which met defeat included a state minimum wage act of \$1.25 per hour, applicable to men and women in any industry; a state FEP law with enforcement powers; measures designed to facilitate collective bargaining in public jurisdictions, such as municipalities, hospitals, fire departments, etc.; and legislation designed to tighten inspection standards for new construction and remodeling activities.

A large number of bills, passed in the closing hours of the legislative session, are now threatened with veto by Governor Knight. These include authorizations for purchase or improvement of recreational and cultural facilities with funds provided for state parks and beaches. For example, the measure approved by the Senate and Assembly to allocate \$350,000, for purchase of Asilomar resort and grounds for state operation will be vetoed, according to a late announcement from Sacramento.

Labor was represented in Sacramento during the entire session by C. J. Haggerty, Executive Secretary of the State Federation of Labor, who was assisted by Legal Council Charles Scully and IBEW International Rep. George Mulkey, in addition to legislative representatives from numerous other unions.

Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley and Research Director Geo. L. Rice made several trips to Sacramento during the session to check on legislation

TEXAS SOLONS PRAISE TRACY

The Texas House of Representatives unanimously adopted a resolution praising the late Daniel W. Tracy for his services to organized labor and the Nation.

Tracy, president of the AFL Electrical Workers for many years and a member of the AFL Executive Council, died March 22 in Washington. He was a member of Houston Electrical Workers Local 716.

The resolution was introduced by Rep. Don Kennard of Fort Worth, a son of an international representative of the IBEW.

Home Tips ★★

All wallpaper can be cleaned. Washable wallpaper, which has a protective coating, can be cleaned by sponging it with water. Non-washable wallpaper is cleaned with a material resembling dough, that picks up dirt as it is rubbed on the paper.

Mix two six-ounce cans of frozen lemonade with a six-ounce can of frozen orange juice. Add water as directed on cans. Pour into large glasses, filling about half full. Add about a fourth of a cup of ginger ale to each glass and then ice cubes. Stir. If you want to have it in punch-bowl style, add juices to ice in the punch bowl first, and then pour about a pint of ginger ale slowly down the sides of the bowl. Makes three quarts.

of particular interest and importance to utility workers.

Next matter of political interest to come before Californians will be the special elections to fill 2 Senate vacancies and 2 Assembly vacancies. The Governor has given no indication, thus far, as to a date for these special elections.

All Labor Unites

(Continued from Page One)

bor James B. Mitchell. Staff members assigned to the headquarters have worked closely with both the AFL and CIO legislative committees. Press conferences are held frequently. There is plenty of minimum wage literature available.

Back at home other groups are equally hard at work, getting signatures for petitions and button-holing their Congressmen as they drop in from Washington.

What is striking is that most of the members of the various delegations that have come to Washington make more than 75 cents an hour or even 90 cents an hour. But they know how important a decent minimum wage is for the nation's economy and to prevent one section of the country from taking advantage of another thru substandard wages. And they are out to stop substandard wages not for themselves but for others if they can.

(Reprint from San Francisco LABOR)



New Davis G. C. Unit Officers

Here are the newly-elected officers of the Davis Yard and Warehouse unit of our General Construction forces. Back row, l. to r., HAROLD BEGBIE, Recorder, and LESTER RETTIG, Chairman; front row, NICK KIRK, Exec. Com., BILLY MAY, Vice Chairman, and ED ELMORE, Exec. Com. Bro. DON RICHARDSON provided coffee and sandwiches to members of the unit following their election meeting on June 3.



YOUR Business Manager's REPORT

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

One phase of the rising use of automation is the attendant question of safety. This important item cannot be overlooked if an honest appraisal of the effects of automation is to be made.

When human labor is completely eliminated, the risk of operating an unattended plant is almost wholly that of management. When automatic equipment and complex instrumentation reduce, but do not entirely eliminate manpower, then we must look at the safety factors affecting the remaining operators.

Formerly, in an isolated equipment failure caused by either mechanical or operating error, the potential damage was usually confined to a small phase or location of the plant operation. Now, however, the integration of steam generators, prime movers, auxiliaries and controls, reduce the opportunity for isolation in cases of trouble. This means that the danger to plant equipment and personnel is, in this writer's opinion, relatively higher.

In spite of the improved metal alloys, protective devices, etc., there remains the cold fact that higher temperatures, pressures, etc., are involved in modern plants.

Naturally, increased investment in automation and large integral generating units is designed to reduce the labor cost as well as increase the production.

One must only look over the last 15 years on the local scene to visualize the revolutionary changes in equipment, manpower utilization and K. W. H. production.

Some equipment failures have been reported but the damage to plant and operators has been comparatively minor. Age means metal fatigue. A loss of chemical control means danger to affected metal surfaces. Overdue inspection and repair outages mean reduced safety factors.

Proper care and preventive maintenance are necessary to keep automatic controls in proper and safe operating condition.

Our prime concern, as a labor union, is the welfare of the employees we represent. We want them to be as safe from harm or potential harm as possible. We urge safe working practices, mental and physical alertness and a constant awareness of the tremendous forces they are handling.

Management has the prerogative to plan and man its facilities. We bargain for adequate pay and good working conditions for specified categories of work.

I shall not discuss the broader aspects of productivity and the division of profits in this article but will confine it to safety as it applies to technological progress. If adequate manning, adequate inspection and preventive maintenance costs money, then it is the responsibility of the employer to provide that money. To do less, increases the danger to human beings—who are more important than all the giant plants in the world.

Reports of any dangerous situations, unsafe practices, or impossible ranges of responsibility for operators will be checked and cor-

rective measures sought by this Union.

We ask that our members watch closely the safety factors involved in operating and maintaining the huge facilities that contain forces which nature never intended should be contained.

Bushby Wins Idea Award

Elmer Bushby, Clerical Bus. Rep. for Local 1245 is wealthier today, to the tune of \$1,000, as a result of a suggestion submitted to the PG&E Company. Bushby submitted a recommendation to the company way back in 1951, when he was a clerical employee in Colgate Division.

The letter notifying Bushby of his good fortune is as follows:

"Dear Mr. Bushby: It is my privilege, in behalf of the Central Suggestion Committee of the Pacific Gas & Electric Company to inform you that your Suggestion No. 12-15 'Non-Pricing of Work Order Estimates,' which you submitted while you were an employee in the Colgate Division, has been selected for an additional award.

Enclosed is a check for the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000). This award payment is considered by the Bureau of Internal Revenue to be compensation earned while in the employ of the company and, therefore, is subject to the normal tax or income.

The members of the Central Suggestion Committee extend to you their sincere congratulations for the additional recognition which has been afforded on your suggestion.

Yours truly,
/s/ P. E. REYNOLDS, Chairman,
Central Suggestion Committee.

IN MEMORIAM

Local Union No. 6, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, regrets the passing of JOSEPH J. NUNAN, who died on Monday, May 23, 1955, after an extended illness.

Brother Nunan was appointed president of Local Union No. 6, I. B. E. W. on November 8, 1937, for the unexpired term of office of Fred Desmond who retired.

Brother Nunan was elected President in 1938 and served the Local Union in this capacity until 1946.

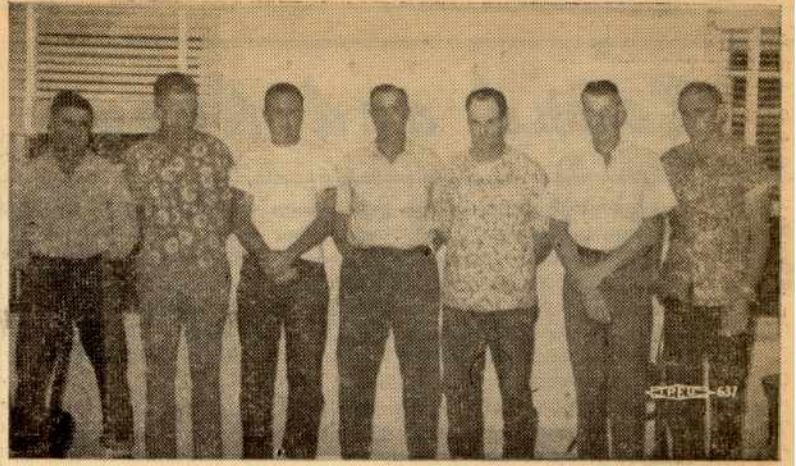
He was appointed to the National Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee for the Electrical Industry by the late Dan W. Tracy, former president of the I. B. E. W. Brother Nunan became a member of Local Union No. 6 on March 9, 1905, and had been an active member until October 25, 1949, at which time he applied for his I. B. E. W. pension.

Movie Note

"TWENTY-FOUR HOURS", a 16 mm color film produced by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen, AFL, has just been awarded the "Golden Reel Award" as the outstanding film produced by a labor union during 1954. The award was made by the Film Council of America.

This film is now available for showing in units of our own Local 1245. If your unit membership wishes to see the picture, please notify your Business Representative — or contact the business office direct. We'll be glad to send you the film via Greyhound Bus.

In many cities, the public library has available a 16mm movie sound projector which can be loaned to local groups without charge. Check up in your home area — and find out where you can borrow a projector for use in your own unit meetings.



Colusa Unit No. 3612 Officers

A full slate of officers for the coming two-year term was selected by the membership at Colusa on June 7th. Pictured 1, to r., are: DAVE BIBEAU, Exec. Com.; GENE CLARK, Shop Steward; JOE SKINNER, Vice Chairman; ED LYKINS, Chairman; CECIL WELLBORN, Recorder; PAT DUNN, Exec. Com. and HAROLD PATRICK, Grievance Committeeman.

Dr. Hutchins Says—

Monopoly Papers Menace to U. S.

American newspaper editors heard a scorching appraisal of their performance by Dr. Robert M. Hutchins, former president of the University of Chicago and present chairman of the Ford financed Fund for the Republic.

Speaking to the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Hutchins took them to task for their complacency while watching what he called "erosion of freedom."

"When the official line permitted," he said, "you have sallied forth, as when you gallantly led the troops from the rear in a belated attack on Senator McCarthy. You have filled the air with warnings of the sinister figures of the left but have printed nothing about the fat cats on the right.

"You have allowed things to get to such a pass that some government departments now have guidance clinics in which the employee is taught how not to look like a security risk," Hutchins continued.

"Look at the Passport Division, Americans on their lawful occasions; at the Attorney General's list, ruling the lives of thousands on the basis of hearsay; at the Post Office Department saving us from Pravda and Aristophanes; at the State Department adding the name of (Edward J.) Corsi to those of (John Patton) Davies and (John S.) Service and countless others.

"The most distressful part of it is not that these things happen but that the free press of this country appears to regard them as matters of routine.

"What the framers of the First Amendment had in mind was debate, a great continuing debate, with the people hearing all sides and getting all the facts. If government could be kept from interfering with this debate, nothing could interfere with it; for a man who differed with the existing papers could start one of his own. The Founding Fathers did not foresee that 94 per cent of American cities and 18 American states would be without competing papers.

"In the overwhelming majority of communities there can now be no debate among rival editors. The editor in a one-paper town has the only voice there is, and the only one there is likely to be. The debate has become a soliloquy.

"Talk about the virtues of monopoly is the flimsiest rationalization, as is shown by the poor quality of the papers in many monopoly towns.

"Monopoly cannot be a good thing. At its best it can be like a benevolent despotism, good while the benevolence lasts, but an accident in any case. Monopoly may in the present state of affairs be a necessary evil, but let us not pretend that it is not an evil.

"Rising costs have put the publisher in the driver's seat, where he has no business to be. The First Amendment was not instituted to give a preferred position to people

who were making money out of papers as against those who were making money out of other articles of commerce.

"The amendment was to protect the content of the press, not the cash return from it. The reason the publisher is in the driver's seat is that it costs so much money to own and operate a newspaper.

"If the soliloquy is that of one of the richest men in town, it is more than likely that it will sound the same political note as other soliloquies in other towns, rendered by other rich men. This is the basis of the phrase, 'a one-party press.'

"Of course we have a one-party press in this country, and we shall have one as long as the press is big business, and as long as people with money continue to feel safer on the Republican side."

San Luis Obispo— Bidding Rights Topic at Area Meet

A healthy discussion on the issue of Division versus System job bidding rights occupied members who attended the Area meeting held in San Luis Obispo this month. Unit members from Paso Robles, Santa Maria and Morro Bay joined with their S. L. O. brothers at the meeting.

Bus. Rep. Moran reports that these members have given a lot of thought to this important issue, and have contributed to a fund of constructive information in the area.

Moran gave an informative talk on the activities of the state legislature regarding bills of interest to members of our union.

The formation of Framing Crews was also a subject of discussion by the membership.

Southern Area Executive Board Member Marvin Wagner and Policy Committeeman Barry Dolan were in attendance at the meeting. Both gave reports on the activities of other units in their respective areas which were well received by the group.

Hayward Bowlers Tie for First Place

After six weeks of competition in their league, the bowling team of Hayward Unit No. 2314 is tied for first place. Members supporting the team are understandably proud of their record.

Team Captain Ed Kearnes is urging union members to drop in to the Village Bowl in San Lorenzo on Tuesday of each week at 9 p.m. to support the team. Competition will continue for the next six weeks.

Team members include Marvin Dennis, Joe Souza, Joe Prioste, Bill Perros and Kearnes.

Culinary Union Asks Federal Investigation of Hotel Owners

Demands for a Senate investigation of startling developments in the current strike against 12 luxury hotels in Miami Beach, Fla., were made by counsel for the Hotel & Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union with the full support of the American Federation of Labor.

In a letter to Chairman Matthew M. Neely, of the Senate Subcommittee on Labor and Public Welfare, J. W. Brown, general counsel for the union, charged:

1—That the hotel owners have combined in a tight association which has threatened sanction against any hotel which signs a contract with the union.

2—That while more than 3,000 workers, comprising 95 percent of the employers of the struck hotels, have been out since April 13, they find themselves in a legal "no-man's-land" in seeking recognition for their union because the National Labor Relations Board has refused to exercise jurisdiction over hotels and Florida has no state law requiring collective bargaining or providing for elections to choose bargaining representatives.

3—That while the struck hotels are among the most expensive in the nation, charging guests from \$20 to \$200 a day, workers in these same hotels are employed under the worst conditions in the country, with wage rates running as low as \$2 a day for a 12-hour day and with a 7-day week in force without overtime.



U. S. F. Graduating Class

Here is a part of the class of S. F. Division members who completed a 9-week training course at the Labor-Management School of University of San Francisco. Pictured, 1 to r., are: J. Lappin, B. French, F. Quadros, R. Hancock, M. Saavedra, (back row) J. Karp, J. Wilder, R. Samforelli and H. Nash.

Also graduating, but not present for the picture, were T. Zammit, E. Hastings, E. Bushby, G. Turner and A. Armstrong.

The classes, held every Monday night for 9 weeks, were arranged jointly by John Lappin, Bus. Rep. and Fr. Andrew J. Boss, S.J., Director of the University's Labor-Management School. Visiting instructors included Dan Flanagan, Western Regional AFL Director, John F. Henning, Research Director, Cal. State Federation of Labor, Otto Reiman, Intl. Rep. and Geo. L. Rice, Ron T. Weakley and L. L. Mitchell of the Local 1245 business office staff.

Certificates of completion were given each graduate by Father Boss on Monday evening, June 6th.