OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

July, 1955

Vol. III—No. 3

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

Mourned by US Labor

In the home-city of his first IBEW local union, Portland, Oregon, International President J. Scott Milne died suddenly during the early morning hours of July 20th. Death was attributed to a heart ailment.

Milne was appointed International Secretary of our Brotherhood. He was unanimously elected to the post at the 1955 Convention. President Milne had been elected a Vice President of the American Federation of Labor early this year, to fill the vacancy created by the death of Daniel W. Tracy. Mr. Milne had also served several terms as President of the International Labor Force, of America. In the latter capacity he had done much to encourage unions all over the nation to publish newspapers and trade journals which reflect the highest type of credit, on the trade union movement.

Funeral services for President Milne will be conducted at Washington, D.C. on Monday, July 25th, at 11:00 a.m. IBEW union leaders from all parts of the North American continent will converge on the capital city for the services. Business Manager Ken T. Weakley of Local 1245 departed for Washington late on Friday, July 22nd to represent our big local union at the services for Mr. Milne.

President Milne is survived by his widow, Doris, and Robert E. and J. Scott Milne, Jr. The family resides in Washington, D.C. Under terms of the late President's will, the Canadian provinces of Milne will be conducted in Washington at a meeting of the National Labor Force, at the start. Following service on the American Federation of Labor Friday, August 6 at 7 p.m. and again on Sunday, August 7 at 9 a.m.

Weakley, Rice Meet Arizona Officers

The end of June found Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley and Research Director George L. Rice in Phoenix, Arizona, for meetings with officials of IBEW Utility Union 387.

Participating in the meetings were Local 387 Business Manager Herb B. Petiet, President George H. Smith, Executive Board Chairman Andrew Balbells and Executive Board members James W. McOra and John V. Barry, Jr. Also present were San Diego IBEW Local 646 Business Manager Vernon Hughes and Asst. Bus. Mgr. Lawrence E. Townsend.

The Phoenix unionists, with the cooperation of W. S. McFarland, Safety Supervisor, for Arizona Public Service Company, provided Local 387 with copies of the safety rules, apprenticeship training manuals and various operating manuals used by the union and the company. These manuals and pamphlets will prove invaluable in our educational and Safety programs.

In a series of round-table discussions, members of the three IBEW unions compared notes on negotiating practices, safety standards, state legislative problems and a host of other items which confront

Represented were IBEW Local 387 Business Manager and various operating manuals (Continued on Page Four)

Key Members OK, Gains; Other Muni Groups Hang Fire

Members of Local Union 1245 employed by the Key System Transit Lines ratified terms of a new agreement at general meeting held on July 15th. Contract improvements include a general wage increase of 12 cents an hour and a five day paid holidays; a third week of vacation after 12 years service and four weeks of paid vacations after 20 years of service.

The Union negotiating committee was composed of Brothers Milne, Baglin and Norman Walsh, assisted by Research Director George L. Rice. Key System was represented by Harold M. Davis, Executive Assistant to the President, C. K. Noltey and W. A. LeRonde of the Electric Department.

Meet is Set Aug. 6-7

THE SEMI-ANNUAL joint meeting of the Policy Committee and Executive Board of Local 1245 will be held at Union headquarters in Oakland, decided the Executive Board at its June 26th meeting.

The sessions will be held on Saturday, August 6 at 4 p.m. and again on Sunday, August 7 at 9 a.m.

Agenda for the Joint meeting includes:

1) Organization of our Jurisdiction.

2) Conduct of Unit meetings.

3) Consensus of m e m e r s h i p opinion on Division barriors opposed to system-wide bidding and demolition on the PG&E system.

4) Area meetings versus Unit meetings.

5) Effects of mechanization and reduction of manpower.

In addition, discussion will be entertained as to the effectiveness of the UTILITY REPORTER. All Policy Committee members are requested to prepare reports on the subject matter listed in the agenda. Recommendations concerning the format and style of the newspaper will also be welcomed.

The Executive Board, meeting as a committee of the whole to study amendments to our local union by-laws, has prepared a report for the consideration of the Policy body. This matter will be reported on and discussed at the Joint meeting.
The death of President J. Scott Milne marks the passing of a great trade union—one who cheerfully dedicated his whole life to building a better, stronger union for the protection of our membership.

President Milne was no glad-handing, easy-smiling type of union executive. He was a union leader in the finest sense of the term—a fearless fighter and tireless worker for the principles of trade unionism. As the saying goes, "he put his money where his mouth is."

Old-timers in Portland remember Milne as the young, new-money union leader who acted to loan the union to their local, without interest, to keep it going. They remember him as a youthful Chairman, called "Kid," who backed his promise after the first year took back 1922. And he is remembered as the courageous I.O. Representative who, in the face of threats and pressure to help the hungry, unemployed members of our Brotherhood.

We know him as a utilized worker who rose to the presidency of our great International Union. But, in rising to this "kid," who led them far longer, longer, longer, tougher, to keep our gains, to keep our achievements, to defense our debt of gratitude to Brother Milne. As the younger unionist of today who looks for inspiration to his predecessors, he remembered, "sugar and spice and all that's nice—money!"

Secretary Keenan, who succeeded President Milne, is the Associate Secretary of the War Production Board and, in 1943, became Vice President of Labor Production.

Following service as Labor Advisor to General Lucius Clay, he became Director of the National Labor's Department for Political Education in 1948. His work in the NLLE, and particularly in the Defense Council under President Roosevelt in 1948, was especially noteworthy.

Secretary Keenan later served as Associate Secretary of the War Production Board and, in 1943, became Vice President of Labor Production. Under his guidance the benefits of our Employment Pension Plan will serve as a living memorial to J. Scott Milne. Due to his foresight, his planning and his energy, every Brotherhood member who works with a Union pension in years to come will owe a debt of gratitude to Brother Milne. To the younger unionist of today who looks for inspiration and guidance, let him follow our leader in the finest sense of the term—heartily commend J. Scott Milne. His life devotion to the cause of Labor, and the good deeds which survive him, are models which can benefit all of us.

STEAM TALKS BOG DOWN

Nations on Job Definitions and Lines of Progression for the Steam Department of the PG&E proved boggy today. Several members of the PG&E, who were logged down again this month following a meeting of the Joint Committee.

The Union's proposals, submitted January 20th, were officially answered as unsatisfactory.

Following days of discussion by the joint committee and a visit to plants of the Sun Theatre and the Western Electric, the Southern California Edison Company announced that Jack McKee, the local Don Hardie, a joint meeting was held on May 12th. Discussion of this meeting centered around lines of progressions, job opportunities, methods of preparing for advancement and seniority protection for employees who might be laid-off due to closing down of plants.

The Company's position regarded "pilot plans" in the Southern California Edison Company and the filling of many Journeyman positions, whereby senior members of the maintenance department were the Union's main concerns.

In his closing comments, several proposals designed to correct the present situation were presented, which, Management agreed to take under consideration.

A subsequent joint meeting held on June 28, 1953, the Company renewed the same offer of the Joint Committee, even though no agreement had been reached.

In the event of the so-called "pilot plans" the Company's proposals are: 1. A reduction in the number of Union members for the purpose of decreasing the number of candidates to be considered for advancement. 2. A reduction of the number of "pilot plans" in the Southern California Edison Company. 3. A reduction of the number of Union members in the Southern California Edison Company. 4. A reduction of the number of "pilot plans" in the Southern California Edison Company.

The meeting was held in many respects, the joint committee being forced to attend similar meetings with other companies.

Santa Barbara Report on So. Cal. IBEW Conference

Quarterly meeting of the Joint Committee of the Southern California Edison Com- pany, IBEW was held at Min- nedyck, Calif. on June 9th.

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Nothing Area meeting scheduled, we will be prepared for it. Provided, however, Al Dowd of San Francisco Division writes in this month's supplemental newsletter that "An employee, Ron Weakley, Jr., has been granted leave with pay to work for his utility company..."

If we are ready to work for our utility companies too, the electric power that has come from downtown.

A. M. REITHEIS

We're surely pleased with the number of new cards that are being issued. The majority of the new cards are being issued by the ROY W. DREWS, IBEW 1245; ANDREW BALLENT, IBEW 1245; and R. D. Surface, UWUA Local 311 of Los Angeles.

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J. W. HAMPTON

**Round and About**

No letter is complete without a note from our friends in the East. Brother Hey! has been 19 years at the company and is presently a Light Crew in the San Fernando Valley. He is a great example of what a true union member can be. He always bothers to keep in touch with his friends in the union and is always ready to help others who need it.

**Sponsor, Goldwyn, B.T.C.'s Gray Blasted by LLPE Director**

James L. McDowell, director of Labor's Union for Peace, has called for the resignation of President Dwight D. Eisenhower. McDowell said that "the time has come for the American people to demand that the President resign. The American people have been betrayed by the President's policies."

**Socialism in L.A.**

Dogs and Cats Get Prepaid Med. Care

(CLEVELAND SAN FRANCISCO) — The Cleveland, Ohio, and San Francisco, Calif., labor organizations have signed an agreement to provide prepaid medical care for dogs and cats. The agreement covers all dogs and cats in the two cities.

**BUSHBY AT SCHOOL**

Elmer B. Bushby, Clinical Researcher with the Union's System's Review Committee, is at work with the school board on a project to improve children's health.

**DEADLINE NEWS**

Two items of interest are scheduled for publication in the next issue of the UTILITY REPORTER. The first is a report on the progress of the new labor law enforcement program in California. The second is a report on the activities of the Labor union in the nation's capital.

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Brother Heyd of Columbus, Ohio, is being treated at the Lunken Hospital in Cincinnati. He was admitted to the hospital on October 1st with a broken leg. The doctors are hopeful that he will make a full recovery.

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As a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor he had a prominent part in the coming A.F.L.-C.I.O. merger. His self-denial produced a respect for formal education and he constantly urged and supported the idea of education of labor leaders as a necessary qualification for offices in business.

While he played no favorites and the branches of the Brotherhood, he was a utility man and understood the problems of labor and management in the difficult demands of the Brotherhood but he, his business administrative ability long paying dividends, personal membership and their families. He steadfastly urged and supported a prompt and effective remedies for these conditions, new opportunities for those who had learned the value of a Union leave and (2) to the Pension Benefit Fund. He had, he stated, been given a great program of training for the age of automation in which the members of this industry will play a vital role.

I believe the most important, profound, which Brother Milne often expressed is the absolute necessity for labor and capital to join in maintaining and raising the standard of living of all people through education and the production of goods. Conflict, here as he saw it, would destroy the strength in America which we hold, as well as denying hope to the rest of the world.

Self-confidence and self-help here at home and the broad and initial universality and self-reliance. Again we see his application of the Golden Rule as just common sense.

All of us should strive to carry out the ideas and programs for improvement that Brother Milne bequeathed to us. While, our Union, in the national interest, to guard as a necessary qualification for fitness, and to the idea of education of labor leaders.

Citizens Utilities Contract Settled

The California Public Utilities Commission granted a temporary permit to the PG&E Company on July 18th to proceed with immediate construction of the Kings River Project.

At hearings held in San Francisco, the California Public Utilities Commission heard testimony favoring granting of a temporary permit to proceed with immediate construction of the Kings River Project.

Among those who urged that the permit be granted as soon as possible was the President of the City of Alameda Bureau of Water and Power. He had been present at the hearings.

The proposal for seven guaranteed paid holidays was to be guaranteed re- employment, Kaspi ruled, they could have said so in the contract. The decision, ruling at his de- cision, Mr. Kagel ruled, under which an employee shall be placed to employment upon the termination of a leave of absence. The Union had charged that the Company had violated Title 8 of the California Act by includ- ing in its negotiations with the Citizens Utilities Company.

PG&E Wins on Leave Case

The decision in Arbitration Case No. 5, between Local 1245 and the PG&E Company, was handed down by Impartial Chairman Leon Kagel on June 29th. Arbitrator Kagel, in a lengthy decision, ruled in favor of the company.

Here is an outstanding group of our Clerical members in the Sacramento Division of the PG&E, gathered for a special meeting on June 24th. The meeting was held at the Pacific Union Club in Sacramento and refreshments were served. Following the meeting, a discussion was held on the effect of Clerical workers, the necessity for full organization of all clerical employees, the status of negotiations with the Citizens Utilities Company.

Key Members OK Contract Gains

(Continued from Page One)

A committee from the City of Oakland, composed of Mr. and Mrs. "Bat" Yehoshua, Lyde Smith, and Mrs. S. B. Smith, accompanied by Brie, most recently with Oakland City Man- agement, and Union members, visited Secretary Harry Rosenberg, Commission Chairman, and General Manager D. H. Nies, of the PG&E.

We are also grateful to Mr. McCracken for giving us this opportunity to work with our friends in the utility unions in Santa Barbara on July 15th. No plans have been formulated for the next wage discussions with the City of Berkeley. The most recent wage increase granted our members, in that it has been effective in March of this year.

Weakley, Rice Meet Arizona Officers

(Continued from Page One

trade union representatives in their respective states.

The contract, since ratified by an overwhelming majority of the membership, provides the following major gains:

1. Increase in the minimum rate of pay for Telephone Operators from 85c to $1 an hour effective July 1, '56.
2. Twelve guaranteed paid holidays per year.
3. Ten days sick leave per year with full accumulation.
4. Ten annual vacation days per year after 1 year, 2 years after 2 years of service.
5. Twelve guaranteed paid holidays per year.
6. Ten annual vacation days per year after 1 year, 2 years after 2 years of service.
7. Twelve guaranteed paid holidays per year.
8. Seven guaranteed paid holidays per year.
9. Ten annual vacation days per year after 1 year, 2 years after 2 years of service.
10. Twelve guaranteed paid holidays per year.
11. Seventeen guaranteed paid holidays per year.
12. Full seniority will prevail on the right to work (or) staves legislation) and the grievance procedure included in the agreement.

In addition, Clerical Rep. Elmer B. Bushby and Local 387 Business Manager John Owen, in behalf of Union members in the Sacramento Division of the PG&E and in the San Francisco Division, will be heard testimony favoring granting of the permit to the PG&E Company.

This month, officers and mem- bers of Local 1245 mourn the pass- ing of two brothers employed by the PG&E Company.

Brother John M. Hess, an "A" member, died of Hodgkin's disease on May 28th. He was born in San Fran- cisco on June 23, 1955. Brother GA Brown, accompanied by Brie, most recently with Oakland City Man- agement, and Union members, visited Secretary Harry Rosenberg, Commission Chairman, and General Manager D. H. Nies, of the PG&E.

The agreement was reached on Sun- day, June 19, 1955 at the Redding, California headquarters of the phone utility company.

The contract, signed by both parties, provided immediate work for mem-

The decision in Arbitration Case No. 6, concerned the issue of the conditions at the PG&E Company. The decision, Mr. Kagel ruled that upon the termination of the leave of absence the employee, if denied re- employment, may resort to the Grievance Procedure to determine availability of a job. Further, if denied retention due to alleged physical disability, the employee may also resort to the Grievance Procedure.

Union members of the board, who dissenting from the majority opinion, were Elmer B. Bushby and Local 387 Business Manager John Owen, in behalf of Union members in the Sacramento Division of the PG&E and in the San Francisco Division. Among those members, who dissented from the majority opinion, were Elmer B. Bushby and John Owen.

Arbitration Case No. 6, concern- ing the By-pass of Wiley Yearby, was heard on August 14th. Arbitration Chairman Miller, widely known in labor, business and government circles on the West Coast, will serve as Impartial Chairman for the Union members on the By-pass of Wiley Yearby. Members will be John Lappin, Jr., Elmer B. Bushby, Labor Lawyer Al Brandt will present the PG&E Company's case. 

Company representatives on the Board have not been announced for this important case. They have requested the PG&E Company to return from Union leave and (2) return from Military service. Therefore, if the papers had meant to