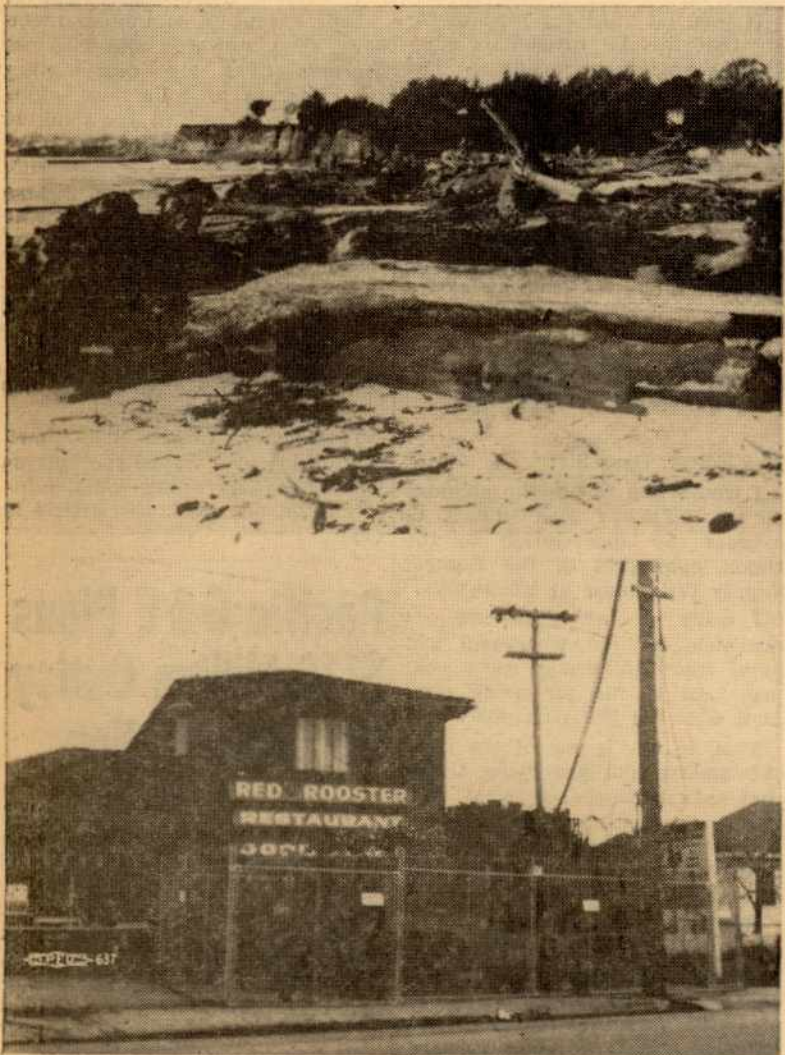




Floods Hit 1245 Members in N. Calif.



A house was tilted at a crazy angle on top of railroad tracks and another was buckled against the rail embankment as the flood waters receded in Yuba City. The wreckage as seen in the picture is indicative of the havoc left by the Christmas week inundation of a large section of Sutter County.



Top picture shows some of the debris carried to the Santa Cruz beach by San Lorenzo River flood waters which spilled into the business and residential areas of the city. Giant dead trees from far up the river were swept all the way to the Pacific Ocean by the wild waters.

Lower picture shows an emergency sub-station rigged by our Santa Cruz members to provide emergency power for businesses and homes in the area. (Pictures by Gerald Moran.)

Yuba City Steward Dies When Shanghai Bend Levee Gives Way

Members of Local 1245 residing in many areas of Northern California suffered loss of homes, furnishings, autos and other damage during the Christmas week floods. Damage reports from Humboldt County, Santa Cruz area, San Joaquin Valley and the Marysville-Yuba City areas are now being analysed at Union headquarters.

Residents of Yuba City, Marysville and the surrounding rural areas in Yuba and Sutter Counties went through a terrifying experience and suffered the worst economic blows ever struck in this rich agricultural area.

Brother William M. Meier, 39, an active member and former officer of Marysville Clerical unit, lost his life while working on the levee which broke through and engulfed Yuba City with Feather and Yuba river waters on December 24th. Arthur Meier, brother of our late member, also lost his life in the break-through. The bodies were found more than a mile west of the levee break.

Bill Meier, known and loved by all the members in the Marysville PGE office as a shop steward who worked tirelessly for the Union, is survived by his widow, Hazel, and his parents, all residents of Yuba City.

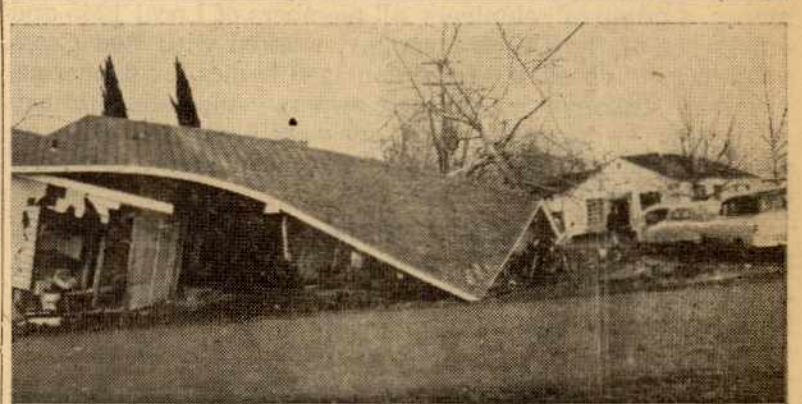
A 2200-foot section of the levee, on the Yuba City side of the Feather River, gave way, releasing a 30-foot wall of water into the lowlands.

Although desperate attempts had been made to hold back the rampaging waters it proved to be a lost cause—too much water, too little levee.

Literally hundreds of homes in the southeastern section of Yuba City were completely demolished. Other hundreds were washed off their foundations and floated as far as one-fourth mile before settling on top of other buildings, automobiles and higher ground.

Although the greatest damage occurred in the southeastern section of Yuba City and southward in Sutter County due to the terrific surge and impact of the water at the initial levee break, the water back-flowed over the greatest part of Yuba City, to a depth of 8 feet.

Agencies experienced in estimating losses of this nature have reported that 290 homes were totally destroyed, 1015 received major damage, 4550 suffered lesser damage in the area. In addition, it is estimated that 82 farm buildings were destroyed, 154 suffered major damage and 2010 sustained some amount of harm. There were 25 other buildings destroyed, 130 with major damages and 470 with some form of damage. Private property losses are conservatively estimated at \$65,350,000 and losses to public



Typical of the flood devastation in Yuba City is this view of a totally destroyed home. As the flood waters receded hundreds of similar scenes confronted the returning residents.

property run to more than \$8,750,000 in the Yuba-Sutter areas.

Thirty-two lives were known to be lost due to the flood and it is feared that many more bodies will be found as the clean-up continues in the area, with great mounds of silt, mud and sand still to be levelled off.

A preliminary survey of the Yuba-Sutter area indicates that at least 37 of our Local 1245 Union members suffered property damages totaling more than \$103,000. Individual losses range as high as \$13,000. Additional checks are being made in all areas which suffered flood damage to get an accurate picture of the actual losses sustained by our members.

The Union moved immediately to extend aid in whatever manner possible to members suffering hardships caused by the floods. Business Manager Weakley, during Christmas week, instructed all business representatives to help out in any possible way and to begin assessing the damage sustained by our membership.

The Executive Board, meeting on January 8th, passed the following resolution:

RESOLUTION REGARDING FLOOD DISASTER AID FUND

WHEREAS: Many members of Local Union 1245 have suffered hardship, financial and otherwise, due to the recent storms, and

WHEREAS: It is the desire of the Local Union to assist these distressed members,

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED: To establish Local Union 1245, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Disaster Aid Committee for purposes of obtaining funds to aid members of Local Union 1245 who suffered losses due to the recent floods.

FURTHER RESOLVED: That said Committee shall be composed of George Wagner and Howard Sevey.

FURTHER RESOLVED: That all monies subscribed and collected on behalf of Local Union 1245 distressed Brothers and Sisters shall be turned over to Howard Sevey and George Wagner for deposit in Local Union 1245 Disaster Aid Fund. The aforesaid shall be empowered to disburse said funds to those members designated by the Local Union Executive Board.

(Continued on Page Two)

Santa Cruz Digs Out After Record Flood

(By GERALD W. MORAN, Bus. Rep., San Jose and Coast Valleys)

As soon as the highway was open to traffic into Watsonville and Santa Cruz areas after the December 23rd flood, I went over to survey the damage and see if I could be of any assistance to our members who might have suffered.

The streets in the lower area of the city of Santa Cruz were littered with personal effects that had washed out of homes. Along one street I glimpsed washing machines, refrigerators, deep freezers and all manner of appliances that had been put out in the sunshine to dry. Strung on make-shift lines were clothing, bedding and mattresses.

Everywhere that I looked was furniture and household effects and, down in the mud, a little girl's pride and joy, a doll.

How are the people taking all this? I talked with many and they appeared to be in good cheer. Believe me, this is hard to do while shoveling 18 inches or more of mud out of your home!

Passing over one of the remaining bridges going into town I spotted a boat high and dry in a tree along side the river. Most houses in this area are a total wreck. Proceeding on into town, the business buildings appeared to be in bad shape. Pumps on every street were busy pumping out basements. One of the businesses was a shambles of clothing, papers, rec-

ords, canned foods and what-not had a sign in what was left of the front window saying, "YOU THINK YOU GOT TROUBLES!"

I am happy to report that our members in the area suffered little damage as compared with that suffered in the northern part of the state. The work of tabulating damage suffered by our people is still going on.

Committees for the Disaster Aid Fund Drive have been established and the donations are building up. Many of the members here have donated one day's pay to the Fund.

As one Santa Cruz Lineman put it, "I would rather be one who donates than one who receives help from the Fund to help meet the costs of flood damage."

Let's Give Generously...

To: **Disaster Aid Fund**

THE NEED FOR FUNDS IS URGENT. THESE ARE OUR OWN BROTHERS AND SISTERS WHO HAVE SUFFERED SEVERE LOSSES. IN THE SPIRIT OF BROTHERHOOD, LETS OPEN OUR HEARTS AND OUR PURSES.

Donations are voluntary and payable to:

DISASTER AID FUND, LOCAL 1245

1918 GROVE STREET, OAKLAND 12, CALIFORNIA



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.

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Members Aid Flood Victims

We have received reports from all flood-damaged areas of Northern California about the various ways in which members of Local 1245 have helped their neighbors.

The long hours of overtime work, under the most hazardous of conditions, are an expected part of the job of a utility worker. We seldom give much thought to this aspect of a disaster.

Utility workers perform other voluntary services which add to the safety of their neighbors. In Santa Cruz, for instance, a group of volunteers, all members of Local 1245 and employees of the PG&E company, worked with Red Cross volunteers to check 170 flood damaged homes for dangerous electrical situations before their owners could safely return. A great many dangerous situations were found, especially on Garfield, Burnett and Josephine streets in Santa Cruz, according to Red Cross officials.

The volunteers included Brothers Terry Drew, Charles Parker, Gorman Wright, Arthur Benson, Orville Thomas, Jerry Slaughter, Roy Castiglioni, Bill Scharfenstein, J. D. Harper, Ray Kranich and Bill Hirth.

It's this kind of community spirit, all over the flood areas, which has distinguished the utility employees who are members of Local 1245. We want everyone to know that we're proud of the accomplishments of these brothers and sisters.

Give to Disaster Aid Fund

"The greatest blessing we can receive is that which comes to us from giving."

That remark was made by Brother A. H. Singleton of Santa Maria, who just resigned from the PG&E company to enter the ministry. It certainly seems appropriate to us, right now, as we undertake to raise funds to aid members and their families who have lost their homes, furniture, clothing, autos and other possessions because of flood and storm damage.

On the basis of preliminary reports, it appears that damages sustained by our members will exceed a quarter million dollars. Other losses, including human life, cannot be measured in terms of money values.

It would be wonderful, indeed, if our members all over Northern California and Northwestern Nevada would raise a voluntary fund which will enable those who have suffered to be given a fresh start. A day's pay from each member who has NOT suffered losses from the floods would constitute a fund which could replace most of the losses suffered by our own people.

Flood damage is rarely, if ever, covered by insurance. Thus, the homes destroyed, the clothing and furniture washed out to sea by the raging river waters, the autos crushed by hundreds of tons of water, silt and mud, are totally lost to their erstwhile owners. Only by receipt of voluntary funds can they hope to make immediate replacement of necessities.

We hope that every member will give—and give generously—to the Disaster Aid Fund sponsored by Local 1245. Give your contribution to your shop steward, your business representative or mail it direct to Union headquarters.

The sooner you give—the sooner our brothers and sisters who have suffered losses can be given the means of getting a fresh start. Let's not delay on this one.

Automation Hits Tobacco Union

DURHAM, N.C.—Automation in the manufacture of tobacco was declared to be one of the greatest problems facing the Tobacco Workers International Union at a meeting of the Southern Allied Shop Committee here.

Reports given the body indicate that automation in the industry has caused widespread displacement of workers. Some locals reported that single machines had replaced upwards of 90 per cent of workers on some jobs. Others reported reductions in skilled workers up to 50 per cent.

America has proved that it is practicable to elevate the mass of mankind—to raise them to self-respect, to make them competent to act a part in the great right and the great duty of self-government; and she has proved that this may be done by education and the diffusion of knowledge. She holds out an example a thousand times more encouraging than ever was presented before to those nine-tenths of the human race who are born without hereditary fortune or hereditary rank.

—Daniel Webster.

Steward of Month



'The Telephone Man'

Pictured above is Union Shop Steward **JAMES E. LINGO**, Combination Man in charge of Telephone Installations and equipment repairs at the BURNEY Exchange of The CITIZENS UTILITIES COMPANY, of California.

Shown with **JIM** is his Installer's Truck, and in the background, the newly constructed BURNEY office of the Company, where **JIM** makes his headquarters.

Born in Kansas City, Kansas, in 1925, **JIM** completed High School there, then spent four years in the Navy, serving in the Submarine Corps in the Pacific. Following a brief interlude as a civilian, he returned to the Navy from 1950 to 1951.

He gained his civilian telephone experience at Lone Pine, Calif., working for the California Interstate Telephone Co., as a member of Local Union 47 of the I.B.E.W. **JIM** first joined the I.B.E.W. in 1941, but his telephone career was interrupted by service in the Navy. He has been an active member since his release in 1951.

At present an "A" member of the Brotherhood, he came to Local 1245 on a traveler from 543 in June, 1955, at which time he began employment with the CITIZENS UTILITIES CO.

JIM is married and has 3 children. He makes his home in BURNEY and is known to everyone in town as "The Telephone Man." His is the job of getting telephones installed for new subscribers, and keeping the lines up and the service operating through all kinds of weather. Burney is in the heart of a mountainous area of severe winters and deep snows, and his hours are often long and his work arduous, however **JIM's** ready smile and his willingness to go out under any conditions have gained him the friendship of everyone in town.

Despite his long hours, he manages to get in a little time for hunting and fishing, which are his chief hobbies. As a Shop Steward, he does an excellent job. Knows his contract well, is always ready to assist a fellow member in straightening out grievances, regularly attends Union Meetings at Fall River Mills Unit, and is a member of the Union-Company joint SAFETY COMMITTEE.

The CITIZENS UTILITIES EMPLOYEES are the latest group to have become members of Local 1245; their original contract was negotiated in June of 1955. The job of administering a brand-new contract requires a lot of work and understanding of Union Principles, however **JIM LINGO** has proved himself capable.

We salute him as **SHOP STEWARD OF THE MONTH**, and recognize his work as a real contribution to the welfare of the Union and his fellow employees.



"It's just a polite note from the men on strike asking you not to scab on them anymore!"

THE BIASED PRESS

(From The Cleveland Citizen)
 People frequently ask labor representatives to pinpoint their criticism of the coverage of strikes by the daily press. A perfect example of the unfair treatment labor frequently receives is afforded in the reporting of the outbreak of violence at the Perfect Circle plant in New Castle, Ind. Press Associates, Inc., made a survey of the way this story was handled by newspaper and press associations and here are the highlights:

The Indianapolis News, October 5, published a "special" dispatch which said "eight persons were shot today in a pitched battle between city police and an estimated 5,000 sympathy demonstrators outside the strike-plagued Perfect Circle plant." The falsification of facts here included (1) no shots were exchanged between police and the demonstrators, and (2) police estimated the demonstrators did not exceed 1,000.

The Baltimore Evening Sun printed an Associated Press story saying "five demonstrators were wounded as city police fired from inside the plant" under this headline: "5,000 Battle Police in Indiana Strike; 8 Shot." The police did not fire on the demonstrators, either from inside or outside the plant.

Another AP story, published by the New York World Telegram, said "A shouting, shooting mob of 5,000 sympathy demonstrators marched on the struck Perfect Circle Corp. foundry today and eight persons, including a woman, were shot."

It was not until the next morning that the AP revised its story and became more accurate. The Washington Post and Times Herald printed an AP dispatch October 6, which included these sentences: "Shooting broke out as the demonstrators marched on about 100 non-strikers inside the plant. The non-strikers apparently opened fire first." These key sentences, however, were omitted from at least a

dozen other newspapers publishing the same AP story.

Much later the newspapers acknowledged the fact that the first fire came from inside the plant and that police confiscated a cache of 29 rifles, 9 pistols, 30 clubs and 7000 rounds of ammunition found inside the plant.

The St. Louis Post Dispatch, a rare exception of the general rule, noted in its headlines that "First Shots Came From Plant," but the Chicago Tribune which published such headlines as "5,000 Goons Storm Plant" merely said in its story that "there was disagreement as to which side fired first."

This kind of newspaper reporting does much to inflame opinion against organized labor. It reflects an anti-labor bias which still persists among the Big-Business-dominated daily papers. It is a fraud upon the American people.

International Molders' and Foundry Workers' Journal
 December, 1955.

Yuba Member Dies As Floods Wash Out Levee

(Continued from Page One)

Adopted this date: January 8, 1956, by order of the Executive Board of Local Union 1245, I.B.E.W.-AFL-CIO.

/s/ Frank D. Gilleran
 PRESIDENT

/s/ Grace M. Baker
 RECORDING SECY.

Unit executive committee members, shop stewards and business representatives are coordinating the program of collecting voluntary contributions in the field. It is hoped by those who have personally viewed the catastrophe suffered by our Brothers and Sisters in the flooded areas that our members who were more fortunate during the holiday season will open their pocket books and give generously to the Fund. Helping the Disaster Aid Committee to raise funds for our distressed members is surely a fine way to display the spirit of true Unionism!

(Our thanks to Bus. Rep. Elmer B. Bushby, who visited the Marysville-Yuba City areas, for the information on which this article is based.)

Pacific G & E Plans \$130 Million Outlay On Construction

SAN FRANCISCO—Pacific Gas & Electric Co. will spend nearly \$130 million for new construction in 1956, Norman R. Sutherland, president and general manager, said.

This is about the same amount the company spent for construction in 1955 and brings its total for the post-war period to \$1,600,000,000 he added.

The new year's plans include the first phase of a \$20,700,000 expansion of the company's "super inch" pipeline which carries natural gas from the California-Arizona border to San Francisco Bay. The first expansion, to be completed by November this year is part of a program to increase the lines daily capacity by 50 million cubic feet from the present 700 million cubic feet daily.

PG&E's electric generating capacity, now more than 4,300,000 kilowatts, will be increased during 1956 by plants at Morro Bay and Humboldt Bay, totaling an additional 225,000 kilowatts, Mr. Sutherland said.

In addition to the company's present hydro-electric projects on the King and Feather Rivers which will develop 367,500 kilowatts of generating capacity, P.G.&E. will begin construction of a 165,000 kilowatt steam unit in San Francisco during 1956, Mr. Sutherland stated.

The greatest labor saving device ever dreamed up: Tomorrow.

Make 1956 your best union year. Support, strengthen, and participate in your union!

Mail Bag

The Editor, Dear Sir:

I would like to use the columns of the UTILITY REPORTER to express my appreciation to the Union employees of the Central Supply Warehouse at Emeryville.

I want to express my deepest gratitude for the wonderful gift of a sport shirt and sport coat presented to me for being your Shop Steward this past year.

This, to me, is one of the most outstanding and gratifying things that has ever happened to me. It is really a marvelous feeling, knowing that my efforts have been appreciated, even though they may be small.

But let me say this: My efforts would be useless if it weren't that you, as Union men, were behind me. Because, as you know, you as a Union member represent my superior and I, as your steward, work for you to the best of my ability.

May I thank you once again for this most wonderful gift. I will never forget your wonderful deed.

Sincerely yours,
 L. C. "Slim" Middlekauff,
 Your Shop Steward.

The Editor, Dear Sir:

We received the pictures and we can not thank Brother Rice and you enough. My wife is especially happy and proud to have them. It sure was very thoughtful of you both.

I wanted to come down and see you all in person, but conditions at home make it necessary for me to stay close by for some time.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of you at Local 1245 a Happy and Prosperous Year and good organizing.

I am receiving my union pension checks regularly and believe me they are welcome and help a lot.

I wish I could have done more for the Union but I guess we all have to stay within the limits of our ability. Again I thank you.

Fraternally yours,
 C. E. AMES,
 Oakland, Calif.



Merced Unit officers and shop stewards are pictured here with Bus. Rep. Scott Wadsworth, Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell and Bus. Rep. Elmer B. Bushby following the recent pot luck supper sponsored by the Merced unit.

Wives who attended the open meeting expressed interest in the reports on Union program and policies given by Mitchell and Bushby. The girls were pleased to learn of the role of the trade union movement in sponsoring free public education in the U. S.

Research and Education Corner

(Compiled by Bus. Rep. Elmer B. Bushby)

At a recent meeting in Boston, the American Medical Association demanded "immediate termination" of free distribution of anti-polio vaccine. They blasted this free distribution of the vaccine as a "violation of free enterprise."

It seems that the doctors of this country, or at least those who attend A.M.A. conventions, are afraid of the insidious spread of "social-

ism." Thus, they label any measure to provide adequate health and medical protection to those who can't afford to pay for treatment as "creeping socialism."

However, this so-called "creeping socialism" in the field of medicine started in 1813, when the U.S. Congress financed the distribution of smallpox vaccine throughout the country.

The most ironical part of the origin of this "creeping socialism" is the fact that this very measure was sponsored by President Madison, THE FATHER OF THE U.S. CONSTITUTION!

Insurance coverage on your home and personal property may have become inadequate during the last 10 years, particularly if you have automatically renewed your existing policies. Experts advise that since 1945 home replacement has gone up 100 per cent, furniture 35 per cent and clothing 36 per cent. These replacement costs should be taken into consideration in your insurance placement.

Earnings, after taxes, for 25 utilities in the United States, for the third quarter of 1955, were up 7 1/2 per cent over the same period in 1954, according to the Wall Street Journal.

Apprentice Expert Meets With De Sabla, Shasta Units

Bus. Rep. Roy D. Murray has announced that Mr. Charles H. Gorrill, Apprenticeship Consultant for the California Division of Apprenticeship Standards, has embarked upon a speaking program in our Northeastern areas.

Mr. Gorrill opened with a talk to members of the Red Bluff unit on January 12th. His subject includes a report on the background of jointly administered apprenticeship training programs, made possible by the Shelley-Maloney Act passed by the California State Legislature in 1939, and a question and answer period.

Additional speeches by Mr. Gorrill have been scheduled for the following units of DeSabra, Shasta divisions and the Citizens Utilities properties:

- Chico, Jan. 25.
- Ferndale, Jan. 26.
- Willows, Jan. 27.
- Fall River Mills, Feb. 7.
- Feather River (Belden), Feb. 21.
- Susanville, Feb. 23.
- Redding, March 14.
- Greenville, March 21.

Members are giving Mr. Gorrill an excellent reception, according to Bro. Murray, and are expressing great interest in the joint apprenticeship training programs established by the State Division of Apprenticeship Standards.

You'll find that it's easier to cut metals with a cold chisel if you lubricate the cutting edge of the chisel with oil or soap.

Santa Maria

1245 Member Resigns PG&E to Enter Ministry

Brother A. H. Singleton, 12 years an employee of the PG&E Company, the last five of which he served as Foreman, resigned at year's end to study and make preparations for entering the Ministry.

Members of the Santa Maria unit, gathered at an "open" executive committee meeting on December 28th, presented Bro. Singleton with a fine leather briefcase and wished him well in his new pursuit.

Policy Committeeman Robert E. Staab of Orcutt, in a moving testimonial, made the presentation to Bro. Singleton. "We shall all remember Brother Singleton," declared Staab, "for many reasons.

"He is a strong Christian and nothing can disturb his peace of mind.

"His conversations were healthy ones and brought him happiness. "He makes everyone of us feel the good in himself.

"He thinks only the best of everyone and I believe his accomplishments prove that he receives the best from everyone.

"I would like to say this about him: He is too broad minded to worry much; too noble to be easily angered; definitely too strong to show fear; and the happiness he enjoys doesn't permit the presence of troublesome thoughts or deeds.

"Now we do not merely accept a Christian life, but we must live it as well. This can be accomplished by good deeds, good work and the love of our fellow man. Brother Singleton has all these accomplishments and this is the reason he can make a choice that most of us could not make. I take pride in his accomplishments and join with all of you in encouraging him to do the work he wishes to do. Good Luck, Brother Singleton; and may God be with you at all times."

In accepting the briefcase from his friends, and responding to the presentation remarks of Bro. Staab, Brother Singleton said:

"Thank you, Bob. Thank you very much for those kind words. I only wish that I deserved all those nice things you have just said about me!"

"This is a very nice present and I really appreciate it more than you can know. I want to thank each one of you who are here, and also those who are not here tonight, for this present. It gives me a good feeling to know that I have so many friends who care, and who are so nice as to give me this party.

"Working for the PG&E has been the means of livelihood for me and my family for the past 12 years. Yes, there have been times that I thought I did not get a fair shake. But, I believe this is a good company to work for. We have our differences of opinion sometimes, but it is usually in the misinterpretations of the contract locally. A lot of the time it is because we have our own ideas about how to get ahead. We must work together in harmony to stay strong. Only in this way can we be happy in our work, and profitable to ourselves and our employer.

"In all of our desires to accumulate material wealth we should not forget to give thanks to our Creator for all that we have and hope to have. The greatest blessing that we can receive is that which comes to us from giving. I am sure most of you have at some time or other given a child a present. You saw that child clutch the present to its heart with such joy written all over his face. If we live our lives as Jesus Christ has told us to live, there are many blessings and much happiness in store for us which are not possible outside the will of God. The Bible is the book that God has given, by which we are to live.

"I have dedicated my life to my Saviour and to his work. February 3rd I will enter California Baptist College at Riverside to study. I am doing this in order that I might better do what God has called me to do."

Following the presentation, donuts, cake and coffee were served to all in attendance. The entire membership joins with our Santa Maria group in wishing Bro. Singleton, his wife and daughter, much happiness in their new life.



Santa Maria area members who gathered on December 28 to honor Bro. A. H. SINGLETON include: (1st row, l. to r.) Brothers BILLIARDI, RAMOS, BONIDETTE, HOLLIS, ANTHONY and guest of honor A. H. SINGLETON.

(2nd row, l. to r.) Brothers CHOATE, MILLSAP, ATKINSON, STAAB, CORBETT, FRYE and DRYDEN. (3rd row, l. to r.) Brothers ROGERS, HICKS, EDWARDS, SITTERDAN, NEFF, and STINEBAUGH. Brothers PORTER and MYERS were out of camera range when Bro. WATSON took this picture—but they were present, too.

White Collar Workers Can't Go It Alone

(By GERALD W. MORAN)

A recent article by nationally syndicated writer Hal Boyle offered some food for thought. Wrote Mr. Boyle, in part:

"About the only two groups in America who don't have a lobby are white collar workers and widows. They remain largely unorganized and therefore, perhaps, unrepresented. Since they cannot punish a politician, why should he worry about them?"

"The white collar man is haunted not only by his present predicament but by fears for the future. He is afraid automation scientists will dream up new and more efficient business machines that will do away with his very job, turning him into a refugee from progress. The white collar worker feels he is a forgotten man."

Actually, the white collar worker is a prisoner of his own jail. As pointed out by Mr. Boyle, he has a lack of proper representation because he remains largely unorganized.

The white collar worker is not the forgotten man. The way to better representation is clear. The voice of the white collar worker can and will be heard—if he will permit it.

He must shake the apathy that has been his constant companion and come to the realization that, in order to be helped to attain his needs and desires, he must take the step which WILL give him representation—JOIN THE UNION.

The white collar worker can't "go it alone." The age of automation isn't just coming—it's here. How will he work out the many problems that come with automation? Will he, as an individual, be able to work out the problem of competing with a machine for his job. Certainly the answer seems clear—he cannot.

His path to better job security—and to using his own voice to help determine his future is equally clear. He can JOIN THE UNION—and get away from the feeling of being a "forgotten man."

Tune In On Edward Morgan Tonight!

(Following is a list of the cities, stations and Time Edward P. Morgan, ABC commentator, sponsored by the AFL-CIO, can be heard over the ABC network Monday through Friday):

| Station | City | Time |
|---------|----------------|------|
| KPMC | Bakersfield | 6:00 |
| KWTC | Barstow | 6:00 |
| KYOR | Blythe | 6:00 |
| KREO | Indio | 7:00 |
| KABC | Los Angeles | 6:00 |
| KMOD | Modesto | 7:00 |
| KTIP | Porterville | 7:00 |
| KBIF | Red Bluff | 6:00 |
| KITO | San Bernardino | 7:00 |
| KFBK | Sacramento | 7:00 |
| KGO | San Francisco | 6:00 |
| KSYC | Yreka | 7:00 |

Fresno Toys for Needy Kids Given By Fresnans

Carrying on with the second annual "Operation Santa Claus," members of our Fresno unit collected and distributed more than 150 toys for needy children of their area. As a result of the thoughtfulness and generosity of our Union members, Christmas cheer was brought to a great many children who might otherwise have been completely neglected.

Walt Kaufmann, Chairman of the unit, advises that the drive was considered a great success. Members, shop stewards and unit officers all cooperated in purchasing, wrapping and distributing the toys during the Christmas week.

The editors of the UTILITY REPORTER offer congratulations and a hearty "well done" to our Fresno members for their outstanding example of the spirit of Christmas giving. We hope you will have many more years of success and pleasure in your "Operation Santa Claus."

Missing Members

(SAN JOSE DIVISION)

When a member fails to report a change of address—he is MISSING so far as the records of Local 1245 are concerned. This means he does not get his newspaper, his Journal, or his union dues receipts.

Please look over this list of MISSING MEMBERS. Should you know any of them—ask them to send in their correct address to the union headquarters. Or, better still, just jot down the name and correct address on a post card—and send it in to us. We'll certainly appreciate your help and cooperation!

| Name | Card No. |
|---------------------|----------|
| Louis W. Furtado | 231679 |
| Daniel J. Gayski | 326098 |
| Eugene Helms | 328312 |
| William E. Jacobs | 725264 |
| Norton P. Keegan | 328299 |
| Evelyn Kirkland | 724839 |
| Edward L. Lyons | 328264 |
| James C. Madden | 493681 |
| Charles W. Mangin | 726265 |
| Harry L. Manus | 493238 |
| Omar K. Margason | 328266 |
| Lawrence D. Murphy | 326101 |
| James O'Halloran | 328971 |
| Frank W. Page | 102017 |
| Garland H. Price | 329397 |
| Arthur D. Rasmussen | 765069 |
| Melvin E. Richards | 177688 |
| Wm. H. Stowe | 72194 |
| L. E. Tanner | 712172 |
| Oscar Taylor | 856475 |
| William L. Tucker | 725631 |
| Andy Tyra, Jr. | 765085 |
| Leonard Vierra | 329500 |

Teacher (pointing to a picture of a deer): Lester, what animal is that?

Lester: I don't know.
Teacher: What does your mother call your father?
Lester: Don't try to tell me that's a louse!

San Jose No. Cal. Locals Eye Job Outlook

First 1956 quarterly meeting of the Northern California Joint Executive Conference of the IBEW was held here on Saturday, January 14th at the Hawaiian Gardens. Local 332 served as host local for the event.

Approximately 60 delegates represented all affiliated unions except Local 401 of Reno, Nevada. In addition, 9th District Vice President Oscar Harbak, International Representative Henry Hayden and labor lawyer Al Brundage were in attendance.

Delegates amended the Conference by-laws to provide for a change to semi-annual meetings, to be held on the second Saturday of the months of May and November. These would alternate with the proposed semi-annual meetings of the State Association of Electrical Workers, planned for the months of February and August of each year.

V. P. Harbak announced a recent agreement with the International Brotherhood of Carpenters which clears up a long-standing dispute over installation of luminous ceilings.

Attorney Brundage reported on recent court decisions which affect labor's right to picket at job sites on construction projects and also discussed union shop provisions for agreements and enforcement measures available to unions in the collection of health and welfare payments from employers who are signatory to such plans.

Work prospects were described as generally good, with some seasonal lay-offs in the construction industry. There was considerable discussion about the floods in Northern California and the impact of the huge damages on the employment picture for IBEW members.

Outgoing Conference President Ron T. Weakley of Local 1245 installed the following new officers: President, Henry Tornwall of Local 482, Eureka; vice president, E. N. Frye of Local 551, Santa Rosa; secretary-treasurer, W. H. Diedrichsen of Local 617, San Mateo. An inscribed gavel was presented to past president Weakley as a token of the esteem in which Conference delegates hold him.

Local 1245 was represented by Asst. Bus. Mgr. M. A. Walters, in addition to Bus. Mgr. Weakley.

YOUR Business Manager's REPORT

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

The year 1956 will be an important one in the history of our Local Union. We find ourselves facing a multitude of critical decisions with respect to our future.

In these days of tensions and uncertainties, no one can predict, with any degree of accuracy, the probable future. We can, however, evaluate certain factors and try to develop programs to meet or offset potential or real problems.

Let us look at some of these things. First of all, our internal situation.

We have remained somewhat static in terms of the numerical organization in our jurisdiction. At least, we are holding our own in the face of reduced employment opportunities in the industry.

The post-war employment boom is long over. Promotional opportunities have seriously diminished. In fact, protection against demotion and/or lay-off is now a major concern.

Educational programs have definitely been of value both from the standpoint of better understanding of unionism as well as recruiting new members.

Our field service has been improved within the financial limitations surrounding employment of personnel.

The relations between the Union administration and the membership has improved as a result of better communications, seminars, area meetings and conferences.

All we really need is a stepped-up organizing job, less apathy among certain members, and support of Local Union program as it is developed in 1956.

Our relations with Management have been fairly good, especially on matters of mutual concern in the over-all industry. However, we are not doing so well in the field of grievance settlements or contract interpretation on the P.G.&E. properties. We hope, in the 1956 negotiations, to improve this picture.

Acceptance of this Union by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company is still a matter of toleration to a degree and will be until we attain a Union Shop on these properties.

We have made vast improvement in our relations with other I.B.E.W. Unions, Locals in the utility branch and the rest of organized labor. Also, we have come a long way in successfully dealing with public relations in general. This includes social, fraternal, religious and governmental groups.

The ingredients are all present in order to go forward as an aggressive organization, tempered only by the limitations of membership understanding, support and good common sense.

The external situation in 1956 finds us in a "cold war" which could get hot overnight. If that happens, the plans of all men, women and children in this world will be changed completely.

There is a presidential election this year. A real battle is shaping up and the results will affect us, the nation and the world. Specifically, the fate of the free American labor movement may well be decided by the election results this year. Powerful forces are lining up on the side of anti-labor and anti-social philosophies. The AFL-CIO merger was designed to combat these forces.

Having survived the Industrial Revolution, Labor now faces the adjustment to automation or the "technological revolution" of today. New vision, planning and reforms are necessary if we are to distribute the abundance of increased productivity properly. To fail in this will be to fail in the new "cold war" battleground of economic welfare and political freedom—the issues before all peoples everywhere.

One of the best examples of democracy in action occurs right here in our Local Union. Men and women right off the job are chosen to

lead and to represent the membership by a secret mail referendum ballot every two years.

From the time the oath of office is administered, an elected officer dedicates himself to do the best job he can in the service of the membership. Being human, and, in some cases, lacking experience in the complex business of industrial relations, mistakes are made. The "pat on the back" or the "well done" is an inspiration to leadership and is gratefully received. The constructive criticisms which are the more numerous in Labor Unions are much more important. These are the safety valves which must be heeded in order to try for improvements, live up to the role of aggressive representation and to avoid destructive internal dissension.

Every two years, in the secrecy of his home, every member is afforded the opportunity to express his approval or disapproval of Union candidates. Any member in good standing can aspire to office under the constitutional election procedures afforded him.

It may be well to reflect on the "State of the Union" by watching closely the problems and programs of your Union and to make a fair evaluation of whether or not your welfare as a worker and as a Union member is in good hands. To do this is not enough. It must be applied to your Government as well.

The most competent labor leaders are rendered impotent by anti-labor and anti-social lawmakers. Be critical of all leaders who are elected to represent your interests, whether Union or Governmental. Learn the issues, register to vote, review the record and then vote.

Apathy in the affairs of your Union and your Government is unhealthy in the critical days ahead and the franchise of free elections is precious to all responsible Union members and citizens. Use it wisely and well.

COMMITTEE PLANS CLERICAL ORGANIZING



Planning for a renewed organizational drive among Clerical employees of the PG&E Company are: (l. to r.) BILL RENO, RON WEAKLEY, TED CORDUA, LARRY TOWNSEND (visitor from San

Diego's Local 465), MORRIS CARPENTER, AL M. HANSEN, JOHN LAPPIN, ELMER BUSHBY, and Recording Secretary GRACE M. BAKER.

Basis for a renewed Clerical organizing program was set at a meeting held at Union headquarters on Sunday, December 18, 1955. Among those in attendance were Recording Secretary Grace M. Baker, Brothers Ted Cordua, Morris Carpenter, Bill Reno, Bus. Mgr. Ron Weakley and Bus. Reps. Al Hansen, Elmer Bushby and John Lappin. Bus. Rep. Larry Townsend of Local 465, San Diego, was a visitor to the meeting.

Decisions reached by the group include:

1. Calling of Bay Area stewards meeting from Clerical groups in San Francisco, East Bay, San Jose, North Bay, Central Supply at Emeryville and the PG&E General Office.

2. Development of six organizing committees from interested and active Clerical members in each group.

3. Establishment of regular progress meetings of the organizing committee members.

4. Development of aids to the organizing committee members, including leaflets, posters and other visual aids.

5. Establishment of a program for organizing team members to contact non members by personal

and telephonic contact.

6. Development of effective methods in organizing for guidance of the organizing teams.

To implement step one, set forth above, shop stewards from each affected group have been called to Union headquarters for a planning

meeting on January 21st. Members and stewards have pointed out the need for substantial gains in membership in the Clerical employees to give the Union added strength in bargaining with the PG&E Company during the coming crucial negotiations.

IBEW Fills 2 Posts Vacated By Deaths

The executive council of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers has named successors to posts left vacant recently by the death of two top officers.

Fred B. Irwin, an assistant to IBEW President Gordon Freeman, succeeds the late William A. Hogan as union treasurer and George P. Patterson, of Winnipeg, Manitoba, becomes Canadian representative on the IBEW executive council.

He replaces Keith Cockburn, who died on the same day as Hogan, November 15.

Irwin, who became an assistant to the president in 1947, served also under the late Dan W. Tracy and J. Scott Milne. He became assistant when the latter succeeded Tracy.

He took out his IBEW card in June, 1924, shortly after going to

work as an apprentice inside wireman in Portland, Ore.

Later he held several offices in his Portland local, including those of business manager and financial secretary.

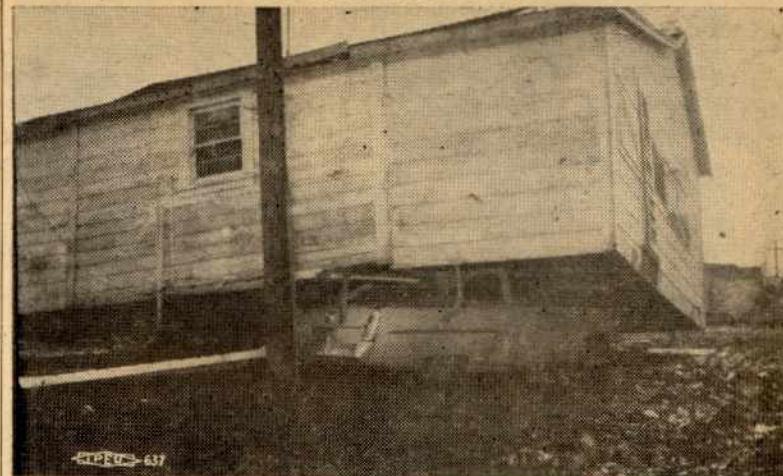
During World War II, Irwin served in Honolulu in a regional unit of the War Manpower Commission. He is married, makes his home in Washington.

Patterson, an assistant to Cockburn prior to his death, has been an IBEW general chairman on the Canadian National Railways for a number of years.

Additionally, he has served his union and the shopcrafts in Canada in many other capacities.

He has been chairman of the IBEW's regional council No. 2, which negotiates for the Brotherhood on all Canadian railroads.

Flood's Aftermath



This Yuba City building was swept completely off its foundation by the force of rampaging Feather River water and finally settled on top of an abandoned automobile. Many fleeing residents were forced to abandon the family car and escape on foot.

Bakersfield

PG&E Supervisor's Vote Will Decide IBEW-KERO Election

The "It's a Small World" story which follows was given us by Ed Bird, Bus. Mgr. of our sister IBEW Local 202, which represents employees in the radio and television field.

Seems that last September 27th the National Labor Relations Board forced Radio and Television Engineers Local 202 of the IBEW into a representation election at KERO, a TV and AM broadcast station at Bakersfield. The election was forced by an employer-sponsored petition to the Board.

Over the strenuous objections of Local 202, the NLRB chose the eligible voting unit which included personnel the Union never had claimed to represent, such as announcers and talent. When Union objections had been overruled, there were found to be 24 eligible voters in the unit. Included was Mr. Joe De Young, Bakersfield PG&E Supervisor, whose brother, Gene De Young, is president and

general manager of the TV station. Joe was added to the staff after his brother Gene had petitioned the NLRB for the election, and spends his evening hours working as a cameraman.

On the day of the election, Local 202 made four challenges of voters, two of which were eventually sustained by the Board while one was disallowed. The vote now stands at eleven to ten in favor of the Union. The remaining vote, yet to be counted, is that of Joe De Young—the station president's brother.

Thus, if Joe's vote is allowed by the Board—and is counted against the Union, a tie will result. In a tie vote, under NLRB rules, the employer wins—and the Union must then wait until 12 months have elapsed before they may again attempt to represent their members employed by the station.

Local 202's San Joaquin valley representative, Gil de la Laing, thinks it really is a small world—just a little too small, in fact!

Look Out Fellows, The Boss Has His Eye On Your Wife

NEW YORK.—The Wall Street Journal, organ of the biggest of big biz, last week looked into the matter of the influence of workers' wives on profits and came up with some interesting material.

The story, featured on the front page of the September 1 issue, begins like this:

"More and more U.S. corporations are enthusiastically courting the wives of their employees. They've found it pays off in greater productivity, and greater sales, reduced employee turnover, fewer accidents—possibly, even fewer strikes.

Quaker Oats, according to the news story, even employs one, Kay Clancy Metz full time on the job of "courting" its employees' wives. She shows them, among other things, that "the company profit margin is very small." This type of "education" in the home, the company finds, helps build resistance of union militancy.

From Beginning to End

When the Prestonsburg, Ky., Floyd County Times was late one week, Editor Norman Allen explained in his front-page column: "The Times is late this week. The trouble started in a cornfield, maybe years ago. From there it reached our linotype. Yet the trouble lies not with the machine. You see, the corn grew, fermented, aged in the wood and finally reached our operator."



Sacramento

Thomason Honored

Brother Nick Kirk, reporting for the General Construction members at Davis Yard and Warehouse, advises that a fine group of members gathered at the Siamese Room restaurant on January 6 to honor retiring member Boris "Cowboy" Thomason.

Among the group were two "old buddies" of Bro. Thomason, Fred Dyer from Redwood City and retired member Fred Emery of Sacramento. The men talked over "old times" while enjoying refreshments prior to dinner.

Bro. Thomason was presented with a very nice billfold and will also be given an IBEW lapel pin at the next unit meeting.

In addition to the G.C. members and "old timers," Brothers Frank Goss, Mert Walters and Gene Hastings of the local union staff were also present at the testimonial dinner.

The G.C. members, according to Bro. Kirk, want to wish Brother Thomason many, many happy years of retirement and the best of everything in the years to come.



Davis Unit Chairman LESTER R. REDDIG extends congratulations to retiring G. C. member BORIS "COWBOY" THOMASON at Sacramento dinner.