Union Checks to Victims of Floods Bring Much Cheer

Members who suffered property losses during the December floods were given financial assistance this month in the form of checks totaling more than $16,000, drawn on the local Union's Disaster Aid Fund.

We think that pictures speak more eloquently than words in reporting a cross-section of the check presentations, many of which took place at local unit meetings. Accordingly, we have selected a number of pictures of which are presented on this page. We believe you members who so generously contributed to the Disaster Aid Fund will get more than your money's worth, just by viewing the pictorial evidence of your contributions being given to our flood victim members.

Here are a couple of "thank-you" letters sent to the Business Office by members who have been added through your generosity.

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

It is gratifying to note that the check you have given me from the Disaster Aid Fund I would appreciate it if you could print in the next issue of the Local 1245 paper.

The committee, aided by members of Local 1245, the Business Manager and others, our family and friends, had much long in the process of our losses and we are so lucky; we're together and we have

General Construction Limition RODERIC LANDMETHRE received a check from Bus. Rep. GENE HASTINGS to help offset flood losses his family sustained recently.

Sierra Pacific Wins in Rate Fight With G&E

The United States Supreme Court early this month ruled against the PG&E Company in its attempt to obtain an increase in charges to the Sierra Pacific Power Company, which pays more than 75 percent of its power from PG&E.

Basis for the legal test stems from the attempts of Sierra Pacific to negotiate for additional sources of power back in 1947. In order to retain Sierra as a customer, PG&E offered a 15-year contract for power at a special low rate. The offer was accepted by Sierra in 1948 and the long term contract was signed.

Early in 1953, however, PG&E seemed anxious about its rate structure and filing a schedule with the Federal Power Commission for changes to Sierra by 29 percent. The FPC held hearings to determine the reasonableness of the new rate and granted PG&E's rate increase in early September of 1953.

Sierra Pacific intervened in the proceedings and challenged the right of PG&E to arbitrarily change the contract by its own action. Following additional hearings, the FPC held 1954 that the new rate was not "unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory, or preferential."

Sierra offered to appeal the case to the District of Columbia Court of Appeals which reversed the ruling of the FPC on the grounds that the FPC had "prorated" the rate increase to Sierra in 1948 and adopted such proceedings as the FPC, under terms of the court decision, may now review the case.

Justice Harlan said it is clear that the purpose of the authority given FPC over contract rates is "the protection of the public interest, as distinguished from the private interests of the utilities." He said that the rate increase was an arbitrary and unreasonable rate increase, and that FPC had no authority to make "arbitrary judgments in power purchase contracts."

The court held that the FPC must find the standard contract rates to be "unjust, unreasonable, unduly discriminatory, or preferential." PG&E and the FPC then appealed the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court. The Federal Power Act does not authorize FPC to "review, change or reject a contract at a rate less than a fair return," but, the court ruled, "this does not mean that a rate may not be agreed upon by contract to a rate less than a fair return, when it does, it is entitled to be relieved of its improvident bargain."

Justice Harlan said, "The rate increase imposed on Northern Utilities Telephone Company, gives recognition to their fine record in the PREVENTION OF WORK INJURIES during the period 1952 to 1954 inclusive."

In 1954, with 103 employees and 289,671 man hours worked, there was a total of 5 lost-time injuries, including 2.

The CERTIFICATE OF RED. ONGITION was awarded to the Governor's Industrial Safety Con- ference in San Francisco, at the Hibernian Hotel, February 2, 1956. The management of the Company, its employees, and members of the local 1245, are justly proud of their accomplishments and are making "all-out" efforts to reduce man hours worked, and to reduce man hours worked. The management of the Company, its employees, and members of the local 1245, are justly proud of their accomplishments and are making "all-out" efforts to reduce man hours worked, and to reduce man hours worked.

CENSUS GAIN Washington—From 1955 to 1959, the population of the United States increased from 182,085,671 to 199,201,642, a gain of 8,115,971 per cent, probably the greatest in the Na- tion's history.
Mail Bag

April 12 will be an important day for all trade unionists in California—the deadline for registering to vote in the June primary election.

Register to Vote

The occasion also has great importance for our allies in the community and our allies, to be sure, are the same groups of whom Franklin Delano Roosevelt built his liberal political force in the United States. Power supplies for the district and the upper American River water resources board to approve the San Juan projekt needed for the growth of the Sacramento area. The occasion also has great importance for our allies in the community and our allies, to be sure, are the same groups of whom Franklin Delano Roosevelt built his liberal political force in the United States.

But the first job is to have everyone register to vote. Let's do it.

Pittsburg—Blast Rips Steam Plant

Nine injured workers and property, including a 100-foot blast which killed 375 million steam plant, located in northeastern Contra Costa County about 15 miles from Martinez, were released by retail stores and the crew from west coast unionized utilities worked miracles in getting service restored in short order! And that equality and dignity make the human being, whether rich or poor, white or colored. And that equality and dignity make the foundations of America.

Oldtimers Are Honored

Members from the Placerville area of Sacramento District honored retiring Brothers J. W. Daniels and Ernest Olson at a pot-luck dinner on March 10th. The affair, under the chairmanship of W. B. "Bob" Glasgow, former Area Executive Board member, was held at the Veterans’ Hall, of the El Dorado County Fairgrounds.

Clerical Organizing Gaining

Organizing activities in Central California, East Bay and San Francisco areas show new and encouraging gains during the past month.

The East Bay Meter Readers are now nearly 100 percent Unionized. And in a special meeting for Meter Reading to members, a sign-up of 90 percent of the eligible employees resulted in a final step organizing work continues, and aemark has been released since the year’s beginning.

Four and About


Mail Your Contributions

Give AmericanCancer Society,

My sincere thanks for the splendid overtures given my letter about the foundations of America.

Ten Safety Rules

1. Know your JOB: what it involves and exactly how it should be done.
2. Know your TOOLS: how to use them and how to take care of them.
3. Know your SAFETY COSTUMERS: learn what protects you, where and how to use them properly.
4. Know your PENALTIES: loss of money, loss of time, loss of health.
5. Know your REMEDIES: be prepared to do the right thing to put things right.
7. Know your PENALTIES: carelessness leads to pain and suffering. Our society is a safe society for you to work in.
8. Know your REMEDIES: be prepared to do the right thing to put things right.
9. Know your SAFETY COSTUMERS: learn what protects you, where and how to use them properly.
10. Know your PENALTIES: loss of money, loss of time, loss of health.
Otto Never Will Leave Cal BT

The State Building & Construction Trades Council of California announced early this month that Otto K. Never has resigned as General Manager of the organization to ill health. He will be succeeded by his former assistant, Don Newberry, presently secretary-treasurer of the California Sub-Branch of the Construction Trades Council.

Never created a storm of protest among union members when he took over the Cal BT. An honest individual and a bargaining unit and appetizing segment among the numerous building trades craft unions. Following several abortive attempts, and a lot of noise, his attempts proved fruitless.

Meanwhile, the San Francisco Chronicle reported that a civil action for damages has been filed in Los Angeles against Nefive art dealers, including two former advertising solicitors for the state council, new paper, now called the WESTERN STATES BUILDING TRADERS REPORT. The legal action alleges that Nefive received 10 percent of more than $30,000 in advertising revenue obtained by the solicitors, in addition to the $15,000 annual salary which wa also reported paid, from advertising sources.

On the heels of the CHRONICL REport, the State BT announced suspension of its monthly Bulletin, in June pending a full investigation by the Council's Executive Board.

Robert Loyd Myers, President of Local 160 in Fresno, was named to succeed the late Head- man of the State BT Council.

Steward of Month

Nurse California, William R. Wyatt, an honored member of Local 160 in San Luis Obispo, Bill continues to live there with his wife, Helen, and daughters, Kathleen, Sue; Diane, and Frances.

Following service in the U.S. Army Air Forces, he spent a year at California Polytechnic College studying Electric Engineering. He left school to accept employment with the PG&E in San Luis Obispo, and since the signing of the last contract, Wyatt has been employed in the Line Department.

In addition to the regular duties of the stewards, the stewards have been supplied with the "charts" of Union offices in their communities, so that they can more easily aid their fellow members.

Jr. Quincie Committee

Committee member William R. Wyatt, the chairman of the Junior Quincie Committee, and his present post, the following report about the activities of the Junior Quincie Committee:

"I am pleased to report that the Junior Quincie Committee has been doing a splendid job in working with the members of the Junior Quincie Committee. The committee has been working hard to help the junior members of the Union by providing them with information about the benefits of membership and the importance of being active in the Union. The committee has also been working on projects to improve the living conditions of the junior members of the Union. The committee has been successful in increasing the number of junior members who are active in the Union. The committee has been working to increase the participation of junior members in the Union's activities. The committee has been successful in increasing the participation of junior members in the Union's activities. The committee has been working to increase the participation of junior members in the Union's activities. The committee has been successful in increasing the participation of junior members in the Union's activities. The committee has been working to increase the participation of junior members in the Union's activities. The committee has been successful in increasing the participation of junior members in the Union's activities."
le not exist where this is true.

Then when he found how large out
geographical territory is, and, at
the same time, the general scale
of diversified classifications we must represent, it is
not reasonable to expect the
"K" for effort for progressing as so far as we have under
such unions.

I agree that our people, through
emotional appeals, have done a
good job to date. We still have a
long way to go and we are going
to reach the point where we can do the maxi-
mum for the success and the well-
being of the industry.

While people, individual people,
cannot understand this unique orga-
nization where practically none of
the usual basic ingredients of sec-
urity and stability are present.

Your Business Manager's
By RONALD Y. WEALEB

Whenever I happen to get into
a conversation with a person who
writes for various industrial relations, I al-
xamerica, for instance, that we do not have
a close understanding of the
properties. He could not under-
stand the meeting of interest that
our Union has grown to its cur-
rent size without the recognition by a large
corporation. We have been without the
joy of limited union security, he said, and
stood in a depressing situation. It seemed that
most of the big, major, big labor Unions
for some time and the terrific or-
ning and reorganizing problem

Busines Manager's Report

Some of the factors which all unions in building, includ-
ing our own, completely com-
plete organization, organization of our
people and the union by the em-
ployers, is not reasonable to
understand and living activity by
our members.

We are well as we can at this
point toward this, we are still
fighting to get out of the rut we
were out of a routine. We are still
in the throes of getting over
within ourselves, and grinding away
at the problems which we must
work to form our Local Union policy.

We excel, by comparison with
other Unions, in the range and scope that we face.

Specific provisions were required
on PG&E's application for the
order. The contract settlement, also pro-
vided for a 3-hour guaranteed raise in one
hourly rate of pay, 3

PUC Reins PG&E on Linemen Safety Rules

The Public Utilities Commission of California, in its de-
cision No. 53638, denied permission to the PG&E Company to "deviate from the provisions of General Order No. 95," effect-
ively extending the "Anchor Line Construction" rule, as to per- 
mit the grounding of the enclosing metal conductors, service re-
ectors, and electrical equipment when such cases are
installed at clearance from conductors less than as specified in
General Order No. 95.

The ruling stemmed from an application filed by PG&E on
July 7, 1953, in which the utility sought an order of the
Public Utilities Commission authorizing it to deviate from
the provisions of General Order No. 95, "Rules for Overhead Line Construc-
tion," so as to permit the grounding of the enclosing metal
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