MEMBERS DISCUSS AND VOTE—Here are two of the many unit meetings held for discussion and vote on PG&E management proposals. Top view shows Contra Costa Steam Unit 2313 meeting in IOOF Hall, Concord. Lower view shows Richmond Unit 2122, East Bay Division at Richmond Labor Temple.

Here is Chronology of '56 PG&E Negotiations

The following is an account of the progressive events from the opening date, May 1, 1956 to date:

On May 1, 1956 both Union and Company opened the current Agreements and proposed amendments in each other which formed the basis for the ensuing sessions.

May 9 and 10 the Committees met in joint session and started reviewing the proposals. Due to the scope of the material, the parties recessed and set up sub-committees who then met on May 16 and developed a resume of the issues in order to speed up the process of bargaining. Also, certain items were categorized in order to separate the detailed language items from the broad principal items.

On May 23, the parties met and went over the general proposals and the general wage inequities as proposed by the Union.

On June 14 and 15 Union submitted its written material in support of its wage proposals and the parties reviewed the Company's counter-proposals to the Union's proposals on contract items and equity adjustments. During these sessions, the parties also discussed the Company's May 1 opening proposals to amend the contracts.

On June 20 and 21, joint sessions were again held on the Company's counter on conditions and inequities. The sessions produced certain tentative agreements on portions of ours and the Company's proposals.

Beginning on June 26, joint sessions were held for four consecutive days. The parties reached a tentative accord on the subject matter of inequities and certain other contract improvements.

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Local News

MEMBERS REJECT PG&E WAGE-CONTRACT OFFER

BULLETIN: At press time word was received that negotiations between PG&E and the union will be resumed at a meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 26, at 10 a.m. Watch your bulletin board for news that may be coming from these negotiations.

PG&E employees at special meetings of some 73 Units of Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO have rejected the Company's offer of July 5, 1956 (see resume of Company's offer of July 5th elsewhere on this page), despite a recommendation to accept by the Negotiating Committee. The membership, by a vote of 3018 to reject and 416 to accept indicated that the negotiated package did not contain enough of the improvements which had been under consideration during the negotiating sessions.

The Union's Committee resumed its deliberations as soon as the results of the ratification meetings were conclusive. The Committee has been in session at the Union's headquarters since July 16 for the purpose of reviewing our position as indicated by the voice of the membership.

A meeting was held between the Union and Company Negotiating Committees on Thursday, July 19th, at which time the Company's Committee was advised of the official results of ratification meetings. This session was devoted to a discussion on membership attitudes and expressed reasons for the membership's overwhelming rejection of the offer.

The Company expressed interest in the attitudes of the membership and asked questions of all members of the Union's Committee on both procedure and attendance at the meetings. They were quite concerned over the rejection of the offer and stated that they have not yet been able to fully analyze all of the factors involved.

The Union Committee expressed its willingness to resume discussions with the Company with a view toward reaching an accord. Assurances were given that the Union Committee considered the situation to be wide open for the parties to work out an agreeable solution and that Union was in a position to identify the main issues upon Company's expressed willingness to resume bargaining.

Company spokesmen insisted that with the Union's position in mind, they would proceed in order to evaluate their position before any more joint meetings would be scheduled.

Union was advised that PG&E Director of Industrial Relations, R. J. Tilton, would contact Business Manager R. T. Weakley on Monday, July 23rd in connection with the dates for possible future joint sessions.

LOCAL UNION 1245 NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE is shown in this picture taken recently at union headquarters. Standing, left to right: Art Justis, Russell Stone, chairman, and John Michael. Seated, left to right: M. "Scotty" Shaw, Dan McPeak, and Frank Quaidros.

FROM THE BUSINESS OFFICE: Members of the Negotiating Committee from business office are shown at right. Left to right: R. T. Weakley, business manager; L. L. Mitchell, assistant business manager; and E. B. Bushby, business representative.
A NATIONAL DISGRACE

The 6 years old who trudges off to first grade in September won't understand why his playmates, their careers are, are certainly not

We're talking about the disintegration of his and the 2 year olds are growing a little. We should be able to do a little better. Rather than understand why their classrooms are so crowded, perhaps there should be only one day on a half day schedule: why the quality of American education, a matter of national policy, really needs. They will try to be at least at last part of the blame to the House of Representatives, the Republican Party and its leadership who were instrumental in defeating the school aid bill.

Those forces killed that bill in 1954 a display of malfeasance as the Capitol has seen in many a year. The political feeling that kicked around seemed to be a political concept, which we think uninteresting: or it was a political concept, and that is from anti-integration schools. A majority of Republican congressmen who oppose federal funds for schools were willing for the bill only if it contained the Powell amendment. According to the Times enough certain that bill will finally be killed by a Senate filibuster.

A Democratic congressman was against the Powell amendment, but he was for the Powell amendment. And while the fight was going on in Congress, the South States—has issued numerous statements for co-op's, because they have not heard the west in the House. The leadership that might have come from the Administration was completely lacking.

The vote on the school bill was a bitter and disappointing one. The work of responsible 40,000 hours in half the schools for more than a century. We want to keep up the fight—a fight which, at least, we hope of America will win. America cannot afford to let its own two million children to be so overcrowded. And it cannot afford the trouble it might cause for the Senate to become involved in this bill. The Senate will not.

California congressmen who voted against the Powell amendment.

June 23, 1956

Dear Sir:

I would appreciate your printing in the Utility Reporter my appreciation for being elected to the Policy Committee.

I deeply appreciate the help and assistance of the members of the Coast Valleys Division who did so much to make possible my election to the Policy Committee. I trust that I will continue to merit your confidence and support in upholding that office.

Fraternally yours,

R. K. STAAB
Chief Valleys
Policy Committee, Member
P.O. Box 561
Oroville, Calif.

Joe Honor Johnson
At Harvard Univ.

JOE KEENAN
International Secretary Joseph D. Keenan who was elected by the delegates to a position in the Harvard Union this spring.

His address on the "Trade Union and the University" was a truly inspirational one, and won the applause and sustained applause of his audience, according to Harvard of all oil, chemical, workers in Bitter Strike to Protect Sisters and St. Louis Public.

Some 2,200 determined members of three locals of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers are engaged in a standdown strike with the St. Louis with the two purposes of an intensive campaign to get the best natural gas rates. If a strike is not settled we will go on with the strike in public utilities.

Sluts have filed against the union for the period of 600 to 900 hours is sought from each local for failure to report for work. Five of 6,000 such are being sought against five individuals including Joseph Applebaum, general president of the International.

"We're seeking standard contract improvements," Applebaum told the editors of the Daily Missouri. "For a bigger issue than that.

Since 1946 we have had this provision in our contract which calls for an extra half hour per day to meet the union before changing methods of production, sales and so on. Late night and early night hours being a policy of meeting with us and the members without regard to our objections.

The strike is your strike, and we are working with service work to the consumers and by reducing in gas rates. We're fighting for the consumers just as we are for the consumers when we fought the company when it sought to levy a service charge.

The Mail Bag

Chronology—Continued

June 23, 1956

June 22, 1956

June 21, 1956

June 20, 1956

AFL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS. — The three young people shown above will be guests of honor at the 3rd convention of the California State Federation of Labor, AFL, to be held in Long Beach, August 15-17. They're winners of the annual AFL scholarship contest sponsored by the state AFL for high school seniors in California and Hawai'i. Front to right are left to right are: Rodolfo Larios, North Hollywood High School, North Hollywood; Elden Olguin, Mission High School, Mendota, and Peggy Deaver, Bosworth, St. Mary's High School, Stockton. All three will receive $200 awards to advance their college education.
Meet Your Negotiating Committee

Stone is for Steam

The Steam department is represented by the 1956 System Negotiating Committee by Brother RUSSELL EVANS, Jr., of the Mission Lumber Plant. He is the successor from the 1953 Committee.

Born and raised in Ponce, Tom went to work for the PG&E in 1949. He specialized in industrial aircraft during World War II. He immediately joined the United Steelworkers of America in February 1949. He has been employed by the PG&E for 28 years. He is a member of the Pioneers Club and the National Association of Retired Federal Employees.

Daniel McPeak, a veteran of four years of overseas service with the U.S. Army, has represented the membership in the field union work. He has served as an officer of the local union which had jurisdiction over the particular type of work. He has made many speeches to the members and has been instrumental in the local union's growth.

Linenman on Committee

Brother DANNY JAMES McPHEE, the new member of our System Negotiating Committee, has really "gone the route" of work experience to employment with the company. While making his way up the ranks of the local union which had jurisdiction over the particular type of work. He has made many speeches to the members and has been instrumental in the local union's growth.

Union Proposes Prepaid Legal Aid

Employees in Los Angeles have proposed in their agreements that as in the past, the employee must pay for the insurance policy in the amount of $50,000.

Under the proposal, Union members would be covered for $100,000 of accident and $2,000 for medical care. The insurance policy would come from a $50 premium and be paid by the employees. The policy would pay for legal services by an employee in case of civil or criminal actions.

To overcome possible roadblocks that may exist to obtaining this type of insurance and help in assisting them in obtaining the benefits, the union has requested a meeting with the insurance company.

Be A Blood Donor

Science is wonderful, but it cannot replace your blood. It needs you in the emergency room, in the air-traffic control center, on the construction sites.
It is a program developed from membership desires and the re- quirements of the present time, with the thought that we, as members of our union who are increasingly diversified in the community, have certain demands on the part of our employers. We are building the future. Very serious handicaps have been placed on the members of our union who are numerically stronger despite reduced employ- ment and the need for collective bargaining.

What about the unions? Is the money greater than those who have been taken over by the labor movement. The financial position is very good. The majority of the members of our organization have been in the California Utility Industry. 

In the construction program is the work of the IBEW. (4) and the non-unionized crafts. The present activity is at its highest level since the last major strike. The total California membership of the B.C.A. is estimated at 1,618,000. These figures are in the 20's for the period July 1 to 1954.

At the meeting was called for the presentation of the Union's offer. The meeting was attended by the following members of the Board to discuss the offer:

Union's proposal on June 15th. Present were the outgoing 1955 Officers with thanks for their services.

on the PG&E property. It was agreed that the maximum offer by the management should start about July 1, 1956, and will be served at the conclusion of the meeting.

The proposal includes:

1. A 10% raise for all members of the labor force.
2. A $3.00 increase for all members of the labor force.
3. A $2.00 increase for all members of the labor force.
4. A 5% increase for all members of the labor force.
5. A 3% increase for all members of the labor force.
6. A 1% increase for all members of the labor force.
7. A 0% increase for all members of the labor force.

The total California membership of the B.C.A. is estimated at 1,618,000. These figures are in the 20's for the period July 1 to 1954. The following were in attendance:

Brothers William Yocheni, Ed Hansen, Frank Schoop, John Poulson, Oscar McGregor, assisted by Brother Richard Kilgore who is the representative of the Board to discuss the offer. The meeting was attended by the following members of the Board to discuss the offer:

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We know that the main reason for the management to continue the negotiations is the desire to conclude the 1956 Settlement. We know that the Company has been in a position of strength for many years. However, we know that the majority of our members are not
developing the future. Very serious handicaps have been placed on the members of our union who are numerically stronger despite reduced employ- ment and the need for collective bargaining.

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