Unit meetings Friday, September 14, 1956 brought to a close the most difficult negotiations in the history of Local 1245. Physically, unionists voted on two contracts, with voting lagging for two weeks on a trio of issues regarding the negotiations with Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Interest has been at an all-time high with most Units turning out a higher attendance than ever before. Participation lagged in the last two nights of meetings and pulled the total vote down to 46 less than the second series of meetings which set an all-time high of 4272 votes being cast by Physical members in attendance.

The Local Union Executive Board in special session Saturday, September 15, totaled the ballots and certified the total vote from All Units. Official results were 2547 for No. 1, 1185 for No. 2, 319 for rejecting both offers. There were 173 void ballots. A total of 4266 ballots. To obtain a majority would require 2114 votes. Number 1 offer having obtained 2547 votes. Number 2 offer having obtained 1185 votes. Full payment to all employees on the payrolls as of October 1. Ex-employees will qualify for payment only if they were on the payroll at least seven working days during the period for which retroactivity applies.

Many debates and discussions have occurred over the merits of each position. Probably as a result of the influence of the demonstrations at our late political conventions which were televised for all to see, we had open demonstrations by advocates of one issue or the other. In one area two supporters of issue No. 2 paraded through the yard, one carrying a placard with the text Yes on No. 2 and the other marched along behind playing a tune on a trombone.

As a result of the campaign, the Staff, Officers and Negotiating Committee, the job was well done by all. Even with the differences of opinion faced by the membership, the Union has emerged stronger and better prepared for the future.

The organization has increased its membership and the remaining problem becomes one of maintaining interest and esteem. Between now and May 1957, many decisions must be made. Many will be made at Unit meetings, when the new term is decided, it is imperative that the duties of membership be carried out by full attendance at Unit meetings.

Five Local 1245 Men Are Honored for Valor

Four Local 1245 members the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's John A. Britton award for distinguished service at a testimonial luncheon in Sacramento recently.

Three Woodland members, Robert L. Gans, John D. Pedroia and Paul J. Devlin, who is a member, won the awards for their prompt action in saving the life of Claude H. Jahn, a P.G.E. pensioner.

The fourth member, Fred W. Troubridge of Sacramento, received his award for his action in preventing an accident victim from bleeding to death.

The fifth honoree went to CLINTON W. TROTTER, member of Glisan Power Plant, who was awarded the P.G.E.'s John A. Britton Citation for Distinguished Service for saving the life of a fellow-employee, Ernest S. Sharp, who had been injured in a swimming accident.

The award honored Trotter's "excellent judgment and composure." Trotter and Gans, Devlin and Pedroia, working near the John A. Brinster Award, Stockton Division, were at the scene.

Trotter, who was added to the Stockton Division Member of the Executive Board in 1952, was selected by the local union for a period of 10 years as a delegate to the Division Joint Grievance Committee.

Marvin C. Brooks, Vice President

Marvin C. Brooks is presently working in a Fitter's classification in the OAKLAND Power Plant, Stockton Division. He resides in the city of Modesto.

He was elected as Shop Steward in 1943, and was subsequently appointed to serve as committee-man for the period of 10 years as a delegate to the Stockton Division Joint Grievance Committee.

Everett Basinger lives in Davis where he has worked for General Construction Department for some 20 years. He is now employed in the field inspection of O.C. Structures. He is married and has two sons, Mary Ann, who has two sons and one daughter, and Tom and doubly, who have two sons and one daughter, respectively.

Basinger has served as Shop Steward, Policy Committeeman and member of the Negotiating Committee in 1953 and 1954. When his Unit at Davis submitted the foregoing sketch of Everett and his background, they closed with, "All in all, we think Everett is a pretty good sort of a guy and we think a lot of him."

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text continues on Page Six
They Look to Us

When the Constitution was signed by our Founding Fathers Sept. 17, 1787—just 169 years ago this month—we really practiced the democracy we preach. A famous historian once said: "The Constitution is what living men and women think it is." He meant that unless we really practice in it, in every instance where the Constitution is worth no more than a scrap of paper.

It is a good time to pick up a copy of the great document and read it carefully. It's also a good time to give ourselves a little civil rights quiz. For example: Do we treat our Negro neighbors equally regardless of religion or their race? Do we condemn others because their views differ from ours? Do we judge our neighbor as an individual—good or bad—or do we blame whole groups for the weaknesses of a few?

Life can seem too long for unemployed folks over 45 years today. But the concept of the average of 47 years in 1900 to 60 years now enjoying greater prosperity is commendable. The problem is that company-financed pension plans have made the retirement concept outdated. They offer attractive benefits upon the retirement.

One of us at least can see that the Chamber's message can be presented in various ways to employees, associates and neighbors. A large enough placing in the public service (7) message in the advertising columns of daily newspapers, reproducing it in company publications, or by being frank with our employees to tell them about the service. (See letter of Aug. 27, 1956, which I intend to make a part of this letter.)

The recent issue of the "Washington Report" is an appeal to our senators in support of anti-Labor legislation. As you know, it is a pity that most...
Deer Hunting - a Cooperative Sport

VALUED TIPS TO DEER HUNTERS

In the old days hunting was not a sport but a necessity. The west was won only because the pioneer kept the buffalo under control. You may know it as a sport and much of our economy, particularly in the large inhabited areas of the West, depends upon the balance of herds. On the other hand, many of us are dependent upon the good will and understanding of the indigent.

Certain precautions should be followed to protect our sport for future generations. Let’s look at some of them.

1. Necessity. The west was won only because the pioneers kept the buffalo under control and had the right to do so.

2. Care of. Most nimrods do a pretty good job of taking care of. Most nimrods do a pretty good job of taking care of. Most nimrods do a pretty good job of taking care of. Most nimrods do a pretty good job of taking care of.

3. Good Sportsman. As a sportsman it is your obligation to see that you act as one. As a sportsman it is your obligation to see that you act as one. As a sportsman it is your obligation to see that you act as one. As a sportsman it is your obligation to see that you act as one.

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in keeping with his campaign pledge to labor in 1952 when he promised: who are unemployed through not fault of their own," nor is such action who seek a job and cannot find one, the Government must seek to per- the board's precedent in accepting registration with a government em-

on June 20, 1947 he voted for a resolution restricting the em-

Social Security: (5) On February 27, 1948, he voted for a bill which not only sufficed partial to partial claims but also reduced employers from liabilities and penalties for violation- for mail order workers and Fair Labor Standards Acts. (6) In August 10, 1950, he voted to remove one million people most of whom are women, from federal social secu-

Measures, Not Men: Many of us are too often blinded to the vital importance of the nation's working people and give the measures the attention they deserve. We too often consider that these men are exponents of the prin-

It's a splendid trait to be true to one's principles, and why? Because he is

Now There's Just 1

We disagree. Labor thinks it is important how you vote. We disagree. Labor, through AFL-CIO and local unions, puts

1952, he voted for an amendment to preclude ef-

Now, the NLRB is not even when the NLRB orders the worker reinstated. The Supreme Court, however, has never indicated disapproval of the board's precedent in accepting registration with a government employment agency as conclusive evidence of "reasonable effort." It is quite apparent to this writer that this action by the majority of the Court is not consistent with Pres. Eisenhower's 1956 Labor Day Message in which he stated that "as long as there are men and women who work a job and cannot find one, the Government must seek to perfect its ways of helping people find jobs and to provide

NLRB eventually orders him rehired WITH BACK PAY, the worker

CONGRESSIONAL RECORDS: (1) On April 17, 1947 he voted against a major labor-sup-


cuts to the Social Security Act. (2) On February 28, 1947 he voted for the excise tax on the "socialized" corporation for Emerald City. (3) On May 13, 1952, he voted against a measure which would have permitted the use of federal funds to build low-rent public housing developments. (4) On November 7, 1951, he voted for an amendment to the Taft-Hartley Act which de-

That's why it's important that, when you vote, you vote with Labor.

Don't shrug your shoulders. Be sure you vote. Be sure you vote with Labor!

THE NLRB TOSSES OUT ANOTHER PRECEDENT

The three Eisenhower-appointed members of the National Labor Relations Board have reversed a 15-year-old precedent controlling the manner in which illegally fired workers must try to save their employ-

I. TELL ME THE FACTS

in rents. (10) On March 16, 1948, he voted for an amendment to the Employment Security Act to place final rent decontrol in

President Eisenhower was making

July figures on the U.S. cost of living should have been published in August just about the time the Republican-Dixiecrat coalition to prevent federal financing of

President Truman's veto of Taft-Hartley. (2) On May 5, 1952, he voted to prevent the Government from making

44050 for persons totally disabled,

7. Heineman's supply of labor has been augmented by

many of us are too often blinded to the vital importance of the nation's working people and give the measures the attention they deserve. We too often consider that these men are exponents of the principles and not the prin-

The White House announced no immediate successor to Mr. 

It is an important aspect of the bill which is immediately under consider-

by eliminating a disability insurance provision for the purpose of in-

It is an important aspect of the bill which is immediately under consider-

A democracy is a form of gov-

we find that these same men are exponents of the prin-

and which imposed punitive restrictions on labor, running from fines on the secondary boycott to outlawing of industrialwide bargaining.

VEToes and amendments, including a disability insurance pro-

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conserve soil and water, and help prevent "dust bowls." (5) On June 27, 1952, he voted to override President Truman's veto of Taft-Hartley, which added new rights for working men and women, and thereby help allevi-

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First There Were 5; Now There's Just 1

The next-to-last moment Truman appointed to a medical school aid bill to increase the number of medical students, and thereby help allevi-

by eliminating a disability insurance provision for the purpose of in-

It is an important aspect of the bill which is immediately under consider-

A democracy is a form of gov-

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conserve soil and water, and help prevent "dust bowls."

Some Labor leaders were using the Labor Day "day of service" to

"Look — A Jake Is A Jake — "
American MAILING Service is making available to the
AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education—one for each union
member—showing how every senator and congressman voted on key issues over the last 10 years.

**VOTE RECORDS AVAILABLE**

The most far-reaching program ever undertaken by organized labor to provide trade union members with factual information on the voting records of congressional candidates, creating a revolution in moving forward in California with record speed.

The voting records of every U.S. Senator and Representative on key issues of the past 10 years are being furnished as part of a national program undertaken by the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education (CPEED), which prepared the records on a state-by-state basis.

In California will include only California senators and representatives.

The votes are divided into four broad groups: labor, general welfare, domestic policy and foreign affairs. They include 20 votes in the Senate and 21 votes in the House, covering the years 1947 through 1956—the 84th through the 85th Congress.

Upon Local 1245's receipt of the records, they will be distributed among members in our jurisdiction residing in California and Nevada.

**The Voter's Check List**

1. Tally up the number to vote.
2. Know the issues.
3. Look at the records of the parties and candidates.
4. Decide for yourself.
5. Start at the bottom left.
6. Mark up a sample ballot if you think your vote doesn't count.
7. To permit people in the grip of the need to vote.

**And You Think Your Vote Doesn't Count?**

I use to feel that my vote didn't count and as if I didn't feel very well or was lousy or tired, I just didn't bother to vote. But this time I will make sure that I get one vote. I have taken the liberty of YOU VOTE.
KNOW YOUR GROUND RULES
For your own protection know what is going on in the Senate of California. Always use protective ground rules when:
1. Work is performed on de-ionized equipment.
2. No operational accident can be met on de-ionized equipment.
3. Induced voltages can be picked up on de-ionized equipment.
4. Insulate yourself from ground.
5. Use the de-ionized equipment, keeping the cover on as long as the de- ionizer is available.

When de-ionizing ground connections make ground connections available:

Stay clear of:
1. Neutral ground equipment.
2. Grounding equipment.
4. Grounding boards.

If it isn’t grounded it isn’t dead.

Do You Just Belong?
Are you an active member of COPE?
Or are you just an observer?

Do your money and time go towards the organization?

Do you ever do anything to meet any of the conditions for election?

Do you ever leave the work in a few minutes and then slip in a few minutes later when you want to meet your quotas?

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Credit Squeeze Could Boomerang

Never since the middle of the Depression have as many small business owners been forced to curtail activity in their small firms as this summer. For while the cost of living has increased only slightly, the price of all raw materials, equipment, and store items has gone up 10 to 15 per cent. The effect of a rise of 10 per cent or more in the cost of materials in the production of a finished article is to lower the profit margin to a mere one or two per cent. And the margin is as valuable to the small business owner as the interest on his savings account is to the individual investor.

The result is that most small business owners are finding it increasingly difficult to operate. Many are forced to cut back on their purchases of materials, and some are even forced to reduce their hours of operation. Others are forced to raise their prices, and still others are forced to lay off workers. The result is that the small business sector of the economy is slowing down, and this will have a negative impact on the overall economy.

The situation is particularly acute in the manufacturing sector, where small businesses are the lifeblood of the economy. These firms are responsible for a large portion of the country's output, and they employ a large number of workers. But the credit squeeze is making it difficult for these firms to operate, and this is leading to job losses and a slowdown in economic growth.

We urge the government to take steps to ease the credit squeeze. This could include lowering interest rates, increasing the supply of loanable funds, and providing more direct assistance to small businesses. We also urge small business owners to take steps to reduce their costs and increase their efficiency, in order to survive this difficult period.

The situation is serious, and the government and business owners must work together to find a solution.
YOUR Business Manager's

By DONALD T. WEALLSY

Now that our 1956 P.G.&E. contracts are signed, your business office will have to prepare for wide ranging new contract negotiations for all employees. These negotiations will take considerable time on the part of some of our Staff Representatives.

Field Staff Representatives have their usual service requirements plus education and planning duties. Here is where our staff is really on the line and doing their work lined up for all of us. They are working on the great part of the production reports of the administrative staff and getting inventory work done. We are all working on the necessary routine functions of Union field service and we expect to get back to some of these functions.

Operating costs also need a careful review. All items such as supplies, affiliation fees, services, etc., have either rises or are due to rise. More organization means more of an additional cost and requires more staff service. We must examine our costs to make sure that potential increased costs plus the cost of resources serve.

The cost of P.G.&E. negotiations was extremely high this year due to the length of negotiations, and three important convention meetings. This will have to be re- examined and the officers of the Union will pass on the cost of estimated negotiations to our members.

Speaking of negotiations, we will have different times this year. We will be wide open on the cost of our personnel and properties. They will come up in the June meeting.

Utilities, Sierra Pacific Power System, P.G.&E. Physics, Clerical and Sacramento Transmission Division.
The City of Oakland

Alameda and Berkeley plus Sacramento Municipal Utility District will be on the air during this period.

This means that as early as December of 1956 we shall be serving a 90-day notice to our employer and the last date of anniversary of our current contract will fall on September 15, 1957. This is quite a task for us to handle and we shall do so again.

This whole amount of work that represents the negotiation of the labor contract is the most important and the most important work that we do. We have the job of making additional gains in all our contracts.

It also marks the first time since 1954 that we haven't much time to spend on petty matters and to get the hand of disputers who always seem to be with us. However, some three arm chair Napoléons go no further and drastic action becomes necessary. No matter how busy the schedule may be, we shall find time to protect years of hard work and gains that have been converted or destroyed by a few instigators as well as the violent force of those who may be.

The rest of 1956 will be time for picking up the routine chores, organizing the membership, and an examination of our financial and com- munication structures. And, what's old, will be re-fashioned. We are in the beginning of a new round of activities.

We've been through most of the primary organizational troubles and are now starting in to a new round. We will settle down and join together for the work that is so vital to our members and their families.

In unionism we have our utilities, our oldtimers, our best members and plain business to unite for the common good.

172 Unions Now Have Guaranteed Annual Wage Plans

SUI, or supplemental payments, is becoming SUI, a popular operating procedure in labor circles these days.

A recent survey made by the Institute of Labor Economics shows that 172 agreements containing supplementary unemployment plans have been negotiated in the past year by American workers already covered. It is described as a "pay-as-you-go" plan with contributions being negotiated by the Auto-Work- ers, the United Electrical Workers, the Electricians, the Machinists, the Steelworkers and others.

These plans cover a wide range of employers, including automobile, transportation and food industries. They have been negotiated because the workers concerned find them necessary. No matter how busy the schedule may be, we shall find time to protect years of hard work and gains that have been converted or destroyed by a few instigators as well as the violent force of those who may be.

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