

A Message of Importance to All Members and Their Families

The whole wide world will be watching us on Election Day to see if we practice what we preach. If we don't turn out to vote, it is the same as telling our friends abroad that we're not really as sold on our kind of government as we say we

are. A potential enemy would be justified in constructing a light vote as a chink in our armor. Your vote is a genuine deterrent to aggression, as well as a great privilege and responsibility in our affairs here at home. If you vote, you're doing what

you can for peace in the world—a vote of confidence telling the world that democracy can and really does work in these United States of America—see you at the polls Nov. 6.

Utility



Reporter

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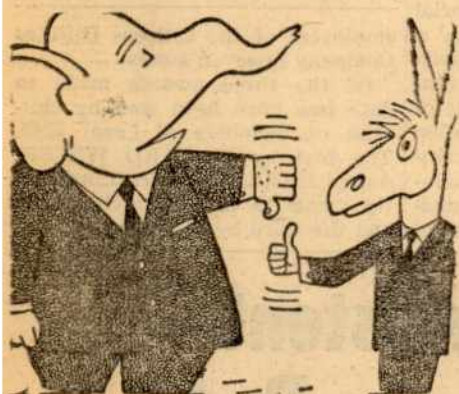
OCTOBER, 1956

Demo and Republican Platforms Analyzed

The following is a report by the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education analyzing the Democratic and Republican Parties' Platforms on key issues:

FOREIGN POLICY

The preservation of peace and freedom is the most important issue of our time. Soviet Russia is unmistakably the enemy of both. Thus, America's foreign policy must be keyed to a realistic understanding and acceptance of the fact that the U.S. must be the leader of the free world, in fact as well as word.



The Republican platform is based on two conclusions which are untrue. The platform says the "threat of global war has receded" and that "the advance of communism has been checked." The facts are exactly the opposite. The entire platform,

based on these false premises, fails to spell out a sound foreign policy, which will provide leadership for the free world. A foreign policy based on these false assumptions is the most dangerous one the United States could adopt.

The Democratic platform correctly evaluates the threat of Soviet imperialism. It provides a sound base upon which to build a foreign policy which matches the realities, not the myths of our times. The Democratic platform proposals for solution of the Middle Eastern crisis, the world's most troubled spot today, stand in stark contrast to the Republican's failure to recommend specific steps to end the threat of aggression in that area.

TAFT-HARTLEY ACT

Despite repeated campaign-year pledges to correct Taft-Hartley's inequities, this vicious law today still stands virtually intact. It still functions to weaken unions; makes a mockery of workers' rights to organize freely; interferes with collective bargaining and revives the hated labor injunction. Taft-Hartley must be overhauled, to provide the nation with a fair and workable statute which will promote harmonious, constructive and cooperative labor-management relations.

The Republican platform, praising the Eisenhower amendments, pledges an overhauling and improvement of Taft-Hartley "along

the lines" of these recommendations. These proposals, the trade union movement unanimously agreed, would make T-H worse. They repudiated the President's 1952 promises and were defeated in 1954 only after a vigorous fight in which Senate Democrats united in defense of a free and democratic labor movement. On that key roll call, most Republicans voted for a tougher T-H law.

The Democratic platform, labeling T-H as inadequate, unworkable and unfair, calls for its repeal and the substitution of a new legislative approach based on the principles of the Wagner Act and the Norris-LaGuardia anti-injunction law.

This is a reiteration of the Democratic pledge in 1952. However, experience has taught us that many Southern Democrats who occupy key positions on congressional committees have flouted their party's platform commitments with impunity.

Obviously the only eventual solution of this problem for labor is the election of liberal and progressive candidates for Congress regardless of party tag who will

(Continued on Page Three)

9th District Meet Hears Freeman and Keenan On Brotherhood's Progress

Scores of Local Union delegates met in Hollywood on October 18 and 19 for two days of sessions devoted to reports on progress made by the I.B.E.W. in the past year. Ninth District Vice President O. G. Harbak chaired the sessions which featured reports from the International Officers and other speakers.

Local 1245 was represented at the meeting by Business Manager R. T. Weakley, President Frank Gilleran, Northern Area Board Member "Bob" Glasgow and Assistant Business Manager L. L. Mitchell. International Treasurer Fred Irwin was in attendance as were a number of International Representatives.

OREGON

Brother W. L. Vinson, Business Manager of Local 125, Portland, Oregon, gave an interesting report on progress in the State of Oregon. Vinson reported that Oregonians were concerned at the decline in new housing construction over the nation because Oregon is largely dependent upon timber and timber products for industrial income. New housing, he added, was holding up in Oregon due to Oregon's being the second fastest growing area in the United States.

Political action and legislative gains in Oregon, according to Vinson, now account for some of the most progressive legislation on any State law books. Apprenticeship, Safety, Dispute procedures, Medical cost review, etc., all have Labor representation in the administrative bodies.

Oregon also is 3rd highest in Union organization of non-farm occupations with 47 per cent organization against a national average of 25 per cent.

WASHINGTON

Brother Pennington, President of the Washington State Association of Electrical Workers and a member of Local 574, reported that conditions in Washington were only fair. Work has dropped off and the employment picture is becoming critical.

Of special current interest is the N.A.M. backed drive to put a compulsory open shop law or so-called "right to work" law on the books in Washington. Labor is fighting a strong battle against almost unlimited funds being spent by the backers of this vicious law.

RADIATION DANGERS

A special report of interest to all citizens whether or not in organized Labor was given by Bro. Brook Payne of Local 112, Pasco, Washington. Brother Payne's subject was on problems in connection with safeguards for control of radiation and contamination from atomic sources.

He pointed out that the I.B.E.W. has the only organized group of "Radiation Monitors," a classification of work, in the U.S. These men are skilled in detection, control and safeguard methods surrounding radiation problems. Payne stated that the general public knows very little about the dangers of radiation and urged that Locals having members working in plants where they might be exposed, should study the problem and negotiate a clause to provide adequate safeguards against this hazard.

ALASKA

Brother Gerard Finley of Local

1533, Alaska, reported that 85 per cent of the work in the area was Government work. Reduction in Government expenditures is slowing employment and members seeking to migrate to Alaska

should check with I.B.E.W. Business Managers before going there.

Alaska, according to Finley, is an important link in U.S. defense, having radar, wave guide lines, (Continued on Page 2)



Pres. GORDON FREEMAN



Secy. JOE KEENAN

KNOW YOUR OFFICERS

MARVIN WAGNER, Exec. Board Member, Southern Area

Born on Nov. 18, 1916 in Chilton, Wisconsin, Marvin moved at an early age to California where he received his formal education. He attended and graduated from St. Joseph's Catholic Grammar School in Bakersfield, Visalia High School and Modesto Junior College.

Marv attended pre-flight school in Oakland and took flight training as a Cadet at Jacksonville, Florida, and at Corpus Christi, Texas, after which he spent a 4-year hitch in the Army Air Force.

After his discharge from the service Marvin went to the San Francisco College of Mortuary Science and received his B.S. degree. He spent his embalmer's apprenticeship at Twin Chapel in Vallejo and worked as an embalmer in Monterey and North Sacramento. He gave up his mortician work and came to work as a Mapper for the PG&E Co. in 1948.

He is now employed as a Substation Maintenance Electrician in Salinas where he resides with his lovely wife, Sybil, and two children—Beverly, 5-years-old, and Robert, 16 months.

Marvin was elected during the last election to serve for a second term as Southern Area Executive Board Member.

Know the candidates and issues, then vote on Nov. 6.

EDWIN B. WHITE, Exec. Bd. Member, Central Area

Ed White is truly a veteran Unionist. In 1934 he became a charter member of the Utility Gas and Electrical Workers Union, a predecessor of the Utility Workers Union of America, CIO.

From 1934 to 1938 inclusive, Ed was an active member and never missed marching in the Labor Day parade. From 1939 through 1940, Ed became an organizer as the Union began to falter.

From 1941 to 1944, Ed served as President of Local 134, Utility Workers Organizing Committee, CIO, in Oakland. During this period the Union grew from 190 members to about 1,400.

In 1945, Ed served Local 134 as Head Shop Steward. In 1946 (for 8 months) he was a full-time Representative for the Utility Workers Joint Council, UWUA, CIO.

1947 found Ed inactive. The CIO split and began to disintegrate at this time and Ed lost favor with the "ins" over his insistence in trying to build a system-wide union.

In 1948, Ed returned to action as a member of the Executive Board of Local 134, UWUA, CIO. He tried to keep the National UWUA from taking control of his Local and the PG&E negotiations but the UWUA took over four of the then eight CIO Locals, including Local 134.

1949 found Ed as Treasurer and Organizer for the new IBEW Bay Area Local 1324. The IBEW was (Continued on Page Three)

Hats Off to Tex and Ernie!



ERNIE



"TEX"

Our hats go off to J. E. "TEX" SMITH, Helper, and E. C. "ERNIE" BOREN, Fitter in the Sacramento Gas Department.

Those two fellows recently joined the Union and immediately set out to sign up the remaining non-members in the Sacramento Gas Dept. To date they have signed up some 70 members, making a 90% sign-up and are determined to get the few non-members' "John Henrys" on membership application cards.

Keep up the good work Tex and Ernie. We wish we had a 1,000 just like you two!



The UTILITY REPORTER



RONALD T. WEAKLEY Editor
 Executive Board: Frank D. Gilleran, President; Marvin C. Brooks, Milton Shaw, Walter H. Martin, Walter R. Glasgow, Edwin B. White, Marvin P. Wagner, Everett T. Basinger.

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Many Units in S. Joaquin Division In "100% Club"

According to Scott Wadsworth, Business Representative in the San Joaquin Division, the following areas and work groups have qualified for the "100% Organized Club":

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Merced Physical | Arvin Electric |
| Los Banos Physical | Bakersfield Garage |
| Fresno Gas Meter Shop | Wishon Hydro Plant |
| Fresno Gas Plant | Kerckoff Hydro Plant |
| Corcoran Physical | Baleh Hydro Plant |
| Lemoore Physical | Tule Hydro Plant |
| Taft Physical | Panoche Substation |

Bakersfield Substation Maintenance

Scott, in checking, finds that the other areas or groups lack only from 1 to 7 employees in order to have the entire San Joaquin Division signed up 100% in the Union.

Much of the credit for the sign-up is due to the active participation

of the Stewards and members on-the-job.

How about it? If San Joaquin Division can do it — you other groups and areas can do it too!

Nixon Distorts Facts

During his first months in the Vice Presidency, Richard Nixon traveled the "high road." But after the Democrats won all the elections of late 1953 and early 1954, and after the polls began to show the Democrats in the lead in the race for Congress in 1954, Mr. Nixon changed his tune. As everyone now knows, he resumed the low-road during his 17-state stumping tour in the 1954 campaign.

In his recent Gettysburg speech we see the re-emergence of the Old Nixon, especially the re-emergence of Mr. Nixon's habit of distorting the truth.

For example, Nixon said there were "twice as many unemployed in America in 1948 as there are today." Apparently he is "buying his information from the wrong source" as the following are the facts, taken from President Eisenhower's own economic report:

Average unemployment for the entire year of 1948: 2,063,583.

Average unemployment through August, 1956: 2,720,000.

Average unemployment for the first 8 months of 1948: 2,181,250.

Average unemployment for the first 8 months of 1956: 2,720,000.

Average unemployment for June, July and August, 1948: 2,117,333.

Average unemployment for June, July and August 1956: 2,651,666.

Actual unemployment figures in August, 1948: 1,941,000.

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Hates Labor Vote

The AFL-CIO Committee for Political Education, meeting in Portland in a five-state regional conference recently, was told that in some states 90 percent of the membership of unions is not registered to vote.

Labor's opposition to Taft-Hartley and repeated attempts to get it repealed, might have more power, the conference was told, if union members would register and vote.

An attempt to win the cooperation of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, in getting voters to register, was flatly refused, the COPE conference was informed.

An Ohio manufacturer, speaking at a Chamber convention, expressed the reason for the refusal when he said: "Our kind of people are already registered and they vote. If the other are stupid enough not to register and vote, why should we help them so they can vote for their New Deal measures?"

Actual unemployment figures for August, 1956: 2,195,000.

During the past few months he has tried again to pass himself off as a New Nixon—again traveling what appeared to be the high roads. But the Maine elections have apparently flushed out the Old Nixon. He is again playing fast and loose with the facts.

Believes in Working People!

Union members in good standing who can't pay their rent because of strikes or lay-offs won't have to worry about keeping a roof over their heads in Chamblee, Georgia, under an offer made by the management of an apartment house chain there.

Wade M. Miles, Jr., president of housing corporations controlling some \$20 million worth of rental housing in three southern states, started it all this spring when some members of the Auto Workers living in one of his projects were laid off from their jobs at the General Motors plant in nearby Doraville.

Unlike some landlords, Miles didn't threaten to throw them out when the rent came due. Instead, he told them without being asked that they could carry their rent "on the cuff" until being re-employed and then pay their back rent on a time-payment basis, or if they preferred, they could work at maintenance work around the project and by such jobs as cutting grass earn their rent until called back to work.

Meanwhile, the steel strike, affecting about 2,800 workers in Atlanta, occurred. Miles extended the same offer to these strikers, even giving them the privilege of moving into the project while on strike and accepting the offer on the same basis as the workers who lived there when the strike was called.

Now Miles has extended the offer to all union members.

He reasons that his policy, which applies to all three of his apartment developments, isn't charity but, in the long run, will return a good profit on his investment.

In advertisements he placed announcing his offer, he said the motto of his housing projects is "We work with working people."

Miles, whose first job was carrying bananas off fruit ships in New Orleans, learned the benefits, privileges and hardships of organized labor on his way up. He isn't forgetting them now—even though he controls \$20 million.

9th District Meet

(Continued from Page 1)

etc., in the warning system. Knowledge of co-axial cable is important to those seeking employment.

The big political issue is Statehood, solidly backed by Organized Labor.

CALIFORNIA

Brother Jack Bell, Secretary of the California State Association, reported on the re-organization of our State Association and the political picture in California. He stated that membership interest in political action is at an all-time high this year.

GENERAL

Mr. Burr of California Physicians' Service gave a talk on I.B.E.W. Health and Welfare plans and the increased coverage since their inception.

Attorney Albert Brundage reported on the latest N.L.R.B. rulings and their adverse effects on Union organization and representation. He outlined the procedural difficulties encountered by appeals of Board rulings through the Courts. "Some cases," stated Brundage, "take four or five years before being decided."

Larry Drew, International Representative, gave an interesting account of organizational potentials and problems in the Electrical Manufacturing Branch.

Bill Damon, head of the I.B.E.W.-N.E.C.A. joint apprenticeship program, outlined the facilities available to Local Unions, including national standards which should be utilized.

KEENAN

One of the highlights of the meeting was International Secretary Joe Keenan's spirited address on the political picture. Keenan stressed getting out the vote on November 6 and warned of a repeat of the depression and repression of organized labor if anti-union candidates were re-elected.

He also stressed organizing the unorganized, pointing out that the I.B.E.W. now has some 665,000 members. Also, he urged the purchase of electrical products bearing the Union Label by Union members and their wives. Over 23,000,000 labels were issued last year.

FREEMAN

International President Gordon M. Freeman gave a comprehensive report on his office and the programs of the I.B.E.W. On the possibility of merger with the U.W.U.A.-C.I.O. in the utility field, President Freeman reported progress in that direction through joint committee activity. I.B.E.W. is represented by President Freeman, Secretary Keenan, Executive Council Member Scholtz, Assistant Bob Noonan and Director of Utilities, Ted Naughton.

U.W.U.A. is represented by their top Officers. President Freeman has addressed the U.W.U.A. National Convention and further meetings of the joint committee are in the offing.

The President reported on a number of committees now working on the settlement of jurisdictional disputes. He also urged full cooperation with all Officers and particularly with the Research Department in order to keep all records up to date.

At an overflow meeting of Local 11, Los Angeles, President Freeman made a presentation of a 60-year membership pin to Brother Fox of Local 11. He also joined with the delegates and their wives at a dinner and entertainment between sessions of the meeting.

The Mail Bag

September 24, 1956

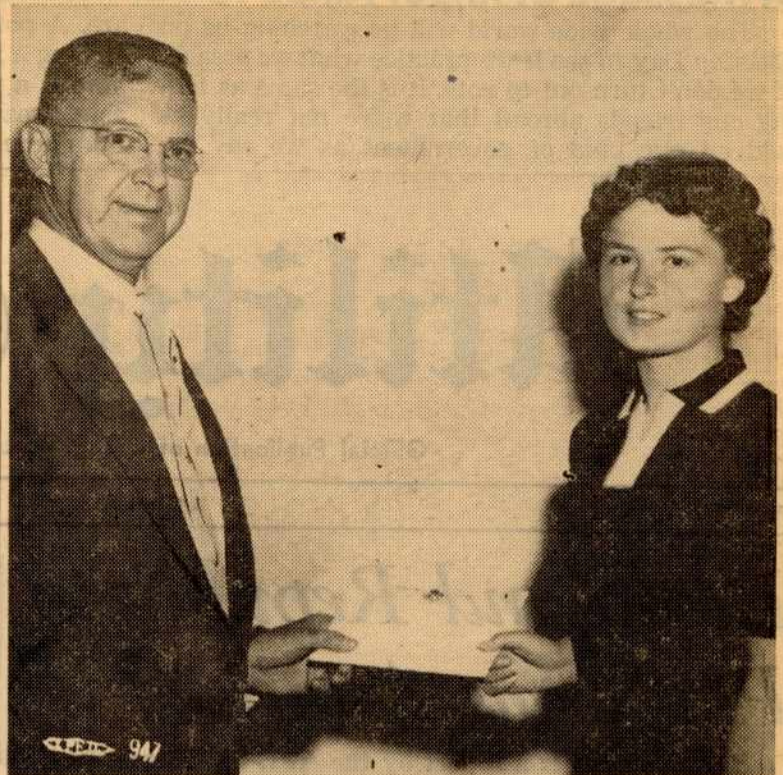
Dear Sir and Brother:
 Please send my traveler by return mail at my home address.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank you for your many considerations while being affiliated with your Local Union 1245.

Sincerely,
 /s/ BILL E. GEDDES
 No. C87992

The incumbent mayor of Newark, Ohio was elected by a ONE VOTE margin in 1954. Use your vote Nov. 6.

Member's Daughter Wins Scholarship



SHIRLEY J. KINNEY, daughter of REUBEN KINNEY, Warehouseman in the Susanville area, was the recent winner of the 3rd annual scholarship award made by CITIZENS UTILITIES COMPANY. Shown here presenting the \$500 award to Miss Kinney is D. H. Steele, manager of the Company.

The Joseph C. Briggs Memorial Scholarship was established as a memorial for the former administrative vice president of the company and is made on the basis of scholastic record, recommendation of school authorities and community leaders and a competitive examination among children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters of

employees of the Citizens Utilities Company in seven states.

Of the three awards made to date two have been won by children of members of Local 1245. The first by EDWARD WELSH, son of HARRY WELSH, Combination man in the Greenville area and the third by Miss Kinney.

Kuchel Consistent—Usually Votes Bad

California voters will have a clear-cut choice between an anti-labor Republican and a pro-labor Democrat in the November contest for a U.S. Senate seat.

Thomas Kuchel, the incumbent Republican, has one of the worst voting records in the entire Senate. On recorded roll call votes, the tally shows that he has been nearly 100 per cent consistent—in voting wrong.

Facing Kuchel in the run-off is Democrat Richard Richards, dynamic liberal, who has already compiled an outstanding voting record in the California State Senate. The record shows that he has voted 100 per cent in favor of all measures to further the interests of working men and women.

As for Kuchel's miserable voting record, here are just a few of his many wrong votes:

CIVIL SERVICE (HR 4974)

Kuchel voted for an amendment creating patronage plums and letting government agencies fire career employees arbitrarily, without regard to veterans' preference.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (HR 5173)

Kuchel voted against an amendment which would have raised weekly benefits and provided 26 weeks of coverage in all states. (The Eisenhower Administration argued that these improvements should be left to the states and opposed the bill.)

OFFSHORE OIL (HR 5134)

Kuchel voted for this bill to overrule the U.S. Supreme Court and give off-shore oil, gas, and mineral resources valued at \$50 billion to \$300 billion to coastal states. An amendment stricken from this bill would have applied revenues from offshore leases to aid education in all states.

PUBLIC HOUSING (S 3855)

Kuchel voted for the Capehart amendment to the Housing Act to cut the number of new low rent public housing units starts authorized from 135,000 each year to 35,000 each year.

\$700 INCOME TAX EXEMPTION (HR 8300)

Kuchel voted against an amendment to increase the \$600 tax exemption by \$100 for all taxpayers and dependents and to plug loopholes.

NATURAL GAS (HR 6645)

Kuchel voted for this bill to per-

mit producers of natural gas to increase prices without government approval.

DIXON-YATES GIVEAWAY (S 3690)

Kuchel voted against an amendment to forbid President Eisenhower to carry through a plan to weaken and give the Dixon-Yates power combine a contract to make \$40 million profit on a \$5.5 million investment.

HONESTY IN GOVERNMENT (S 2391)

Kuchel voted for a motion to excuse businessmen holding non-paying jobs in government from filing personal financial statements. Such statements were recommended to prevent the use of a government position for private gain by an individual or firm.

The above are only a few examples of Kuchel's voting record. The truth of the matter is, according to the record published by the California Labor League for Political Education, Kuchel, during his 14 years in Sacramento and Washington has cast 24 GOOD votes and 110 BAD votes, from the viewpoint of organized labor.

HOOVER—1928 EISENHOWER—1956

Under the heading, "Hoover, 1928, Eisenhower 1956—Different Face, But Same Old Voice, Same Old Story," the Calif. State Federation of Labor Newsletter republishes an editorial which appeared in the Los Angeles Examiner October 14, 1928.

"A vote for Hoover," this Hearst editorial of 28 years ago informed its public, "is a vote for belching smokestacks, flaring furnaces, clanging hammers, busy looms, honest and permanent agriculture relief—a vote for peak production, for steady employment . . ."

There was, too, the same old dirty implication that only the Republicans are patriots, for later on the editorial informed the world that a vote for Hoover was a vote for "national ideals."

Hoover made his reputation in World War I and was used as a front by Big Business; Eisenhower made his in World War II, and is used as a front by the same crowd. And the Hearst papers are still in there pitching!

Demo and Republican Platforms Analyzed

(Continued from Page One)
vote to overhaul the T-H and make it a fair law.

The record clearly shows that labor cannot look to Administration supporters in the Congress for a just labor law.

RIGHT-TO-WORK LAWS

The deceitfully misnamed "right-to-work laws," born out of the T-H Section 14(b), constitute an extremely serious threat to organized labor and to stable labor relations.

The Republican platform ignores this threat.

The Democratic platform buttresses its demand for T-H repeal upon the additional grounds that these vicious "right-to-work" acts have "their genesis in its discriminatory anti-labor provisions."

NATIONAL ECONOMY

The tremendous potentiality of the American economy can mean constant advancement for our way of life. The achievement of this ever-growing standard of living can be realized only if our government takes steps to bolster maximum employment, maximum production and maximum purchasing power; and it is never satisfied with the easy economic complacency of "second best years." This means the adoption of specific legislation to broaden the purchasing power of city workers and farmers and protect the economic investment and well being of the small businessman.

The Republican platform, placing its reliance on "an atmosphere of confidence" inspired by its pro big-business approach, contains no program or promise for the achievement of prosperity based upon high consumer purchasing power. It demonstrates no vision of the great prosperity which can be America's through wise and proper utilization of atomic energy, automation and the new knowledge of our laboratories.

The Democratic platform sets as its goal a full prosperity economy, with an increase of 20 per cent or better in the average standard of living. It seeks a \$500 billion national economy, fully realizable if sound economic programs are adopted. It proposes domestic policies which the trade union movement has urged to realize labor's goal of a true prosperity, shared by all our citizens.

TAXES

The necessity and the economic advisability of an immediate cut in taxes for low and middle-income families and for small corporations, plus a simultaneous plugging of tax loopholes which give unfair advantage to special interest groups, has been repeatedly emphasized by the trade union movement.

The Republican platform, which pledged tax reduction with particular consideration for low and middle-income families and small independent businesses, adds the proviso that such a reduction must follow a balanced budget. This pledge does not square with the record of the Administration, which gave tax relief to wealthy corporations and individuals far in excess of that granted average citizens and with no regard, at that time, for balancing the budget.

The Democratic platform promises tax relief to small independent business and small individual taxpayers. Its program is specific, providing for an increase in the personal exemption from \$600 to \$800, an equitable tax relief program sought by the trade union movement.

SOCIAL SECURITY

The tremendous value of Social Security, economically, socially and morally, has been clearly proven during the years since this social justice legislation was first enacted. But achievement of a fully adequate American system of comprehensive social insurance means we must increase the benefit levels to balance the increase in living costs.

America must, as well, adopt a uniform unemployment insurance system to end the inequities of 51 competing state and territorial systems, which do not provide adequate protection for unemployed

workers or the economy during periods of mass unemployment. Workers injured on the job have inadequate protection; workers deprived of income because of illness have no protection; America has no adequate national health insurance system, which it desperately needs.

The Republican platform, recalling extension of benefits to 10 million Americans and increases to 6½ million, says: "We shall continue to seek extension and perfection of a sound social security system." However, the vast majority of Republicans in the Senate voted in opposition to improvements in the Social Security law won during the last session of Congress by labor's intensive efforts. The Republican platform does not mention a federal standard for unemployment or workmen's compensation nor disability insurance and its only mention of health insurance is to call for re-insurance and pooling arrangements to speed the progress of voluntary health insurance. Labor opposed the re-insurance plan in the 84th Congress as a sham, benefitting only the insurance companies.

The Democratic platform pledges efforts to increase social security benefits across the board; to work for a stronger unemployment system with broader coverage and increased benefits and it favors protection against the temporary wage losses due to short term illnesses. The platform pledges support for all efforts, public and private, to wage war on diseases but it contains no pledge of national health insurance.

The record clearly shows that support for social security improvements has uniformly come from a majority of Democrats and opposition has come from a majority of Republicans in Congress.

AID TO EDUCATION

The labor movement for more than a century has fought for the principle of free public education and for effective programs which would implement that principle. The shortage of decent, safe schoolrooms and the shortage of qualified, well-paid teachers is a national tragedy and a horrifying waste of the nation's most precious resource—its children.

The American labor movement will not withdraw from this fight until we have achieved for every child, without regard to race, color or economic status, a sound education, in a decent classroom, from a teacher who is adequately and justly paid. This goal can only be achieved by a federal program of aid to education including school construction, teachers' salaries, and loans and scholarships for worthy students.

The Republican platform only promises to "renew its efforts to enact a program based on sound principles of need and designed to encourage increased state and local efforts to build more schools." In contrast to this narrow and unsuspecting promise, is the record of two years of delay before the Eisenhower Administration offered a school-aid program. That program was woefully inadequate and characterized by the Council of Chief State School Officers as "written in the tone of a mortgage banker lending money to a pauper." This year, a school construction bill was killed by Republican votes in the House of Representatives after a shameful display of cynical political maneuvering involving a civil rights rider which Republican leaders supported to gain opponents for the school bill.

The Democratic platform, pledging equal educational opportunity without discrimination to all children, supports federal financing to aid schools and to provide better teacher training.

The record clearly shows that support for federal aid to education has come generally from the Democratic ranks, while the majority of the opposition to these vital measures has come from the Republicans in Congress.

These are the key items in the platforms upon which the candi-

Right to Scab Costs \$422 a Yr.

Out of the 17 states which have right-to-work (right-to-scab, right-to-starve) laws only one has a per capita income equal to that of the average for the entire U.S., according to the Dept. of Commerce figures for 1955.

That one state is Nevada, where widespread, legalized gambling runs up the income sharply. The average per capita income of right-to-work states is \$1,425, or \$422 less than the national average.

Here is how the 1955 per capita income of compulsory open shop states compared with the national average:

United States	\$1847
Alabama	1181
Arizona	1577
Arkansas	1062
Florida	1654
Georgia	1333
Iowa	1577
Mississippi	946
Nebraska	1540
Nevada	2434
North Carolina	1236
North Dakota	1372
South Carolina	1108
South Dakota	1245
Tennessee	1256
Texas	1614
Utah	1553
Virginia	1535

600,000 Farms Lost in 4 Years

The Family Farms Subcommittee of the House Agriculture Committee, after extensive hearings throughout the country, has warned in its report that the disappearance of 600,000 family farms in the last four years (coincidental with the Republican administration) is a serious threat to the American economy.

Headed by Rep. Clark W. Thompson (D., Tex.), the subcommittee said that the supplanting of the family system of farming by an industrial-type agriculture—a trend which has increased in recent years—would be a "serious blow to America's free enterprise system."

"This subcommittee is convinced that the proportion the nation permits a lessening of the number of opportunities for venture into individual enterprises — for one to own his own farm or his own business—then by an even larger measure will the free enterprise system be weakened," the report said.

The committee said that the deterioration of the economic structure of the family farm was due primarily to the technological developments and the general weakening of the farm economy. It called for immediate action by the federal government "to assure each family size farm its share in the nation's agricultural production and in the prosperity which the American system has provided for the nation's general economy."

The major benefits of the nation's farm program, it said, should "be limited to the output level of the family-type farm," and the rights of tenants as well as those of landowning farmers must be protected.

Missing Plates

If you lose one or both of the license plates on your car, the law requires that you must obtain substitute plates. Take your registration card and the one remaining plate (if only one has been lost) to an office of the Department of Motor Vehicles. Substitute plates will be issued for a \$2 fee. If the plates have been stolen, notify the police.

dates will run. These are the philosophies which will guide the actions of the candidates during their terms in office.

The candidates have accepted their party's platform. They have committed themselves to the programs therein outlined.

CHEMICALS IN FOOD MAY CAUSE CANCER

A flood of new chemicals has been applied to "improve" America's food in recent years—and many of them are dangerous to health. That's the conclusion of several recent reports, and these presage new efforts in Congress next year to protect consumers from this growing menace. Here's a rundown on the latest reports:

Forty-two leading cancer experts, meeting in Rome, Italy, recently, unanimously concluded that a number of the food additives used in the U.S. and elsewhere as dyes, thickeners, sweeteners, and preservatives are cancer-producing.

These top cancer experts, meeting under auspices of the International Union against Cancer, came from 21 countries, including seven from the U.S.

They called for urgent action to meet "serious public health problem." No food additive should be used, they declared, until stringent governmental laboratory tests have proved them safe.

Consumers Union, a non-profit research and testing organization, reported in a recent article that "among the 400-odd chemicals now being used in processing many of the foods we eat, at least 150 are of doubtful safety."

The Food and Drug Administration hasn't been able to test these 150 additives yet, the article noted.

"The FDA's scientists do not know whether they are safe or not, but suspect that some of them ought not to be in use," it added.

STILL BEING USED

Other older chemicals have in some cases only recently been discovered to be harmful. Consumers Union also reported. It cited several "softening" chemicals which "now are banned from most breads, salad dressings and mayonnaises—foods for which there are standards of identity. But these same chemicals are still used as emulsifiers in such non-standard food products as commercial cake mixes and ice cream."

Another example is three widely used coal-tar dyes—Orange Nos. 1 and 2 and Red No. 32. "During the Christmas season last year," the article noted, "some 150 children were made ill in California as a result of eating popcorn colored with Red No. 32."

Later the FDA finally banned use of the three dyes in most foods, but is unable to prevent Red No. 32 from still being used to color the outside of oranges. Another danger flows from the growing use of penicillin to cure sick cows, the article said. FDA studies show that from 6 to 12 per cent of all milk tested now contains traces of penicillin—which may produce various disorders in people allergic to this drug.

Consumers Union also noted, however, that "there is nothing essentially wrong in the use of chemicals in foods," provided "their complete harmlessness has been demonstrated."

Bradshaw Mintener, assistant secretary of Health, Education and Welfare who has had general charge of FDA, tackled several of these problems in a recent address.

ADEQUATE TESTING

To handle the problem of penicillin in milk, he said, a conference will be held to find a way to persuade farmers to "discard the milk from treated cows for at least three days after the last treatment."

To meet the problems of dangerous food additives, said Mintener, "the only solution in my opinion is a law that requires adequate testing for safety before the food additive is put on the market—and there should be no loopholes in this requirement."

Hearings on such a bill were held in the last Congress, but certain chemical manufacturers insisted on major loopholes. As a result the bill died.

Mintener also urged a "very substantial increase" in the FDA's staff and scientific facilities. Only in this way, he made clear, can the full safety of food and drugs be ensured.

Know Officers

(Continued from Page 1)

organizing and the CIO held the contract so Ed had to catch his sleep on a car seat while organizing during the day after working the graveyard shift on the job.

In 1950, Ed served as Business Representative for Local 1324, IBEW.

Upon the amalgamation into system-wide Local 1245, Ed became Business Representative and served from 1951 to 1954 when he returned to his job as First Operator.

Ed has continued to work as Shop Steward and Organizer since 1954 and now assumes his duties as Executive Board Member.

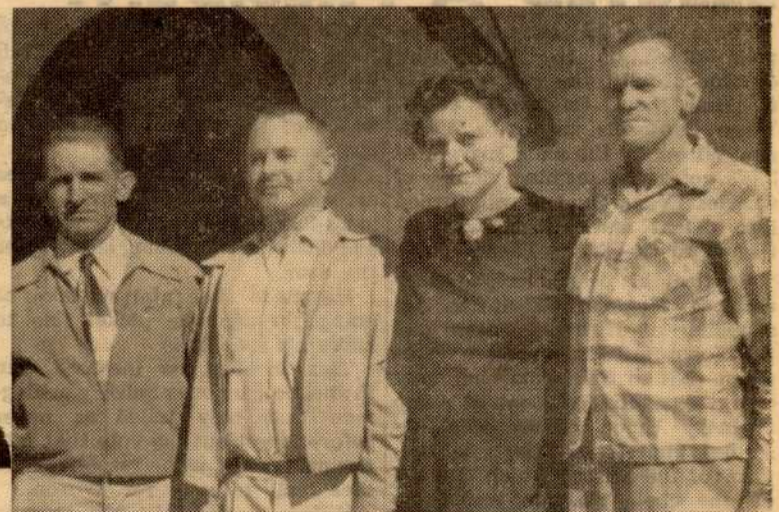
He is due to retire in seven years and sincerely hopes to see the PG&E 100% organized by that time.

(Editor's Note: We hope we don't have to wait until Ed retires for this great day to arrive.)

German Shipyards

Order books of West German shipyards are filled far into 1960 and customers are being turned away. The yards have some 3½ million gross tons on order, 2½ million of which is for foreign account, mostly U.S.

Sacramento Div. Griev. Committee



Left to right: George Branham, Everett Rypinski, Verna Leonard, Edward Mills.

★ ★ ★

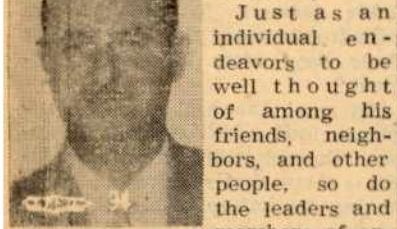
One of Local 1245's outstanding Grievance Committees is the Sacramento Division group pictured above. The members have had wide and varied experience in the Union.

George Branham has been an "A" Member of the Brotherhood since 1929, is a former Steward and is presently a Substation Maintenance Sub-Foreman; Everett Rypinski is a Field Clerk in the Water Collection Dept., is an acting Steward and has served as a member of Union's Negotiating Committee in 1953 and 1954; Verna Leonard is a Clerk "B" in the Customer's Records Dept., is a capable Steward for the Clericals and is recognized as the Office "spark plug"; Ed Mills is a Fitter in the Gas Dept. and serves as Chairman of Union's Grievance Committee, is an active Steward, Sacramento Unit Vice Chairman, and is the Policy Committee Member from Sacramento Division.

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

One of the functions of modern American organizations is that of "public relations." Webster's defines this as "The activities of a corporation, union, government, or other organization in building and maintaining sound and productive relations with special publics such as customers, employees, or stockholders, and with the public at large, so as to adapt itself to its environment and interpret itself to society."



Just as an individual endeavors to be well thought of among his friends, neighbors, and other people, so do the leaders and members of organizations. All groups have special interests which must be protected and advanced through sound public relations. This phase of organizational activity can also be a prime one in that groups and individuals sometimes perform this function as a full time job. We hear of lobbyists, advertising agencies, consultants, and "front men." Most large business enterprises use these individuals and groups more and more these days. Our Union, both nationally and locally, depends primarily on leadership and membership to perform these functions. As a vital and forceful part of the American scene, Labor sometimes does not do a good enough

job on public relations. We do not have the finances for high-powered salesmanship and we have a continual bombardment to counter from many sources of big capital.

Labor, under the leadership of such men as George Meany, Walter Reuther, our own International Officers, and many Local Union Officers, have been stepping up Labor's public relations program.

Labor is identified with the advancement of the nation as a whole rather than just for the sale of labor for the highest fee. We are active in foreign affairs in cooperation with the United States Government. We cooperate with and assist the religious bodies of our country. We work at getting better schools, better legislation, better housing, and a host of other worthwhile activities for the common good.

Yet, Labor's story is not told enough in enough places. Every time some unpleasant or derogatory item affecting Labor comes up, there are those who pounce upon it and have a field day. The results of peaceful collective bargaining or the great contributions made to community life do not get sufficient notice.

Recently, when we concluded months of bargaining on a contract with the nation's largest utility, comparatively little interest was developed over the settlement. Rather, the main question raised by some of the newspapers was whether or not utility rates would be raised as a result of the wage increases. We should take a good look at this.

The general public is primarily

interested in good and continuous utility service and take it for granted. They pay for it and have a right to expect it. Should they be inconvenienced by a cessation of service or get a bigger bill, they get interested. They have comparatively little interest in our relations with employers.

When they read of big profits, they are pleased if they are stockholders and see rising dividends. Or, they want rate reductions if not stockholders. They sort of assume that the employees have good wages and conditions but are not carried away by the same issues which our members may feel are the most important.

We must become more and more a part of the general community of interest if we expect to obtain understanding and support of our worthwhile objectives.

Participating in the National Safety Council, civic organizations, educational groups, and other public spirited groups are necessary and vital functions of our Union. We have made some gains in that direction as shown by some of the records of our people in fund raising activities such as United Crusade.

The cardinal point to remember is that if you believe in your organization and take pride in it, you can convince a great number of people that it is good. When you knock it or fail to raise a voice of protest against unfair criticism, you serve to harm it. When you harm your Union, you harm yourself because besides being a necessary and accepted part of the American way, your Union is the champion and defender of your personal welfare and that of your family.

Good public relations is the job of every member—every day.

Larson Reports on 7th Governor's Traffic Safety Meet

The Seventh Annual Governor's traffic Safety Conference was held in Sacramento on October 3, 4, and 5, 1956. Brother GLENN LARSON, Electrician for SMUD attended this conference as a delegate from Local Union 1245.

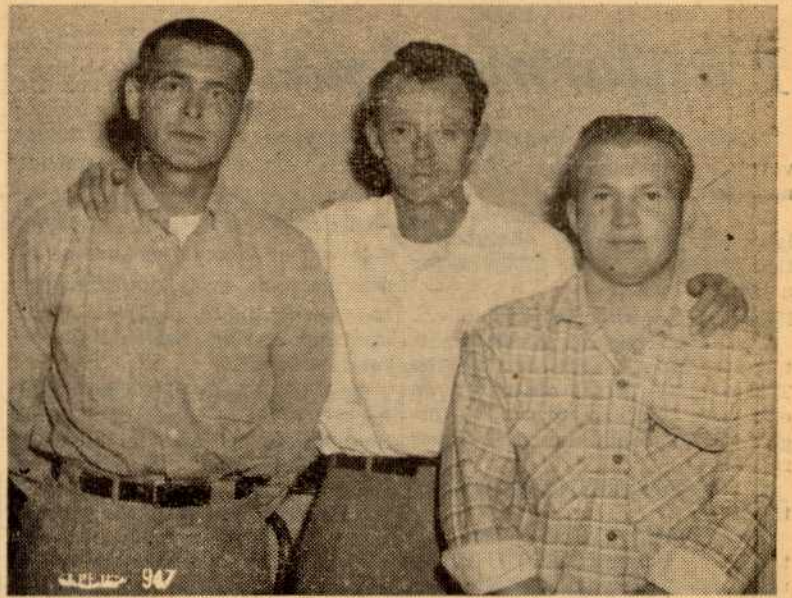
The conference opened on the evening of October 3rd with a banquet which was attended by 450 interested persons. The highlight of the evening was an address by David O. Selznik, Hollywood motion picture executive, who pointed out the terrible toll which traffic accidents take in California. He stated that this year over 2700 persons have been killed in the state, an increase of nearly 12 per cent over the like period of 1955. He called on the conference to do something to end the apathy and indifference of the people to this terrible situation.

The conference, which was attended by more than 1,000 delegates, was divided into seven divisions for the business meetings which were held on October 4 and 5. The sections were Education, Enforcement, Engineering, Commercial Vehicles, Drivers Licensing, Public Safety, Education and Teen-age. All of these divisions had a full schedule of panel discussions, addresses and demonstrations.

It was brought out in these meetings that the cost of traffic accidents in California is nearly \$1,000,000 per day, with a death toll of an average of 10 persons per day. The outlook for the future is even worse—it is estimated that in the next 10 years 45,000 persons will be killed and 1,500,000 persons will be injured. Not a pretty picture, is it?

Many groups and organizations, both local and national are contributing their efforts to help reduce traffic accidents. One organization, the California Traffic Safety Foundation, was formed in January, 1956, as a citizen's traffic safety organization, privately financed by California business interests, to help control traffic accidents. Mr. N. R. Sutherland, President of P.G.&E., heads the group. The newspaper, radio, and TV industries have helped greatly by

General Construction Committee



Left to right: Earl K. Mescher, Warehouseman; Ed Elmore, Mechanic; Robert Morlan, Field Clerk, 1st. Pictured here is the Union's Committee on Job Definitions and Lines of Progression for General Construction employees at the Davis Yard and Warehouse. The Committee met at Ed Elmore's home on Wed., Oct. 24, for the purpose of formulating proposals to be submitted to PG&E.

CALIF. AFL ASKS VOTE FOR THE FRIENDS OF LABOR

The pre-General Election convention of the California Labor League for Political Education, held Sept. 14 at California Hall, heard the rallying cry of Samuel Gompers, "... Elect the friends of Labor—defeat our enemies," repeated in various ways by speakers who addressed the 400 delegates present.

The following slate was approved by the LLPE convention and recommended for support by all union members in California at the election on Nov. 6. It is reproduced here for your information and guidance:

- President of the United States
ADLAI E. STEVENSON (D)
- Vice-President of the U.S.
ESTES KEFAUVER (D)
- U.S. Senator from California
RICHARD RICHARDS (D)
- U. S. Congress
- Dist. Name Party
- 1. Clement W. Miller (D)
- 3. John E. Moss, Jr. (D)
- 4. James L. Quigley (D)
- 6. H. Roberts Quinney (D)
- 7. Laurance L. Cross (D)
- 8. George P. Miller (D)
- 9. OPEN
- 10. William H. Vatcher, Jr. (D)
- 11. John J. McFall (D)
- 12. B. F. Sisk (D)
- 13. William Kirk Stewart (D)
- 14. Harlan Hagen (D)
- 18. OPEN

- State Senate
- Dist. Name Party
- 11. Nathan F. Coombs (R)
- 17. George Miller, Jr. (D)
- 21. Harold G. Robinson (D)
- 23. William L. Mathson, Jr. (D)
- 29. Ursin (Perk) Perkins (D)
- State Assembly
- Dist. Name Party
- 1. Tom E. Gair (D)
- 4. Tolbert E. Elliott (D)
- 6. Paul J. Lunardi (D)
- 7. Richard H. McCollister (R)
- 9. Roy J. Nielsen (R)
- 10. Donald D. Doyle (R)
- 12. William Biddick, Jr. (D)
- 14. Robert W. Crown (D)
- 15. Luther H. Lincoln (R)
- 16. William M. Freeborn (D)
- 18. James G. Whitney (D)
- 19. Charles W. Meyers (D)

keeping the public informed. The final afternoon of the conference was given over to a general meeting in which the divisions submitted their recommendations to the conference chairman, Mr. Louis A. Rozzoni. Mr. Rozzoni will in turn submit these recommendations to Governor Knight.

I hope that this conference will be of great help toward solving this terrible problem, however the final answer to the reduction of traffic accidents depends on you, the drivers of our cars, trucks and busses. Without your help this conference is only wasted words, money and time, so let us all help to tame this weapon of death and destruction which we have so mistakenly named the pleasure car. (Editor's Note: Many thanks to Glenn for his excellent reporting of the Traffic Safety Conference. It makes getting out a paper much easier.)

- 20. Thomas A. Maloney (R)
- 22. Bernard Brady (D)
- 24. Edward M. Gaffney (D)
- 25. W. Howard Hartley (D)
- 26. Carl A. Britschgi (R)
- 28. OPEN
- 29. William J. Harris, Jr. (D)
- 31. Gordon H. Winton, Jr. (D)
- 33. Charles B. Garrigus (D)
- 35. Myron H. Frew (D)
- 36. Timothy I. O'Reilly

STATE PROPOSITIONS	
1. Vet Bond Issues	YES
2. School Bonds	YES
3. Construction Bonds	YES
4. Oil Conservation	NO
5. Food in Bars Repeal	YES
6. Church Tax Exemption	YES
7. Assembly Name Change	NO
8. Sessions	No Recommendation
9. Borough	No Recommendation
10. Architects, Engineers	YES
11. Counties	No Recommendation
12. State Indebtedness	NO
13. Repeal Alien Land	YES
14. Employees	No Recommendation
15. Water	No Recommendation
16. Civil, Criminal Appeals	YES
17. Judiciary	No Recommendation
18. Inferior Court Judges	NO
19. State Boundaries	YES

Bro. Robt. Clarke, Reno Member, Dies

ROBERT M. CLARKE, former Sierra Power Co. employee, who retired on Sept. 1, 1956, died on Sept. 24, 1956. Brother Clarke had been in ill health for the last three months prior to retirement. Before retiring he held the job of Apprentice Serviceman in Reno.

He first went to work with the Company on Nov. 28, 1927 as a Gas Maker in the old Gas Plant and was one of the earliest supporters of Local 1245 and did a lot of hard work in organizing the Power Company employees.

Brother Clarke was a native of Virginia City, Nevada, and is survived by his wife, Mrs. Fern Clarke.

Business Mortality Is Still Rising

According to the Wall Street Journal, business failures during August, 1956 rose to 1,101—the highest for any August since pre-war 1940. They were 8 per cent above July and 24 per cent over August of last year. From January to August of this year, 383,215 businesses failed, an increase of 29 per cent from the like 1955 period.

Is this the prosperity which we hear so much about these days from Ike and Dick?

Here's Another Old Timer

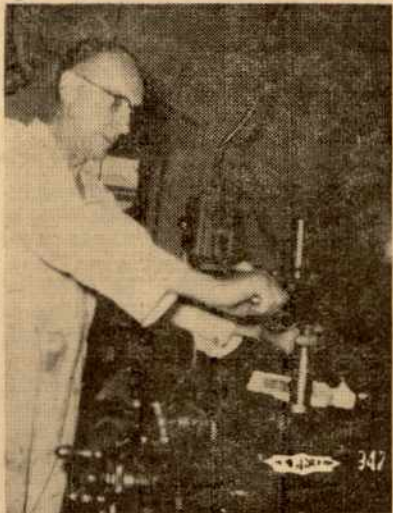
The greatest thing that ever happened in Texas was when the stork dropped Brother Frank Fleming down the Fleming chimney on Feb. 17, 1897.

Frank boomed around the West until August, 1929 when he went to work for the PG&E Co. in Sacramento as a Street Car Repairman—working nights 12 hours a day, 7 days a week.

He worked his way up through the progression to Machinist and was recognized as No. 1 Machinist on one of the largest lathes in Sacramento.

With the advent of the Diesel Buses, he now does most anything of a mechanical nature—specializing on wheels and brakes.

Frank has a few more years to go before retirement from the Sacramento City Transit Authority but is looking forward to the day when he can sit back and take it easy.



The boys who work with Frank all say, "It's been nice knowing you and working with you."

CALIFORNIA PICKETS ELECTED A PRESIDENT

For a tense 48 hours after the polls closed on the presidential election of 1916, the nation waited to hear how California voted. When California swung to Woodrow Wilson by the scant margin of 3,773 votes, the seeming victory of Charles Evans Hughes was turned into defeat and Wilson was returned to the White House.

Political historians have usually ascribed Hughes' defeat to his snubbing of Hiram Johnson and the Johnson followers on a campaign visit to California—but only over the vigorous dissent of a top Culinary Union officer who describes himself as "the sole survivor of the episode which touched off the chain reaction leading to Hughes' defeat."

Jack Weinberger, one-time president of the Waiters Union and now general secretary-treasurer of the Culinary International, is the dissenter and he charges Hughes' defeat to a cooks and waiters picket line—the picket line that elected a U.S. President.

He charges Hughes' managers with misjudging "the temper of San Francisco workers so far as to permit their man to cross a picket line of cooks and waiters."

Hughes was scheduled to speak at a Chamber of Commerce luncheon at the Commercial Club. The late Hugo Ernst, then president of the Waiters Union, tried to per-

suaide Hughes' local backers to move their affair from the Club which displayed a large sign proclaiming the "Open Shop" in defiance of the striking waiters and cooks.

But they refused. When Hughes arrived, he was confronted by a grim-faced group of waiters, cooks and dishwashers moving slowly past the door.

He made the fatal mistake of going through the picket line to make his speech.

This incident so incensed San Francisco's union-minded workingmen that they toiled as never before to get out the vote that fall, urging those who responded to their call to vote for Wilson.

Wilson carried California by only 3,773 votes—but San Francisco County gave Wilson 15,132 votes.

Courtesy

Do yourself a favor when you drive, treat the other motorists and pedestrians courteously. By driving courteously you will actually make the job of driving a lot easier for yourself. Try courtesy, it works!

Rich Strike

During the historic Gold Rush in California, miners were allowed only 16 square feet for a claim on Mokelumne Hill because the area was so rich in ore.