MEMBERS VOTE DUES RAISE OF $1

Although membership attendance at Union meetings was somewhat disappointing, the proposed By-Law Amendment to increase our monthly dues was adopted by a majority of slightly more than 7 to 1.

Of the 78 Unions voting between November 11th and December 6th, 64 voted in favor, 9 were in opposition, 2 units conducted their voting improperly so their votes were declared invalid and 3 units lacked quorum for voting.

The popular vote resulted in 1030 members in favor, 324 opposed, and 50 votes challenged and declared invalid. With the majority of the units voting in favor of the proposed change, Article XII, Section 2 of the By-Laws will read as follows:

"The monthly dues of Local Union 1245 shall be in accordance with the following dues schedule:

1) "A" Members
   All Classifications $90.00
2) "B" Members
   All Classifications $4.50

In addition, a 10c Military Assessment will be taken.

The affirmative action taken by the membership will allow our union to continue its service to the membership.

Already the wheels are in motion to secure additional Special Assistance Department to provide greater membership service.

Your Officers extend a sincere "thank you" to the members for their overwhelming vote of confidence in the Union's past performance and proposed future programs.

Motor vehicles in America covered 605,000,000,000 miles in 1956.

So, Calif. IBEW Execs Gird For Battle on Open Shop Laws

A large delegation from the affiliates of the Southern California Joint Executive Conference of the IBEW convened at the Disneyland Hotel on November 23, 1957, manned the Disneyland job and the project is a real test of Local 411's line.

Local 1710, Electrical Manufacturing Local of Los Angeles, which also covers Orange County, was in the lead.

A heavy agenda was handled with efficiency by Chairman Mary Collins, Business Manager of San Diego Local 569, with the help of Secretary Jack Bell of Los Angeles Local 1710.

Highlights included Attorney Al Brundage's talk on the growing legal attacks upon Unions and sound advice as to proper procedures with respect to the NLRB rulings and court decisions.

Jack Carney, President of the California State Association of Electrical Workers, pointed out some facts and figures designed to wake up Union officers and members in the threat of compulsory Open Shop legislation in California. Most of the delegates who spoke hit the anti-labor legislation problem and all concerned felt that the IBEW is taking on the gloves, throwing relatively unimportant issues and squabbles, in order to give the proper lead in the first fight.

Ron Weakley, Business Manager of Local 2345 and Chairman of the State Association's subcommittee to fight compulsory Open Shop legislation, gave a financial report and outlined future program of the committee.

This included stepping up the financial program, issuance of a news release plus a member bulletin, and a meeting of the State Committee on December 18th in Fresno, where the program will be kicked off.

Scott Wadsworth, of Local 1245 and chairman of the Central Valley Joint Executive Conference of the IBEW, was also in attendance.

Veteran officials of the locals and the International remarked upon the serious note of the meetings and considered this the most productive conference in years.

WEAKLEY, GILLERAN AT ATLANTIC CITY

AFL-CIO Hits Restrictive Labor Law Proposals

Secretary of Labor Mitchell

Local 1245's Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley and President Frank Gilleran were among 4,000 delegates to the AFL-CIO 2nd Constitutional Convention in Atlantic City, commencing December 5.

Prior to the AFL-CIO Convention, the Building Trades Department held its 50th anniversary convention. In his opening address before this group, Building Trades President Richard J. Gray proposed that the building trades and allied unions declare a moratorium on wage boosts during 1958 as a means of spurting a recovery in the construction industry.

Quick to seize on this plan, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce President Philip M. Taft lauded Gray publicly and termed the proposal as one of the root of the current inflationary problem.

The day after Gray had made his "hold-the-line" proposal, AFL-CIO President George Meany blasted the plan as being out of step with Union economic goals. Meany expressed that U.S. Chamber of Commerce position. The economic problem of today is not a lowering of inflation, Meany stated, but one of a "downturn." This cannot be answered in cold fact, it can be means worse—by holding wages down, he said.

"There is no reason to conclude that a wage freeze, from the things I see in the economy, at this time, would be advantageous to anyone but the employers," he emphasized.

JURISDICTION

Judicial decisions dispute, between the building trades and industrial unions, the platting issue on which President Meany made definite statements. Meany implied that the building trades had been responsible for forcing the issue into one which threatens the vitality of labor, unity, not civil war, is the proper solution to the economic problems.

Addressing the convention, Secretary of Labor James Mitchell outlined the Executive Administration's recommendation to Congress—a sweeping set of new labor laws requiring disclosure of Union funds, constitutions and financial dealings.

Mitchell made clear that there would be no seeking of restrictive labor laws on the placing unions under antitrust laws, enactment of a national "right to work" law or choking off Union political contributions.

However, the administration will propose the prohibition of any secondary boycott if it coerces an employer directly, or induces individual employees to refuse to perform services in order to compel the employer cease doing business with others.

The administration would further propose changes in the Taft-Hartley Act to eliminate the prohibition against economic strikers in representation elections, and the dropping of non-Communist affidavit requirement.

(Continued on Page 5)

SEASON'S GREETINGS

The Officers, Staff and Office Girls of Local 1245 wish to extend our very best wishes to each of you and your families during this Happy Holiday Season. May you enjoy Christmas and the coming New Year to the fullest.
In order to obtain an up-to-date sampling of attitudes regarding the controversial "right-to-work" law, trained interviewers of the California Poll (an impartial research organization) personally interviewed a cross-section of people throughout California and asked them questions designed to discover what understanding the voters have of the proposed law.

One of these questions was:

"As you probably know, there are several groups in the States, including the communist party, speaking about an issue which involves the Taft-Hartley Law. As far as you understand it, what is this law all about? What would it bring forth? Anything else?"

The answers to this question show that at present 67 per cent of the voters do not have any clear understanding of the basic issues at stake. The remaining 33 per cent gave an answer that indicated a lack of understanding of the issues resulting from the Taft-Hartley Law, which permits passage of "right-to-work" legislation in the States.

This concept of the Taft-Hartley Law, which permits passage of "right-to-work" legislation in the States, was stated recently, "The term 'right-to-work' is a bit misleading. By its true name—COMPULSORY OPEN SHOP—this Union busting legislation means, what it will do or produce. Imagine! Not more than one voter in three knows what this Union busting legislation means, what it will do or produce. If this is true—and we have every reason to believe that it is—those of us who do understand better get busy and inform the others, don't they?"

Let's face it, the misnamed atrocity called "right-to-work" is being sold to a great many unsuspecting workers—every union man and woman, who can be fooled by the words themselves: "right-to-work."

But even former Congressman Fred Hartley, co-author of the 1947 amendments that permit "right-to-work" legislation in the States, stated recently, "The term 'right-to-work' is a bit misleading."

Therefore, let's nail the meaning of the term and call it by its true name—COMPULSORY OPEN SHOP.

And a rotten egg by any other name smells just as putrid. "Voluntary unionism" also means COMPULSORY OPEN SHOP.

Undisputed, unequivocal evidence supports the fact that compulsory open shop—"right-to-work"—"voluntary unionism"—has as its prime purpose the REDUCTION OF WAGES.

PROOF:

I was present at a meeting on April 12, 1957, of Delaware State Representative Charles West, sponsor of a "right-to-work" bill in Delaware:

"A lot of people are getting too much money for their work and a lot of these unions are controlled by foreigners. I don't say the law would cut the salaries of all working men but in some cases such as Electricians' salaries, they are away out of proportion. If you had a 'right-to-work' law here, there'd be more competition for those jobs and salaries would be more in line with what they are worth."

Except from a letter, dated June 10, 1954, from the Mayor of Pelahatchie, Mississippi (a 'right-to-work' state) addressed to the President of H. B. Ives Co., New Haven, Conn., director of the organization campaign of the Ives employees by the Machinists:

"Greetings! Mr. Hendricks, as we cordially invite you to visit our beautiful community, We want your company to have the harmonious and highly successful experience of operating in a veritable industrial paradise, and see how our whole community works for you.

"Then our wonderful labor. 96 per cent native born, mostly high school graduates, will lower average hourly industrial wages for the state of Michigan and other Northern States, and from 90c to 95c below Northern States."

Statement of Michigan's Governor G. Meinert Williams, reflecting on the condition of the Detroit Air Rite Co. in Plymouth, Michigan to Arkansas in 1951 an hour less than he pays in Plymouth (Mich.) and get 90 per cent more work out of them.

TIME MAGAZINE, April 11, 1955:

"The (right-to-work) laws' supporters are management groups and Chambers of Commerce eager to attract new industry."

There are many, many more examples which could be cited.
AFL-CIO Blasts Union-Busting Laws
(Continued from Page 1)
found to have corrupt influences.
"rollcall vote after a three-hour
of age, and totally dependent.
family.
in California in 1956, as report-
try to the need of a military
he stated, is a major responsi-
sand.
to
would be a request for the reg-
states a very small minority
AFL-CIO. "The only thing we
have is the decision of the Coun-
vention, President

INNOCENT BEGINNING

The national program of the IBEW, through which it is
incoherent in a number of studies, has already
had a notable effect on the housing home building industry
in the San Francisco Bay Area.
Since the first of this year, the IBEW has made available
between $2,500 and $6 million
for new home financing in
Calif., with 90 percent of that
money going to finance some 300
homes in the Bay Area.

The light money powers of the Eisenhower Administra-
tion kicked off financing, allowed
home building and aided
building craftsmen, the Bay
Area was selected by the
Borjherhood of

A special level—a necessary
wireman's tool — has been de-
veloped, which emits
different colors of wire — the
flashlight battery, which emits
vice, powered by a pin-light
Observe Safety Rules.

Blindness No Handicap To This Electrician

Before he was blinded in an accident, Bro.
Jack Poision, of Costa Mesa, near Santa Ana,
was an electrician.
That was two years ago.
Today, he's working as an electrician again
and what's more, he's more than holding his own
in this highly technical job.
At the age of eight, Jack lost the sight of his
right eye through an accident with a knife.
However, he became an electrician in 1942 and
worked at it for 13 years.
In 1956, while working at home, a grinding wheel
shattered and a fragment hit one good
— his left one—and blinded him instantly.

After a period of hospitalization, Brother
Poision attended to his affairs in
the blind in Oakland for 17 months.
While there, he learned to read
and write Braille.

In his keynote address before the Con-
r
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What You Don't See
In the Public Press:
LABOR LEADER IS LEAVING CITIZEN
LABOR LEADER IS LAYMAN OF THE YEAR

Loven B. Thompson, secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles Di-
vision of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters has been
named the leading citizen of Los Angeles in a poll conducted
by the Old Charter Dotillery

A special level—a necessary
wireman's tool — has been de-
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Looking back over the year 1957, we find a good record of accomplishment for our members and the industry, both on the labor and management aspects.

The labor situation has been improved for all industries, with the largest gains being seen in the steel and automobile industries. This improvement is due to the efforts of the national and local unions, who have worked closely with management to achieve better working conditions and pay scales.

In the area of wages and salaries, there has been a significant increase in the average weekly wage, which has risen due to the efforts of the unions to negotiate higher wages and benefits.

In terms of productivity, there has been a significant increase in the use of automation and other productivity-enhancing technologies. This has allowed companies to save costs and increase efficiency.

The economy and employment situation have also improved, with more jobs available and fewer layoffs. This has led to a significant increase in the number of employees and a decrease in the unemployment rate.

In the area of education and training, there has been a significant increase in the number of training programs offered by companies to their employees. This has helped to improve the skills and knowledge of the workforce.

In terms of safety, there has been a significant decrease in the number of workplace accidents and injuries. This is due to the efforts of the unions to negotiate better safety standards and the willingness of management to implement them.

In the area of retirement, there has been a significant increase in the number of employees with retirement benefits. This is due to the efforts of the unions to negotiate better retirement packages and the willingness of management to implement them.

In summary, the year 1957 was a year of significant accomplishment for the labor and management industries. The efforts of the unions and management to work together to achieve better working conditions, higher wages, and improved safety and productivity have led to a better overall situation for both workers and employers.

[End of text]