The Wise Wife Better Economist Than Thought . . . See Page 4

Farm Workers’ Treatment A National Disgrace . . . See Page 2

Real Hero—Saves 50 Lives . . . See Page 3

Improved Condition Gained in S.M.U.D. . . . See Page 3

Campaign Moves Against Labor . . . See Center Pages
calling for an all-out attack on the problems facing American agricultural workers, the National Sharecroppers Fund has just released the published proceedings of its conference on "Low Income Farmers and Migratory Labor" held in New York City last November.

The fund is an organization which provides financial grants and public support for programs to raise the living standard of sharecroppers, tenant farmers, and other under-paid farm workers.

In keeping with Labor's often repeated, but oft-unheeded, statement that the aims of Labor and the Farmer are so interwoven—'with cooperation and understanding a necessity...the UTILITY REPORTER will print in installments the full report of the Fund's conference.

It's an exposure of a NATIONAL DISGRACE! Only if the American public's awareness and interest are aroused will corrective measures come.

PART I
THE CONDITION OF FARM WORKERS

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF NATIONAL SHARECROPPERS FUND, INC.

By Peter Bennett, Exec. Secty.

Your 1957 ending will bring great suffering for thousands of migrant and sharecroppers families in different parts of the United States. Crop freezes in Florida have brought reports like this:

- Whole families are forced to live in the open... Many are making homes in cardboard and other flimsy materials, the kind used to build homes in cardboard and other flimsy materials, the kind used to build homes in cardboard and other flimsy materials, the kind used to build homes in cardboard and other flimsy materials, the kind used to build homes...

- Literally thousands of farm families in the Mississippi bottom lands are unable to keep off starvation except by begging... One man said: "We can't keep the water out."

- Many are threatened with eviction by landlords.

This is a UNION STATE. We like it that way.

NEVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THIS COUNTRY—

Have so many businesses gone bankrupt. So states the Administrative Office of the U.S. Courts in reporting that the 17,885 bankruptcies last year were a record high.

NEVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THIS COUNTRY—

Have non-farm persons owed so much in debts. At the end of 1957 they were in debt about $78 billion, nearly 5 times as great as at the end of 1929 and about 1 1/2 times that of the close of 1953—when there had been an increase in population and a rapid rise in prices.

NEVER BEFORE IN THE HISTORY OF THIS COUNTRY—

Has a rise in unemployment occurred at the same time that there has been a continued rise in the cost-of-living. Living costs hit an all-time high in February, as unemployment increased to 4% million in March—and that figure does not include agricultural and domestic workers or persons working only 2 or 3 days a week.

WHO'S SAYING WHAT ABOUT THESE FACTS?

Philip M. Taltot, Board Chairman of U.S. Chamber of Commerce: "From the economic standpoint, unemployment is not having nearly the disastrous effect some people think. . . . I don't view this period of adjustment we are in with an usual degree of alarm.

Wm. A. McDonnell, President of U.S. Chamber of Commerce: "This recession will increase productivity because 'jobs are secured more and most people work a little harder.'"

The First National City Bank of New York: "A business recession is not an unmixed evil" and "tends to check the spiral of inflation, which is the vise we are in."

The problem of recovery is to brighten the outlook for profits.

James Marlow, Associated Press newsmen: "Reporting on the recent White House conference with 14 governors on proposed emergency employment of 350,000 people, Mr. Marlow wrote: 'In 18 years in Washington this writer has never seen anything more foolish.'"

Walter K. Gittman, Financial Columnist for New York World Telegram: "Our present recession or depression—call it what you will—was manufactured. One reason was that they wanted to prevent inflation. Then they wanted a situation where management could combat labor. In forthcoming negotiations, management will be in a better position to show labor down."

William F. Knowland, U.S. Senator from California and candidate for Governor:

"This is the time for families to buy a new car. It is time to build or buy that home the family has been planning for years. This is the time to show confidence in America's future."

This next statement should make the whole thing really clear to all:

An executive of P. W. Dodge Corp., a firm of nationally-known construction analysis, declared that words like "recession" confuse people. We should describe what's happening to the country now in terms like this: The economy is experiencing a retrogression of economic ebullience.

We are not "prophets of doom" but any reasonable person knows that "you can't get blood out of a turnip." Unemployed people cannot assume the responsibility of beating the "recession"—one can employ people who can hardly meet their bills for basic necessities.

What we need is tax relief and a real public works program, including new school construction and an increase in understanding by top federal officials that the only reason for government is the welfare of the people.
Bro. Joe Alimus, Real Hero, Saves 50 Lives

Joseph Alimus, PG&E Serviceman in San Mateo and active member Local 1245, has gained First Aid recognition as "Mr. Fix It" for over 33 years. Brother Joe has been rendering first aid and in saving over 50 persons lives. He recently received a commendation from the Board of Pensions of the Sierra Pacific Power Co. and wished him well upon his retirement.

On April 7, Local 1245 submittal its recommendations to the City of Berkeley Personnel Board for raising the minimum wage of its members in the Department of Water and Power. The city council approved the recommendations.

O'Shea, OK

Jack O'Shea, Shop Steward at Oakland's Station 'D' Gas Plant, has been suffering from an unspecified illness. He is recuperating at home and expects to return to work about May 1.

Overtime on Storm Work Nets Better Conditions in SMUD

These pictures show only a portion of the damage in the Garden area in Sacramento County resulting from a severe wind storm during our present record-breaking rainy season.

Key System Rails to be Abandoned

The following notice was posted on all Key System Trains' bulletin boards on March 18, 1958:

**ELECTRICAL DEPARTMENT NOTICE NO. 265**

March 18, 1958

To All Electrical Department Employees.

A number of Local 1245 members in Stores Division and East Bay's Electric Overhead Dept. are to be similarly towed from the misfortune of severe damage to their cars in a flash flood in Northern California, resulting in the abandonment of rail service. The Streets was flooded by a depth of about 4 feet—sufficient to cover the motors of most of the cars. An essential part of the system, engine overhauls will be necessary to restore the cars to operative condition. Some of the cars, however, were damaged to the extent that insurance carriers wrote them off as "total loss."

We're certain that other Units will be similarly towed from the flood waters.

Snow Storm No Deterrant to This "Meeting Goer"

Our hats are off to Sierra Pacific Power Co. Shop Steward Buonanoma from Truckee, who braved one of the worst snow storms in that area since 1914 in order to attend his Union meeting in Reno on April 2nd. Despite the severity of the storm and the fact that the Highway Department declared the road closed, Bro. Buonanoma rode in an abandoned car, with a driver's license and a service weapon, after being towed from the misfortune of severe damage to their cars in a flash flood in Northern California. As a result of the long hours of overtime work on this job, he was able to attend the meeting.

Sierra Pacific Negotiations


Further discussions will be necessary on Lines of Progressions in order to conclude the agreement.

100%ers

At least three of the Units in Local 1245's jurisdiction can boast of 100 percent voter registration. Congratulations to the Wasco Unit, the Sacramento Transit Authority Unit, and the Placerville Unit—comprised of members of the Sierra Nevada Area.
Wise Wife Better Economist Than Some Politicians Think

**THE WISE WIFE**

Would Never Dream of Posing as an Economist. She would be the first to tell you that her knowledge of economics is nil. Yet her knowledge of certain fundamentals is far greater than that of many reality. She knows the importance of a salary, the effects of inflation, and the role of savings. If her husband is working, she makes sure he earns enough to buy his product. In other instances, she knows wages are the controlling factor. A cut in the local economy will lower wages.

**THE WISE WIFE**

Thinks Things Through. She wouldn't destroy the public school system in order to rid it of a few bad teachers. She wouldn't harry her husband's churches to rid them of a few bad preachers. She is angry at evil-doers in the labor movement. But she is not connecting the sites of a few without injuring the welfare of all. And clever politicians are not going to trivial her anger or confuse her thinking, the reality of a few evil-doers is being resolved by the industrial leaders. She knows evil-doing has nothing to do with the legislation proposed in California. She is aware that the real threat in California is the loss of her husband's ability to maintain and improve the family's standard of living.

She's Wiser Than Some Politicians Believe.

**THE WISE WIFE**

Has the Answer. She never stands idly by in a time of crisis. She knows the labor movement is a part of her family's standard of living. She has a plan. She is going to get her friends to vote against the union shop proposals. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations. She is going to get her friends to vote NO on Employer-Employee Relations.

She's a WISE WIFE Indeed!

California Electric

Interesting, but not at all surprising, is the attitude of a growing number of electrically-minded Californians, in opposition to the current effort to place a number of sound laws on the state ballot this year.

**NEW YORKER**

Two-point action program for business, the wonders results yield under pressure

**1. This Method Worked**

Businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group. In the case of the state of New York, businessmen have shown that they can get results by being willing to act in a group.
Debates

in their debates. Gene argument we have found it very

who also heads an inter-

or would walk through the picket line, hence, no entertainment.

Jane Russell, glamorous movie star, who also heads an inter-

which has been accomplished in the

and his wage and is a direct effort to break up those protesting organ-

in Ivanka, highly paid professionals."

some well-heeled members of the community in Palm Springs,

both�s headline. We believe that everything should be done to infor-

an eye-opening lecture on what

It is not necessary to destroy the good relations between capital and labor—let's

Top S.F. Businessmen Hit

At California "Scab Law"

At a recent mass meeting in San Francisco of Culinary Work-

s and Hotel & Club Service Workers, two prominent San Francisco businessmen, in addition to the group, lashed out at so-called "right-to-work" laws and their proponents.

Mr. Benjamin wrote, "The Na-

tional Association for the Ad-

vancement of Colored People has called upon its members and

chinese, who has already been re-

A bill which would have

If we can assist you in any way please feel free to call on us.

We believe that everything should be done to inform the voting

the proposed

End

against the use of such seed-planting.

businessmen, in addition to the group, lashed out at so-called "right-to-work" laws and their proponents.

"You'd be slitting your own

higher wages. But at the end of that

The Indiana Assembly also

which tend to hamper or-

would vote for a "Right-

the wheel turning for a day.

suppose that with a "Right-

"That's what can happen to

Harry H. Reitman, owner of San Francisco's famous old Fairmont Hotel.

"The so-called "right-to-work"

"The employer, then, accord-

the judicial and legislative amend-

"Business prospers when the

"You'll be glad to get the

"I can keep pushing the pay

"That's what can happen to

"The so-called "right-to-work"

the wheel turning for a day."

he said, "I am going to cut it to $20. OK! You get mad and quit. I hire two other guys to work for $80."

"At the end of the month I come around to you, tell you you know what work you have to do, and see, and offer you the job at $12 a day."

"You'd be slitting your own

unions are strong and employ-

and his wage and is a direct effort to break up those protesting organ-

"But at the end of that

"The so-called "right-to-work"

"You'll be glad to get the

"At the end of the month I come around to you, tell you you know what work you have to do, and see, and offer you the job at $12 a day."

"You'd be slitting your own

"The so-called "right-to-work"

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"You'd be slitting your own

"The so-called "right-to-work"

"You'll be glad to get the
Asilomar Meeting ‘Is Big Success’

(Continued from Page 1)

In explaining the economic ap-
proach, he showed how this was tied
closely to the collective bar-
gaining procedures but in itself was
not the whole answer.

"The political approach," he con-
tinued, "is a harder one to follow
but Unions, in order to survive, must follow this ap-
proach too."

"All that we have worked for and
achieved and all that we must do in order to reach
our objectives can be jeopardized
damaged or wiped out by the legis-
lation—laws—acted upon by our own members (through
effective political action and or-
ganization on their behalf)," he pointed
out.

"Laws regulate our Union, our
industry, our personal conduct,
therefore," he continued, "just as

labor in its attempts to better
wages and conditions for its
members has once again been
colored as a prime legal gim-

His analysis and exposure of
Senator William F. Knowland's
so-called "Labor's Bill of Rights"
left no question in the minds of
the assembled delegations as to
their need to defeat any such
legislation and its advocates.

The hearings were held, he
stated, on both the Federal and
State levels with further restric-
tive labor legislation and the
intervene at the moment is con-
tinue to manage these laws un-
less the workers, their fam-
ilies and friends actively par-
ticipate to defeat them.

Lethargy, apathy and inertia
were in evidence on all sides. He
pointed out that such right-
to-work is nothing new and
nothing permanent, but only a
step in the battle over the right
of Unions to exist.

Mitchell stated that the main
propagandist for the free shop
proponents has been that the union
shop is undemocratic and un-
American. He said that these shop
corrections allowed evils in unions,
that the present law benefits to
working people and that the proponents are
protecting individual rights and civil liberties.

In that order, Mitchell pro-
tected to demonstrate that the
case is closed in each case —
the union shop is democratic.

"It is truly American. Union
shop has nothing to do with al-
g Trusted and serious union
open shop advocates have a
know how and will do none of the things its advo-
cates claim.

History bears out, he stated,
that the ultimate goal of the labor
movement on the part of the
propagandists has been a
problem for a labor movement
which is of the utmost
great signi
cise to the
on the
of the
unity in
not
The labor
move
or to
other
in our
which
does
have
union
move

mam, with the
law the
Tolivirn, La-
Frondriff & Neyart,
recognized as one of the two
labor attorneys in the West,
and who has represented Local 1245
for several years in NLRA pro-
cedings, arbitration cases, etc.
has a good record of bringing
results, he stated.

He traced the history of legis-
lation affecting the worker from
its early beginnings to the pre-
ent with emphasis on the role
that both labor legislatures have
played in this matter. He showed
how the present Taft-Hartley
Act had "sufficient teeth in it to
destroy Unions" and had the
delegates on the edge of their
seats with his dramatic, point-
banging, "life or death" attacks
on this vicious union-busting law.

He revealed how the inju-
itive procedures—designed to thwart

Gompers's statement, "Be
your friends and punch your
members"—has been a reality
when Mr. Gompers made his
statement.

His talk was spiced with many
anecdotes relating to political
activity, or lack of it, and con-
cluded with enough convincing
arguments to cause most of the
deleagates to pledge support to
labor's program through sale of
$1.00 on the day of sectional
meetings in their respective
areas.

"An analysis of the 'open shop' philosophy in the United
States was made by Assistant Business Manager
Luckman. Point by point, he outlined how the same
reactionary, anti-union attitudes have been re-
lected in the various open shop drives over the
time.

He pointed out how this
to-work is nothing new and
nothing permanent, but only a
step in the battle over the right
of Unions to exist.

Directors George Roberts pleads
COPE's cause.

"No, Johnny didn't leave his
baseball on the stairs. He's a
pretty good boy and almost al-
or's house is a little unhygienic,
he has a bad fall because his
foot slipped and there was no
rail to catch him."

"We can tell you that the last
few falls and accidents are
fallen down, but falls and
fallen are falling.

The National Safety Council
says there are about 30,000 acci-
dental home deaths each year
that about half are caused by
falls.

A great number of falls in the
home occur on stairs, and many
of these falls can be avoided by
the simple expedient of in-
stalling handrails.

For further insurance against
falls, be sure the stairs are solid;
clear of tripping hazards; and
well-lighted. Have stair pads,
rugs or carpets near stairs se-
curly fastened down.

But improvements of physical
conditions in your home are no
insurance for freedom from falls.
To them must be added personal
precautions.

If you are a woman who wears
high-heeled shoes, he especially
cautions. If you're carrying anyhting or not,
look your step on the stairs—and
don't run. Keep your hands
careful. If you're carrying anyhting or not,
look your step on the stairs—and
don't run. Keep your hands
careful. If you're carrying anyhting or not,
look your step on the stairs—and
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careful. If you're carrying anyhting or not,
look your step on the stairs—and
don't run.
Spring Housecleaning Not So Hard If You Go at It in the Right Way

Spring housecleaning need not be a back-breaking chore, says Lucille Magnusson, assistant professor of physical education for women at the State University of Iowa.

A few rules of body mechanics and posture properly followed can cut back strain and muscle soreness considerably, according to the SUI professor.

Spread cleaning over a longer period of time, if possible, by doing only one or two rooms at a time. Don't spread them all out at once, which will result in less work being done.

Letting and moving furniture can be more of a strain than doing the actual cleaning. Always lift the unit rather than pulling it, or bending from the floor, which results in back strain.

Let tools help. In doing any kind of work, keep your work area as free of clutter as possible. Clutter is a threat to both life and limb.

LIFTING HEAVY ITEMS

Break your work into short stints of 15 minutes or more. Don't expect to do everything in a day or two. Some tasks in spring cleaning may take all day, others several days, so be realistic about your work load. Your back will thank you and your work will be better because of it.

When you c a r r y something heavy, hold it close to your body and bend your knees rather than your back, which so often results in injury. Grasp the object and rise by straightening your legs.

Use correct tools and equipment. Let undersized tools encourage inefficient work habits. Use correct cutting tools for your specific job, and as large a knife as you can safely handle. Sharp knives are safer than dull ones, they save energy and are more comfortable to move a heavy load.

Spend cleaning over a longer period of time. Everyone smiles all the time. Our dirty dishes are really dirty—dried egg and fried potatoes stick like granite to the frying pan.

There are several signs which might mean cancer:

1. Any change in your organs or any organ—like the breast—does not go to bed in pincurls, either. I know this from personal, firsthand experience. I've been through it.

2. A lump or thickening in the breast or elsewhere.

3. A sore that does not heal.

Medical examinations of 1000 females in the same age group, overconsumption of alcohol and, other habits. Cancer study laboratory.

There are certain signs that might mean cancer. Vigilance in heeding these is the only way to lessen the threat.

The final victory over cancer will come from the research of many cancer centers, both in America and elsewhere. Medical examinations of 1000 females in the same age group, overconsumption of alcohol and, other habits. Cancer study laboratory.

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YOUR Business Manager's
By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

Minimum necessary expenses were allowed but the usual incidental costs involved in such a trip were borne by the people. The wives and families of the participants contributed by assuring the company of husbands and families “things to do around the house.”

The almost phenomenal interest in this event displayed by those in attendance caused the veteran speakers and members to remark that seldom is seen such a well-mannered group of avid listeners.

Such conferences need interested audiences and capable speakers in order to be successful. With this in mind, during the last few hours to experts on law, science, education and political action, the interest never lagged right up to the close of the meeting. There was a real air of friendship, a feeling of ownership of our Union's great expense and most important, an absence of provincialism.

The conferences found that our own local union has experts who are familiar with developments in such other fields and hold their own. Absent, was the usual inter-racial, inter-union, and inter-trade battle and the grandiose boasting of the worker, his union and collective bargaining. The idea in mind was beyond the union and into citizenship, freedom, personal responsibility and the role of leadership responsibilities of the individual Union Officers.

Questions referred to the panel confirmed the opinion I hold that our people are a cut above the average organized industrial worker in both knowledge and varied interests. No one can successfully “talk down” to our people. Pleas to ignorance are useless when offered to the level of intelligence displayed at Asilomar.

A new light dawned as the Conference drew to a close. Any one who offered the old cliché that “Unions should stay out of politics” will have a formidable opponent to face in the person of our Unit Officers.

The records of the 61 years that active intelligent citizens must engage in proper political action in order to protect the family, freedoms and our way of life. The need for such action is clearly displayed by the vocal expression given the Conference leadership by the Unit Officers at the Summary of the Asilomar Conference.

The threats of those in powerful positions against the welfare of our people as well as the attack by the same powerful people on the political front against our means of defense and advantage—Organized Labor—received an answer on April 11th from Unit Officers throughout our Union.

Ardent with determination and a call to action, the Local Unions have answered: “We know where to go and how to get there. We know the steps and secret levels of political authority to make Local Union 1543 heard and respected by the elected leaders of the people.

Knowledge is power and our weapon is education. Action will follow to fully achieve the following objectives of BHEU Constitution as stated in its preamble:

"The objects of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers are: To organize all workers in the entire electrical industry, including those in public utilities and electrical manufacturing, to promote reasonable methods of work, to cultivate feelings of friendship among those of our industry, to settle all disputes between employers and employees by arbitration if possible, to assist each other in sickness and distress, to secure adequate pay for our work, to seek a higher and higher standard of living, to seek security for the individual worker in his home and family, and in proper means to elevate the status of our citizenship, and so to further the welfare and higher standard of citizenship."