



May you and your families enjoy a very Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year.

—The Officers, Business Staff and Office Girls of Local 1245.

Utility Reporter



Official Publication of I. B. E. W. Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO, 1918 Grove Street, Oakland 12, Calif.

VOL. VI—No. 8

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

DECEMBER, 1958

INTERNATIONAL LABOR PRESS AFL-CIO ASSOCIATION

Award of Merit

presented to
Utility Reporter

For outstanding achievement in the field of Labor Press Journalism designated winner of Certificate of Merit - Best Front Page News Format

By the Board of Judges of the University of California, Los Angeles, and presented at the International Labor Press Association Annual Convention, Washington, D. C.

November 22-24, 1958



Peter E. Turgiel
President
Samuel R. Mullaly
Secretary-Treasurer

U.S. Labor Press Gets Bouquets, Brickbats

Representatives of some 300 AFL-CIO union publications at their 1958 International Labor Press Association Convention in Washington, D. C., heard a variety of compliments and criticisms about the labor press from the speakers in attendance during the 3-day session, Nov. 21st through 23rd.

Running the gamut from a "job well done" in the recent "right-to-work" campaigns throughout the country to a "job not so well done" in the field of actual news reporting—particularly in reporting adverse labor news—the remarks were the basis for a critical self-examination by the labor editors present.

ILPA President Peter Terzick, in his keynote address, stated that the most crucial problem

facing the labor press today was AFL-CIO President George Meany's edict of last May, which prohibited labor papers from accepting advertising from firms that "are not 100 per cent organized by AFL-CIO unions."

Although the UTILITY REPORTER accepts no advertising and therefore not directly affected by the order, this subject was the main issue under discussion by the body.

Mr. Meany's order was somewhat softened, however, by statements from Albert Zack, AFL-CIO Public Relations Director, who spoke in behalf of Mr. Meany at the Convention. The order means, said Mr. Zack, that papers must accept no ads from anti-union employers or employers who have resisted unionism, with the eventual aim being the elimination of all advertising in the labor press, with the cost of the paper to be subsidized by the unions involved.

John Horner, President of the National Press Club, cautioned the labor editors that news reporting should not be slanted or biased. On this principle, he stated, the Free Press in this country will survive.

(Continued on Page 6)

UTILITY REPORTER GETS '58 U.S. LABOR PRESS AWARD

Your UTILITY REPORTER received national recognition last month when it won a CERTIFICATE OF MERIT in the 1958 National Labor Press Journalistic Award Contest for "BEST FRONT PAGE" and HONORABLE MENTION for Local 1245 Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley's "YOUR BUSINESS MANAGER'S COLUMN."

The contest awards were a featured highlight of the International Labor Press Association Convention in Washington, D.C., Nov. 21st through 23rd, with Business Manager and Executive Editor R. T. Weakley and Editor Elmer B. Bushby in attendance as delegates representing Local 1245's paper, the UTILITY REPORTER.

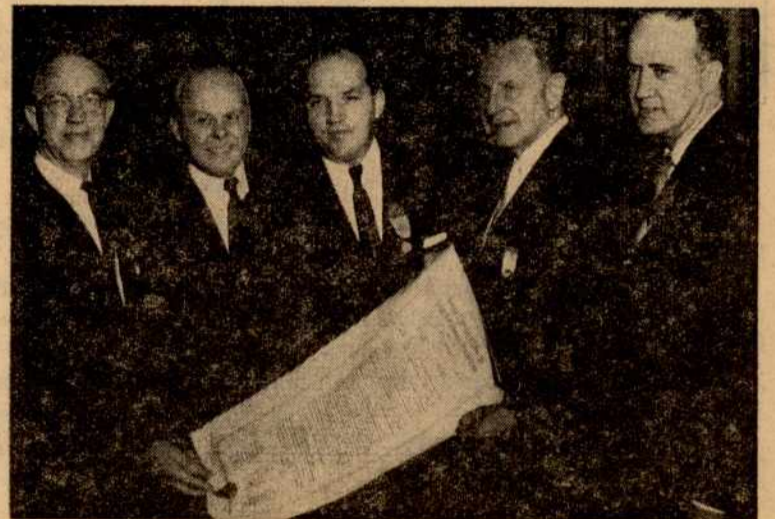
Following is the comment of the judges made when awarding the second-place certificate to the UTILITY REPORTER in the "Best Front Page" division: "The news emphasis of the editor was commendable, and the overall excellence was manifest in the writing and editing."

The competition this year was broken down into three categories: Publications of International Unions; those of City and State bodies or groups of Unions; and publications of individual Local Unions, the class in which the UTILITY REPORTER was entered.

This year's nearly 250 entries were judged by the Journalism Faculty of UCLA in conjunction with the UCLA Institute of Industrial Relations.

1958 is the second year in which Local 1245 has entered the UTILITY REPORTER in the Labor Press Contest and although we failed in 1957, we are indeed proud of our 1958 accomplishments.

We don't intend, however to rest on any so-called laurels and we pledge that improvement of your UTILITY REPORTER shall be our constant objective, keeping in mind at all times the ILPA Code of Ethics.



NEW CHARTER for the Calif. AFL-CIO was presented by Peter McGavin, assistant to Pres. Geo. Meany (center). Others are State Fed. Secy. C. J. Haggerty and Pres. Tom Pitts at left and CIO Council Pres. Manuel Dias and Secy. John Despol at right.

Cal. AFL, CIO United At Historic Meeting

At an historic convention in San Francisco's Civic Auditorium during the week of Nov. 8 to 12, the California State Federation of Labor, and the CIO California Industrial Union Council were united into one organization, the new California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO.

This California merger represents the 45th state to do so and consolidates some 1.4 million members from the 57-year old AFL State Federation and the 8 year old CIO Council.

Remaining as President of the new Federation is Thomas Pitts with C. J. Haggerty as its Secretary-Treasurer.

Peter M. McGavin, assistant to AFL-CIO President George Meany, presided at the opening of the session. Following report

of the official merger pact, the new officers were introduced to the 2500 delegates.

Governor-elect Edmund G. Brown addressed the convention and promised to consult with Labor for advice on his legislative program.

One of the more important actions of the Convention was the adoption of a policy statement to wage an all-out battle against any increase in California State sales tax, with a threat

(Continued on Page 7)



ILPA President Peter Terzick crowns Miss Janet Harris "Miss Union Secretary of 1958."



Portion of Local 1245's delegation to the merger Convention shown among other IBEW Locals' delegates.

Christmas Around the World

There are many different ways in which Christmas is celebrated throughout the world besides the way we observe Christmas in our own country. Most of them are colorful, some are deeply religious, and most include the spirit of giving and happiness. But all are based on the advent of the birth of the infant Jesus nearly 2000 years ago.

In Norway

In Norway, after reading the Christmas Gospel, the family from the youngest to the oldest, join hands and circle the Christmas tree singing hymns and old folk songs and sometimes are sung several times over.



Christmas dinner is usually a type of smorgasbord consisting of cheeses of great variety, cold meats, smoked fish, crackers of many kinds, fruits and desserts. After dinner the guests join hands, bow their heads and express gratitude to the host and hostess.

Gifts in Norway are opened on Christmas Eve and presents often show evidence of loving care and craftsmanship.

In France

In France, there are no public decorations or Santa Claus on street corners as Christmas there is a church celebration. Christmas is, however, celebrated within the family circle.

All the adults in the French family attend late mass and then get together for the "Reveillin." This again, is a family affair which is a midnight supper with the matriarch or head of the family presiding. It is also a time for family discussion and where differences are forgotten or forgiven.

The giving of gifts takes place on New Year's Eve, rather than at Christmas.

In Italy

Italy is another devout country and their celebration has its roots deeply embedded in the concepts of the church.

The bagpipe plays an important part in Italian Christmas festivities and pipers visit the home playing wild music. They leave a wooden spoon with the family and are rewarded for their music with dried figs and other delicacies.

They visit all carpenter shops in honor of Joseph, the foster father of Jesus.

One delightful custom is the letters written by children to their parents expressing their love. These letters are tucked away in odd places where the parents are sure to find them.

Great Britain

England hangs onto her traditions. The roast goose, Christmas pudding, mistletoe and holly, plays and pantomimes, and the "waits"—a group of street serenaders who sing for small gratuities. Then there is the mixing day which is some time in October when the traditional plum pudding is mixed.

Like in our country, the English Christmas is a day of feasting, visiting and other festivities.

Denmark

Denmark has some customs that might seem strange to us, but nonetheless they are delightful customs.

All work ceases at 5 o'clock on Christmas Eve. People hurry home and leave to attend the Christmas candle-light services held in every town and hamlet.

All church and other bells "chime in Christmas" and after church services the family goes home to enjoy Christmas Eve dinner, which traditionally includes roast goose and boiled rice.

Another custom is the "Klapperbock," an "animal" on a long pole covered with goat-skin and with a moveable jaw which is operated by one of the men carrying it.

The "Klapperbock" is supposed to butt children who have been misbehaving and the children greet this animal with considerable delight and doubt.

Austria

We can only talk of how Austria used to be, not how it is today, but there was a nation which really celebrated Christmas.

Christmas Eve was the time for the family celebration and at midnight the mountaineers would light their torches and start down to the villages. People would watch the fire-light procession and also light torches, joining the others as they journeyed from house to house or farm to farm.

Musical instruments and voices could be heard for miles in the crisp air, and all roads eventually led to church for services.

Another strange custom is that of throwing crockery at the door of a neighbor. Old dishes are saved for this purpose, and usually the most popular person in the community has the most broken crockery thrown at his door.

The "crockery throwers" are usually asked in for refreshments.

In Mexico

Our southern neighbor, Mexico, celebrates the season quite differently than we do, and their customs are quite colorful.

There is "Las Pastores," a play depicting the birth of Christ, in which the struggle between good and evil is highlighted, as "El Diablo," the devil, attempts to prevent the shepherds going to Bethlehem to worship the newborn Jesus.

Their Christmas parties feature the "pinata," a large earthenware vessel suspended from the ceiling with candies and nuts. A child is given a large stick, blindfolded and then strikes at the pinata. When it is broken, the "goodies" spill upon the floor and there is quite a scramble by the children to retrieve them.

In Canada

Our good friends to the north in Canada celebrate Christmas in the same manner we do, with a touch of the old English influence, and in the province of Quebec, where many old French customs prevail, there is more than a touch among those people of French descent.

In U.S.

Here, Christmas is for the children. Who can look at a child's eager face on Christmas Eve, or catch him spying when he should be fast asleep, and say, "There's no Santa Claus?"



The UTILITY REPORTER



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Labor at Crossroads, State Press Figures Imply at Conference

Top educators, State Federation leaders, a bigtime pollster and Labor Press figures at the Ninth Annual California Labor Press Conference at Casa Munras, Monterey, on Nov. 22-23 joined their various viewpoints to express one theme. This is that labor, aroused, performed an incredible feat, upset expert prognoses, and forced the nation to take a look at the tremendous job done by organized labor and the Labor Press in the last elections.

Dr. Irving Bernstein, Institute of Industrial Relations, UCLA, comparing his analysis of the 1958 election and its significance to Labor with an analysis of the 1956 elections made to the Press Conference at Fresno, expressed awe at the tremendous impact of Labor unity on the result. He would not comment on the continuance of the unity.

State Fed. President Thomas Pitts expressed like awe and admiration. He expressed hope that the unity would continue, inspired at rank and file level by the proof to themselves that their votes and efforts compose a mighty political force. He stated, too, that the one hope for overcoming the entrenched powers in vital State Legislative committees lay in intelligent pressures exerted by labor members and groups on legislators in each community.

Hal Dunleavy, San Francisco research firm head, ascribed the amazing results of trend reversals in California to the education of rank and file labor to the emergency confronting it and the resultant unified energy with which labor fought and won.

Among the educators of the Institutes of Industrial Relations, University of California, there seemed to be a strong feeling that Labor may have grown to permanent belief in the strength of accurate knowledge and direct, personal political action based upon it. This belief seemed based upon the growing use of the University of California Labor Programs. In the choice of topics, the number and calibre of union officials joining to co-sponsor the activities and the membership participation in Southern California in particular, UCLA Program Administrator Carstens and Liberal Arts Coordinator Anne Gould see a strong determination in the Labor movement there. They see this as a trend in Labor which promises to move its members in growing numbers to learn from the best sources about issues and problems. They see a continuance of the effort of the election fight, broadened to embrace every community situation and issue.

Seasoned Labor journalists were cautious. Long familiar with a feast and famine cycle in demand and acceptance of



HAL DUNLEAVY, San Francisco Pollster and Researcher, presenting analysis of studies made for Labor's Prop. 13 battle to delegates at Ninth Annual Labor Press Conference, Monterey.

education on issues, most were conditioned to the under-financing and wavering support which has characterized Labor Journalism with some exceptions. All seemed agreed that long range continuance of well-staffed, well-researched, fully circulated, realistically financed Labor papers could keep all members informed and active in the reality that no day or moment is without an issue vitally concerning every member. As Jack Henning, State Federation Research Director said, "There'll always be issues, until Utopia."

Representing Local 1245 and the Utility Reporter at the Press Conference were Bus. Reps. John Wilder and Ray Ensley.



DR. IRVING BERNSTEIN analyzing 1958 election results for Ninth Annual Labor Press Conference delegates at Monterey. He is a member of the staff of the Inst. of Ind. Rel. at UCLA.

NEWS FROM THE FIELD

Little Boys Get Big Help

A plan to sponsor a Little League Baseball team by the Moss Landing-Watsonville Unit of Local 1245 has reached reality. This plan was formulated early this past summer and with a great deal of hard work by the membership, the goal was attained on Nov. 19th.

In order to sponsor a team in the Little League, \$100 was needed and through the cooperation of the employees in the Moss Landing Power Plant, the required amount was obtained.

The Little League team, which will wear Local 1245, IBEW emblems on their uniforms, will play in the Watsonville area.

Congratulations are certainly in order for the members who made this worthy project a success which once again, reflects the role Organized Labor plays in the communities in which we live.

A vote of thanks to the following members who worked so diligently to make this worthwhile plan a success: Don Peters, Earl Storkson, Wayne Munk, George Bailey, Paul Burgess, Sid Rock, Al Taylor and Hubert Trier.

Weaverville Unit Dances Up Storm

On Nov. 14th, the Weaverville Unit held its First Annual Dinner-Dance at the Gables in Weaverville. The evening commenced with a friendship hour followed by an excellent dinner prepared by Chef Wes, owner of the Gables.

Dancing began about 9:30 and it took everyone a little while to get started after such a wonderful dinner. Once started, however, everyone danced up "a real ball."

Some of the highlights of the evening were the regrets expressed by all present that bad weather hindered attendance from Willow Creek and Hayfork; Bus. Rep. and Mrs. Fred Lucas overcoming inevitable baby-sitting problems and being able to make the affair; and last but not least, toastmaster Bob Forbes making the announcement that the Unit's fund was "fat" enough to pick up the tab.

Needless to say, everyone in the area is looking forward to next year's Dinner-Dance.

Sonorans Meet To Chat and Chow

On Nov. 19th, Local 1245's Sonora Unit held its first dinner meeting at the Europa Inn in Sonora, at 6:30 p.m., commencing with a friendship hour and dinner, with the meeting starting at 8:00 p.m.



This meeting was set up as an experiment and as such proved very successful. Arrangements were made so that members unable to attend the dinner were still able to attend the meeting. Members feel that these dinner meetings should be a continuing Unit event, periodically, to stir organization, participation, and to pave the way for expanded social activity within the Union.

It was agreed by all that the inclusion of wives or husbands was a must in future planning.

Present as guests were Vice President Marvin Brooks, who reported for the Executive Board and gave a brief review of Convention activities; Warren Clipper, Stockton Div. representative on the Benefit Advisory Committee, who reported on pension negotiations; Jack Simmons, Modesto Unit Chairman; and Ralph Miner, Stockton Div. Policy Committee member.

MEET NORMAN AMUNDSON

Norman Amundson is the newest addition to Local 1245's Business Staff and brings with him a valuable background in the Labor movement.

Brother Amundson, a native of Seattle, Washington, is a war Veteran, married and has three children. He makes his home in Westwood Village in southern Alameda County.

He taught school in Washington for two years and received a Fulbright Scholarship Award for study at Manchester University in Manchester, England, on the problems of white collar organizations in Britain.

Norman has worked as an Expediter and Inventory Control for a paper company, was President of a Steelworkers Local Union in Emeryville, Calif., and most recently, an organizer for Local 29 of the Office Employees International Union.

His duties on the Staff will be the coordination of a program to meet the problems of the rapidly changing procedures affecting the clerical workers in our jurisdiction.



NORMAN AMUNDSON

Shopping Tip

Ted Cordua, member of Union's Negotiating Committee from Stores Division, has hit upon a new idea for getting clerical members out to a Union meeting and is the moving force in setting up a new type of meeting in the East Bay area.

These meetings will be for clerical members in Alameda County and will be held on Monday evenings at 5:30 p.m. at the Hotel Leamington in Oakland.

It appears that many of our women members do their shopping on Monday nights when Oakland's stores remain open and a number of them have indicated that they would take 45 minutes or so out of their busy schedules to attend such a meeting.

The next meeting is Monday, Jan. 12th at 5:30 p.m. at the Leamington Hotel in downtown Oakland and all clerical employees are urged to attend.

Help Fight TB



Buy Christmas Seals

Nevada Members Attend State Labor Institute

Political Education Committee members of Local 1245's Reno Unit, Chairman Tom Lewis, Clarice Rigby and Nick Danos were awarded Certificates of Merit for completion of the prescribed courses of the Nevada State Labor School, a week-

end Labor Institute held in Reno on Nov. 21 through 23 under the auspices of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education.

Conducted under the direction of AFL-CIO Director of Education Mr. John D. Connors and Asst. Director Mr. John E. Cosgrove, the labor school included courses of study on such subjects as "History and Goals of the American Labor Movement," "The Significance of Present Day National Political Issues," "Benefits and Responsibilities of Labor in Community Services," and a study of the benefits available to working men and women under such laws as "The Nevada Industrial Insurance Act," "The Nevada Unemployment Compensation Law," and "The National Social Security Act."

Enrollment of members Lewis, Rigby and Danos in the week-end Labor Institute was a part of Local 1245's program to extend to its members the benefits of political and labor education through the formation of trained and effective Political Education Committees in all of its Local Units.

Also in attendance representing Local 1245, IBEW were Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell and Bus. Rep. Roy D. Murray.

John Stewart Feted With Big Send-Off

Fifty guests joined at the Pyrenees Cafe in Bakersfield on Friday evening, Nov. 21st, in launching John Stewart of Kern Power Plant on a well-earned cruise of retirement. Brother Stewart concluded 33 years with PG&E Co. and was an 11-year member of Local 1245, being one of our early supporters and enthusiasts in San Joaquin Division.

A fine evening was programmed and arranged by Elmer Ford as MC and the early days in John's career were recalled by M. L. Crum and H. T. Shirley, old timers in San Joaquin management. Recent retirees, Eddie Green and Art McNamee—both former 1245 members—honored John with their presence and recounted amusing events in John's past.

A fine selection of wearing apparel was presented to John in behalf of the guests, and Bus. Rep. Jack Wilson, in behalf of Bus. Mgr. R. T. Weakley, presented Brother Stewart with Local 1245's Retirement Certificate and IBEW lapel pin.

The gala evening's success was due to the efforts of Chet Kasper, ably assisted by Christine Witus and Bob Wood. Memories of the happy gathering were captured by photographers Carl Peterson, Chief Steward at Kern and Mehdi Radpur.

Brothers Chet Kasper, Clyde Persel, Ray Shearer and Walt Fritsche gave brief words of farewell to John and all in attendance wished him well in his retirement.

Sweet Farewell

On Nov. 6th, Local 1245's Paradise Unit honored Brother Percy Sweet at their meeting upon the occasion of his retirement from PG&E Co.

Brother Sweet, a Ditch Patrolman on the Butte Canal, was presented his retirement scroll from Local 1245 designating 16 years of loyal and active membership in our Union and an IBEW lapel pin by Bus. Rep. Gene Hastings.

An unusually large turn out of members at the meeting indicated the esteem in which Brother Sweet was held by his fellow co-workers who all wished him well in his retirement.

Beauty All Over the Place

From the picture below we can only conclude that the Air Defense knows how to pick 'em. We think we do too, because the pretty attendant standing on the float is Miss Loretta Arneson, Local 1245 Shop Steward for the Accounting and Clerical Offices of the Sierra Pacific Power Co. in Reno.



The float, entered by the Reno Filter Center, Ground Observer Corp, was one of many in Carson City's parade celebrating Nevada's Admission Day on Oct. 31st.

Napa-Vallejo Stewards Ho'd 'Big Think' Meet

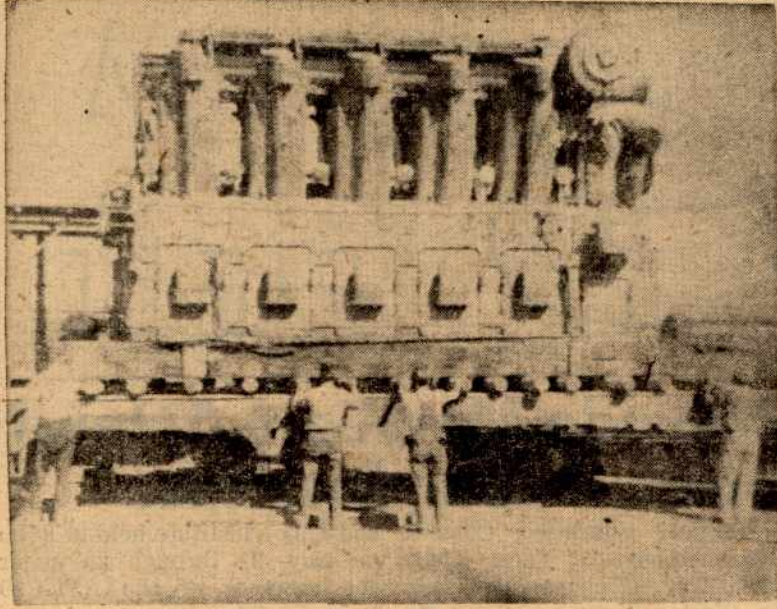


On Nov. 25th the Labor Temple in Napa was the scene of a real "think session" when North Bay Bus. Representative Frank Quadros got his Napa-Vallejo area Shop Stewards together to discuss the current problems in that area.

Unfurrowing their wrinkled brows for the cameraman are

(left to right) Asa Curry, Elec. Dept.; Robert Hogue, Elec. Dept.; Les Gruenhagen, Clerical Dept.; and Joe Borders, Gas Dept.

These Steward meetings are a "must" in the process of getting the word to and from the membership and to these hard-working Stewards, we say thanks and keep up the good work.



Unloading a 3500 horsepower compressor engine at Needles freight yard for use in Topock Compressor Station where the Gas is compressed to 800 pounds per square inch in order to "push" it at about 25 miles an hour to the next station near Barstow, where the process is repeated.

Local 1245 Presents
 $2N_2 + 88CH_4 + 8C_2H_6 + 2C_3H_8 =$
1,530,000



Flame thrower? Nope! It's the purge stack on the new 145-mile, 12-inch Gas main between Red Bluff and Fortuna. "Purging a line" is the blowing out of all dirt and foreign material with air under extremely high pressure, followed by Gas, also under high pressure to assure that the main is completely filled with Gas, leaving no air pockets in the line. Completion of this job brings Gas, for the first time, into Eureka and more jobs for more Gas Workers in this area.



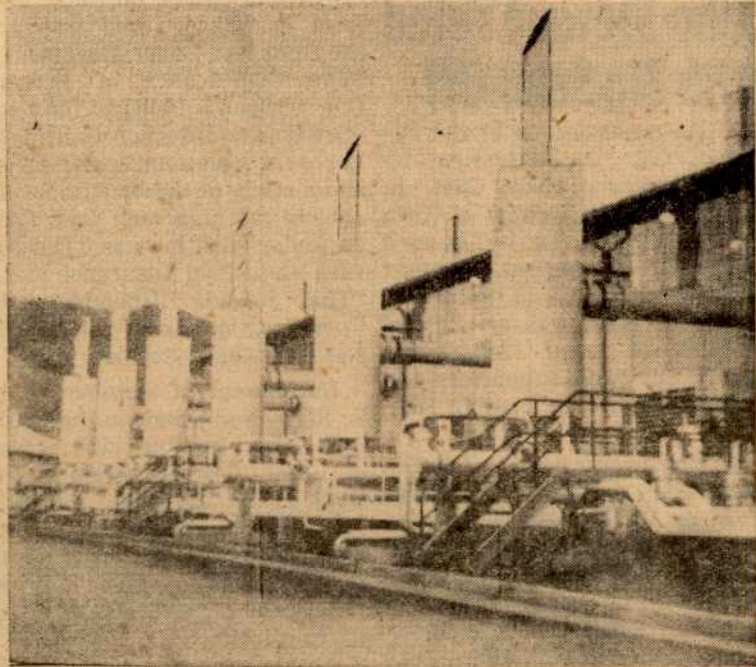
We agree! The above does not combine a chemical formula of diminishing values and it appears to be the "doodling" of a mathematician.

It is, however, our way of life. We serve 1,530,000 PG&E customers and employes engaged in over 100 different jobs in the IBEW jurisdiction of Local 1245.

On this page we are proud of our Gas members in California who are maintaining and "pushing" the Gas line from San Francisco to Cape Town, South Africa.

Although our Brotherhood is not solely in electrical work, it is particularly important and large in the Gas industry, particularly of our Local Union.

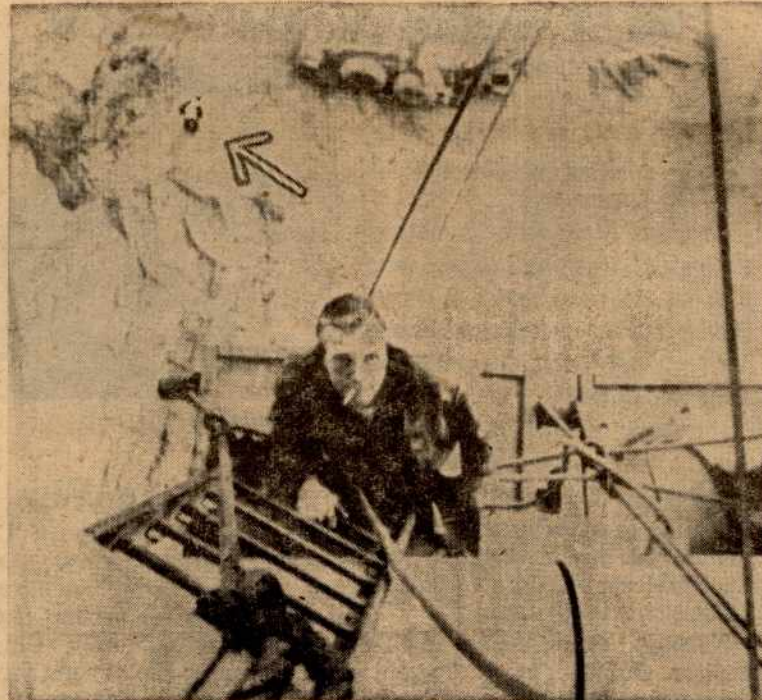
We are indeed proud of our many Gas members of Local 1245.



Topock Compressor Station, where the Gas is "scrubbed" to rid it of impurities and compressed to 800 pounds per square inch.



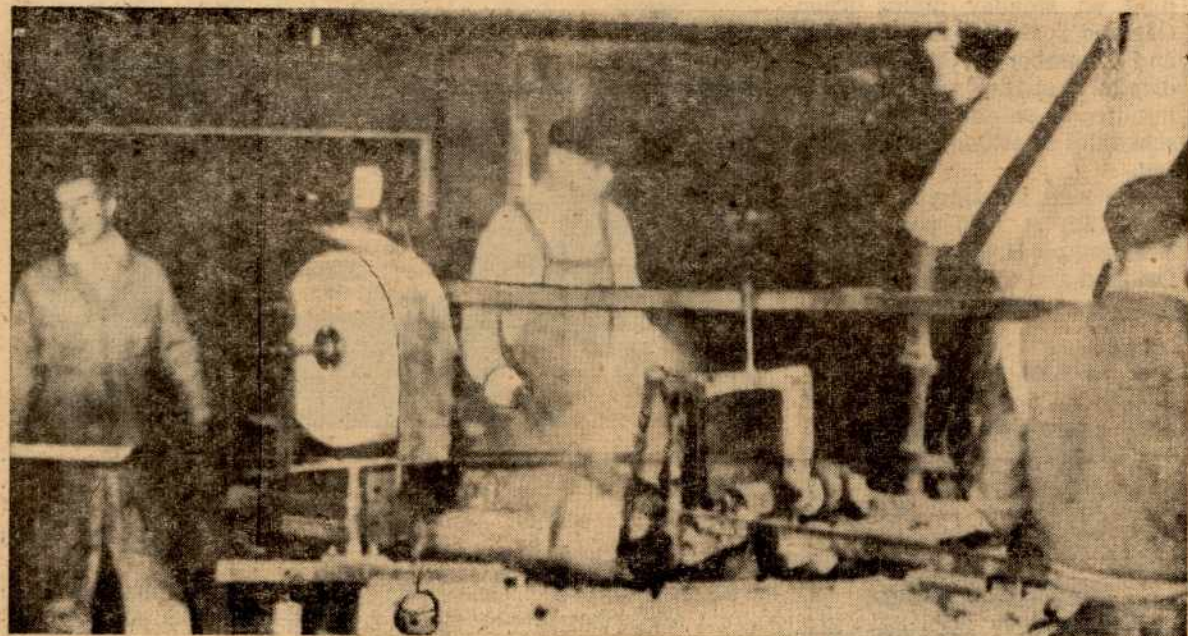
Pressure Operator John Wencke, one of many who "work the clock around" in 8-hour shifts, controlling the pressure and maintaining the Gas flow in the better than 6000 miles of transmission and distribution Gas mains throughout the system.



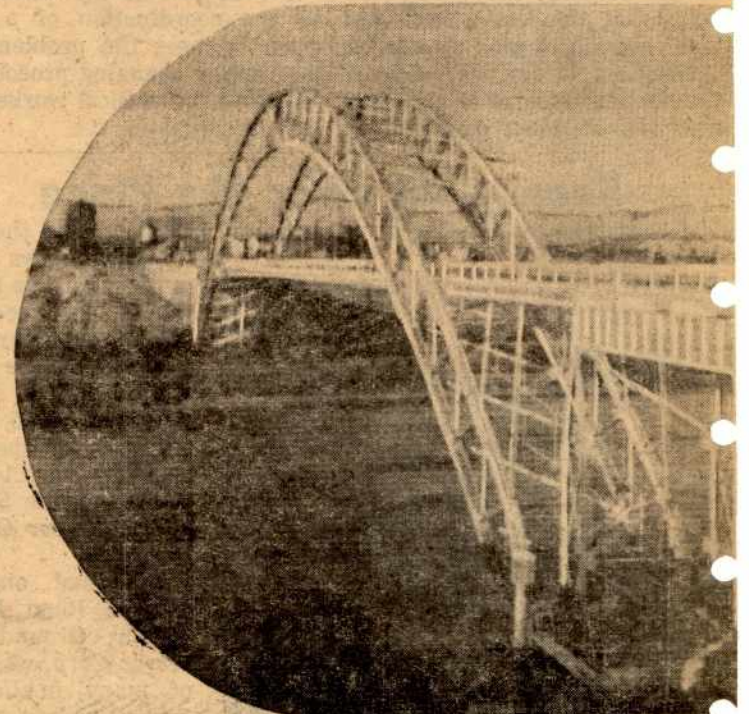
No, he's not a human fly, steeplejack or "skyhook hanger-on". He is Edward Lely, preparing to make a weld on the 26 inch Gas main under the new twin Carquinez Bridge. If you think this isn't high in the air, the arrow points to a man on the ground.



Gas Serviceman Fred S. is one of PG&E's 1,530,000 customers. He is one of the 100s of Gas Servicemen who, last year, made a record in so doing were Local 1245.



Not a part of the Gas Dept. as such, but certainly necessary in getting the Gas to the customer, is the Pipe Wrapping operations of Pipe Wrapper Harold E. White at Decoto Pipe Yard, a function of the Stores Division, where 12 million feet of pipe were tarred and wrapped last year.



After travelling almost 1100 miles across Texas and New Mexico, PG&E at the Arizona-California border, where the 34 inch—Santa Fe River on the bridge shown above.

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 = 1245

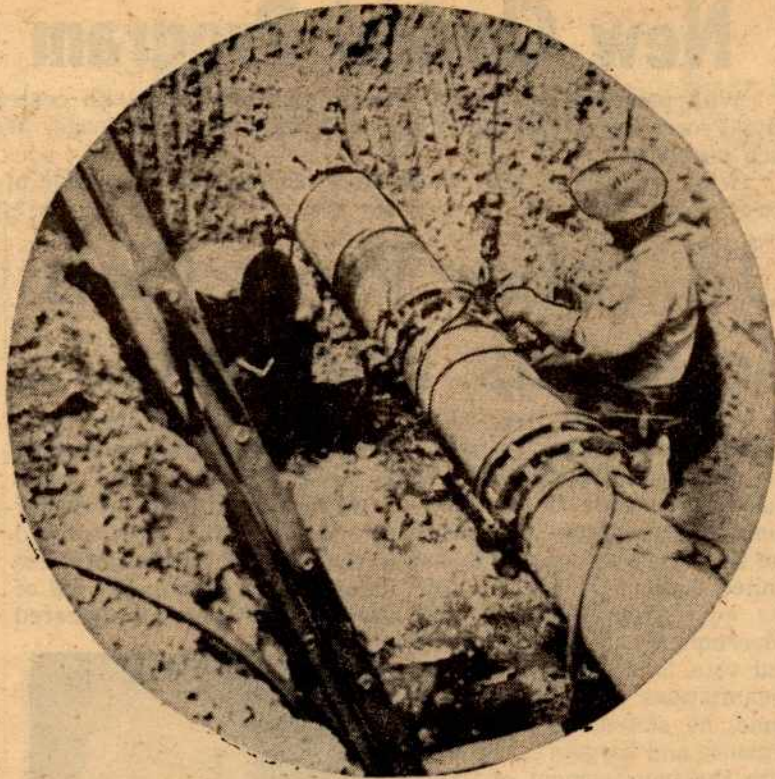
ion is totally ridiculous. You can't
 add numbers in an equation
 like a chemist or mathematician it would
 be a madman."

stating that Natural Gas serves
 the expert hands of some 3500 em-
 ployees, and all under

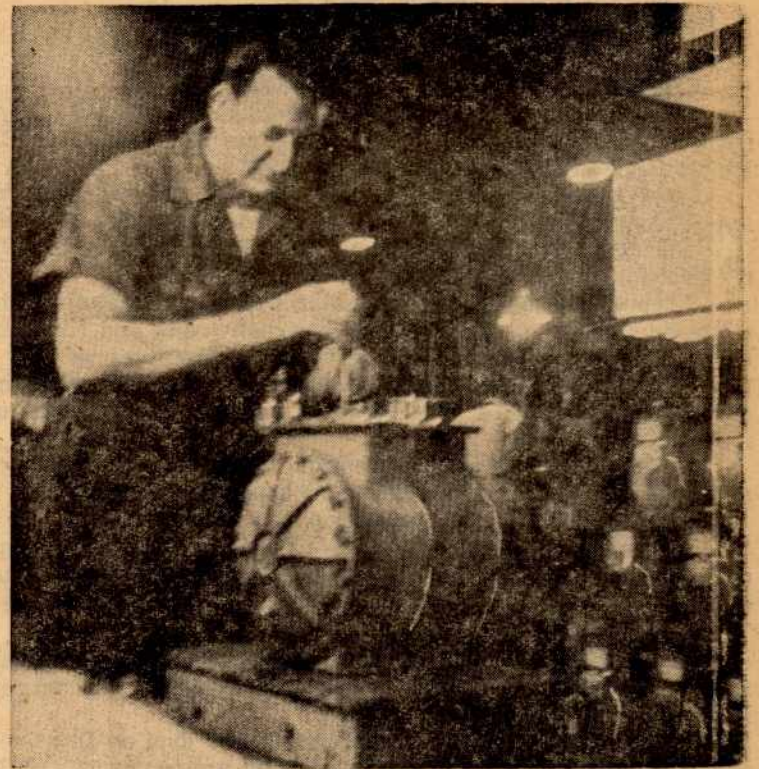
requiring many of the skills required
 in the day operations of installing,
 maintaining through PG&E Gas mains, which
 cover the distance from San Francisco
 and back.

was founded by men engaged
 in related or allied fields—
 many have become, over the years, a
 member of the Brotherhood and par-
 ticular 1245.

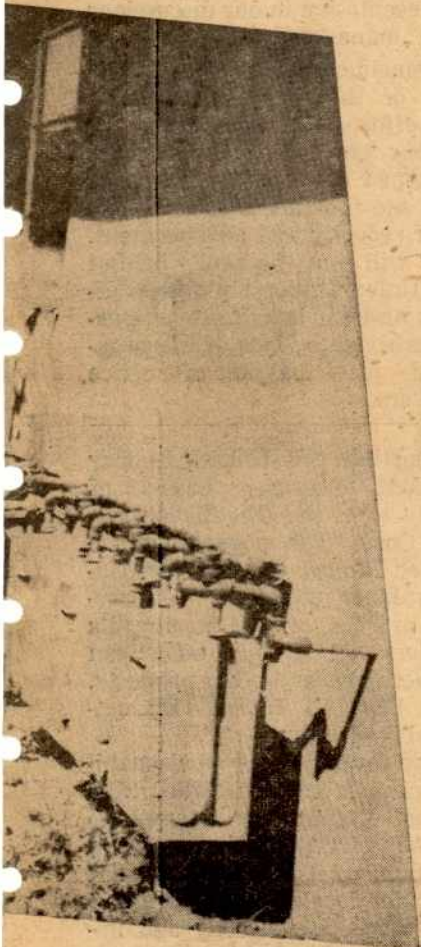
present our tribute to the many,
 1245, IBEW.



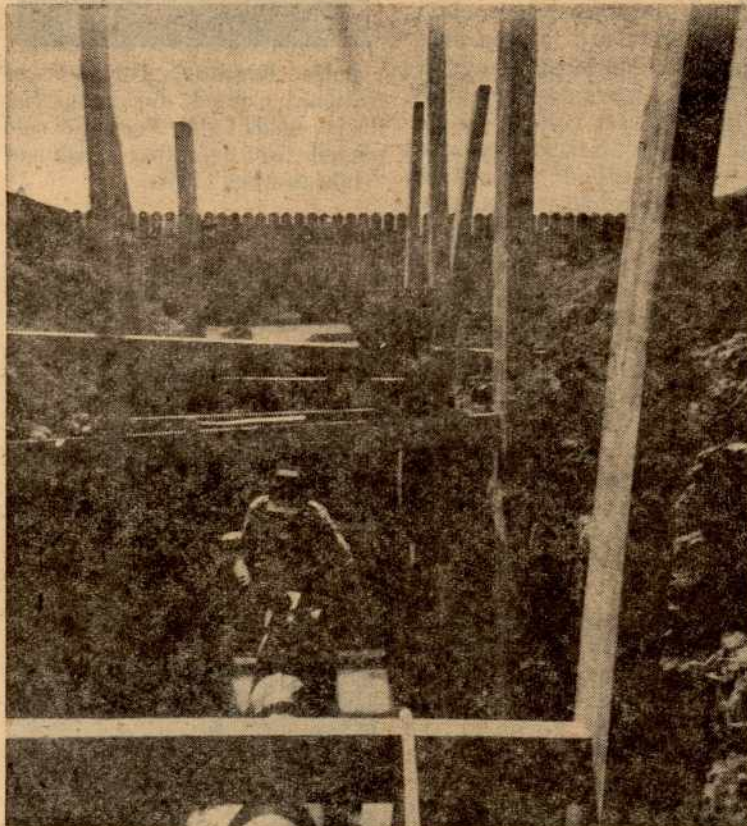
Making the final tie-in of the 145-mile, 12-inch Gas main between Red Bluff and Fortuna which brings Natural Gas into the Eureka area for the first time, are Bud Pinckney and an unidentified co-worker in the General Construction Dept.



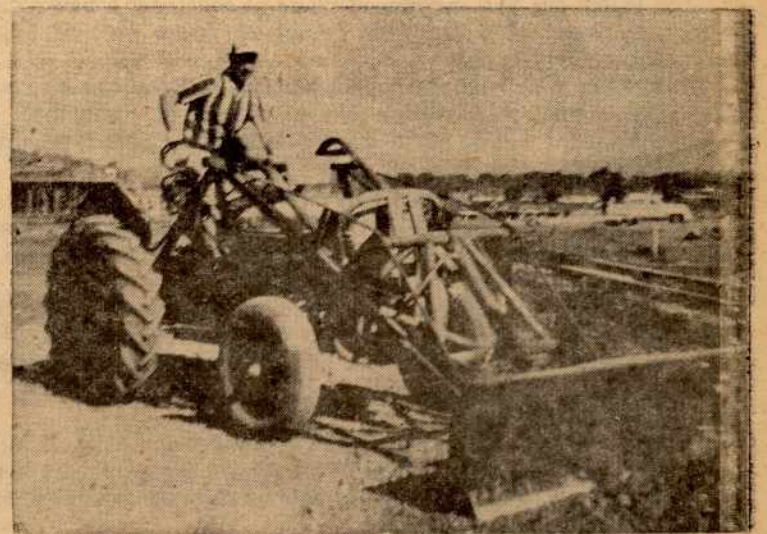
Keeping meters in good repair for accurate measurement of customer consumption of Gas is John Mele, Gas Meter Repairman.



ward shown "turning on the Gas"
 to customers. Fred is representative
 throughout Local 1245's jurisdic-
 tion of 2 million calls upon customers,
 1245, IBEW "good will ambassadors".



Gas Fitter Joe Harrington, in the trench welding a sleeve on a Gas main. Note the shoring of the trench which Local 1245 insists be "up to snuff", and according to safety laws, on all excavation jobs which involve our members. Last year 167 Calif. workers were injured and 10 were killed by cave-ins of similar trenches which were not properly and adequately shored.

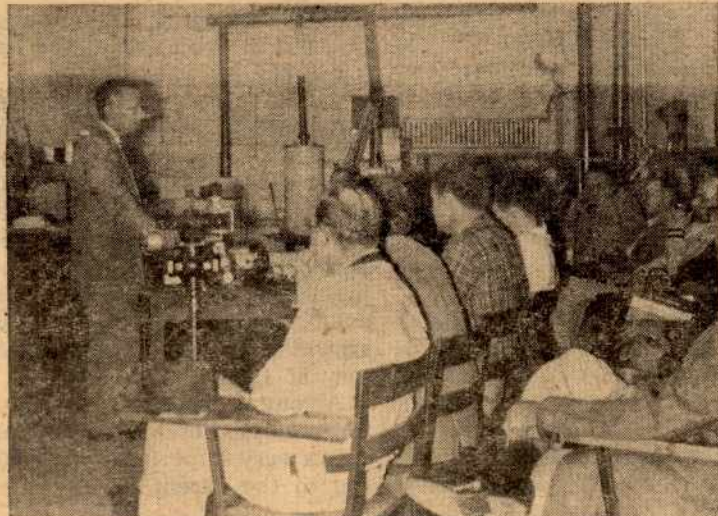


Nick Ploxa, Fitter, maneuvers a Back-filler which pushes all dirt back into the trench—a danger spot for small children—after the Gas pipe has been laid.



Close to the "end of the line", Light Crew Foreman Ed Perich and his crew install a Gas service to a new home in just one of the 1000s of areas being subdivided in California—the fastest growing state in the nation. More growth equals more people which equals more Gas appliances. This in turn calls for more Gas mains and customer consumption which equals more Gas Workers. This equation is not at all ridiculous—as our "Head" to this story is—and Local 1245 knows that its Gas members will meet the challenge of such spectacular growth and continue to do a good job as they have in the past.

Gas Workers Go to School



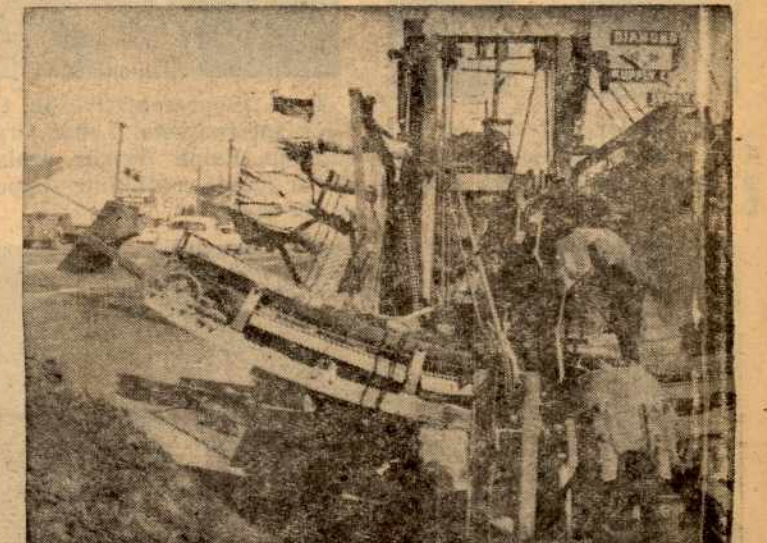
Strictly on a voluntary basis, some 200 of our Gas Workers in San Francisco have completed a course on Natural Gas.

The school, under the auspices of PG&E, the Master Plumbers Association and Local 38 of the Plumbers Union, was started back in 1945 and became a part of the San Francisco public school system in 1949 under the O'Connell Trade School.

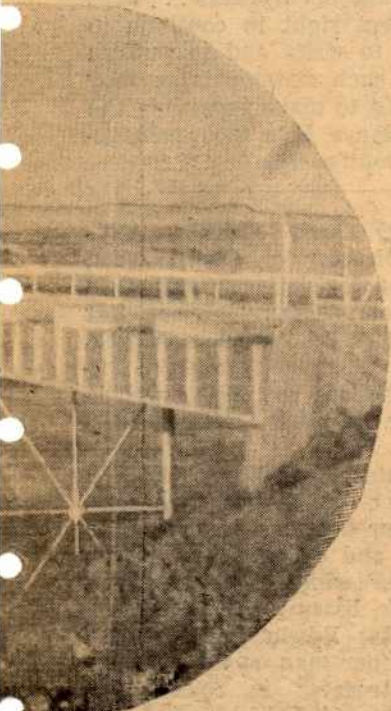
The course covers Natural Gas from the well to the home appliance with instructions on various types of controls by manufacturer representatives.

Mr. Osman I. Hirsch, PG&E Gas Service Foreman has been the instructor since the school's inception and over 800 students—Gas Servicemen, Plumbers and Appliance Representatives—have taken the course.

We are indeed proud of our Gas members who, on their own initiative, have taken this course and those presently taking it.



A rendezvous for small boys who want to play "soldier" or whatever games little fellows play where there's a hole and a surplus of dirt, is the trench dug by Trencher Operator Met Hansen, where a 6-inch Gas main will be laid. These trenches are attractive to children but extremely dangerous!



Mexico, Natural Gas is delivered to
 12-inch—line crosses the Colorado

Inside PG&E . . .

CARR TO EAST BAY; PAPE RETIRES

PG&E Co. Personnel Manager, Harold F. Carr on Jan. 1 will succeed W. Frank Pape as Division Manager of PG&E's East Bay Division, the Company recently announced.

Local 1245 for years has had excellent relationship with Mr. Pape, who retires on Dec. 31, while he was the East Bay Div. Joint Grievance Chairman, later as North Bay Division Manager and for the past four years as head of East Bay Division.

Since 1951, Local 1245 has sat across the bargaining table from Mr. Carr in all negotiations. The many rank and file members who have served on our Negotiating Committees, as well as the Union's paid full-time Representatives, know that Mr. Carr has dealt with the Union's negotiators in an atmosphere of mutual respect.

To Mr. Carr we wish him continued success in his new post and to Mr. Pape we say "a long and happy retirement."

AID TO NEW WATER PROJECT

The PG&E has agreed to enter a long-term contract, at \$62,000 a year for the use of the Brown's Valley Irrigation District water in the existing PG&E Colgate and Narrows Powerhouses on the Yuba River in Colgate Division.

The agreement will develop an important source of revenue for the District, to be used to assist in financing the Virginia Ranch Reservoir Project.

The Reservoir Project, to be formed by a dam on Dry Creek about 18 miles northwest of Marysville, will have a capacity of 55,000 acre-feet and an average annual yield for irrigation in excess of 30,000 acre-feet. Cost of the Project will be about \$4 million and will take 2 years to build.

NEW STEAM PLANT FOR NORTH BAY

The PG&E Co. has announced plans to construct a new steam generating plant on Bodega Bay about 25 miles west of Santa Rosa in North Bay Division.

According to a Company spokesman, no decision can be made as to when actual construction of the plant will commence, or whether the plant will be of the conventional or nuclear type, until the time of installation is much nearer at hand.

HUMBOLDT POWER DOUBLED

On Nov. 25th, Eureka's Mayor, Oscar Swanlund, closed switches bringing the new \$7.2 million 50,000-kilowatt Unit No. 2 at Humboldt Bay Power Plant on the line.

Arthur J. Swank, PG&E Vice President in Charge of Electric Operations, told guests present for the dedication ceremonies that the new unit doubled the capacity of Humboldt Bay Power Plant with a proposed \$20 million third unit, to be nuclear-powered, on the drawing boards now.

Swank told the guests that "a lot of brains and a lot of blueprints went into this plant. None of what we have would be here, however, without the energy and talents of the men who designed and built it."

"Therefore to the engineers, boilermakers and millwrights, to the electricians, laborers, pipefitters and masons, to the teamsters, painters, ironworkers, machinists and plasterers, to the carpenters and operating engineers—to all whose labors helped build the plant—we are grateful", he added.

CHURCH TO RETIRE; REDMAN PROMOTED

Arthur D. Church, San Joaquin Div. Mgr. and former manager of Stockton and North Bay Divisions, will retire from the PG&E Co. on Dec. 31st.

Mr. Church has long held the respect of Local 1245 for his fair dealings with Union and we wish him many years of happy retirement.

Vern C. Redman, San Joaquin Div. Asst. Mgr., will succeed Mr. Church as the new Division head. Mr. Redman's PG&E career includes jobs in the electric and sales departments and as Div. Mgr. of Commercial Sales and dates back to the predecessor San Joaquin Light and Power Co. To Mr. Redman we wish him the best of luck in his new position.



Saul Miller, Director of AFL-CIO Dept. of Publications emphasizes need for more local labor papers.



U. S. Representative in the UN's International Labor Organization, Ralph Wright, praises Labor for its continuing support of the ILO.

New Clerical Program Underway

With problems multiplying rapidly in connection with centralized accounting and Electronic Data Processing, steps are being taken by Business Manager Weakley to more effectively meet such problems.

While the office has considerable background knowledge of the general problem, some specific action is necessary.

Under the general direction of Assistant Business Manager Mitchell, specialized assistance on these problems will be handled by Norman Amundson who is introduced to our readers elsewhere in this issue of the UTILITY REPORTER.

Brother Amundson will coordinate a program on these problems with immediate emphasis on our clerical and office operations.

An advisory committee on the subject matter will soon be appointed and meetings will be held to review the situation and to recommend action.

A tour of major utility installations in the United States will soon be arranged for Brothers Mitchell and Amundson to visit E.D.P. Centers and to confer with Union representatives who are involved in similar problems. Other matters such as nuclear power generation and radiation protection problems will also be observed on this tour.

It is intended that knowledge gained from such a tour will be of value for membership information and for more competent representation in our discussions with management.

Coincidental with the institution of this program, organizing efforts will be stepped up in our clerical jurisdiction. It is hoped that when non-members see the future as it affects their security and advancement, they will join the ranks behind the Union leadership whose efforts on their behalf are seriously restricted by lack of full organized participation of office workers.

instructing the United Rubber Workers to stop its boycott of products of the O'Sullivan Rubber Corp. The order bars the United Rubber Worker—the Union's labor paper—from carrying articles or ads urging its readers not to buy O'Sullivan rubber heels and other products. (See UTILITY REPORTER editorial last month.)

The resolution, adopted unanimously, stated that "The ILPA cannot permit any attempt to suppress freedom of speech and freedom of the press—even if only one locality and one group of citizens are directly and immediately affected—to go unchallenged."

"Such an order is contrary to the guarantee of fundamental rights . . . of freedom of speech and freedom of the press. The United Rubber Workers . . . have a perfect right to continue to speak, to write and to publish freely such statements as they deem fit to make regarding the continuance of a labor-management controversy."

(Left) Boris Shiskin, AFL-CIO Director of Civil Rights, tells of legislative program in this field. Looking on are, left to right, ILPA President Terzick, ILPA Secretary-Treasurer Bernard Mullady and AFL-CIO Legislative Director, Andrew Biemiller.

(Center) Albert Zack, AFL-CIO Director of Public Relations, asks for better liaison between Labor and community "opinion makers" while ILPA President Terzick listens, attentively.

(Right) Edwin Lahey, noted newspaper man, spoke as "devil's advocate" in constructive criticism of Labor and Labor Press in a workshop session, moderated by James Goodsell, Editor, Oregon Labor Journal.

U.S. Labor Press Gets Bouquets, Brickbats

(Continued from Page 1)

International Labor Organization representative Ralph Wright lauded the Trade Union Movement for its vigorous support of the ILO, the only agency in the United Nations in which Labor has equal representation with Government and with full voice and vote. The goals of the two organizations are one and the same, he stated, "the right to organize and bargain collectively with the improvement of living standards as the ultimate objective." The Labor Press, as Labor's mouthpiece, has done much in promoting these goals, he stated.

Saul Miller, Director of AFL-CIO Dept. of Publications, claimed that there are far too many areas where no local labor news reaches the trade union member. To fill this vast void in readership, he emphasized the need for more so-called "little labor papers" throughout the country.

Albert Zack, AFL-CIO Director of Public Relations, in a look at "What's Ahead for Labor," stressed the need for Labor to get its message to the "opinion makers" in the community—the legislators, the clergy, TV and radio, academicians. Labor should have readily available qualified speakers for any and all functions and events, he said. This, he pointed out, is public relations—a field in which Labor is failing. The Labor Press, he stated, provides the key to this very necessary function of the Trade Union movement.

Max Steinbock, of the RWSDU Record in New York, in the workshop session, stated that the Labor Press, in its news reporting, should announce labor's defeats and faults as well as the victories and accomplishments. Articles should be written, he urged, which will appeal to the "man on the job" rather than beamed at the professional—the Union's lawyer, for example. The tendency to stretch facts to fit an editorial policy is extremely poor journalism, he stated.

Chief of Washington Bureau of Knight Papers, Mr. Edwin Lahey, who for many years covered the Labor beat for the Chicago Daily News, cautioned that "sleeping in lavender sheets at Miami hotels" was not a "right of labor officials. The "No Union" vote in certification elections, he analyzed, reflects these practices as an indictment against Labor and the Labor Press.

Among the prominent speakers was Mr. John Redding, Director National Council for Industrial Peace—the recently formed organization headed by former Senator Herbert H. Lehman and Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt,

and dedicated to fighting "predatory and misleading" campaigns to enact "right-to-work" laws.

He had the utmost praise for the role the Labor Press played in the successful defeat of these union-busting laws in five out of the six states where it appeared



John Redding, Director of National Council for Industrial Peace, lauds Labor Press for role played in defeating rash of "right-to-work" laws.

on the ballot and in keeping it off the ballot in several others.

ILPA Secretary-Treasurer Bernard Mullady, who is now working for the IBEW in the International Office, reported on the progress being made against the Racket Press. These papers are merely money-making devices, headed by unscrupulous persons who prey on businesses for ads, in the name of Organized Labor but who are not connected with Labor. Constant vigilance must be maintained in order to drive



ILPA President Peter Terzick, comments on AFL-CIO President George Meany's edict on advertising in the Labor Press.

these crooks out of the journalistic field in the name of the Labor Press, he warned.

At the Awards Banquet, Mr. Philip Hart, Senator-elect from Michigan, was the featured speaker and reviewed his successful campaign in Michigan. The presentation of the 1958 Journalistic Awards was the highlight of the evening but equally as suspenseful was the crowning of "Miss Union Secretary of 1958."

Among a number of resolutions adopted by the Convention was a very important one relating to the recent NLRB order



LIVE A LITTLE LONGER

Doctors Should Tell You

BY DR. WILLIAM A. SAWYER
IAM Medical Consultant

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Recently I received several letters complaining that doctors and hospitals are not inclined to give written reports on what is found in medical examinations. One husband says that since he pays the bill, he thinks he is entitled to a report. He feels that results are what he pays for in the case of his wife's illness.

He says he's sure there are a number of possible emergency situations where a report on a previous examination would be helpful. This husband wants copies of laboratory findings for future reference. Is he entitled to them?

Yes, I believe so and usually a doctor is willing to give such a report, if asked for. Sometimes patients go to the hospital where they were examined and treated and their request is turned down. This is proper, because no hospital management has the right to give such a report unless approved by the patient's doctor. The report on an examination is confidential between the patient and the doctor. A patient should ask the doctor for such a report and not the hospital.

I believe that when a person goes to a doctor for examination and treatment there should first be a general discussion of the patient's health history, including all past illnesses. Then a physical examination should be made. As a result of this history taking and examination, certain laboratory tests should follow, such as a chest X-ray,

urinalysis, blood count, blood pressure and so on.

After all this is finished and studied, the doctor should sit down with the patient, and possibly some member of the family, and explain all the findings. After he makes recommendations as to treatment, he should invite questions. Often patients are confused by examinations. If a written report is asked for, it should be given. Every last detail of the examination is not necessary in a report. A brief statement which says that an examination was made by Dr. Jones on a certain date and that no evidence of disease was found would be sufficient. Urine examination and blood count and blood pressure reading could be included.

If a patient has diabetes, or some disease from which he might suffer collapse on the street, a card in the wallet which states in a few words that he has been examined on a certain date and found to have a certain disease would help the doctor or hospital taking care of him.

It is true that most doctors feel they are too busy to write out such reports, but if there is a good reason, they'll usually consent.

One way to avoid having any dispute as to getting a report on an examination is to have an understanding in the beginning that you will expect such a written report of whatever is found. You should have no trouble finding a good doctor who will do this.

Family Features

Poverty Can Be Abolished In U.S.

Poverty could be abolished in the United States at a cost of only "about \$10 billion a year," or less than one-fourth of the amount appropriated by Congress annually to the military agencies. That figure was cited by Professor Wilbur J. Cohen of the University of Michigan in an address to the Michigan Welfare Conference here.

Cohen, former research director of the Social Security Administration, declared the sum of \$10 billion "could have been considered fantastic a few years ago, but just think of this figure in terms of what we are spending on missiles and defense."

"Moreover, if our economy is going to increase \$10 billion to \$25 billion a year, cumulatively, in the future, shouldn't we start to think about how to eradicate poverty?"

Cohen went on to list needed improvements in public assistance payments, social security, unemployment insurance, workmen's accident compensations, and other social insurance programs.

"One of the most important next steps in improving our social welfare program," he said, "is provision of hospital and nursing insurance to social security beneficiaries who are aged, disabled or widowed. This could be done by increasing the insurance contribution (under social security) by about one quarter of one per cent on the employer and employee."

SOUP TO NONSENSE

You're Fenced In!

By Jane Goodsell

The thing about living in a family is that you are surrounded almost constantly by people who know all about you. They know that you wear size 8AA shoes, that eating strawberries gives you a rash on your tummy, that you sometimes snore and that you have a corn on the little toe of your left foot.

Your nearest and dearest have the goods on you. Oh, they like you well enough. In fact, they probably adore you. But they consider you about as complex a personality as Little Red Riding Hood. They've seen you in tears, hysterics, pincurls and your old flannel bathrobe. They know you—or think they know you—like the palms of their hands.

They have you type-set. Because you have twice, during 20 years of driving, nicked the fenders while backing the car out of the garage, you are—to hear them tell it—"always banging up the car."

If you switch a couple of chairs around every few years, you are "forever moving all the furniture around."

In an environment like this, your personality has about as much chance to develop as a petunia has to flourish in concrete. Any attempts to display a slightly different version of YOU are greeted with guffaws or raised eyebrows.

Try buying a new hat that isn't exactly like all your old hats, and they proclaim that "It isn't your type at all. It doesn't look a bit like you."

Even when they don't say any-

thing, the mere presence of one's relatives is as inhibiting as a vice squad at a burlesque show.

Oh, not that you intend to cut loose and dance around with a lampshade on your head or anything like that! But sometimes you'd like to e-x-p-a-n-d a little, and show off a different side of your personality than the one you customarily exhibit at the kitchen sink and the neighborhood supermarket.

Say you are at a party, all dressed up in shimmering satin, Hot Pink nailpolish and smelling of Indiscreet. You think you look a little like Audrey Hepburn, and you'd like to try acting like her. You're licked before you start because there is a certain gentleman present who knows that one of your shoulder straps is fastened with the baby's diaper pin. Things like that take the starch out of you.

Or maybe you and your husband are dining with an alarmingly intellectual couple on whom you'd like to make a good impression. It would be perfectly simple to toss off a statement such as: "When I was in bed last night reading one of Emerson's essays . . ."

Or it would be a simple matter except that straight across from you sits your husband who knows that what you were actually reading in bed last night was "The Case of the Chorus Girl's Legs."

Of course he might not doublecross you, but the thing is, you can't be sure.

LABOR TOPS U.S. LIST IN AID TO BOYS

Boys' Clubs and Boy Scout groups across the nation are finding a strong partner in organized labor.

This is shown in a series of projects announced by the youth organizations and the AFL-CIO Community Service Activities.

In a booklet just released by the Boys' Clubs of America, the AFL-CIO heads the list of organizations currently helping to strengthen Boys' Club programs. Attention is called to several hundred labor-sponsored projects in behalf of 56 clubs across the country. Majority of the projects involve the donation by trade unionists of their labor or financial help amounting to a total of more than a quarter of a million dollars.

Virtually every AFL-CIO international union is represented in the impressive list. Typical projects include one in Baltimore, Md., where AFL-CIO unions contributed \$50,000 worth of labor on a branch club; Phoenix, Ariz., where materials, labor and a very large part of the cost of three new clubs, estimated at \$350,000, were contributed by local unions; and Newark, N. J., where 37 local unions provided financial assistance.

In addition, a \$100,000 boys' club was just placed in operation in San Mateo, Calif., through the volunteer labor of the Building Trades Council there.

Outlined in the November issue of Scouting, the official publication of the Boy Scouts of America, is a story of how Local 3, IBEW, in New York City, took the first step in establishing a

scout troop in the city's Hell's Kitchen section. The article, titled "Another Miracle on 34th Street," tells the dramatic story of the troop's creation in a slum district notorious for murders, riots and hoodlum gangs.

Stressing the importance of the cooperative efforts between labor and youth groups, Leo Perlis, Director of AFL-CIO Community Service Activities, explained: "The trade union movement looks at the young men of the Boy Scouts and Boys' Clubs as citizens of tomorrow—citizens who must assume roles of leadership in labor as well as other fields."

"These joint projects provide a channel through which we can insure a well-informed future citizenry equipped to handle the complex problems facing them in the era ahead," the CSA director noted.

"The unselfish community service rendered by today's labor unions also serves to prove that the modern labor movement stands ready to support its belief that what is good for the community is good for labor," he added.



"ABSOLUTELY NO RAISE! YOU MEN MUST THINK I'M SANTA CLAUS."

Historic Meet

(Continued from Page 1)

to sponsor another initiative measure to cut sales taxes, similar to Proposition 17, defeated in last November's General Election, if the 1959 State Legislature acts to impose more taxes on workers and consumers.

Mr. Brown, in his address, stated that he received copies of the policy statements and would give them his earnest consideration.

The two organizations' political arms—the California Labor League for Political Education and the California CIO Council on Political Education—were also merged into the new California Labor Council on Political Education.

Winners of three \$500 college scholarships, awarded on the basis of examinations and essays on the labor movement, went to John F. Peterson of San Francisco, John L. Dolan from San Mateo and Barbara Woth of Redlands.

Included among the many resolutions adopted by the delegates was Local 1245's proposal to amend the Public Utilities Code to allow collective bargaining for employees in municipal utility districts, as submitted by the California State Association of Electrical Workers.

Delegates from Local 1245 at the convention were Bus. Mgr. R. T. Weakley, Asst. Bus. Mgrs. L. L. Mitchell and M. A. Walters, Vice President Marvin Brooks, Executive Board Member Richard Sands, Recording Secretary M. S. Shaw, Admin. Asst. Scott Wadsworth, Bus. Rept. Al Kaznowski, Paul Yochem and Dan McPeak, who served on the Conventions' Credentials Committee.

ETHICAL PRACTICES UNIT WINS SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

For nearly three years The Ethical Practices Committee of the AFL-CIO has maintained faithfully its charge of assisting, in the language of the AFL-CIO Constitution, "to keep the Federation free from any taint of corruption or communism." Its democratic purpose and high sense of moral responsibility have brought forth six codes of ethical practices, unique in the history of private organizations, which have set the norm for a high level of conduct by the whole of responsible American trade unionism.

Vested with authority to conduct investigations and hearings and to make recommendations the Committee has moved with rare wisdom and utmost courage. Upheld by the Executive Council and the AFL-CIO delegates in convention, it has shown in remarkable degree unique leadership and initiative in a difficult and disagreeable task one which could be accomplished only by devotion to integrity without regard to compromising expediency.

Therefore, in public recognition of the contribution it has made to raising the level of moral integrity in the labor movement, thereby affecting for the better the whole of American life, The Ethical Practices Committee of the AFL-CIO has been granted the 1958 Social Justice Award of The Religion and Labor Foundation, which has caused to be cast in bronze its name as a permanent mark of these achievements.



IAM President Al Hayes, left, chairman of the AFL-CIO's Ethical Practices Committee, accepts the Social Justice Award on behalf of the Committee from Dr. Clair M. Cook.

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

1958 has been another busy year for Local 1245, a year in which we have continued to make progress toward the goals which had been set by the membership. The reorganization program adopted along with the dues increase voted by the membership has been put into effect and we are continuing development of certain phases.

The most important improvement in our operation has been an ever widening of membership participation. Scores of members from the job level have participated in top level negotiations concerning their jobs and departments.

Our Asilomar Conference brought together some 250 working members to examine their Union and its goals and responsibilities.

More field representation has been provided along with an increase in administrative personnel. Our major committees are being broadened to provide for advisory groups such as our Benefit Advisory Committee on PG&E. Education committees are being set up in our Units.

The remarkable activity of our Local Union in the recent controversy over compulsory open shop was in itself an unexpected and profitable educational experience for thousands of our members and their families.

Our public relations program has broadened considerably during the year. We are working cooperatively with some of our major universities and colleges, the International Cooperation Administration of the U. S. State Department, the Governor's Safety Conference, the President's Committee on Traffic Safety, the Commonwealth Club, the World Affairs Council, the United Crusade, the National Safety Council, the American Society of Training Directors and other such groups.

In labor, we are represented in all major federations and

councils and conventions. We have representation at every available educational and labor press conference and hold seats on some executive committees and chair other conferences and committees. We have had panel members in a number of seminars and special conferences.

This year for the first time, your Utility Reporter won competitive awards as reported elsewhere in this issue.

On bread and butter issues, we did pretty well wage-wise this year. More trouble was experienced with our public agencies this year than any in the past. Wage policies are changing in public agencies and we still see private industry setting the base for labor cost movements.

The move toward job security and retirement security within our Local brought an improved retirement plan and a supplemental savings plan together in a negotiated retirement and savings security program.

We have much to do on job security and can concentrate on this phase as we move into 1959. We cannot merely press for total security and fail to recognize the cause and effect of technological advancement in our industries. Change is inevitable and we must, as workers and Union members, recognize change and try to meet the need for the skills involved.

We need training badly. The failures of our school system are catching up with us and our children as we move into the world of changing industry.

Further, responsible Union members will strive to help themselves by spending some time and effort toward self-improvement as part of their concept of job security and advancement in our industries. With the desire to learn, we can and will seek joint training programs with our employers which are fair in their application and which will produce competent workmen to man the jobs and to meet the skill requirements of the present and the future.

While grievances decline in number, those which plague us

offer knotty problems for both sides to solve. Our contracts are "shaking down" so that current grievances stand out more clearly and identify the sections of the agreements which need an overhaul.

Labor-management relations continue to improve. Union stability and responsibility bears upon this important matter as well as management recognition of the joint venture principle of industrial relations.

Along with the monetary consideration of pure wages, the need for some relief in the matter of medical care costs and their effect on take-home pay are shaping the Union's bargaining policies to reflect the desires of our membership.

Some serious flaws in our structure continue. I cite the failure to organize more of the unorganized employees in our various groups. This problem will receive major attention by this office in 1959 but the job can only be effectively done by each member becoming an organizer and signing up his fellow unorganized employee. This is a must if we are to realize the full potential of collective representation.

The January and February meetings are extremely important as the bulk of Unit recommendations on negotiations will be made during our January and February Unit meetings. The meeting attendance lately is, to say the least, discouraging to your officers. It is most difficult to responsibly represent people, most of whom are shirking the responsibility of participation in a democratic organization.

Let's pledge in '59 to invest a couple of hours a month in our Union to help it meet the need it exists for—the welfare of each member and his family.

With the Holiday Season approaching, I extend Christmas greetings to all of our members and their families, our brothers and sisters in Organized Labor, our employers, and our many friends.

Let us hope that 1959 will bring a year of peace in the world and a better life for all.



Shown in a "bull session" at the Vancouver Educational Conference are (left to right, seated): IBEW Int. Rep. Gene Heiss and D. E. Woods, Bus. Mgr. Local 970, IBEW. (standing, left to right): Local 1245 Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell, Asst. Director AFL-CIO Education Dept., George Guernsey and Robert Staab, Local 1245 Executive Board Member.

IN MEMORIAM

MARY DISCO, PG&E Clerk in San Francisco was killed in an auto accident on Nov. 24th. Mary had been a Local 1245 member since June, 1956.

EARL C. PAQUETTE, member of Local 1245 since June, 1947 died on Nov. 26th in Eureka.

ROY RUSSELL PIERCE, Mechanic in Gilroy passed away on Nov. 13th. He had been active in Local 1245 since Aug., 1956.

JAMES DUNCAN, Storekeeper at Emeryville died on Nov. 9th. He had been a Local 1245 member since April, 1956.

LOUIS TYKEN, Operator for City of Alameda, passed away on Nov. 7th. Brother Tyken's membership in IBEW dates back to Aug., 1935, when he joined Local 360.

CHARLES L. VAN METER, former Operator for City of Alameda, died on Nov. 7th. He had been on IBEW pension since April, 1955.

CLIFFORD C. POWELL, member of Local 1245 since Aug., 1942, died in Eureka on Oct. 15th.

ELMER U. CLAWSON, pensioned General Const. Dept. employee in Sutter Creek, passed away Oct. 15th. Elmer's membership in Local 1245 dated from March, 1942.

PETER W. MURRAY, Fireman in Eureka with over 7 years membership in Local 1245, died on Nov. 4th.

LOUIS GUASCO, Gen. Const. Dept. Electrician in San Francisco passed away on Nov. 19th. He had been a Local 1245 member since Nov., 1945.

LEWIS KINKEL, Groundman for Sierra Pacific Power Co. at Carson City, Nevada, died on Nov. 9th. Brother Kinkel had been a Local 1245 member since April, 1956.

Negotiations?

They're telling the story around Denver, Colorado, of the superintendent of a mining company who, after enjoying an unusually good dinner, decided to raise the pay of his Chinese cook. When he received the increase, the cook questioned the superintendent, who told him it was because he had been a good cook all these years. The Chinese thought it over, then said: "You been cheating me a long time eh?"

Mitchell and Staab Attend Education Meet

Vancouver, Washington, was the scene of a 3-day Pacific Coast Education Conference, Nov. 18 through 20, sponsored by the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education, with Local 1245's Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell and Executive Board member Robert Staab in attendance.

Purpose of the Conference was to advise and make available to the West Coast, the facilities of the AFL-CIO Dept. of Education in the field of membership education, and the discussion of the problems which Labor faces in this necessary function of the Labor movement.

Asst. Director of Education, John Cosgrove, pointed out that the Conference was implementation of a Resolution adopted by the AFL-CIO 2nd Convention in Dec., 1957, recommending that State and Central bodies, National and International Unions and Local Unions take constructive action in education programs for the membership.

The establishing of summer schools, week-end labor institutes, local Union education programs, apprenticeship and vocational training were the areas in which help could be expected, according to Asst. Education Director, George T. Guernsey.

All areas on the Coast were heard from on their activities in educational programs with Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell reporting for IBEW in California with emphasis on Local 1245's program.

From the reports made, it was clearly indicated that Local 1245 is outstanding in the labor movement in the area of educational programs for the rank and file membership.

The problems of meeting attendance, health and welfare plans, staff training, labor education in the public schools and universities and communication media were the subjects of several speakers and workshop sessions.

More use of State University facilities and personnel by State and Central bodies, as well as Local Unions, was urged, as these institutions can be of immeasurable aid in coordinating educational programs and providing of qualified instructors and facilities and are anxious to do so.

Our sincere thanks to Executive Board member Robert Staab for his excellent report of the Conference, from which this article was written.

OPERATION 'BOOTSTRAPS' Yuba City Teenagers Determined

Never in the 180-year history of the United States have people throughout the nation been more acutely aware of the teenager than they are today. In every newspaper, magazine, and "twice on Sunday" we read and hear about the juvenile delinquency problem and the myriad of solutions offered by experts, near-experts, and plain darn fools. The youth of Yuba City, California are trying very hard, however, to find their own solution to their own problems, and it's been an "up hill battle, so far."

In February, 1957, eighteen Yuba City teenagers met to establish a recreation center in the community and went to work on a plan for obtaining this center. They met again in March with 320 other teenagers, set up a Constitution and By-Laws and started a fund-raising drive. Not once did they ask the adults in the community for any handouts. In each instance they gave the public something for their money—they washed cars, mowed lawns, cleaned houses, baby sat, and every imagineable odd job that they could, think up.

In less than a year they had

raised \$7,000, bought a surplus building from Beale Air Force Base, moved the building to a lot leased from the City, and began repairing and remodeling.

These kids were well on their way to accomplishing their goal when tragedy struck. The contractors who had moved the building had failed to provide adequate supports for the building after the move and a fifty-foot section collapsed in July, 1958. This collapse, although bad enough, could have ended in a real tragedy because a group of the youths had just left the building only minutes before it occurred.

These teenagers weren't discouraged, however, as they began anew to reconstruct the fallen section and put on a new roof. The sad part of the story is that their money was rapidly disappearing, due to the costs of the unexpected events.

Here's where several members of Local 1245's Marysville Unit got in the act and volunteered their services. These fellows have been working three or four evenings a week and on Saturdays helping to get the project completed, but they need more help!

These good union members who have been working on this most worth-while project state that the most exasperating, most unpredictable, but also the most inspiring group in America today is its teenage set. They have worked side by side with these Yuba City boys and girls to complete the building and to coin a phrase "they are getting quite an education."

Among those members working are Dave Houghton, Pete Menchini, Unit 3611 Vice Chairman, and Ken Stevenson, Unit 3611 Chairman and member of Union's Review Committee.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

As a graduate of the Yuba City elementary and high schools and long-time resident of the community, it is indeed gratifying to learn of this project and the perseverance of these teenagers.

It saddens me, however, to also learn that these kids, who are doing for themselves what should have been done by the community 30 years ago—when I was a teenager—have to cry for help.

How about some more of you Union members giving Dave, Pete and Ken a hand? —E. R. B.