Liberty means responsibility. That is why most men dread it.
— George Bernard Shaw

Delegates to the Annual Conference of Local 1245 will be elected at the February Unit Meeting in each Division which does not have a Clerical Unit and eight delegates will be elected at large from the General Construction Department. Nominations are being made in the January meetings for Clerical and G. C. delegates, with elections in February. To be elected, a member must be present at the meetings.

The Conference this year will cover an Education and Collective Bargaining. It is hoped that recommendations on the Negotiating Program of Local 1245 will be formulated at this Conference and presented to the System Negotiating Committee.

The Executive Board is urging every member to attend his Unit Meeting in February and participate in the election of delegates.

This will be the Fifth Conference which the Local has held.

Members of Local No. 47, I.B.E.W., employed by Southern California Edison Company, voted to accept a wage offer of 4 1/2 per cent effective January 1, 1960 according to an announcement by their office on Wednesday, Jan. 13.

The contract was open only on wages at this time. Southern California Edison serves the areas of Southern California outside of Los Angeles where there is a municipally owned public utility and serves approximately 1 1/4 million customers and has 4,876 employees. Approximately 4,500 of the Company employees are in the bargaining unit. Southern California Edison is one of the ten largest utility companies in the United States.

The Union announced that this raise would produce a ground rate of 2.5 per cent and a Lowerten of $3.24 per hour. Members of the Union Committee after several days of deliberation decided to recommend acceptance of the offer.

In the four day negotiations on the wage issue, the Union had asked for a seven percent increase based upon the rates paid by private utility companies in the larger industrial areas. Spokesman for the Southern California Edison Company had taken the position that wages not only in the larger companies but the whole industry must be considered. The Company Committee argued that wages in other industries and the general trend of economics must also be factors in determining wages on the Edison properties. In addition, they maintained, benefits other than direct wages must be considered when trying to weight the value of wages paid at one company against another.

Local 47 further reports that when the company made its offer to the Union Committee, it pointed out that the only wage settlements in the area had been lower and that this would produce the highest rates for and privately owned utility in the West.

With the start of a new year, Local Union 1245 finds itself facing a full schedule of collective bargaining sessions. All agreements, except the one with the California-Pacific Utilities Company (Needles Division), have opening dates during the year. In addition, annual bargaining sessions and appearances before Personnel Boards and City Councils are coming up on behalf of members employed by public agencies, where legal obstacles prohibit signing of collective bargaining agreements. The Cal-Pac Agreement runs until May 1, 1961; however, a pre-negotiated 4 1/2 per cent wage increase will be applied on May 1, 1960.

In Memoriam


ALBERT E. FAIRFIELD, Stockton Clerical, Collector. Passed away per minutes of January 7 meeting. "BA" member. Initiated June 1, 1952.

ATTEND YOUR UNIT MEETINGS!
Are Unions Necessary?

A man in San Francisco wrote a book some years ago entitled, "Are Unions Necessary?" He tried to portray the reasons for union organization. He assumed that the answer to his question was generally in the affirmative and he was generally right.

Today, however, the question he used for the title of his book is no longer an academic problem. In his question he had become a money-fathered child of some large corporations in America.

Some of these corporate giants are setting out to sell the nation, and particularly the workers, that unions are unnecessary.

One of the most effective ways to do this is to suggest that unions are a menace to the welfare of America and to its workers. They are second only to crime and corruption in the condition our youth to hate unions. These two methods are being employed every day in the press and in the classroom.

To understand the effectiveness of this campaign is to go logically. Just look at the "right-to-work" campaign methods and the Roman Holiday in the last session of Congress. They ask aloud what they think about unions. The percentage of those who will say they don't like unions has grown alarmingly over the past few years.

Just ask school children or college students what they think about unions. The percentage of those saying unions are "nowhere" will say the unions are "nowhere." They have been carefully and deliberately taught to develop this growing antipathy.

The hard nut these self-styled "ruling class" plotters want to crack is the resistance of the workers in general and the workers in particular. There are two ways they go about this. Either kill the unions by breaking the economic resistance of worker through planned wage and price cutting with temporary kindness toward the worker member.

When economic strangulation fails to produce a union corpse, then political persecution is applied to the union through violence. And, economic planning makes it virtually impossible to use effective tactics in such a political and economic situation.

The result of this "cozy" will, it is hoped by its architects, serve to split the political potential of unions and divide workers further from their elected leaders.

This latter method employed by some of these "captains of industry" is just a method which is useful in a critical election year. It is their boy campaign. Along with some more Senators and Congressmen, they will go to work. Using conditioned public opinion through controlled newspapers and commercial educational facilities, they will build the necessary atmosphere for what they will do, the "right-to-work" campaign. Get the unions! Their goal, no secret on Wall Street or in Washington, is to eliminate unions once and for all.

This is not a pretty picture and some may violently disagree with the statements made in this editorial. Nevertheless, if some could read the literature which describes the plans and objectives of the self-styled "ruling class" as we do, they would at least be shocked.

What can or should be done about this situation? It appears that the only really effective means of preventing labor controversies, such as the recent long steel strike will go to work. Using conditioned public opinion through planned wage and price cutting with temporary kindness toward the worker member.

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Here's Loyalty and Zeal In a Remote Area

By MARK COOK

There is a group of people in the Gilroy area that deserve the biggest pat on the back that this Union can give. As they have no Division Meeting Unit of their own, they have to attend a Pipe Line Meeting (1213) in Morgan Hill at the Friendly Inn, known as a family affair for most of them.

Here is the bright side of the picture which really cuts through the smog of the Valley. The following units or departments in the Gilroy area are 100% per cent organized:

District Line
District Warehouse

The credit for this belongs entirely to the members who realized that organization was their only means of achieving a higher standard of living and they maintained that special credit should go to two sparkplugs in organizing work—Don Mayberry and Bert Logsdon. Both are still in the job keeping the group organized and Don Mayberry has left the employment of the Company into business for himself. He is now running the Mobilo Gas Station south of Gilroy. The entire gang at Gilroy wish him lots of luck and the welcome mat will always be left if he ever has time to attend the meetings at the Friendly Inn in Morgan Hill.

Kern Power Plant Loses Oldtimer By Retirement

Sixty long time friends and associates gathered at the Pyneens Cafe Friday night, December 31st, to honor Brother Eugene Grasso and his plump wife on the occasion of his retirement. Employee at Kern and Kern 1945, Mr. Grasso presented the retirement check and a lapel pin on behalf of Business Manager Donald T. Weakley, a former Steam Plant man.

Frank was presented with a beautiful fibreglass deep sea fishing rod and reel and the necessary tools to repair it. By Herbert Bash, his maintenance partner for a long time.

For honors in assisting in the multiple arrangements of the gala evening were also given to Leo Competran, Bill Bernifer and Blll Benak, Herbert's usual partner in his work in subdivisions and others.

Helen, his maintenance partner for a long time, and was presented with a bouquet of flowers by photographers Carl Peterson and Lee Thorin.

BASIC U.S. NEEDS

Washington—The APLCIO in a letter to President George Meany to Senator Paul Douglas (D., Ill.) outlines basic areas in which the American economy remains in need of help. They indicate economic growth and full employment and the maintenance of a system of collective bargaining; aid to the lowest income groups and meeting accumulated needs in education, housing and natural resources.

AMA SET TO KILL FEE FOR AGED

The "Doctors' Lobby," formerly known as the American Medical Association, has already started up its work for the new session of Congress from providing health insurance for Social Security retirees.

Dr. Orr, president of the American Medical Association, has already started to lobby for the end of the fee for service program. Dr. Orr said that many older Americans have voluntary health insurance. He predicted that the fee of $800 over 60 per year for an insurance policy for an older who want such private insurance will last. He failed to mention the high cost of such insurance and the many difficulties older people have had with it.

Congressman Aime J. Forand (Dem., R.I.) is sponsoring the bill in full in the Senate, with costs to be paid out of social insurance taxes. This is the bill the AMA is trying to head off. Organized labor is strengthening its bargaining in LABOR, January 2, 1960, issue.

Bonner And Fisher Move Up in PG&E

Norman R. Sutherland, president of Pacific Gas & Electric Company, recently announced the retirement of Walter Dreyer, vice-president and chief engineer, effective December 31, 1959. Mr. Dreyer has served in many major P G & E projects presenting before governmental agencies as an expert witness. His performance before those agencies, even under the most adverse circumstances, has been exemplary.

Taking Philip E. Beckman, who passed away on November 21, 1959, is E. Howard Fisher, vice-president and general superintendent of the company's generating stations, in charge of gas operations. Fisher, an honor student at Stanford, a predecessor company in 1939 and has been general superintendent of the Los Angeles Division operations since 1954.

Mr. Dreyer will continue as a consultant for the company on major projects, according to Sutherland.

Union officials recall Mr. Beckman's achievements while serving as a member of the company's generating stations. Mr. Bonner and Mr. Fisher are held in high regard by union officials who have dealt with them on various assignments.

Safety laws.

1) A full report of any accidents occurring in your department or on your crew.

2) Know your Safety Advisory Committee member.

3) Give written reports to your Department Committee member on the following:

a) All unsafe working conditions or equipment in your area.

b) Any unsafe practices followed by crew members with the proper supervisor.

c) Any violations of the Company Safety Rules or the Nevada Industrial Commission.
NEVADA REPORT

THE UNIT OFFICERS NEED YOUR HELP

By ROY D. MURRAY

The obligations of a Local Unit Office are serious and far-reaching. Among those assumed by your Local Unit Officers is a pledge to: "promote by all proper means the material and intellectual welfare of the Local’s members." During the year 1960 your Executive Committee and Officers will have tried to fulfill their obligations in providing guidance and assistance from the membership in formulating projects and taking important decisions on such matters as:

- Development of legislative program to be transmitted to Nevada’s lawmakers during the 1960 Legislative session.
- Selection of Delegates to attend the Local Union’s Annual Conference at Berkeley, April 2nd and 3rd.
- Selection of members to serve on the 1960 Negotiating Committee.
- Development of Proposals for Contract changes and Benefit improvements during 1960 negotiations, to be forwarded to the Company not later than March 1, 1960.
- Successful completion and ratification of negotiations.
- Development of program to be advanced by Local Unit Delegates at the Annual AFL-CIO State Federation convention.
- Selection of Delegate to the State AFL-CIO Convention.
- COPE Program for registration of all members, and participation in the 1960 Elections.
- The overall safety Program.
- The Unit Educational and Community Services Program. Local Unit social affairs.
- Membership participation is the key to efficient and representative operation of a Local Union. Your Committeemen and Officers have been grateful for the assistance and support given by the membership during the year 1959.

An Executive Committee meeting is scheduled to be held in January for the purpose of making plans for the 1960 negotiating program. Membership participation and attendance at the meetings in January and February will be needed to assure full representation in whatever program is to be developed.

You can assist your officers in the discharge of their obligations by attending meetings regularly and making yourself a participant in the affairs of your Local Union.

A stop at your social security office before you retire is worthwhile. It will speed up the time it takes to receive the first benefit check.

PG&E TELLS OF HUGE GROWTH & 1960 PLANS

Pacific Gas and Electric Company enters the 1960 decade with 1,300,000 more customers than it had at the beginning of 1950. Norman R. Sutherland, President, said, "In addition to the 3,800,000 customers already in service, we expect to add another 600,000 before the end of the year, bringing our total to 4,400,000.

Not only has the number of our customers greatly increased, but also the per capita consumption of energy is continuously rising," Sutherland said. "The average annual consumption of electricity by our domestic customers, for example, is more than double the 1950 level and increasing.

Building ahead of demand to serve the continuing growth, PG&E will spend an estimated $2,200,000,000 during the 1960 decade. This includes expenditures during the year 1959 for construction expenditures during the year 1959, the average annual consumption of electricity by our domestic customers, for example, is more than double the 1950 level and increasing. PG&E, a 1953 estimate, was $2,200,000,000.

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"Chow line" at the recent Reno unit Christmas party in-
You Want to Seek Your "Fortune"?

Put on an Ivy League suit, pour yourself a single malt, light up a Havana perfecto, and frame your mind to "shrink the world." You are now ready to open your January copy of "FORTUNE" and read the editorial:

The title is, "Let's Have No More Foolishness about the Mess We're In." When you finish reading it, change back into your work clothes, perform the chore of unrolling a cigarette, and frame your mind back to the Sixties.

We think you will agree that you just had a taste of the Sixties on your bookshelf.

Incidentally, "FORTUNE" is also a Steward. Farris Watson, Charles Lovett, who is on the Committee, composed of Betty Rathbun, Albert S. Bondietti at Santa Maria; and Doyle Gouker, Short Bunch and Gene Powell, are: Mey Walls and Royce Herriot.

The Stewards have done a wonderful job of hand marching grievances to the non-news media. They have written articles for The Oregon Journal and the Oregonian-Journal to cancel their subscriptions. Cancellations are in the double figures and have reached 100,000.

ORPON, Ore. - The two-month-old strike of the Stewards against Portland's daily newspapers has reached a crucial point in the "Twilight Struggle." The immediate need for unifying the mind of the public is the major concern of newsmen in the Oregonian and the Oregon Journal. As more and more jobs are being lost, so are the newspaper unions involved in the strikes.

The Stewards struck Nov. 10 after failing to make any progress in a new contract. Their old agreement with the two newspapers expired Sept. 15. The publishers refused to discuss wages or any other contract terms.

That agreement has expired, and the union is now preparing to go ahead with a new contract. The union is demanding, among other things, a wage increase, a one-dollar raise for the average worker, and a one-week paid vacation.

There is one other thing that

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Electric and Gas Utilities Chalk Up A Bumper Year

NEW YORK, Jan. 7—Electric and gas utilities poured out earnings statements this week which showed a 1959 boom for the 1960 industrial boom. Two utilities are scheduled to report earnings for the first quarter of this year. The announcement of earnings always means a boom in the utility industry, for it is the time of the year when the utility companies are looking forward to increased earnings for the remainder of the year.

THEME OF A NEW YEAR

By JACK E. WILSON

The measurement of a new year's achievements to its activities and outcomes is a pleasure into which we can all look forward. After a full year, in the Kern District of San Joaquin, Pipe Line Operations, and California Pacific Utilities, I find it pleasant to remember the past year and being only human, this is certainly a rewardingly enlightening process. By the end of 1959, 131,000 customers were served in Kern County. This was a remarkable increase in the number of customers served by California Pacific Utilities in Kern County. Kern Power Plant has been skillfully brought to operation. The plant is now fully operational and has been on hand to help in any problems that might arise. The Kern Power Plant is a significant milestone in the history of Kern County, and will no doubt continue to play a vital role in the economic development of the region.

Week-end Labor

Nevada State AFL-CIO.

week-end Labor

Laborers were delegates to the week-end institute conducted by the Nevada State Department of Business Manager's staff. Roy D. Murray, of the Nevada Labor School, was given a thorough understanding of the labor movement. In particular, Roy D. Murray delivered a keynote address on Political Education. The institute was a great success, and the delegates were well prepared for the work ahead.

GAIN IN 1960 SEE

Utility operators have increased their earnings significantly, which is reflected in the production and profit totals for 1960. It is clear that the utility companies are making significant progress in their efforts to improve the quality of service to their customers.

The Electric and Gas Utilities Chalk Up A Bumper Year. This year, the utility companies are looking forward to increased earnings for the remainder of the year. The earnings announcements are always a significant event, as they provide a glimpse into the performance of the utility companies throughout the year.
Worker Buying Power Is Set Back 3 Years

WASHINGTON—An increase in the cost of living and a drop in the nation's business has sent the country's buying power back three years. The increase was three years ago.

Buying power dropped two months ago to just about where it was in November 1956. The earnings declined about 5 cents to $79.97 for a worker with five dependents and $74.60 for a worker without dependents.

The rate of wage or salary growth per year peaked in the six months ending in September, a peak set forth in the 1960 Consumer Price Index.

Questions on Social Security

Q. I am 68 years old. I have been drawing social security benefits since age 65. I was offered a job with the State where I live and earned $1800 per year. This job is not covered by social security. Can I draw all of my checks for the year?

A. No. Earnings from work, whether or not covered by social security, are counted in determining how many social security checks can be paid to you. You would be entitled to only one check if you keep your job. You will not be due one check for each 800 or part of 800 that you earn, you would need $1,200.

Q. I am now 62 years old. My first husband died back in 1958. I received a death benefit and some monthly checks for myself and my son. My son was adopted by another man when he was 18. I remarried. I now have a husband who is receiving benefits. Can I get wife's benefits?

A. Yes. If you would have been entitled to widow's benefits had your first husband been living, you may now be entitled to wife's benefits. You should contact the nearest social security office immediately. Have your husband sign the appropriate papers to apply for a marriage certificate with you and check your benefits. Blackmail and number and be reported incorrectly. Is there anything?

Social Notes

The DEBAT PARTY was thrown last month by Henry Ford II for his 16-year-old daughter, Adele. It was held at the Yale Club and was attended by 1200 guests, including former President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Adele Biddle was the hostess. The party was a great success and was enjoyed by all the guests.

Living a Little Longer

Heed that Headache

By DR. WILLIAM A. BAYLES

Medical Director

The citizen is repudiated by the country as a potential benefactor if he involves the citizens in the disease of the headache. The country benefits from the disease of the headache. The country benefits from the disease of the headache.

Headaches make people miserable but not as often as heart attacks and cancer. If you are suffering from a headache, you should consult a doctor immediately.

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**FEBRUARY UNIT MEETINGS**

**Tuesday, Feb. 2**
Selma, Red Bluff, Willows-Orland, Sacramento.

**Wednesday, Feb. 3**
Coalinga, Chico, Sacramento Trans-Union Authority, Sacramento Municipal Utility District.

**Thursday, Feb. 4**
Los Banos, Redding, Paradise, Placerville.

**Friday, Feb. 5**
Davis.

**Monday, Feb. 8**
East Bay Clerical.

**Tuesday, Feb. 9**
Wasco, Fresno, Salinas, Santa Cruz, Oakland, San Francisco Gas, Jackson, Eureka, Colusa, Santa Rosa, Vacaville.

**Wednesday, Feb. 10**

**Thursday, Feb. 11**
Bakersfield, Merced, Monterey, San Jose, Richmond, San Francisco Electric Garage & Warehouse, Stockton, Weaverville, (Hayfork), Oreville, Napa, Woodland.

**Tuesday, Feb. 16**
Madera, Paso Robles, Barstow, Hayward, San Francisco Unit Officers, Sonora, Fall River Mills (Burney), Feather River, Auburn, Fort Bragg.

**Wednesday, Feb. 17**
San Luis Obispo, Needles, Modesto, Red Bluff, Willows, Oroville, Napa, Ukiah.

**Thursday, Feb. 18**
Santa Maria, Morgan Hill, San Francisco Shop Stewards, Lodi, Alta, Sausalito, Sierra Pacific Power Company.

**Tuesday, Feb. 23**
King City — Soledad; Avenal; San Jose Executive and Shop Steward Meeting (Belmont); East Bay, Stores & G. C. Shop Stewards; Tracy (StanPac).

**Wednesday, Feb. 24**
San Jose Executive & Shop Steward Meeting (San Jose).

**Thursday, Feb. 25**
Concord.

**Check your Bulletin Board for Time and Place.**

At our February Unit meetings we will elect delegates to the Unit Conference scheduled for April 2 and 3. Attend and vote!

**ATTENTION!**

As a part of our organizing program, we mail a copy of the UNION REPORTER to every non-member working in our jurisdiction every month. From time to time we also send other letters to non-members to remind them of the benefits the Union is securing for them. We would like to ask the cooperation of all our members in keeping our mailing lists up-to-date. If you can send us the following information on any non-members, you will be helping your Union and yourself:

- **Name.**
- **Where employed.**
- **Telephone number.**

- **MAIL TO: I.B.E.W., Local 1245**

---

**CHANGING YOUR ADDRESS?**

Clip and Mail to:

I.B.E.W., Local 1245
1918 Grove Street
Oakland 12, California.

Old Address:  

(Street)  

(City)

New Address:  

(Street)  

(City)

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**NAU Uses Big Featherbed Bogey To Extract Cash**

There's gold in "them that" featherbedding hills. That's what the United Business Committee, the political arm of the National Association of Manufacturers, is discovering.

In a series of letters to a thousand of businessmen, it has poured millions of dollars of hard cash to help "eight featherbedding" — and reports this week indicated that the NAM has struck "pay dirt" in that field. It is endeavoring to raise hundreds of thousands of dollars for the United Business Committee.

The latest appeal for funds has put the name of Bruce M. Jeffries, head of the committee and also president of the Parker Pen Co. of Janesville, Wis. Moreover, the appeal is circulated on the stationery and stationery — and thus this firm, which seeks to sell its pens among railway men as well as others, has begun the campaign to smear railroad workers and others in a bunch of "featherbedders."

**INFLAMMATORY LANGUAGE**

The letter, widely distributed to businessmen, starts out with this inflammatory question: "Must you put up with legalized extortion?"

"A group pays engineers 4½ days pay for an eight-hour round trip, because featherbed rules require the 'pay' for every 100 miles," the letter says, repeating a system that the falsity of which has been repeatedly exposed on every hand.

In the letter, we see distorted pictures of purported featherbedding by crafts in other fields.

**ASKED FOR CASH**

"Now is the time to stop talking about what hasn't been done and start talking about what the Union has done! We've made a lot of progress in the last ten years but everybody forgets it because they've got some little point that hasn't been corrected yet."

"Another thing is to stop talking about what hasn't been done and start talking about what the Union has done! We've made a lot of progress in the last ten years but everybody forgets it because they've got some little point that hasn't been corrected yet."