

As the Happiness of the People is the Sole End of Government, So the Consent of the People is the Only Foundation Of It.

—John Adams

# Utility Reporter

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

VOL. VIII — No. 4

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

AUGUST, 1960

## POLITICAL ACTION, UNION EDUCATION, TOP AGENDA OF ADVISORY COUNCIL

### YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

Now that we can take a "breather" from the hectic pace of work faced by your Business Office since the first of the year, we look toward solving one of our most pressing internal problems. I refer to the backlog of grievances in PG&E which have piled up due to the



R. Weakley

large number of people we represent, the complexity of the subject matter, and the workload placed upon the principals at the System Review Committee level whose responsibilities also include general negotiations.

We now have a two-year contract. Almost continual negotiations have robbed us of the ability to properly tackle what is just as important as negotiations—the proper administration of what has already been negotiated.

Since this administration has been in office, we have arbitrated.

(Continued on Page 2)



**ADVISORY COUNCIL** members took a "break" for a picture to commemorate their first meeting on August 6 and 7 at Local 1245 Headquarters in Oakland. Back row, l. to r., are "Nick" Garcia, E. Bay & Stores Dist.; Royall D. McBraunehue, Sacto. Mun. Util. Dist.; Orville Owen, Sierra Pacific Power Co.; Walter G. Kreusch, Pipeline Operations; Bill Kennedy, San Francisco Div.; Leland Thomas, San Jose Div. Middle row, l. to r., Donald E. Bennett, Coast Valleys Div.; Charles E. Hasty, De Sabla Div.; Stanley Butera, alternate for Dick Kern, Electronic Data Processing Center, Bobby Robinson, San Joaquin Div.; Vernon Franklin, Colgate Div.; Jerry Wells, Gen. Const. Dept.; Henry Lucas, Humboldt Div.; Arthur Borden, Citizens Utilities. Front row, l. to r., Robert Calzascia, Sacto. Transit Authority; James Branstetter, Shasta Div.; Dwain Zahn, Sacramento Div.; Joan Bynum, Clerical-at-large; Andrew Clayton, Standard Pacific Gas Lines; Robert Stringham, Stockton Div.; William Yochem, Key System and East Bay Municipalities.

### Urge 3 Area Conferences Starting in '61

Political action and Union education highlighted discussions at the two-day meeting of the Advisory Council of Local 1245 August 6 and 7 in Oakland. Delegates adopted resolutions on each of these items to guide the Executive Board in developing programs in these fields.

The meetings, which were chaired for the first time by our new President, James E. Gibbs, Jr., began at 1 p.m. on Saturday and lasted, with a break for dinner, until 9 p.m. Saturday and were reconvened on Sunday for a session that lasted from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Present were 22 Advisory Council members representing the various groups in the Local.

The Advisory Council recommended to the Executive Board, who concurred at their meeting the next day, that in 1961 area conferences be held instead of an annual conference of the entire Local. Tentatively, it is planned to hold three conferences—one each in the Northern, Central and Southern areas. The emphasis at these conferences will be on Stewards' education, grievance processing, and conducting of Unit meetings. It was suggested that attendance at these conferences be composed of Unit Executive Committees, Shop Stewards and Grievance Committeemen.

(Continued on Page 3)

## Daughter of Local 1245 Member Wins \$500 Cal. Labor Federation Scholarship

Marilyn Lee Davis, daughter of Cecil Davis, former Vice President of Local 1245, is one of the winners of the California Labor Federation Scholarship for 1960. She will receive a \$500.00 award to be deposited in the accredited college or university of her choice. Marilyn plans to attend Fresno State College.

Miss Davis graduated this year from Sanger Union High School ranking first in her graduating class as well as being named valedictorian.

Last week Marilyn and her mother Mrs. Hattie Davis, were guests of the California Labor Federation at their Convention in Sacramento. The scholarship was presented to her as part of the Convention business.

Marilyn won two other scholarships—one from the California Scholarship Federation for \$300.00 and one from the local Parent-Teachers Association for \$60.00.

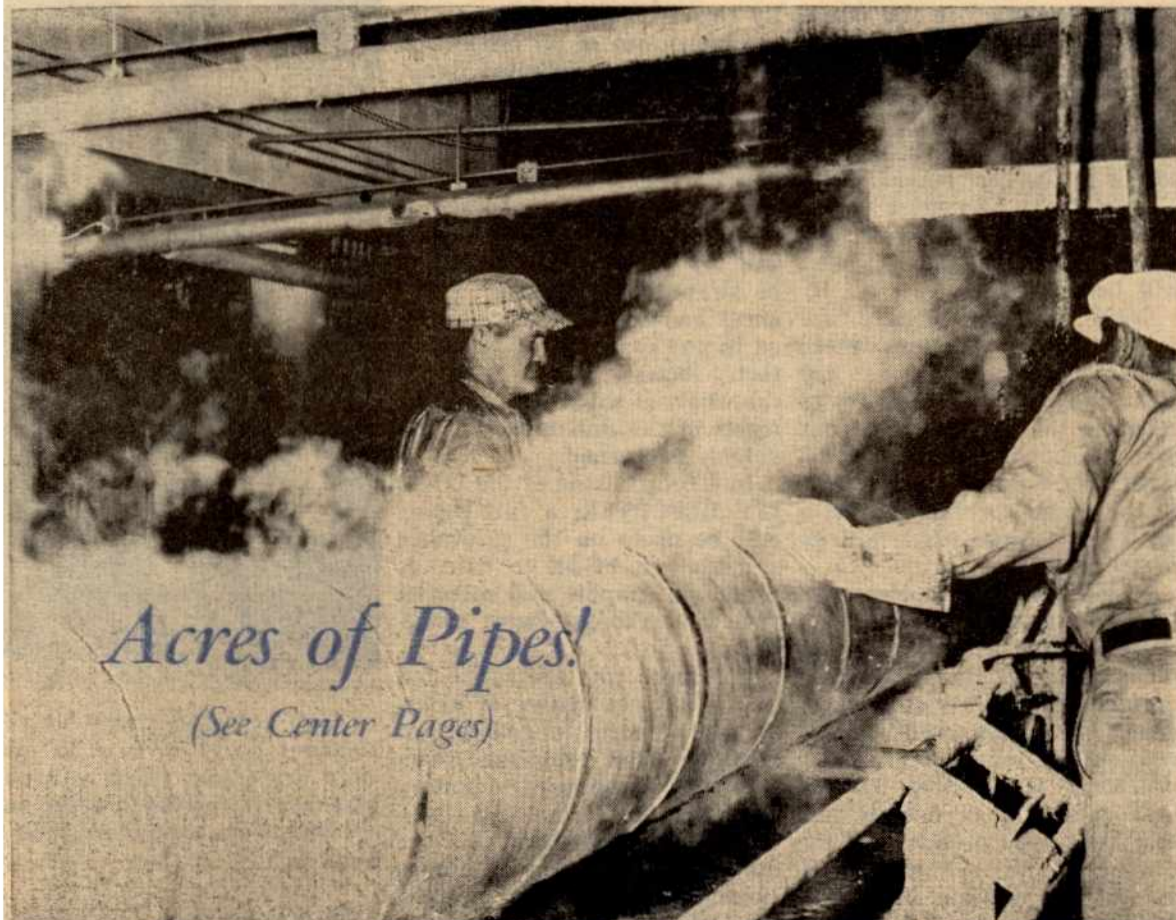
Marilyn's father, Cecil Davis was Vice President of Local 1245 in 1952 and 1953. He is a Senior Electric Serviceman at

(Continued on Page 6)

Visible through the steam caused by the final cooling application of whitewash is Harold Jenkins, steward at Decoto Pipeyard. A picture story of the work performed at the Pipeyard will be found on Pages five and six of this issue.



Marilyn Davis, charming daughter of Local 1245 member Cecil Davis, winner of one of the six \$500 Calif. Labor Federation Scholarships for 1960.



Acres of Pipes!  
(See Center Pages)

Last Day to Register for Nov. 8 Election is Sept. 15th!



# The UTILITY REPORTER



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**NORMAN AMUNDSON** . . . . . Editor  
**L. L. MITCHELL** . . . . . Assistant Editor  
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Published monthly at 1918 Grove Street, Oakland 12, Calif., by Local Union 1245 of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO. Second Class postage paid at Oakland, California

POSTMASTER: Please send Form 3579, Change of Address, to 1918 Grove St., Oakland 12, California.

Subscription price . . . . \$1.20 per year. Single copies, 10 cents

## January in June

The menacing chill of a possible recession in the making nipped the nation's consciousness this week with the Labor Department's report that 5.5 per cent of the labor force was unemployed last month.

The half-hearted attempts to dismiss the report as unbalanced statistics based on an increasing number of teen-agers looking for summer jobs failed to shake the spreading feeling that something's wrong with the economy.

That something is not an especially mysterious economic problem for learned technicians. It's a simple matter of the national economy failing to grow sufficiently to provide enough jobs for an expanding population.

It's the story also of the present weakness in the economy reflected in production slumps in steel, autos and other basic industries, as well as the ever-mounting impact of technological progress and automation.

Too many people seeking too few jobs is the formula for recession—a recession that can be avoided only by a new national economic policy geared to the dynamic growth that is inherent in our economic structure.

\* \* \*

The June unemployment report takes on fuller meaning when compared with the trend in profits. Fortune Magazine reports that last year the nation's 500 largest industrial corporations reaped the largest harvest of profits in history, topping 1958 by 25 per cent.

While these companies racked up \$11.9 billion in profits, employment in most of these firms last year increased only 6.5 per cent and in some companies actually dropped below 1958 levels while sales and profit figures reached new record highs.

The magazine's compilation showed that in many major companies employment levels were below 1957, evidence of the sharp impact of new technology and automation.

This is all part of the continuing loss in employment in manufacturing, railroads and mining, a loss of 2.1 million jobs since 1953.

Ever-increasing productivity coupled with the administered pricing system used in most industries to return a high, pre-determined profit rate can produce an economic imbalance that can spell trouble. Add an expanding labor force and a limited national growth rate and the ingredients for recession are at hand.

—("The Sentinel," Steelworkers Local 1397)

## 1245 Backs Sears Boycott

Members of Local 1245 received a pamphlet explaining the reasons for the current Nation-wide boycott of Sears Roebuck and Company department stores along with their membership cards for the second half of 1960.

Both items were included in a recent mailing to all members of Local 1245.

The Executive Board also approved a donation of \$100.00 to the San Francisco Labor Council to help defray expenses of the boycott at their meeting of July 23rd. A check in that amount was mailed immediately following approval by the International Office. Donations of over \$10.00 must be approved by the International in accordance with the International Constitution under which our Local is chartered.

The boycott against Sears was called to protest the firing of 262 Union members who refused to cross a picket line established by the Machinists' Union. The Retail Clerks' Union is attempting to apply the arbitration clause of the agreement and recently received a favorable ruling on the issue in the lower courts. Sears has indicated they will carry an appeal on

the ruling.

Other cases involving different issues are being processed by the Teamsters and the Machinists Union with the support of the San Francisco Labor Council. Adverse court rulings in these cases are being appealed by the unions involved.



"They said this week's program would be a real shocker!"

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL

## YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

(Continued from Page 1)

trated eleven cases. This procedure is both very costly and time-consuming in that meticulous care must be exercised by both parties to protect their separate and joint interests. We have been satisfied with certain decisions and so has the employer. Both sides have been dissatisfied with certain decisions because it was felt that the intent of the contracts were not properly weighed by the arbitrator. Nevertheless, the differences were resolved through final and binding arbitration and we must live with decisions of "outsiders" resulting from the parties' inability to reach an accord within the confines of our relationship.

We have a number of cases pending arbitration. We have a number in the active files of the System Review Committee. We have a number coming from the Division and Department Joint Grievance Committees and a number on the way from the Steward-Supervisor level.

Recently, we carefully analyzed the entire backlog of current grievances awaiting disposal at one level or another. Then, we wrote to the Company and made certain suggestions which we feel would expedite our current situation.

We expect a top-level meeting through which we hope to put some order and efficiency into a situation which is becoming a serious matter so far as this writer is concerned.

One thing is for sure. We are going to put a top priority on this matter and sustain the effort to get some decisions and wipe out the major portion of the grievance backlog.

Some drastic action is indicated in resolving some of these items. Lack of education and lack of realization that some contentions of grievants are without proper contractual foundation must be met by firm decision at the top level of Union responsibility. This will be done.

Concern for loss of current conditions which are perhaps shaky in view of strict application of the Agreements, causes natural hesitation in the minds of any responsible Union advocate who must weigh the facts and make a decision. Some of our current cases are in this category. These, too, will be resolved in the best manner available to those who must decide the risk of loss against the chance of gain. Some of these will be arbitrated.

Other cases, we believe, are open and shut situations where the Union's contentions are right and clear. We shall try to convince the employer that our case is sound and that settlement should favor our position. In the event we cannot effect a settlement, these cases will go to arbitration.

If more time, manpower and money had been available to those charged with contract administration in this Union, we could have done a better job of education among those who are responsible for the grievance procedure at all steps. I know that education is needed and this will be an objective in the coming months within the obvious limits of time, manpower and money.

The Company is equally involved in this situation and some serious thought and action is indicated in connection with priorities on the grievance back-



Mrs. Hunter and "Red" stand to acknowledge the tribute which his fellow members paid to a real "stalwart" of the Labor Movement.

## "Red" Hunter: Retirement Party He'll Never Forget

On July 29th, Union members, with Bill Nelson presiding as Toastmaster, gave "Red" Hunter a retirement party he will never forget. In addition to his fellow employees in the Lodi District, Stockton Division, well-wishers gathered from as far away as Shasta Division to pay him tribute

Although the record shows that Brother Hunter has been a member of Local 1245 for 18 years, his Union activity dates back to 1916. Upon presentation of his Retirement Scroll and Pin by his long-time friend and Shop Steward, Ezra Johnson, Brother Hunter recalled some of his past history in the Labor Movement and one incident in particular when he was promised special considerations by management if he would break a strike, which he refused.

Business Representative Ed James extended the best wishes of Business Manager Ron Weakley, a long-time friend of the Hunter family, and the Officers and Staff of Local 1245 to Brother and Mrs. Hunter for a

log and supervisor education.

As we take on this big job, we hope that petty grievances, hair-splitting cases, beefs based upon desire rather than cold contract language, are relegated to the ash heap as quickly as they come to the attention of our Shop Stewards and Grievance Committeemen.

One final word on this matter. There are some cases which become "political grievances." By this I mean that the issues are blown out of all proportion and the open or implied threat is made that the "Union," whoever that is, better win this case "or else."

Let it be known here and now, that the Union members of the System Review Committee and my office cannot afford to be swayed by "political" grievances and any decisions rendered in any case will be based on facts, honesty, the welfare of the whole of this Union, and the rights of the individual or individuals concerned.

In a future issue of the UTILITY REPORTER, a full report will be made on the grievance situation on PG&E to date, as well as a graphic and pictorial review of the grievance procedure.

For those who are interested in the subject matter of grievance procedures in general, arbitration as an established semi-formal application of voluntary law, and the formal laws governing these processes, your Union Office has a fine reference library for your use. Contact your Representative, describe your area of interest, and he will see that you are lent whatever texts we have or he will advise you on where they can be obtained.

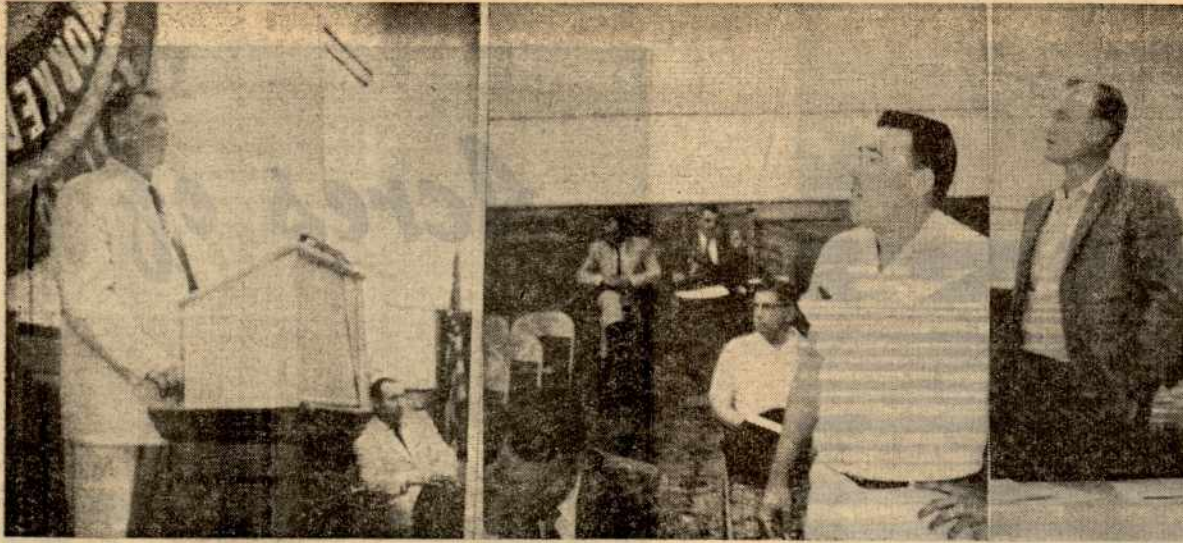
most happy and satisfying retirement. Representative James also called to the attention of those assembled the debt of gratitude owed to Union stalwarts like Brother and Mrs. Hunter who, down through the years, have given moral, financial and material support to their fellow men in their successful attempts to establish a decent standard of living, decent working conditions, and retirement security programs that are worth something. Here again, an "old timer" leaves, as a portion of his legacy to his fellow employees, a retirement security program from which he will not realize the full benefit. This is the history of Organized Labor.

Pictured here is Brother Hunter opening his gift, a 35mm slide projector, which will enable him to receive greater enjoyment from his picture-taking hobby; and Brother and Mrs. Hunter acknowledging the tribute which has been given them.



"Red" Hunter opens his retirement party gift, a 35 mm slide projector, which will enable him to receive greater enjoyment from his picture-taking hobby.

Don't Forget—Write Your U.S. Senator to Support Forand Bill!



President James E. Gibbs Jr. presided over the August 6 and 7 meeting of the Advisory Council. On the left he is shown at the rostrum. In center picture "Nick" Garcia, East Bay Division rises to ask a question of the chair. On the right, Frank Anderson, North Bay Division, stands to make a point during the discussions.

### Advisory Council Urge Vote Action

(Continued from Page 1)  
The resolution on political action, which will be read at all of the Unit meetings, stressed the need for political action based on issues. The resolution points to the need for the Local to analyze and weigh the merits of office seekers based on the candidate's position on issues, his voting record, and the platform which he supports. It also urges the Local Union to continue its present policies with the program aimed at full registration of our membership and their families, together with encouraging them to exercise their right to vote. The Advisory Council also endorsed the past practice of using the UTILITY REPORTER as a medium for getting information on candidates to the members of the Local.

In his report on Saturday, which opened the meeting, Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley discussed the problems which the Local will be facing during the months ahead. He reported on the current status of the Union and activities in

### Champion of the Children

by SPIKE ENSLEY

In a previous edition of the UTILITY REPORTER we published a story on the Labor Jamboree sponsored by Organized Labor in Monterey County for the benefit of "Cahoon Camp" operated by the Monterey County Youth Foundation, Inc.

Bro. Mike O'Donovan, Foreman in the Gas Department at Monterey, was called on to help make the program a success as were other members of Local 1245. Although the program fell short of the goal set for operation of the Camp this summer, it would have been even shorter had it not been for the efforts of Bro. O'Donovan and other members of Local 1245 in Monterey County.

Bro. O'Donovan was given 50 tickets to sell and he did not stop until he had sold all 50. We which we have been engaged.

Following Brother Weakley, reports were made by the three Assistant Business Managers, L. L. Mitchell, M. A. Walters and A. M. Hansen. They discussed past policies of the Local, the important events in the historical development of the Local, and the current financial picture, in relation to our present operation.

know that if he had been given 50 more tickets, he would have sold them too. We know the children of Monterey County are proud of Bro. O'Donovan and he will stand out as one of their many champions.

Other champions in their own right are Russ Heisinger of Monterey; Jim Hart, Jim Hitchcock and Mel Walls of Salinas; Ben Stockdale and Austin Harvie of Soledad; John Zeagler of King City; Don Nelson and Herb Mauer of Paso Robles; and Bill Cusack of the Hydro Department of General Construction. We want to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to all the members of Local 1245 for their participation in such a worthy cause. This is only one of the many forms of community activities in which our members are participating.



Mike O'Donovan, Foreman, Gas Street Dept., Monterey, contributed a lot of effort to Monterey County Youth Foundation's recent Jamboree to raise funds for the operation of their summer camp.

### Clericals to Hear Heath At Leamington on Sept. 13

Workmen's Compensation benefits and laws will be explained to members at the East Bay Clerical Unit meeting on Tuesday, September 13, at 7:30 p.m. at the Hotel Leamington, Oakland, by Attorney Richard Heath.

Mr. Heath is a member of the law firm of Brundage, Neyhart, Grodin & Miller which is retained by the Union. He specializes in the field of Industrial Compensation Law and has represented many of our members on these cases.

The Executive Committee of the East Bay Clerical Unit is extending an invitation to all members and their families to attend the meeting and hear Mr. Heath. He spoke at a Stewards' meeting in East Bay Division last Spring and was very well received by the group.

Many of the Stewards have commented on the value of the information they were given that evening. It developed that not only is there a great deal of misinformation about Workmen's Compensation being bandied about, but there is also a definite lack of information.



ALL MEMBERS! The Oakland warehouse is very proud of the fact that the entire crew are members of Local 1245. Pictured left to right are: Don Marshall, Don Strup, Herman Paginini, Erv Barclay, Ed Lange, Slim Middleoff, Al Acconero, Arthur Perryman, Leo Petske, Ron Amaral, Ben Arey, and Andy Anderson.

# WELCOME!

The following people were welcomed into membership in Local 1245 during the month of July:

"BA" APPLICATIONS

- SAN JOAQUIN
- Bill R. Clement
- Mary Jane Wright
- COAST VALLEYS
- Michael J. Doherty
- John A. Lormans, Jr.
- Lyle Merbs
- Edward Ramie
- PIPE LINE OPERATIONS
- Frank M. Williams
- SAN JOSE
- E. E. Aredondo
- Timothy Dell'Ara
- Walter Dunn

STORES

- Salvatore A. Lorino
- EAST BAY
- Frank I. Sunseri, Jr.

SAN FRANCISCO

- James T. Bryant
- Harold L. Cox
- Jerry A. Flitter
- Ernest E. Furst
- William H. Hagan
- Kenneth P. Liberty
- John P. Nugent
- Martin J. Walsh
- Roy Young

GENERAL OFFICE

- Joseph O. Brady
- Hazel P. Cadwalader
- Elma G. Cameron
- William L. Crothers
- Dennis E. Paddock
- STOCKTON
- Bob Horne



HUMBOLDT

- Thomas E. Hill
- SIERRA PACIFIC POWER CO.
- Billy L. Cates
- Peter Franz Greil
- Carl V. Hawley
- Robert Jacques
- Timothy Kitchener

COLGATE

- Arlie L. Baker

NORTH BAY

- Timothy G. Johnson
- Russell McDonell
- David A. Seeber

SACTO. MUNI. UTILITY DIST.

- Robert S. Hansen

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

- Charles C. Allen
- Gary Anderson
- James R. Harvey
- Herbert W. Hill
- Darrell Maynard
- Virgil G. Ogletree
- Chester L. Thompson

"A" APPLICATIONS

- COAST VALLEYS
- Glenn R. Ritter
- GENERAL CONSTRUCTION
- David A. Williamson
- C. I. Dunton

## Inquiring Reporter

### What Is Best Gain Made by Local 1245?

In your opinion, what is the most important gain which the Union has achieved through negotiations?

**RALPH LANCASTER**, Gas Department, San Jose Division:

As to my personal preference there is "no contest." The grievance procedure holds the key to the rest of the agreement. Title 102 insures that the contract will not become a matter of lip service but rather an enforceable document supported by a process insuring the strength of unity to the individual who is otherwise powerless.

The Benefit sections are fine but they are always subject to dispute. Title 102 insures us the opportunity of presenting our side, removes arbitrary decisions by management and insures human dignity.

For me it is the padlock of security.

**LESTER KRUMBHOLZ**, Foreman, Gas Meter Shop, Salinas:

I believe the most important things that have been negotiated are working conditions, but to pick one item in particular, I would say accumulative sick leave. Having had to use it twice, I know what it means.

**HERB BROOKS**, Lineman, Richmond Service Group:

When I think of important benefits, the Grievance Procedure is uppermost in my mind, although I think the Demotion and Lay Off Procedure is equally important because it is the combination of the two which provides us with real job security.

**EDNA PETERSON**, Clerk B Hayward Commercial Office:

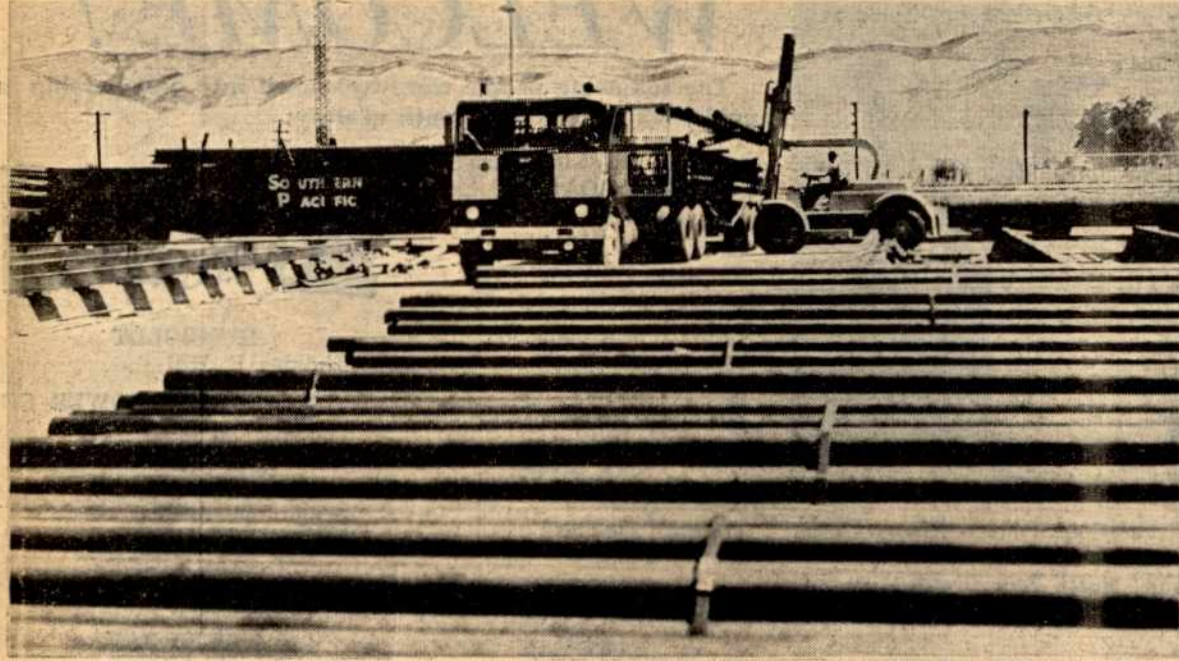
The Fringe benefits are all good but particularly the sick leave provisions and the possibility of accumulating to 90 days. This gives a person a sense of security by providing protection in the event of a major illness.

**LARRY FOSS**, Apprentice Meter Man, San Francisco:

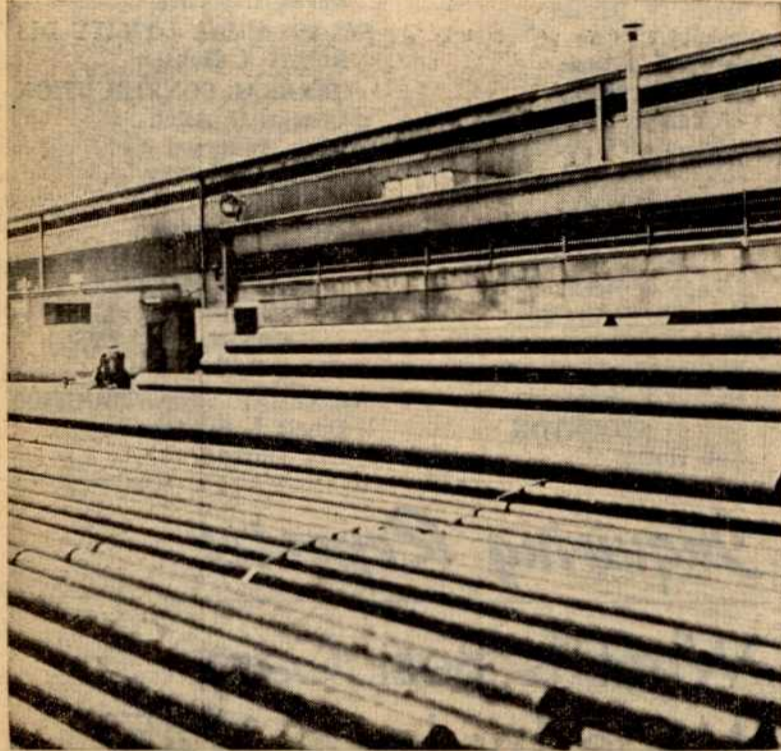
To my way of thinking, any benefit that has been gained or improved upon is not as important as the right to bargain for these gains. Through collective bargaining we all have a voice in matters affecting our lives. This is a right I value highly.

**OSCAR FELLIN**, Electric Patrolman, Santa Rosa:

In my opinion the greatest benefit gained by the Union is Title 102 of the contract, the Grievance Procedure. The Grievance Procedure eliminates discrimination, it gives the employee the right to process a grievance with the assurance of a fair hearing through the Grievance Committee, who are fellow workers and Union members. Without Title 102 the contract would be null, having no legal force or effect.



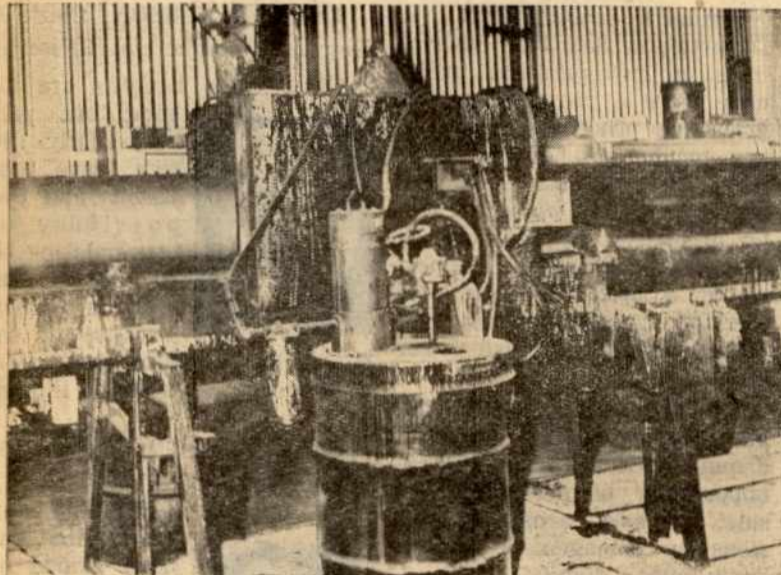
1. Pipe for processing is being unloaded here by Jack Davis, Fork Lift Operator.



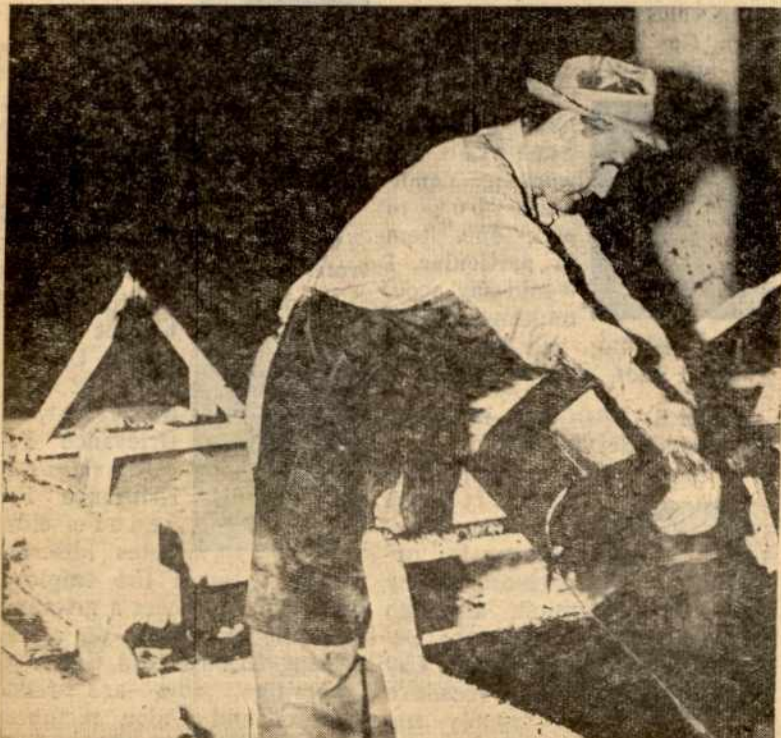
2. A conveyor carries the pipe in through the side of the building to the sandblaster.

### Facts About the Decoto Pipe Yard

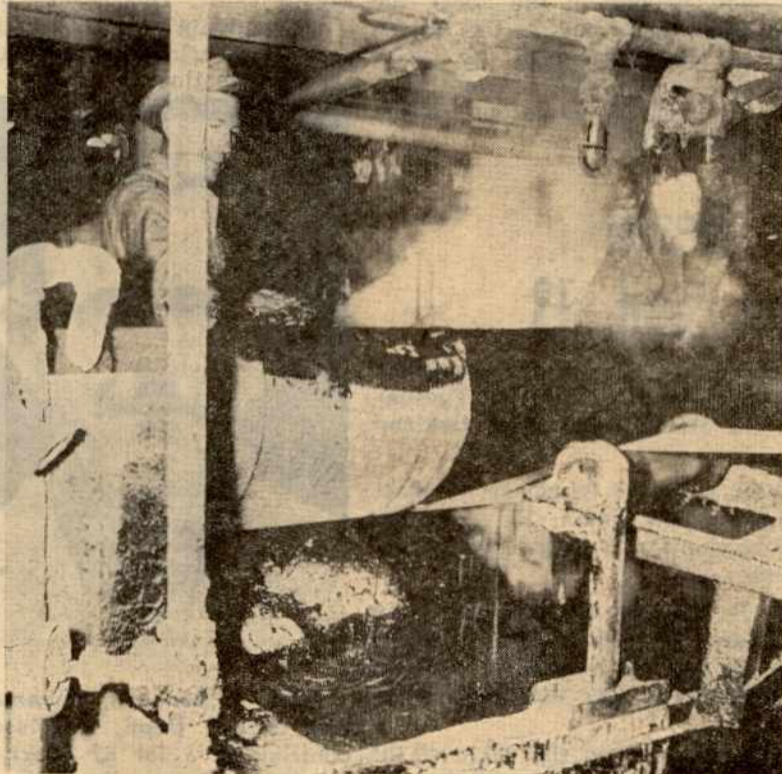
- Over one million feet of pipe on inventory at all times.
- On a recent job, 222,000 pounds of asphalt enamel were used to wrap 60,000 feet of 16 inch pipe.
- Pipe is dug up after thirty years in the ground and reconditioned at the plant. On one job 50,000 feet of 16 inch pipe was brought in to the yard where the old wrapping was cleaned off, ends were beveled, corrosion spots cut out and patched, and the pipe straightened, sandblasted and wrapped to be used for future construction jobs.
- Shipments of pipe are received every week from Eastern steel mills and from Kaiser Mills in California.



3. After the sandblasting the pipe goes through a machine which applies a primer coat.



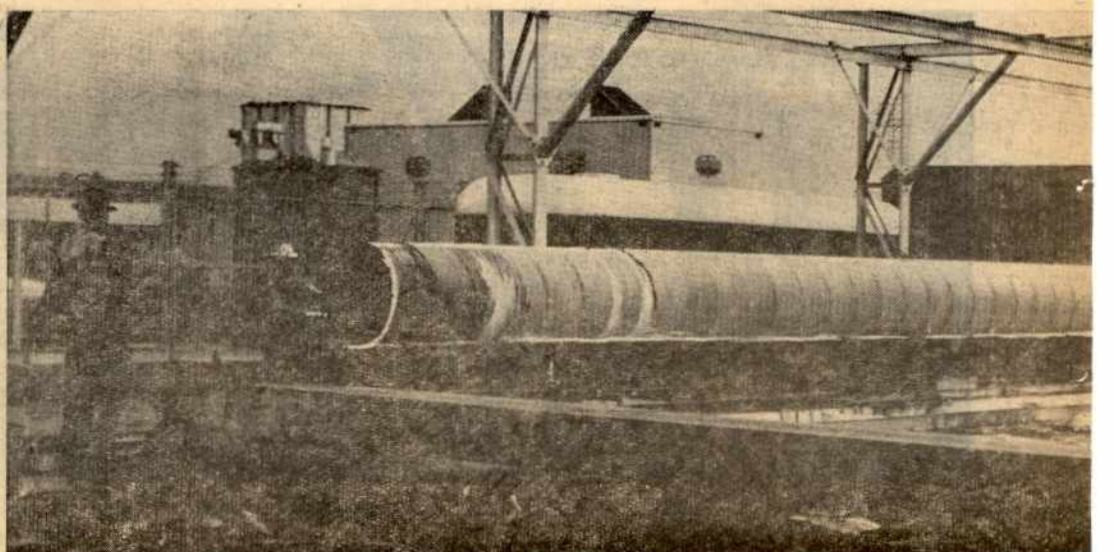
4. Tar pot operator Obery Cassady feeds the tar pots where the asphalt material is heated and carried in pipes to the wrapping machines.



5. Pipe Wrapping Machine Operator Herman "Tex" Coburn makes a "splice" to join a new roll of felt paper on a piece of twelve inch pipe.



The grandmother of these pipe wrapping machines, a part of the pipe wrapping operation when the operation was in England.



Here an eighty foot length of thirty six inch pipe is being wrapped on the big machines located in back of the building.

This machine...



# Acres of Pipe

In the foreground of the large picture is the storage yard of pipe, ready for shipment to construction jobs in any part of the G. and E. system. Wrapping machines in the building are coated with coats of asphalt enamel, one layer of fiber glass and one layer of asphalt enamel.

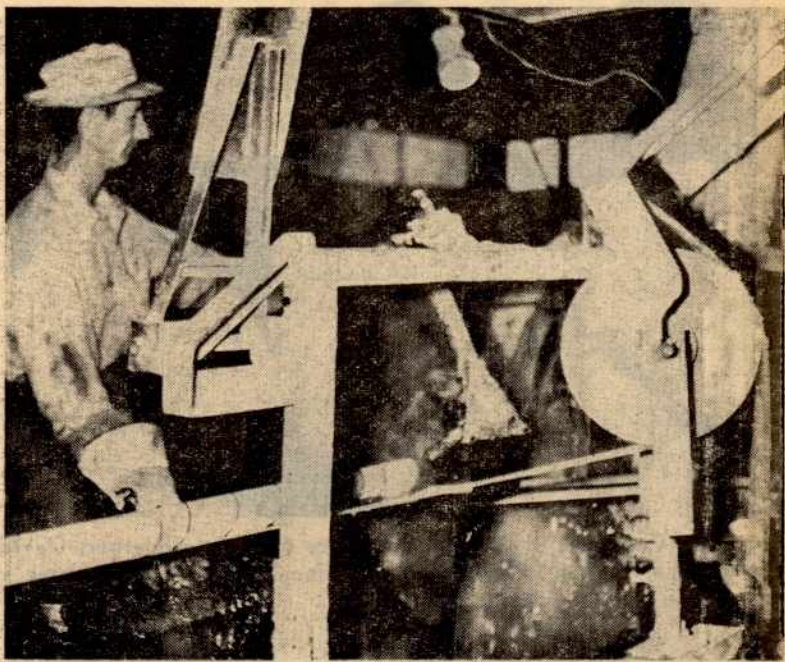
# The Decoto



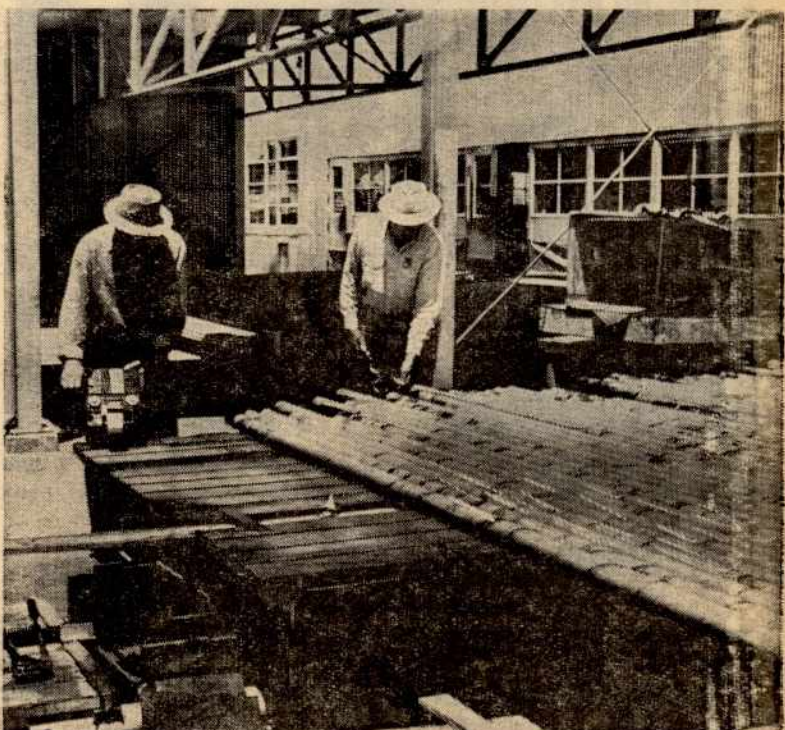
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per on pipe up to 12 inches in diameter. Larger pipe is sandblasted, primed and wrapped on machines outside to the right of picture. In 1959 the yard wrapped 9,028,611 feet of pipe for use in gas transmission lines.

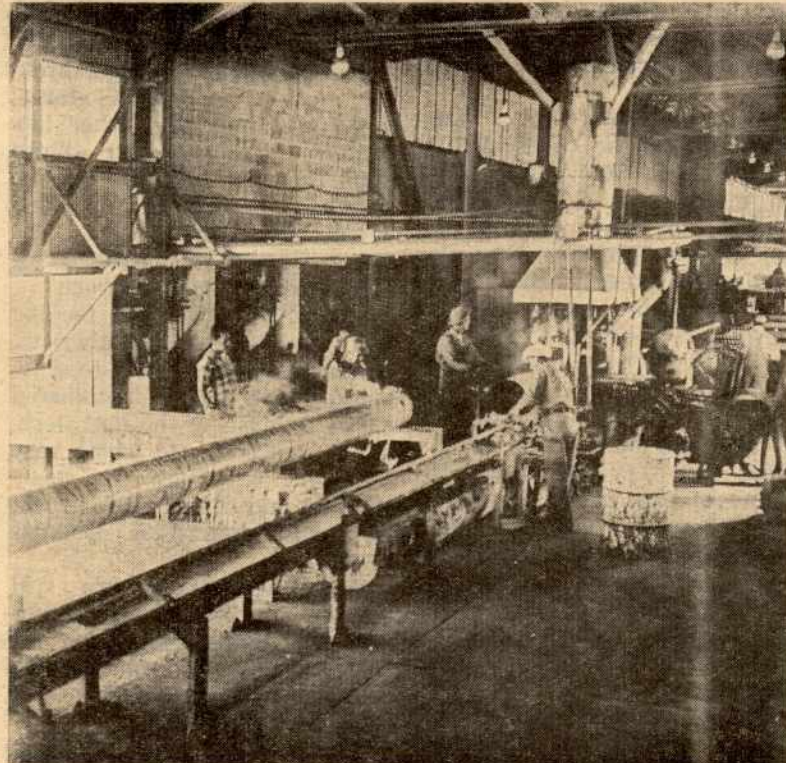
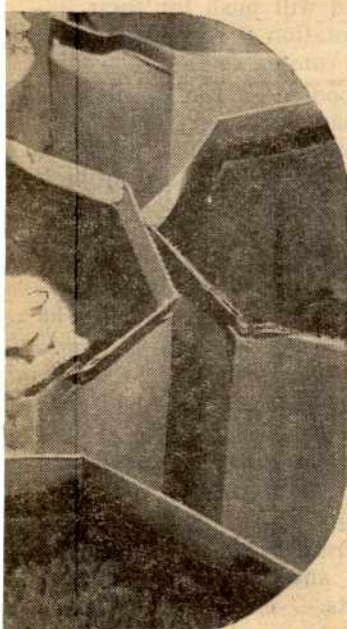
# Photo Pipeyard



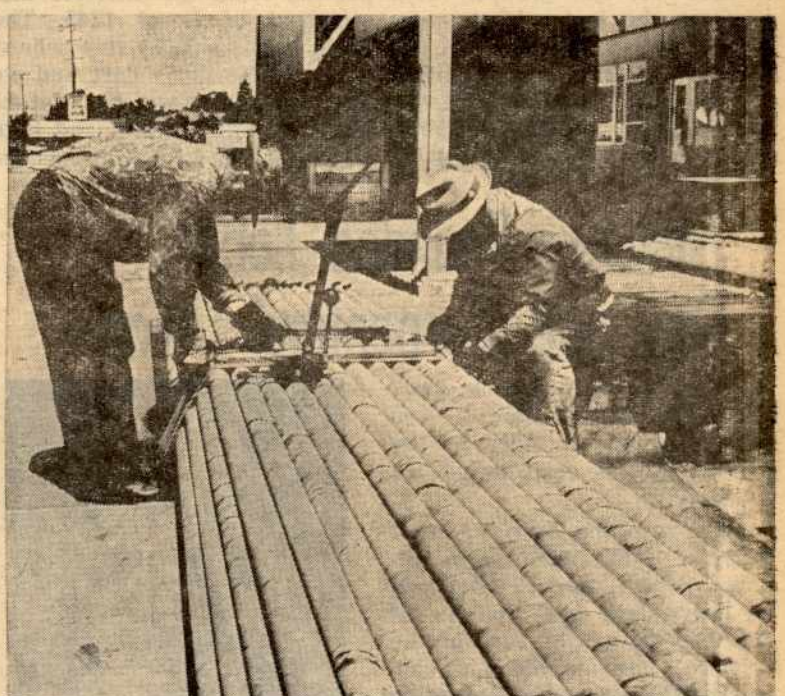
7. Jack Perrin's machine is wrapping three inch pipe in this picture.



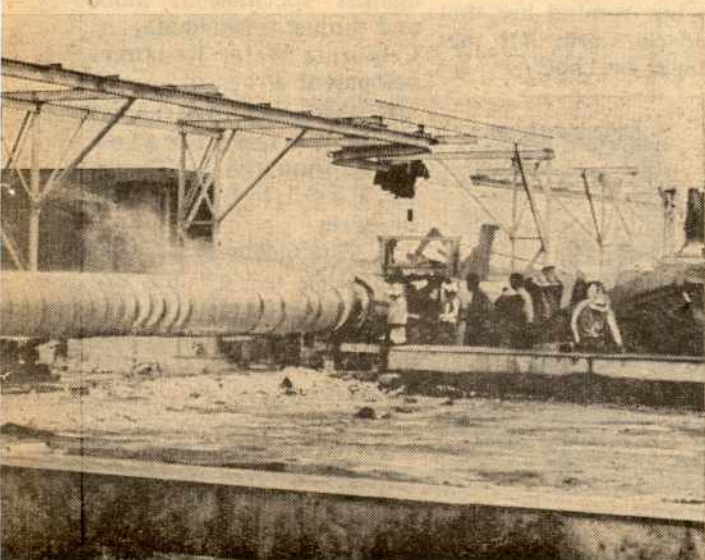
8. Tallymen Larry Accornero and Robert Vasilovich keep records on pipe down to inches.



6. A finished piece of pipe rolls off the machine and out to the yard for storage. A final coat of whitewash cools and sets the tar.

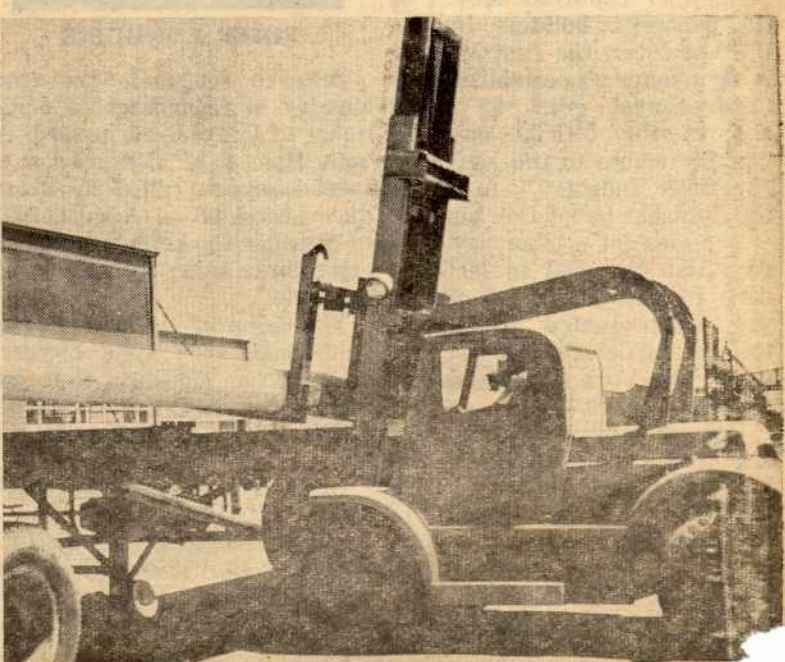


9. Putting straps on a bundle of finished pipe are Larry Accornero and Raymond Kmetz.



can wrap pipe up to forty inches in diameter.

- A total work force of thirty nine people can wrap a million feet of pipe a month.
- In the inventory is pipe of every size, finished and ready for shipment.
- Cost of the thirty five acre installation including grounds, building and equipment was approximately \$1,500,000.
- "Tar" used in the plant is actually called enamel—an asphalt protective coating.



10. Fork Lift Operator Joseph Sloan has the ticklish loading finished pipe for shipment to the construction job

## Radiation Round-Up—

# MATTER and THE ATOM

## Some Nuclear ABC's

By SAM L. CASALINA

During the fourth century B.C. a Greek philosopher by the name of Democritus theorized that everything around us was made up of small bundles of matter which he called atomas (atoms). This was not a new concept because many men before him had thought that things were made up of smaller building blocks.

Let's take a look at some of these building blocks into which all things in the universe may be subdivided.

The first subdivision of matter is the molecule. There are several hundred thousand different kinds of molecules found in nature, plus a half-million artificially created, or synthetic molecules. We're all familiar with examples of synthetic man-made molecules. These include rayon, nylon, neoprene, etc. A simple example of a natural occurring molecule is water. Although itself made up of still smaller building blocks, two elements, hydrogen and oxygen, these two form bond, and together exist as a liquid, water.

The name that we give a molecule is arbitrary:

2 hydrogen atoms + 1 oxygen = 1 "water" molecule

just as  
2 gin + 1 vermouth = 1 "martini" (onion instead of olive not withstanding).

If we were to sum up the molecule in a definition we could say that a molecule is the smallest subdivision of matter which still keeps its characteristics because of the kind of atoms found clinging together in its structure.

### THE ELEMENTS

The ancients believed that everything on earth was composed of four elements, Earth, Fire, Sky, and Water. To date we have discovered 102 elements, none of which fit the above quadrelemental description.

We have noted that a water molecule can be subdivided into elements. This can be done in many ways. If an electric current is passed through water using gold or platinum electrodes, the water is used up and two gasses are formed. At the negative electrode the gas which is produced is very light, and soap bubbles filled with this gas will rise like balloons. It also will burn in air with a faint, but very hot flame. The name of this gas is hydrogen. The other gas which is produced is heavier than air, and will not burn in air. However it will support combustion, and a match for example, will burn faster and brighter in this gas which is oxygen.

Some elements then are gasses, others are solids and liquids at ordinary temperatures, and pressures. By changing the temperature and pressure any element can be made to exist in the other two states. Examples of elements are astatine, cobalt, gold, iron, krypton, phosphorus, radium, strontium, thorium and uranium. The above examples are only a few of the 102 elements, and in their radioactive state are used extensively in industry and medicine.

Perhaps the ancients were prophetic, for in the event of a nuclear war there might only remain: Earth, Fire, Sky, and Water.

### THE ATOM

The smallest portion of an element or molecule which can enter into chemical combinations is the atom.

The atom consists of a central core or nucleus, and the electrons which whirl around it. The word nucleus gives rise to terms such as "nuclear physics" the

study of atomic phenomena; "nuclides" a fancy name for radioactive materials, and other expressions.

Some of the younger doctors who are making a specialty of diagnosing and treating ailments using radiation are hanging out their shingle on which appear the words "Nuclear Medicine."

The symbol of the atom such as appears on the heading of this column and elsewhere, is a stylized picture of what the atom really looks like. Of course no one has ever seen an atom because they are so cotton-pickin' small. At this point in any discussion about the size of atom, the expert tells you that you can get one hundred million atoms on the head of a pin and other pearls such as the exact number of trillions of atoms found in a pizza-pie. Suffice to say that an individual atom cannot be seen by any tool now at our disposal and that it is only when enough of them are herded together that we know what the substance really is. In our discussion of the radio active atom we will see that we know what an atom is by what it does.

### ATOMIC ODDITIES

#### Is Radiation for the Birds?

According to a United Press report, the birds inhabiting a radioactive waste dump outside of the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee are "decidedly radioactive". The active waste dump was formerly a lake which was drained in 1955 to facilitate its use for all sorts of contaminated garbage (broken glassware, rubber gloves, clothings, tools, and other laboratory paraphernalia). Since 1955 the lake bed has become overgrown with shrubs and brush. The former shores also have vegetation including "trees, alder, and pokeweed".

The birds have been feeding on poke berries, blackberries, beetles and other "hot" food including bits of contaminated earth. Analysis of the bird flesh, bones, feathers, etc. show very high concentrations of strontium 90 and cesium 137, two of the most hazardous isotopes known.

Apparently there are still members of the atomic fraternity who throw away their active waste with the same casualness with which they dispose of their cigarette butts.

But even this atomic cloud has its silver lining. Consider the fur-bearing animals which are predators of these birds, such as the foxes. The next time your wife eyes that fox stole with the high price tag, remind her that furs should be warm but that this one might be "hot".



"Your mother is starting the car out in the garage. I closed the door so she wouldn't get cold."

NATIONAL SAFETY COUNCIL



SAM L. CASALINA

## Delegates Carry 9 Resolutions to Cal. Fed. Convention

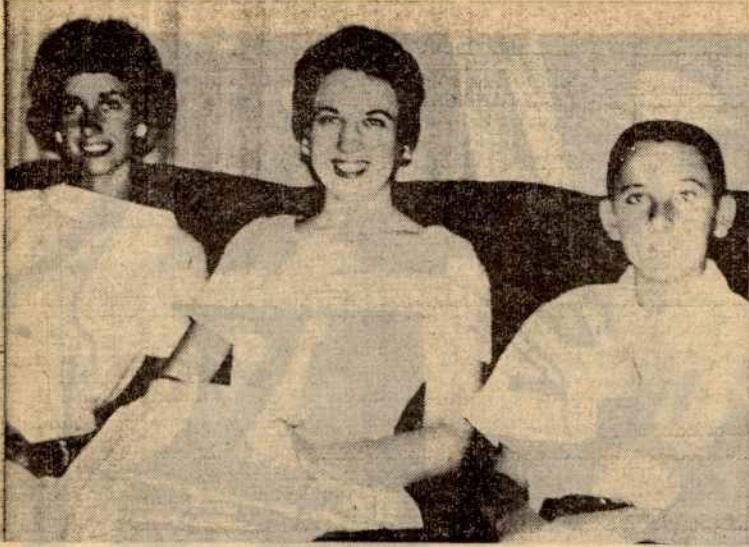
Nine Resolutions to the California Labor Federation Convention, August 15-19 in Sacramento were approved by the Executive Board for submission by the delegates from Local 1245. They covered the fields of Collective Bargaining for Public Employees, State Water Bond Issue, 160 Acre Limitation, Nuclear Radiation Hazards, Organizing of Agricultural Workers, and Protection for Consumers...

The acceptance and approval of these Resolutions by the California Labor Federation Convention would mean that the Federation adopts them as policy and will push for their implementation in the Legislature at the coming session.

Embodied in the Resolutions are many policies which Local 1245 members have proposed through their Units and through Advisory Council and Executive Board action. Some of the policies would affect only I.B.E.W. members but the bulk of them will benefit all working people.

The Resolutions call for these points among others:

1. Protection and establishment by law of the right of public employees to organize and bargain collectively.
2. Payment of "prevailing wage rates" in construction of State and local government projects.
3. Laws to protect consumers from exorbitant credit charges.
4. Strengthening laws on weights and measures of packaged goods.
5. Protection of the taxpayer against speculation, monopoly and unjust enrichment in the California Water Resources Development Program.
6. Protection for the taxpayers in the sale of water and power from the California Water Resources Development Program.
7. Establishment of adequate protection by law for workers exposed to radiation dangers and the training of inspectors to enforce these protective measures properly.



Also very proud of their sister are Marilyn's brother, David, and sister, Sharon, shown in this picture taken at their home in Sanger. Marilyn is on the left.



Cecil and Hattie Davis, proud parents of Scholarship winner Marilyn Davis. Cecil is a former Vice-President of Local 1245.

## Marilyn Davis Wins Scholarship

(Continued from Page 1)

Sanger and is an active participant in the Fresno Unit.

Extra-curricular activities of Marilyn during high school days included class office, swimming, band, choir, and membership in several service groups. This summer she is teaching swimming and is a lifeguard at the local pool. She is a qualified water safety instructor and was on the high school swimming team for two years. She has ta-

ken several first and second prizes in school meets and her best event is the 200-yard breast stroke.

Congratulations are extended to Marilyn and her justly proud parents from the Officers and members of Local 1245. The Local is honored by this achievement on Marilyn's part and we shall be following her future progress with interest and high hopes for her continued success.

## McGuire Founded Labor Day and Carpenters' Union

When you take off from work for Labor Day on Sept. 7, you can thank the founder of the world's largest craft union for the holiday.

To New York born Peter J. McGuire (1852-1906), who organized the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America before the turn of the century, goes credit for conceiving the idea of setting aside one day of the year to honor the workman.

In other countries May 1 is the laborer's holiday. In the U.S., however, the first Monday in September was established by Congressional edict 65 years ago as the official day for "public tribute to the genius of American Industry," to quote the father of Labor Day himself. The idea for a labor day holiday first occurred to McGuire early in 1882. On May 8 of that year he presented his suggestion to the Central Labor Council of New York City and it was adopted at once.

Five months later, the first Labor Day celebration in the U.S. took place in New York City on the first Monday in September. The following year, many municipal councils followed suit by making the day a holiday. It wasn't until 1887, however, that the states themselves proclaimed it a legal holiday.



PETER J. MCGUIRE

Bills to set aside the first Monday in September as a national holiday were passed in both Houses of Congress at a special session called by President Cleveland in August 1893 to consider the serious financial crisis threatening the country at the time.

The bill was signed into law on June 28, 1894. Thus, 12 years after Peter McGuire first advanced the idea, Labor Day became a fixed institution in the land.

In writing of Labor Day back in 1897, McGuire said the event is "dedicated to Peace, Civilization and the Triumphs of Industry. It is a demonstration of fraternity and the harbinger of a better age—a more chivalrous time, when labor shall be honored and well rewarded."

# 25th Anniversary of Social Security

## The World's Finest Investment in Humanity

August 14 is the 25th anniversary of the Social Security Program.

All Americans should reflect soberly on the tremendous significance of this law, what it has meant to millions, and how important it is to improve and expand this law and to enact others similar to it—for the health, security, and well-being of our people.

From its original concept as a simple retirement system it has matured to the point where it provides the major source of income to more than 14 million people.

These people have no regular, substantial wage, salary or business income. They are the retired men and women who built this nation. They are the young and aged widows, the orphan of half orphan children, the dependent parents and husbands. They are the disabled workers and their families. These 14 million people received more than 10 billion dollars in benefits last year. They now receive almost 1 billion dollars each month.

This program has made it possible to close up the poor houses and poor farms.

This program has made it possible for families to maintain family life in their own homes.

Let us not lose track of the past, for this security was not always available.

From a very modest beginning 25 years ago—labor and labor's friends have bitterly fought for and gained improvements.

Had it not been for labor's strong voice, hard work, and courage this program could easily have stood still or vanished from the scene.

To labor must go the lion's share of the credit for this humanitarian program. Without it the pension loads would have multiplied at least three fold. The poor houses and poor farms would be bursting at the seams. The orphanage would likewise be crammed full. Thousands of family units would be broken up. Millions of people would be directly dependent on public institutions and relatives.

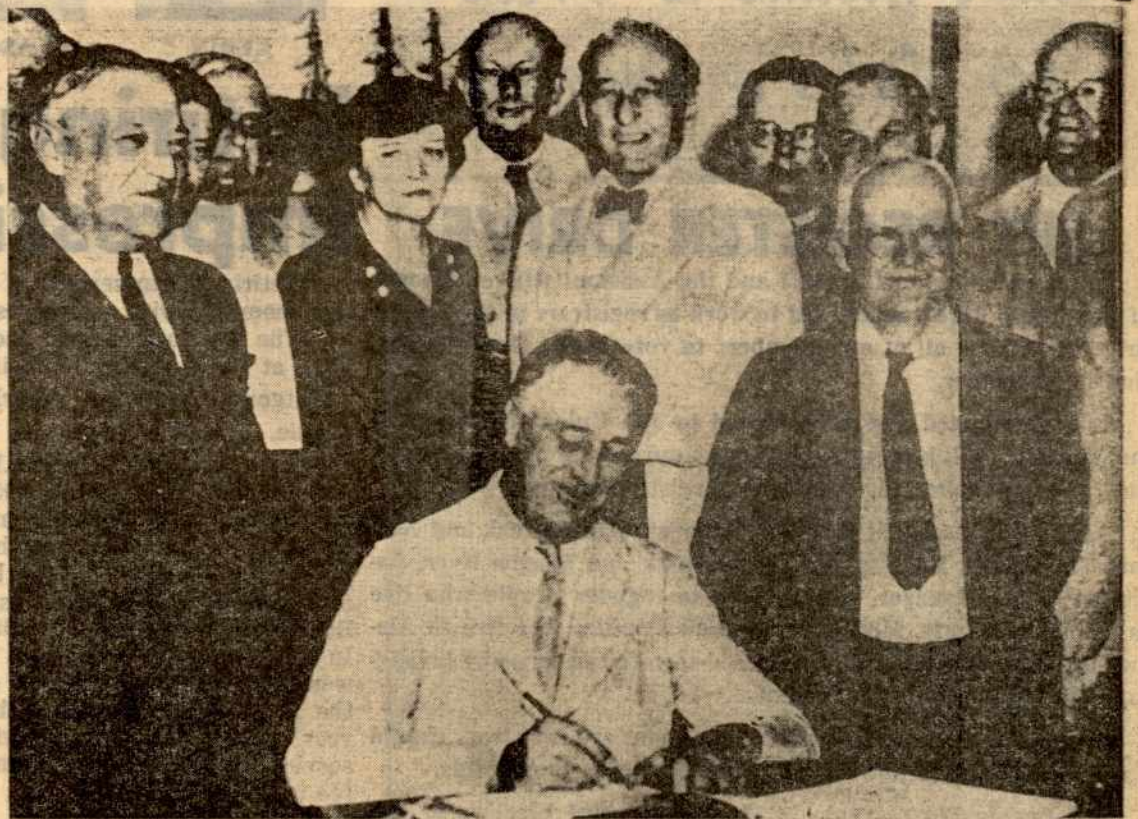
Organized labor should be grateful for social security—it has served them well.

The entire nation should pay tribute to social security and to labor for the part labor has played in creating what we now have.

Future improvements in social security could well reflect what organized labor thinks is needed. Labor's work has just begun. Without our backing needed improvements will be a long time in coming—maybe never in our lifetime.

Strong, vocal, united efforts on the part of the workingman are as badly needed now as they were in 1950 when Social Security was faltering.

To the civil servants who administer the social security program labor pays its tribute. Fairness and efficiency have been their guiding principles.



Pictured at historic signing of Social Security Act 25 years ago with President Franklin D. Roosevelt are Congressman Robert Doughton, Chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee; Congressman Dingle; Representative David Lewis, Representative S. B. Hill, Senator Robert Wagner, Senator William H. King, Senator Pat Harrison, Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, and Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins.

(That Much in 1 year for Guns!)

### Soc'l Security: \$53 Billion in 25 Years,

In the last 25 years \$53 billion dollars have been paid out to retired people and their families and to the widows, children, dependent parents and other survivors and to the disabled and their families.

More than 21 million people have benefits—over 14 million are currently receiving cash each month.

7 million people have received the full benefits of this law and are no longer in need of this income protection because their situations have changed. These 7 million people are the children who are now working, the young mothers who have raised their children and have gone to work or remarried, retired workers who have gone back to work, the disabled who have been rehabilitated, and the elderly people whose span of life is ended.

For these 7 million people Social Security has accomplished its mission.

Millions more will receive their benefits when they are needed and millions more will leave the payment rolls when the needs no longer exist.

Included in the 14 million people presently benefiting are:

- 7,752,000 retired people
- 366,000 disabled workers
- 2,266,000 wives and dependent husbands
- 1,458,000 widows
- 1,889,000 children
- 382,000 young mothers
- 35,000 parents.

This is the job Social Security is now doing.

Don't Forget—Write Your U.S. Senator to Support Forand Bill!

"Don't Forget to Register."

"You can't vote if you're not registered."



**EIGHT-MILLIONTH:** Mr. and Mrs. Carl C. Krankel, of Louisville, Kentucky, received their first checks on February 1, 1956. Mr. Krankel, the eight-millionth beneficiary, received \$103.50 a month, and Mrs. Krankel received \$51.80.



**FIRST BENEFICIARY:** Miss Ida Fuller, of Ludlow, Vermont, received social security check number 00-000-001 on January 31, 1940. This check, the first to be issued for old-age insurance benefits under the social security law, was for \$22.54. She is still alive and now receives \$51.50 each month.



Mrs. Dolores Plaa became the five millionth person to receive monthly payments under the Social Security law when her husband, James P. Plaa, a telephone line foreman, died in 1956. Her two children, Larry James, now eight, and Michele Marie, now age five, have joined 1,831,000 other youngsters who are receiving monthly Social Security payments.

### Here's A Bargain—Book On Care of Hand Tools

Looking for a bargain in books? There's one available from the Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington 25, D. C. for forty cents that can't be beat for our money, (we sent the 40 cents).

It's a Technical Manual, TM 9-867, titled "Maintenance and Care of Hand Tools" prepared by the War Department in 1945. The booklet contains 116 pages and is extremely well illustrated showing the proper and improper methods for using and taking care of a great variety of hand tools. In fact just about every implement in use in the average home handy man's kit is described in this publication. While you're at it you might ask for information in any field you might be interested in. This is a little known but very valuable government service established many years ago which has quietly furnished valuable information to millions of Americans. on July 1, 1946.

*The Vote You Fail to Cast Means 2 Votes For Labor's Enemies*

**SET REGISTER DRIVE**

Three members of the Staff and the Assistant Office Manager of Local 1245 have volunteered to work as registrars in the Local's drive to register all of our members to vote in the General Election in November.

It is anticipated and being urged by the Union that many of our members will be registering voters during the period between now and September 15, 1960, when registration ends.

Al Hansen, Assistant Business Manager; Dan McPeak and Norman Amundson, Business Representatives; and Martha Kerr, Assistant Office Manager, will be able to register people who live in Alameda County. Members and their families who live in Alameda County and have not registered to vote can do so by arranging with the Union office, TWinoaks 3-2141.

Any members who wish to become voluntary registrars should contact the office of the County Clerk in which they reside.

If a person did not vote in the last General Election or has moved since the last time he voted, he must register again to be eligible to vote in November. The deadline again is September 15.



KERIN GLASGOW SHAW MASSIE BASINGER

**Retiring Officers Thanked, Impressive Service Record**

Retiring from service as Officers and Executive Board members of Local 1245 in July were five members with an impressive record of service to the Local. The Advisory Council and Executive Board voted to extend thanks to them for a job well done at the Advisory Council meeting of August 6 and 7.

Outgoing President Charles Massie, presently employed as a Heavy Foreman for S.M.U.D., was elected President in 1958. He served as a Steward and Grievance Committee member in the San Joaquin Division before coming on the Staff as a Business Representative in 1953. In 1955 Massie returned to work for SMUD and served on the Negotiating Committee that year and in 1957, along with service on the Policy Committee in 1957.

Thomas F. "Bud" Kerin ended service as Treasurer of the Local which began in 1955. A Lineman for the City of Oakland, "Bud" has been a member of the IBEW since 1938.

Executive Board Member for General Construction Department Everett T. Basinger, was elected to the Executive Board in 1956. In 1951 he was appointed to the System Negotiating Committee and served on that group until 1955. In 1954 and 1955 he was also a member of the Policy Committee. Other activities have included service on the G. C. Expenses Negotiating Committee and the General Construction Shop Stewards Meetings.

Retiring as Recording Secretary is M. Scott Shaw who is working presently as an adjuster in the Monterey Office of P.G.&E. He was first elected to the Executive Board in 1956. That same year he served as a member of the Systems Negotiating Committee.

Walter R. Glasgow, Executive Board Member for the Northern Area, was elected to the Executive Board the first time in 1952. He completed that term and then two years later in 1956, ran again and was elected to the Board. He also has seen service on the System Negotiating Committee. A Troublemaker at Placerville, he has been a member of the IBEW since 1942.

The period of time during which these people have been active in the Local and furnishing leadership was a diffi-

cult one. It saw Local 1245 expand to represent all the employees of P.G.&E. Problem followed problem as the needs of a new and much larger organization developed. The democratic structure and responsible attitude of the organization dedicated to serving its members which they helped to create is a tribute to their efforts.



Conferring on educational problems are L. L. Mitchell, Assistant Business Manager, George T. Guernsey, Assistant Director of Education for the AFL-CIO, and Business Manager Ron Weakley. Mr. Guernsey was a recent visitor to Local 1245.

**1245's EDUCATION PROGRAM GETS EYE OF AFL-CIO**

George T. Guernsey, Assistant Director of Education for the AFL-CIO, visited Local 1245's offices on Tuesday, July 26, spending the day in conferences with Business Manager R. T. Weakley and Assistant Business Manager L. L. Mitchell. His primary in-

terest was the educational program of the Local which he wants to write up in the AFL-CIO "Education News and Views".

His visit was also a follow up on a contact which he established with Mitchell and Executive Board Member Robert Staab at an educational conference held in Vancouver, Washington two years ago. Mr. Guernsey has kept up with the Local's activities through the "Utility Reporter" since that time.

Mr. Guernsey is in California to work with the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee on a film they are producing about the organizing drive among farm workers in this state. "We are also trying to give them some assistance with their educational program," he stated.

In commenting on the Educational role of Unions, Mr. Guernsey pointed out that, "The kinds of problems we face in labor require an expansion of our Educational efforts for the full-time Union Representative and for the member on the job."

"In the future Unions must give decisive leadership on Social, Political, and International Problems. The study and understanding which this requires is much more difficult than collective bargaining."

He visualized an educational program with much broader scope and depth than is now be-

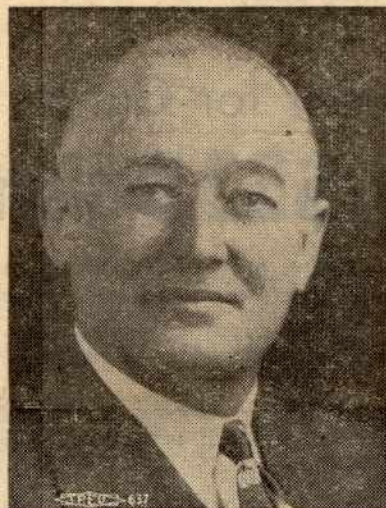


Jack Wilson, Business Representative from Bakersfield, arriving at the San Francisco Airport early Friday, August 5th. Jack took this opportunity to work in the office for one day, doing research and getting material for grievances and other problems that he has to contend with. He returned Sunday evening with Advisory Council Member Bobby Robinson who had driven up Saturday morning, August 6th, to attend the weekend meeting. (See article on the front page).

**Chas. Foehn Appointed 9th Dist. V.P.**

Charles J. Foehn has been appointed Vice President for the Ninth District of the I.B.E.W. by International President Gordon M. Freeman.

Brother Foehn, presently Business Manager of Local 6, I.B.E.W., in San Francisco, will fill the vacancy created by the recent death of Oscar Harbak. The Ninth District includes California, Nevada, Oregon, Washington, Alaska and Hawaii.



CHARLES J. FOEHN

"I am honored and my Local is honored by this appointment," stated Brother Foehn. "In my new position, I shall continue to advocate that Local Unions set up educational programs to meet the many changes which are occurring in the electrical industry."

Educational programs are nothing new to Brother Foehn who has served for ten years on the San Francisco School Board. Other civic duties include five years on the San Francisco Housing Authority, the 1945 Grand Jury, and a term as President of the San Francisco Grand Jurors Association.

Offices in the I.B.E.W. which Brother Foehn has held, in ad-

dition to being Business Manager of Local 6, since July 1937, are International Executive Council member for the Seventh District since 1942, past President of the State Association of Electrical Workers, and a member of the Apprenticeship Training Committee.

A native son of San Francisco, Brother Foehn and his wife, Prue, have two children, Mrs. Doris Hover Robert, an electrical engineer, and six grandchildren.

Local Union officers of the Ninth District who have worked with Brother Foehn and know his capabilities, are agreed that President Freeman has picked a worthy successor to Brother Harbak.

**In Memoriam**

**HERBERT FELGATE** a Light Crew Foreman in the Gas Department, North Bay Division, passed away August 13, 1960. Brother Felgate was initiated into Local 1245 on June 1, 1956.

**RODNEY M. BUXTON**, a Fire Alarm Operator for the City of Oakland, passed away on August 11, 1960. Brother Buxton was initiated into Local 1245 on January 13, 1943.

**ROBERT H. BELL**, a Communications Technician, in San Joaquin Division, passed away on July 28, 1960. Brother Bell was initiated into Local 1245

**JOB BULLETIN, CITY OF BERKELEY**

RADIO TECHNICIAN

Salary—\$350 - \$584.  
Applications must be filed by Wednesday, August 31.  
Maximum age—55.  
Must have a high school diploma.  
Must have a valid second class radio telephone operator's license.

Must have at least three years of experience in the maintenance, installation, repair and modification of radio and electronic equipment.

Must have successfully completed a training course in radio and electrical communication.

Must have a valid California Motor Vehicle Operator's license.

The written test is to be given on Saturday, September 10 and interviews will be held shortly thereafter—in about two weeks—as soon as the results of the tests are in.

Applications can be obtained by writing the Personnel Department, Room 19, City Hall, Berkeley or by calling TH 1-0200.

**Be Sure You Are Properly Registered By September 15**