PG&E Settles—Details to Follow in Extra Edition

Tentative agreement has been reached at press time. Contract language is now being worked out and the entire package will be in an Extra Edition soon for PG&E members to review prior to voting by mail.

Utility Reporter

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

Oakland, California

July, 1963

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YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

Reasons for A Mail Ballot

The tentative settlement of this year's negotiations with the Pacific Gas and Electric Company, will soon be voted on by the members covered by our PG&E Agreements.

Over the past few years, particularly last year, participation, by the membership in PG&E Contract ratification procedures has been, to say the least, an example of lack of membership responsibility on the part of a large majority of the people who are or should be vitally concerned over wages, conditions and benefits which affect themselves and their families.

Under the Bylaws of our Local Union, two methods of handling Contract ratifications have been, to say the least, an example of lack of membership responsibility on the part of a large majority of the people who are or should be vitally concerned over wages, conditions and benefits which affect themselves and their families.

U.S.B.R. Negotiations Underway

Negotiations between Local Union 1245 and the United States Bureau of Reclamation, Region 2, got underway on Tuesday, July 9, 1963, when the parties met for the purpose of exchanging proposals relating to changes in working rules, premium rates and wages. In addition to the elimination of certain wage inequities and a general wage increase for all Wage Board employees, the Union is seeking improvements in the following areas:

1. Scheduling of work hours.
2. Posting of work schedules.
3. Designated place for reporting to work.
4. Notice in assignment from one temporary work duty station to another.
5. Provisions for assigning an acting Foreman to a crew working at a location where a Foreman is not present.
7. Defining of overtime.
8. Distribution of overtime.
9. Call-back time.
10. Compensation for work on a holiday.
11. Penalty rates incidental to changes in regular work schedule or tour of duty.
12. Rest period after an extended period of overtime.
13. Establishment of new classifications or the revision of existing classifications.

Effective August 1, 1963

1. A substantial number of classification wage adjustments.
2. A general wage increase of 3.75 per cent.
3. Shift premiums increased from 8c and 15c to 10c and 15c.

Effective August 1, 1964

Company contribution to hospital and medical plans:

Employee Member only—$5 per month; Employee and one dependent—$5.30 per month; Employee and two or more dependents—$5.50 per month.

Effective January 1, 1965

1. Four (4) weeks vacation after twenty (20) years.
2. Eight (8) guaranteed holidays.

Effective July 1, 1964

A general wage increase of 3.25 per cent.

Effective August 1, 1964

Company contribution to hospital and medical plans:

Employee Member only—$5.25 per month; Employee and one dependent—$6.50 per month; Employee and two or more dependents—$6.25 per month.

Effective July 1, 1965

A general wage increase of 3.25 per cent.

Effective August 1, 1965

Company contribution to hospital and medical plans:

Employee Member only—$5.50 per month; Employee and one dependent—$8 per month; Employee and two or more dependents—$11.75 per month.

Current term of the Agreements: July 1, 1963 through June 30, 1966.
Welcome!

The following people have been welcomed into Local 1245 during the month of June, 1963:

SAN JOAQUIN
- William E. James
- Pat E. Loveloss

COAST VALLEYS
- Raymond S. Clappett
- James C. Hume
- Gail Pierce
- Richard E. Turner
- Norman E. Yednak

PIPE LINE OPERATIONS
- Drusie A. Smock

SAN JOSE
- Connell G. Allison
- Edward Smith

EAST BAY
- Walter R. Crapo
- Peter P. Denoue
- Roger E. Dunning
- Harold D. Easley
- Murray M. Johnson
- P. F. Morgan, Jr.
- James E. Payne

SAN FRANCISCO
- Raymond F. Gallagher
- Thomas M. Mullen
- Henry E. Shields
- Robert E. Smith, Jr.
- Robert E. Young

GENERAL OFFICE
- Woolley, Helen M.

SHASTA
- F. Arlin Morse

SIERRA PACIFIC
- Roy L. Calhoun
- Charles E. Horton
- Jay R. Killgore
- John C. Knight
- Mary L. Reeder
- William J. Richardson
- Michael J. Yelln

DRUM
- Ross E. Berlin

NORTHEAST BAY
- Art Faehner
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- Herbert Lee
- Essie K. Taylor

CITIZENS UTILITIES
- Mary T. Barba
- Charles E. Horton
- Albert J. Kaster
- Gary L. Larimore

SMUD Talks Start

Local 1245’s SMUD Negotiating Committee held its first meeting with representatives of the Sacramento Municipal Utility District on July 20th. Detailed discussion of Union’s proposals on health and welfare, changes in working conditions, and certain inequity adjustments. The next negotiating session is scheduled for July 24th when it is expected District management will submit a counter-proposal to Union’s. Those representing the Sacramento Municipal Utility District are: W. N. Warner, H. H. Hunt, K. F. Eggers and R. N. Connolly.

Representing Local 1245 are:

The third grade class was asked to draw pictures of what they wanted to be when they grew up. The usual collection of firemen, policemen, nurses, farmers, etc., appeared. Asked why she didn’t have a sketch one little girl said, “I want to be married, but I don’t know how to draw it.”

The Irrepressible Tide

The following Civil Rights Resolution is reprinted from the August 1958 issue of the Utility Reporter. It was written by Business Manager Weakley, approved by the Executive Board, and presented to the International Convention of the I.B.E.W. where it was overwhelmingly adopted as I.B.E.W. policy.

WHEREAS, We as a nation have declared ourselves to be dedicated to the principle that “all men are created equal;”

WHEREAS, The AFL-CIO, of which we are members, has given important leadership to this principle by advocating full civil rights and “equality before the law;”

WHEREAS, The denial of full equality to some of our citizens because of their race or religion has been a weak link in the armor of American Democracy by providing propaganda for totalitarian forces without and weakening our defense against reactionary anti-labor forces within; and

WHEREAS, We as a labor organization must provide a proper example of civil liberties within our own organization if we are to develop the support of such a program without; therefore be it

RESOLVED, That the IBEW go on record as being in support of full civil rights for all Americans and be it further

RESOLVED, That it be the enduring goal of our Brotherhood to assure to all workers their full share in the benefits of union organization without regard to race, creed, color, or national origin.

An Editorial

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What Happened to Consumer Bills in Sacramento?

The 1963 Legislature is over. Consumers fought hard for their rights against tough opposition. Gains were scored in all four areas in which Governor Brown made recommendations in his April consumer message to the Legislature—credit buying; packaging and labeling; services consumers buy; and general selling practices.

Some important bills were lost, too. Here's the score; some bills previously reported on are not included.

What Consumers Gained

Phony sales pitch. (AB 2860) Would have made money laundering a crime.

New shop stewards appointed. (AB 3455) Would have required that if a product if the price is stated. Passed Assembly; sent to Interim Senate Committee.

Canned ham. (SB 1570) Would have required information labeling on canned ham to indicate if water has been added to the product. Passed Senate; sent to Interim Assembly committee.

In Memoriam

BEVERLY C. COYNE, initiated into the I.B.E.W. on August 1, 1962, passed away on May 16, 1963. Brother Coyne was an employee of the Sacramento Municipal Utility Dist.

R. I. GILLESPIE, employed in the Colgate Division, died June 1, 1963. Brother Gillespie was a member of the I.B.E.W. on October 1, 1944.

CHESTER H. HEAD, employed in the East Bay Divi-ision, died June 8, 1963. Brother Head was initiated into the I.B.E.W. on September 18, 1949.

H. VERNON MOORE, a retired employee from Coast Lines Division, passed away on June 18, 1963. Brother Moore was initiated into the I.B.E.W. on September 1, 1920.

JOHN D. PEDROIA, a Line Superintendent from Sacramento Division, passed away on June 23, 1963. Brother Pedroia had been a member of the I.B.E.W. since March 1, 1946.

Retired Members


March 1, 1963: Earl H. Birge, Shasta Division.

June 1, 1963: Alfred J. Fregeau, Humboldt Division.

July 1, 1963: John E. Blair, Central Stores.

Max Dunlap, Drum Division; Oliver A. Newham, Humboldt Division.

T. E. Duncan, North Bay Division.

Urban J. Casey, San Joaquin Division.

C. C. Foster Durman, Shasta Division.

E. C. Humphrey, Shasta Division.

Charles N. Harrison, Stockton Division.

August 1, 1963: Warren Wyman, North Bay Division.

E. E. Lack, Shasta Division.

September 1, 1963: J. m e. h. Wattenbarger, North Bay Division.
SAFETY ROUNDPUP

ACCIDENT RATE INCREASE—STARTING TO SLOW?

The alarming disabling injury rate of 1962 shows signs of leveling-off. But the statistics are still grim. At a recent joint meeting of the Transportation-Communications-Utilities section of the Governor's Industrial Safety Conference, a review of 1962's figures reviewed by the State Division of Industrial Safety showed a combined California T.C.U. accident rate increase of 4.5%. Employment for the same period rose only 2.9.

The California Utilities accident rate for 1962 was 40.6 disabling injuries per thousand workers. Great-utilities workers had a 13.9 per thousand injury rate.

The first three months of 1960 has seen 128 gas and electric disabling injuries in California. In the same period in 1962 we had 146 injuries. Hopefully, this is a trend.

PRESIDENT CALLS IT A WINNER

A recent statement by President Kennedy expresses the concern felt by all Americans over this needless loss. Said the President: "I am deeply concerned over the individual tragedies and the concern felt by all Americans over this needless loss.

"The Nation which invests millions of dollars in training and retraining manpower, in enriching our skills to meet the demands of technological progress, cannot afford to waste the investment through preventable work injuries."

FIRST BASE

The defense effort in reducing the number of accidents is for responsible labor, company and government leaders to surmount. A number of the problems involved are:

- "This AWARENESS MUST THEN BE CONVEYED TO THE MAN ON THE JOB. Through safety discussions at unit meetings, written articles, safety seminars, and a pursuit of available literature on utility safety, this unit is attempting to bring this awareness to the people. I believe that through the efforts of Unions and management, we have made safely first base.

- Local 1434's program has been an intensive effort directed at all levels of the safety problem.

These include:

- The public agencies which set safety standards and determine compliance.
- The employers who write job safety rules and who demand that they be UNIFORMLY observed throughout the systems.
- And finally, and most importantly, THE MAN ON THE JOB. Creating an attitude of safe work practice in the job is the job of the union, and the State safety engineers.

Obviously, to stem the accident rate increase and gain a reduction in long-term program. As every ball fan knows, it's a long way from first to home plate. But at least we're on

MUNICIPALITIES ROUNDPUP

In recent weeks, Local Union 1245 has been actively engaged in presentations on behalf of its membership employed by the municipal utilities. Many of these employees have recently acted to increase salaries and improve related benefits, while others are currently in the process of making determination, according to Assistant Business Manager Walters, who has headed up Local Union 1245's efforts.

ALAMEDA BUREAU OF ELECTRICITY

Meeting between Local Union 1434's negotiating committee and representatives of the Bureau was convened on Tuesday, July 23rd, to discuss the Union's proposal which were submitted to the Bureau on July 9th. The Union's committee, composed of Robert Cole, G. G. Rochechou and Clarence Vargas along with Plant Business Manager Walters, is seeking improvements in the following areas: salary increases, time and overtime payments, and miscellaneous improvements in connection with prearranged overtime work, group life insurance, payroll deduction of Union dues, and wages.

CITY OF OAKLAND

Effective April 1, 1962, salaries for Electric Department employees represented by Local Union 1245 were increased from 3% to 7.5% at the result of the City Council's action June 27th. Line Foremen, Chief Fire Alarm Operators and Radio Teletypists received 7.5% increases; Linemen, Fire Alarm Operators and Cable splicers received 5%; Instrument Makers and the Instrument Fireman received 2%. The 2% increase for Instrument Makers resulted from a decision by the Board of Adjustments on an appeal presented by Assistant Business Manager Walters over the City Manager's recommendation that no increase be granted to employees in this classification. Walters reported that other recommendations with which the Union disagreed were amicably adjusted by the City Manager's office following consultations with the Union.

The Outdoor Scene

BY FRED GOETZ

In 15 years of pounding the outdoor beat, I've had quite a few tales to tell across my desk from youngsters. Some are puzzling, some enigmatic, and some humorous. Here's a few unedited excerpts:

...I would like to have some information about wild life. I want to know when it started, and who started it.

...Please send information about birds and fish. I need it for a wildife study in school. Send it first class.

...Would you please, tell me what to do. My cat got in a fight with a skunk and my mother won't let me bring him into the house. I have washed him with soap and water and tomato juice. Please help me so I can have my cat back in the house.

(The young lady and her cat were shortly reunited, following the solution to bathe the kitty in warm water and rice water, after half and half.)

...Please send me some information, in fact all you've got on fighting in an awful tight spot in school. P.S. If it hadn't been for you, you're throwing this letter around, it's your fault. (Unfortunately this youngster may have failed the science tests as no name or return address was included with the letter.)

Recent note from long time correspondent and reporter on Saltwater fishing. Sabo Fujishik of Honolulu, tells of an exciting catch by his friend and fishing buddy, "Steve" Shiek. Takamoto of Ewa. Shiek caught his monstro of a fisher if there ever was one, a 233-pound sea bass, casting from the beach. This, as far as our records go, is the largest fish ever caught by this fisherman with both feet planted on terra firma.

"Here's a photo of Takamoto with the bunker to lunx two tankers that took him an hour to beach. The big problem arose after it was beached but fortunately there were three friends nearby who helped to help Shiek load it in his jeep.

Sabo says Shiek had to swim about 200 feet offshore, out to the reef, to set his baited hook.

The giant sea bass measured six feet, two inches from tip to tail. Never in his wildest piscatorial dreams did he hope to catch one this big. It was hooked in 15 feet of water, an unusually shallow depth to find these demims of the deep.

He used a 60-pound test line on a 6/0 reel with a No. 50 curled hook. But was a black eel, weighing about two pounds.

Oh yes, the "good one" was engaged in waters off the leeward coast of Oahu, January 19, 1963.

A word of solace to the good wife of a hunter: "Do not be troubled, alarmed or suspcious if he yells out in his sleep for "BetsY' any time a woman, she's a gun."

It's a fact that most flies are designed to imitate streamside counterparts. Not so the Roy Coachman, the most popular fly in America—it imitates no living insect. According to a reputable survey, here's the nation's top fishing flies: Royal Coachman Grey Hackle Black Gnat Brown Hackle Peacock Mcinty.

The great Isaac Walton had a host of warm, friendly fishing companions. One of his most noteworthy was Henry Walcott who had this to say about the gentle art:

'...Fishing is a rest to the mind; a cheer to the spirits; a divider of address; a calmer of unequited thoughts; a moderator of passions, a procurer of contentedness.'

That I would say sums up the entire fishing problem, anyone wants to know why you want to go fishing, you have an answer for them.

Members of the IEWA, Local 1245, in good standing, can earn a pair of the illustrated fishing lures by sending in a snapshot of a fishing or hunting scene—and a few words as to what the photo is all about. Members of the family and retired members are also eligible. Send it to Fred Goetz, Dept. URKR, Box 6684, Portland, Oregon.

A boot being towed on a trailer had this name, "Instant Fun," and underneath these words "Just add water."