

# San Jose Units aid flood victims, give over \$700

By LELAND THOMAS JR.

My story is one that has taken place time and time again, and will only stop when people stop caring.

Bob Rausch, Senior Line Driver, put this question to this writer: "Lee, what is the Union going to do to help our

fellow members and their families in the flood-stricken Humboldt area?" This writer's answer was, "Well, Bob, you and I are the union. What are we going to do?"

With that, Bob made the first contribution, a move that generously opened the hearts of Union members and their families and friends in the San Jose and Cupertino headquarters, as well as Clerical headquarters in Redwood City and San Mateo.

Below is a list of contributors who wanted to help make circumstances a little more bearable for the members and their families in the stricken area:

## CUPERTINO HEADQUARTERS

W. P. Hope	Harold Gornall
Frank Heiden	Frank Perzinski
Jean Hiam	Edward Walton
William Dye	Rodney Wehmeier
Ray Johanson	Robert Smethurst
Corwin Spears	Thomas Maze
Earl Purcell	William Becker
Henry Schallich	Al Meyers

(Continued on Page 6)



The force of the December floods in Northern California is shown by the wash-out of the South Rio Dell Bridge on the Redwood Highway in Humboldt County (background). In the foreground, Fitter Salvatore Mylie trenches through the pavement to restore gas service to residents of the flood-stricken Eel River area.

## YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

By Ronald T. Weakley

As 1965 gets underway, we are engaged in a number of programs designed to handle some situations which affect a lot of our members.

Contract negotiations are in progress at Citizens Utilities, Utility Tree Service, Petrolane Gas and with the National Electrical Contractors Association on the EHV intertie projects which will be partly constructed within our jurisdiction.

At Sierra Pacific Power, we shall soon enter formal negotiations on a wage and pension re-opening clause.

At Pacific Gas and Electric, we are involved in working out some important Contract interpretations, clarification of the Clerical Grade Index System, Overhead-Underground problems resulting from new types of

(Continued on Page 2)



# utility reporter

Official Publication of I.B.E.W. Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO 1918 Grove St., Oakland 12, Calif.  
VOL. XII — No. 9 OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA JANUARY, 1965

## High School Seniors!

# Apply for a Cal Fed Scholarship

## New Davey, Nolan & Sohner Agreements



Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley (third from the left in the second row) and his colleagues on the Advisory Council on Atomic Energy Development and Radiation Protection meet with Governor Brown (seated in the center) to review the Council's agenda. The members of the Council are, left to right, front row: Dr. Joseph Kaplan, UCLA Physics Department; Richard M. Pittenger (Council Chairman), Vice-President of Farmers Insurance Group; Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown; Dr. Chauncey Starr, President, Atomic International Division of North American Aviation, Inc.; and Gene A. Blanc (Council Secretary), Coordinator of Atomic Energy Development and Radiation Protection.

In the second row: Simon Kinsman, Administrative Assistant, Office of Atomic Energy Development and Radiation Protection; Dr. Robert L. Scanlan, Department of Radiology, St. Vincent's Hospital, Los Angeles; Business Manager Weakley; Dr. Hugo M. Kulstad, D.D.S. in pedodontics, Bakersfield; Noel E. Porter, Vice-President, Hewlett-Packard Company, Palo Alto; Dr. Ralph Richardson, Los Angeles City Board of Education; and William J. Phillips, Chairman of the Orange County Board of Supervisors. Not shown in the photo is Paul Couture, of Couture Farms in Huron, Calif.

If your boy or girl is a high school senior this year and plans to go on to college in the fall, he or she is probably eligible to compete for a \$500 scholarship from the California Labor Federation.

Applicants can be seniors from any public, private or parochial school. They can attend any college or university in the United States accredited by the Western Association of Colleges. They can be any color or creed. They can study any academic field they wish.

The award of the nine \$500 scholarships available will be made on the basis of the student's four-year high school academic record and a special two-hour examination.

This special examination can be taken in the student's high school on Friday, April 23rd, 1965. The examination will cover the student's knowledge and understanding of labor and industrial problems, and will evaluate his ability to present information on these problems.

You should contact your child's high school principal who will send the completed application forms into the California Labor Federation not later than March 22nd so the Federation can mail out

(Continued on Page 7)

Local 1245 members working for Davey Tree Surgery Company Ltd. ratified December 21st a new agreement which calls for:

- 3¼% general wage increases in both 1965 and 1966.
- 3 weeks' vacation after 15 years of service.
- Company payment of \$2.10 per month for each employee's hospitalization and medical coverage.
- 7½% commission when private work is arranged by the employee.

Other gains included improvements in the leave of absence and demotion sections of the contract.

Davey members ratified the new contract by a vote of 63 to 43.

L. E. Heineman, B. J. Smallwood and L. Dunlap served on Union's Negotiating Committee with Business Representative Frank Quadros, Union's spokesman in charge of Tree Trimming negotiations.

### SOHNER SIGNS

A new contract with Sohner Tree Service, Inc. has been ratified by members working for Sohner. The improved pact includes:

- 3½% wage increases in both 1965 and 1966.

(Continued on Page 6)



(Continued from Page 1)

service installations and a number of other matters of concern on the PG&E system.

Some of the political subdivisions which employ our members are presenting additional problems. The Nevada Irrigation District has presented us with a disciplinary case which compels us to go to court.

Our organizing program continues in high gear both within those employer groups where we are now established and in some new ones, particularly the Oroville - Wyandotte Irrigation District.

At our February joint meeting of the Advisory Council and the Executive Board, we shall review our year-end situation and set forth operational plans to meet organizational goals in 1965.

The legislative picture in Sacramento and Carson City, as well as that in Washington, will require us to exert necessary influences on behalf of our Union and its membership if we are to protect our collective bargaining gains and provide additional opportunities for general improvement.

It is my hope that some good movement toward better apprenticeship training programs will be worked out with our employers this year. Changing job requirements indicate a need for more emphasis on training programs if we are to provide the skills necessary for industrial progress.

In general, 1965 appears to offer a fairly good employment picture for our people. PG&E's "1965 Market Outlook" has this to say about the 1965 economic outlook in Northern and Central California:

- "Population gains in Northern and Central California will bolster the area's economic growth.
- Total employment is expected to increase and average personal income to reach a higher level.
- Consumer expenditures

at record volumes will result from rising personal income.

- Construction outlays for commercial buildings, industrial plants, utility projects and new homes should maintain the high rates of total construction recorded in the previous year.

- A backlog of demand exists for schools, institutions and other public facilities which will require large construction expenditures.

- Metropolitan centers are modernizing and revitalizing facilities (in line with changing customer demands) to attract and hold their segments of the market."

Our members in Nevada live and work in the Nation's fastest growing state. Things look pretty good there and in the other states which find members of Local 1245 a part of the community.

Of course, this picture would suddenly change if our economy slips out of its present high gear or if we become involved in a major shooting war somewhere in the world.

In Europe, Asia and Africa, we are involved in some situations which could become major conflicts at any time. President Johnson's quest for an honorable and lasting peace has the backing of the great majority of our citizens. There are a few with suicidal tendencies who can't seem to wait until they are consumed in an international frying pan, but so far, they do not control our foreign policy.

In Latin America, we are heavily committed to a policy of hemispheric defense against armed aggression. We are going to have to improve our relations and our image in that area because certain other forces overseas are making extensive propaganda efforts among our Latin American neighbors to depict the U.S.A. as a Nation of "imperialistic war-mongers."

At home, we have some serious social and economic problems which demand re-



By AL SOUZA

## In Memoriam

GEORGE L. CLARK, from De Sabla Division, died on January 7, 1965. Brother Clark had been a member of the I.B.E.W. since his initiation on June 1, 1952.

JAMES FERRARO, from East Bay Division, died on November 6, 1964. Brother Ferraro had been a member of the I.B.E.W. since his initiation on April 1, 1963.

JOHN F. PIKE, from Stockton Division, died on December 25, 1964. Brother Pike had been a member of the I.B.E.W. since his initiation on August 1, 1952.

FRANK T. SHIPPIE, from East Bay Division, died on January 1, 1965. Brother Shippie had been a member of the I.B.E.W. since his initiation on April 1, 1952.

medial action by the 89th Congress.

Thus, in 1965 we live in a troubled world but all of us can be thankful that we live in a land where we can speak our piece, where we can agree or disagree, and where those who govern must do so by consent of the governed.

In order to protect these precious freedoms at home, we must participate as responsible citizens in the affairs of our communities, our states and our Nation.

This also applies to those freedoms we enjoy as people organized together in a union for mutual protection and benefit.

Perhaps it would be well for all of us to resolve that in 1965, we shall make an effort to improve our citizenship role in our union by participating more actively in its affairs.

## "Why"

"Why?"

This one-syllable, three-letter word is, perhaps, the most important single word in our language. A child, or an adult, who asks "why?" gives an important clue to the way he thinks or, indeed, if he thinks at all. In all history, greatness and progress has come as a result of man's curiosity about the world in which he lives.

During National Electrical Week, many participants will inaugurate and conduct programs designed for youth. These programs are planned to encourage young people to seek for knowledge by showing the world around them to be interesting and exciting.

The electrical industry with its many facets is in an excellent position to talk, counsel, and provide youth with some of the answers it seeks. Like all industries, the electrical industry has an economic stake in America's youth, for from it will come tomorrow's industry leaders. But even more important, the electrical industry has an obligation to youth. From today's youngsters will come tomorrow's world leaders.

The teachers of the United States are among the most intellectually superior in the world. They perform with skill and dedication the difficult job of instilling knowledge in the mind's of today's young people. But the task of making education tempting and exciting is the responsibility of all adults, not the teachers' alone. Today's youngsters will be tomorrow's parents, and the great industrial complex that is the bulwark of America can collapse in a generation without the new ideas that must come from today's youth. Curiosity cannot be turned on in a classroom and turned off outside a school. Curiosity about life carries over 24 hours of every day of a youngster's life.

Edward Everett Hale said: "I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something . . ." It is with this philosophy that the electrical industry accepts its responsibility to today's youth . . . it is concerned with today's young minds.

Many National Electrical Week programs for youth may be continued throughout the year. By doing so, the electrical industry will be helping to fulfill an important obligation to succeeding generations. Selfishly, perhaps, it knows that future generations will judge it . . . it must not be found wanting.

## we get letters . . .

Jan. 18, 1965  
715 N St.  
Eureka

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers  
1918 Grove St.  
Oakland 12, Calif.

Dear Sirs:—

As we were in the recent flood and lost everything we had including our home and land, would you please change my mailing to:—

Carol Lee Ackerman  
715 "N" Street  
Eureka, Calif.

Thank you.

(Note: This letter was sent in to the Local Union Office merely as a routine change of address.—The Editor.)



# Labor, Credit Unions Fight Loan Sharks

(First of two articles on illegal & legal high-rate loans)

By **Sidney Margolius**  
Consumer Expert for  
The Utility Reporter

Labor unions and credit unions have been able to a large extent to curb loan sharks who prey on distressed workers.

But loan sharks still persist in many industrial plants and even in such combined white and blue-collar industries as some newspaper plants in big cities, according to labor and credit-union officials questioned by this writer.

The tools by which labor and credit unions have been able to cut down the loan

sharks in many former trouble spots have been:

(1) Stabilization of employment and improvement in pay so that many workers who had no place to go for a loan except illegal loan sharks or at best, high-cost legal lenders, now are able to borrow from moderate-cost sources.

(2) The availability, through the growth of credit unions, of small loans for workers caught in an emergency.

But loan sharking still persists in some industries and cities. The recent New York State investigations found highly-organized shark rings especially active in exploiting small busi-

nessmen in need of financing, but also still snaring some low-paid workers. Our own survey finds loan sharks exist not only in New York but also in other large cities, and not only among low paid workers or in unstable industries, but even in better paid occupations.

In Detroit, for example, some large plants still have loan sharks, according to observers there. One long time high rate lending organization even operates semi-openly as a so called "mutual employee fund."

Better paid workers who get caught by loan sharks despite stable employment, and sometimes even when a good credit union is available, usually are the persistent gamblers, heavy drinkers and families over-extended in debt, reports Al Horner, manager of the Michigan Credit Union League's budget service. This service counsels families in financial trouble.

The frequent tie-up be-

## Buyers' Bailiwick

tween loan sharks, professional gamblers such as bookmakers, and the organized underworld itself, has been proven by the New York investigation. The investigators found that crime syndicates have moved strongly into loan sharking. They even got wholesale loans themselves from a number of respectable big banks at low interest rates, to finance their own money lending at high rates. In several cases the loan sharks were found to control horse betting as well as loan sharks.

The same tie-up between bookmaking and illegal high rate lending also was evident in an investigation this writer made several years ago of loan sharks in newspaper plants in New York City. In one plant, the loan shark bookies' activity has been

virtually eliminated by the development of a strong union encouraged by both the publisher and the unions in the plant, authorities there report.

But in another major newspaper plant, both loan sharks and bookmaking activity still are reported. While the management has barred bookies from the plant itself, they use nearby bars and restaurants as their headquarters for lunch hour betting activity.

The management in this plant still has not given the recently organized credit union there the cooperation it needs, especially a savings checkoff, to build up its loan facilities.

The usual rate charged by loan sharks is "6 for 5", credit union officials in this plant report. For each \$5 the desperate borrower gets, he must repay \$6 at the end of the week. Nor does the loan shark press the borrower to repay the principal. He is satisfied to collect the interest each week and let the debt run on.

Horner tells about one worker the budget service sought to help get out of debt. This man, a chronic gambler, had borrowed \$500. He paid \$20 a week but found that this sum did not even cover the interest payment. His debt steadily got bigger.

For a \$25 loan from a loan shark for one month, if it is repaid by that time, a debtor would pay an additional \$20 in interest.

In contrast, a credit-union loan of \$25 for one month costs a maximum of 25 cents.

There is a surprisingly big need for emergency loans of as little as \$25 to \$50, among white-collar workers as well as craftsmen, reports Robert Conenello, treasurer of one newspaper credit union. The need occurs especially during buying seasons as Christmas and Easter, when Federal taxes are due, and for medical emergencies. Sometimes a credit union will be called on to help a worker several times during a critical period, Conenello reports. One worker had to borrow \$100 when his wife went to the hospital to have a baby, and later needed additional loans for baby equipment and other needs.

If a worker turns to a loan shark for emergency small loans, either through ignorance of the cost or because no other source is available, he may find it hard to get extricated,

**NEXT: (How legal lenders get borrowers to pay unnecessarily high rates.)**

## Consumer Counsel Reports

### Buyers' New Rights

By **HELEN NELSON**

California consumers will start the new year with some significant improvements in their rights when buying goods and services, observes Mrs. Helen Nelson, State Consumer Counsel.

#### Moving within California

One change she notes will benefit families who plan to move to another home within the state next year. The State Public Utilities Commission this month adopted new regulations regarding estimates and payments for moving charges.

Previously, Mrs. Nelson explains, when a moving company underestimated the charges and the family was caught short of cash in their new home, the furniture might not be unloaded but placed in storage instead. Now under the new PUC rules, if the actual bill exceeds the estimate by more than 10 percent, the mover must unload the furniture at the home and give the family a reasonable time to raise the additional money. In many cases this may be seven days.

#### Labels

Another change she notes will make it easier for shoppers to find out how much a package contains. The State Department of Agriculture this month announced new regulations for the labeling of packages. The new rules require the statement of quantity to appear on the main display panel of a package and the size of the lettering and numerals are specified. Though the change will not be immediately visible, shoppers can look forward to seeing some improved labels as the year rolls along, with complete conformity to the ruling required by midsummer of 1966.

In the proceedings and hearings on both the household moving and packaging regulations, Mrs. Nelson appeared as the consumer's advocate, furnishing data and testimony on the consumer's behalf.

"Certainly the family's dollars were at stake in these

cases," she says, "but also important were the family's rights as consumers."

Many of the laws and regulations made in government determine the rights of buyer and seller. The viewpoint of the buyer, the consumer, must be presented if a fair and equitable decision is to be made."

Advocating the consumer viewpoint has been Mrs. Nelson's responsibility for the past five years, since her appointment by Governor Edmund G. Brown in 1959 following the Legislature's creation of the Consumer Counsel office.

The goal of her office, says Mrs. Nelson, is to promote equity and fair play in the marketplace, with consumer and seller dealing with each other as equals, in confidence and good faith.

#### Borrower's Life Insurance

Credit life insurance is another subject she has tackled successfully on behalf of consumers. When lenders last year asked for an increase in the premium they can charge to insure the life of a borrower, Mrs. Nelson opposed the increase. Though a boost was granted, it was less than the amount requested, and the difference has already brought substantial savings to consumers.

#### TV and Auto Repairs


Repair services are becoming more important to consumers as technology brings us more complex goods, in the opinion of the Consumer Counsel. The Legislature dealt with problems of abusive practices in TV repair in the 1963 session, and Mrs. Nelson is optimistic about the current legislative study of auto repair in which her office is cooperating.

To handle TV and radio repair problems, a State Bureau of Electronic Repair Dealer Registration was established, following a lengthy study of problems and possible solutions conducted cooperatively by TV repair dealers, law enforcement officials, and the Consumer Counsel office. The Bureau has been operating about a year, with headquarters in Sacramento and an office in Los Angeles.

"The Bureau is doing the job we hoped for, driving out the repair racketeers," says Mrs. Nelson. "Ethical repair dealers feel they are just about rid of the dirty competition that made it so hard to uphold standards of honesty and competence. And consumers now have some assurance they will be dealt with fairly when they call a repairman to service their radio or TV set. If not, they can enter a complaint with the Bureau and it will be investigated."

It is Mrs. Nelson's firm conviction that what helps consumers also benefits the conscientious businessman.

"We have faith in our free competitive economy," she says, "and we have to keep the competition fair if our way of life is to survive."



**the utility reporter**


**RONALD T. WEAKLEY** . . . . . Executive Editor

**BRUCE LOCKEY** . . . . . Editor

**L. L. MITCHELL** . . . . . Assistant Editor

**M. A. WALTERS** . . . . . Assistant Editor

**D. J. McPEAK** . . . . . Assistant Editor



**Executive Board:** Leland Thomas Jr., Marvin C. Brooks, William R. Miller, Andrew A. Clayton, Albert G. Callahan, Anthony J. Boker, James M. Lydon, James H. Fountain.

Published monthly at 1918 Grove Street, Oakland, Calif. 94612 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**



# The Pacific Northwest-South

Take the largest, privately-owned gas and electric utility in the nation's largest single industry—the electric light and power industry.

Work PG&E into the largest electric transmission system ever authorized by Congress in America—the Pacific Northwest-Pacific Southwest Power Intertie.

Add, for good measure: Canadian power from one of the best examples of international cooperation in the world—the Columbia River Basin Treaty; and water pumping electrical capacity for one of the world's largest water transfer plans—the California Water Project.

Stir the imagination with construction of two 500 kv AC transmission lines, two 750 kv DC lines, one 230 kv AC line and two 345 kv AC lines within the area (see the map on these pages) from Oregon's northern border almost to California and Nevada's southern borders.

Bake with the working conditions to be found this summer in the Central Valley of California the Great Basin of Nevada, and the high plateau country of central Oregon.

Frost this concoction with crossings of the Cascades and the Sierra Nevada, and you'd better add for body (and soul) the continent's largest electrical union—the I.B.E.W., and its largest utility local—Local 1245.

Work has already begun on a line running from Butte to Shasta County through difficult foothill country. This line is designed as part of PG&E's "super system" and will be energized later at 500 kv as an integral link in the Pacific Northwest Intertie. Presently under construction by G. C. crews east of Chico, the line will be built by PG&E, as a member of the Cal-

ifornia Power Pool, to Indian Springs, in Shasta County. From there, it will be continued northward to the Oregon border by Pacific Power and Light.

This line, which is the easterly 500 kv AC line on the map, will be built by PG&E to the Bakersfield area where construction will be continued southward into the Los Angeles area by Southern California Edison, another member of the California Power Pool.

The westerly 500 kv AC line on the map will be constructed by the United States Bureau of Reclamation—which also has a signed agreement with Local 1245—from the Oregon border to Round Mountain. USBR will also construct, or have constructed, a 230 kv connection from Round Mountain to the Central Valley Project system at PG&E's Cottonwood Substation.

Pacific Gas and Electric, the major employer of Local 1245's members, will construct, or have constructed, the westerly 500 kv AC line south from Round Mountain to Midway via Table Mountain, Vaca-Dixon, and Metcalf Substations, Moss Landing Power Plant, Los Banos Sub and the proposed Nipomo Power Plant. From the Bakersfield area, Southern California Edison will again continue construction southward to the Los Angeles basin.

The complete Northwest-Southwest Intertie also involves:

- Bonneville Power Administration building more than three transmission lines from border to border in Oregon. These are the two 500 kv AC lines from John Day to Round Butte, one of which continues to the Oregon-California border where the USBR carries it to Round Mountain, and two 750 kv DC lines which run all the way from Big Eddy on the Columbia



Northeast of Chico, G.C. crews build one of the 500 kv AC lines through difficult foothill country north to Shasta County.



—Photos Courtesy of PG&E News Bureau

General Construction Members work on an earth backfill footing for one of the 500 kv towers.

River to the Oregon-Nevada border;

- Portland General Electric building the easterly 500 kv AC line from Round Butte to the Oregon-California border;

- The Los Angeles Department of Water and Power building the westerly 750 kv DC line from the Oregon-Nevada border through Nevada and into Los Angeles;

- The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation building the easterly 750 kv DC line from the Oregon-Nevada border through Nevada to Hoover Dam, with two 345 kv AC lines to be built between Hoover Dam and Phoenix by USBR and Arizona Public Service.

It is expected utility locals will retain jurisdiction over all intertie construction performed within the service areas of their members' employers.

When complete, the Pacific Northwest Intertie will connect the load centers of California with the hydro-electric generating capacity of the Columbia River.

With PG&E's electric system peak demand occurring during the summer months, it is conceivable steam generating capacity in California could be used to satisfy the

Pacific Northwest's winter needs, should their regional priority ever be endangered.

This regional power grid is only one of many being planned to tie the electrical facilities of the continent together.

Even the Pacific Northwest Intertie is difficult to define geographically. The connections from Hoover Dam to Phoenix by Arizona Public Service, a member of WEST, have already been mentioned. Also mentioned already is the sale of Canadian entitlement power to users in the United States. This power is Canada's share of the additional electricity generated downstream on the Columbia River by virtue of the storage dams to be built upstream on the Columbia River in British Columbia and on the Kootenay. Meanwhile, Grand Coulee Dam's 2 million kilowatt capacity, believed to be the largest hydro-electric power plant in the western world, is expected to be increased to 5.6 million kw by BPA, thus surpassing the 5 million kw plant in Russia, **Electrical World** reports.

Already under construction on the Peace River in northwestern British Columbia is an earth-fill dam with a generating capacity of over 2 million kilowatts. This pow-



# West Intertie Is Underway

er will be transmitted at extra high voltage 580 miles down the spine of the province to the main load center in the Vancouver and lower Mainland area. Interestingly enough, although Peace River power is intended for use in B.C., the intertie between B.C. Hydro and the Bonneville Power Administration at Blaine, Washington, is being increased to EHV capacity of 500 kv.

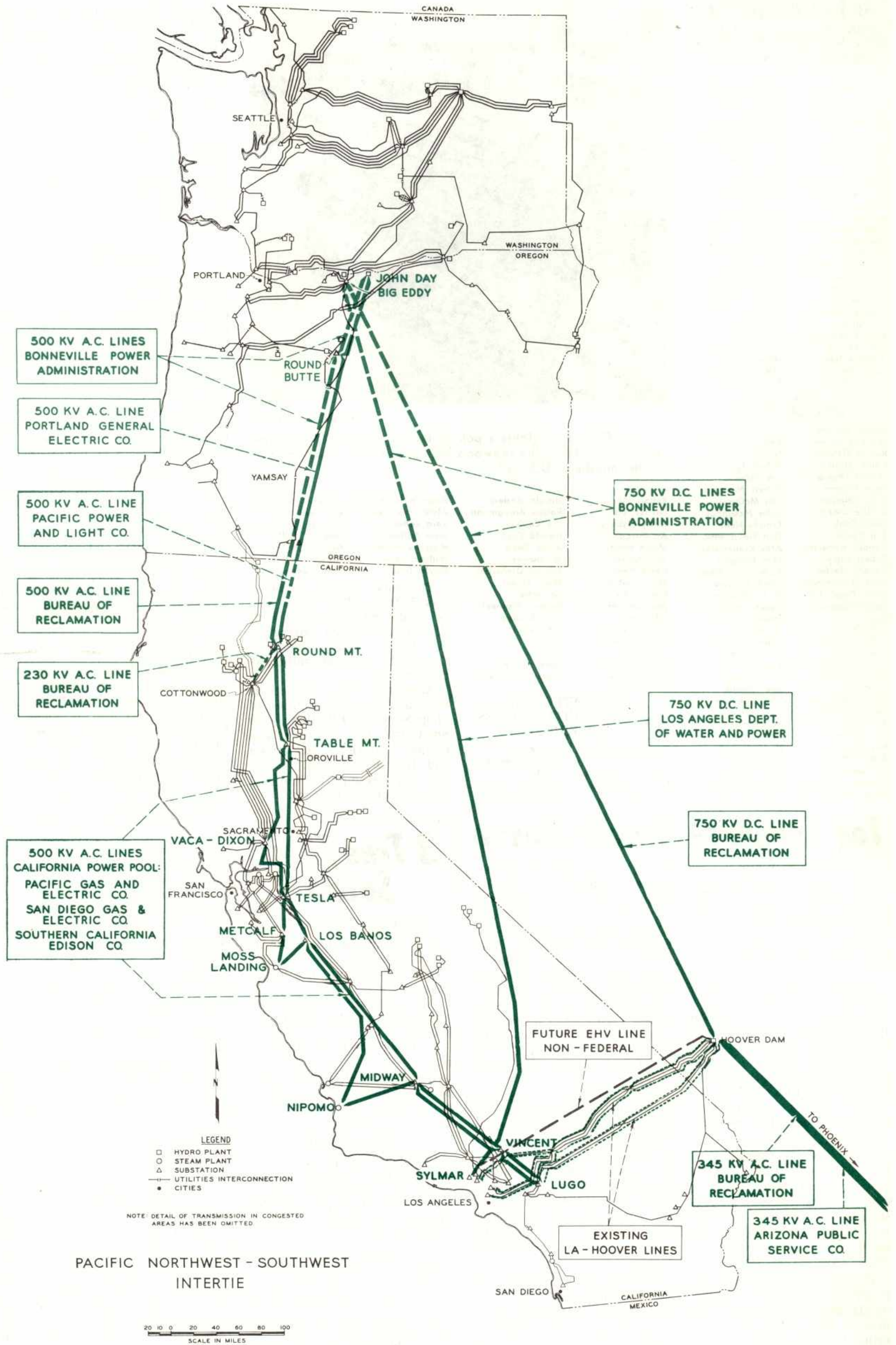
The Premier of British Columbia has expressed a willingness to harness more rivers than the Peace and the Columbia (which will be connected by transmission lines too, when and if generating facilities are built on the Columbia in B.C.) in order to develop a continental power grid, *Electrical World* reports.

The Governor of Alaska foresees a North America power grid which would combine the proposed 5,000 Mw Rampart Dam on the Yukon River with the Peace and the Columbia River projects in BC.

B.C. alone has 30 million kw in hydroelectric potential and the race is on to develop this before nuclear power gets any cheaper.

Nowhere is this race between hydroelectric power, transmitted over the intertie, and nuclear power, generated at or near the load center—closer than in California. The Company members of the California Power Pool have protested the State's cooperative plan with the Atomic Energy Commission to build a 530 Mw nuclear plant to pump Northern California water over the Tehachapi Mountains and desalt sea water on the coast for thirsty Californians.

Whether or not this controversy results in compromise, as the Pacific Northwest-Southwest Intertie did, the demand for Linemen and Nuclear Operators certainly is not going to diminish.





**These San Jose employees donated more than \$700 to help the victims of the Christmas floods**  
(continued from page 1)

- |                    |                   |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| Don Divine         | James Gifford     |
| J. V. McSwain      | Norton Keegan     |
| William Darling    | Frank Cogger      |
| James Mueller      | Jesse Blake       |
| Mel Robinson       | Edward Trader     |
| Al Lührman         | George MacKenzie  |
| Neil Williams      | Irwin Martin      |
| Merv Hassler       | Ernie Amaral      |
| Pat Phay           | Robert Christie   |
| William Thomason   | Lloyd Moos        |
| Jerry Kerstulovich | William Pinkston  |
| Wayne Capps        | Lou Ferrario      |
| Norman Ice         | Richard Garcia    |
| Lester Deornellas  | Frank Cisneros    |
| Joe LaFrank        | Richard Pospishek |
| Don Dailey         | S. B. Bradley     |
| Howard Gaghagen    | B. T. Small       |
| Frank Czayo        | John Crawford     |
| Henry Lucas        | Chuck Mangin      |
| Warren Burr        | William Fimbres   |
| Charles Mullanix   | Ed Jones          |
| Ray Garcia         | S. Profero        |
| Gerald Fernandez   | Rick Hardy        |
| John Wilson        | Don Christian     |
| William Scharf     | Harry Jones       |
| Larry Brochin      | Elmer Huestis     |
| James Hassett      | Rex Stearns       |

**SAN JOSE HEADQUARTERS**

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Robert Rausch     | Vern Kirks       |
| Lee Roy Thomas    | George Hancock   |
| Robert Fletcher   | Norm Shirle      |
| Ralph Stormont    | Robert Hanley    |
| Leland Thomas Jr. | Jim Yates        |
| Dale Thomas       | Robert Managh    |
| Bruce Sherrad     | Jim McCraw       |
| Orville Owen      | John McGinnes    |
| Mark Cook         | Claude Neill     |
| Jim Comp          | Dan Navarrette   |
| Donald Anderson   | Alex Kropelnicki |
| Robert Perry      | Stan Blodgett    |
| Donald Hesser     | Richard Maddux   |
| Paul Shunneman    | Frank Bledsoe    |
| Steve Chadwick    | C. F. Williamson |
| Steve Alameda     | Eugene Beeson    |
| Burt Logan        | Lowell Terrell   |
| John Darr         | Ed Silva         |
| Richie Richards   | Robert Gorini    |
| Percy Rome        | Glen Hamrick     |
| Vince Periandri   | Tom Hazard       |
| Nick Scratfish    | Dave Biggs       |
| O. Hicks          | Joe Schmith      |
| Clancy Hargens    | Walt Johnson     |
| Ernie Giampaoli   | Tom Harris       |
| Jess Brannon      | Ed Rodrigues     |
| Lou Muller        | Don Dunn         |
| Ray Wiens         | H. Hartsough     |
| Bud Gaffney       | D. McCurdy       |
| G. Panighetti     | John Mahoney     |
| William Clampitt  | Omar Margason    |
| Frank Warren, Jr. | Fred Massey      |



—PG&E Life Photo

A PG&E truck rights a pole in the vicinity of Alton, south of Fortuna. Note the redwood log deposited by flood waters in the middle of U.S. 101.

- |                 |                   |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Robert Mort     | Harold Anders     |
| Bill Nelson     | Robert Bruegmann  |
| Harry Osborg    | Lee Cobb          |
| Art Pasquinelli | Harold Costa      |
| Mario Piazza    | Alvin Davis       |
| Jim Poppin, Jr. | W. Davies         |
| Gerry Revino    | Roland Desrosiers |
| Matt Routon     | Eldon Ernest      |
| Bob Souza       | Ed Fortier        |
| Joe Summers     | Richard Frapwell  |
| Bill Taylor     | Oral George       |
| Robert Travis   | John Gillio       |
| Dallas Urwin    | Art Hilt          |
| Ivan Wallace    | Ed Dutra          |
| Wayne Freitas   | Gary French       |
| Fred Masters    | Stanley Veverka   |
| John Alaga      |                   |

**SAN MATEO AND REDWOOD CITY OFFICES —CLERICAL**

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Raymond H. Keck, Jr. | Ann Marin          |
| Harold F. Glazer     | James R. Wange-    |
| Claude Williams      | man                |
| Allan P. Bates       | William F. Talcott |
|                      | Robert R. DeZam    |

- |                    |                    |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| Kenneth M. Brown   | Luther J. Langston |
| Alvie A. Andreucci | Ray Tony Schoch    |
| Vera LaBelle       | Shirley McPherson  |
| Jean Anthony       | Helen L. Miller    |
| Marjorie Morgan    | Garland H. Price   |
| William Jones      | Ardell J. Olnes    |
| Gayle Jung         | Dan Alexander      |

The total amount collected was \$721.75. This check will be made out to Eureka Unit Chairman, Howard Darington, IV. Eureka Unit's Executive Committee will determine the distribution.

Assisting with collections was an effective Committee of Shop Stewards **Bill Hope, Bob Smethurst, Lou Ferrario, Jim Poppin, Shirley McPherson and Bob Bruegmann.** I feel this story exemplifies the real meaning of Brotherhood.

**3 Tree Firms Settle**

(continued from page 1)

- 3 weeks' vacation after 10 years of service.
- a \$6,000 group life insurance policy.
- an increase in major medical coverage from \$5,000 to \$10,000.
- strengthened union security.

**Tom Barnhill** served with Business Representative **Quadros** in these tree negotiations.

**NEW NOLAN AGREEMENT**

Improvements in the Nolan contract have been bargained by Union's committee consisting of **Eugene Peglow, Robert Cogger** and Business Representative **Quadros.**

The improvements are:

- 3½% general wage increases in 1965 and 1966
- an additional paid Holiday
- a reduction of \$2.00 in the employee's contribution to the hospitalization and medical plan to take place during

**Expanding Radiation Uses**

By SAM CASALINA

As new uses for atomic radiation are found it is important that we keep informed of them because of their current and future impact on our economy and personal lives.

The uses of radiation fall generally into two categories. The first is to replace an older industrial or agricultural process with a better more efficient one. The second is the development of a new process which gives benefits not heretofore obtained.

**AN AGE-OLD PROBLEM**

Some startling developments have occurred in the field of food preservation by irradiation. When anything is exposed to radiation, we say that it is irradiated. The radiation used in treating food (and other products) is usually limited to gamma rays from radioactive sealed sources, x-rays from machines, and electron beams from accelerators.

Since prehistoric times, man learned that he must either eat his food soon after it was gathered or hunted, or lose it to spoilage. Since then we have devised chemical and refrigeration means of prolonging the length of time which food remains wholesome. But we always accepted the fact that a certain amount of it would spoil before reaching us, the consumer.

For over a decade now, universities and armed forces facilities have been trying to put to work one fact. That is, when high-energy radiation passes through many foods spoilage bacteria are killed. It has been found that when many (but not all) easily perishable crops such as strawberries, citrus fruit, and grapes are irradiated with the rays of radioactive cobalt (cobalt 60) spoilage bacteria are killed and the fruit is actually put in a state of "suspended animation." In this state, and helped by refrigeration, the overripening and spoilage are greatly reduced.

Increasing the "shelf-life" of high cash crops such as strawberries will be of great benefit to an agricultural state such as California.

Since all food processes must keep the food wholesome, nutritious, and as near fresh as possible, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration must approve all irradiated food. To

date the USFDA has released canned bacon, potatoes and wheat (the last two are treated for insect infestation) and fresh sea food. A fresh-fish irradiation plant is now in operation in Massachusetts to meet the needs of the midwest markets. Soon to be released by Food and Drug are a great number of fresh-harvested and prepared foods. Extensive tests are made to assure wholesomeness and the absence of any induced radiation. The radiation sources used in the food irradiation processes have been found to be safe.

**INDUSTRIAL BREAKTHROUGH**

In the field of new irradiated products one of the more spectacular breakthroughs is **NOVAWOOD.** Novawood is the name given by the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to a new irradiated wood product that is bound to have a widespread impact on building and fabrication industries.

When ordinary wood is soaked in a liquid plastic monomer and irradiated by cobalt 60 gamma rays the plastic molecules form double bonds in the wood's cellulose. The resulting wood is almost as tough as aluminum. This could mean a great deal to builders, for example, who could have support structures cut into any shapes they desired, treated and irradiated, and get great strength at little cost. The possibilities for novawood seem endless and the first pilot plant will soon be built.

**FOREIGN INTEREST**

The U.S. is not the only country taking advantage of this new technology. Canada, Australia, the Soviet Union, and Israel are irradiating perishable food. Israel recently announced that they foresee the time all of their exported citrus fruit would be preserved by radiation rather than chemical preservation. They feel that a consumer would rather eat food that has been preserved by rays passing cleanly through it than put up with chemical preservative residues.

**Radiopasturization and sterilization** are useful tools to come out of the peaceful use of the atom. Along with power generation, and salt water conversion, man's quest for more food will be aided in the knowledge gained from this new energy source.

**Ten Complete Atomic Course**

By W. F. White

Ten members received certificates for having successfully completed the I.B.E.W. Course "Industrial Atomic Energy Uses, Hazards, and Controls".

Graduates of the second Atomic Course sponsored by Local Union 1245 were: **Aulton John Allison, William Wray Bartholomei, Arthur W. Blevins, Gordon Thomas Brandt, David Frederick Burchards, Patrick E. Gilmore, John C. Nichols, Edward Richard Smith, Jr., Richard W. Stewart, and Steven Zamora.**

The course was taught by **W. F. White**, Senior Control Operator, Portrero Power Plant, in twelve 3-hour weekly classes starting September 21 and ending December 7, 1964, at the Local Union headquarters, 1918 Grove Street, Oakland.

In addition to the lesson material and homework assignments, 38 Atomic Energy Commission films were shown covering various Atomic Energy subjects. Included among these were films covering four dif-

ferent types of power reactors: Dresden (dual cycle Boiling Water Reactor), Shippingport (Pressurized Water Reactor), Hallam (Liquid Metal Sodium Graphite Reactor), and Piqua (Organic Moderated Reactor). Other films covered radiological safety, properties of radiation, radiation detection instruments, high energy particle accelerators, isotopes for industry and medicine, and the SNAP program for outer space.

**Sam Casalina**, Safety and Health Physics Consultant, discussed radiation detection by scintillation and answered technical questions at the closing session. **Mert A. Walters**, Assistant Business Manager of Local Union 1245, passed out the certificates of completion and honored the graduates with a buffet and refreshments.

A third Atomic Course may be scheduled if sufficient local union members express a desire to enroll. If you are interested in preparing yourself for the Atomic Age, contact your local union office.

the term of the agreement.

**UTILITY TALKS CONTINUE**

Following the filing of an Unfair Labor Practice complaint against Utility Tree Service, bargaining sessions have been taking place in the offices of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service. Meetings were held on the 14th and 21st of January,

Business Representative **Quadros** reports.

Staff assistance to Spokesman **Quadros** was given by **Business Representatives Orville Owen and Mark Cook on the Davey, Sohner and Nolan Negotiating Committee, and is being given by Business Representative Gerald Watson on the Utility Negotiating Committee.**



# Reno Unit's Christmas Party Huge Success

By ROY MURRAY

Reno Unit's seventh annual Christmas party was held in the Garden Room of the Riverside Hotel on December 19th. More than 300 members, their wives and honored guests attended the holiday festivity.

Some of the honored guests were:

Representing the State of Nevada:

Governor and Mrs. Grant M. Sawyer

Labor Commissioner James E. Combs.

Representing Local 1245: President Leland Thomas Jr. Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley

Northern Area Executive Board Member James H. Fountain and Mrs. Fountain

Assistant Business Manager L. L. Mitchell.

Representing Sierra Pacific Power Company:

Vice President Merle Acheson

Vice President Roy Torvinen and Mrs. Torvinen

Assistant Treasurer and Secretary Joe Gremban and Mrs. Gremban

Assistant Director of Employee Relations Vincent Laveaga and Mrs. Laveaga.

Representing other IBEW Local Unions in the area:

Local 401 President Roy Fitch and Mrs. Fitch

Local 401 Business Manager John Byrne and Mrs. Byrne.

The evening began with a social hour in the Press Club at the Riverside, continued with a buffet dinner in the Garden Room where the honored guests conveyed holiday greetings and inspiration, and



Nevada Governor Grant M. Sawyer brings greetings from Officials of the State of Nevada and expresses his appreciation of the support given him by the Nevada Members of Local 1245.



Guests of honor shown at the head table are, from left, Mrs. Grant M. Sawyer, wife of the Governor of Nevada, Governor Grant Sawyer, Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley, President Leland Thomas Jr., and Nevada State Labor Commissioner James Combs.

concluded with dancing to the music of a five piece orchestra.

Reno Unit Chairman James Bessey proclaimed the event to be their most successful ever and gave his special congratulations to Committee Chairman Richard Melillo for the fine planning done by his commit-

tee: Betty Weber, Gloria Miller and Frank Flower assisted by Ron Tanberg, Walter Bettancourt, Ralph Walker, Ed Parry, Wendell Rupp and Nick Danos.

Bessey also congratulated Richard Melillo for the tremendous job he did as Master of Ceremonies.

## Ezra Johnson Retires

By RON WEAKLEY

At a gala affair on January 16th at the El Patio Restaurant in Lodi, over one hundred people turned out to honor Brother Ezra Johnson, Electric Troublemaker, as he bid farewell to his many friends and PG&E associates after over 40 years of employment with the Company.

The affair was sponsored by the Lodi Unit of Local 1245. Brother Johnson's membership in Local 1245 dates back to 1942. Many words of respect were paid to this man by Union, Company, and public officials as he and his gracious wife sat at the head table with members of his immediate family and Master of Ceremonies, Willard Nelson.

Various gifts were presented to Brother Johnson and he responded with some well-chosen words of appreciation for the sentiments expressed by his many friends.

As a Shop Steward, Brother Johnson kept a "trim ship" at his place of employment for many years because he sincerely believed that the contract between the Union and the Company was an instrument of legal recourse only when men of good will could not resolve the day to day differences which came up on the job.

Representing the officers of the State Legislature. You may, however, wish to contact them now for some reason and letters should be addressed as follows:

Senator.....  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento 14, California  
Assemblyman.....  
State Capitol Building  
Sacramento 14, California

Sincere wishes for a happy retirement were voiced by all in attendance and the editorial staff of the UTILITY REPORTER wishes to add to this by saying to Ezra Johnson, a faithful and loyal member of Local 1245, "May you be happy and remember that we respect you."

## Clerical Meet With Company

Members of the Clerical Programming Committee met with the Company twice in January to discuss the proposed revision of the Clerical Grade Index Plan.

In the first meeting on January 5th, almost every facet of the plan was discussed. The second meeting, held January 12th, was devoted to a demonstration of how the proposed plan applies to specific Clerical jobs.

Information requested by the Local in order to bargain the issue is becoming more readily available. As this information is received, the committee will be in a position to prepare counter proposals to both the Grade Index Plan and the lines of progression for General Office people at 345 Mission Street.

Meetings for this purpose will take place in the next few weeks.

## Capitol Gains

By MERT WALTERS

The Congress of the United States and the California State Legislature both went into session on January 4, 1965 and the legislative processes were under way. The first few days in both bodies were taken up with organizational activities and messages from Chief Executives. Relatively few bills were dropped into the legislative hoppers. However, some significant developments bear watching.

With the Democratic Party controlling both houses of Congress and both houses of the Legislature, there was a striking similarity in the manner in which leadership was elected. In the upper houses, both the majority and minority leadership were reelected with little or no fanfare. In the lower houses, this was also true of the majority leadership with both Speaker John McCormack of the House of Representatives, and Speaker Jesse Unruh of the Assembly being reelected without opposition.

However, in selecting minority leadership, the Republican Party rejected the incumbents. In both instances, the new minority leaders reportedly represent the younger, more aggressive elements of their Party. In the House of Representatives, Congressman Gerald R. Ford of Michigan replaced Congressman Charles A. Halleck of Indiana and in the State Assembly Robert T. Monagan of Stockton replaced Charles J. Conrad of Sherman Oaks.

In organizing the House of Representatives, a really significant move was taken with the elimination of the Rules Committee's power to hold up and even deny the full House's right to vote on legislation. This action could well be the green light for much of President Johnson's legislative program. It raises organized labor's hope that the 89th Congress may well be noted for the enactment of liberal legislation including repeal of Taft-Hartley Section 14b and other labor programs.

Finally, at the Federal level in both the House of Representatives and the Senate, the first bills to be dropped into the legislative hoppers were companion bills H.R. 1 and S.R. 1 which provide for medicare under Social Security.

As predicted, the major efforts of the State Senate have revolved around the question of reapportionment of that body. Legislation has been introduced to chide the Court's "one-man—one-vote" directive. Other legislation calls on Congress to take action to forestall the impact of the Court's decision by amending the United States Constitution to permit the State Senate to be formed on a basis other than population. Also introduced was legislation dividing California into two States. On the Assembly side, legislation is being introduced slowly and there isn't too much to report at this time.

Last month I requested that you write your U.S. Senators and Congressmen urging support of the repeal of Section 14b of the Labor-Management Relations Act and support for medical care under Social Security (H.R. 1 and S.R. 1). If you haven't already written,

## Cal Fed Scholarships

(Continued from Page 1) enough examination questions to cover the students taking the exam on April 23rd.

Sample examination questions are:

1. "Outline briefly the structure of the AFL-CIO and describe some of its major goals."
2. "Indicate how the objectives of the civil rights movement today coincide with those of the labor movement."

In answering such questions, the student should show his factual knowledge and comprehension of past and present social and economic conditions affecting labor and management.

Books and pamphlets helpful in preparing for the examination are listed in the brochure available from your boy or girl's high school principal. Additional information can be obtained by writing, to the attention of Dr. John S. Carroll, Director of Education, the:

Education Committee  
California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO  
995 Market St., Room 810  
San Francisco 3, Calif.

I urge that you do so now. Address your letters as follows:

Senator.....  
Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C.  
Congressman.....  
House Post Office  
Washington, D.C.

Later on, as specific legislation is introduced and is being considered, you will be requested to write to members of



by

**Fred Goetz**

Now that the big game hunting season has tapered off, many hunters are leveling their sights on predators. One of the cagiest and toughest to track is the cougar, otherwise known as the puma, panther, or mountain lion.

While the nimrod stalks the "big cat," chances are that cat is also stalking, for it too is a hunter of big game — deer, wild sheep, goat, even elk. (In the west, where deer are plentiful, they provide as much as 80 per cent of the cougar's diet).

Also on the cougar's bill of fare are livestock. They have been known to attack a fair sized bull and raise havoc with calves and ponies, even full grown horses. There is a record of a larger cougar that either killed or maimed 19 sheep in one night of slaughter.

The cougar is a ground animal but can shinny up a tree like greased lightning when pursued by dogs. Contrary to general belief, the cougar does not leap on its prey from a tree limb. (Sorry, Hollywood). When attacking a large animal it will leap upon the body, high below the shoulders, and bite into the neck or throat.

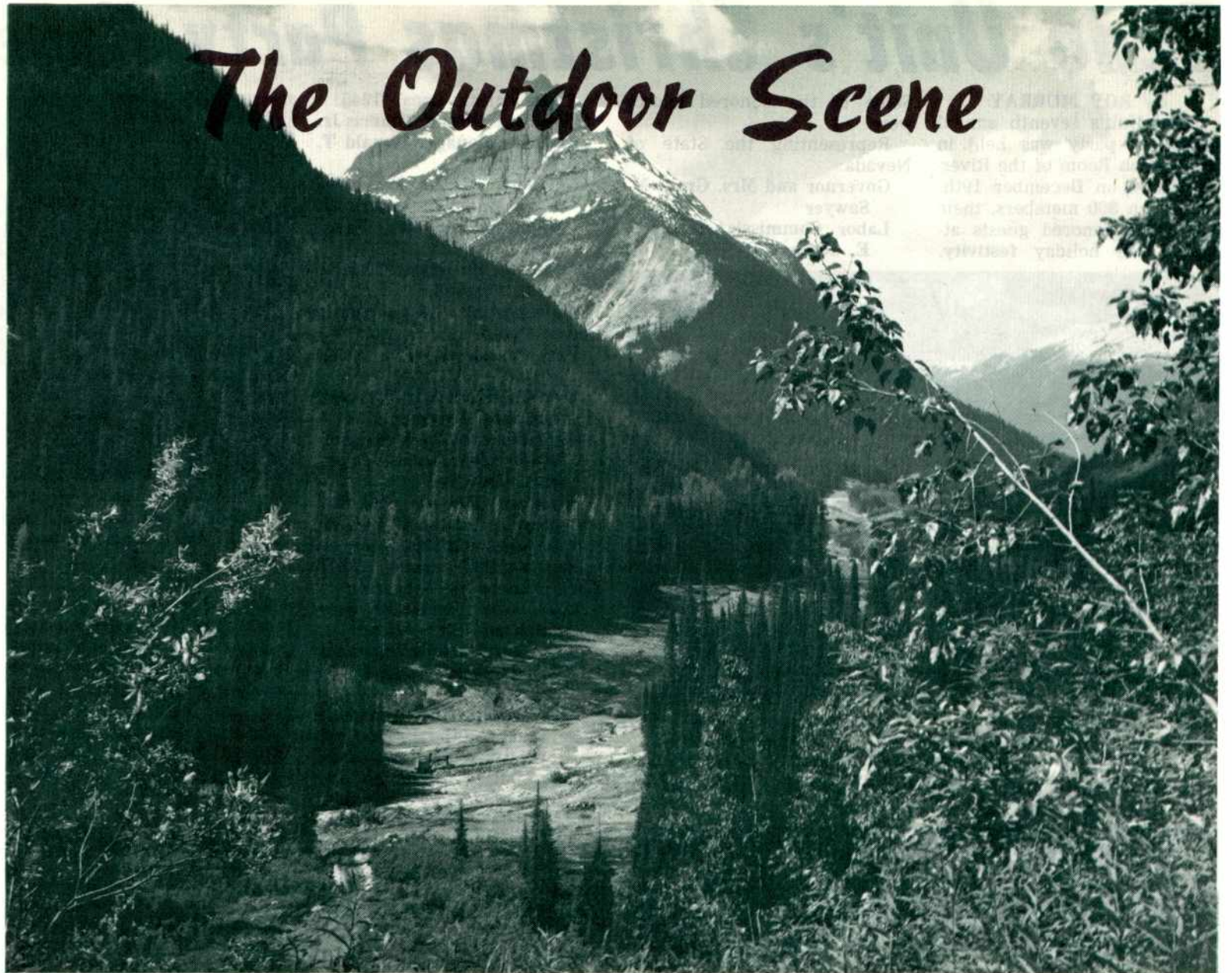
It is not uncommon for the cougar to stalk the hunter who, in turn, is stalking it. Many hunters have found evidence of this — a cougar doggin' their own tracks. Such "reverse tracking" is credited to curiosity, for the cougar has a deathly fear of man. There are, however, rare accounts of a cougar attacking the hunter.

A cougar will feed upon a carcass until most of the edible meat is consumed but will pass up putrid flesh.

For cougar hunting we recommend a light carbine — a 30/30 or .32 special with as fast a load as you can get.

\* \* \*

No doubt a few of you



—Rogers Pass, B.C.

# The Outdoor Scene

have been out scattergunning after those big Canadian honkers this year. If you have missed more than your share, console yourself with the fact that those critters can pour on the coal to the extent of 60 miles an hour!

This figure was derived by following more than one of the wingers in an airplane and checking the bird's speed against the plane's.

Also you may be interested to know that the honk-

er's top altitude is a mere 29,000 feet — nearly 5½ miles!

\* \* \*

Now that the fly fishing season is spent you can get out those winged dandies and freshen 'em up a bit.

Dry flies that have become bedraggled after catching several fish, or crushed out of shape in your fly box, can be restored by first washing them, then

drying and holding them over the spout of a steaming tea kettle with a pair of pliers for a few seconds.

The steam will bring the hackles back into original condition.

\* \* \*

Pheasant hunter John Severson of Pasco, Washington, may decide it's a good idea to abandon his hope of quitting the cigarette habit, that is if he wants to take home a bird or two.

Recently John has been carrying around a pocketful of lifesaver packages so he could nip at one whenever the desire for a fag took hold of him.

On a recent pheasant hunt, he raised his sights at a flushed bird and pulled the trigger. Instead of a blast, all he heard was a click. He opened the chamber to find out the trouble, and a cylinder of lifesavers dropped out!

## New Stewards

The following shop stewards were appointed during December:

DAVEY TREE SURGERY COMPANY, LTD.:

Frank Dickson.

PACIFIC GAS & ELECTRIC COMPANY:

Alvin L. Taylor, Coast Valleys Division.

James A. Taylor, Coast Valleys Division.

Dennis Watkins, Coast Valleys Division.

Thomas H. Williams, Coast Valleys Division.

Edward L. Bolen, East Bay Division.

Clark E. Fleming, East Bay Division.

Emery W. Leonard, East Bay Division.

James Pearson, General Construction.

Leonard W. Grove, San Joaquin Division.

Freeman A. Henson, San Joaquin Division.

The following new applications were received in the office December 1 through December 31, 1964.

NEW —A— APPLICATIONS GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

John H. Clarke

Eugene Jacoby

Roger R. Pflüger

NEW —BA— APPLICATIONS SAN JOAQUIN

Donald G. Eppinette

Patrick H. Mallett

Robert L. Miller

Raymond M. Skinner

Eddie L. Tyner

Donald K. Hopper, San Joaquin Division.

Robert W. Phillips, San Joaquin Division.

John D. Ryan, San Joaquin Division.

Charles W. Mangin, San Jose Division.

U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION:

Wallace Kaplan.

Donald O. Schank.



## Members

COAST VALLEYS

Robert W. Cothran

Robert L. Delaney

Robert C. Guthrie

Allen Heryford

Garlin Ivy, Jr.

Charles L. Jones

Gary C. Morgan

Ronald Lee Quinley

Howard H. Shinn

Ethel Wolff

CAL PAC UTILITIES

Anthony P. Frazier

SAN JOSE

Albert F. Bernal

Morris L. Champion

Patrick H. Fulljames

D. Lynne Hill

Ardell J. Olnes

Leonard E. Payne

Richard D. Pospishek  
Karl T. Wrzesien

EAST BAY

William E. Adcock

John L. Ballard

Richard K. Betterley

Steven D. Fry

Robert Leonard Gabel

Charles R. Hanks

Maurice B. Lawson

Albert C. Longshore

Arcadio R. Santiago

David Stewart

Johnny V. Wollen

Edward L. Worley

SAN FRANCISCO

Dennis S. Athanacio

Charles Calkins

Stanley M. Coffin

Gilbert Cortez

Kenneth Erwin

Wayne Hopper

Clifford L. Jacobsen

(Continued next month)

Note: The feature "Retired Members" will return next month.