Clerical closer to parity

PG&E Clerical Members have voted 480 to 82 to accept the four year agreement ratified by Physical Members as Proposal B.

The new offer, made at the request of Business Manager Weakley, was sent out in booklet form with a March 25 deadline for return of ballots to the Oakland Post Office where they were picked up and counted by the Executive Board.

The new, orange Clerical Agreements have just arrived from the printers and are now available for distribution.

Members free driver Trapped in wreckage

Yuba City

The dump truck had been turning left across State Sign Route 20, four miles west of Yuba City, when the VW plowed into it, pinning the driver.

California Highway Patrol Sergeant was administering first aid when Business Representatives Ron Reynolds, Gar Ogletree, and Dean Cofer came on the scene. They set flares to warn the other drivers and to prevent compiling accidents, but the VW was still jammed half-way underneath the truck and its driver could not be removed from the wreckage.

Then a big brown PG&E line truck hove into view. Its crew went into action. Bill Poole, Lineman Dennis Phipps and T&D Driver Bill Webster tied their boom off around the bed of the dump truck and lifted it off the beetle, allowing the driver to be freed.

After the ambulance had taken the injured man back to Yuba City and the highway had been cleared, the crew members continued on to their next job and the Rep's carried on to Colusa and their next contact. An unusual incident? Not in the lives of such public-spirited members of Local 1245.

Business Manager's COLUMN

Why do we have Local 1245?

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

Union headquarters is a busy place these days. Aside from the heavy flow of routine items into and out of our office, we are engaged in a number of major endeavors in the interests of our members and the improvement of our Union's operations.

The Measurement Operation Department of PG&E is one matter of current priority. Steam Operating Committees representing Local 1245 and PG&E are hard at work endeavoring to revise the Supplement to the Agreement covering our Steam Operating members. A number of meetings have been held to date. Exchanges of proposals have narrowed the unresolved issues to the basics involving new approaches to changing operations and procedures which PG&E is presently undertaking for future utilization of manpower to implement production efficiency programs.

Union's role in this instance is to work out agreeable methods of modifying Company's production decisions to meet the economic and security needs of our operating members. This is generally what is done by this Union. It is one of the most important reasons we have a union. If we didn't, management could adopt new methods and procedures arbitrarily rather than work out modifications necessary to the proper protection of interests of the affected membership.

We are also involved in discussions affecting the Water Department on PG&E with progress made for our Water members. This is a small department but equally important in our total objective-service to all members.

The Clerical membership is also being represented. We are now working on the problem of establishing an improved bidding procedure through exchanges of proposals and committee meetings.

In all of the foregoing areas, capable members off the job are deeply involved along with myself and highly trained and competent members of my Staff. This is our way of making sure that the members from the job have to work under the conditions set forth between Local 1245 and PG&E, have a voice in each instance where we make interim changes in our Departmental Supplements between periods of major Contract negotiations.

This costs money and demands a lot of paid Staff time. Yet, it is one of the many good reasons our people pay dues for democratic and competent representation by their Local Union.

Other matters of priority include working out major problems of inter- pretation and reducing the results to writing so that we don't have to pile up more and more formal grievances. Without this process, grievances would clog the machinery and irritate our members because of the long delays in getting answers.

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One man—One vote

Senate Minority Leader Everett McKinley Dirksen of Illinois is engaged in a massive hypertrophic performance which goes with his image as the silver-maned medicine man of TV fame. He is the author of a resolution calling on Congress to convene a "constitutional convention" to initiate an amendment to overturn one man, one vote apportionment of state legislatures and give back minority control of one house of a legislature.

To date, 32 state legislatures are reported to have passed resolutions of some sort over a period of years calling for a constitutional amendment on reapportionment. Constitutional experts have challenged the validity of many of the resolutions—most of which were passed by minority-controlled legislatures before reapportionment.

One man—One vote could be accommodated through adoption of Dirksen's proposal. The foregoding is a thumb-nail sketch of some of the matters which command our attention. It does not, however, utilize many overtime hours in planning and developing long-term programs for progress.

We believe, however, that the fundamental principle of freedom— as in the case of our country and its people.

A lot of other people firmly disagree. His real motive, however, is not to prove his point. Rather, to deprive Joe Citizen from having an equal voice in the running of his government.

Old "Ev" is forever carping about how the individual citizen is unrepresented and how "big government" has usurped individual rights and caused the people to suffer extreme abuse. At the same time and for a different reason, the other side of his mouth says that minority control of government is real good medicine for this country and its people.

Some years ago, our own Local Union had a provision of internal law regarding legislative rights of the membership. This law said that a majority of Unit within the organization could call a referendum vote and that "Old Ev" would be one of the candidates to be voted for by the membership.

This provision in reality was the same kind of medicine offered by "Old Ev" in that real control rested in the hands of a minority because we have a lot of Units with small memberships and a few Units with large memberships. When a referendum was called, the cards were stacked in favor of a minority of the membership rather than in the true membership majority.

Our people were alert enough to reapportion our house a long time before the U.S. Supreme Court got around to doing the same thing for our Nation.

We utilized the proper processes of internal law to change the law to say that a majority vote of the membership within the organization could decide a referendum vote and that "Old Ev" would be one of the candidates for the position of representative of our Members.

It will remain so unless "Old Ev's" pitch is bought by our membership, and we return to his brand of "republicanism," which is a far cry from the real reason "the Republicans" and "Old Ev" have been fighting a major cause of opposition to the Negro slavery, coming into power in 1861, and since that time, with a few exceptions, dictating the national policy," as defined by recognized dictionaries.

We are concerned with whether or not the true control of this country or this union shall rest in the hands of the majority or the minority and as in the case of our union, we are devoted to the principle of minority control of one house of a legislature in this country and its people.

We believe that the fundamental principle of freedom— as in the case of our country and its people.

The old boy is humorous, articulate, personable and entertaining. At the same time and for a different reason, the other side of his mouth says that "Old Ev" says are long gone as he tries to make his complaint become a positive one.

We believe, however, that the fundamental principle of freedom— as in the case of our country and its people.
The Sierra Pacific Story is still being written, by many individuals:

- The lineman who has been away from home over a week trying to restore electric service in the snowdrifts around Lake Tahoe: his meals on an emergency regime; his sleep during rest periods; and his contact with home—dry socks brought in by the Company.
- The gas men who work in flying sand to dig a trench so a family will be warm that blustery night.
- The people who are there before the storm breaks to call out the crews and dispatch the troublemen and servicemen and pay them afterwards.
- The water people who worry that sudden rains with this snowpack will result in flooding and disruption of Reno's supply, and who, later in the year, literally "sweat" drought conditions.
- The executive who planned electric generating capacity when there was none in the area, and who must now keep ahead of decade-doubling demand.

These individuals, and many more, are writing the Sierra Pacific Story—often unsung ways.

We do not presume to tell it here, or even to begin to tell it, but in the following pages we offer these pictures as a reminder there is a story here—The Sierra Pacific Story.
Patricia Earl and Barbara Oliphant handle customer service calls through the ACDS switchboard.

Thelma Schenk, left, and Lucy Barrett solve customer accounting problems in the new administration building.

Sierra Pacific crews convert overhead to underground at 4th and Wells in Reno where a combined freeway on-ramp and railroad overpass is being built. Nick Garcia works the hand line in the foreground, as Jerry Norlen and Tom Ames are seen on the pole across the street. Some of the other crew members at work on this job were Ron Tanberg and Mickey Binyon (on the pole above Garcia); Arlen Blodgett, and Ernie Watson.

Cyril Escallier works on the 5 kv cable splice required by the undergrounding for Interstate 80 through Reno.

Harry Mewes looks down into the manhole to check on the progress of the cable splicing operation.

Patricia Earl and Barbara Oliphant handle customer service calls through the ACDS switchboard.

Thelma Schenk, left, and Lucy Barreto solve customer accounting problems in the new administration building.

Margaret Bodie works on the rotary file.
Standing ready for another snow storm, the Tracy Steam Plant provides dependable generating capacity for a system heretofore almost totally dependent on power purchased from the other side of the windswept Sierra Nevada.

The juice comes over Donner Summit even if traffic can’t. This is the Nevada-California state line on Interstate 80 after the storm had hit; note the transmission line in the background.

Emergency Relief Operator Lee Jones takes the hourly boiler readings from Unit 2’s control panel.

Mary Ellen Avery is Secretary to the Tracy Steam Superintendent.

Irene Gelmstedt is shown near her trusty comptometer in the General Accounting Department.

John Gandolfo, left and Al Dallimore tighten the flange on the check valve for the auxiliary boiler discharge.
Walt Bettencourt points to where he wants backhoe operator Jack Larramendy to make his next pass as John Dupratt clears some of the sand away with his shovel. Other members on the crew not shown in this picture are Wimpy Rupp and Ken Hawkins.

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Betty Weber enhances the beauty of the spiral staircase in Sierra Pacific's administrative office building in Reno.

ACO Roy Avery lights off A-1 burner on Tracy Steam Plant's Unit 1 as the Shift Foreman, Chuck Bonham, looks on.

Bob Sommer, an Electrician in the Measurements and Tests group, checks out the Leeds and Northrup automatic load control system at Tracy Steam Plant.

Walt Bettencourt points to where he wants backhoe operator Jack Larramendy to make his next pass as John Dupratt clears some of the sand away with his shovel. Other members on the crew not shown in this picture are Wimpy Rupp and Ken Hawkins.

Ken Hawkins uses a Mueller tee to tap the 3/4 inch gas service into the 8 1/2 inch gas distribution main.
Fort Churchill—the old and the new—will stand not far apart as desert distance goes, each providing a security suited to the needs of the people of its day.

Senior Vice President, Merle H. Atcheson

Shop Steward T. Bartl cuts a 14 kv jumper at South Shore, illustrating that if the Company does not serve all the way from the Sierras to the sea, it certainly serves from the sands to the snow.

Sierra Pacific's President, Neil W. Plath

Members of Sierra Pacific's friendly credit department are Nancy O'Dell, at the extreme left, Sylvia Bartz, standing left, Dorothea Jennings, and Mayme Glandon, right.

Vince Laveaga is Director of Employee Relations.
Katie Clogston is a cashier with many years of service in behalf of Sierra Pacific Power Company.

Your welcome when you call Sierra Pacific's administration building could come from PBX Operators Gloria Miller or Pat Martin.

Ray Hastings and Al Gragg in System Control.

Street Light Maintenanceman Bill Andrews is a veteran member of Local 1245, IBEW.

Gas Meter Foreman Charley Lercari makes a screwdriver adjustment at the bench, while Gas Mechanic Mario Leveroni works on a regulator off camera.

Mechanic Danny Barreto gives a Company car a brake job.

Ernie Linscott completes a service call to a residential customer.

Troubleman Nick Danos tests voltage on a rooftop.

Rich Melillo and Chuck Hanks replace a regulator in downtown Reno.

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