



The above photo shows Local 1245's scholarship winner and his family being honored at the Konocti Seminar by Ron Fields, President. From left to right are: Michael Knox, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knox and Ron Fields.

SCHOLARSHIP WINNER HONORED AT KONOCTI

Michael R. Knox, winner of Local 1245's Competitive Scholarship Program contest, and his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knox, were honored at the Konocti Seminar. Michael's father, Walter Knox, is a troubleman for PG&E at Fort Bragg and has been a member of Local 1245 for over 23 years.

Michael's essay was selected from among twelve submitted. The selection was made by Superior Court Judge Leland J. Lazarus of San Francisco.

The following are excerpts from Judge Lazarus' letter of decision to Ron Weakley: "As a judge I have been called upon to make many difficult decisions. But rarely one that has been harder than the selection of a winner for Local 1245's commendable Competitive Scholarship Contest."

"Michael, in his essay, displayed more than merely an understanding of the impact that higher wages and an increase in consumer purchasing power has on our economy. He also recognized the broader part that labor has indirectly had in making our society the highly efficient one that it is. For, in order to meet the standards demanded by trade unions, management in the United States has had to constantly improve its administrative skills and its technology to give this country what is by far the most advanced technological and managerial system in the entire world."

Local 1245 wishes to thank all those who entered and we congratulate Michael for his victory. A special vote of thanks is extended to Judge Lazarus for taking the time to read and judge the essays.

YOUR *Business Manager's* COLUMN WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

The balance of 1969 will find Local 1245 consolidating its present organizational position and tailing off new organizing ventures so that we can move into 1970 with maximum bargaining strength among those now represented by Local 1245.

We did fairly well on the organizing front in 1969, both internally and externally. We had a couple of disappointments in new organizing ventures but our win column is much better than our loss column.

While we may pick up a few groups here and there which are hot to organize and who don't require a lot of time from our service staff, we shall forego any major drives outside of our present house until after our 1970 negotiations.

Meanwhile, we shall step up our internal organizing program which requires a cooperative effort among our members, our Stewards and our Representatives.

Our Executive Board will cooperate wherever needed in terms of supplying the backing and the funds to do the job.

Our International Union has provided economic assistance to some of our organizing efforts and we expect this joint venture to continue so long as it is productive for Local 1245 and the I.B.E.W.

I have been able of late to re-establish many contacts in the United States and Canada which are of value to our negotiating committees whenever industry surveys are used as bargaining levers on either side of the table.

All recent utility strikes have been checked out regarding the issues, the settlements and the costs to each party to the disputes, as well as the techniques employed during the strikes.

When we enter bargaining in
(Continued on Page 2)

Please send any corrections of name, address or zip code to P.O. Box 584 Walnut Creek, Calif. 94597

(Name)

(Street Address)

(City)

(State and Zip Code)



utility reporter

VOL. XVII, NO. 5 OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA OCTOBER, 1969
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Konocti Seminar Huge Success

The "Konocti Seminar—Leadership" was a very interesting and educational success. The seminar was held at the Konocti Harbor Inn on the 18th and 19th of October.

The purpose of the meeting was to educate the newly elected Unit Chairmen and Recorders in the internal operations of their Local Union and the responsibilities of their respective offices.

The meeting was also used to complete a "test run" on a membership survey which will be used for the 1970 Negotiations.

There was a very full schedule which kept everyone busy from the time they arrived on Saturday until they left on Sunday.

The program began on Saturday morning with Ronald T. Weakley, Business Manager, giving a brief and interesting synopsis of the history of Local 1245.

This was followed by a presentation from Roland W. Fields, President, on the structure of Local 1245.

Herb Dickenson, Vice President, then informed the delegates of the function of the Executive Board and Members' responsibilities.

Michael Knox, winner of Local 1245's 1969 Scholarship Contest, and his family were introduced to the group immediately after lunch.

John Zapian, Treasurer, gave a report on the expenditure and accounting procedures of the Local.

Attorneys Frank Brass and Stewart Boxer from the firm of Brundage, Neyhart, Grodin, Beeson and Jewell, discussed the use and needs of legal counsel by the Union and its members. They both answered questions from the floor upon completion of their presentation.

James Fountain, Executive Board Member—Northern Area, reported on Local Union Property and the Energy Workers, Inc.

Joan Bynum, Trustee, outlined the duties and functions of Trustee Committee.

The Advisory Council duties and functions were covered by Stanley Justice, Advisory Council member, Drum Division.

Andrew A. Clayton, Recording Secretary, informed the delegates of his duties and responsibilities as the Recording Secretary of Local 1245.

James Lydon, Executive Board Member-Central Area, discussed the purpose and function of the Ways and Means Committee.

Leland Thomas Jr., Business Representative, gave a presentation and led the discussion on the conduct of Unit meetings to close the first day's session.

The Seminar reconvened at 8:30 a.m. the next morning with a discussion.
(Continued on Page Seven)



This photo shows a general view of the participants while they are asking questions from the floor.

Sierra Pacific Power Co. Doubles Service Territory

Sierra Pacific Power Co. just about doubled its service territory recently with the acquisition of the Nevada electric distribution system of Southern California Edison.

For \$2.3 million Sierra Pacific received the right to serve such famous mining communities as Tonopah, Goldfield and Gabbs and about 18,000 square miles of central Nevada in which are some 1600 customers.

Those customers will have the option of SCE or Sierra Pacific rates for three years, whichever is lower and most Sierra Pacific rates for this new territory have been scaled downward. About the only other change affecting customers will be a shift to monthly billing from every-other-month billing to follow Sierra Pacific's standard practice.

Negotiations for the property have been under way for several months and Federal Power Commission approval was received only last Friday.

The \$2.3 million price does not include a \$500,000 note which Southern California Edison accepted in lieu of cash payment for emergency and peaking generators SCE has installed at Gabbs. Sierra will pay that off later.

The transfer adds to Sierra Pacific's list of customers such Nevada operations as Hughes Tool Co., Basic, Inc., Foote Mineral Co., the Atomic Energy Commission and the Sandia Corp.

Niel W. Plath, president of Sierra Pacific, said today he was pleased the transfer went so smoothly and hoped that Sierra Pacific's management of the system would go just as smoothly.

For up to five years Sierra will continue to buy power from Southern California Edison and distribute it to Nevada customers. Within that time the Reno-based utility will construct a 120,000 volt line from Fort Churchill Station near Yerington to a point in Nye County, probably Miller's substation. This will eliminate, for all emergency purposes, use of the existing line over the White Mountains from Southern California Edison generating plants.

Officials of both companies believe this change will end storm-caused outages in the central Nevada district since the new line will follow low elevation terrain on the east slope of the Sierra Nevada range.

Sierra Pacific has made the SCE properties a new district with headquarters in Tonopah—the company's largest district in miles, not customers.

Named to head the district is Robert E. (Bob) Newberry, a supervisor in Sierra Pacific's line department since 1956, 44 and a native of Dallas, Texas. Superintendent for the new district is Jack Carrick, 39 and a native of Reno. Both men have been at Tonopah for several weeks familiarizing themselves with the operation.

Plath said that in addition to continuing planning for a new power supply, the company plans to construct a new headquarters building, probably in 1970.

Sierra Pacific officials said the new line would have the capacity to deliver three times the electricity the Tonopah district will need by 1973 and that it will handily serve Mineral County since voters approved a lease of the county-owned system to Sierra Pacific in a special election October 14.

Witnesses for the two companies at a Nevada Public Service Commission hearing in Tonopah in August testified that Edison had no way to increase its power supply to the area but Sierra Pacific did have.

Plath said at that time he expected the area to grow faster in the future than it has in the recent past . . . from mining and from tourism. He also said his company would aggressively help develop economical load growth from the existing SCE customers and also any new service which may need electrical energy to stimulate growth in those areas not presently served.

Eight of ten Southern California Edison employees elected to stay in the central Nevada area as employees of Sierra Pacific Power with seniority dating from their SCE employment.

Included are Milka Beko, office supervisor, and electrical specialists Patrick Jacobson, Harvey Humphrey, Richard Logan, Robert Loncar, Nathan Merritt, Emmett Saunders and Richard Tisue.

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

WHAT'S ON THE AGENDA?

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

(Continued from Page One)

1970, we shall be adequately prepared to discuss the picture in the gas and electric and allied industries regarding wages, working conditions and security benefits.

We will be armed with facts and figures regarding new patterns, new trends and new needs arising out of utility employment across the country as well as on the West Coast.

Our own membership survey and our Unit recommendation procedure will form most of the basis for our package proposals to be delivered to our employers in 1970.

* * *

Prior to 1970, we have a rough job to handle which concerns contract negotiations with Pacific Tree Expert Company. This company has been very hard to deal with over the past years and we expect trouble again in our coming negotiations.

If we can come to a peaceful and jointly satisfactory settlement, that is the way we want it. If this becomes an impossibility due to Pacific Tree's attitude and actions, then we shall have a fight on our hands.

Should the latter come to pass we may have to call upon our entire membership to back up our Tree Trimmers, who are way behind the

parade when it comes to wages, conditions and benefits.

* * *

I am trying to work out a schedule of Unit meeting attendance within the work load I have so that I can get some first-hand information from our members on the many issues which face all of them these days, both on the job and in the public realm.

It may be necessary to arrange some special combined meetings in order to accomplish a maximum contact within a minimum time element but I'll do my best to work it out.

President Fields and other Officers will also attend such meetings where possible in order that they may participate in a communication process involving the policies, economics and goals of Local 1245.

Two things that all members can and should do are to attend Unit meetings and to sign up those non-members who are found on the crew, in the plant or in the office.

We'll need all of the numbers and all of the unity we can muster in 1970 if we expect to make the gains we want and need. It's not too early to begin to ready our machinery for the benefits it is capable of producing for those who own and operate it for personal and family progress.

Utility Service Operator Needed

The Utility Reporter has a policy of no advertising and we intend to maintain that policy. The information listed below is meant only as a point of interest to our members.

The City of Lodi, California, is inviting applications for Utility Service Operator II. The salary range is: \$660-\$693-\$727-\$763-\$801. These salaries are currently under review for increases to be effective September 1, 1969.

THE POSITION: This is a new classification allocated in the 1969-70 budget and is the full journeyman-level operator class. Persons in this class are required to have a complete working knowledge of electrical control systems and devices. Typical duties include directing and assisting in field or substation switching operations; evaluating, inspecting and operating City water and electrical control systems; checking utility system disturbances and taking safe and necessary steps for proper corrective procedures.

REQUIREMENTS: Three years of increasingly responsible experience in an electrical utility department is required. Education level should be equivalent to completion of the twelfth grade, preferably supplemented by electrical trade courses.


EXAMINATION: A written examination will be given Saturday, November 22, and will include electrical power plant operations, control systems and devices, electrical installations and repair 70 50%
Oral examination will include a review of personal qualifications and work history 70 50%

Passing Score	Weight
70	50%
70	50%
	100%

An appointment may be made above the first salary step depending on qualifications.

Applications and additional information may be secured if you visit, write or phone—Personnel Officer, Room 210, City Hall, Lodi, Calif. The phone number is 368-0641.

The final filing date for this job is November 13, 1969.



the utility reporter

Telephone (415) 933-6060

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Work Safely

Year-End Tax Planning

By Sidney Margolius
Consumer Expert for
Utility Reporter

"Year-end tax planning" is more important this year than ever. This is a tax-saving device often used by well-to-do taxpayers. They arrange to pay various deductible expenses before the end of the year if they want to reduce their taxes for the current year. Or if they expect their taxes may be higher next year, they postpone certain tax-deductible payments until the beginning of the new year.

Large taxpayers and self-employed people also often advance or delay receipt of some of their income. Wage-earners are not able to juggle income but often can advance or postpone payment of deductible items.

All this is legal. When you pay a tax-deductible expense like a medical bill or charitable contribution determines when you take the deduction, not when you incurred the expense.

Such tax planning is especially important this year because Congress is considering tax cuts for 1970. Thus, deductions probably will be worth more to you in 1969 than in 1970.

To use year-end tax planning most effectively you need to first estimate whether you will probably itemize your deductions or take a standard deduction. If you do not have enough deductible expenses to itemize deductions this year, then it would be better to postpone until the beginning of next year the payment or whatever deductible expenses can be postponed.

That way you may be able to take a standard deduction this year and have enough to itemize next year. Itemizing saves taxes if your deductions total more than 10 per

cent of your income or more than the minimum standard deduction (\$200 plus \$100 for each exemption claimed on your return).

Even if you usually itemize deductions, pay special attention to your medical deduction. You can deduct only that portion of your medical bills over 3 per cent of your income. If your medical expenses already are approaching that level, you may want to pay any outstanding bills before January 1, to include them in this year's deduction.

Sometimes it even is worth borrowing to pay a medical bill before the end of the year. For example, suppose you owe a \$200 medical or dental bill, and are in a 25 per cent tax bracket (including federal and state tax). The tax saving could be as much as \$50. In contrast, the interest you would pay to your credit union for an eight-month loan of \$200 would amount to only about \$8. (Even that interest would be deductible the year you pay it.)

On the other hand, if you see that your health-care expenses this year will not reach 3 per cent of income, it would save taxes to postpone whatever payments you can until after January 1 to build up a medical deduction for next year.

It even might be worth incurring various deductible expenses before the end of the year if you plan to itemize this year. For example, you may be planning on expensive dental work like dentures or orthodontia for a youngster, or a medical checkup.

In addition to charitable contributions of both cash and goods, and medical and health insurance expenses, other deductible payments which can be advanced or postponed if more desirable, include:

Deductible work expenses such

as purchase and repair of tools, equipment, safety shoes and protective equipment, distinctive uniforms (not ordinary work clothes) and technical books and magazines.

Property taxes.

Interest prepaid on loans, mortgages and installment purchases (within the unfair limits arbitrarily dictated by the Internal Revenue Service). Up to 12 months prepaid interest usually can qualify for a tax deduction.

Employee education expenses, including costs of tuition, books, etc., if the course is in relation to your present work, but not to learn a new trade. An auto mechanic could deduct for a course in automatic transmissions or other skill needed in his trade. A steno could deduct for a course in improving her shorthand. But the steno could not deduct for a course in auto mechanics. Nor could the mechanic deduct for a course in steno. (That's a joke, son.)

While wealthy taxpayers are busily juggling their stock market transactions to minimize taxes, small taxpayers also may have a little advancing or postponing to do.

It may be better to postpone cashing any E bonds until after the New Year to avoid paying current higher rates on the increase in value. If you do have any gains or losses on small purchases of stocks or mutual-fund shares, you may want to weigh the tax effects of taking gains or losses now as against later.

Dependency Exemptions

If you support a qualified relative but cannot claim him as a dependent because he has taxable income of \$600 or more, you still can include medical expenses paid on his behalf.

buyers'
bailiwick

For example, your mother may have income of \$800 a year from social security (nontaxable income) and \$600 from a house she rents out (taxable income). Her total living expenses for the year are \$2900. You contribute \$1500, either in cash or in the form of room and board, medical expenses, etc. Even though you meet the rule for providing over 50 per cent of the support, you still can't claim her as an exemption because of the \$600 of taxable income. (You could if her gross taxable income was just \$599.)

But you can deduct the medical expenses paid on her behalf. Thus, you save taxes if you pay the medical bills of a dependent rather than give the equivalent in cash.

It's well to prepare yourself before year's end to prove your claims for dependents such as an elderly relative or a child at college.

In estimating whether you provide over 50 per cent of support, you need to calculate the dependent's total living expenses and how much he himself provides. Among usual expenses that can be counted are meals, lodging, clothing, medical and health insurance, education, charitable contributions, entertainment, transportation, and personal care (barber, etc.).

When two or more persons provide over half of the support, but none over 50 per cent, one can claim the exemption. Any others who contribute over 10 per cent must sign a "Multiple Support Agreement" form.

'School' Starts Nov. 10 For Preschoolers, On TV

School starts Nov. 10 for the first class of three-, four-, and five-year-olds to take part in television's revolutionary educational series, "Sesame Street."

And it figures to be the largest class ever enrolled for a children's educational course. The Children's Television Workshop, producer of the series, reports that more than 170 public television stations across the country will be beaming the program to a potential audience of 12 million preschoolers.

Consult your local newspaper for time and channel.

The hour-long color program is designed to prepare preschool children for formal classroom education by instructing them in such subjects as the alphabet, numbers and geometric shapes and helping them develop sound thought processes through exercises in problem solving.

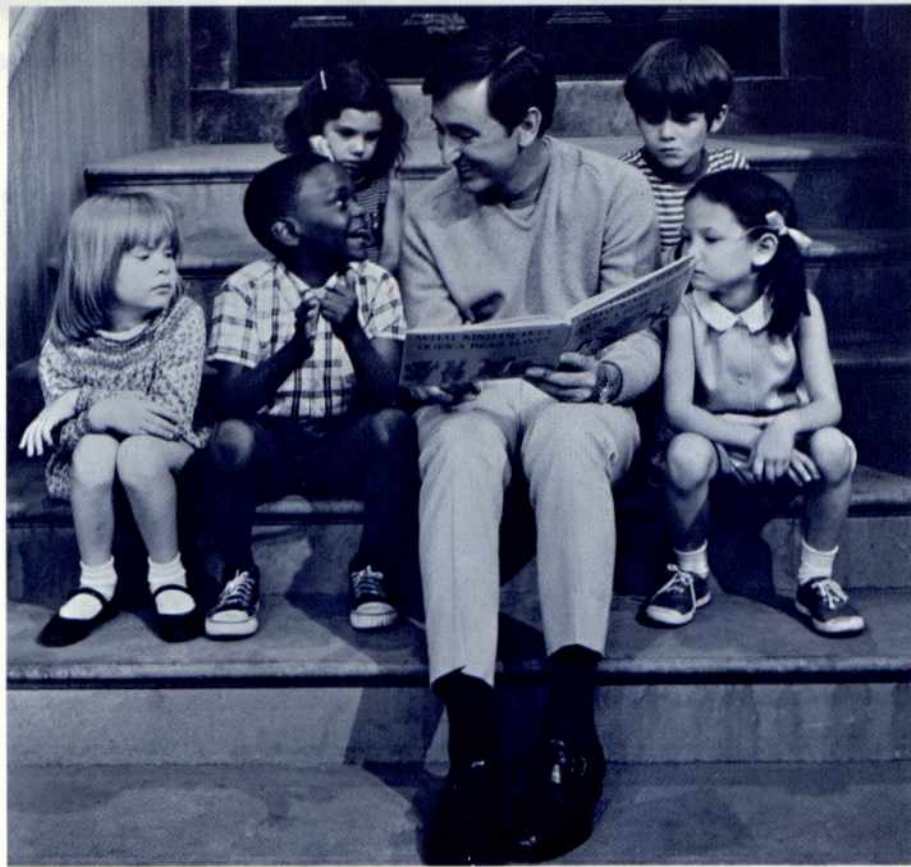
To teach the children in an entertaining fashion and sustain their interest, "Sesame Street" is using many popular elements of commercial children's television—puppets, animated cartoons, live-action films, other children and appearances by such celebrities as Carol Burnett, Burt Lancaster and James Earl Jones.

Four regular hosts—residents of Sesame Street, a typical city street—will help weave together and add perspective to the educational material of each program. They are Matt Robinson, cast as Gordon, a high school science teacher; Loretta Long, as his wife, Susan; Bob McGrath, playing Bob, a fellow teacher; and Will Lee, as Mr. Hooper, the candy store owner.

The famous Jim Henson Muppets are featured in the series. The puppeteer, seen frequently on the "Ed Sullivan Show" and other network programs, has created a number of new characters for "Sesame Street."

The series is one of the most extensively researched and pre-tested programs ever produced for television. Each new idea for the show has been field tested on children in day care centers and in private homes by child research specialists and evaluated for educational merit as well as entertainment appeal.

The executive director of the Children's Television Workshop is Mrs. Joan Ganz Cooney, an Emmy Award winner whose four-month study for the Carnegie Corporation on television as a teaching medium led to the experimental project. David D. Connell, former executive producer of CBS' "Captain Kangaroo" show, is executive producer of the series.



STORY TIME—Bob McGrath, one of the hosts of "Sesame Street," the new daily, hour-long TV series for preschool children, gets animated reaction from a young listener as he reads a book to the neighborhood children. "Sesame Street," which debuts Nov. 10 on more than 170 public television stations, is designed to help the nation's more than 12 million three-to-five year olds get ready for formal schooling. Original cartoons and films, in addition to singing, dancing and story reading by a company of regular hosts and puppets, will mark this unique attempt at education via TV.

Konocti Seminar Provides Education



Lack of space prohibits naming each person in the group photos. See if you can find someone you know in this picture.



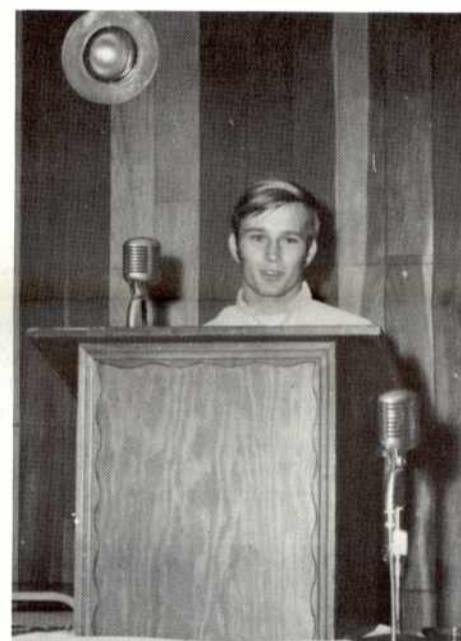
Attorneys Frank Brass, left, and Stewart Boxer and answered questions about Local 1245's I



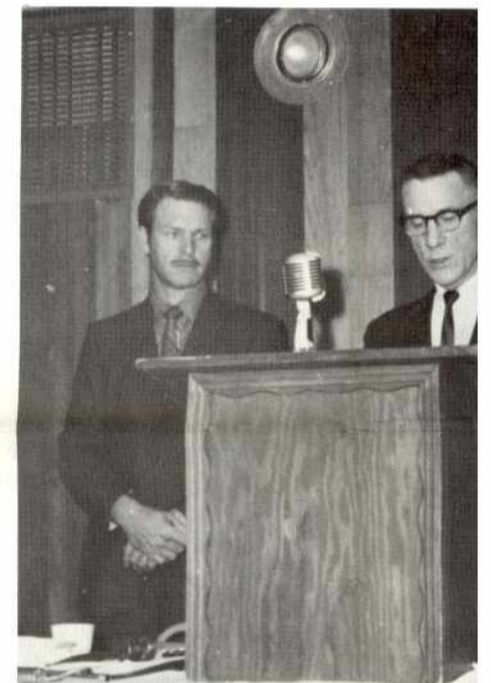
Lee Thomas Jr., Bus. Rep., is shown discussing "Conduct of Unit Meetings."



John Zapian, Treasurer, is talking about finances.



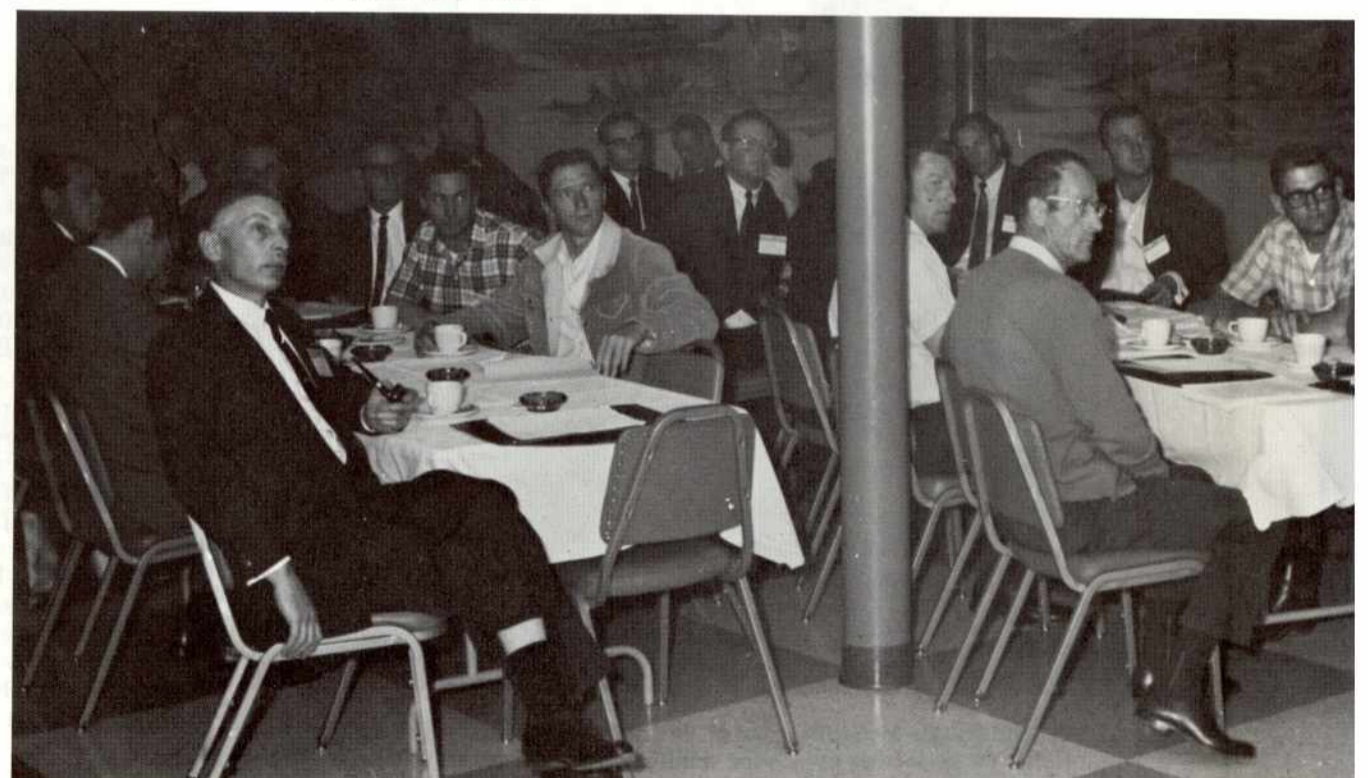
Michael Knox is shown thanking members of L.U. 1245.



L. L. Mitchell, right, addresses the group and looks on.



The center section of the meeting room was occupied by this good looking group of people.



Everyone in this group seems quite interested in the material being presented.

ational Opportunities for Unit Officers



t, and Stewart Boxer made presentations about Local 1245's legal counsel.



The people in this picture represent coverage of a large geographical area.



addresses the group while Ron Fields



Ron Weakley, Bus. Mgr., covers highlights of problems we are faced with as a Union.



From left to right are Herb Dickenson, Vice President, Albert Callahan, Executive Board Member-Southern Area and Ron Fields, President.



ial being presented.



Both "physical" and "clerical" members are pictured in the above photo.



Jim Fountain, Executive Board member-Northern area, is shown making his presentation to the delegates at Konocti.



Albert G. Callahan, newly appointed Executive Board member-Southern area, is shown speaking to the group.



Herb Dickenson, former Southern area board member and newly appointed vice president, was third on the agenda.



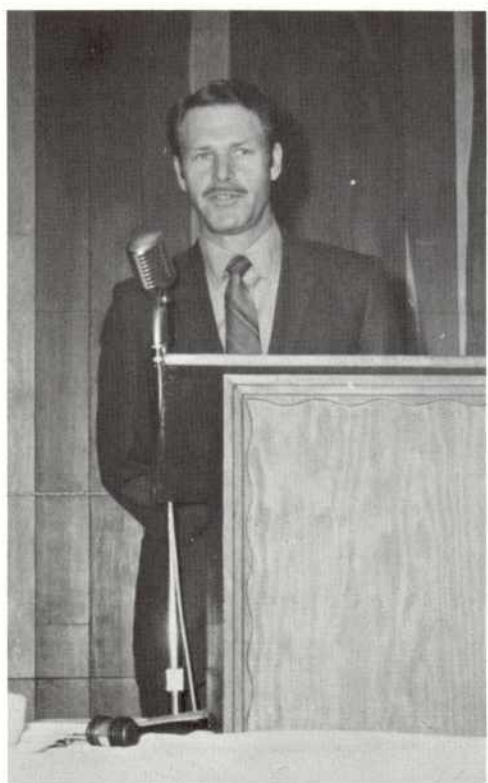
Recording secretary Andrew A. Clayton is shown reporting on his duties.



Joan Bynum, trustee, is shown giving her report on the activities of the trustee committee.



This photo gives the best overall view of the participants at Konocti.



Ron Fields, president, is shown chairing the Konocti Seminar.



Jim Lydon, Executive Board member-Central area, is shown reporting on the "Ways and Means" committee.



Stanley Justis, Advisory Council member, is shown explaining his duties to the Unit officers.



Norm Amundson, from Center for Labor Research, U.C., Berkeley is shown presenting some facts on the membership survey which will be used for the 1970 negotiations.

WIVES ATTEND CONCORD UNIT MEETING

The Concord Unit meeting on October 1, 1969 took on a new look, (and a pleasant one at that) when the wives came out to hear a special speaker.

The picture to the right shows some of the people in attendance at the meeting. There were over 100 people at the meeting.

Stewart Boxer and Peter Elkind from the law firm of Neyhart, Grodin, Beeson & Jewel, were the principal speakers of the evening. The main topics were Wills and Probate.

When you talk about wills and probate, you are naturally talking about the tragedy of death. In the middle of a question and answer period, the room began shaking and we were experiencing an earthquake which measured over 5 on the Richter scale. Needless to say, it brought the message of accidents and untimely death and the need for legal preparation much closer to home.

The wives and members seemed to enjoy the program very much and found it very informative.



KONOCTI SEMINAR SUCCESSFUL

Continued from Page 1

sion on the "Membership Survey" which will be used for the 1970 Negotiations.

Norm Amundson, staff member of the Center for Labor Research at the University of California, Berkeley, and former staff member of Local 1245, led the discussion and gave the results of the "test run" of the survey. The survey was mailed out to all the participants at Konocti with instructions to fill out the survey and be prepared to turn it in upon arrival at the Seminar.

The discussion was very interesting and many good comments and suggestions for improvement were made and these will be used when preparing the survey which will be mailed to the general membership.

After the Seminar had been adjourned, we interviewed a number of the delegates and asked for their opinion of the Seminar. The consensus of opinion was that it was "very interesting and educational."

Ray Thompson Retires

Raymond B. Thompson, who might have carved a career in journalism, in which he distinguished himself as a student, has retired instead as manager of field office operations and personnel in Pacific Gas and Electric Company's big general construction department.

Thompson, of Piedmont, ended 42 years of utility service on October 1. He had been in his present position since 1960, in charge of construction job cost accounting involving millions of dollars and personnel matters for thousands of PG&E employees on projects throughout Northern and Central California.

He considered following in the footsteps of his father, William B. Thompson, financial editor of the San Francisco Chronicle. After editing his Fremont High School paper in Oakland, he became a senior editor of the Daily Californian, the student newspaper, in his senior year at the University of California in 1927. He chose a utility career, however, on graduating with honors in history and economics. At the university he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa.

Thompson was first employed in the electric line construction department of PG&E, where he moved into engineering and then accounting, becoming office manager in 1938. In 1953 he advanced to a general administrative position for all construction departments, from which he later was promoted to his present position. Thompson has been secretary of the General Construction joint grievance committee since it was formed in 1943.

Thompson and his wife Madeline live at 3 Wildwood Gardens. Their daughter Marilyn is a graduate student at the University of California. An only son, Kendall, gave his life in Army service in Vietnam in June 1968.

The following is an excerpt from Ray Thompson's farewell speech at his retirement dinner which was held in San Francisco, September 27, 1969:

"During my 10 years as Secretary of the General Construction Joint Grievance Committee I want to say that during the meetings where the

Company and Union representatives sit around the conference table in settlement of disputes—I have worked with hard working men. The Union is not a Company Union and has given excellent representation to its men."

To those who belong to Local 1245 and participate in the activities of the Union, this is something that goes unspoken; but we do appreciate the thought and the compliment and hope Ray enjoys his retirement.

We Get Letters

<p>PLEASE REFER TO: SACRAMENTO ADDRESS STATE CAPITOL 95814</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE ADDRESSES 1111 JACKSON STREET SUITE 7015 OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA 94612</p> <p>37674 FREMONT BOULEVARD FREMONT, CALIFORNIA 94536</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> X</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/></p>	<p>COMMITTEE LABOR, CHAIRMAN LOCAL GOVERNMENT NATURAL RESOURCES REVENUE AND TAXATION SOCIAL WELFARE</p> <p>NICHOLAS C. PETRIS ELEVENTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT ALAMEDA COUNTY</p> <p>CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE</p> <p>Senate</p> <p>October 15, 1969</p> <p>Mr. Ken Lohre c/o Utility Reporter P.O. Box 584 Walnut Creek, California 94597</p> <p>Dear Mr. Lohre:</p> <p>I read your article in the September copy of the <u>Utility Reporter</u> relative to the air pollution problem here in California, and found it an excellent article well documented and well written.</p> <p>I want to thank you for taking your time to do the necessary research and put together this well organized article. The examples you cited in your article should certainly serve to bring home the problem to your readers in the most graphic way possible.</p> <p>Thank you for your very generous mention of my Senate Bill 778, and I hope that you and your organization will continue your interest and your fight for clean air programs.</p> <p>Sincerely yours, <i>Nicholas C. Petris</i> NICHOLAS C. PETRIS</p> <p>NCP:ed</p>
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The Safety Scene

The Silent Weapons Aimed At Hunters

Each year 20 million Americans take to the open country to hunt. And each year several hundred die from accidental gunshot wounds. You read about these tragedies in your daily papers.

But how many people realize that many more hunters are killed and injured in accidents that **don't** involve firearms?

Unbelievable as it may seem, three times as many deer hunters die from heart attacks as from gunshot wounds. Overexertion, falls, drownings, exposure—all take their toll.

Falls—often from trees—account for many hunting accidents. In Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, last fall a raccoon hunter was fatally injured in such a fall. He had climbed a small tree and was attempting to reach a larger one when he lost his grip and plummeted to the ground. An autopsy showed he died of internal chest bleeding after suffering a ruptured heart artery due to rib fractures.

Also last autumn in Addison County, Vermont, a hunter suffered severe spine and rib injuries in a fall from a tree platform built in a swamp. A companion was unable to assist him after he toppled 13 feet into knee-deep water. Volunteers had to obtain an off-the-road vehicle to reach the site and carry the injured man to an ambulance.

Some hunters lose their footing on steep slopes. A 19-year-old Idaho youth died last April while on a hunting trip when he slipped off a rocky ledge and fell 150 feet to the valley below. Near Reading, Pennsylvania, a hunter suffered a fractured leg in a simple fall while hunting. And a New Mexico man, waiting alone for the rest of his hunting party to return with a vehicle to haul an elk they had killed, was caught in a blizzard and fell onto a mountain ledge. He lay injured for 24 hours and suffered severe exposure before being rescued.

Injuries from falls suffered by hunters far from medical care can lead to serious consequences but so can any other serious injury. An entire family was burned, the father seriously, in Idaho recently when a struck match ignited a leak in a propane tank attached to the family camper. Luckily, other campers were able to give first-aid. Near Portland, Oregon, a 29-year-old hunter was rescued by a helicopter but his 23-year-old companion died from exposure on a storm-swept Columbia River island early this year. The pair had paddled to the island to go duck hunting several days before the storm hit their area.

While prolonged exposure is often fatal, severe and crippling injuries can result from simple frostbite, costing a victim loss of toes, fingers, ears and facial skin. Severe suffering and permanent damage may occur to hunters who disregard the first signs of frostbite: an intense tingling discomfort followed by loss of sensation and a peculiar stiffness. The skin may turn glossy white or grayish yellow even before the onset of pain. Treatment consists of rapid rewarming of the affected parts, if possible in lukewarm water. Never apply snow or ice to places already damaged by cold.

When you go hunting this fall you may find that the very animals you consider your quarry may in fact make a victim of you—on the highway. Every year in this country more than 100,000 deer are killed by automobiles and thousands of other large animals smash up bumpers, fenders and grilles. Many of these collisions are serious auto accidents that kill or maim drivers.

The situation is bad enough on the tollways and freeways but on the back roads, where the woods come closer to the right-of-way and where an auto accident far away from sources of aid is more likely to put a driver's life in jeopardy, you should exercise even greater caution to avoid an auto-animal collision.

When you see a "Watch for Deer" sign, slow down and stay on the alert. At night, watch the sides of the road for the telltale glowing eyes. If you see a deer or other animal, slow down or stop as quickly as you can with safety. Then proceed carefully, because the deer that bounded across the road ahead of you may be followed by another. If a deer stands on the highway "frozen" by your headlights, stop, blink your lights and sound your horn—he'll leave.

Heart attacks take a heavy toll of hunters—especially during the deer season. Deer often frequent deep cover and terrain that many once or twice a year hunters are not used to. The heart can be subjected to unaccustomed strain and abuse.

Often the greatest insult to the human heart comes after the deer is killed when it is being carried out of the woods to the car. Doctors at the Cardiac Work Evaluation Unit of the Minnesota Heart Association, simulating various activities involved in deer hunting, tested a group of men with normally functioning hearts. The tests showed heart rates "beyond maximal," and also indicated "oxygen deficit," and "significant (heart reading) abnormalities." One obvious conclusion of the doctors was that no one with any hint of heart trouble should go deer hunting without first getting the consent of his physician.

One very great danger to the **uninformed** waterfowl hunter is the risk of falling out of the boat into icy waters without knowing the fundamentals of self-rescue in heavy clothing. Experts say you'll only hasten your death if you panic and thrash around in the water attempting to shed the very

clothing that can save your life. Experienced outdoorsmen know that their semi-waterproof canvas and rubber clothing has great flotation capabilities that can be prolonged indefinitely with proper know-how. Keep in mind that many of the items of equipment that leave the boat with you in an upset accident can act as buoyant aids. Among these are an empty or partially filled vacuum jug, a half-empty outboard motor gas tank or a styrofoam food chest. Of course, there should be flotation cushions in every hunting boat. A heavy jacket can be "popped" in the air like a parachute and made to billow with buoyancy. The air-filled jacket will act like water wings for many minutes, after which it can be "popped" again and again. With the many buoyant aids normally found in a boat, and with the boat itself to support you even though it is capsized, you are not likely to drown if you don't panic. If the water is of moderate temperature and help is available, it is best to stay with the capsized boat or hang on to the boat and kick towards shore. But if the water is extremely cold or if no rescuers are in the area, you'll have to swim for shore as a last resort.

Do not remove your clothing even though it makes moving awkward—it's excellent insulation against the cold water, and the chilling effect is your greatest danger. Use the buoyancy of your clothing to its best advantage and hang on to a life preserver—even a makeshift one—while making smooth and even **underwater** strokes and gentle kicks towards the shore. Trap air in your boots and keep them on unless you need to use them for life preservers. They will retain a little air that will help insulate your feet and legs.

And now a warning on what one noted outdoorsman has called "booze in the blind"—the use of alcohol while fishing and hunting. Though a swig of whiskey may have a warming effect that is pleasant on a cold day out on the lake, its value is only temporary, leaving you after a while colder than ever. (Alcohol actually lowers skin temperature.) Further drinking may result in impaired judgment and coordination that may well lead to accidents. And since medical experts say that whiskey isn't even good for snakebite, you might as well leave it at home.

—Family Safety

Hints for Housewives

WHEN PREPARING FOODS:



- Close cupboard doors.
- Turn pot handles parallel to front of range.
- Use sharp knives . . . less danger of cutting self.
- Wash and dry knives separately.
- Sweep up broken glass.
- Wipe up spills immediately.
- Use a step ladder for those high shelves.
- Keep hands dry when operating electrical appliances.
- Have plenty of pot holders and use them.

"ACCIDENT FACTS" FACTS

Yesterday we received the annual statistical bible of the safety movement, "Accident Facts." Among the facts:

MOTOR VEHICLE AND WAR DEATHS: From 1900 through 1968, motor vehicle deaths in the U. S. totalled more than 1,700,000. U. S. Military casualties in the principal wars from 1775 through 1968 totalled 1,135,000. Of this total, 633,638 were battle deaths and about 501,100 were from disease, accidents, etc., connected with the operation of the war.

MOTORCYCLES: Deaths of motorcycle riders (including riders of motor scooters and motor bicycles) from 1961 to 1968 increased 173%, from 697 to 1,900. The motorcycle mileage death rate (deaths per 100,000,000 miles of motorcycle travel) is 23, compared to the overall motor vehicle death rate of 5.5 which includes pedestrian and non-occupant as well as occupant deaths.

1967 vs. 1968. Total traffic deaths in 1968 was 55,200; a four per cent increase over 1967. Pedestrian accidents killed 9,800 last year, an increase of 4%. Number of people injured last year topped 2,000,000, up 100,000 over 1967.