



utility reporter

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Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO,
P.O. Box 4790,
Walnut Creek, Ca. 94596



Pictured in the foreground, from left to right, are: Jim O'Flaherty, Electrician, Ron Tanberg, Line-working foreman, and Rich Melillo, Gas Serviceman. All three of these men are employed by Sierra Pacific Power Co. and were guests at the Advisory Council meeting in February. These men, along with four or five others, will serve on Union's negotiating committee as we begin bargaining with Sierra Pacific.

Advisory Council Meets

The Advisory Council of Local 1245 met in Concord at the Holiday Inn on February 6th and 7th.

We have printed and reprinted articles outlining the scope and purpose of the Advisory Council and we will not repeat them at this time.

However, we do want to highlight one portion of the meeting wherein the Council members give reports. Some of the items are repetitious and are of little interest to the group as a whole, but many topics or problems in one area are also common to other areas and the people get together during the breaks and in the evening and discuss each other's solutions.

One of the main issues that came up during the reports was job safety. The point was made that the PG&E, in some areas, can't find any light duty for an employee who was injured on his own time and away from the job,

but if it was an industrial accident, "they will darn near bring you in on a stretcher to avoid a lost time accident. If you aren't a basket
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This photo shows Ron Weakley, Business Manager, addressing the Advisory Council on items of interest to the members of Local 1245.

Local 1245 Nominates all Officers this April

Nominations for all Local 1245 Officers will be open at the April Unit Meetings in accordance with the Local Bylaws. Article III of the Bylaws provides for the April nomination of Local Union President, Vice President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Business Manager-Financial Secretary, Southern Area Executive Board Member, Central Area Executive Board Member, Northern Area Executive Board Member, and the At Large Executive Board Member (At Large Executive Board Member covers members employed by PG&E General Construction, Tree Trimming Companies, and in Outside Construction). Advisory Council members will also be nominated at the same meetings as provided by the Bylaws.

Article III sets up the procedure for nominating candidates. (The following excerpt is from Article III; its specific language is controlling.)

Section 6 (a) provides that nominations shall be made under a special order of business at 8:30 p.m. at your April Unit Meeting.

Section 11 provides that nominees shall have been members in good standing for two years prior to April 1, 1971. A nominee should not have his name recorded in the minutes as a candidate if he knows he does not qualify.

Section 12 provides that a member, in order to qualify as a candidate, must be in attendance at the Unit Meeting at which he is nominated. The only exception to this is if the member notifies the Local Union's Recording Secretary in writing, on or before April 1st, 1971, that he will run for a specific office if nominated.

Section 13 provides that a member shall not accept nomination for more than one Local Union Office, unless it is a combined office under the Bylaws.

You have a duty to encourage able members to be candidates for office, keeping in mind the Officers you elect will guide Local 1245 for the next three years.

Attend your April Unit Meeting at the locations listed on page 4 and 5 and participate in this important function of your Union.

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

BETTER UNIT MEETINGS

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

Local 1245 conducts 86 regular monthly unit meetings over its vast geographic area of operation.

These meetings are very important but poorly attended. They form the basic legislative function of Local 1245 under its bylaws and are the most important meetings held in our house.

I am joined with those who have long deplored the fact that our Unit Meetings are so poorly attended. Yet, I must admit that the people who attend such meetings often come away with a feeling that the meetings are dull, uninteresting, and not worth giving up one evening a month for what should be an evening of learning, participation in policy decisions and good fellowship.

I continue to believe that our Unit Meetings could become attractive enough to get a member to invest one evening a month toward his personal interests, as a member of a group with similar interests.

We have tried many ways to induce membership attendance and interest. Most of these attempts fell by the wayside, for one reason or another.

Nevertheless, I feel that the leadership of our Union has not

yet exhausted all of the ways and means to develop membership interest and attendance.

The question of learning could be partially answered by providing some basic union education regarding how Local 1245 was born, how it has progressed and what it is doing toward making the member's job life a better one, through collective bargaining and the use of the various grievance procedures.

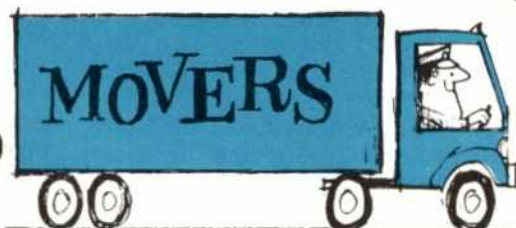
"Family Nights," wherein the wives of our members could come to an open meeting and learn about Workmen's Compensation, Health and Welfare Benefits, Pensions, Stock Saving Plans, Social Security, Union Death Benefits, Long-term Disability Plans, Supplemental Benefit Programs, Sick Leave, Job Safety, etc., could be programmed on a "Special Unit Meeting" basis.

Reasonable provision for refreshments could be made available at reasonable cost to our Local Union on a programmed basis, so that the wives of our people could have a bit of social involvement in our union's general functions.

Good speakers are available in the communities in which our people live and work. Let such

(Continued on Page Two)

... HAVE YOU MOVED?



MY NEW ADDRESS IS:

NAME _____

STREET _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

RETURN TO:

P.O. BOX 4790, WALNUT CREEK, CALIF. 94596

Politics of Fear Assailed As Danger to Democracy

Following are excerpts from the nationwide election eve television broadcast by Sen. Edmund S. Muskie (D-Me.).

In the heat of our campaigns, we have all become accustomed to a little anger and exaggeration. Yet, on the whole, our political process has served us well, presenting for your judgment a range of answers to the country's problems and a choice between men who seek the honor of public service.

That is our system. It has worked for almost 200 years, longer than any other political system in the world. And it still works.

But in these elections of 1970,

something has gone wrong. There has been name calling and deception of almost unprecedented volume. Honorable men have been slandered. Faithful servants of the country have had their motives questioned and their patriotism doubted.

This attack is not simply the overzealousness of a few local leaders. It has been led, inspired and guided from the highest offices in the land.

The danger from this assault is not that a few more Democrats might be defeated—the country can survive that. The true danger is that the American people will

have been deprived of that public debate, that opportunity for fair judgment, which is the heartbeat of the democratic process. And that is something the country cannot afford.

Let me try to bring some clarity to this deliberate confusion. Let me begin with those issues of law and order, of violence and unrest, which have prevailed the rhetoric of this campaign.

I believe that any person who violates the law should be apprehended, prosecuted and punished, if found guilty. So does every candidate for office of both parties. And nearly all Americans agree.

I believe everyone has a right to feel secure, on the streets of his city and in the buildings where he works or studies. So does every candidate for office of both parties. And nearly all Americans agree.

Therefore, there is no issue of law and order, or of violence. There is only a problem. There is no disagreement about what we want. There are only different approaches

to getting it. And the harsh and uncomfortable fact is that no one, in either party, has the final answer.

For four years, a conservative Republican has been governor of California. Yet there is no more law and order in California today than when he took office.

President Nixon, like President Johnson before him, has taken a firm stand. A Democratic Congress has passed sweeping legislation. Yet America is no more orderly or lawful nor its streets more safe than was the case two years ago, or four or six.

We must deal with symptoms—strive to prevent crime, halt violence and punish the wrongdoer.

But we must also look for the deeper causes, in the structure of our society.

If one of your loved ones is sick, you do not think it is soft or undisciplined of a doctor to try and discover the agents of illness. But you would soon discard a doctor who thought it enough to stand by

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We Get Letters

February 19, 1971

Mr. Ronald T. Weakley, Executive Editor
The Utility Reporter, I.B.E.W.
P.O. Box 4790

Walnut Creek, California 94596

Dear Ron,

I have been reading the latest issue of the "Utility Reporter" and want to compliment you and the entire editorial staff for excellent coverage of essential and factual information presented to your membership.

In closing my 44 year career with P.G.&E. Company effective March 1, 1971, by early retirement, I wish to express my appreciation for receiving a copy of the Utility Reporter while serving on the Division Joint Grievance Committee. It certainly has been a source of information to better understand the many issues that we all must face and resolve in maintaining and building our great utility industry.

Over a cup of coffee with Orv Owen recently we recalled many problems experienced over the years that were settled only by the diligent efforts of both Union and Management.

My special appreciation to your staff and members for the strong support given in our Employee United Fund Campaign these past two years. I sincerely hope this joint effort campaign will continue with increasing success for the important purpose it serves to our community.

Sincerely,

Lytle
J. Lytle Gibson

Division Personnel Manager

Walter Lessmann
3449 Moretti Dr.
Concord, Calif.

Executive Board
Local 1245, I.B.E.W.

Dear Sirs:

I have procrastinated long enough. I would like to thank you and the negotiating committee for the great job done during the last contract negotiations. I would especially like to say thank you for the bulletins that were sent out. I feel that these bulletins stopped lots of rumors and made the membership feel they were not left in the dark. I realize it is not prudent or feasible to print everything that takes place at the negotiating meetings, but the highlights, as they were reported, made us feel we were part of the proceedings. Thanks again.

Walt Lessmann
Concord Service

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

BETTER UNIT MEETINGS

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

(Continued from Page One)

speakers be controversial, if necessary, but let us seek a good balance of exposure, which includes "both sides" of any community question.

Politicians, educators, responsible youth groups, senior citizen groups, sportsmen groups, ecology groups, industrial and commercial groups, religious groups, other labor groups and when available, certain speakers from the top leadership of our Local Union and our International Union, would be most happy to be invited to appear and speak to the people who own and operate Local Union 1245—its working membership.

Each Unit has an Executive Committee made up of five people. Each Unit has an assigned Business Representative. Together, these people have an opportunity to make our Unit Meetings more worthy of interest and more worthy of attendance, should they bestir themselves and develop some new and exciting programs of information and relative interest involving the working citizens who make up our 14,000 members, plus their families.

There are too many basic economic and social problems these days which require attention among working people and which require group approaches to the solution of such problems, to let such an opportunity pass by without some measure of action being taken by those who have 86 scheduled meetings at their command and who could provide a forum of information.

The serious question of taxation should be a major item of interest at all of our Unit meetings. Knowledge as to how our tax structures are presently designed to help the earners picking up the bulk of the rich and help the poor, with wage tab, should be examined in detail at our Unit Meetings.

There are so many exciting ways to provide extra interest beyond our necessary Unit Meeting participation in the general affairs of Local 1245, that I cannot believe that we should allow our present situation to continue, unless we have no sense of urgency or necessity as it applies to the requirement that we make our Unit Meetings more relevant to the needs of our people as working citizens and family providers.


If only a few units take heed and do something along the lines suggested herein, we shall have a start. Then more Units will follow as they observe what can be accomplished through fresh ideas on how to break through the barrier of membership apathy.

Your Executive Board and your Business Office will react favorably to any reasonable utilization of our organizational and economic capacities in the quest for better attendance and interest at our Unit Meetings.

Any suggestions or ideas along the lines set forth herein can also be made matters of general membership information if they are put forth in writing for publication in the Utility Reporter.


You write them and we shall print them because we are obviously seeking ways and means to make our Unit Meetings worthy of the time and expense which all members of Local 1245 underwrite as part of their dues input to run the affairs of their Union.

I refuse to concede that all of the great talents found among the many thousands of working members who make up the ranks of Local 1245 should be wasted, when we need those talents to make our 81 Unit Meetings worth attending for purposes of keeping our Union free and productive in an economic and social sense in a free country.



the utility reporter

Telephone (415) 933-6060



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New Tax Rules A Help If You Know Them

By Sidney Margolius, Consumer Expert for Utility Reporter

There are important changes in the tax rules this year which you ought to know about before you send in your return on 1970 income due April 15. These changes especially affect low-income and part-time workers, including any of your children who may have worked part time. They can have up to \$1,725 in income without owing any taxes.

You should see that your child files a tax return if he worked part-time, in order to recover federal income taxes if they were deducted from his pay.

But in addition to part-time many low and moderate-income families with several children will not owe any federal income tax this year, and may be eligible for refunds, because of a special "low-income allowance."

On your return for 1970 income, you have a choice of three ways to take deductions:

—You can itemize deductions.

—Or you can take a blanket deduction of 10 per cent of your adjusted gross income up to \$1,000 (\$500 on the separate return of a married person).

—Or you can use the optional tax tables to take a minimum standard deduction which now includes an additional allowance for low-income taxpayers.

The new minimum standard deduction is the total of two amounts: a "basic allowance" and an ad-

ditional allowance." The basic allowance consists of \$200 for each taxpayer plus \$100 for each exemption on his return. The additional allowance, designed to help low-income taxpayers, is \$900 minus \$100 multiplied by the number of exemptions.

Note that these two allowances add up to \$1,100. For a single person who has only himself as an exemption, the basic allowance is \$300 and the additional allowance, \$800. For a couple the basic allowance is \$400 and the additional allowance \$700, and so on.

Now if you add to these allowances the 1970 exemption of \$265 per person (increased from the century-old \$600), you see that a single person can have nontaxable income from 1970 of as much as \$1,725 (\$1,100 plus \$625). A couple can have \$2,250 of nontaxable income (\$1,100 plus \$1,250). Similarly, a taxpayer with three exemptions can have \$2,975 of nontaxable income; one with four exemptions, \$3,600; five, \$4,225; six, \$4,850; seven, \$5,475; eight, \$6,100.

But: if your income is over these amounts, the "additional allowance" is reduced on 1970 returns by \$1 for each \$2 of excess income until it melts away completely.

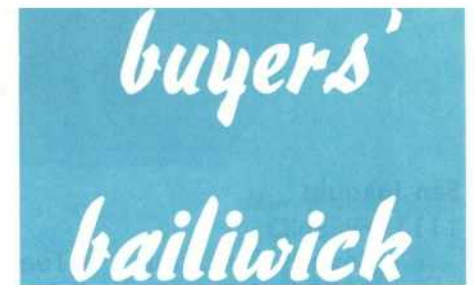
If you are a moderate-income taxpayer who might benefit from the new allowance you don't need to figure it out yourself, although it helps to understand it. The op-

tional tax tables that come with your tax forms have the minimum standard deduction, including the low-income allowance, already built in for families of various sizes.

But what the average family with income under \$10,000 does need to decide is whether itemizing deductions would save taxes compared to using the optional tax tables with their built-in standard allowance. (Families with incomes of \$10,000 or over, or who have more than \$100 of dividends or interest, can't use the optional tax tables in any case. They must either itemize or take the 10 per cent standard allowance.)

Let's see how a typical family would decide which of the alternative deduction methods would be best. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children and adjusted gross income of \$8,000. First they estimate that their potential deductions would total \$900 if itemized. This obviously would be better than the \$800 the 10 per cent blanket deduction would give them.

But would the new additional allowance help them? First the Smiths estimate what their tax would be on their \$8,000 income if they itemized. With their itemized deductions of \$900 and their four exemptions of \$625 each, they can subtract a total of \$3,400 from their gross adjusted income. This leaves \$4,600 of taxable income. The normal tax on this is \$734.



Then they look at the optional tax table for returns claiming four exemptions and find that the tax shown their for an adjusted gross income of \$8,000 would be \$757. (Neither figure includes the surtax.)

Thus, they would get no help from the minimum standard allowance. So the Smiths itemize deductions.

But take a family with less income and more exemptions. Joe Jones, with a wife and four children suffered a work cutback in 1970. His gross adjusted income was \$5,000. The Joneses add up their potential deductions and find they come to \$800 if itemized; obviously preferable to a 10 per cent standard deduction of only \$500.

But as they see by checking the optional tax tables for six dependents, they would get some help from the minimum standard allowance. The tax shown on the tables is only \$37 instead of the \$63 they would pay if they itemized deductions and calculated their tax the normal way.

(NEXT: Other potential benefits from the new rules, and a checklist of deductions sometimes overlooked.)

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IRS Hedges on Interest Deduction; Other Tax Savers

By Sidney Margolius, Consumer Expert for Utility Reporter

The Internal Revenue Service has made a partial concession on our plea to correct one of its unfairest rules—the limitations on the amount you can deduct for interest on installment purchases. Last year in this column and in letters and discussions with IRS, this writer pointed out that the Truth in Lending law now requires that all credit charges must be shown as an annual percentage rate. Therefore it is only fair that consumers be allowed to deduct finance charges in full as "interest." Otherwise, on revolving charge accounts and installment purchases you are supposed to deduct only an amount equal to 6 per cent of the average unpaid balances.

In contrast, you can deduct the full interest on cash loans. One contradiction which we tried to get IRS spokesmen to clarify is whether the credit fee on a bank charge card such as Master Charge or BankAmericard is "interest" and fully deductible, or a "finance charge" and only partly deductible, but the Washington office said they would not be (a typical IRS contradiction).

Finally after almost a year the IRS has ruled that the credit fees on a bank charge card would be fully deductible if the bank treats them as interest. But if the bank or retailer does not show the "interest" separately from "carrying charges" or it cannot be ascertained, then they are subject to the 6 per cent limit (a typically vague IRS ruling).

If you paid credit fees on a store revolving credit plan, our best advice is to ask the store and ask what part is "interest." We have also warned a number of department-store executives, some of whom are as tied up in red tape as government officials, that they should call their so-called carrying charges "interest." Otherwise consumers have a double reason for using credit-union or bank loans to finance purchases. The credit charges are both lower and fully deductible.

'Adjustments' and 'Deductions'

Sometimes taxpayers are confused by the difference between "adjustments" and "deductions" and subtract "adjustments" in the wrong place. It's important to understand the difference.

For one reason, failing to list the "adjustments" in the proper place (on page 2 of the tax return) can delay a refund. But even more important, you can subtract your total adjustments from gross income on page 1 whether or not you itemize deductions or take a standard deduction.

Too, subtracting the adjustments from gross income results in a lower "adjusted gross income." Thus you may be able to deduct more of your medical expenses, since you can deduct only that part over 3 per cent of adjusted gross income.

The most common adjustment is for sick pay. You can subtract the pay you received while sick or injured, within specified limits.

Another frequent adjustment these days is moving expenses if you go to a new job. The rules have been liberalized so you can take off additional costs, such as expenses for house-hunting at the new location.

Employees who must sometimes be away from home overnight on jobs or who work away from home temporarily can take an adjustment for non-reimbursed travel, meals and lodging.

Or if you work at two places in one day you may take off costs of getting to the second.

Now for deductions:

We cannot list here all the potential deductions you may be able to itemize (the better tax guides have comprehensive lists) but want to point out some often overlooked.

MEDICAL: You can deduct one-half of amounts paid for health insurance up to \$150, whether or not you have enough other medical expenses to itemize. The balance can be included in your medical deduction if you have enough to deduct. In health-insurance expenses, include your share of the cost of employer health insurance, and the medical-payments portion of your auto insurance.

Other deductible medical expenses, as well as the usual doctor, and hospital bills, include eyeglasses; prosthetic aids; household medicines like aspirin; transportation costs to get care; special foods, vitamins and equipment, even an air conditioner for an ill person, support hose, etc., if advised by a doctor.

If you support a relative who would qualify as your dependent except that he has taxable income of \$625 or more, you can include in your medical deduction any medical and health-insurance bills you pay for him, including for Medicare Part B. In fact, it may be preferable to pay medical bills for such a dependent than give him the cash.

CASUALTY LOSSES: You can deduct for sudden damage of over \$100 to property, boat and car or other possessions from fire, storm, accident (even if your own fault) and also theft. The loss is the difference in fair market value of the property before and after the damage. It helps to have documents such as appraisals and repair bills.

INTEREST: Mortgage interest is wholly deductible. So are prepayment penalties, and "points" paid to get a mortgage if the buyer pays. Interest

(Continued on Page Seven)

1971 — Attend your Local 124!

San Joaquin

				Mar.	Apr.	May	June
1111	FRESNO Beverly Park Club 2970 E. Weldon	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: W. Potts	16	20	18	15
1112	BAKERSFIELD Plasterers' Local 26 Bernard Street	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: R. Foxe	4	1	6	3
1113	MADERA Lucca's 325 N. Gate Way	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: R. R. Dubois	4	8	6	3
1114	TAFT Power Club	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: R. Conners	3	7	5	2
1116	CORCORAN-Club Room 901 Chittonden	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: A. B. Williams	11	15	13	10
1117	WASCO Power Club	Monday 7:00 p.m.	Chairman: T. O. Caterlin	8	12	10	7
1118	CRANE VALLEY Power House #2 Office	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: E. Prindiville	9	13	11	8
1119	BALCH POWER HOUSE	Wednesday 6:30 p.m.	Chairman: D. Adams	10	14	12	9
1120	SELMA I.O.O.F. Hall 1710 Tucker	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. R. Gordon	11	15	13	10
1121	COALINGA-Power Club Jayne and Merced Avenue	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. Hunziker	17	21	19	16
1123	MERCED-Century Bowl Childs Avenue	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: E. Nye	2	6	4	1
1124	LOS BANOS Firemens' Hall	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. Guyette	3	7	5	2

Coast Valleys

				Mar.	Apr.	May	June
1211	SALINAS American Legion Hall 14 W. Laurel Drive	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: J. Smith	9	6	4	8
1212	MONTEREY Carpeters' Hall 738 Hawthorne	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: R. W. Withers	10	7	5	9
1214	WATSONVILLE-MOSS LANDING American Legion Hall Center Street Watsonville	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: C. Keehn	11	8	6	10
1217	PASO ROBLES Elks Lodge 1420 Park Street	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: G. Greer	16	13	11	15
1215	SAN LUIS OBISPO Elks Lodge 222 Elk Lane	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: K. Whinery	17	14	12	16
1216	SANTA MARIA Vandenberg Inn Titan Room 1316 S. Broadway	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: P. Griffin	18	15	13	17
1218	LOMPOC 514 South "I" Street	Monday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. McManus	22	19	17	21

Pipe Line

				Mar.	Apr.	May	June
1312	NEEDLES Needles Lions Club River and Front Sts.	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: H. J. Starr	9	13	11	8
1311	BARSTOW Conference Room Barstow Fire Hall 209 N. First Street	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. Burnett	10	14	12	9
1314	AVENAL Veterans' Memorial Hall	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: G. R. Swanson	16	20	18	15

San Jose

				Mar.	Apr.	May	June
1501	SAN JOSE CLERICAL Santa Clara County Blind Center 101 N. Bascom	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: G. D. Hanson	4	1	6	3
1511	SAN JOSE Santa Clara County Blind Center 101 N. Bascom	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: E. A. Fortier	3	7	5	2
1512	BELMONT Good Shepherd Hall 1336 - 5th Ave.	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: R. R. Bernstein	10	14	12	9
1513	SANTA CRUZ Laborers' Temple 2960 Soquel Ave.	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: D. C. Thomas	16	20	18	15
1514	SAN JOSE AREA GENERAL CONSTRUCTION Santa Clara County Blind Center 101 N. Bascom	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: D. Bassett	2	6	4	1

East Bay

				Mar.	Apr.	May	June
2301	EAST BAY AREA CLERICAL Claremont Hotel Ashby and Claremont Ave.	Tuesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. J. Isham	9	13	11	8
2311	OAKLAND Edgewater Inn 455 Hegenberger Road	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: J. Dawson	2	6	4	1
2312	EAST BAY AREA GENERAL CONSTRUCTION Edgewater-Hyatt House 455 Hegenberger Road	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: R. Koshmieder	10	14	12	9
2314	HAYWARD Doric Hayward Motor Hotel 23950 Mission Blvd.	Wednesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: R. E. Kmetz	3	7	5	2
2315	LIVERMORE Eagles Hall 525 N. Livermore Ave.	Thursday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: J. Donohue, Jr.	4	1	6	3
2316	CONCORD I.B.E.W. Hall Pacheco	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: J. Crawford	11	8	13	10
2317	ANTIOCH Antioch Women's Club 509 "G" Street	Thursday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: R. Kilpatrick, Jr.	18	22	20	24

San Francisco

				Mar.	Apr.	May	June
2401	SAN FRANCISCO CLERICAL Sheraton-Palace Hotel Market and New Montgomery	Wednesday 5:30 p.m.	Chairman: E. Vallejo	10	14	12	9
2412	SAN FRANCISCO War Memorial Center 6655 Mission Street Daly City	Tuesday 8:00 p.m.	Chairman: E. Sheldon	2	6	4	1
2413	SAN FRANCISCO AREA GENERAL CONSTRUCTION (Meeting place and dates not set up—will appear in March is- sue of the Utility Reporter)		(Dates to be Announced)				

Stockton

				Mar.	Apr.	May	June
2513	JACKSON Carpenters' Hall Sutter Creek 1/2 Mi. S. Hwy. 49	Tuesday 7:00 p.m.	Chairman: W. Johns	2	6	4	1
2512	ANGELS CAMP Veterans' Bldg. Main Street	Wednesday 7:30 p.m.	Chairman: A. Darr	3	7	5	2

IBEW Unit Meetings! — 1971

STOCKTON—Continued

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
2511 STOCKTON	Chairman:					
Labor Center-Hall B	D. R. Custer	Thursday	4	1	6	3
2626 N. Calif. St.		8:00 p.m.				
2517 SONORA	Chairman:					
I.O.O.F. Hall	W. Sharp	Tuesday	9	13	11	8
		7:30 p.m.				
2515 MODESTO	Chairman:					
Labor Temple	D. Tisher	Wednesday	10	14	12	9
604 - 10th Street		7:30 p.m.				
2516 LODI	Chairman:					
Senior Citizens Hall	G. H. Adams	Thursday	11	8	13	10
113 N. School St.		7:30 p.m.				
2514 TRACY	Chairman:					
Eagles' Hall	J. Nottingham	Tuesday	16	20	18	15
East Hwy. 50		7:30 p.m.				

Public Agencies

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3011 SACRAMENTO TRANSIT AUTHORITY	Chairman:					
S.T.A. Shop	J. Smith	Wednesday	3	7	5	2
2824 "N" Street		4:30 p.m.				
3911 SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT	Chairman:					
Dante Club	B. C. Parks	Wednesday	3	7	5	2
2330 Fair Oaks Blvd.		8:00 p.m.				
2211 OAKLAND GENERAL Edgewater-Hyatt House	Chairman:					
455 Hegenberger Road	R. Murphy	Thursday	11	8	13	10
		8:00 p.m.				
1411 CITY OF SANTA CLARA Conference Room	Chairman:					
Mariani's Motel	R. Murphy	Thursday	18	15	20	17
2500 El Camino Real		8:00 p.m.				

Pacific Gas Transmission

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3021 SANDPOINT	Chairman:					
Travelers Motel	W. Miller	Wednesday	24	28	26	23
		7:30 p.m.				
3022 ROSALIA	Chairman:					
Longhorn Cafe	D. A. Noland	Thursday	25	29	27	24
		7:00 p.m.				
3023 WALLA WALLA Fire Station	Chairman:					
	J. C. Hein	Wednesday	24	28	26	23
		7:00 p.m.				
3024 REDMOND L-Rancho Motel	Chairman:					
	L. Banta	Tuesday	23	27	25	22
		7:00 p.m.				
3025 KLAMATH FALLS Labor Temple-Hall A	Chairman:					
220 Main Street	T. O. Bates	Monday	22	26	24	21
		7:00 p.m.				

Humboldt

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3111 EUREKA	Chairman:					
Veterans' Memorial Bldg.	R. D. McKenna	Wednesday	10	14	12	16
10th & "H" Street		7:30 p.m.				
3112 GARBERVILLE-WEOTT Fire Hall	Chairman:					
	W. P. Butrica	Thursday	11	15	13	17
		7:30 p.m.				

Shasta

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3212 REDDING	Chairman:					
Holiday Inn	A. L. Wyant	Tuesday	2	6	4	1
1900 Hilltop Road		7:30 p.m.				
3216 TRINITY	Chairman:					
New York Hotel	A. L. Wells	Tuesday	9	13	11	8
Weaverville		7:30 p.m.				
3213 BURNEY	Chairman:					
Veterans' Memorial Hall	J. Means	Thursday	18	22	20	24
Highway 299		7:30 p.m.				

Sierra Pacific

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3311 RENO	Chairman:					
Carpenter's Hall	F. Kelly	Wednesday	17	21	19	16
1150 Terminal Way		7:30 p.m.				
3313 YERINGTON	Chairman:					
I.O.O.F. Hall	C. Myers	Tuesday	16	20	18	15
No. Main Street		7:30 p.m.				
3314 WINNEMUCCA	Chairman:					
Winner's Inn	W. Hardenbrook	Thursday	18	15	20	17
Highway 80		7:30 p.m.				

De Sable

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3412 QUINCY-FEATHER RIVER	Chairman:					
*Quincy High School	J. L. Luttrell	Tuesday	*2	*6	*4	*1
Hwy. 70		7:30 p.m.				
**Injun Jim School						
3411 CHICO	Chairman:					
Retail Clerks' Hall	T. F. Conwell	Wednesday	3	7	5	2
First and Sheridan Ave.		7:30 p.m.				
3417 PARADISE	Chairman:					
Veterans' Memorial Bldg.	E. Harte	Thursday	4	8	6	3
Skyway		7:30 p.m.				

Drum

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3511 AUBURN	Chairman:					
Denny's Restaurant	R. L. Harmon	Thursday	11	15	13	10
		7:30 p.m.				
3513 GRASS VALLEY	Chairman:					
Elks Hall	J. G. Peyret, Jr.	Wednesday	10	14	12	9
129½ Pine St.		7:30 p.m.				
Nevada City						

Colgate

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3611 MARYSVILLE	Chairman:					
Sheriff Dept. Bldg.	D. Johnson	Tuesday	9	13	11	8
End of Second St. at Yuba City Airport		7:30 p.m.				
3613 OROVILLE	Chairman:					
Eagles' Hall	A. L. Baker	Thursday	11	15	13	10
Meyers & Montgomery Sts.		7:30 p.m.				

North Bay

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3712 SANTA ROSA	Chairman:					
Labor Center	A. Fahrner	Tuesday	2	6	4	8
1706 Corby Ave. Santa Rosa		8:00 p.m.				
Ave. off ramp						
3714 UKIAH	Chairman:					
Ukiah Labor Temple	B. White	Thursday	4	8	6	10
K.U.K.I. Road		8:00 p.m.				
3716 NAPA	Chairman:					
Labor Temple	R. M. Connelly	Tuesday	9	13	11	15
1606 Main Street		8:00 p.m.				
3717 FORT BRAGG-PT. ARENA	Chairman:					
Eagles' Hall	D. McDonell	Wednesday	11	15	13	17
Corry & Alder Sts.		7:30 p.m.				
3715 LAKEPORT	Chairman:					
Fire House	R. Hogue	Tuesday	16	20	18	22
445 Main Street		7:00 p.m.				
3711 MARIN COUNTY	Chairman:					
Painters' Bldg.	E. F. Buchanan	Wednesday	17	21	19	23
701 Mission St.		7:30 p.m.				
San Rafael						

Sacramento

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June
3811 SACRAMENTO	Chairman:					
Dante Club	M. M. Golich	Tuesday	2	6	4	1
2330 Fair Oaks Blvd.		8:00 p.m.				
3813 PLACERVILLE	Chairman:					
Placerville	C. Padilla	Thursday	4	8	6	3
Bowling		5:00 p.m.				

(Continued on Page Seven)

Advisory Council Meets

(Continued from Page One)

case, they seem to find some things for you to do."

The impact and effect of special safety programs, bulletins and regular safety meetings held by some Companies is reduced to almost nothing because of their childish practices for the sake of a "lost-time accident record."

This isn't true of all areas in PG&E or all Companies, but it is a very common gripe or comment when safety is discussed by our members from all over California and Nevada.

Criticism of "Company-Doctors" was also made by some of the Council members in their reports. These items were noted and will be investigated.

Business Representatives Dave Reese and Ken Lohre, with the use of slides, gave a report on a conference dealing with the problem of "How to Reach the Union Member," which they attended in January of this year.

Ron Fields, President of Local 1245, gave the Oath of Obligation to Mark Burns, Advisory Councilman for DeSabra Division.

President Fields also presented a 20 year pin to Leland Thomas, Jr.,

Past President of Local 1245.

Ron Weakley, Business Manager, reported on the new anti-labor bills being readied for introduction in Congress and their effect on Local 1245's members.

He also reported on the growing public and political support for wage and price controls.

Business Manager Weakley reported on many other things, but he emphasized the need for full participation in the coming Union elections.

L. L. Mitchell, Senior Assistant Business Manager, reported on the change in Data Processing services being used at the Local Union Headquarters.

Mert Walters, Assistant Business Manager, reported on the strike against Local 1245 by Local 29, OPEU, and unfair labor practices by Local 29. He also reported on the public hearings conducted by the Industrial Safety Board on High-Voltage Electrical Safety Orders.

Mert wound up his report by discussing the Public Utilities Commission and the proposed revision of rules regarding design and construction of gas transmission pipeline systems.



Advisory Council members, members of the Staff and guests are shown above.



The size of the Council meetings is demonstrated by the photo shown above.



This photo shows President Fields addressing the Council on a position of the Executive Board. From left to right are: Ron Weakley, Bus. Mgr., Ron Fields, Pres., "Red" Henneberry, Tony Boker and Jim Fountain.

Politics of Fear

(Continued from Page Two)

These attacks are dangerous in a more important sense, for they keep us from dealing with our problems.

Names and threats will not end the shame of ghettos and racial injustices, restore a degraded environment or end a long and bloody war.

Slogans and television commercials will not bring the working man that assurance of a constantly rising standard of life which was his only a few years ago and which has been cruelly snatched away.

No administration can be expected to solve the difficulties of America in two years. But we can fairly ask two things—that a start be made and that the nation be instilled with a sense of forward movement, of high purpose. This

has not been done.

There are only two kinds of politics. They are not radical and reactionary, or conservative and liberal, or even Democratic and Republican. There are only the politics of fear and the politics of trust.

One says: You are encircled by monstrous dangers. Give us power over your freedom so we may protect you.

The other says: The world is a baffling and hazardous place, but it can be shaped to the will of men.

Ordinarily that division is not between parties, but between men and ideas. But this year the leaders of the Republican party have intentionally made that line a party line. They have confronted you with exactly that choice.

New Jersey Reporter

Gas Safety Key Topic

On March 31 the representatives from every major gas workers' union in the United States and Canada will convene at the Sheraton-Jacksonville Hotel in Jacksonville, Florida, for the annual Inter-Union Gas Workers Conference. The prime theme of this three day conference will be safety.

According to Conference president, Ed O'Brien, a major portion of the conference will be devoted to coordinating the efforts of all gas workers' Local Unions and their International affiliates into a concerted drive to improve the safety of gas workers, gas consumers and the public from potential hazards inherent in the transportation and use of natural gas.

Among the guest speakers invited to the conference are Joseph C. Cadwell, Acting Director, Office of Pipeline Safety; George Taylor, Director of Safety for the AFL-CIO; William O. Miller, Manager of Consumer Affairs for the American Gas Association; Wayne Gracey of the Institute of Gas Technology; and Tony Mazzochhi, Legislative Director for the OCAW and noted advocate of worker and consumer protection.

Mr. Mazzochhi told *Gas Future* "My purpose in addressing the Inter-Union Gas Workers' Conference will be to enlist gas worker support for improving the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act. Recent experience has proven this law, as written and administered, is a dismal failure. It offers little, if any protection from preventable pipeline disasters to either the gas workers or consumers."

"I believe," said Mazzochhi, "the Inter-Union Gas Workers' Conference could be instrumental in caus-

ing an appropriate congressional committee to hold omission hearings on this law. This would be a giant step in reshaping The Pipeline Safety Act into a meaningful law."

Joseph C. Cadwell of the Office of Pipeline Safety will review for the delegates the results of his offices' investigation of the major pipeline disasters which have occurred since the enactment of the Natural Gas Pipeline Safety Act.

George Taylor, AFL-CIO Safety Director, will explain to the delegates the increased protection the recently enacted Occupational Safety Act provides to workers in the gas industry.

Industry speakers, William O. Miller and Wayne Gracey, will give the Gas Industry's view on existing and proposed pipeline safety and consumer protection legislation. They will also explain what, if anything, the industry has done or proposes to do in these fields.

"In addition to safety matters," said Conference President O'Brien, "the conference will cover a broad scope of items of vital importance to all gas workers. A comparative study of the wages and benefits in the gas industry will be drawn.

"Recently completed and pending contract negotiations in the gas industry will be discussed. Seminars will be held on grievance handling; arbitrations; inter-union communications; working in high crime areas.

GAS FUTURE

(Editor's Note: Business Mgr. Ron Weakley represents the IBEW on the Inter-Union Gas Conference Steering Committee and will be Local 1245's delegate to the annual conference.)

Attend your Local 1245, IBEW Unit Meetings!

1971 — LOCAL 1245, I.B.E.W. UNIT MEETINGS — 1971

SACRAMENTO—(Continued from Page Five)

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June	
3815 DAVIS	East Davis Park Bldg.	Tuesday	Chairman: P. DuMont	9	13	11	8
3812 VACAVILLE	Chamber of Commerce Bldg.	Tuesday	Chairman: D. Neil	9	13	11	8
3814 WOODLAND	Cinderella Motel	Thursday	Chairman: J. F. Thomas	18	22	20	17

Citizens Utilities

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June	
4012 SUSANVILLE	Knight Inn Motel	Wednesday	Chairman: J. Kennedy	3	7	5	2
4013 ALTURAS	Hacienda Motel	Thursday	Chairman: B. Tucker	4	8	6	3
3212 REDDING	Holiday Inn	Tuesday	Chairman: A. L. Wyant	2	6	4	1
3213 BURNEY	Veterans' Memorial Hall	Thursday	Chairman: J. Means	18	22	20	24
3811 SACRAMENTO	Dante Club	Tuesday	Chairman: M. M. Golich	2	6	4	1

Irrigation Districts

			Mar.	Apr.	May	June	
1122 MERCED I.D.	Applegate Grange #764	Monday	Chairman: W. McMurry	8	12	10	7
2518 TURLOCK-OAKDALE I.D.'s	Empire Community Hall	Tuesday	Chairman: J. Kising	16	20	18	15

IRS Hedges on Tax Savers

(Continued from Page Three)

on cash loans also is fully deductible. But, as noted, you have the problem of whether finance charges are "interest."

CONTRIBUTIONS: As well as cash donations, you can deduct fair market value of donated goods and out-of-pocket car and other expenses (or 5 cents a mile), and costs of uniforms for serving qualified nonprofit organizations such as Scouts, hospitals, schools, etc.

WORK EXPENSES: You can deduct union and professional-association dues; employment agency fees; costs of distinctive work uniforms; safety clothing and shoes; tools and technical books; training or vocational courses required for your present job (but not to learn a new trade); car expenses if you must bring heavy tools to your job.

OTHER POTENTIAL DEDUCTIONS: Other income and sales taxes; child and disabled-dependent care (under specified conditions); bad debts; alimony; investment expenses, including a safe-deposit box, in which you keep E bonds or other securities.

Exemptions Bigger Now

Exemptions are big tax savers since this year they reduce your 1970 taxable income by \$625 for each one (\$650 in 1971).

The IRS does examine dependency claims closely, especially if the dependent does not live in your home. You must be able to show that you do provide over half the support, and he does not have \$625 or more of taxable income of his own (except for children under 19 or full-time students). (Social Security and similar benefits are not taxable income, and are not counted in the \$625.)

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The photos above and below show some of the people in attendance at the North Bay Service Dinner. The dinner was held to award those members who have belonged to Local 1245 for 20 years or more (five year increments) with their service pins.



Shown above, from left to right, are: Frank Quadros, Bus. Rep., Ronald T. Weakley, Bus. Mgr., and Ray Smith, North Bay Advisory Council member. Ron is paying tribute to those who helped build Local 1245.



Some more of the general group receiving pins are shown above.



Ron Fields, President, is shown thanking the group on behalf of all the members of Local 1245, for their service to the Local.

The Safety Scene

Will You Be Next?

Fatality

November 9, 1970

Upon reporting for work at 8:00 A.M., the deceased had a service call to check on an improper operation of the community water well pumps.

He checked out the facilities, and without reporting his findings, went back to the Headquarters where the substation is also located. He left his service truck parked outside a gate which encloses a bank of pad-mounted transformers. (69000KV to 2400KV)

He had taken a 12 foot fiberglass extension ladder from the truck, leaned it against the Number 1 Transformer, in its fully retracted position (6 ft.); then apparently attempted to take an ampere reading on the primary side of the Transformer.

As to what actually happened can only be surmised. There were no witnesses, and only the investigation revealed the following:

1. The deceased responded to call at the pumps at 8:30 A.M.
2. Approximately 10 minutes later, a total blackout of the community was experienced.
3. At 8:45 A.M. a fellow employee came into the adjacent warehouse area to pick up materials, and heard a faint cry for help. Since he was approximately 100 yards from the deceased when he started toward the sound of someone in trouble, he was unable to see anything but the truck parked in the gate. As he approached, he saw the victim lying on the ground with his clothing on fire. The employee tore off his own shirt and extinguished the flames. He then instructed the victim to lie still, while he called for help.
4. An ambulance was dispatched at 8:45 A.M., and the victim was admitted to the local hospital at 9:05 A.M. He succumbed to the injuries some two hours later.
5. The Ampmeter, which he was using and was found on top of the Transformer, was set at 30 amps.
6. Flash marks on primary side of Transformer indicated attempt was made to take the reading at that point.

7. The deceased was knocked from the ladder and either fell on the concrete pad or on a portable cooling fan, and fractured the back of his skull.

All of the employees who had seen him on the morning of the accident say he was normal in every respect.

His widow could offer nothing in the way of problems he might be worrying about off the job.

The deceased was 51 years old, and had approximately 22 years of experience in the electrical field.

November 9, 1970

In attempting to allow a car to pass them on a narrow black-topped country road, the driver of a Standard Line Truck pulled it over to the side of the roadway. The rain-soaked shoulder gave way, causing the truck, with trailer attached, to slide and roll approximately 50 feet down the embankment. It made one revolution and came to rest at the bottom, right side up, on its wheels.

The driver was not injured, but the Lineman suffered a broken collarbone and a fractured vertebra.

December 2, 1970

A Line Crew had just completed paralleling two 12KV circuits with the use of temporary oil switches, and were in the process of installing the permanent jumpers, when, it is assumed, a tree got into the line. This action induced a "surge" on the line that eventually blew up the oil switches.

When the switches exploded, the Lineman unbuckled his safety strap and started down the pole. At a point approximately 30 feet above the ground, he kicked-out and fell the rest of the way, striking the phone cable, then the ground.

He received a broken leg above the knee, a broken hip, and bruised ribs.

The Apprentice Lineman stayed on the pole and sustained minor flash burns.

A "Non-Test" had not been taken on the line, so the circuit tried three times to close back in.

February 8, 1971

While attending the Employers Climbing School an employee fell approximately 20 feet, when it appeared his gaffs cut-out from the pole.

He suffered skin abrasions and possible torn ligaments.

The Case of the Errant Cylinder

The anchoring of compressed gas cylinders, to keep them from being knocked over with the accompanying possibility of breaking off the valve, is an accepted safe practice. However, there has been some skepticism as to what would happen if a cylinder valve were knocked off.

While it wasn't asked for, we now have first-hand knowledge as to what happened in one case, thanks to a compressed gas cylinder (CO₂) that caused a few moments of frenzied activity in a building under construction.

Six 220-cubic-foot cylinders, part of a fire extinguishment system, had been moved away from their wall supports to allow painters to complete the painting of the area. While moving them back into position, it was noticed that one cylinder was leaking. The painter had the cylinder leaning against his shoulder, and was attempting to scoot it across the floor. At this time, the valve separated from the cylinder and was projected backward hitting the side of a stainless steel cabinet.

The man suddenly found himself with a jet-propelled 215 pound piece

of steel. He wrestled it to the floor, but was unable to hold it. The cylinder scooted across the floor hitting another cylinder, knocking it over and bending its valve. The cylinder then turned 90 degrees to the right and traveled 20 feet where it struck a painter's scaffold causing a painter to fall seven feet to the floor. After spinning around several times, it traveled back to its approximate starting point, where it struck a wall.

At this point, the cylinder turned 90 degrees to the left and took off lengthwise of the room, chasing an electrician in front of it. It crashed into the end wall 40 feet away breaking loose four concrete blocks. It turned again 90 degrees to the right, scooted through a door opening, still chasing the electrician. The electrician ducked into the next door opening, but the cylinder continued its travel in a straight line for another 60 feet, where it fell into a truck well striking the truck well door. The balance of the cylinder pressure was released as the cylinder spun harmlessly around in the truck well area. The painter who fell from the scaffold received multiple fractures of his leg.

It is surmised that the cylinder valve had obtained previous damage, and it was a matter of chance that it separated from the cylinder at this particular time.

This incident illustrates what can happen when a valve is separated from a compressed gas cylinder. This one contained pressure of about 900 pounds per square inch, but many cylinders are pressurized to 2200 pounds per square inch. If you have any doubts about the need of anchoring compressed gas cylinders, you might think about the 2200 pounds per square inch and ask yourself "What if...?"

—National Safety Council



Notice

If you are involved in an industrial accident, or if you observe one, please notify your Shop Steward or Business Representative.

AN ACCIDENT?

The Federal Government recently investigated a crash in the Midwest which involved a truck and an automobile and which resulted in the death of one of the occupants of the car and injuries to five. The truck driver made "an abrupt left turn into the path of the oncoming automobile . . . His alcohol concentration was listed at .23 (in California at .10 a driver is presumed to be under the influence) and he was driving for a well-known trucking firm. In the truck were a pint bottle containing four ounces of whisky, six full cans of beer, a bottle of "No Doze" tablets and 220 caffeine tablets. He did not have a valid chauffeur's license. He had been driving for 9½ hours and had not eaten for a day and a half. (Now do you see why "collision" should replace "accident" in our safety vocabulary?)