

IBEW CHALLENGES REMOVAL OF 1675 MEN FROM BARGAINING UNIT

BULLETIN REVEALS UWUA UNIONISM

A UWUA bulletin designed to color the unionism of IBEW officials now leading the fight to gain bargaining recognition for AFL utility workers was being circulated last week.

The bulletin is a rehash of purported maneuvers within the UWUA Utilities Workers which led to the demise of that organization. It typifies the sort of political unionism practised by present UWUA officials.

There are only two full time officers serving the interests of the IBEW Utility Workers in the Local 1324 jurisdiction. They are C. P. Hughes and Merritt Snyder, both international representatives. They are assisted by about 26 elected but unpaid officials in the four units of the local.

UNIONISM—NOT POLITICS

These men are not concerned with politics. The five thousand workers who bolted the UWUA because of internecine politics and back-door deals elected them to do a job that the UWUA failed to do—improve their economic and job conditions.

Let the UWUA stick to their politics, and their subversive propaganda, is the consensus of IBEW officials. The Local 1324 group will continue to devote their free time to bringing about the existence of one union, a union reflecting the

This Is Your Paper

With this issue *Utility Facts* makes its bow.

It is Your Newspaper, written in your interest, and in the interest of Your Union, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1324, AFL. It will be published every week. If your interest demands it it will be enlarged.

Utility Facts will attempt to do each week just what its name implies—present a factual roundup of all the news which is of vital interest to you and your job and your union.

You can help the editors in this task by addressing news items to *Utility Facts*, IBEW Local 1324, 1918 Grove street, Oakland, Calif. Suggestions are also solicited.

You can also help by passing this copy of *Utility Facts* along to your fellow-worker when you have finished reading it.

Auto Salesman: "It runs so smoothly you can't feel it, so quietly you can't hear it, has such perfect ignition you can't smell it, and as for speed—you can't see it!"

Englishman: "My word! How do you know the bally thing is there?"

views of its members, on PG&E property.

A full slate of all Local 1324 officers and meeting nights for the respective units appears elsewhere in this issue.

IBEW WINS RESTRAINT EDICT ON PG&E DUES 'CHECK-OFF'

The PG&E and the UWUA on Monday of this week were restrained by San Francisco Superior Court Judge Melvyn I. Cronin from collecting or withholding dues from IBEW members. The order was temporary and hearing was set for February 8 at which time both the PG&E and UWUA will have to show cause why it should not be made permanent.

(Continued on Page 4)

Local 1324 Opposes Move Before NLRB

The hearing in San Francisco before the NLRB on the IBEW's election petition took a surprising turn last week when PG&E representatives asked for the exclusion of 1675 employees in 51 classifications from the bargaining unit.

This move on the part of a management supposed to be neutral in collective bargaining matters affecting their employees must be viewed as an attempt to whittle down the bargaining and voting strength of IBEW Local 1324.

OPPOSE MOVE

Apparently PG&E management sees better days ahead for the employees in those classifications if they are given an opportunity to vote on a bargaining agent. IBEW officials believe most of them are dissatisfied with the inconsistencies written into their present contract by the UWUA.

In opposing the move, C. P. "Chuck" Hughes, IBEW representative, pointed out that the company had an opportunity in 1947 and in 1948 to ask for the exclusion of the 51 classifications when contracts were being negotiated. Employees in the group have been covered in both UWUA and IBEW contracts since 1942.

Some of the exclusions sought, such as guards and watchmen, the IBEW may not contest. But officials of the local feel that the bulk of those on the following list submitted by the PG&E belong in the bargaining unit:

Pacific Gas and Electric Company. Classifications Presently in the Bargaining Units. Propose to Remove.

C	Clerk Plant Senior.....	3
	Clerk Plant First.....	8
	Clerk Plant Routine.....	2
	Clerk Technical.....	3
	Collector	161
	Collector Routine	8
	Collector and Meter	
	Reader	20

(Continued on Page 4)

UWUA FILES SUIT AGAINST WORKERS

The UWUA through Mr. Edward Shedlock, National Representative, filed suit with Superior Court against former officers of Local 133, San Francisco.

This is to notify Mr. Shedlock that Mr. Matt Tobriner, attorney for Local 1324 of the IBEW, will handle the case of these employees and any others he may see fit to file suit against.

The membership of the IBEW Local 1324 as well as the majority of all PG&E employees in the four bay divisions definitely resent the action of Mr. Shedlock in placing a lien against the bank account of George Cavanaugh. At the time this was done Geo. Cavanaugh no doubt had several checks written against his account. The IBEW will see that Mr. Cavanaugh is not embarrassed by this very small trick of the UWUA.

Plan Affiliation With AFL Groups

Local 1324 is planning to affiliate with all AFL District and Central Labor Councils, in the near future if the membership desire it, "Chuck" Hughes, International representative, declares.

The local has already affiliated with the Northern Joint Conference of AFL Electrical Workers.

There has been considerable interest among the Central Councils in the progress Local 1324 is making in the PG&E organizational campaign, particularly in Contra Costa County, Vallejo, San Jose and Santa Rosa, Napa, and San Rafael Councils.

The AFL Central Councils are a potent factor in concerted action on organizational, contractual, and political matters of interest to labor.

UTILITY FACTS

Official Organ of IBEW
Local 1324



L. G. GLASSON, President.
ED WHITE, Financial Secy.
1918 Grove Street
Oakland, Calif.

Rumor

Rumor is an insidious thing. It crops up in the best of circles and it grows as it travels until even he who spawns the off-spring will not, in the end, recognize his brain-child.

There has been a lot of rumors floating around the PG&E premises lately. Most of them are aimed at the interest and welfare of you, the Utility Worker.

Adolph Hitler subscribed to the theory that if you told a big lie and told it often enough, it would come to be accepted as fact. That may have been true in Germany, where there was no such thing as free assembly and free speech.

There is no reason why it should be true in America.

Over here anyone who has the gumption to check a little further than his ears can scotch a rumor.

There have been rumors circulated around the jobs that certain IBEW officials had certain connections, first communistic, and then racketeerish. Do not let such rumors prejudice your judgment as to the merit of the union you want as your collective bargaining agent.

As a union man you know what the requisites of a good union are: In the final analysis, the most important requisite is whether or not your vote in meeting counts for anything.

Remember it is your vote that determines who your elected officials are. The officials representing the IBEW Utility Workers have signed the anti-communist affidavits required by the Taft-Hartley act or there would be no NLRB election hearing going on in San Francisco today.

To get both sides of any story that concerns your union read **Utility Facts** every week and attend the unit meetings as often as you can.

A GI cleaned up in a crap game and when he entered the barracks in a gay mood, he called out, "I'll give a dollar to the laziest man here."

Everyone scrambled to his feet, and rushed forward to tell how lazy he was, except one tall Texan. He drawled: "Just roll me over, fellow, and slip it in my pocket."

Election Progress Made Before NLRB

Officers and attorneys of IBEW Local 1324 looked back this week on the San Francisco hearing before an NLRB examiner and felt that good progress had been made in support of the petition for a PG&E bargaining agent election.

Intl. Rep. C. P. Hughes, who spent practically the whole last week assisting Attorney Matt Tobriner with his presentation of the IBEW bid for an early election, pointed out that not only does the UWUA oppose a bargaining agent election, but the company as well.

LIKE CONTRACT

Apparently the company is satisfied with the recent illegal contract made without the consent of a majority of its workers and means to fight to keep it in force. The company does not want "one union on the system."

The company's position was stated on the opening day of the hearings. They were opposed to them. The NLRB Hearing Officer stated that they were definitely warranted and would continue.

The company then tried to confuse the issue by demanding that the IBEW should petition separately for elections in the four divisions of 1324, and separately in the system-wide jurisdiction of both 1324 and 1245 together.

JURISDICTION

The IBEW showed that it may appear on an election ballot without reference to local union numbers. IBEW policy has been to leave to the membership of the locals the final determination of their structures.

Contradicting a stand taken before various NLRB hearings over the past ten years as favoring a system-wide union, the PG&E put a letter into the record stating in effect that they now feel that they can get along with two different unions.

Both the company and UWUA challenged the right of the IBEW to be heard before the NLRB, on the grounds that Section 9-H of the Taft-Hartley Act (requiring an affidavit on communistic connections) had not been complied with. The Hearing Officer heard the arguments and ordered the hearing to proceed.

TOP CONTROL

(See story elsewhere in this issue on verification from the Department of Labor that IBEW officials had complied with Section 9-H.)

In support of the recent illegal contract the UWUA made with the PG&E, the UWUA attorney said that the National Office is the only party authorized to enter into contracts and that the local unions only act for the National.

Hughes pointed out that this would appear to mean that the National could keep its member-

BEAT COMMUNISM WITH AIR LIFT, EUROPE WORKERS SAY

"Tell General Clay to continue the air lift and Communism in Europe will be defeated." That is the message that J. Scott Milne, International vice-president of the IBEW, brought back from the workers he talked to on both sides of the Iron Curtain on his recent trip to Europe.

Milne spoke last week before a large group of employers and union representatives at the Moose Hall in Oakland. His frank talk on current conditions in the electrical industry and on the European situation brought widespread and favorable comment from both the employers and union men present.

He urged enlightened employer groups as well as strong unions and to stress the pitfalls of excesses by either placed both at the corner of, a triangle with the public on the third corner of the apex. The public, he said will balance the triangle when either side moves too far to the right or left, just as it did in

ship under contract until the end of time.

ON AND ON

More specifically, under the UWUA interpretation to the Hearing Officer, the present PG&E contract could be continued in force indefinitely unless the National decided to reopen it itself, the desires of the membership notwithstanding.

On the second day of the hearing Attorney Darwin of the UWUA attempted again to wave a red herring before the Hearing Officer by bringing up the matter of who had signed and who had not signed anti-communistic affidavits. When it was revealed that CIO President Murray was one of those who had not signed such a document, the attempt was effectively squelched.

However, on the third day Darwin was at it again, this time putting into the record the names of many loyal PG&E employees who had become disgusted with UWUA politics and back-door dealing and who had finally sought democratic unionism through the IBEW. Darwin tried to pin pink labels on these people. In his attempt to do so he described at length the UWUA internecine troubles, which seemed to this observer to point up the need for employee elections.

ELECTION OFFER

The IBEW again made an offer to both the UWUA and the company for an immediate consent election, for the outside physical properties. The UWUA replied that they had no authority to agree without first contacting the National offices.

On the fourth day the company exploded its demand that 51 job classifications be excluded from any subsequent employees election. (See story elsewhere on this.)

**J. SCOTT MILNE**

the recent election when the Taft-Hartley element was cleared out of Congress.

He said that such laws would mean an end to such meetings as the one he was addressing, would stifle free enterprise for both unions and employers. He asked the employers present to join labor in ridding the country of the obnoxious laws.

Milne also:

1. Pointed to the progress being made all over the nation and especially in California, in writing the IBEW one per cent pension plan contribution by employers into contracts. He said that International would approve no new contracts which did not contain the plan, and would remove any officers who persisted in making agreements without the plan.

2. Saw the fourth round of increases including fringe issues such as the one per cent pension plan, sick leave, and insurance.

3. Asked both the employers and the union representatives to take more interest in the joint apprentice training programs.

He pointed out that the apprentice program also had a provision for refresher courses for journeymen. Higher standards for journeymen meant strengthening of the IBEW, he said.

Touching briefly on his recent trip to Europe he said that England's Socialism had its good points. But the people there were only getting 20 cents worth of meat a week, two ounces of butter, and no fresh fruit. He also noted that very few of the Socialist government leaders had come from union ranks. In Canada, where one province had adopted Socialism, unions were barred from representing the nationalized industries.

"Let's be builders," Milne cried in closing. "Let's work together. If we do this, if we look to the future instead of into the past, free enterprise will prevail, Americanism will stand."

New Safety Order for Subs And Underground

By HAROLD MAYHEW

Meetings on proposals submitted by California State Electrical Workers Assn., representative of Utilities, General Industry and State of California met with the IBEW Safety Rules Committee at Santa Barbara, January 25-26 and set up new safety orders for high voltage electrical substations and high voltage underground work.

The new electrical safety orders which will be Nos. 2605 and 2606 if they are able to pass before public hearings to be held by the State Department of Industrial Relations, represent a substantial agreement with the original proposals of IBEW and all "interested" parties expressed a belief that they were both necessary and a real forward step to safety on the job.

Highlights of the provisions are high voltage, defined as any voltage above 750. Qualified standby employees to act as observer for accident prevention when working on the hot stuff. Winch or hoist operators not to leave machine while lowering or raising equipment. All manholes to be guarded by a standby worker.

Members of the Northern California committee are Wm. Cook, Local 50; E. F. McDaniel, Local 1245; and Harold Mayhew, Local 1324.

Pledges Its Aid To Local 1324

BY JOHN FANTE

Local 1324 has affiliated with the Northern California Joint Conference of Electrical Workers, and Brothers L. Glasson, W. Kennedy, L. Riave, H. Mayhew and J. Fante attended the conference held in Sacramento on January 15th.

All attending IBEW locals reported and discussed the organizational and contractual problems of their respective locals. Delegates of Local 1324 and International Representative Merritt Snyder explained the setup of local union. The local was welcomed as an affiliate and full support and cooperation in our fight for recognition by P. G. & E. was indicated by sister I. B. E. W. locals.

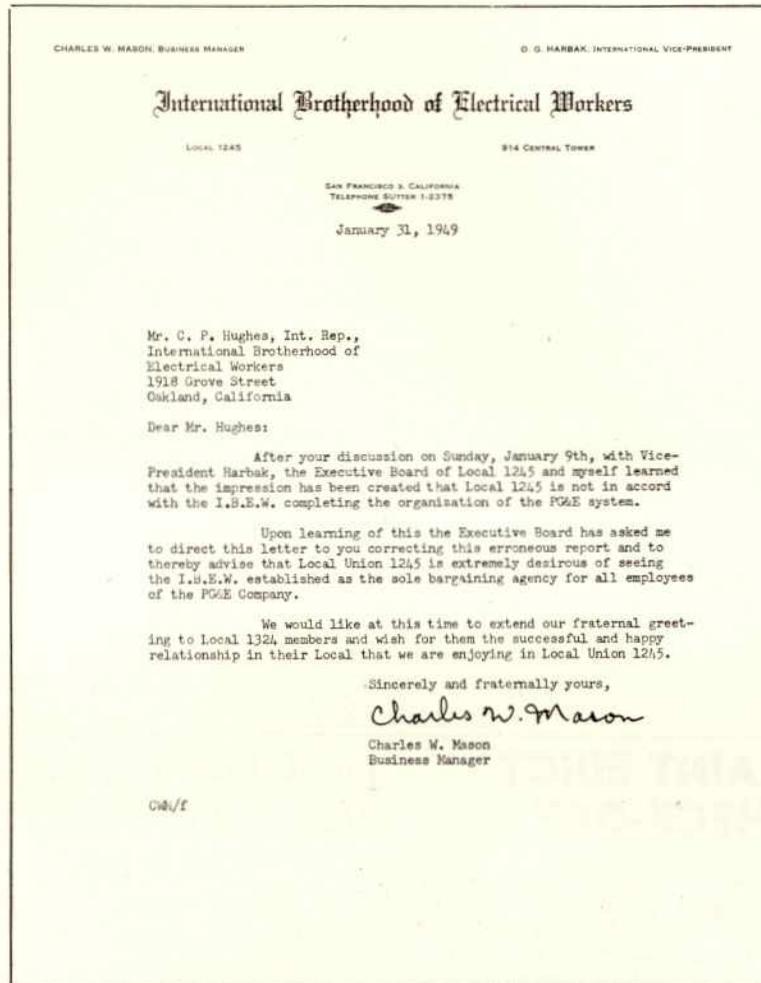
Locals 1245 and 1324 Enjoy Joint Dinner

IBEW Vice President Harbak on January 8, sponsored a joint dinner of the two Utility Locals, 1245 and 1324, in San Francisco.

Unified action of both locals on the slogan "One Union on the System" was discussed. Everyone had a good time and a general feeling of cooperation prevailed after the dinner.

OAKLAND-FRISCO LOCALS ARE CO-OPERATING, LETTER SHOWS

The photostatic copy of the letter below shows that the two sister locals, IBEW 1245 and 1324 are working together for the accomplishment of one Utility union on the system:



To Push Labor Bills

The State Federation of Labor will map plans to combat the growing opposition of special interests to its legislative objectives in Fresno February 26.

The call for the meeting went out from the office of Secretary C. J. Haggerty, of the State Federation, who urged that all councils send at least two delegates.

Besides the delegates, the executive council of the federation will also be in attendance.

WARNS LABOR

"The anti-labor forces are organizing more actively than ever before," Secretary Haggerty said. "We will undoubtedly face a clearly defined program of activity in coming elections, which will seek to prevent labor from attaining its legislative objectives—federally, as well as in the state and in the respective divisions of the state. Conditions do not permit us to wait for this to happen."

The Fresno conference, which will be held in the ballroom of the Hotel Californian, beginning at 10 a.m. will seek to mobilize labor's forces to achieve labor's political goals.

For the Record! Anti-Commy Pledges In

Following is the text of a telegram from William Connelly of the Bureau of Labor Standards affirming that all officials of Local 1324 have signed the anti-communist affidavits as required by the Taft-Hartley act of unions seeking redress before the NLRB:

Local 1324—

Registration letter issued today care of you. Fiscal year will end October 31, 1949. NLRB can use this as notice of complete registration of original filing.

**WILLIAM CONNELLY,
Bureau of Labor Standards,
Department of Labor.**

A copy of the above Western Union Telegram is in the files of IBEW Attorney Tobriner, and will be used before the NLRB if necessary to prove that all officials of 1324 are in compliance with all provisions of the Taft-Hartley act.

Oversleeping will never make your dreams come true.

Dunking doughnuts in your coffee may be bad form, but it's awfully good taste.

AFL Eyes Capitol, Taft-Hartley Law

The American Federation of Labor Executive Council, in session last week in Miami, Fla., decided it will compromise on the elimination of some features of the act, if necessary to get the more obnoxious provisions wiped off the law books.

William Green, federation president, said that if too much opposition to repeal of the law develops, the AFL may make no fight for eliminating the T-H Anti-Communist requirement.

STRATEGY

The AFL may also give way on the section requiring the publication of union financial reports, feeling that labor has nothing to hide there. The board would also not look too seriously at an attempt to maintain that part of the act which permits employers to talk to their employees on labor matters.

However, the AFL weight will be thrown at direct repeal of the whole Taft-Hartley act. Its injunction and open shop clauses, the penalties it sets up for the secondary-boycott, and its prohibition against labor political action are its worst features and must go.

Will Open Contract, IBEW Tells PG&E

The following letter dispatched to the PG&E by Attorney Matt Tobriner on behalf of the IBEW Utility Workers speaks for itself: Pacific Gas & Electric Company 245 Market Street San Francisco, California Attention: Mr. Nevraumont Gentlemen:

We have been informed that, despite our letter to you dated November 19, 1948, pointing out the illegality of contracts executed with any of the contestants in the pending certification proceedings before the National Labor Relations Board with respect to your employees, you have engaged in negotiations and concluded certain wage adjustments with Utility Workers Union of America, C.I.O.

Please be informed that Local 1324, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, will not be bound by any such negotiations, and in the event of its certification in the pending representation proceedings, it will insist upon further collective bargaining negotiations and demand from you further wage adjustments.

Very truly yours,

MATHEW O. TOBRINER,
Attorney for International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, A.F.L.

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UTILITY FACTS

IBEW WINS RESTRAINT EDICT ON PG&E DUES 'CHECK-OFF'

(Continued from Page 1)

The order gives weight to the Local 1324 contention that the recently made UWUA-PG&E contract is illegal and was made without the consent of a majority of the workers it covers.

The order applies to employees in the San Francisco, East Bay, San Jose, and North Bay divisions of the company, and the Central Supply Department, Building Department, and General Office.

It also:

Restrains the company from

"recognizing or giving effect to any authorization for the deduction from wages of membership dues" for the UWUA, unless such authorization was made in 1949.

Restrains the UWUA from demanding or receiving any such monies so deducted.

Restrains the UWUA from expending any such monies already collected.

The action was brought by Matt Tobriner, IBEW attorney.

Plaintiffs were Gene Howard, William Haars and Edward Bishopink of the East Bay Division; Ignace Labak and John Weaver of the San Francisco Division; Ralph Harwick of the North Bay Division; and Emil Hintz and Russell Place of San Jose, who petitioned the court on behalf of themselves and all others in the affected divisions who are members of the IBEW.

Judge Cronin said in the order: "Upon reading the verified complaint of the plaintiffs in this action, it appears to the satisfaction of the court from said complaint that this is a proper case for the issuance of a temporary restraining order, and that if the injunction and temporary restraining order prayed for in the complaint be not granted, great and irreparable injury will result to the plaintiffs before the matter can be heard (more fully)."

Local 1324 Opposes Move Before NLRB

(Continued from Page 1)

	Collector and Meter Reader Routine	3
T	Dispatcher System	7
	Dispatcher System Assistant	1
	Engineer Compressor (G. S. & T.)	5
S	Engineer Plant	3
	Engineer Watch	63
	Estimator Senior	66
T	Estimator Routine	121
	Estimator Junior	80
	Foreman Building	1
	Foreman Light Crew	134
	Foreman Labor	39
	Foreman Repair	3
	Foreman Working (G.C.)	44
	Foreman Sub Warehouse	2
S	Foreman Sub Cable Pulling	2
	Foreman Sub Elec. Meter	8
	Foreman Sub Garage	16
	Foreman Sub Line	202
	Foreman Sub Maintenance	71
	Foreman Sub Painter	2
	Foreman Sub Terminal Station (no longer in existence)	2
	Foreman Sub Underground	4
	Foreman Sub Water Dept. (Maintenance)	8
P	Inspector	7
	Inspector Complaint "A"	3
S	Inspector Measurement	5
S	Janitor Head (in unit in E. B. Div.)	1
	Mapper Senior	17
T	Mapper Routine	35

	Mapper Junior	64
	Map Poster	28
C	Meter Reader	264
	Operator Division	14
T	Operator Service First	6
	Operator Service Junior	1
	Operator Service Senior	28
S	Subforeman Building	2
P-T	Surveyor Division	15
T	Surveyor Routine	32
	Surveyor Power	16
	Transitman "A" (G.C.)	5
	Transitman "B" (G.C.)	22
	Guards Watchman	20
	1-27-49	
	1-28-49	1675
	51	
C	Clerical	472
T	Technical	543
S	Supervisory	615
P	Professional	15 plus 10
G.C.	Gen'l Constr.	
G.S. & T.	Gas Supply & Trans.	
Guards	20

Local Union and Unit Officers

LOCAL 1324

L. G. GLASSON President
M. A. WALTERS Vice-President
DEAN BEAN Recording Secretary
ED WHITE Financial Secretary
DONALD HARDIE Treasurer

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JAMES W. FAUTLEY Vice-Chairman
WM. H. CARITHERS Recording Sec.

IBEW Utility Workers Reg. Monthly Meetings

UNIT No. 1—MARTINEZ

2nd and 4th Monday of each month.
Next meeting February 14, I.O.O.F. Hall, Martinez, 829 Ferry Street, Martinez.

UNIT No. 2—REDWOOD & SAN MATEO

2nd and 4th Monday of each month.
Community Hall, Belmont, 8 P.M.

UNIT No. 3—SAN FRANCISCO

1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month.
(Day workers) Building Trades Temple (AFL)—Progress Hall, 14th and Guerrero Streets, 8 P.M.
Last Monday in each month. (Night workers).

2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month
(Executive Board) 85 South Van Ness, 8 P. M.

UNIT No. 4—

2nd Thursday of each month. Odd
Fellows Hall, Cotati, 8 P.M. (Next meeting February 10).