

Utility Reporter



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OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

JUNE, 1957



Union's PG&E System Negotiating Committee is shown here. Seated, left to right, Walt Kaufmann, Elmer Bushby, Dick Sands, L. L. Mitchell. Standing, l. to r., R. T. Weakley, Russ Stone, Tom Williams, Phil Coffin. Missing from picture were Ted Cordua, who took the photo, and Frank Quadros. (Photo by Ted Cordua.)



PG&E Negotiating Committee, front row, left to right: I. W. Bonbright, V. J. Thompson, R. J. Tilton, and H. F. Carr. Back row: G. A. Peers, E. E. Sibley, C. L. Yager, R. B. Thompson, A. J. Swank. Missing from picture are company members L. H. Anderson, P. E. Beckman, and L. W. Coughlan. (Photo by Ted Cordua.)

PG&E PACTS CONCLUDED; AWAIT MEMBERSHIP OK

Your Union's PG&E System Negotiating Committee, after 8 meetings with the Company, reached a tentative settlement with PG&E Co. on June 6th on wages and contract amendments covering physical and clerical employees.

This settlement, subject to ratification by the membership, represents one of the best obtained this year in the Utility industry and is recommended by your Union's Committee composed of Russ Stone, Moss Landing; Walt Kaufmann, Fresno; Ted Cordua, Emeryville; Tom Williams, Gen. Const.; Dick Sands, Oakland; Phil Coffin, Electra; Frank Quadros, San Francisco; R. T. Weakley, Business Manager; L. L. Mitchell, Asst. Business Manager; Elmer Bushby, Business Representative.

Although all of Union's proposals were not incorporated in the settlement, many gains and changes were obtained through the process of true collective bargaining.

Terms of the 2 year settlement, to be effective July 1, 1957 are:

- 1.5% general wage increase to all employees.

The following classification wage adjustments to be made prior to the application of the general wage increase:

- A. Plant Clerks (Power & Gas Plants)
 - Senior—\$4.20 per week at maximum 3.20 per week at minimum
 - First—3.20 per week at maximum 2.75 per week at minimum
 - Routine—2.75 per week at maximum 2.65 per week at minimum
- B. Watch Engineer (Gas Plants—East Bay & S.F. Divisions) \$1.80 per week Cold Stand-by 5.00 per week
- C. Gen. Const. Field Clerks
 - Senior—\$2.10 per week at minimum
 - First—2.10 per week at maximum (Continued on Page 2)

'57 NEGOTIATIONS STATISTICS

• Examples of the wage schedules after application of the wage increases:

	July 1, 1957	July 1, 1958	Total Increases
Clerk Driver, Lt.	\$ 92.53	\$ 97.20	\$ 9.50
Electrician	111.95	117.55	11.45
Fitter	101.95	107.05	10.45
Line Sub Foreman	124.50	130.75	12.75
Light Crew Foreman	111.95	117.55	11.45
Groundman	86.70	91.05	8.90
Laborer	80.80	84.85	8.30
Lineman	111.95	117.55	11.45
Control Operator	113.65	119.35	11.65
Gas Serviceman	105.30	110.60	10.80
Troubleman	115.05	120.80	11.75
Warehouseman	92.55	97.20	10.20
Senior Plant Clerk	114.45	120.20	15.95
Gen. Const. Lineman	116.35	122.20	11.95
Clerk "A"	114.45	120.20	11.75
Typist "A"	96.55	101.40	9.90
Meter Reader	93.65	98.35	9.60

• Approximately 5,000 employees will receive an additional week's vacation.

• The average general wage increases will approximate 25c per hour.

• The new weighted average wage of PG&E employees in the bargaining units will be \$2.46½ per hour on July 1, 1957, and \$2.59 per hour on July 1, 1958.

LOCAL 1245 CERTIFIED AT CAL. WATER UTILITY

With the counting of ballots on May 31st, Local Union 1245's attempts to obtain collective bargaining rights on behalf of the Water Division employees of the California subsidiaries of the Citizens Utilities Company was brought to a successful conclusion. Of the thirty-three employees in the bargaining unit, which covers all field, clerical and technical employees, seventeen voted for Union representation with fourteen against. To date, a sizable majority of the field employees and some clerical have become dues paying members.

Headquartered in North Sacramento, the Company provides water service to North Sacramento and several other Sacramento county communities, as well as to Guerneville, Niles, North Los Altos, Boulder Creek and Montara. While operated under separate management, the Company is directly affiliated with the Citizens Utilities Company of California, with which Local Union 1245 has a Union Shop Agreement covering telephone employees.

On June 10th, Union submitted a proposed Agreement to Company. Union's committee, composed of employee representatives C. W. Garrett and Glen Lowe, together with Assistant Business Manager M. A. Walters, is awaiting word from management to commence negotiations.

Union's proposals include re-

quests for improvements in existing working rules together with substantial wage adjustments and clarification of job duties.

SAN BENITO COUNTY WORKERS NOW HAVE 'RIGHT-TO-STARVE'

The well financed drive to bust unions and boom profits, via the phony "Right-to-Work" (Right-to-Wreck, Right-to-Starve) laws sneaked into the less populous states and counties, made new progress on June 3rd when a second California County adopted the phony measure.

In response to outside pressures and drummed-up local support from business and farmer groups, the San Benito County supervisors on Monday, June 3rd unanimously passed a law patterned on the one recently adopted by Tehama County.

The bill outlaws closed or union shops and provides for civil actions to prevent "coercive unionization."

Santa Clara - San Benito Counties Building Trades Council only three weeks ago sent a

strong delegation to Hollister, county seat, to protest adoption of the law. The supervisors took the proposal under consideration and advised those present that proper and adequate notice would be given if the matter were to be brought up again.

Meanwhile, the same pattern which had been followed in Tehama County began to develop — "right-to-work committees" were formed, and support was gained from farm groups, the chamber of commerce, and county employers association.

That the county moves are part of a statewide program seeking a build-up for a state law is generally conceded. Apparently it is hoped to get enough "farm counties" to act to force the measure into a state initiative.

Cal-Pac Utilities Employees Ask To Join the Union

From down in the desert on the banks of the Colorado River a request for Union representation was forwarded to Local 1245 from the employees in the Needles Division of the California Pacific Utilities Company.

The Company is engaged in supplying electric, gas and telephone service to Needles, Calif. and two small communities in Southern Nevada.

Following this request a sur-

vey was conducted which showed a substantial majority of the 16 employees involved favored organization and signed application cards.

With the question of interest resolved and with the "go ahead" from International Vice President Harbak with respect to jurisdiction, the necessary steps to obtain collective bargaining rights were taken. On May 27 Union notified the Company of the situation, requesting a meeting with Local 1245 for the purpose of negotiating an Agreement and on June 6 local 1245 petitioned the National Labor Relations Board for a certification election.

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The UTILITY REPORTER



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The Truth at Last!

Diogenes, the Greek philosopher who lived in a tub and eschewed the modern standard of living of that day, had the annoying habit of traveling the town with a lighted lantern in the light of day searching for "an honest man."

He was a realistic, caustic individual, interested only in "truth."

The AFL-CIO, however, has found, not only an honest man, but an honest association.

The honest association we refer to is the Employers' Association of the State of Delaware.

That employers' association there wants to pass a "right-to-work" law, but they are honest about it.

They don't claim as most associations do, that their collective hearts are bleeding for the rights of the working man and woman to attempt to "bargain" singly with an employer rather than bargain collectively through a Union.

They don't pretend, hypocritically, that they are interested in the "welfare" of working people; and they don't try to make the electorate or legislature believe that they want to pass a "right-to-work" law for the benefit of veterans, for negroes or the foreign born.

No . . . in Delaware they are almost honest about it! Which, to say the least, is a refreshing angle for any advocate of such laws.

The Delaware sponsors frankly admit that the law is to cut wages and their argument is that "working people are getting too much money" and they are getting too fat and lazy.

Now, here at least is the truth about so-called "right-to-work" laws, whether they are in Delaware, California or Illinois.

They are designed to cut wages.

The Delaware sponsors are the first in the U.S. to actually say what they were trying to do, for heretofore, every "right-to-work" law in every state, which has one, has been passed under false pretenses.

There has been some clever gimmicks and considerable downright lying, but never before has an association or an association representative, been so honest as to come out with the truth.

So the little state of Delaware leads the way in telling the truth.

And that truth is . . . **"We want this law because it will lower wages."**

Housewives . . . **how do you feel about this?**

Remember what a "right-to-work" law is designed to do when you are faced with one on your own state ballot.

HOORAY FOR PENNSYLVANIA!

In a tradition-shattering move, for the Keystone State, Gov. George M. Leader has signed an executive order giving Pennsylvania state employees the right to organize and present grievances through union channels.

The proclamation brings a new freedom to union members. It is a tremendous step toward eliminating the spoils system from Pennsylvania government.

Specifically the order states: **Employees have the right to join any labor organization without fear of negative repercussion.**

The union is recognized as collective bargaining agent for the state employees.

Grievances or employee prob-

lems can be discussed by union representatives with administration officers.

Unions must be consulted before rules pertaining to employment are changed or adopted.

Underlying the edict is the unwritten fact that the road is now paved for the adoption of many civil service amendments which will assure job security. Previously, each time a new party administration was elected, as many as half of the state employees have been supplanted by those of the other major political party. With Civil Service only political appointees not eligible for merit service coverage would be subject to the patronage system.

PG&E Pact Awaits Vote

(Continued from Page 1)

- .50 per week at minimum Routine—
- .50 per week at maximum
- .50 per week at minimum
- D. Compressor Engineer (Pipe Line Operations)—
Reduce progression from 18 months to 1 year. Starting rate to be at present 6 month step.
- E. Plant Mechanic (Pipe Line Operations)—
\$1.90 per week
- F. Fork Lift Operator (Decoto Pipe Yard)—
\$2.90 per week at maximum and reduce progression to 6 months.

•2. 3 weeks vacation after 10 years of service effective Jan. 1, 1958.

•3. All Holiday work, whether scheduled or not, to be paid at time and one-half plus Holiday pay.

•4. Adjustment of classification seniority when returned from absence due to industrial disability.

•5. Provide rate of pay of regular classification when returned from industrial disability and placed on light duty.

•6. Establish an Apprenticeship Committee to develop entrance requirements for apprenticeship training.

•7. Provide for interim negotiations on lines of progression.

•8. Add to Power Plant Job Definitions & Lines of Progression a provision that preference under 205.7(b) of the bidding procedure shall be given to employee at top of rate with greatest classification seniority rather than to employee at top of rate for longest time.

•9. Vacation period to be between March 15 and November 15.

•10. Shift Premium to be applicable to Gen. Const. employees.

•11. Establish procedure for placement of Clerical employees affected by Electronic Data Processing Center.

•12. Service employees filling vacancies on and after July 1, 1957 may be required to reside within the community in which their headquarters is located.

•13. An additional 5% general wage increase to all employees effective July 1, 1958.

•14. The following subjects to be deferred and discussed during interim:

- A. Unresolved subjects referred to sub-committees in 1956: Transfer of employees between clerical and physical units and vice versa; job definitions for Davis Yard & Whse.; Clerical lines of progression.
- B. Establish a special committee to continue negotiations on Gen. Const. expense pro-

Municipalities Round-Up

S.M.U.D. TALKS START

Thursday, June 13, 1957, at 9 a.m. was the time and date agreed upon to commence negotiations between Local Union 1245, I.B.E.W. and the Sacramento Municipal Utility District.

Union submitted its proposals for changes in the Civil Service Rules and for improvements in working conditions and benefits, together with requests for wage adjustments in various classifications plus a general wage increase to the District on May 27th. Included in Union's proposals were requests for clarification of and improvements in the hours provisions, increased shift premium, time

and one-half for all time worked on a holiday, progression to journeyman for all apprentices upon completion of apprenticeship (this now applies to apprentice lineman), payroll deduction of Union dues, improvements in hospital and medical insurance and supplementary benefits for industrial injury. In addition, Union seeks a substantial wage increase based on parity with other public agencies, increased cost of living and annual improvement factor.

Union's committee is composed of Wm. K. Buckley, Grady Petty and Glenn Larsen.

ALAMEDA PROGRAM SET

With the submission of its proposals to the Public Utilities Board for the City of Alameda on May 29th, Union's Committee, composed of Wm. Morrison, Jack Chapman and Dan Libel, completed its preparations for 1957 negotiations. The proposals as submitted were drafted after consideration of membership ideas, examination of existing problems and comparison of wages and conditions of utility workers, particularly in public agencies.

Included in the Union's proposals are requests for correction of certain wage inequities,

plus a general wage increase based on the same criteria as used in S.M.U.D. Also included were requests for improvements in vacation allowance and overtime provisions, establishment of a rest period after working long hours, payroll deduction of Union dues, and the establishment of an employer-paid hospital and medical insurance program plus employer contributions to a group life insurance program.

The Union's committee is now awaiting a reply from the Board and hopes that negotiations will start at an early date.

KEY SYSTEM TRANSIT LINES

Discussions were scheduled to start at 10 a.m. June 10th at the Key System offices in Oakland. The major issues in contention are the possible abandonment, lease or sale of the Transit properties with the Union re-

questing severance pay clauses, a funded pension program and an appreciable wage increase. The contract has been cancelled effective July 1st and it is hoped negotiations can be concluded satisfactorily prior to this date.

CITY OF OAKLAND AND CITY OF BERKELEY

Union's proposals have been submitted to both cities and the Union is awaiting meetings with the Personnel Directors.

Two subjects were the main points in the submissions of the

Union. A request for prevailing rates to compare with the construction trades and a group medical and hospitalization program with employees' premiums to be paid by the cities.

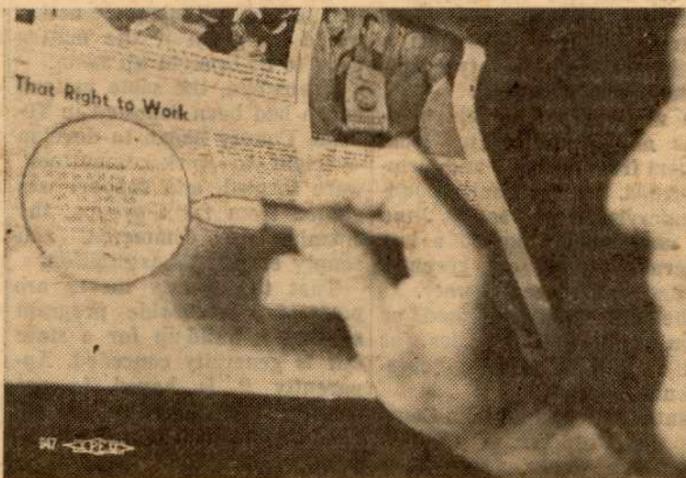
- visions and qualification requirements.
 - C. Consideration of Hospital & Medical coverage for employees.
 - D. Interpretations to be worked on: Dual classifications; Procedural matters relating to the Grievance Procedure.
 - E. Establishment of Emergency Relief classification for Substations and Hydro Plants.
 - 15. Term of Agreements to be from July 1, 1957 to June 30, 1959.
- It is hoped that all members affected by the PG&E Agreements will attend their respective Unit meetings and cast



their vote for or against acceptance of the new Agreement in a true democratic fashion.

A list showing date, place and time of Unit meetings for ratification purposes appears on Page 4 of this issue of the UTILITY REPORTER. We urge that you attend.

Throw Away Your Magnifying Glasses!



Cancel your appointment with the oculist! This month your paper is set almost throughout in a new, larger, more readable body type. (This paragraph is set in the old 7 point size, which Shop Foreman Ed Hamilton is scrutinizing through a glass in the picture at left—compare this old type with the new 9 point Corona, on the rest of this page.) This is the most modern of type faces, designed by experts for maximum legibility and to ease the eye strain of today's living. Unconsciously you will be pleased by the change, but we call it to your attention with some pride, because it is in keeping with our promise to strive continually for improvement.

Claire Engle: 'I Do Not Endorse So-Called Right-to-Work Laws'

Representative to Congress Claire Engle, Democrat of Red Bluff, said he thinks it "a little strange" that an "intense effort" is being made in support of "right-to-work" laws by the same people who supported the Taft-Hartley law.

Rep. Engle, in a letter to Gordon Hauskins, secretary of Butchers Local 352 in Red Bluff, said he doesn't intend to "get involved" with the Tehama county board of supervisors, but he said he wants "to make it clear that I do not support or endorse these so-called right-to-work laws..."

Rep. Engle's letter read as follows:

"Answering your telegram of May 8, 1957, regarding the so-called Tehama County right-to-work ordinance: County ordinances are completely outside my jurisdiction, and I do not believe it either wise or helpful for me to try to take over the responsibilities of the board of supervisors.

"The supervisors are elected to public office and are accountable to the people in the same way I am. For those reasons, I do not intend to get involved in their legislative business.

"On the other hand, I want to make it clear that I do not support or endorse these so-called right-to-work laws, and when and if such proposals come before Congress, I intend to oppose them. You will recall that provision for the union shop was included in the Taft-Hartley Law, which was sponsored and supported by practically every employer organization in the country. It is a little strange, it seems to me, that there is such an intense effort now, nationwide, by these same people to outlaw the union shop."

Engle, in addition to his stand against "right-to-work," has led a battle against domination of the Trinity River Project and other federally-financed water and power projects by the Pacific Gas and Electric Co.

Editor's Note: Congressman Engle, a capable legislator, is not so naive as to "think it strange" that the same people who supported Taft-Hartley also support so-called "right-to-work" laws.

Meanwhile he beats the drums for government power which in effect outlaws not only the union shop, but even unions.

What we think is strange is that while Congressman Engle is so concerned about labor, he conveniently neglects to add that he voted for the Taft-Hartley Act. How strange can one get?

O'BRIEN SCORES L.A. CITY POWER

In IBEW Local 11's May 23rd NEWS LETTER, Business Manager George O'Brien teed off on public power but good. We quote:

Most of our members have known for a long time that the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, the "super-government" over which neither the Mayor nor the City Council have any control, has been invading the field of free private enterprise, depriving our contractor employers of millions of dollars worth of business, and our members of thousands of man-hours of work every year. Before the primary election, Business Manager O'Brien, Joe Christian, Executive Secretary of the Building and Construction Trades Council, and Thelma Thomas, Director of the Voters League, all met with the Mayor to see if something could be done to halt the "socialistic" activities of the Department. It was pointed out that the Valley Steam Plant was built in utter disregard of private enterprise and that the new \$100 million plus Scattergood Steam Plant was to be built on the same basis. The Mayor rightly evidenced deep concern over these bureaucratic practices, but stated that under our antiquated Los Angeles City Charter it is impossible to control the Department.

Department attempts to justify part of their invasion of the field of private enterprise are

Conn. Beats 'Wreck Law'

A "right-to-wreck" law was overwhelmingly defeated by the Republican controlled Connecticut Legislature, the House voting 150 to 88 in disapproval.

In Louisiana, the Senate beat down, 25 to 8, an attempt to restore a "wreck" law which was formerly on the books.

The Idaho Legislature's refusal to enact this Labor wrecking legislation has led to the formation of a "Freedom to Work" citizens committee formed for the purpose of obtaining sufficient signatures to a petition to get the question on the 1958 ballot. A budget of \$33,400 was set up for the purpose and the goal is 200,000 signatures.

Attend Your Meetings!

based on the fiction that they "own" the cables and equipment installed by their employees on private property. This, everyone knows, is a lot of double-talk. It has been shown on many occasions that "ownership" of service, cables and equipment depends solely on the amount of energy used by the customers. If the number of kilowatt hours used goes below a fixed minimum, the cost of the cables and equipment the Department "owns" shows up on the bill of the customer. Practically everything the Department does is shrouded in secrecy thru their bookkeeping and accounting system. None of our citizens knows for sure what the Valley Steam Plant cost the City of Los Angeles—but one thing is certain. It cost a great deal more than it should. The miles of conduit and cable bought for the Valley Steam Plant but not used therein, and then offered for sale as "salvage" proves that!

UNFAIR ALL 'ROUND

What we do know is that in addition to being in unfair competition with private business, the Department is in unfair competition with labor. The wage scale of the people who do the work our members and those of other building trades craft unions should rightfully be doing—and which they would be doing if the Department of Water and Power operated as a utility company, instead of a construction enterprise—is far below the scale paid by private employers for comparable work. The Department makes no contribution to the IBEW Pension Fund, and its employees have no collective bargaining agreements, no social security, no unemployment insurance, no construction wage scale, and no apprentice-to-journeyman ratio such as prevails in most of the crafts of the building trade. One journeyman can work with two helpers on a Department of Water and Power project, and this procedure was religiously followed on the Valley Steam Plant job.

Many of our contractors have written the Mayor and the City Council bitter letters protesting the practices of the Department of Water and Power. We believe they will be of some help on the Scattergood Steam Plant job. We believe these letters, and the activities of our members on the County Court House job, have already prevented the Department from doing a great deal more than they at first contemplated on that job. Letter-writing is something which does a great deal of good in many cases. All of our members who dislike the contemptuous disregard of their rights shown by the Department of Water and Power are requested to write letters to the Mayor and their City Councilmen protesting Department activities. Let's raise hell about this "super-government"! Nobody elected the Department of Water and Power. Where do they get off running wild over the rights of everyone? Let's see if we can't put enough pressure on them to slow them down a little!

Editor's Note: This same L.A. Bureau is seeking rejection of the Trinity Partnership Plan and was the main opposition which killed A.B. 2793 which would have allowed collective bargaining in Municipal Utility Districts.

Departmental Negotiations

In the April issue of the UTILITY REPORTER it was reported that tentative agreement had been reached and negotiations with PG&E with respect to job definitions and lines of progression for the Department of Pipe Line Operations and the Garage Department were drawing to a conclusion. These negotiations were completed and the Supplementary Agreement executed too late to be reported in the May issue. However, the agreements have been duplicated and distributed in the field. Members desiring copies should contact the Business Representative in their areas.

ELECTRIC OVERHEAD DEPT.

Final agreement was reached on June 3rd and negotiations concluded on definitions and lines of progressions for the Electric Overhead Dept. The effective date of the results of these negotiations will be July 1st and the new job definitions and lines of progression have been duplicated and are currently being distributed in the field.

During these negotiations agreement was reached to separate the Patrolman classification into two classifications: (1) Patrolman, Senior with a wage rate of \$106.10 per week, an increase of \$1.85 per week over the maximum rate of the old classification, and (2) Patrolman, with an 18 month progression starting at \$83.55 per week with a maximum of \$90.66 per week. These two classifications and wage rates were made effective May 1st and are to be applied to the Utilityman classification where applicable. Patrolman, Senior will accrue classification as a Lineman for bidding to linemen or troubleman providing they have completed the Lineman apprenticeship. Patrolman will accrue classification seniority as a Groundman for bidding purposes.

Some of the changes with respect to lines of progression include provisions to eliminate "dead-ending" of the lower wage bracket classifications and the establishment of a line of progression to Hole Digger operator as well as a clarification of the bidding rights between Lineman, Troublemans and Line Sub Foreman.

Some of the changed job descriptions clarify the question of Apprentice Linemen performing pre-fab work (it was determined that this was Lineman's work), limitations on pole setting by Hole Digger Operators, establishment of a provision that Groundmen rather than Laborers must be utilized in Pole Setting (Laborers are not to pike poles).

The question of Electric Servicemen in Coast Valleys Division was resolved by reclassifying incumbents to Troublemans and limiting the use of the Electric Serviceman classification to San Joaquin Division. Provisions for movement at the Apprentice level line and service were also agreed to.

Union's committee was composed of Frank McCarthy, Oakland; Oscar Fellin, Santa Rosa; Adrian Light, Stockton and Asst. Business Manager M. A. Walters.

With the System Negotiations concluded, pending ratification by the membership, the committees working on the various remaining Departments are anxiously awaiting the opportunity to resume negotiations on their job definitions and lines of progressions. Still to be concluded are the Electric Maintenance and Electric Underground Depts. which were being negotiated with the Company but interrupted by System Negotiations. Others remaining to be concluded are Electric Dept. Office, Warehouse, Electric Operations, Water Dept., Building Service Dept., Davis Yard & Warehouse and System Clerical.

'DOUBLE SUBSIDY' CHARGE MADE ON TRINITY PROJECT

"Double subsidy," which entitles public agencies already exempt from paying taxes also to enjoy tax-free Federal power, was challenged today by a Pacific Gas and Electric Company official in connection with the Trinity River project.

In a letter to Senator Thomas Kuchel commenting on his recent claims that added power costs to Federal and preference customers would exceed \$200 million under the joint development of the Trinity, Robert H. Gerdes, PG&E executive president, noted that Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton announced yesterday that the Bureau of Reclamation now estimates costs of \$115 million.

"These estimates," Gerdes wrote, "emphasize the magnitude of the double subsidy which a few preference agencies, already tax-exempt, would enjoy if they also received tax-free Federal power at the expense of water users and taxpayers generally. These agencies serve less than seven per

cent of the people in Northern and Central California."

The Government has started a large water project in Northern California to divert a portion of the Trinity River into the Sacramento River for irrigation and other needs of the Central Valley. Secretary Seaton yesterday again recommended to Congress that PG&E be authorized to build tax-paying power facilities and to purchase the temporary use of falling water made available by the government dams.

Gerdes' letter to Kuchel made three points:

1. Kuchel said the extra power cost to Federal agencies alone "could well exceed \$70 million" during the 50-year contract period. Gerdes replied that the Bureau now estimates this to be "under \$29 million."

2. Contrary to Kuchel's assertion that "what the government would allegedly save in one pocket it would certainly pay—and more—from another pocket," Gerdes contended that the

Senator ignored "benefits to the Federal Government from Trinity joint development, as found by Secretary Seaton, which would far outweigh any alleged added power cost to Federal agencies."

These benefits, Gerdes said, includes \$165 million for temporary use of the falling water to generate power and \$83 million in Federal taxes. Another \$62 million in taxes would be received by state, county and local treasuries in California.

These total benefits of \$310 million were not changed in any way by the Bureau's new estimate, Gerdes said.

Additionally, PG&E's financing of the \$56 million cost for powerhouse construction would reduce Government project appropriations almost 25 per cent, Gerdes pointed out.

3. The Senator, using Ames Laboratory as an example, asserted that the Government's guided missile research agency at Moffett Field would pay \$1,720,000 a year more for its

power from PG&E than from Central Valley project sources.

"The opposite is true," Gerdes declared. "The Company's service to Ames actually costs the Government at least \$500,000 a year less than equivalent service under existing CVP rate schedule... The Company is performing a notable public service in supplying the extraordinary power needs of this important defense installation at less cost to the Government than under the tax-free CVP power rates."

Kuchel's claims appeared in the May 13 Congressional Record and were based, in part, he said, on information he had requested from a Congressional staff. Gerdes wrote the Senator that his statement "indicates that you have been misinformed." The PG&E executive concluded his letter by requesting Kuchel to "reappraise the advantages of Trinity joint development to the people of your state and to taxpayers throughout the nation."

YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

In this issue of your newspaper, an outline of the results of collective bargaining between your Union and Pacific Gas and Electric Co. is featured. The Unit meetings are now voting on the recommendation of the System Negotiating Committee.



R. T. Weakley

Your Committee considers this to be best settlement obtainable in bargaining and one which will not only benefit our members but our Brothers and Sisters in the utility industry in general.

It is not easy to negotiate such fringes as 3 weeks vacation after 10 years or an additional 1/2-day's pay for scheduled Holiday work for shift and service people. These fringes firm up patterns in the utility industry and in these matters, we are leaders, rather than followers in many instances.

Management resists such fringes on the basis that they represent pay for time not worked as applied to additional vacation and added penalty for having to maintain service on holidays in the instance of additional holiday pay.

It is estimated that the 3 weeks application in 1958 will mean an additional labor cost of 200,000 man hours of non-productive paid time.

Some in the field may "pooh-pooh" the resistance faced by

your Committee but the big money is not easy to get particularly for non-work time.

Our wage settlement of 5.5% is among the tops in the industry for 1957 bargaining in utilities. Most other utilities in the nation settled for less and only a handful for more. Our 1958 increase on July 1 of 5% is right up at the top for delayed increases.

Most utilities are now on contract terms for more than one year. We were able to get a much better settlement by spreading the labor costs out over a longer period and feel that the benefits justify the term.

A glance at some selected wage rates shown elsewhere in this paper will give an idea of how the two increases will look this year and next. Even with a straight percentage application this year, PG&E differentials between unskilled and skilled workers are still minimum when compared to other utilities.

Consideration of published cost of living figures will show that even the bottom classifications receive that portion of the total increase to meet this factor. The upward balance of the percentage is applied to productivity.

We had trouble on General Construction Dept. expenses. When this item caused negotiations to bog down, the parties agreed to set it aside from this settlement and continue to seek a settlement beyond this session.

A committee of G. C. members from the field will be brought in to help resolve the difficult issues of expense,

amount and qualifications therefore.

Our proposals on the Hospital and Medical Plan were not accepted during this session but we did get agreement to have our Committee and the PG&E Co. continue meeting on the question of improving the plan. This will be a major future activity of this Union and our long study of the benefit structure and costs should be of much value.

In summary, our wage settlement compares favorably with the best in the industry. Our holiday pay, sick leave, vacation, pension and other conditions compare likewise. Except for pensions and a few interim negotiations which are scheduled, we have levelled off our collective bargaining on PG&E for two years.

It is contemplated that during this period we will concentrate on organizing, education, legislative activities and improved communication among our members.

As one who has been through years of bargaining with PG&E, I can say that the men on your 1957 System Negotiating Committee are deserving of your appreciation for a most difficult job and a good settlement.

Multiple Sclerosis

AFL-CIO President George Meany again has endorsed the Hope Chest campaign of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. Organized labor has given its support to this drive for the past fifteen years.

Attend Union Meetings!

Stanpac Drive Progress

As reported in the May issue of the UTILITY REPORTER, a majority of the employees of Standard Pacific Gas Lines, Inc., have signed applications for membership in Local Union 1245 and have petitioned the National Labor Relations Board to certify the Union as the representative of the employees for purposes of collective bargaining.

After reaching agreement on the scope of the bargaining unit to include all operations, maintenance and construction workers but excluding office clerical, the parties completed arrangements for a consent election on May 31st.

The election will be conducted by mail. The N.L.R.B. will send out the ballots on May 11th to all eligible voters, who will vote for or against Union representation and return their ballots on or before May 21st.

L.A. POWER DEPT. (ANTI-UNION) HITS TRINITY PLAN

The Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power, May 9th, sent a strongly worded resolution to Secretary of Interior Seaton, Governor Knight and members of the California delegation in Congress, urging rejection of the PG&E-Trinity Plan. William S. Peterson, general manager, said,

"We are interested in getting water to the people who need it as cheaply as possible, as well as in low rate power.

"We believe this can be done only if publicly developed power is made available to the State Feather River Project, and the San Luis Project, under state or satisfactory federal-state development—and to other public agencies as preference customers."

The Los Angeles Dept. of Water and Power also fought vigorously against legislation in California which would have given Municipal Utility District employees the right to self-organization and collective bargaining. It seems to the editors

of the Utility Reporter that this is a perfect example of how much public power enthusiasts think of utility workers and their rights.



"You're going to have to speak to Junior about playing with his pogo stick in the basement."

LOCAL 1245 UNIT MEETING SCHEDULE FOR CONTRACT RATIFICATION

San Joaquin Division

- FRESNO**
Knights of Pythias Hall, 1312 "R" St., Wednesday, June 19, 7:30 p.m.
- BAKERSFIELD**
Plasterers Hall, 26 Bernard St., Thursday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.
- MADERA**
Italian-American Club, Thursday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.
- TAFT**
Power Club, Wednesday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.
- SELMA**
I.O.O.F. Hall, Tuesday, June 18, 7:30 p.m.
- WASCO**
Power Club, Tuesday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.
- WISHON**
Community Hall, Tuesday, June 25, 7:30 p.m.
- COALINGA**
Power Club, Monday, June 17, 7:30 p.m.
- MERCED**
Fish & Game Assn. Hall, Thursday, June 27, 7:30 p.m.
- LOS BANOS**
Fireman's Hall, Wednesday, June 26, 7:30 p.m.
- Coast Valleys Division**
- SALINAS**
American Legion Hall, 14 West Laurel Drive, Wednesday, June 12, 8:00 p.m.
- MONTEREY**
Carpenter's Hall, 738 Hawthorne, Thursday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.
- KING CITY-SOLEIDAD**
Fire Hall, Greenfield, Tuesday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.
- WATSONVILLE-MOSS LANDING**
V.F.W. Hall, Watsonville, Monday, June 10, 8:00 p.m.
- SAN LUIS OBISPO**
Laborers Temple, 1530 Monterey St., Wednesday, June 26, 7:30 p.m.

- SANTA MARIA**
Culinary Wkrs. Hall, 109 So. Broadway, Tuesday, June 25, 8:00 p.m.
- PASO ROBLES**
Hot Springs Hotel, Monday, June 24, 8:00 p.m.
- Pipe Line Operations**
- BARSTOW**
Desert Inn, Lenwood, Wednesday, June 19, 7:30 p.m.
- NEEDLES**
V.F.W. Hall, Tuesday, June 18, 7:30 p.m.
- SAN JOSE (P.L.O.)**
Labor Temple, 45 Santa Theresa St., Tuesday, June 25, 8:00 p.m.
- AVENAL**
Veteran's Memorial Hall, Thursday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.
- San Jose Division**
- SAN JOSE**
V.F.W. Hall, 430 So. 4th St., Wednesday, June 26, 8:00 p.m.
- BELMONT**
Good Shepherd Hall, 5th Ave., Tuesday, June 18, 8:00 p.m.
- SANTA CRUZ**
D.E.S. Hall, Evergreen, Thursday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.
- East Bay Division**
- OAKLAND**
Porter Hall, 1918 Grove St., Tuesday, June 25, 8:00 p.m.
- CONCORD**
I.O.O.F. Hall, Monday, June 10, 8:00 p.m.
- RICHMOND**
AFL Hall, 257 - 5th St., Thursday, June 13, 8:00 p.m.
- CONTRA COSTA STEAM**
I.O.O.F. Hall, Tuesday, June 18, 8:00 p.m.
- HAYWARD**
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St., Thursday, June 27, 8:00 p.m.
- HAYWARD (Clerical)**
Labor Temple, 529 Soto St., Tuesday, June 18, 7:30 p.m.

- STORES (Clerical)**
Porter Hall, 1918 Grove St., Tuesday, June 25, 5:00 p.m.
- San Francisco Division**
- CLERICAL**
Retail Clerks Hall, 149 Powell St., Thursday, June 27, 5:30 p.m.
- ELECTRIC, GARAGE & WHESE.**
IAM Hall, 3157 Mission St., Thursday, June 13, 8:00 p.m.
- GAS**
IAM Hall, 3157 Mission St., Thursday, June 11, 8:00 p.m.
- STEAM**
IAM Hall, 3157 Mission St., Tuesday, June 18, 8:00 p.m.
- Stockton Division**
- STOCKTON**
Moose Lodge, Tuesday, June 11, 8:00 p.m.
- OAKDALE**
V.F.W. Hall, 4th St., Thursday, June 13, 8:00 p.m.
- JACKSON**
Native Son's Hall, 20 Court St., Tuesday, June 18, 7:00 p.m.
- MODESTO**
Burbank-Paradise Hall, Vernon and Beverly Sts., Tuesday, June 25, 8:00 p.m.
- LODI**
Veterans' Hall, 23 1/2 Pine St., Thursday, June 27, 8:00 p.m.
- SONORA**
I.O.O.F. Hall, Thursday, June 20, 8:00 p.m.
- Humboldt Division**
- EUREKA**
Labor Temple, 9th and E Sts., Wednesday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.
- GARBerville-WEOTT**
Fire House, Garberville, Tuesday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.
- Shasta Division**
- RED BLUFF**
Memorial Bldg., Thursday, June 13, 7:30 p.m.
- REDDING**
AFL Hall, Shasta and Calif. Sts., Wednesday, June 12, 7:30 p.m.

- FALL RIVER MILLS**
Veterans Hall, Friday, June 21, 7:00 p.m.
- MANTON**
Manton School House, Monday, June 24, 8:00 p.m.
- PIT CANYON**
Big Bend Community Hall, Friday, June 14, 8:00 p.m.
- De Saba Division**
- CHICO**
Memorial Bldg., Washington and Esplanade, Wednesday, June 26, 7:30 p.m.
- QUINCY-ALMANOR**
American Legion Hall, Greenville, Wednesday, June 19, 7:30 p.m.
- FEATHER RIVER**
Belden School, Tuesday, June 18, 8:00 p.m.
- WILLOWS-ORLAND**
Willows Fire House, Tuesday, June 25, 7:30 p.m.
- LAS PLUMAS**
PG&E Clubhouse, Friday, June 28, 8:00 p.m.
- PARADISE**
Memorial Bldg., Thursday, June 27, 7:30 p.m.
- Drum Division**
- AUBURN (Clerical)**
Eagles Hall, High St., Friday, June 10, 5:00 p.m.
- AUBURN**
Eagles Hall, High St., Friday, June 21, 8:00 p.m.
- ALTA**
I.O.O.F. Hall, Dutch Flat, Thursday, June 27, 8:00 p.m.
- GRASS VALLEY**
Labor Temple, 110 1/4 E. Main St., Thursday, June 20, 7:30 p.m.
- Colgate Division**
- MARYSVILLE (Clerical)**
V.F.W. Hall, 9th and E. Sts., Monday, June 17, 5:00 p.m.
- MARYSVILLE**
V.F.W. Hall, 9th and E. Sts., Monday, June 17, 8:00 p.m.

- COLUSA**
Atwood Hall, Fairgrounds, Wednesday, June 19, 7:00 p.m.
- OROVILLE**
Veterans' Memorial Bldg., Tuesday, June 18, 7:30 p.m.
- North Bay Division**
- SAN RAFAEL**
Painters' Hall, 701 Mission, Thursday, June 27, 8:00 p.m.
- SANTA ROSA**
Labor Temple, 636 - 3rd St., Tuesday, June 25, 8:00 p.m.
- UKIAH**
Labor Temple, 101 Hwy. North, Thursday, June 20, 8:00 p.m.
- NAPA**
Labor Temple, 1606 Main St., Wednesday, June 19, 8:00 p.m.
- FORT BRAGG**
Coast Hotel, Tuesday, June 18, 7:30 p.m.
- Sacramento Division**
- SACRAMENTO**
Labor Temple, 2525 Stockton Blvd., Wednesday, June 19, 8:00 p.m.
- VACAVILLE**
Eagles Hall, Tuesday, June 11, 7:30 p.m.
- PLACERVILLE**
Grange Hall, Tuesday, June 18, 7:30 p.m.
- WOODLAND**
I.O.O.F. Hall, Thursday, June 13, 8:00 p.m.
- DAVIS**
Masonic Hall, "G" St., Monday, June 17, 8:00 p.m.

Meetings for shift workers will normally be held at 1:00 p.m. on the day of the scheduled meeting. Check your bulletin boards for definite information. General Construction Dept. members are requested to participate in the meeting activities of the local unit nearest their work.