

# Utility Reporter



Official Publication of I. B. E. W. Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO, 1918 Grove Street, Oakland 12, Calif.

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OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER, 1957

## Annual 9th District Progress Meeting in S.F. is Huge Success

The annual IBEW 9th District Progress Meeting, held on October 4th and 5th in the new home of Local 6 in San Francisco, was adjudged an outstanding success by all in attendance.

Local 1245 was represented by Bus. Mgr. R. T. Weakley, Vice Pres. Marvin Brooks, Executive Board Members Joe Kreins and Marvin Wagner; Asst. Bus. Mgrs. L. L. Mitchell and M. A. Walters; Admin. Assts. Al Hansen and Elmer Bushby; Bus. Reps. Scott Wadsworth, Ray Ensey, Ed James and Dan McPeak.

Vice Pres. Oscar Harbak opened the meeting and introduced the guests, which included International President Gordon M. Freeman, International Secretary Joe Keenan, International Treasurer Jere Sullivan, International Executive Council Member Charles Foehn, Director of Research James Noe, Director of Manufacturing Organizing Paul Menger and Director of Jurisdiction Frank Graham.

Charles Foehn, Executive Council Member and Bus. Mgr. of Local 6, host local for the Progress Meeting, extended greetings to all the delegates.

Vice President Harbak then introduced Dex Jewett, representative of NECA, who outlined the purposes of NECA and their history of cooperation with the IBEW.

Walters Eli, International Representative for the Hawaiian Islands, was the next speaker. He said that the IBEW was the strongest union in the Island Federation of Labor, and the best organized. He stated that their wages and contract provisions were not up to the mainland standards, but were improving all the time.

Jere Sullivan, International Treasurer, was the next speaker. He spoke on Right-to-Work and Senator Knowland and the battle in California. He stressed the need to organize the Instrument Technicians. He said that Meany and the leadership of the AFL- (Continued on Page 3)



GORDON FREEMAN



JOSEPH KEENAN



OSCAR HARBAK

## JOHN HUTCHINSON PRAISES 1245

John Hutchinson, graduate of the University of London and Coordinator of Labor Programs at the University of California, spoke before the delegates to the Joint Executive Conference on Sept. 28th. His statements on labor and its educational needs included such pertinent points as follows:

"The labor movement is facing one of the gravest crises in its existence. Full employment, high wages, and increasing skill on the part of management in manipulating consent, are diminishing the appeal of organized labor for many workers. An increasingly credit economy, with the vast majority of union members in debt for something of importance to them, is cutting down the readiness of union members to strike, and thus the bargaining power of unions. The lack of labor influence in the school system, resulting in (Continued on Page 2)



JOHN HUTCHINSON

## Chairmen and Recorders Meet Urges Dues Raise

In an historic meeting, Chairmen and Recorders or alternates from all Local Units of Local 1245's jurisdiction, convened at Union Headquarters in Oakland and the Shattuck Hotel in Berkeley on September 28th and 29th.

The 152 delegates, the Executive Board, Policy Committee and Staff were welcomed by President Frank Gilleran, who introduced the guests, Vice-President Oscar Harbak, and Joseph Grodin, Attorney.

Vice-President Harbak, speaking on the development of the IBEW and Local 1245's position in it, stated that it took the International many years to attain the number of members that Local 1245 has today. He pointed out that Local 1245 must be large in order to bargain with the employers in our jurisdiction. He reviewed how PG&E employees failed to remain organized in the past which resulted in falling behind in wages. He credited the gains made by Local 1245 to the splendid leadership of Business Manager Weakley and the Officers of the Local.

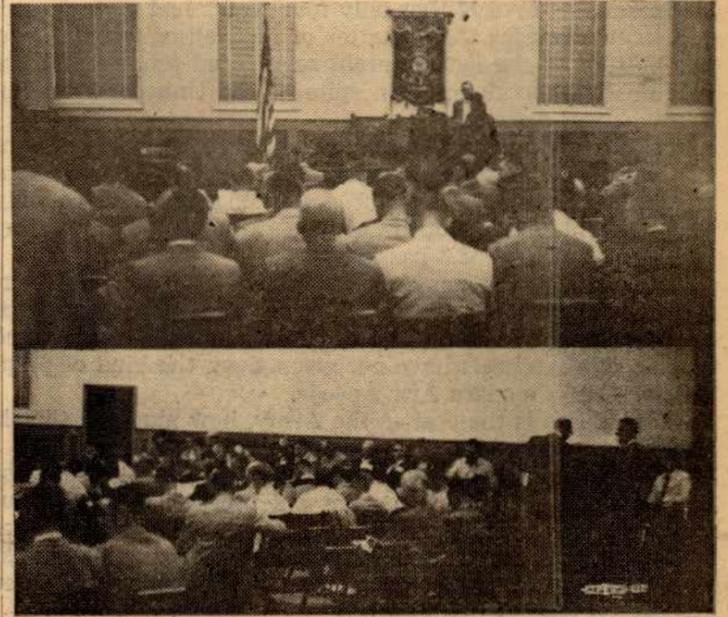
Joe Grodin, one of the attorneys in the law firm which we have on retainer, outlined the services available to the Union and its individual members. He stated that the integrity of the leaders and the procedures used in operating our Union are outstanding in the labor movement and, further, that he and his colleagues were proud to represent our Local Union.

The general session of the Conference was opened by Program Coordinator Scott Wadsworth. He explained that the purpose of the conference was to explain the operation of Local 1245, the difficulties encountered in operating such an organization, the need for expanding our operations and the need for proper program and finances. As the delegates were key members in their respective areas, it was hoped that a base of understand-

ing of the scope of Local 1245 and the labor movement would be developed and carried back to the membership.

Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell

was then introduced and spoke on Local 1245's history, accomplishments and operations. He stated that "today is yesterday's (Continued on Page 3)



ABOVE VIEWS show members in attendance at the Sept. 28-29 Chairmen's and Recorders' conference.

## BRUNDAGE: CONCERTED WORK CAN BEAT SCAB LAW

Albert Brundage, prominent attorney with the law firm of Tobriner, Lazarus, Brundage & Neyhart addressed the Joint Executive Conference on Sept. 28th on the topical issue of "right-to-work." The delegates were particularly attentive to Brundage's remarks which included the following:

"Labor unions should not be surprised at the use of an attractive phrase aimed against them for exploitation at the very

places where it will have a most compelling ring. The struggle between working men's organizations and resisting employers has proverbially been cast in shibboleths. So the wavering line of economic battle between the two groups takes on the terminology of such irrelevant legalisms as union "monopoly," at the end of the 19th Century; or the "effect on interstate commerce" of the strike or picket line, in the beginning of the 20th; or "freedom" of employees to enter into individual contracts not to join a union in the 20th and the corollary "right" to be free of government regulation of child labor, hours or work, and minimum wages; and the recent phrasing of the right



AL BRUNDAGE

(Continued on Page 2)

## Member's Wife Is 1st to See Sputnik

Mrs. Elaine Cordua may have been the first person on the Pacific Coast to see Russia's space satellite. Wife of Ted Cordua, 1957 PG&E Negotiating Committee Member, Stores Division Grievance Representative and Shop Steward, she and Ted are actively engaged in the official "Moonwatch" in connection with the International Geophysical Year.

She tracked the tiny satellite with a six-power telescope of the Mt. Diablo Astronomical Society while on watch at the official post near Pleasant Hill High School in Contra Costa County.

Evidence to support her observation comes from two sources. The Press Wireless radio receiving station at Napa was picking up radio signals from the satellite at the precise moment Mrs. Cordua was tracking it, and the American International Geophysical Year's headquarters in Cambridge, Mass., reports that her information checks with other information they had received.

## Attention, Sutter Co. Members!

- Monday, November 4th is "D" Day—2:00 P.M. is "H" Hour.
- Your County Board of Supervisors will take up the question of the vicious anti-union right-to-work ordinance at that time.
- Those proposing this union-busting law have been working "tooth and nail" enlisting support, aided and abetted by your area's labor-hating public press.
- Contact your respective Supervisor and let him know of your opposition to such legislation.
- THIS MAY BE YOUR LAST CHANCE.



# The UTILITY REPORTER



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**L. L. MITCHELL** . . . . . Assistant Editor  
**M. A. WALTERS** . . . . . Assistant Editor  
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## Faubus Is Costly

Governor Orval Faubus' opposition to school integration in Arkansas is exacting a heavy toll on Army manpower to say nothing of its cost to the American economy.

His destructive tactics in Little Rock have led to an examination of just where his segregated school system stands—and it doesn't stand high.

The United States Army gives the same educational test to all draftees. And the latest report of the Surgeon General on these tests reveals that only four states had a worse record than Arkansas. As a matter of fact, all of the states at the bottom of the list maintain segregated schools and are fighting to keep them so in spite of the United States Supreme Court decision.

In 27 states, none of them in the South, over 90 per cent of the draftees passed the Army educational test with Minnesota leading the way by a 97.4 standing. In Arkansas only 61.8 per cent passed. South Carolina's young men brought up the rear with only 52.3 passing.

This actually means only one thing—that a heavy percentage of young men in the Deep South, where segregated schools still prevail, cannot do their share in the Armed Forces. Their schools have not given them the kind of preparation that a modern Army needs.

And if this is the cost to the Army, how much costlier is this to our economy, to our citizenry and to our country?

Those true Americans who are leading the fight against bigotry and discrimination point out repeatedly that prejudice costs our country and its taxpayers millions of dollars each year. And they mean prejudice against anyone—against Negroes, the foreign born, the Jews or citizens of any other religion. It doesn't matter who.

## How Do Arkansas Schools Rate?

	U. S. Average	Arkansas
Operating expenditure per pupil, 1956-57	\$295	\$138 (lowest in U.S.)
Average salary of teachers, 1956-57	\$4220	\$2380 (lowest in U.S.)
New classrooms needed in relation to existing classrooms, Fall 1956	14.6%	89% (highest in U.S.)

## JOHN HUTCHINSON PRAISES 1245

(Continued from Page 1)

deep ignorance of the labor movement on the part of high school students in particular, is a grave problem for a labor movement which depends to a considerable extent on public support in bargaining, strikes, and particularly in political action; we are, in other words, in danger of bringing up a generation to whom the word 'scab' means nothing at all.

"Above all, however, the shadow of corruption—created by a miserable minority in our unions—has fallen across the movement as a whole. It is quite clear that we are about to witness the most concerted anti-labor drive at the bargaining tables and in the legislatures that we have ever seen.

"What is the answer? Democracy, education and responsibility; democracy in the union to make sure that the power of the union is wielded by and for the membership; education in the union to equip its members for effective trade unionism in an unfavorable environment; and the acceptance of responsibility on the part of every member of the union for the welfare, not only of himself and his family,

but for the community as a whole. There need be no limit to the influence of labor in promoting the general welfare—whether in the processing of grievances or in aiding the new labor movements in the underdeveloped areas of the world to achieve the strength and dignity of the American trade unionist. The opportunities for responsible trade unionism are immense and await only the grasping. It is in this matter that Local 1245 stands so high in the ranks of labor. More strength to its arm!"

## The Racket Press

For the protection of trade union members in this area and for the protection of fair employers, the Utility Reporter will publish exclusively beginning next month a series of articles exposing the activities of the racket press—one of the meanest rackets in the world.

Watch for "The Racket Press," read how the racket press operates, how the labor press through the International Labor Press Association is fighting this racket.

# On the Negotiating Front

## Calif. Pacific Utilities Company, Needles Division

As the last issue of the Utility Reporter went to press, a tentative agreement had been reached between the parties and we reported that it was being submitted to the affected members for ratification. This meeting, which was held September 17th, saw the membership rejecting the offer, primarily over the question of wage rates for Telephone employees, utilization of the Laborer classification, classification and wage rate for the employee at Searchlight, Nevada, and minor objections to a couple of items in the conditions portion of the Agreement.

Subsequent negotiations resulted in improvements in wage rates for incumbent Telephone employees, although no changes were effected in the established progressions which cover a six-year spread; agreement was reached that Laborers would only be hired on a temporary basis in the future and the establishment of the classification of Local Agent at Searchlight with a \$50 per month increase for the incumbent.

At a meeting on September 24th, the membership voted to accept this offer and the Agreement, which was made effective October 1, 1957, to run until May 1, 1959, was signed on September 25th.

The Agreement, which is a good one, provides improved working conditions and fringe benefits such as: 3 weeks' vacation after 10 years and 4 weeks' after 25 years, effective January 1, 1958, doubles the previous allowance for accumulation of sick leave, double time for overtime on the 7th day and improved provisions relative to standby and long hours of work, together with Union security in the form of maintenance of membership.

Some of the wage rates effective October 1st are: Lineman, \$2.78 per hour; Gas Serviceman, \$2.56; Groundman, \$2.15 and Central Office Repairman, \$2.65. Subsequent increases will be applied to all classifications on 4-1-58, 10-1-58 and 3-1-59, which will bring the Lineman to \$2.94, Gas Serviceman to \$2.73 and Central Office Repairman to \$2.84.

Union's Committee consisted of Robert Scouler, Asst. Bus. Mgr. M. A. Walters and Bus. Rep. Jack Wilson, while Company was represented by D. M. Pritchett, Personnel Director and Division Manager D. N. Baker.

## Citizens Utilities Water Co. Subsidiaries

After months of negotiations, starting on June 28, 1957, and a six-day strike, following a breakdown of negotiations on October 8th, agreement was finally reached and a settlement obtained on Wednesday, October 16th.

The Agreement, which will be effective as of October 1, 1957, and will run through November 30, 1958, provides for improved vacation and sick leave, the curtailment of Saturday work at straight time rate of pay, the elimination of forced standby without compensation, improved overtime provisions, seniority protection on promotions and demotions, maintenance of membership and several other items. In addition, all employees were placed into their proper classifications and definitions agreed to for the various classifications. A general increase of 5c per hour, effective December 1, 1957 was obtained, together with minor correction of inequities in the Apprentice classification and the establishment of a 10c per hour differential for Leadman.

## Standard Pacific Gas Line Inc.

Following exchange of proposals and counter proposals, together with two meetings with Company representatives, Asst. Bus. Mgr. M. A. Walters has reported that an Agreement appears near with respect to working conditions for this newly-organized group. A previous agreement on wages provided for a 5½ per cent increase, effective 7-1-57, plus an additional 5 per cent to be applied 7-1-58.

# Brundage Calls for Concerted Effort To Beat Scab Law

(Continued from Page 1)

to picket in the terms of a constitutional protection of freedom of speech. While this past articulation of the economic struggle may seem removed from the real issues, it is no more, nor less, gross than the anti-union employer's new semantic mantle—"right to work."

"Translated into fact, the phrase means, not the acquisition of a right to a job, which no government could effectuate in a competitive economy, but the prohibition of the right of management and labor to enter into a contract which requires membership in a union. If such legislation provides a new freedom to workers, it can only do so by transforming the word "freedom" into "compulsion."

"Indeed, this attempt at the compulsory open shop in miniature, like many similar performances of the past, fails on the same old issues, and on some new ones. It does not grant to workers any protection which they seek; it conflicts with the position of the employers who are actually engaged in industrial relations; it is impractical; it is legally invalid.

"On all of these issues the attempt to enact right-to-work ordinances at the rural crossroads must turn out to be a misadventure. Unfortunately, employers will spend a lot of money in this doomed endeavor; unions, too, will be forced to incur heavy costs for lawyers and for publicizing their opposition. About all that can be said in favor of this country-wide campaign is that it should prove somewhat profitable to the California Association of Employers.

"However, it will take the concerted and continuing efforts of all unions, including Local 1245, their families and friends to defeat these efforts to establish right-to-work laws on a state-wide basis in California."

issues which appeared at the Joint Executive Conference were real eye-openers. I have seen several copies on the job in various locations, such as in pockets and on trucks. There has been much comment, also, from those who read it at home. The value of the good it does cannot be overestimated.

During my conversation with you during the Conference, I mentioned the need for information or posters to be used on our Bulletin Boards to continue the drive to get out the votes at the election in November. It is my thought that we should carry through from the appeal we made to register, and remind the Union members that to vote, when registered, is the real power of the individual.

Fraternally yours,  
**Dorwin E. Robinson**  
 Policy Committee Member  
 S.F. Division

# The Mail Bag

September 29, 1957

R. T. Weakley, Editor  
 Utility Reporter

With this letter, I would like to express my appreciation to Bus. Mgr. R. T. Weakley, the Executive Board and all those who made the Joint Executive Conference possible and for the way it was coordinated.

I believe much good was derived from the meeting by all who attended as they got to know Local 1245's functions and the situation in which we are in now.

Again, I wish to thank you for the way it was handled.

Yours fraternally,

**Anthony M. Zammit**  
 San Francisco

September 24, 1957

R. T. Weakley, Editor  
 Utility Reporter

On behalf of the San Francisco members who attended the Local Union's first outing and picnic at Laurel Park in Cupertino on Sunday, Sept. 22, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee and Bus. Rep. Dan McPeak for the wonderful job they did.

We sincerely hope that this

picnic will become an annual affair.

**San Francisco Steam Dept.**  
 By Anthony M. Zammit

October 1, 1957

Editor, Utility Reporter  
 1918 Grove St.  
 Oakland 12, Calif.

Dear Sir:

I wish to express my satisfaction of the great job done on the UTILITY REPORTER. During the year the news reporting has been outstanding. Then the two

Statement required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Acts of March 3, 1933, and July 2, 1946 (Title 39, United States Code, Section 233) showing the Ownership, Management, and circulation of The Utility Reporter, published monthly at Oakland, California, for October 1, 1957.

1. The names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, Intl. Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 1245, 1918 Grove Street, Oakland, Calif.; Editor, Ronald T. Weakley, 1918 Grove Street, Oakland, Calif.; Business Manager, Ronald T. Weakley, 1918 Grove Street, Oakland, Calif.

2. The owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address, must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a partnership or other unincorporated firm, its name and address, as well as that of each individual member, must be given.) International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 1245, AFL-CIO, 1918 Grove St., Oakland, California.

3. The known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. Paragraphs 2 and 3 include, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting; also the statements in the two paragraphs show the affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner.

5. The average number copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding date shown above was: (This information required from daily, weekly, semi-weekly, tri-weekly newspapers only.)

RONALD T. WEAKLEY, Business Manager.  
 Sworn and subscribed before me this 27th day of September, 1957.  
 PRISCILLA WALLACE  
 (My commission expires July 12, 1959)

# We Must Beat Knowland... Public Relations Vital to Us, The Sept. Conference is Told

(Continued from Page 1)

tomorrow and it is also tomorrow's past" and "decisions made today will have a real effect on the accomplishments we will make in the future." He pointed to the history related by Vice President Harbak wherein through lack of understanding by the membership, the PG&E employees fell behind in wages in comparison to the Northwest and are still behind. "These examples" Mitchell said, "should make us aware that we must never allow such employers' advantages to occur again."

Mitchell stated that while the prime purpose of the organization is to make gains through collective bargaining, the Union cannot operate separate from the community or in a vacuum. **In order to aid our ability to function as a collective bargaining agent we must engage in things not directly related to the employers.** He stressed such activities as political campaigning and legislative action—an absolute must where we deal with public agencies. Economic research must be carried on, and he reviewed how this Union's efforts had received nation-wide recognition.

Public relations is an important key to our survival and continued recognition in the community and in the labor movement. In the field of communications, we have done much to improve "getting the word" to and from the membership. We have engaged in educational programs for the Staff and membership. We have developed procedures and have the machinery to handle all the complicated functions of a Union as large as ours. These embrace such items as finance, routine office procedures, the Union as an employer and legal problems.

Mitchell pointed out how in developing these functions and activities, more people become involved. This desired broadening of the democratic process has continuously expanded since 1953 when the last dues increase was effective, and is a costly process.

Bus. Mgr. R. T. Weakley was then introduced and discussed the aims of Local 1245, the program to accomplish the aims and the need for decision. He stated that this was the first such meeting of its kind in our history and was just another step toward broader participation in the development of program.

The major economic goals of Local 1245, Weakley outlined, are improved purchasing power through higher wages; improved fringes through job security, training and safety to meet technological advances; the upward standardization as well as protection of wages and conditions in the West and in the nation.

This program, he stated, calls for complete organization, membership understanding and support, plus finances to carry it out. He reviewed the negotiations in progress within our jurisdiction and showed how added burdens are being placed on the employees of the Union which detract from abilities to carry future program.

He illustrated how automation, mechanization, atomic power and improved industrial techniques will have an effect on our program as we develop our future goals. He quoted from an

address by PG&E Vice-President J. K. Horton, which outlined that Company's intentions in regard to expansion, use of automatic equipment and development of management in the next eight years.

The statements of experts in the fields of economics and industrial relations, coupled with management statements, Weakley continued, mean that more management, more production, less manpower and weaker collective bargaining power of unions is a major industry goal.

He stressed the importance and necessity of engaging in public relations to strengthen our relations with schools, public bodies, Union friends, business organizations and the general public and emphasized that our program must be intensified due to the lack of understanding and the heavy attacks against the American labor movement.

Political action, Weakley stated, is no longer a controversial issue. Without the adult and intelligent use of our free ballot, we stand to lose what we have gained over the bargaining table. Our main fight is to battle Senator Knowland and his reactionary philosophy of anti-labor legislation and to this end, he stated, he was dedicated to protect the membership through an effective fight on the issue of bad legislators and bad legislation. Weakley concluded the afternoon session by stating that the Officers and Business Manager have strived to build a Union, have improved its service, have improved conditions and wages and advanced our position in labor—all within a restricted budget and with a policy of minimum monthly dues. We have, however, reached a point where income is insufficient to continue our previous activities and it's up to the membership as to whether we go backward or forward.

The meeting adjourned and busses transported the delegates to the Shattuck Hotel in Berkeley where a reception and banquet was held.

Speaking before the group was Albert Brundage, attorney with the law firm of Tobriner, Lazarus, Brundage & Neyhart, whose topic was "The Effects of the Taft-Hartley Law and State's Right-to-Work Measures." (See elsewhere in this issue for excerpts from Brundage's speech).

John Hutchinson, Coordinator of Labor Programs at the University of California, addressed the delegates on the subject of "Labor and Its Educational Needs." (Excerpts from Hutchinson's speech are elsewhere in this issue.)

The conference reconvened Sunday morning in the Shattuck Hotel with Program Coordinator Scott Wadsworth introducing Local 1245 Treasurer Thomas F. (Bud) Kerin.

Kerin explained his duties as Treasurer. He outlined that being charged with the responsibilities of maintaining the Union's solvency, he was recommending an increase in income, to provide adequate finances or as the only alternative, a reduction in our program. This determination was made, he continued, after a full week's discussion with the Executive Board and the Business Manager on the financial position of the Union. At his request, he stated, the Business Office had devel-

## Picnic for San Francisco

On Sunday, September 22nd, the members of the San Francisco Units of Local 1245 held a picnic at Laurel Park near Cupertino. The picnic Committee, headed up by "Chef" Aasland, provided free soda pop and ice cream for the children. Swimming was available in both a large pool and a wading pool for the little ones.

Beer was sold at a nominal cost and, as the weather was warm, the sale was carried on at a brisk rate.

Races were held for all ages and everyone enjoyed watching them, especially the women's sack race and the men's three-legged race.

All in attendance expressed a desire to make the picnic an annual affair.

oped a report on our financial position. He then turned the meeting over to Asst. Bus Mgr. L. L. Mitchell, who was delegated to explain the report.

Mitchell outlined our audits and explained how audits do not present a complete picture of the solvency of the Union. He pointed out how our so-called reserves could be wiped out by present operating commitments.

The rising costs of current operations must be taken into consideration, Mitchell continued. Costs must be met for continued negotiations on unresolved issues to which we are committed, such as Hospitalization, Joint Apprenticeship, General Construction Expenses and Job Definitions on PG&E; Pensions, Job Definitions, Safety & Joint Apprenticeship on Sierra Pacific. The State IBEW program to fight Right-to-Work legislation will be an additional cost to us.

Our future costs are going to increase if we are to protect our jurisdiction in the craft versus industrial unionism issue at the merger convention of the State Federation and the CIO. We must keep abreast of technological advances in the industry if the Union is to survive. This will require additional manpower and training.

All of these are necessary, Mitchell concluded, but will cost money—money we don't have. Either money must be advanced to carry out our program or reductions must be effected.

The delegates then assembled in caucuses, led by their respective Executive Board member. After discussing the issue pro and con in each caucus, they reconvened in general session where it was reported that there was unanimity on the need for a dues increase with the amount ranging from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per month.

Business Manager Weakley, in summarizing the conference, stated that no legislative action could be taken by this assembly but it was up to the Executive Board to accept a recommendation for a By-Law amendment from one of the Units. He urged that such an amendment would contain an increase of \$1.00 a month, 20c of which is already earmarked for an increased International per capita tax. Although the \$1.00 would not provide all of the refinements discussed during the conference, it was believed that improvements in our present structure with the \$1.00 increase could be accomplished.

The meeting was then adjourned with the hope that those in attendance would discuss the issue on the job in order to "provide a base of understanding among the entire membership."

**Observe Safety Rules!**

## 9TH DISTRICT MEETING

(Continued from Page 1)

CIO were of the highest caliber and that the current trouble with the Teamsters was hurting the whole labor movement.

Following Brother Sullivan's address, Paul Menger, Director of Organization, Manufacturing, addressed the delegates. He said that the manufacturing field was the largest area for organizing and stated that, although there are now more people organized than at any other time in U.S. history, there are more people unorganized than at any other time. He mentioned the Mohawk Valley Plan of 1936 as the start of the latest anti-labor trouble.

After lunch, Director of Research James Noe showed the AFL-CIO movie on rising wages based on rising costs. He explained the Apprenticeship Clauses for Agreements with NECA and discussed the unemployment of IBEW members because of improper distribution of work between locals and the need for training in the Brotherhood.

J. D. Keenan, International Secretary, was introduced as the next speaker.

He reported on the financial position of the various Brotherhood funds and pointed out that during the first six months of 1957 we operated at a loss. He reviewed the ever-increasing number of members being added to our Pension rolls monthly and emphasized the need for "selling" the "A" membership.

Brother Keenan made a stirring address on the evils of "Right-to-Work" legislation and pointed to the recent victory of Senator Proxmire in Wisconsin as an example of what labor can do where properly educated.

International President Freeman was the next speaker. He reported on the selection of Brother Rex Fransway as the Chairman of the Executive Council. He said that we control only 60 per cent of the building construction in the U.S. and Canada, with the other 40 per cent done by non-union labor. He cautioned that some locals are allowing non-members

to work under a permit without becoming members.

In the Utility field all employees are not members, with approximately 100,000 unorganized, and he stressed the real need for an organizing campaign in this department.

In Telephone, he stated that the General Telephone System is almost as large as the Bell System. There are 42 units in Telephone not covered by contract and there are 300,000 non-members.

In Manufacturing, he pointed out that there are 1000 plants unorganized, with rival unions competing at every turn.

In connection with Radio and TV, he reviewed the difficulties in organizing.

On Railroads, Diesel locomotives have created new work for the Brotherhood and stated this was the best organized group in the Brotherhood.

Most of the second day's session was devoted to reports from delegates on the progress of their locals during the past year.

Matthew O. Tobriner, prominent labor attorney, addressed the group on the Taft-Hartley law, the misnamed "Right-to-Work" movement and the ensuing fight to defeated Senator Knowland in his California gubernatorial race. He stressed the need to eliminate those existing closed shop agreements and reviewed the jurisdictional strike problems.

Concluding the two-day session, Director of Jurisdiction Frank Graham outlined the position of the IBEW on the Joint Industry Board established to settle disputes in the Building and Construction Industry.

Following a brief question and answer period on jurisdictional problems, the meeting was adjourned with a round of applause for Charles Foehn and the members of Local 6 for the gracious hospitality shown the delegates during the two days while in San Francisco.

(Editor's Note: Our thanks to Bus. Rep. Dan McPeak for his excellent reporting of the events at the Progress Meeting.)

## WEAKLEY ADDRESSES STANFORD CLASS

On October 11, 1957, Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley appeared before a class of some sixty undergraduate students, conducted by Professor John P. Troxell, Director, Division of Industrial Relations, Graduate School of Business, Stanford University.

The Industrial Relations class contained majors in such subjects as Political Science, Business Administration, etc.

After a short opening talk covering the controversial subject matter of so-called "business unionism" in modern industrial relations, as against adherence to the continued broadening of the democratic concept as exemplified by Local 1245,

Weakley stood for questions and answers for nearly one hour.

Strikes in public utilities, so-called "Right-to-Work" laws, dues structures, bargaining techniques, division of corporate profits, price-wage spirals, union power limitations and labor legislation were some of the subjects raised by the interested students.

Copies of the special issue of the UTILITY REPORTER were distributed to the students along with contracts and copies of our Local Union By-Laws.

Weakley reported a good reception to his presentation, which was climaxed by a nice round of applause. This was Weakley's second appearance at Stanford this year.

## Brother James Cochrane Dies

The many friends of Brother James W. Cochrane will be saddened to learn that he passed away on Sept. 28 as a result of a heart attack while on a hunting trip in the mountains near Eureka.

Brother Cochrane was one of our Union's staunch supporters and had served as Steward, Grievance Rep., Unit Chairman, all in Eureka, and as the Clerical Policy Committee Member for two terms.

Jim was also very active in the Masonic order, including

the Shrine and Knights Templar.

He is survived by his wife, Louise, a son, James W., III, two daughters, Lucy Miller and Nancy Wright, the latter being one of our key members in the Eureka Clerical group, and 14 grandchildren.



# YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

By RONALD T. WEAKLEY

Both major parties are now engaged in trying to select acceptable and electable candidates for United States Senator in the 1958 California elections.

Senator Knowland is vacating his seat and the race is on. Knowland is after the governorship and his main issue to date is a State "Right-to-Work" law. At least, he is consistent. He voted for the Taft-Hartley Act.

What the Republican Party will do on the race between Knight and Knowland is a big question. Each of the respective Republican candidates has cast his lot either for or against organized labor support. Knight, of course, openly seeks union support.

The choice for a Republican senatorial candidate is wide open. How Knowland and party policy will affect the favored candidate's labor position remains to be seen.

The Democratic Party proclaims that it is the friend of labor and refers to the record. It must be generally conceded that Democratic platforms and voting records have borne out this contention with some notable exceptions when contrasted with those of the Republicans.

It appears that Attorney General Pat Brown has the nod for the Democratic gubernatorial nomination. Extremely important to Brown's candidacy will be the selection of a Democratic candidate for the U.S. Senate on the 1958 party ticket. Brown opposes punitive anti-labor legislation and his running mate on the same platform and ticket must, it would seem, be in agreement.

A number of possibilities are mentioned, the outstanding one being Congressman Clair Engle of Red Bluff. Engle is one of California's senior Representatives and holds important committee positions through his seniority.

It would seem that Engle, well entrenched in his own district, would be a natural. Further, his expressed interest in California water and power problems touches on a major political and economic issue, so necessary to a campaigning candidate.

He has selected the private power interests for his target in 1958. No doubt memories of Hiram Johnson and the railroads reminded him of the "Jack-the-Giant Killer" pitch. So far, this approach might appear to be a political combination with perhaps some potential appeal, coupled with his demonstrated oratorical and vote-getting abilities.

There is, however, a flaw in this picture—labor support. It would appear very necessary to Engle's candidacy that he have strong labor support with the issues drawn by Knight, Knowland and Brown with respect to "Right-to-Work" laws and the general issue of labor legislation.

A strong labor platform is, it seems to this writer, absolutely necessary to the Democratic Party if it is to attempt a "sweeping victory" in 1958. This contention has been borne out in recent special elections.

Therefore, an examination of Engle's voting record must be made if it is to be reconciled with the obviously necessary

party position on vital issues—especially labor issues.

Let's take a look at Engle's voting record in Congress as reported by the AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education in a pamphlet issued in 1956. Out of 19 issues listed, covering the period of 1947-1956, he was recorded as voting "Right" on 14. This would appear to be a fairly good average on very controversial issues.

However, we must examine the remaining 5 upon which he was recorded as voting "Wrong" according to the views of the leadership of organized labor.

First, on "Taft-Hartley—vote to override President Truman's veto"—Engle voted "Wrong." Second "Minimum Wage—Lucas amendment eliminating one million people previously covered by the Fair Labor Standards Act, from minimum wage protection"—Engle voted "Wrong." Third, "Offshore Oil—vote to overrule Supreme Court and give billions in mineral resources to Coastal states instead of using this revenue for schools or other benefits to all U.S. citizens"—Engle voted "Wrong." Fourth "Fair Employment Practices—Amendment to replace an enforceable measure with a 'voluntary' FEPC bill with no power to forbid discrimination in hiring because of race, creed or color"—Engle voted "Wrong." Fifth, "Farm Price Supports—passage of a bill, later vetoed by President Eisenhower, to support basic crops at 90 per cent of parity and to assist farmers with soil bank provisions"—Engle voted "Wrong."

Engle's voting record on the first two issues, particularly on Taft-Hartley, will hardly gain him enthusiastic labor support.

(It might be noted here that a vote for Taft-Hartley carried with it Section 14-b of the Act, wherein the several states were given the right to enact so-called "Right-to-Work" laws.)

On Offshore Oil, his role as a "David" protecting the people from the "Goliath" of "give-aways," evidently applies only in certain selected instances.

On Fair Employment Practices, Engle's vote will come back to haunt him as minority peoples in California take stock of the record on civil rights, particularly on the ability to get a job and to live decently.

On Farm Price Supports, maybe he can sell his position on that to the San Joaquin Valley cotton and feeder crop farmers as a pro-farmer position. We do know that soil is a precious natural resource.

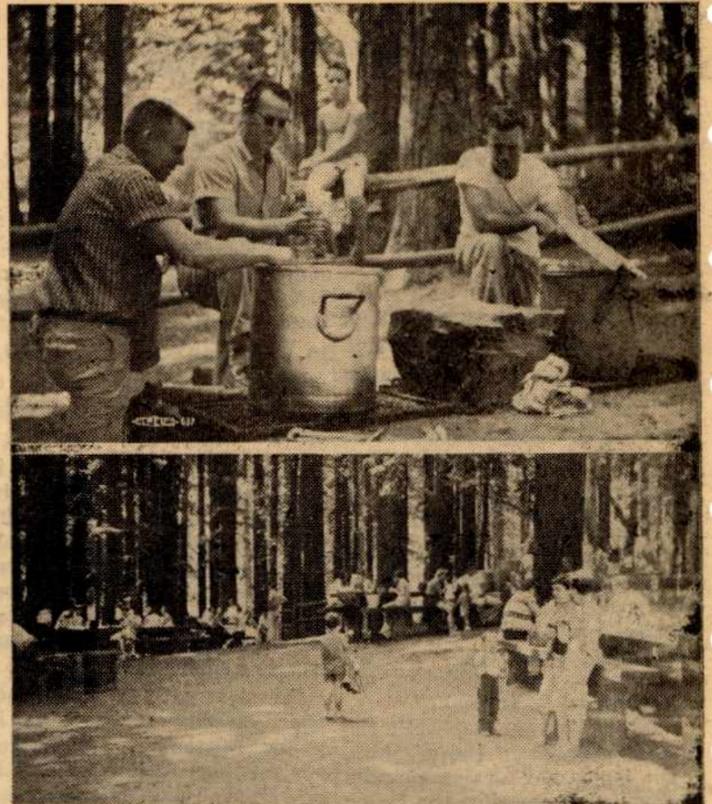
Engle's own District evidently thinks he was right on the aforementioned issues as evidenced by his record of winning reelection each time he ran. Labor generally gave him tacit support in his bids for re-election due to his District, his seniority, and his inclusion in the Democratic Party slate.

His bid for United States Senator is a "horse of another color." Here, all Districts, all California labor people and all California citizens will now take a long look at Engle, his platform, and his voting record.

To sum up, it would appear that the success or failure of the Democratic Party's chances in 1958 could well hinge on whether they took the calculated risk of placing Engle and his voting record on a party ticket in a battle for votes when the major California issue is the fate of California labor.



R. T. Weakley



## Several Hundred Enjoy East Bay Picnic

The East Bay and Stores IBEW Picnic was held under the Redwoods at the Roberts' Area, East Bay Regional Park, Sunday, September 8th. A good crowd of several hundred adults and hundreds of children enjoyed the hot dogs, beans, salad, soda pop and beer provided by a very

able committee, headed by Art Perryman, Don Lucot, Pat McEvoy, Wm. Pfiester and Frank McCarthy. The Picnic Committee is planning for next year's outing, which is intended to be an annual affair, and will be held in the same park.

## PG&E Dept. Negotiations

Negotiations with respect to job definitions and lines of progressions were started for two groups during the past month and a committee is being formulated to commence discussions for a third.

### Water Department

Meeting with the Company on Wednesday, October 16th, union's committee, consisting of George Latshaw, De Sabla Division and Edward Marliani, Stockton Division, together with Asst. Bus. Mgr. L. L. Mitchell and Bus. Rep. A. M. Hansen, was able to reach tentative agreement on definitions for several classifications. Company now has under consideration some changes proposed by the Union and it is contemplated that they will submit counter proposals in the near future and that an agreement may be reached shortly thereafter. Under discussion are the former Domestic Water and Water Collection Departments, which are being combined under one set of negotiations. We are sorry to report that committee member Everett Rypinski from Sacramento Division was unable to attend the last meeting but are looking forward to his future participation.

### Davis Shop, Warehouse

For the first time in their collective bargaining relationship, the Union and Company sat down across the bargaining table on Friday, October 18th to negotiate job definitions for employees in the General Construction Department. The specific group under discussion was the employees at the Company's Davis Yard and Warehouse. While no conclusions were arrived at, considerable progress was made and upon receipt of counter proposals from the Company on several questions raised by the Union, another meeting will be arranged.

Representing the Union were Ed Elmore, Earl Mescher and Leroy Brekke from Davis, together with Asst. Bus. Mgr. M. A. Walters and Bus. Rep. Eugene Hastings.

### Div. Commercial Dept.

With the recent receipt of Company's amended proposal

covering such classifications as Power Surveyor, Jr. Pump Tester and Complaint Inspector, Union's committee has been going over the material submitted in preparation for a meeting with the Company in the near future. Union's committee consists of John Orendorff from De Sabla Division and Asst. Bus. Mgr. M. A. Walters.

### General Const. Expenses

During the course of system negotiations with PG&E earlier this year, it was agreed that interim discussions would be held with respect to General Construction expense provisions and requirements for qualifying.

In order to properly prepare for discussions, it is felt that a fairly large representative group should meet in order to review all aspects of the subject and to draft an outline of Union's position. From this group a committee of three, together with assistance from the Business Office, would try to arrange for an early meeting with the Company for the purpose of carrying on negotiations.

At the present time it is planned to hold the preliminary meeting during the middle part of November and some 18 or 20 members representing all divisions of the Department, as well as representatives of members working under all conditions (commuting, camp conditions, providing own board and lodging away from home or living in trailers) are being invited to participate.

Management has informed Union that in preparation for forthcoming discussions, that they will conduct a survey among G.C. employees in the near future. Such survey to consist of individual interviews designed to collect data relative to residence area, number of employees commuting, members living in trailers and similar information.

## Reno Recorder Believes A Good Job Being Done

Clare Rigby, Unit Recorder of Reno Unit 3311, in her report of the Joint Executive Conference held on September 28th and 29th, had nothing but glowing remarks to make about the preparation, subject matter and conduct of the conference.

She concluded her report by stating, "I had no idea of the work and long hours that are spent by the men who represent us, only to give us better working conditions. I only wish that each member of the Union had an opportunity to attend such a conference, because I believe that every one of them would be convinced of the fine work and representation we are receiving. There would be no hesitancy on their part to increase the dues."

## WIFE OF MEMBER HELPS KILL YOLO 'RITE-TO-WORK'

Labor scored its first major legislative victory over county open-shop forces on October 1st, when the Yolo County Board of Supervisors voted down a "right-to-work" proposal by a vote of 4 against adoption and one member abstaining.

Advance information that the ordinance would be considered that day caused Local 1245's membership in the Woodland area to "rally to the cause." Having been prepared earlier, through our intensive campaign throughout our jurisdiction, these members immediately contacted their respective supervisors, stating their opposition.

Speaking before the Board in opposition to the proposed ordinance was Mrs. Lillian Branham, wife of George Branham, Sub-Foreman at Woodland and active Local 1245 member.

In a well-prepared statement, she asked that the supervisors deny the request to pass the ordinance, arguing that the law would grant no one the right to work, adding that the union shop conditions in the county should be left as they are, "so that the people of Yolo County

can continue to enjoy the high standard of living now afforded them."

Among other Union representatives in attendance at the meeting was Bus. Rep. Al Kaznowski.

We wish to congratulate the members in that area for the splendid job they have done in aiding defeat of the vicious anti-union legislation and particularly to Mrs. Branham.

Members in other areas where this legislation is bound to rear its ugly head should adopt the "all out in opposition" campaign displayed by our Yolo County members—and we're certain that they will.

### NEW IBEW HEAD

E. J. (Rex) Fransway, Business Manager of Local 494 in Milwaukee, has been named Chairman of the IBEW Executive Council by President Gordon M. Freeman.