



PREPAID HOSPITAL PLANS COMPARED—SEE PAGES 6 & 7

# Utility Reporter

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

VOL. VII—No. 4

OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA

AUGUST, 1959

**YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN**  
by Ronald J. Weakley

## MEMBERS ACCEPT 2nd PG&E OFFER

I am not privileged to preach sermons but I feel a responsibility to those who elected me, in that I must make some observations on the lack of responsibility exhibited by some members during the recent negotiations and ratifications.



**R. T. Weakley** direct and incidental costs of negotiations, including the ratification meetings.

Thousands of your dollars had to be expended in service to you in order to prepare a bargaining program, and sustain the

Our method of membership participation involved in the total process is your desire and therefore, your officers and fellow workers on the Negotiating Committee do their utmost to comply with the procedure.

The stark fact is that too many people stayed away when Unit recommendations were discussed and developed, indicating a "Let George Do It" attitude. Too many people stayed away when asked to come and hear, discuss, and vote on their welfare at ratification meetings.

We pride ourselves on having one of the most democratic unions in the Country. However, democracy is self-limiting in that it can be nullified by default of the majority to utilize its processes.

I have warned repeatedly that minority control of the welfare of the majority is inevitable when the majority shirks the responsibilities of participating membership.

This has been the basic cause of Communists taking over some union organizations, racketeers gaining control in others, and the inevitable punitive and corrective legislation affecting labor, both past and present.

No matter how dedicated your leaders may be and no matter how hard they may work, in the final analysis they can only be effective in your behalf as long as they are truly representatives of the majority.

The future of your union is always subject to the pressures of the economy, legislation and

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Local 1245's SMUD Negotiating Committee for 1959. Front row (left to right): Richard Daugherty, R. O. McBraunehue, Chairman and Jerry Oliver. Back row (left to right): Bus. Rep. Al Kaznowski, Asst. Bus. Mgr. M. A. Walters and Glenn Larson.

### SMUD Okays New Rules

On August 5th, Local 1245, IBEW members in the Sacramento Municipal Utility District ratified the proposed changes in the Civil Service Rules resulting from negotiations between Union's Negotiating Committee and the District, and which have been adopted by the District's Board of Directors.

Included in the Rules changes were a general wage increase of 5.5 per cent, effective Aug. 23, 1959, an increase in Shift Premium from 6 cents and 9 cents to 8 cents and 12 cents for the second and third shifts, respectively, an improved Safety Program, the District to pay \$2.35 per month towards dependent's coverage on Group Medical insurance in addition to the \$2.35 contributed for employee coverage, a 2-hour minimum show up time in event work is cancelled without 19 hours advance notice, and an upward adjustment in the Tree Trimmer classification when performing certain work.

Revisions in the Pacific Gas & Electric Company offer of July 6 resulted in membership approval of the 1959 wage and conditions contract. The revised offer, recommended by the Negotiating Committee, was passed by a vote of 1417 to 766 Physical, and 120 to 77 Clerical at Unit meetings held between August 10 and August 20.

The offer of July 6 was reviewed by the negotiators at two meetings after its rejection by the membership and acceptable amendments, subject to membership approval, were tentatively agreed to at the final meeting of July 31.

Changes resulted in the Company proposal to limit the rights of bidders on Sub-Foreman vacancies being withdrawn. Agreement was reached on the objections to Company's proposal to eliminate the Apprentice Gas Serviceman classification by establishing a broader job definition of Apprentice Serviceman which provides Company greater latitude on job assignment in exchange for automatic progression into the Journeyman Gas Serviceman classification.

Improved job security was provided by expanding demotional opportunities across Division lines for persons with over three years' seniority where they have exhausted Division rights and are facing lay-off. In order to improve economic security, accelerated or preferred bid rights were established on a System-wide basis for employees demoted due to lack of work. This will enable employees to more readily attain their previous status and wage level.

The previous offer of an additional \$1.50 to be applied to employee benefits under P.S.E. Hospital Plan was modified by Company agreeing to apply both the new contribution and the previous \$2.00 to the reduction of the employee premium effective September 1, 1959. The new reduced cost to the employee will be \$2.15 per month for employee only, with the Company paying \$3.50 of the total premium of \$5.65.

The two-year offer with only a wage opener was further modified to a one-year pact which will be subject to negotiations on all items 60 days prior to July 1, 1960. All wage items will be retroactive to July 1, 1959.

The Union Negotiating Committee accepted the modification as stated above subject to membership approval and agreed to recommend acceptance of the revised proposal.

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### 3rd Japanese Union Team Visits Local 1245's Office

On August 3rd, Local 1245 hosted another Japanese Trade Union Organizations Team, which makes the third time we've been called upon by the International Cooperation Administration of the U.S. Dept. of Labor to meet with teams of Japanese trade unionists.

Accompanied by an interpreter and Mr. Charles J. Maguire from the Dept. of Labor, the 10-man team—all officers in their respective unions—came from the Electric Power Workers' Union, Salt Workers, Ceramic Industry Workers, Steel Workers, Iron and Machinery Workers, Seamen's Union, Chemical Workers, Auto Workers, and Railway Craft Workers.

The team was in this country to study the structure and operation of local unions and collective bargaining processes.

Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley, in speaking to the group, outlined the NLRB certification proceedings, the issues which utility workers generally seek in collective bargaining and the general provisions of our working conditions

structure of our union. premiums and overtime provisions.

Considerable time was spent answering their many questions, with keen interest shown in our Advisory Council and its function. They also displayed interest in working conditions for shift workers with emphasis on schedules of work, shift to meet with them.



**NOTICE**  
The next regular meeting of Local 1245 Executive Board will be held in the Union's Offices in Oakland on Sept. 3rd, 4th and 5th instead of Sept. 5th as previously announced.

# The Good Old Days That Never Were

A favorite theme of the "inflation scare" is that "dollars used to buy a great deal more than dollars buy today." They try to tell us that when everything could be bought for a song we were better off. What they don't mention is that the labor of a working man wasn't even worth singing for in those "good old days."

The U.S. Dept. of Labor has recently published a report entitled "How American Buying Habits Change" which compares working conditions and standards of living 50 years ago with those of today. We recommend a careful study of the following findings to all those who yearn for a return to the past.

### EARNINGS

Here's what the average factory worker earned back in the "good old days" of 50 years ago:

**Hourly earnings**—The average factory worker in 1909 was paid 19 cents an hour. Payment was often made in the form of script, good only at the Company store.



**Weekly earnings**—Sweatshop wages, particularly in the garment industry, set the average weekly earnings for all factory workers at \$9.84. Metalworkers, when they worked fulltime, made a little more, around \$12.50.

**Annual earnings**—The midway mark of annual earnings was \$630 (that is, half made more and half made less).

**Overtime pay**—There was no premium pay for overtime, no shift differentials, no premium pay for Holiday work.

**Deductions**—Grandpa knew all about payroll deductions in the "good old days." The paymaster took out of his pay envelope varying amounts for ice water, disablement funds, medical fees, credit advanced by company stores, rent for company houses, and identification badges.

**Pensions**—Only 2 companies out of 300 metalworking firms had pension plans. In the larger firm, a man who worked 25 years and averaged \$60 a month for the last 10 years before retirement could receive a \$15-a-month pension benefit. His pension, however, could be terminated by the company at will.

### WORKING CONDITIONS

Here are some of the conditions your father or grandfather worked under in the factory half a century ago:



**Work week**—The average employee put in a 51-hour week, but the exceptions were many. For example, one survey showed two out of five metalworkers worked 72 hours or more, and nearly a third of them were on a 7-day week. On the other hand, many workers in seasonal industries often did not have a full work week.

**Shifts**—Employees were switched from day to night work, or vice versa, every week or fortnight. When the changes occurred, a man would often work from 18 to 24 consecutive hours. What we know as a "short change" was virtually unknown back in the "good old days."

**Vacations**—There were no paid vacations or paid holidays. In fact, the report does not mention either until around 1920.

### FAMILY LIVING

With little money and little leisure time in which to spend it, the worker of 50 years ago used most of his earnings for the necessities of life. Here is how he and his family spent each dollar:

**Food, 48 cents**—Most meats, fruits and vegetables, and milk were homegrown—there was little or no refrigeration. Diets were consequently monotonous. Seldom did the family eat a restaurant meal.



**Housing, 22 cents**—Most often this paid for a company-owned house in a company town, or else a walk-up, cold-water apartment in a crowded tenement. The report describes one city family of eight living in an apartment with a tiny kitchen, combination living and bedroom and small front bedroom. They had no bath. In the yard were four waterclosets, each used by three families who took turns in keeping it clean. They cooked with coal, burned kerosene in the lamps, and washed clothes in a wooden tub. Fewer than 25 per cent of all city workers owned their homes.

**Clothes, 13 cents**—Most of the clothing money was spent for men and boys in the family, since more of their garments were factory made. Women's and girls clothes were made at home.



**All other items, 17 cents**—This included such costs as medical care, transportation and recreation. For different reasons, most families skimped on all three of these items. Illness was usually treated with home remedies and patent medicines; the doctor was called only in severe cases, and the hospitals were used only for life-or-death emergencies. Automobiles were becoming more popular (in 1910 there were 181,000 in the country), but wage earners couldn't afford them. Consequently, a man walked to work or took the trolley. Lack of transportation, coupled with lack of leisure, also curbed the family's tastes for travel. Entertainment was centered around the home and community. Instead of weekend trips to the beach or mountain cabin, they relaxed with a Sunday afternoon band concert (providing they had Sunday off); lacking TV, radio and movies, they read books and saw an occasional vaudeville show—

when they weren't too tired from their week's work.

# LABOR DAY

## Greetings from Officers & Staff of Local 1245

## Please, Please Be Careful

At 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 4, the madness will begin—a frantic race to have fun during summer's final holiday.

At 6 p.m., the Labor Day holiday will get under way—officially. The nation won't return to normalcy before midnight, Sept. 7.

### On LABOR'S HOLIDAY



## Stay Safe

... AT PLAY ... ON THE WAY

During those 78 hours of hustle, bustle, hurry and flurry, somewhere near 400 persons will die in traffic accidents, according to the National Safety Council. About 12,000 motorists and pedestrians will suffer disabling injuries. Many thousands of cars will be wrecked or badly damaged. A lot of people will be seriously inconvenienced by auto accidents.

Drownings will take about 100 lives.

The starting gun will find the nation's three and a half million miles of streets and highways clogged with a seemingly endless swarm of autos—all filled with folks determined to do the holiday up in fine style.

What will people do wrong?

They'll try to drive too great a distance in too little time. They'll get irritated at other drivers. They'll make things especially tough for themselves by combining drinking and driving.

And they'll speed.

Many who reach their destination will let their guards down when taking part in the activities that can make the holiday so delightful—swimming, for example.

Swimmers will go in the water alone. They'll dive right in, even if the water is cold. They'll swim till exhausted. Many will swim after dark, or in unfamiliar waters. That's why drownings may claim 100 victims.

To put an end to this annual accident binge on the highways and beaches of America, labor and safety have united in a national campaign. Its goal: to drastically cut traffic accidents and drownings, main booby traps for holidayers.

Accidents over the Labor Day holiday are a terrible waste of the nation's manpower. America is not just a body of land—it is people. To kill or injure workers is to rob this country of its most vital resource.

Guard against hazards this Labor Day holiday. Come back to work Sept. 8 safe and sound.

Return to those "good old days?" No, thanks. We'll take 1959 with its 40-hour week—with an eye on an even shorter work-week—and the leisure time which it provides; we're getting used to being paid in money at today's \$2.50 or so an hour which buys such "gadgets" as bathtubs, deep-freezers, fin-tailed and sports cars, TV and hi-fi sets, and we like them; paid Holidays and vacations are wonderful; so are free Salk vaccine shots and prepaid Health and Medical Plans. Yes, we like all these and we also like what brought most of them about—the Trade Union movement. Let's leave the "good old days" to the historians, the statisticians and former President Hoover.

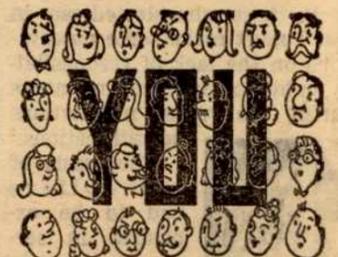
## YOUR Business Manager's COLUMN

by Ronald J. Weakley

(Continued from Page 1)  
public opinion. Things do not look too bright and the natural needs are understanding of the problems, participation in development of policies and programs, and participation in the making of major decisions.

Our structure is based primarily upon attendance at Unit meetings. These meetings are the basis upon which we communicate both ways and are a must if we are to prepare for the work you have laid out in 1960.

Proof of what I have said here lies in your observing and analyzing the figures quoted on page one in connection with the recent ratification vote on the 1959 P. G. and E. contract settlement. This problem must be solved.



### AND SOCIAL SECURITY

Many people are not taking advantage of recent changes permitting early application for Social Security benefits.

In the past, people were requested to wait until they were within two or three weeks of retirement age to apply. That meant that if a woman became 62 in July, she should wait until July to apply for her wife's, widow's, or old-age insurance benefit. Usually her July check would not be forthcoming until approximately early in September.

To speed up the first checks, applicants are now advised to apply early. They may file their applications as early as three months before the month in which they reach age 65 for men or age 62 for women.

A person who is still working and is not sure when he will retire, may want to delay filing his application, but even in his case, it is suggested that he get in touch with the Social Security Administration several weeks before he actually retires.

The Social Security Administration is concerned about the misinformation that exists about Old-Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance, for which American workers are paying over \$9 billion per year. Many people seem to be relying on hearsay, or the experience of friends and relatives who inquired about Social Security in the past. These sources of information are seldom reliable. Any person having a question about Social Security is urged to telephone, write, or visit his Social Security District Office for correct information.

**The UTILITY REPORTER**

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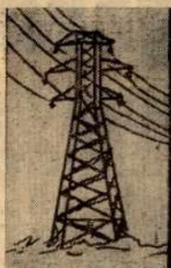
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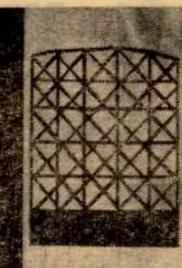
ing the next decade, largely because of the growing need for workers who can build, install, operate, maintain, and repair increasingly complicated machinery and equipment.

As the demand for skill goes up, the demand for unskilled workers will go down. To raise productivity through automation, the need for technical change makes it impossible for less skilled workers to meet the expected growth in the labor force.

being trained are the unskilled or semi-skilled workers. The companies are able to maintain or even improve productivity with new equipment and a smaller but more highly-skilled work force. So skill improvement for the IBEW member is very definitely a matter of job security.

Some of the members who have been displaced because of technological change or other reasons, and the IBEW has fought and is fighting for job security provisions to protect those

Scientists say that the free world material resources. Our advantage is the superior skill of our craftsmen. We must maintain that advantage. The United States Commissioner of Education, Lawrence H. Dick, says that the world is in a "hurry" to need. He said, "Much of our efficiency and productivity is based upon an adequate supply of well-trained and well-educated workers."



# News from the Field



Bus. Rep. Fred Lucas presents checks in the amount of \$187 to Red Bluff member John O. Taylor in behalf of the Unit members.

## The Red Bluff Unit Does A Good Deed

During the months of May and June, Local 1245's Red Bluff Unit members went all out in raising funds for the benefit of distressed member John O. Taylor.

Brother Taylor has been off the job for some 10 months with an illness that resulted in amputation of his right leg just below the knee. It was originally thought that he was suffering from Burgher's disease but after the operation, surgeons at Ft. Mylie Vets' Hospital decided it could have been a blood clot.

Brother Taylor is married and has five children. He has

been a Troubleman in Red Bluff for about a year with prior experience as Lineman-Relief Troubleman, Sub Foreman and Lineman in Humboldt Division and Lineman in General Construction. He has served as Recorder in the Red Bluff Unit for the past two years.

### Coffin Resigns

This month the Stockton Division Grievance Committee regretfully accepted the resignation of Committeeman Steve Coffin, 1st Operator at Electra Power House.

Bro. Coffin, who resigned for personal reasons has an enviable record of Union activity having served Local 1245 as Shop Steward, Unit Officer, Grievance Committeeman, member of Hydro and Substation Departmental Negotiating Committee, and member of the 1957 System Negotiating Committee.

His honesty, efficiency and sense of responsibility over the years have earned him the respect of his fellow Union members as well as management of PG&E.

We're sorry to lose you, Steve.

Recognizing the problems arising from being off the job so long and having a large family, the Red Bluff Unit decided to build a fund to present to John in order to help reduce his financial burden. Acting on the membership's wishes, the Unit Executive Committee organized a raffle with the proceeds going into the fund.

At the Red Bluff Unit meeting on July 7, Bus. Rep. Fred Lucas presented Brother Taylor with checks totalling \$187 in behalf of his Brother and Sister Local 1245 IBEW members.

Appreciation for their efforts in this most worthy cause is extended to Gene Moller, Gerry Watson, John Jarrell and Joe Cole from Shasta Division and to Henry Lucas, Jim McMullan, George Tully and Ray Lundgren from Humboldt Division.

## TWO REPS IN BIG PARLEY



Two of Local 1245's Business Representatives in East Bay Division, "Cy" Yochem (left) and John Wilder (right) got together during a recess of the Joint Advisory Council and Executive Board meeting on August 1st and 2nd to discuss what Reps have as their prime subject of conversation: GRIEVANCES!

## Two 'Old-Timers' Get 50-Year Pins



Brother Dan Wallace, former Supt. of City of Berkeley Dept. of Electricity, gets his 50-year pin from International Executive Council member Chas. J. Foehn.



International Executive Council member Chas. J. Foehn congratulates Brother Walt V. Penders upon receipt of his 50-year pin and scroll.

At its Joint Executive Board and Advisory Council meeting on August 1st, Local 1245 was indeed pleased to have as guests, Brothers Dan Wallace and Walt V. Penders, both of whom have completed 50 years in the Brotherhood.

International Executive Council member Charles J. Foehn honored us by attending the meeting in order to present 50-year pins and scrolls to these two oldtimers.

Brother Dan Wallace was a former Secretary of the old cable splicer's Local 537 and was pensioned from Local 50 prior to its amalgamation with Local 1245. At the time of his retirement Brother Wallace was the

Superintendent of the Dept. of Electricity in the City of Berkeley.

Brother Walt V. Penders also was a member of old Local 537 and went through the 1913 and 1921 disputes with the PG&E Co. and was one of the original members of the Local 1245 IBEW Unit established in San Francisco in 1943. At the time of his retirement in 1952, Bro. Penders was a Lineman.

### Little League Closes Season

Little League baseball season has come to a close in the Watsonville area for this year and already the Moss Landing Unit is looking forward to sponsoring a team again next year.

The Unit sponsored the Dodgers in the American League this year under the management of Don Daily, Control Operator at Moss Landing Power Plant, and the team was third in the standings at the end of both the first and second half of the season.

This is the Unit's first team so third place in a six-team league is doggone good.

Congratulations to the Unit and the youngsters on your successful season and we hope that next year you'll end up the "pennant winner." But no matter where you finish the season, the primary thing is that you're teaching the little fellows good sportsmanship.

## Two Bakersfield Members Burned

Accidents recently disabled two Local 1245 members in the Bakersfield headquarters. Gene Graham, Electric Serviceman, was burned badly on his hands and arms when the meter installation on which he was working cross-phased and flashed. Gene was hospitalized with second and third degree burns but has since returned to work and has no apparent permanent after effects.

A few days after Graham's accident, Brother Jim Murphy

was rushed to the hospital with severe burns over the lower portion of his body caused by the failure of a plug to hold in a gas line with the resulting flash when the welding torch he was using ignited the escaping gas.

Both Brother Graham and Murphy were indeed happy that their Union had negotiated the Supplemental Benefits for Industrial Injury provisions in the Agreement as they received the guaranteed 85 percent of their base pay during the periods of their disability.

## CURLING CHAMP

A sporting event foreign to most of us was held recently in Mountain View, but it was duck soup for Ed Pugel, Clerk Driver in PG&E's Gas Dept. in Oakland.

Ed returned home with a trophy signifying he had competed on a team which won first place in the first annual California Bonspiel, or curling tournament.

Pugel's team, the Gramh rink of Canada, was unbeaten during the four days of competition.

Curling is a variation of lawn bowling played on a 40-yard length of ice with a 42-pound stone or "rock." Each player attempts to slide his rock from one end into a 12-foot circle on the other end.

Each team or rink consists of four players, and every man casts two rocks, the teams alternating turns. The team with one or more rocks nearer the center mark than its opponents scores that number of points in the "end."

A match consists of 10 ends, and if none of the rocks are at least touching the circle neither team scores in that end.

Team members are also equipped with brooms, with which they may sweep the ice in order to give the rock greater distance.

Ed once competed on a team which scored eight points in one end, a feat likened to a no-hitter in baseball or a 300 game in bowling.



# Anti-inflation Campaign is Pure Propaganda

## Steel in All-out Drive To Bamboozle Public

With a "never-before-shown" regard for the public welfare, the Steel Industry has embarked on an all-out drive against inflation—a crusade which is simply planned propaganda designed to protect a waning position before the American public.

An example of the campaign's propaganda is the full-page ad which appeared in 430 newspapers throughout the nation—paid for by the 12 "BIG STEEL" Companies—stating in scare headlines "STEEL UNION ON STRIKE FOR MORE INFLATION."

Their propaganda pitch exhorts the public to support a number of spurious theories and statements but their "con job" conveniently overlooks some mighty pertinent facts relating to inflation and this country's economic growth.

**PROPAGANDA:** The Steelworker is now "overpaid" at the highest level of the world's industrial workers—nearly \$25 a day.

**OVERLOOKED:** Few Steelworkers enjoy a full work year. In fact, the average Steelworker has achieved 40 hours of pay a week for an entire year only ONCE in the last 13 years.

**OVERLOOKED:** 1959 wage negotiations have already produced wage increases for industrial workers in petroleum refining, bituminous coal, sections of the glass industry and building construction which approximate and exceed those in Steel.

**PROPAGANDA:** The growth of productivity and the level of profits do not justify any improvement in Steel wages.

**OVERLOOKED:** In Steel the age of automation has arrived! 20 years ago it took 22.1 manhours of production and maintenance labor to produce a ton of finished shipments. As of March-April, 1959 it had fallen to 11.4 manhours.

The number of workers employed in April, 1959 was below that in 1937 when tonnage of steel shipped averaged LESS THAN HALF of the present record level.

This to us spells productivity.

On the industry's level of profits all we can say is "WOW!" and refer you to the chart elsewhere on this page which portrays what Steel says they haven't got.

**PROPAGANDA:** Any wage increase will force an increase in steel prices.

**OVERLOOKED:** There's no such thing as price competition among Steel companies. The price of steel is set arbitrarily with little or no regard for supply and demand, and is the same irrespective of the company manufacturing it. (Note item elsewhere on this page about \$12 million anti-trust suit.)

Since the end of World War II, the industry has hiked steel prices 23 times while granting only 12 wage raises. These prices have increased more than \$3 for every \$1 increase in worker earnings.

From the first half of 1955 to March 1959—in less than 4 years—the price of a ton of steel was raised \$34.18 while payroll costs for ALL employees per ton increased by only \$9.31.

**PROPAGANDA:** Higher steel prices will increase unemployment because foreign competitors will capture American markets.

**OVERLOOKED:** This, of course, is premised on the fallacy that a price increase is necessary. The industry, however, uses a neat little statistical trick in comparing hourly wages abroad with higher hourly wages here.

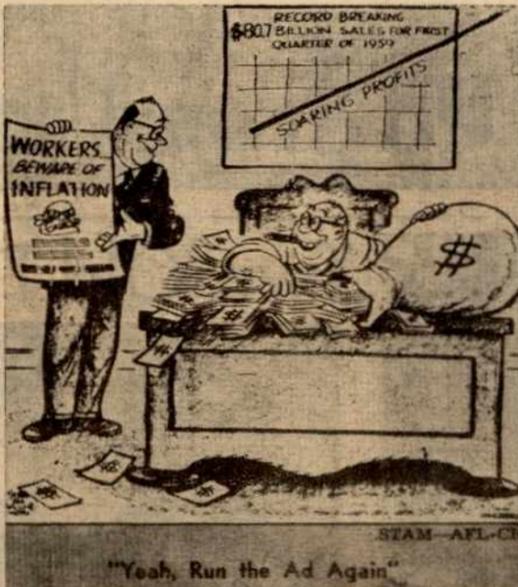
Foreign steel companies average 2 or 3 times as many workers, working a longer work week to turn out the same output as one American steelworker produces. Furthermore, many very substantial "hidden" labor costs in Europe and Japan—in the form of benefits provided wholly by the government—just don't appear in the foreign hourly wage reports, but are paid by employers as taxes. Finally, the hourly wage reports themselves are often in error. When all factors are considered, the total labor cost-per-ton-of-product—which is the only significant basis of comparison—could be, and often is, actually higher overseas.

It is true that foreign steel is finding customers in the U.S.—not because of low foreign wages, however, but because American profits and prices are unjustifiably high. Furthermore, the industry agrees that total imports this year are likely to amount to less than 5 percent of our total steel production.

If the Steel companies' strategy works, then their already swollen profits will get still bigger at the expense of Steelworkers and the consuming public. "As Steel goes, so goes the Nation" because the price of steel affects the price of nearly everything we buy. So, all Americans will win or lose with the Steelworkers. This newspaper and this union stands with the Steelworkers.

If the Steel industry wishes truly to secure the national welfare and do something about that bugaboo "Inflation," they should cease peddling propaganda to the American people and instead they should and CAN:

1. Cut prices, thus helping the consumer.
2. Grant a substantial wage increase to the Steelworkers, thus giving them their rightful share of the automated industry's increased productivity.
3. Still make handsome profits, thus rewarding their stockholders.



## Wall Street Journal Reports: PROFITS SURGE Higher Dividends Foreseen

The columns below show corporate profits reported for the second quarter of 1959 and those for the like quarter of 1958 with percentage changes by groups. These are the principal findings of a Wall Street Journal interview with corporate executives and of an analysis of the reports of 428 companies that have reported so far on their April-June operations.

According to the Wall Street Journal, this is the "largest gain over a year-earlier period since just after World War II."

The mouthpiece of Big Business also reports that "there is a strong suggestion that stockholders will benefit from a rich crop of higher dividends."

Selected Corporate Groups	2nd Qtr. 1959	2nd Qtr. 1958	% Increase Over Last Year
19 Autos and Equipment	\$543,706,000	\$135,828,000	300.1
12 Textiles	12,638,000	2,028,000	523.1
9 Mining and Metals	52,939,000	23,717,000	123.2
9 Railway Equipment	23,063,000	11,385,000	102.6
35 Railroad	147,583,000	59,286,000	148.9
21 Steel Manufacturers	321,077,000	121,894,000	163.4
Total of 428 Companies	2,653,863,000	1,511,193,000	75.6

Ten out of the twelve Steel companies, known as BIG STEEL—the Industry's negotiators at the bargaining table—averaged a whopping 132.7 per cent increase in profits during the first 6 months of this year over last year's like period. Yet BIG STEEL yells "poormouth" and "hold the line" on any wage increase.

## KEYSERLING ON INFLATION

Leon H. Keyserling, former Chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisers and President of the Conference on Economic Progress, in recent testimony before the Joint Economic Committee of U. S. Congress, made these remarks about the current drive to halt inflation:

"Above all, if we now become prey to the notion that inflation is a greater danger to us than Khrushchev, we shall continue to lose more ground in the current world struggle. For, in its essence, the current obsession about inflation is a campaign against the positive things we need to do. It plays upon illegitimate fears instead of raising legitimate hopes.

"I feel that a good analogy is that of a car moving along a road. You have guardrails on either side of the road . . . on one side to prevent going over into the precipice of inflation . . . on the other to prevent going over into the precipice of depression. I agree with both of those guardrails, but if you think only about making those guardrails stronger and stronger, and let the car stall on the road, you are not going over the precipice, but you are not getting anywhere either.

"We have to meet the Russian challenge. We have to improve the living standards of our farm people. We have to take care of the old, fairly and justly. We have to evoke our full productive power, and take up the slack in our resources, to meet these needs and have a balanced budget at the same time, which is a good thing.

"We are erecting protection against a danger to such a high priority, that we are forgetting about the positive things, the things the Nation needs."

Mr. Keyserling, in a new study published by the Conference of Economic Progress entitled "Inflation—Cause and Cure" concludes that "the campaign against adequate wage gains is a subdivision of the spurious campaign against inflation which is based on the dangerously misguided idea that the way to fight inflation is to cripple economic growth."

## 4 Steel Firms Face Price-Fixing Charge

Four of the nation's largest steel producers are on trial in San Francisco in U.S. District Court in a \$12 million anti-trust suit brought by the Independent Iron Works, Inc., of Oakland.

Defendants are U.S. Steel Corp., Bethlehem Steel Co., Kaiser Steel Corp., and Bethlehem Pacific Coast Steel Corp.

They are accused of fixing prices, diverting steel to their own facilities and requiring independent fabricators to purchase steel at high prices.

The Oakland firm contends it sustained \$4 million in basic damages. The \$12 million represents triple damages permitted in an anti-trust action.

It's Not A 'Wage-Price' Inflationary Spiral

It's A 'Profit-Price' Inflationary Spiral

## What Makes It Inflation Depends on Who Gets It

While steel management has claimed it would be "inflationary" to grant wage increases to 500,000 members of the Steelworkers, 11 of the industry's top officers were listed by Business Week magazine as being among the 25 top-salaried executives in America.

Topping the entire list was Arthur B. Homer, president of

Bethlehem Steel Co., who was paid more than half a million dollars in 1958—\$100,000 in salary and \$411,249 in bonuses.

In all, 10 of Bethlehem's executives made the list, receiving a combined total of more than \$3.7 million in salaries and bonuses. The 11th industry magnate was Republic Steel's C. M. White, who received a total of \$358,560.

# Congress Looks at Automation

By REP. WINFIELD K. DENTON (D) 8th District of Indiana

NOTE: The following remarks were made by Congressman Denton when he introduced a bill to create a select committee to conduct a full and complete investigation and study of the effects of automation on employment, employment opportunities, and the composition of the labor force.

For over 15 years, scientists have been bringing forth hundreds of new inventions in the field of electronics. The most common term used to describe this new technology of electronic controls and electronic computers is automation.

Some people designate automation as introducing the second industrial revolution. The first industrial revolution substituted steam-powered machines for animal and human muscle power; it turned the handtool worker into a machine tender. Automation tends to use electronic devices to replace human regulation and control of machines; it tends to change the machine tender into a supervisor of an automatically-controlled operating system.

## CAN MEAN IMPROVEMENTS

Unquestionably automation can bring great improvements to our economy; if handled right the potential benefits of automation are unlimited. Automation can and should make possible the 4-day workweek, longer vacations for workers, earlier retirement, and an increase in our standard of living. Automation can free workers from routine, repetitious tasks which the machines can be taught to do, and give workers who perform those tasks, the opportunity to develop higher skills.

Automation is not an unmixed blessing. Automation will increase productivity considerably, but increased manhour output without increased total production and growing con-

## THE INDISPENSABLE ONE



sumer markets is a formula for depression. Without customers for the mounting output made possible by rising productivity, an employment is inevitable. Machines certainly do not buy machines; without workers buying the products of industry, production is useless.

Let us study for a moment the impact of the First Industrial Revolution on Great Britain. In the wake of this great

change, slums, child labor, ill-health, ignorance and human misery were the unfortunate results. There was lacking a responsible social policy for transforming the benefits of new machinery into economic abundance and new leisure for the workers; a few thousand people became very rich, but hundreds of thousands of people became very poor.

## LEARN TO ADJUST

Since the time of James Watt our society, as well as our industry, has learned new social techniques for handling these great adjustments. We have learned to adjust to the First Industrial Revolution, but not to the second. It would be tragic for the Federal Government and industry to wait until conditions approximate those present during the First Industrial Revolution before attempting remedial measures; by then it might be too late.

I would like to quote from part of the 1955 report of the Subcommittee on Economic Stabilization of the Congressional Joint Committee on the Economic Report:

"It is clearly wrong to dismiss automation as nothing more than an extension of mechanization. We are clearly on the threshold of an industrial age, the significance of which we cannot predict and with potentialities which we cannot fully appreciate . . .

"Whenever one has been in a position to have witnessed first hand the hardships experienced by the skill and older worker in any line of endeavor—industrial or professional—suddenly wrenched from the job by the installation of a new machine, or new technology, one can scarcely be unmindful of the inequities which can come about where management and public policy have not given recognition to needs for retraining, relocation severance pay, and other programs which tend to soften the transition."

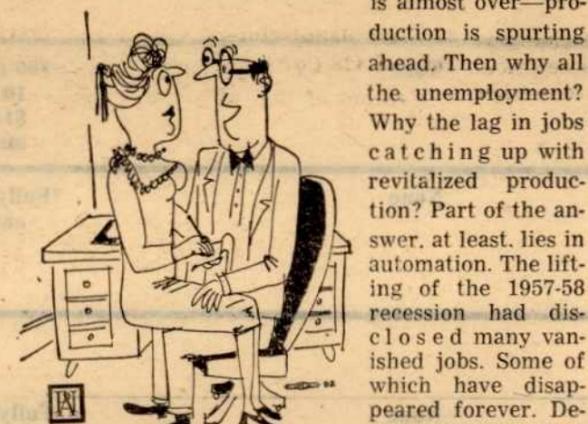
Let us look for a moment at specific examples of the effects of automation on employment.

Two men in a Chicago radio plant assemble 1,000 radios a day using automation; the same job once took 200 workers. A skeleton staff of technicians now runs an entire \$40,000,000 oil refinery by remote control from a panel of instruments—an operation which without machines, would require thousands of workers. In some food plants, the entire canning process, including the manufacture of cans and shipping cartons, is completely automatic, untouched by human hands.

## NOT ISOLATED CASES

These examples of the applications of automation are not isolated ones. They reflect only a small fraction of the uses of automation. The new technology is applicable in at least part of most industries and commercial operations. Automation is making great inroads in the railroad industry, in which the use of robot tracklaying equipment, automatic signaling and communications systems and devices for automatic handling and dispatching of freight cars is widespread.

The current recession has brought the entire problem into clearer focus. Economists say that the slump is almost over—production is spurring ahead. Then why all the unemployment?



Why the lag in jobs catching up with revitalized production? Part of the answer, at least, lies in automation. The lifting of the 1957-58 recession had disclosed many vanished jobs. Some of which have disappeared forever. Despite a steadily growing labor force, increasing at the rate of nearly a million a year — automation-

equipped factories, farms, mines, railroads and business offices manage to keep the economy humming with fewer and fewer workers. AFL-CIO President George Meany says that industry is now producing more goods with a million fewer workers than in 1942. U.S. production, he says, has recovered about three-

fourths of what it lost in the slump, but only one-fourth of the recession-idled workers have gotten their jobs back.

The business magazine U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT made a survey which shows that almost all of the present unemployed would now be at work if employment had gone up as rapidly as production. It reveals that only 1.6 million more are at work now than at the worst of the recession, in April, 1958. That is a rise of only 2.5 per cent. Had employment expanded at an equal rate, there would have been an increase of almost 5.6 million jobs instead of 1.6 million. So the study found that the country suffered a net loss of nearly 4 million jobs relative to the sizable potential increase. The study shows that most of the missing jobs were accounted for by gains in productivity—in output per man-hour. Improved machinery, automation, more-skilled workers, all combined to give more production with fewer employees. The rise in productivity was responsible for the loss of 3 million of these 4 million jobs.

At this time, steel production is likely to reach 90 per cent, or more of capacity; this will equal production in early 1957; but there is no prospect that employment in the industry will go to what it was two years ago. A recent study by the Federal Reserve Board points up that employment gains most certainly have not kept pace with output gains in the current recovery. Newer and more modern facilities for production and utilization of new techniques permitting greater output with less people were cited by the United Steelworkers of America as reasons for the employment decline.

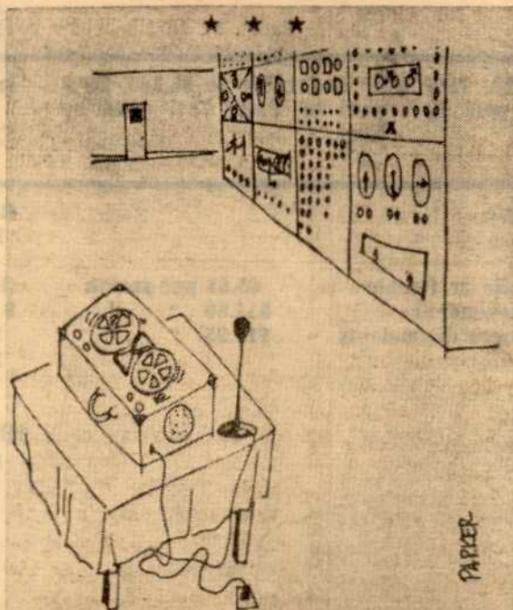
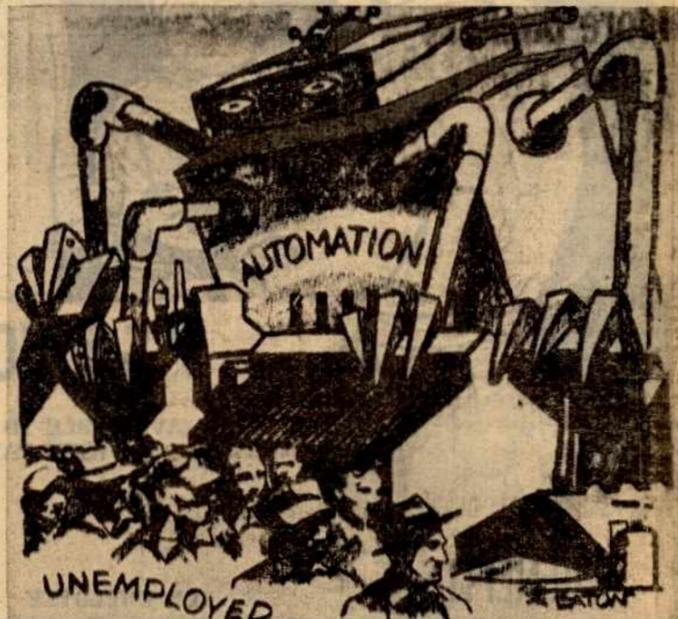
## MUST DO SOMETHING

It has become obvious to all—industry, labor, and government, that there are some basic questions that must be answered if we are to have a healthy, growing economy.

Will automation be good for America, or harmful? Will it create jobs or kill them? Will automation promote monopoly or aid small business? Will it contribute to a rising standard of living and full employment, or have the effect of benefiting only certain segments of the population? Will the transition to the widespread use of automation be accompanied by mass unemployment and social dislocation?

Finding the answer to these and other questions will not be an easy process, and certainly will not be an automatic one. We must find these answers if we are to adjust to the new technology. We must not overlook or minimize the problems which will inevitably arise—problems for individual workers and companies, problems for entire communities and regions, problems for the economy as a whole.

Certainly these new developments in automation should limit and ease the burdens of mankind and benefit all people, but they present, I believe, a serious problem. I feel that a select committee such as is outlined in this bill will be able to find the answer to these vital questions and suggest needed legislation.



"The annual meeting of Automation Corporation stockholders will come to order. . ."



# Here's What Your 'Health'

In response to numerous requests for information regarding hospitalization plans as an alternate to the present plan available to Local Union members employed by the Pacific Gas and Electric Company and the Standard Pacific Gas Line, Inc., a comparison of the features of the

## P.S.E. HOSPITAL PLAN

(AVAILABLE TO ALL P.G.&E. EMPLOYEES) WITH PAYROLL DEDUCTION

## KAISER 'BC' AND 'OC' PLANS

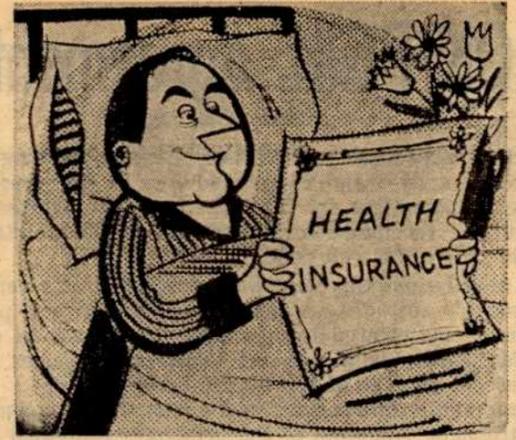
(AVAILABLE FOR UNION MEMBERS ONLY) GROUP PRACTICE PREPAYMENT PLANS (WITHOUT PAYROLL DEDUCTION)

BENEFITS	FOR EMPLOYEE		FOR DEPENDENT	
			"B" COVERAGE EMPLOYEE	"C" COVERAGE DEPENDENT
<b>HOSPITAL ROOM AND BOARD</b>	\$2.00 per day first 21 days — \$12.00 per day 22nd through 180th day. (Indicates integration with wage benefit plan.)	\$8.00 per day for 180 days	*Fully covered 111 days each illness each year	*Fully covered 60 days additional 51 days at half rates each illness each year (Non integrated)
<b>HOSPITAL SERVICES</b>	\$1,000 maximum.	\$500 maximum	*Fully covered 111 days each illness each year	*Fully covered 60 days each illness each year x-ray, x-ray therapy, laboratory tests, physical therapy half private rates
<b>AMBULANCE</b>	\$50.00	\$50.00	Within service area	Within service area
<b>SURGICAL BENEFITS</b>	Up to \$225.00 surgical fee schedule	Up to \$225.00 surgical fee schedule	Fully covered except charge of \$15 is made for removal of tonsils and/or adenoids	Fully covered except charge of \$35 is made for removal of tonsils and/or adenoids
<b>MATERNITY</b>	None	None	\$60 charge if confinement after 10 months' membership — \$140 charge if before 10 months.	\$95 charge if confinement after 10 months' membership — \$140 charge if before 10 months.
<b>X-RAY AND LABORATORY</b>	\$25.00	None	*Fully covered in doctor's office and in hospital	Provided at half rates in doctor's office and hospital
<b>MEDICAL:</b>				
Hospital Calls	\$3.00	None	Fully covered	Fully covered
Office Calls	\$3.00	None	\$1.00 chg. per visit	\$1.00 chg per visit
Home Calls	\$4.50 1st Visit accident 3rd Visit illness	None	\$3.50 chg 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. \$5.00 chg 5:00 p.m.—9:00 a.m.	\$3.50 chg 9:00 a.m.—5:00 p.m. \$5.00 chg 5:00 p.m.—9:00 a.m.
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL ACCIDENT</b>	\$300.00	\$150.00	Provided at any Health Plan facility. In case of accident outside the 30-mile service area, Health Plan allows \$500.00 for emergency care until member is able to travel and for necessary travel arrangements. In case of illness outside the 30-mile service area, reimbursement is made only for direct medical expenses when member is hospitalized more than 30 miles from his home.	
<b>MAJOR MEDICAL</b>	\$100 deductible to \$5,000. 75% paid by Plan, 25% paid by Emp.	\$100 deductible to \$5,000. 25% paid by Plan, 75% paid by Emp.	Included in standard benefits	Included in standard benefits
<b>PREMIUMS</b>	Registration Fee: None		Registration fee: \$2.00 "BC" Coverage	Registration fee: \$2.00 "OC" Coverage
	Employee whether male or female \$5.65 per month		(Emp. & Dep.) \$ 6.95 Employee only	(Dependents coverage only) \$ 6.95 1 dependent
	Employee with one dependent \$11.80 " "		12.35 Empl. & 1 dep.	10.55 2 dependents
	Employee with 2 or more dependents \$17.95 " "		15.95 Empl. & 2 or more	14.15 3 or more dep.

\*Half private rates charged for pre-existing conditions (conditions present at the time the member joined the plan.)

# You Can Get With Plan' Dollars

of various plans is shown on this page.  
 The whole question of Hospital and Medical Insurance will be one of the major subject matters under discussion at the specially called Joint Executive Board and Advisory Council meeting in October, 1959.



## C.P.S. \$6,000 PLAN

(AVAILABLE TO ALL P.G.&E. EMPLOYEES)  
 FAMILY INCOME \$6,000 OR LESS  
 ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS WITHOUT P.R.D.

## C.P.S. \$7,200 PLAN

(AVAILABLE TO ALL P.G.&E. EMPLOYEES)  
 FAMILY INCOME \$7,200 OR LESS  
 ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS WITHOUT P.R.D.  
 At the Present Time Available Only in Alameda, Contra Costa, Monterey and Sacramento Counties

## BLUE CROSS PLAN

(AVAILABLE TO ALL P.G.&E. EMPLOYEES) ON AN INDIVIDUAL BASIS UP TO AGE 60 WITHOUT P.R.D.  
 Same Coverage for Employee and Dependent

SAME COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEE AND DEPENDENT			SAME COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEE AND DEPENDENT			SAME COVERAGE FOR EMPLOYEE AND DEPENDENT		
3 bed ward rate (now as high as \$26.50 per day) paid in full for 31 days. (Non-integrated)			3 bed ward rate (now as high as \$26.50 per day) paid in full for 31 days. (Non-integrated)			3 bed ward rate (now as high as \$26.50 per day) paid in full 21 days plus half cost 22nd through 180th day. (Non-integrated)		
Up to \$15.00 for drugs, oxygen, blood and plasma plus one-half charges above \$15.00			Anesthetic supplies furnished by the hospital. Up to \$15.00 for drugs, oxygen, blood and plasma plus one-half of charges above \$15.00 for such items.			Paid in full. Drugs and oxygen up to \$10.00 plus half cost of balance. Anesthetic \$10.00—1st 1/2 hr., \$2.50 each 1/4 hr. up to maximum of \$40.00		
None			Not provided.			\$25.00		
Surgeon up to \$400.00 Asst. surgeon up to \$45.00 Anesthetist up to \$48.00. These may be increased by complications			Surgeon up to \$500.00 Asst. surgeon up to \$75.00 Anesthetist up to \$125.00. These may be increased by complications			Up to \$300.00 maximum		
50.00			Up to \$50.00			Up to \$100.00		
In/out Hosp. cancer x-ray. \$50/yr Diag. x-ray & lab. services for illness			In/out of the hospital up to \$50.00 each contract year for diagnostic x-ray and laboratory			Up to \$25.00—x-ray benefit for accidents only		
Paid in Full			\$5.00—11 p.m./8 a.m. \$12.50 Consultation \$15—\$35			\$3.00 per day non surg, non mat. hosp.		
Not Provided			Not Provided			Not provided		
Not Provided			Not Provided			Not provided		
All diagnostic x-ray for accidental injury			All necessary diagnostic x-ray for accidental injury			Not provided		

Polio benefits up to \$5,000 (Optional with add. prem. of:)				Polio benefits up to \$5,000 (Optional with add. premium of:)				May be provided to some extent in basic plan	
	3 Mos.	6 Mos.	Annual		3 Mos.	6 Mos.	Annual		
Single	.75	1.50	3.00	Single	.75	1.50	3.00		
2 or more	1.50	3.00	6.00	2 or more	1.50	3.00	6.00		

Registration Fee: \$5.00				Registration Fee: \$5.00				Registration Fee: \$2.00			
	Quart.	Semi-Annual	Annual		Quart.	Semi-Annual	Annual		Mo.	Quart.	
Male Employee	\$17.45	\$34.40	\$67.80	Male Employee	\$21.08	\$41.66	\$82.32	Male	\$3.98	\$11.94	
Female Employee	20.75	41.00	81.00	Female Employee	25.34	50.18	99.36	Female	5.13	15.39	
Employee & 1 Dependent	35.45	70.40	139.80	Employee & 1 Dependent	43.10	85.70	170.40	Empl. & 1 Dep.	9.56	28.77	
Employee & 2 Dependents	40.25	80.00	159.00	Employee & 2 Dependents	49.61	98.72	196.44	Empl & 2 or more dep.	10.56	31.77	
Employee & 3 or more Dep.	44.30	88.10	175.20	Employee & 3 or more Dep.	54.71	108.92	216.84				

DEPENDENT COVERAGE ONLY (UNION MEMBERS ONLY)

MALE EMPLOYEE			
1 Dependent	20.70	40.80	81.00
2 Dependents	28.35	55.10	111.60
3 or more Dependents	32.40	64.20	127.80
FEMALE EMPLOYEE			
1 Dependent	17.40	34.20	67.80
2 Dependents	25.05	49.50	98.40
3 or more Dependents	29.10	57.60	114.60

# OK PG&E Agreements

(Continued from Page 1)

The Executive Board and Advisory Council, meeting in regular session on August 1 and 2, were advised of the improved offer and after explanations by the Negotiating Committee, voted to concur in the recommendation and gave the Committee a commendation for a job well done.

The negotiations this year were conducted at a very difficult time. Industry attitudes are based on efficiency and profit. Public attitudes are colored by newspaper headlines on disclosures of the McClellan Committee and legislative attitudes are shown by the recent passage of the Griffin-Landrum Bill.

Despite these drawbacks, negotiations were concluded with a good settlement. Adoption of the principles contained in the Apprentice Gas Serviceman proposal, the expanded demotion and accelerated bid rights for demoted employees are major gains in this set of bargaining.

The total amendments to the Contract in this year will be:

1. **General Wage Increase (Physical Agreement) (Clerical Agreement)**  
Effective July 1, 1959, a general wage increase of 5½% to all employees in the bargaining units.
2. **Classification Adjustments (Physical Agreement)**
  - A. Inequities  
Assistant First Operator, Oakland Power Plant  
Senior Storekeeper  
Storekeeper
  - B. Reclassification  
Second Operator, Cottonwood Sub to Assistant First Operator  
Apprentice Gas Serviceman—establish limits on performing various duties by the brackets and provide automatic progression to Journeyman Gas Serviceman.
3. **Other Amendments to Agreements**
  - A. Physical Agreement  
Title 102, Grievance Procedure—establish time limits at first step.  
Title 202, Hours—provide extra shifts for certain work in Stores Division pipe yard, meter shops, and cleaning grizzlies.  
Title 206, Demotions—expanded demotion rights and accelerated bidding for demoted employees on a system wide basis.  
Title 301—Revise General Construction expense provisions to provide \$6.00 per day and specified time limits, effective Sept. 1, 1959.  
Title 303—Increase allowance for General Construction employees during inclement weather.
  - B. Clerical Agreement  
Title 9, Grievance Procedure—same as Physical.  
Title 10, Hours of Work—provide additional shifts for certain classifications in Electronic Data Processing Center.  
Exhibit B—revised Promotional and Transfer Units in accordance with changes brought about by Electronic Data Processing Center.
4. **Deferred for Discussion and Decision**  
Provided interim negotiations to develop Clerical lines of progression.
5. **Shift Premiums (Physical Agreement) (Clerical Agreement)**  
Agreements will be amended to provide for a premium of 8c per hour for work performed in the second shift and a premium of 12c per hour for work performed in the third shift.
6. **Term of Agreements**  
Amended Agreements will become effective July 1, 1959, and continue in effect as amended for a current term July 1, 1959, to June 30, 1960, and shall continue thereafter from year to year unless written notice of termination is given by either party to the other sixty (60) days prior to the end of the then current term.
7. **Group Hospital and Life Insurance**
  - A. Revise the Group Life Insurance Plan effective July 1, 1959, to provide insurance of \$1,000 without increase in premium for those employees who retire on or after such date, and
  - B. Company will further participate in the PSE Hospital Plan by contributing an additional \$1.50 per month per employee member. Such contribution together with the \$2.00 per employee member currently being contributed by Company will be applied to the employee's premium. It is understood that the employee's premium is now approximately \$5.65 a month. With the above application of the Company's contribution of \$3.50, the amount paid by the employee toward his premium will be reduced from \$3.65 a month to \$2.15 a month, effective September 1, 1959.

# Irrigation Water Resolution Adopted by Calif. Labor Fed.

The following is the Resolution on the distribution of irrigation water in California adopted by the Calif. Labor Federation at its convention in San Diego.

It includes the basic principles included in the Resolution adopted by Local 1245, as reported in last month's UTILITY REPORTER. Its adoption by California Labor is testimony to the effectiveness of Local 1245, IBEW delegates to the Convention, who worked diligently to obtain Convention support of this vital Resolution.

Whereas, the distribution of irrigation water in California is one of the most basic and vital problems; and

Whereas, the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, under the leadership of Secretary Neil Haggerty, has consistently taken sound, liberal and vigorous action to prevent water projects, either state or federal, from falling under monopolistic control of corporate farm interests; and

Whereas, the California State Legislature during its 1959 regular session, did pass the California Water Resources Development Bond Act which provides for a bond issue of \$1,750,000,000 to be used by the Department of Water Resources for development of water resources of the state; and

Whereas, The California Water Resources Development Bond Act shall be submitted to the people of the State of California for ratification at the next election, to be held in the month of November 1960; and

Whereas, Neither the Water Bond program approved by the legislature, nor any other state law makes any provisions whatsoever for protecting taxpayers from the monopolization of benefits and the enrichment of large landholders; and

Whereas, The state also lacks policies on the distribution of hydro electric power generated by units of the state system; on how project costs shall be allocated to project beneficiaries; on the pricing of irrigation, domestic and industrial waters; on the expenditure of state funds for development of recreational facilities at reservoir sites; and on the determination of economic and financial feasibility of various units of the state water bond program; and

Whereas, Without these policies, the protections against speculation monopoly and unjust enrichment in the distribution of water benefits, it will be impossible for the public to vote intelligently on the proposed \$1.75 billion water bond program; therefore be it

Resolved, That the second convention of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, commend Secretary Haggerty, his staff, the

Federation President and other leaders of the Federation for their forthright action on water legislation; and be it further.

Resolved, That the delegates pledge their full support of these actions and encourage Secretary Haggerty and other Federation leaders to continue their fight to prevent the corporate farm interests from gaining complete control of our state government, agricultural pursuits and economic life for generations to come via state or federal water projects; and be it further

Resolved, That this convention, in declaring labor's inability to support the California Water Resources Development Bond Act without necessary protections and qualifications in state policy, hereby calls upon the Governor of the State of California to convene the legislature in special session prior to the 1960 general election for the specific purpose of (1) enacting anti-speculation, anti-monopoly and enrichment protections, patented after federal reclamation

law, or protection at least equal in strength and in purpose; and (2) enacting policies and legislative criteria covering the above-mentioned gaps in state law; and be it further

Resolved, That this convention instruct the secretary-treasurer to do everything in his power to secure in water project authorization bills and other measures establishing water agencies with proprietary functions, provisions:

1. Guaranteeing the right of self-organization,
2. Guaranteeing the rights of collective bargaining for employees involved in the operation, maintenance and repair of the project, and
3. Providing for 'prevailing rate' in the construction, modification, reconstruction and alteration of the project; and be it further

Resolved, That this resolution be forwarded to Governor Brown and such other persons as the secretary-treasurer shall deem necessary to secure its implementation.

## SHELLEY ASKS GOVERNOR TO BACK 160-ACRE LIMIT

Congressman John F. Shelley has wired Governor Brown asking him to work for a 160-acre limit on distribution of water from State reclamation projects.

Brown has announced that before the big water bond issue goes to the people in 1960 he will see to it that steps are taken to prevent unjust enrichment of big landholders.

Shelley notified Brown in his telegram that along with other Congressmen he intends to do everything possible to strike from the House version of the San Luis bill a section which would exempt California from the 160-acre limit.

The section which would eliminate the 160-acre limit and lead to unjust enrichment of multimillionaire land speculators and corporation farmers is the one introduced by Congressman Sisk of the Congressional District including Fresno, Merced, and Madera counties. It's the same clause that was eliminated from the Senate bill on the same subject—eliminated by the heroic efforts of Senators Morse and Neuberger of Oregon, and Senators Douglas of Illinois, with Senators Kuchel and Engle of California on the unjust enrichment side.

Congressman Sisk, who so ob-

durately sticks with the idea of helping the rich to get richer, had always been considered a liberal Democrat until this fight came up. But the sheep are going to get separated from the goats in the Democratic Party on this issue—the men from the boys, the true liberals from the phonies. So several prominent Democrats, elected in considerable part by the efforts of labor, had better do some very serious thinking.

Organized labor in this State has stood by the 160-acre limit policy for many years, and any politician who wants labor's support in the future had better decide, and soon, whether he is for decent farmers and labor or for the big land speculators and corporation farmers who lined up with the urban big business interests to defeat the minimum wage bill in the recent session of the Legislature.

(East Bay Labor Journal)

## Help Hong Kong Refugees

### IBEW'S JOE KEENAN TAKES PART IN AFL-CIO FOOD DISTRIBUTION

Hong Kong is overflowing with refugees from the Red Chinese mainland. How to feed, clothe and house these men, women and children is a major problem.

CARE is working in several areas to help alleviate the situation, the major contribution being food. However, construction of a pilot housing project is receiving international attention. The plan calls for settling 68 families in simple new houses on non-productive land, establishing community fish ponds, community pig sties, orchards and poultry raising. The aim of this program is to weld the vegetable farmers of Hong Kong into a compact rural community.

With the improvement in the

land, villagers are expected to be able to pay sums equivalent to rental, thus making it possible to establish a school and community center. If this plan proves successful, then it will be possible to establish similar projects on the now unproductive land.

CARE has also provided fishing equipment to refugees, thus enabling them to reap enough to help support their families. Another project has been to furnish school materials to Hong Kong's neediest children.

Currently the IBEW is one of the International Unions playing a leading role in encouraging CARE's work, solid proof of U.S. labor's determination to point the way toward better international relations for America.

Attend Meetings... Take Part in Union Affairs!

## Here's the Dope



En route from an international labor conference in New Delhi, India, IBEW Secretary Joseph D. Keenan stops in Hong Kong long enough to personally distribute CARE food packages bought with funds contributed by AFL-CIO unions. IBEW Locals are currently extending substantial support to CARE.

# FORAND BILL SHELVED

# Battle Shaping Up Over Old Folks

The House Ways and Means Committee has just concluded preliminary hearings on a bill to help the American people find a low cost method of paying for the high cost of hospital and surgical care in their old age.

The bill, H. R. 4700, sponsored by Rep. Aime Forand (D-R.I.), is popularly known as the Forand Bill and will be up for Congressional action early in 1960. It would extend social security benefits to include hospital, surgical and nursing home care for some 10 million social security beneficiaries.

It is apparent that battle lines are being drawn for a lengthy fight to win this needed health care for the aged with its opponents arguing that the country's old folks can afford to pay for their own health care, that private health insurance will eventually protect them, that they are the responsibility of their families or they can go on relief, that Federal action in this field is socialistic or communistic.

Senate bills similar to the Forand measure have been introduced by Senators Wayne Morse (D-Ore.) and Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.), but hearings are not expected until after House action.

So that every Union member will be familiar with the bill and the need for this vital piece of legislation, we are presenting the facts and urge that you write your Congressman and Senators telling them how you feel about the Forand Bill and why.

## The Need

The nation's 15 million persons aged 65 and over are growing by 1,000 a day.

Three-fifths of them have less than \$1,000 a year income.

They need more medical care at a time when they have little money to pay for it.

On the average, persons over 65 spend twice as many days a year in hospitals as younger persons.

The average person over 65 spends half again as much for medical care as other people.

Cost of medical care is mounting faster than any other item in the consumer price index.

Adequate hospitalization and surgical insurance for persons over 65 is virtually non-existent at any price. What policies are available are loaded with qualifications, exceptions and hedges they cannot be depended on.

Even these inadequate policies with disappointingly meager benefits are too expensive for the budgets of most older families.

How will YOU pay hospital and medical care after you're 65?

## The Plan

Representative Forand has proposed that we use our Social Security system to organize an adequate system of insuring us against the cost of hospital care and surgery in our old age.

**Eligibility**—All those who are drawing Social Security pensions or those who are eligible for Social Security pensions but continue to work, their dependents, and young widows and children receiving survivors benefits would be eligible for Social Security hospital and surgical benefits. Only those who are pensioned because of permanent disability would be excluded.

**Hospital and Nursing Home Benefits**—Social Security would pay for a semi-private room, all hospital care, drugs and appliances ordinarily furnished a bed patient. If the patient is taken

to a nursing home for convalescence, Social Security would pay for that too. These benefits would be limited to 120 days in any 12-month period, and only 60 days could be hospital care.

**Surgical Benefits**—Social Security would pay for surgery, by a surgeon of the patient's own choosing. It would not, however, pay the family doctor's bills. Oral and dental surgery, if done in a hospital, would be paid for.

Social Security health insurance would work about the same way that private health insurance does. Each eligible person would have an insurance card issued by the Social Security Administration. Hospitals and surgeons would bill the government directly, and be paid directly, according to specified rates. They would be prohibited from charging patients more than the insurance benefit.

Social Security hospital and surgical payments would begin 12 months after Congress enacts the Forand Bill.

## The Cost

Representative Forand estimates that 15,000,000 persons would be eligible for hospital and surgical benefits under his bill. The cost of these benefits would amount to about \$1 billion a year. Here's the breakdown:

Hospital benefits and administrative cost	\$904,900,000
Surgical benefits	80,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$984,900,000</b>

Since most people already have a Social Security card with a Social Security number, the cost of setting up and administering the additional hospital and surgical benefits would be relatively small.

To meet this cost, the Forand Bill would raise the Social Security tax by 1/4 of 1 percent for each employee and for each employer, and 3/8 of 1 percent for the self-employed. The tax would apply to earnings up to \$4,800 a year. The total taxable payrolls are now about \$200 billion a year. One-half of 1 percent of that sum would bring in the billion dollars to finance the hospital and surgical benefits. The most any employee would pay for these new benefits will be 23 cents per week or about \$1 a month. We would pay this small amount during the years we work, to help pay our medical costs after we retire.

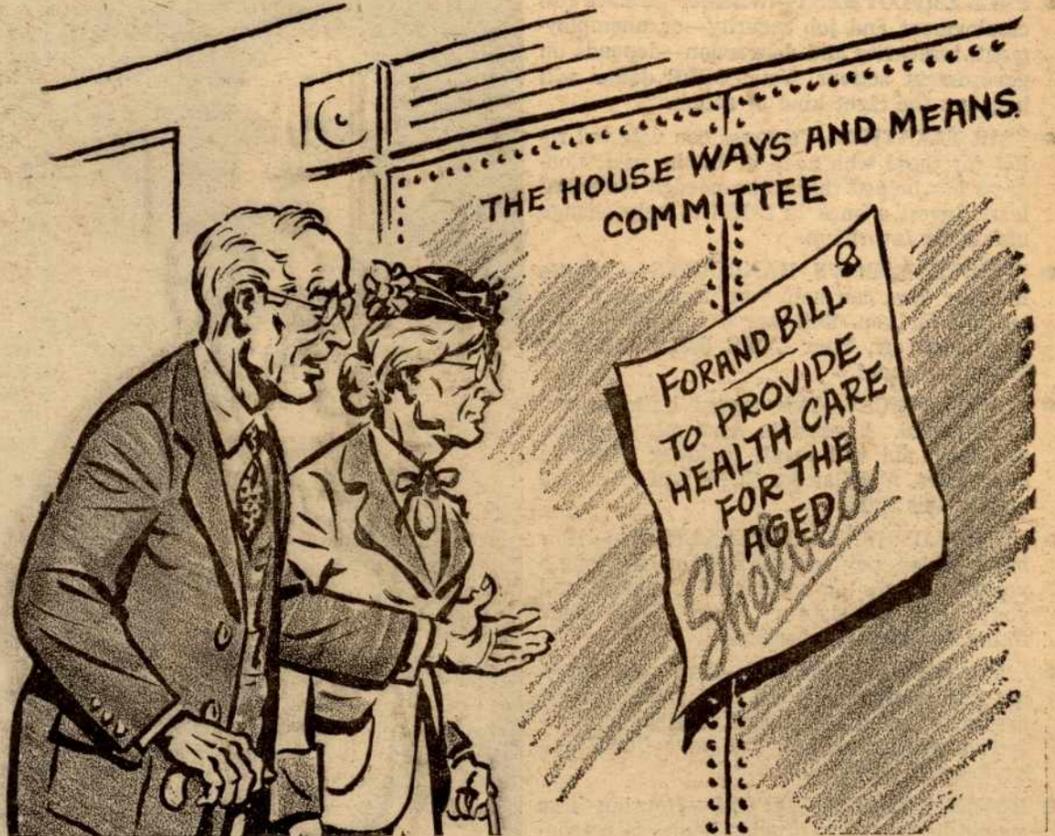
## Anything for a Buck!

The American Medical Association, after sparking a multi-million dollar campaign to convince the public that former President Truman's national health insurance plan was "socialized medicine," is now urging physicians to offer cut-rate fees to retired people in an effort to fend off the Forand Bill.

The AMA also reports that some physicians are experimenting with charging patients \$1 for each telephone call.

The purpose of the telephone charge is two-fold: To discourage unnecessary inquiries and to produce additional income. A few doctors, says the AMA, report they have received up to \$200 a month in fees.

'Another Year to Wait, Mother!'



## WHY I'M FOR IT—

Former President Harry S. Truman has declared himself "very strongly" in favor of the Forand Bill to provide health care for the nation's aged.



Truman, in a letter released by Rep. Forand, said many Americans cannot afford proper medical and hospital care and "the aged, as a group, have the hardest time of all."

"I usually found," Truman wrote, "that those who are loudest in protesting against the government's doing something for the health of the people are those who do not need help themselves."

## WHY I'M AGAINST IT—

The Eisenhower Administration is against the Forand Bill declared leadoff witness Arthur S. Fleming, Secty. of Health, Education and Welfare, in the House hearings on the Bill.



He admitted "a problem does exist." But it could be solved through "individual initiative, thrift and voluntary insurance." By 1970, he contended, most aged would have "some" private hospital insurance.

Is "individual initiative, thrift and voluntary insurance" the reason Pres. Eisenhower is entitled to full medical care in Army or Navy hospitals at a cost of ONLY \$1.05 PER DAY? Or is it likely that former President Truman is correct?

## Two Experts Agree Forand Bill Is OK

Two former Social Security Commissioners, Charles I. Schotland, appointed by Pres. Eisenhower in 1954, and Arthur J. Altmeyer, named by former Pres. Truman, strongly urge enactment of the Forand Bill.

Schotland conceded that voluntary insurance has done well and will probably be able to "make an even bigger contribution," but warned, on the other hand, "there is no question in my mind that it cannot be the answer to the total problem of medical care for the aged."

He said he had seen "persons who had saved for their old age, owned their homes and had substantial assets reduced to destitution because of prolonged illness."

"Only 5 percent of the people have full medical, surgical and hospital coverage," Altmeyer observed.

To the argument that the Forand proposal would be costly, Altmeyer noted that it would be spread over the entire working life of beneficiaries.

## WE'RE INSULTED! Doctors gouge patients with prepaid insurance

The Wall Street Journal, as can be expected, has spoken out editorially against the Forand Bill. In addition to their argument that "planning for old age is the responsibility of the individual long before he gets old", they advance a real lulu!

They brand the Bill as a vote-gathering device. "Make no mistake about it," the editorial states, "there are men in Congress who are convinced that this is the big new area for vote-getting political largesse in the future—to make the aged a class apart on which subsidies can be showered. And this cynical notion of creating a new caste of wards of Government is an insult both to today's old people and to those now trying to provide for a dignified old age."

We agree there's an "insult" but the Wall Street Journal has committed it, not Mr. Forand. Their editorial is an insult to those members of Congress who are endeavoring to solve one of

An article in a recent issue of PARADE, a nationally-circulated Sunday supplement magazine, based upon a nationwide survey, makes this flatfooted statement: "Patients with some form of health insurance are being charged hiked fees—simply because insurance foots part of the bill."

Robert P. Goldman, writer of the article entitled "Skyhigh Medical Bills" states: "Hiked fees are eroding the purpose of voluntary, prepaid insurance, which is, basically, to help defray part of the cost of care."

"Most authorities agree that overcharges tack millions annually to the nation's soaring medical bill . . . Skyrocketing medical

the great social problems of our day, it's an insult to the American Labor movement and the other supporters of the Forand Bill, and an insult to the intelligence of the nation's old people.



Mmm! You're sicker than I thought . . .

# WE ARE UNDER ATTACK

# Defend Your Union With a COPE Buck

## 10 Good Reasons for COPE

- **FULL EMPLOYMENT**—Whether we have full employment and job security—or unemployment, insecurity and depression—depends on government actions. Your COPE dollar will help get the right kind of action.
- **FAIR TAXATION**—Congress can vote tax relief for those who need it. In the past, Congress has helped those who needed tax relief least. Invest a buck in COPE to help change unfair tax favoritism.
- **REMOVE LABOR'S HANDCUFFS**—Changes in labor laws can help your union do a better job for you. Still worse restrictions can be headed off. Your COPE dollar will help bring this about.
- **LOWER PRICES**—This rigged inflation can be whipped. A sensible economic program and farm aid will result in lower prices to consumers. A dollar for COPE will go a long way in this fight.
- **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION** — How much jobless pay you get and for how long a period depends on actions of Congress and your state legislature. Your COPE buck fights for improved benefits.
- **CIVIL RIGHTS FOR ALL**—Laws guaranteeing fair employment and civil rights for everyone will never be passed until we have effective political action. Put your COPE dollar to work on this job.
- **HOMES YOU CAN AFFORD**—Housing laws should be passed to provide homes at reasonable prices, not to make bankers and realtors richer on high interest rates and prices. Your COPE buck will aid this fight.
- **WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION** — What you get in compensation when you're hurt in the plant is fixed by law. Elect the right lawmakers and workmen's compensation can be improved. Put your COPE dollar to work for you.
- **BETTER SCHOOLS**—Both federal and state laws control the educational opportunity your children will have. A buck invested in COPE will help pass necessary laws.
- **COMPLETE MEDICAL CARE**—A comprehensive program providing prepaid medical care under national health insurance is a must. Give your COPE dollar to buy insurance against economic ruin possible through disastrous illness.



Fight Back; Fight for  
Your Union;  
Give a Dollar to COPE

It was in a Southern Ohio classroom, two weeks before last November's election. A teacher told her pupils to urge their parents to vote "yes" in favor of the "right-to-work" bill because, she said, "we've got to get rid of those crooked labor bosses."

A ten-year-old girl with tears forming in her eyes stood up and addressed the teacher: "My daddy's a union man. Why do you call him a crook?"

The father, an officer of the Typographical Union, told the story to a group of delegates from other unions. "Even your kids are taught to hate you," he concluded.

Senator Hubert Humphrey, Minnesota Democrat, said:

"It is a tragic fact indeed that recent disclosures before the Senate Select Committee on Improper Activities in Labor-Management Relations, in the absence of adequate publishing of the total labor story in America, have led many people to believe that the labor movement is a narrow, selfish, irresponsible force."

Humphrey said the press did not give a balanced picture of labor. The picture of labor being presented to the public is the picture an anti-American paints of a United States equated with slums, juvenile delinquents, and lynchings.

So thorough is the anti-labor picture being painted that even the comic strips are not immune to it: Monsignor Higgins called Little Orphan Annie "a political tract with a demonstrably anti-union bias. It is calculated to leave the impression with millions of children, between the ages of five and 65, that all unions are a racket and a dangerous threat to our American way of life."

Why this big build-up against labor? What does it mean to you?

It could mean the existence

of your union. It means all union members have to begin fighting back.

One effective way of defending yourself against those bent on weakening and even destroying your union is to give a dollar to COPE (AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education).

Your dollar will help elect officeholders who will fight against passage of such laws to weaken and destroy your union.

Your dollar to COPE does not pay for salaries and educational expenses. The AFL-CIO pays for that. Your dollar is not a subscription to a political paper. Your dollar is for one purpose only—to help elect congressional candidates friendly to the working people.

Of every dollar contributed to COPE, half is used by local and state COPE bodies and the other half is used by national COPE to aid worthy candidates for national offices.

For your dollar, you receive a COPE membership card. Every dollar is accounted for and a complete report of COPE expenditures is made as required by law.

The vital need for COPE dollars is pointed up by the fact that the gains we have made at the bargaining table can be whittled down or wiped out by decisions of Congress, a state legislature or a city council.

### Pure Devotion

The AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education means a lot to Mrs. B. T. Cash, recording secretary of Retail Clerks Local 208 in Durham, N.C.

"Mrs. Cash proved this when she gave up her union-won week's vacation to put in a full 40-hour workweek as a volunteer in the Durham COPE office."

## FROM LABOR DAY TO ELECTION DAY

By James L. McDevitt, National Director AFL-CIO Committee on Political Education (COPE)

Labor Day 1959 is a good time to begin thinking about Election Day 1960.

The 14 months between September 7 of this year and November 8 of next will be filled with exciting political activities that can end either in a victory for the working people of America or in defeat for them.

By victory, I mean the election of highly-qualified, liberal, public-spirited candidates for office who will work for fair labor-management laws, better public school buildings and better-paid teachers, higher and broader minimum wages, adequate Social Security—particularly for our senior citizens—

stronger national defense, effective workmen's and unemployment compensation, civic improvement, improved highways, public housing for all who need decent living quarters, and other measures that would benefit all of America.

By defeat, I mean the election of candidates who think profits are more important than people. (And even in this age, don't believe there are not plenty of office-holders and office-seekers who think just that. Witness the drive for high interest rates which will help the bankers and other money-lenders and hurt the veteran and the home-buyer). I mean victorious

candidates who are willing to cripple all unions under the guise of trying to protect the union member.

Now many trade unionists are disappointed by the fact that Congress has passed little liberal legislation this year. They had expected a better record following the 1958 elections which saw a sharp increase in liberal Senators and Representatives. Some of these unionists are ready to withdraw from the political field.

But everyone knows that you cannot win a fight by withdrawing from it. You can't expect your Congress, or your state legislature, or your county board or

your city council to levy taxes, for instance, according to your ability to pay if you don't support candidates for those law-making bodies who will vote for taxes that are not burdensome to the vast majority of men and women in this country and who will not allow Big Business and Big Finance to escape their fair share.

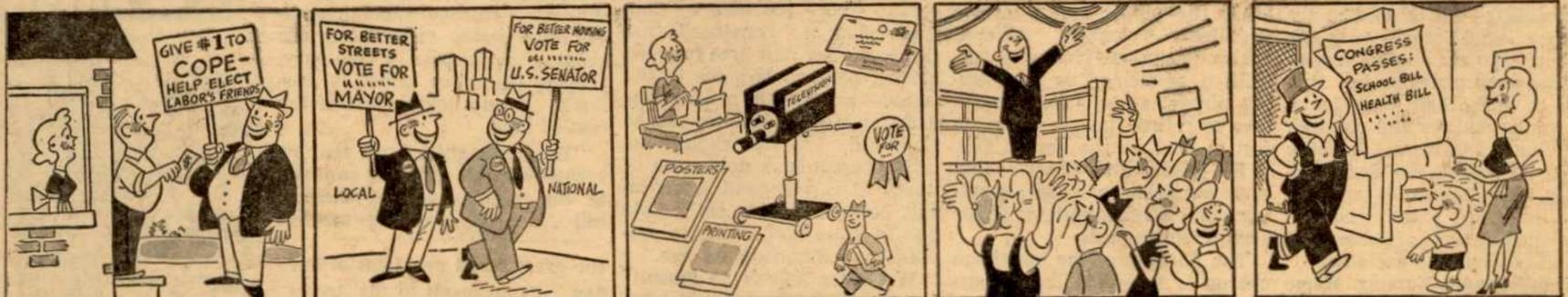
The simplest way to support good candidates and defeat the bad is to contribute voluntarily one dollar to COPE, register to vote, keep informed about where candidates stand on the important issues, and then vote on Election Day.

Remember: Next year, the

people will elect a President of the United States, a Vice President, 33 or 34 U.S. Senators (depending upon whether one of the new Hawaiian Senators will have to stand for reelection), 437 Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, 26 state governors and innumerable state legislators, judges, district attorneys, mayors, councilmen, school officials, assessors, tax collectors and many other offices of your government.

Yes, Labor Day—right now—is an excellent time to begin planning and working for victory in '60.

### Here's How Your COPE Dollar Helps to Get Good Laws



1. First of all, give a dollar (or more) to your COPE collector. Remember, this is a voluntary contribution.
2. Half of your dollar is used to support local and state candidates for election, the other half is used in support of candidates for national office.
3. Your dollar is spent to help COPE-endorsed candidates pay for clerks, posters, printing, television talks, post cards, badges and other expenses.
4. With your help, liberal, forward-looking candidates can win their elections.
5. As a result, all of America gets better laws, including school, health, social security, minimum wage and labor-management legislation.



# Family Features



By Clair M. Cook

Executive Director, Religion and Labor Foundation

How much steel do you buy in a year?

Oh, you say, not very much. You own a couple of tons of the stuff mounted on rubber tires, of course, and some more all nicely enameled to keep the milk and eggs cold. And then there is the stove, and that laundry machine in the basement. Oh, yes, the furnace, too, and the pipes that connect it up. Once in a while you buy something like a lawn mower, or a pair of pliers. And then there are a few hundred "tin" cans every year. Well, when you come down to counting it all up, maybe it does come to more than you would think.

But that's not all. Look at all those steel girders in the underpasses and overpasses of all the new roads—you own a piece of each of them too. And how about the battleships and submarines and all that stuff called "military hardware"? Whenever they Besides that, when you bought your car you paid for some of the steel in the machines that made it. As a matter of fact, you've really got a pretty big investment in steel, including the money of yours that could be traced back to the steel companies' profits which they have invested for you in their furnaces and mills.

Of course, you'll never see any income from that investment of yours. But you are putting it in every time you buy a can of beans, and it's been pretty profitable for someone. To be exact, in the first three months of this year every dollar you and I spent for the basic steel in whatever we bought, directly or indirectly, netted the steel makers almost a dime. Those steel statistics, really, are rather interesting. Did any other industry make a net profit in the first quarter this year of 96.7 cents for every hour worked by every one of its half-million production workers? And at that, they were only producing 82.6 per cent of what they could; with higher production, the profits jump enormously. In fact, this remarkable business still makes money when it limps at less than half its capacity.

And don't forget, you and I are paying those profits because of the higher and ever higher prices the steelmakers put on their product. Suppose they cut their prices \$15 a ton, which would still leave more profit than the average U. S. industry. In one week of two-and-a-half million ton production (and it has been running higher) we would save the equivalent of an entire year's income for three-quarters of a million persons in India, or a hundred-dollar-a-month pensions for more than six thousand of our retired people for a full year.

Will steel cut its prices? Don't be ridiculous—they don't have to. Mr. Kefauver has pointed out that while production dropped 36 per cent, they even raised them 14 per cent. All they need

to do is keep the wages of their workers right where they are, and (believe it or not) there won't be any more inflation.

## 39 Weeks Jobless Pay if 6% Unhired

Effective Sept. 18, California wage earners will be protected by extended unemployment insurance benefits during periods of high unemployment under terms of the Miller-Collier Act enacted by the 1959 Legislature and recently signed into law by Governor Edmund G. Brown.

The bill, authored by Senator George Miller, Jr. (D-Contra Costa), provides that unemployed persons may receive up to 13 weeks of additional unemployment benefits at their usual weekly benefit amounts when unemployment in California reaches 6 percent or more of the labor force.

## LIVE A LITTLE LONGER

### Having a will to win

By DR. WILLIAM A. SAWYER  
IAM Medical Consultant

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How often we have heard of older people disabled by accident or disease who lose their grip on life and never regain the ability to be up and doing. They become wholly or partly dependent upon others.

We also hear of people who rise above their adversity in spite of age and disease. We are genuinely thrilled by those who manage to largely overcome their paralysis due to polio, a stroke, or some injury, that threatens to end all future activity.

Years ago I had a dentist friend who suffered greatly with arthritis of his spine. He was so crippled that he had to back down stairs in the morning on his hands and knees. He continued to practice dentistry nevertheless, sitting on a stool, although suffering great discomfort. He carried on in this way for several years.

Most men would have quit and taken to their beds. He was really better off making this struggle than giving up. We know that some people succumb to such adversity more readily than others.

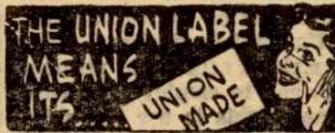
It is becoming increasingly proven that the best treatment for older folks with their disabilities is to keep them active. Being continuously chair- and bed-bound is destructive. Even after surgical operations it is now considered better to get everyone up and on their feet as early as possible.

I came in contact some time ago with a family in which the mother of the wife suffered a stroke and became bed-ridden.

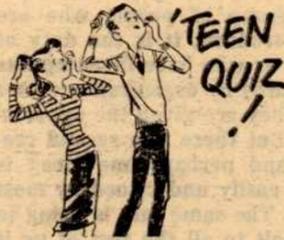
## DO YOU KNOW THAT—

Organized Labor has always worked to prevent accidents and correct unsafe working conditions. On this Labor Day weekend—whether you drive a hot-rod, a jalopy or Dad's 'pride and joy'—Local 1245, IBEW asks you to drive carefully and avoid traffic accidents. Don't be a sucker for speed. Play it cool and yield the right-of-way to the careless 'square' who's just an accident going someplace to happen.

If you and your date go swimming, don't swim till exhausted—rest often. Never swim alone—If you must race, race towards shore, not away from it.



Demand Union Label Goods and Services



## SOUP TO NONSENSE Amateur standing

By Jane Goodsell

One of my troubles (I had 6,936 others, according to my last count) is that I am constantly finding out that I do things wrong. As long as I don't know I'm messing things up, I'm perfectly happy. But once I learn the error of my ways, I feel guilty and unhappy. On the other hand, doing things right is too difficult.

I once thought painting was easy and fun. I painted a whole room of the first house we lived in. It was easy. I simply bought some paint and a paint brush, spread newspapers on the floor, and slapped on a coat of green to cover the terrible chartreuse color of the walls. I thought my green walls looked very nice. But the next time I found myself with walls in need of paint, I hired a professional to do the job. By that time I'd found out that you're supposed to spackle and apply masking tape and fill nail holes and sand surfaces. I learned this from a little pamphlet titled "Painting Made Easy."

That sneaky title is typical of the many how-to-do-it books which profess to tell how to make a job easy, quick, fun and mere child's play, and end by convincing you that it is much too difficult to even attempt.

I gave up making Beef Stroganoff after reading a cookbook called "Creative Cookery Is Fun." The cookbook's recipe for Beef Stroganoff was vociferous in its insistence that only sirloin of beef be used. Any less tender cut of meat, it sneered,

could not possibly approximate the desired result. Until then I'd been using beef chuck, and I'd thought my Beef Stroganoff was pretty special. But from then on I felt that making Beef Stroganoff out of stew meat was as wicked as trampling on the flag. I couldn't afford sirloin so I stopped making Beef Stroganoff.

I used to wash wool sweaters. I used mild soap and lukewarm water, and sometimes the sweaters didn't shrink. If they did, I at least felt that I'd done my best. Then I learned how to wash wool sweaters. You are supposed to draw patterns and measure the sweater and run basting thread around collars and cuffs. This I learned from a booklet called "You Can Too, Wash Sweaters!" Well, maybe you can. Not me. Not by those rules. I gave up buying wool sweaters, and I sent my old ones to the cleaners.

I used to take a lot of pictures with our old camera. All I had to do was line up my subjects and click the shutter. Our old camera didn't have lens openings to adjust and shutter speeds to calculate. It didn't have a flash bulb attachment or a range finder. It was just a nice little box camera that took nice fuzzy pictures of our children. I don't take pictures with our new camera. Too hard.

I guess my standards aren't very high, but I wish they'd stop finding better ways to do things. Why can't they leave me alone to louse things up in peace?



Governor Edmund G. Brown has issued the following statement relative to Union Label Week in California:

"The men and women of Organized Labor contribute in substantial degree to insure our economic stability. As a direct result of their endeavors to obtain for wage earners a fair share of the fruits of their labor, business

everywhere has benefitted by increased productivity and an expanded market. Greater purchasing power exists among all segments of our people.

"The American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations this year has set aside September 7 to 13 as Union Label Week. It is a commendable occasion, recognizing labor's efforts to maintain a fair wage, to create prosperity, and to insure job security through the patronage of merchandise and services designated by the Union Label, Shop Card and Service Button.

"I, Edmund G. Brown, Governor of California, am therefore pleased to designate the week of September 7 through 13, 1959, as UNION LABEL WEEK in California, and call on all Californians to observe this week by patronizing stores, shops and merchandise that feature the Union Label, Shop Card and/or Service Button."

# Calif. Labor Federation Moves on Major Issues

The California water plan and the plight of the State's farm workers were the major issues before the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, Convention held in San Diego August 10 through 14. A few of the delegates may have found the Convention somewhat dull since there were no elections of officers to be held (elections will be held in 1960), nor were there any political battles immediately forthcoming. However, Local Union 1245's delegates, President Charles Massie, Executive Board member Robert Staab, Business Manager Ronald T. Weakley, Assistant Business Manager M. A. Walters and Business Representatives Norman Amundson and D. J. McPeak, were impressed by the forthright and progressive action taken by the Convention on major issues affecting all of California as well as by the unity of Labor since last year's merger of the AFL and CIO on the State level.

## CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES

Organized labor in pressing for full and integrated development of the State's limited water resources, served notice that it will continue to fight for protection for the taxpayers and the workmen involved in the development of such resources.

Governor Edmund G. "Pat" Brown, in an address to the Convention, did not evade the question that there had been some criticism leveled at his administration, particularly with respect to his water plan, and he agreed that if real problems existed, steps must be taken to eliminate them prior to the time that the people vote on the bond issue a year from next November.

The Governor stated, "My staff is studying the matter of unjust enrichment to determine whether State construction will result in a monopolization of benefits or encourage large, large land holdings. They are also studying ways to prevent such results. When these studies are finalized, I intend to announce my program on that subject."

He further stated that, "I am aware of the proposals that have and that will come from this great Labor Federation, but I think you will agree that your State Government should, and must, study every possible answer to the many problems facing us before committing itself irrevocably to any particular plan."

The Convention's feeling was that there were real problems, as yet unresolved, in the Cali-

fornia water plan and in agreeing with the Governor that they should be eliminated prior to the time the people are asked to vote on the issue, adopted a strong resolution urging him to call a special session of the Legislature in order that these problems could be faced up to and corrective measures taken. In addition to the question of unjust enrichment raised by the Governor, the Convention was concerned over lack of policies and legislative criteria with respect to distribution of hydro electric power generated by units of the State system, allocation of project costs, pricing of irrigation, domestic and industrial waters, together with the lack of collective bargaining rights for project employees and "prevailing rate" protections in project construction. (Full text of resolution appears elsewhere, in this issue).

## AGRICULTURAL LABOR

"The scandalous condition of agricultural labor demands their organization into a union and the lifting of the agricultural exemptions which have excluded these workers from virtually all the protections of Federal and State socio-economic legislation enacted during the past 25 years.

"Organized labor will intensify its opposition to the importation of foreign labor under conditions assuring growers an unlimited labor supply with which to depress wages and working conditions to such a point that domestic farm workers find it impossible to stay in the industry."

The foregoing statement of policy was adopted by the delegates and all affiliates were urged to extend every possible support to the organizing effort recently started in California by the National AFL-CIO.

Norman Smith, Director of Activities, Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee, in reporting to the Convention on recent activities of the AWOC, clearly stated why all of labor should take an active part, in the following statement:

"In the first place, labor should be interested in it because it is the moral, the right

and decent thing to do. With any group of people who are down-trodden, it is the duty of all of us who have lifted up our standards by organization to see that they are given the opportunity. But there is a second reason, and perhaps one that is more easily understood by most of us. The same fate is going to be dealt to all the rest of us if we don't organize the largest group of partially employed and wholly unemployed people that there is in the country today. It is already a cancerous sore that is going to engulf all of us."

John H. Henning, State Director of Industrial Relations, pointed out that farm workers are not covered by a minimum wage law, have no limits on their hours of employment, get no overtime, are not covered by unemployment insurance and live under conditions unfit for valued animals.

Lieutenant Governor Glenn M. Anderson won thunderous applause when he told the Convention he and his staff are volubly opposing the Landrum-Griffin labor management bill set for a House hearing in Washington.

"Unions," he declared, "have the right of security of membership, and to employ their hard-earned rights to use the picket line and the boycott. The destruction of these rights would mean violent turmoil and favor lawless men. I believe in the union movement as an unquestioned necessity for the protection of workers."

# CALIF. PUBLIC EMPLOYEES MEET AND REORGANIZE

At a conference held in San Diego on August 8 and 9, representatives of unions affiliated with the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, met to discuss mutual problems and to formulate plans to more effectively represent their members engaged in public employment.

While this group has been in existence for some 20 years, it was felt that it had not thus far obtained its desired potential and steps were taken to reorganize as the Public Employees Council of California; a new Constitution was adopted and steps taken to obtain direct affiliation with the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, as well as a charter from the National AFL-CIO.

The purpose of the Council is to coordinate and unify the efforts of the constituent organizations in the preservation and retention of the present economic gains and to foster and advance the improvement of the working conditions, hours of work, salary and wage rates, and other rights of public employees.

Local 1245 Asst. Bus. Mgr. M. A. Walters was elected as one of the Vice Presidents of the Council by the assembled delegates.

# SACRAMENTO TRANSIT BARGAINING CALLED

Tuesday, Sept. 1st has been set as the date for the first meeting of the Negotiating Committees of Local 1245, IBEW and the Transit Authority of the City of Sacramento to bargain on proposed changes in wages and working conditions for Local 1245 members working for the Authority.

# 'Light Work' or Pay Work. Comp. States California Supreme Court

In a landmark decision the California Supreme Court decided in the case of Stroer vs. Pacific Employers Insurance Co. that in Workmen's Compensation cases where the injured worker is released as being able to do "light work" and is unable to find "light work" and is not offered "light work" by his employer that he is entitled to the full payment of Workmen's Compensation.

Tom L. Stroer, a carpenter was injured in an industrial accident on July 29, 1957. On February 17, 1958, the insurance company stopped the payment of temporary disability because its doctor stated that Stroer was able to return to "light work."

Stroer registered in the Carpenters' Union Hall for "light work" but was unable to find any until July 6, 1958. The Industrial Accident Commission ordered the insurance company to pay Stroer maximum temporary partial disability payments, or full Workmen's Compensation benefits for the period he was unable to find "light work."

The Pacific Employers Insurance Company appealed this decision to the District Court of Appeals, which reversed the Commission decision and held that Stroer was entitled to only partial compensation benefits.

An appeal was then taken to the California Supreme Court, which, in its decision, once and for all, settles the "light work" problem and did away with the practice of insurance companies refusing to pay workmen's

compensation to a worker who was released for "light work" by their doctors.

The Supreme Court stated in the Stroer decision that although Stroer was able to do "light

work" and, therefore, only partially disabled, he was, in fact, suffering a total wage loss due to his industrial accident, and was, therefore, entitled to full compensation benefits.

# Commonwealth Edison Installs "Brain"

Commonwealth Edison Company, serving 2 million customers in the Chicago area and in northern Illinois, has just completed installation of a \$700,000 automatic dispatch system, according to ELECTRICAL WORLD.

The electronic computer ties together 37 steam generating units in 10 power plants—some as far away as 140 miles—which equals 92 percent of Commonwealth's total capacity.

Housed in a downtown Chicago power supply control room, the "brain" not only regulates electricity output to match demand, it also selects which of the 37 units can most economi-

cally produce additional power as required. As demand decreases the computer selects those units producing power at the highest cost and reduces the output of those units.

Not only will the system assure most efficient use of powers production facilities but will also maintain proper flows on power interchanges with other inter-connected utilities.



DANIEL M. CLARK, from Richmond in East Bay Division, passed away on May 24, 1959. He had been a member of Local 1245 since June 16, 1950.

JOHN A. HOWE, General Construction Dept. in Santa Rosa, a Local 1245 member since Jan. 1948, passed away on May 29, 1959.

ROBERT A. VANVORHIS, from Monterey in Coast Valleys Division, passed away in May, 1959. He had been a member of Local 1245 since June 1, 1953.

**A QUIZ ABOUT**  
 \$10,000,000  
 \$250,000,000  
 \$5,000,000,000

These three figures are clues to the size of the ethical problem facing the people of the United States. To test your understanding, try putting the right figure into each of these statements.

1. The plunder which the white collar criminal exacts from society is enormous. Last year as much as \$..... probably changed hands in kickbacks, payoffs & bribes.

—See page 162, LIFE magazine, Oct. 14, 1957

2. The committee has uncovered the shocking fact that union funds in excess of \$..... were either stolen, embezzled or misused by union officials over a period of 15 years.

—See page 1, Interim Report of the U.S. Senate's McClellan Committee, March 24, 1958

3. Employers throughout the United States have stolen, misused or failed to turn over to the U.S. Government more than \$..... in taxes withheld from the pay envelopes of their employees.

—See pages 3316 to 3323, Congressional Record for March 10, 1959

## ANSWERS

The correct answers to the quiz are: \$5,000,000,000 is the amount which Life estimated changes hands in business kickbacks, payoffs and bribes every year.

\$250,000,000 is the amount of income tax deductions which employers took from employees' wages but failed to turn in to the Federal Government last year.

\$10,000,000 is the amount the McClellan Committee estimated as having been stolen, misused or embezzled by union officials during the last 15 years.

These figures provide us with some perspective on the ethical problems confronting the people of the United States.

These figures do not give the same perspective that one might get from the daily newspapers.

They do not, for example, support the hysteria for labor legislation this year at all costs, a hysteria carefully spread around Washington by employers, a hysteria fanned by editorial writers and columnists for most of the commercial press, a hysteria echoed by many politicians.

We cannot agree that any legislation is better than none at all. We cannot agree that the situation is so bad that the labor movement should be poured down the drain to get at the small minority of crooks.

—The Machinist

HELP BUILD YOUR UNION



ATTEND YOUR UNION MEETINGS!