

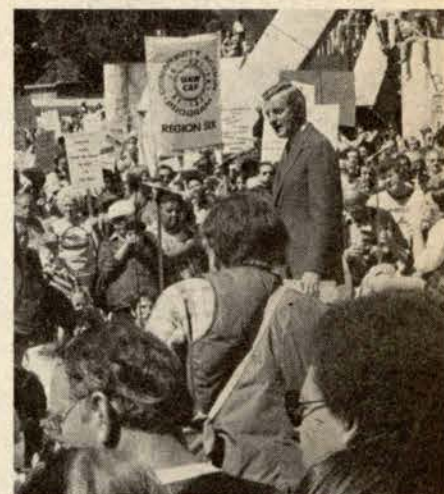
UTILITY REPORTER

OFFICIAL VOICE OF IBEW LOCAL UNION 1245 AFL-CIO

Big turnouts for Solidarity Day as workers protest Reagan's policies

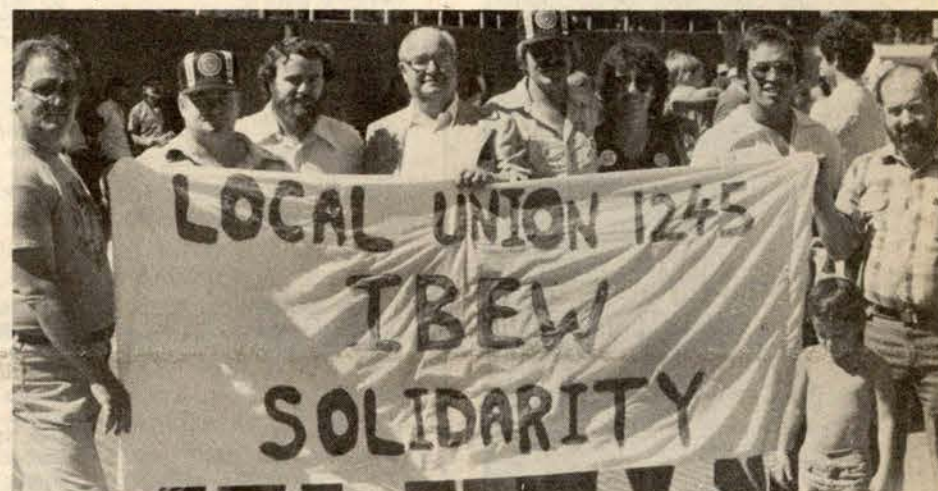


San Francisco Capacity Crowd.



Above: Former Vice President Mondale

Below: proud Local 1245 banner bearers.



SOLIDARITY DAY, SEPT. 19, 1981—IBEW Local 1245 members were among the millions of trade unionists nationally voicing strong opposition to the oppressive governmental policies coming out of Washington, D.C. While nearly a quarter million protesters marched on the national Capitol, Local 1245 participated in major demonstrations throughout the jurisdiction,

and thousands of other demonstrations were held across the country. In an interview with CBS-TV news reporters at the San Francisco rally, Business Manager Jack McNally underscored labor's unity when he told the media of Unionists' determination, "not to role over and play dead, but to continue to fight for the rights of the working men and women in the United States."

Local 1245 speaks out on PCB's

IBEW Local 1245 is preparing for an upcoming evening public hearing on PCBs, 7-10 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 29, at the State Building in San Francisco, 350 McAllister Street.

Previously, comments on the proposed PCB standard from IBEW Local 1245, other unions, and employers were presented to the California Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board on August 27 in a public hearing in San Diego.

At the August hearing, management representatives continued to protest the need for the new PCB standard, which is being proposed by the State as a result of Local 1245's petition in April 1980.

Standards Board member Edward Ashton expressed support for this protest and asked management representatives to be more explicit about

See pack page

Accident claims member Jim Muir, G.C. Painter

In an unfortunate accident on August 31, Local 1245 member Jim Muir, 27, was fatally injured when he contacted a hot voltage regulator on the job at PG&E's Substation J in Oakland.

Muir, a Painter with General Construction was working on a crew assigned to paint regulators. After climbing 15 feet up the structure, he appeared to lose his balance and swing out. A metal paint

bucket, which was attached to his safety belt, then touched an energized 12 kV conductor.

He fell to the ground where emergency CPR was immediately administered by co-workers Calvin Mahaney, Painter, and Sam McDaniels, Electrician.

Muir was rushed to Oakland Hospital where he was pronounced dead on arrival. He had been a member of 1245 for two years.

Upon notification of the accident, Local 1245's Business Representative Ron Fitzsimmons and Joel Ellioff immediately launched an investigation into the fatality. At press time a closing conference with Cal-OSHA to determine causes and ways to avoid any recurrence of such an accident was pending. No citations have yet been issued.

Muir, single, is survived by his parents and a brother.

**EVENING
PCB PUBLIC HEARING
Thursday, October 29, 1981
7-10 PM**

State Building
350 McAllister,
San Francisco

SMUD

Union wins arbitration

Arbitrator Adolph Koven recently upheld the Union's position concerning overtime meals at the Sacramento Municipal Utilities District.

The arbitration grew out of a complaint from bargaining unit foremen who had been denied meal allowances when they'd been required to work 1 hour and 25 minutes overtime.

Under the SMUD Agreement and Standard Procedures the overtime was computed to the nearest 15 minute increment—thus totaling 1½ hours.

The Agreement provides that meals and 45 minute meal periods be paid when employees work 1½ hours beyond their regular or special schedule.

Koven agreed that the overtime computation section of the Agreement had to be read along with the overtime meal provision.

The employees have subsequently received the meal allowance.



Nevada Legislators — for your reference

Utility Reporter

VOLUME XXIV NUMBER 9

Circulation: 24,000

(415) 933-6060

Business Manager
& Executive Editor

JACK McNALLY

Managing Editor

CAROL BEDSOLE

Executive Board

Howard Stiefer

Nannette Dominguez

Jay Burton

William Peitz

Charles Kasper

Barbara Symons

Kathy Tindall

Ray Friend

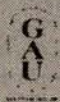
Published monthly at 3063
Citrus Circle, Walnut Creek,
California 94598. Official
publication of Local Union 1245,
International Brotherhood of
Electrical Workers, AFL-CIO.
P.O. Box 4790, Walnut Creek,
CA 94596

Second Class postage paid at
Walnut Creek and at additional
mailing offices. USPS No.
654640. ISSN No. 0190-4965.

POSTMASTER: Please send
Form 3579. Change of Address,
and all correspondence to
Utility Reporter, P.O. Box 4790,
Walnut Creek, CA 94596.



WIPA



CREDITS

Contributing Writer, Researcher:
Jean Fudem, Communications
Intern

Governor Robert List

State Capitol Building, Executive Chamber
Carson City, Nevada 89710 Phone: (702) 885-5670

Lt. Governor Myron Leavitt

2501 East Sahara, Mail Room Complex
Los Vegas, Nevada 89104 Phone: (702) 385-5244

1981 SESSION

SENATE

Name and Party	District	Mailing Address	
*Don W. Ashworth (D)	Clark, No. 3	300 S. 4th Street, Suite 700, Las Vegas, Nevada	89101
Keith Ashworth (D)	Clark, No. 3	P. O. Box 7548, Las Vegas, Nevada	89101
James H. Bilbray (D)	Clark, No. 3	428 S. 4th St., Las Vegas, Nevada	89101
Richard E. Blakemore (D)	Central Nevada Senatorial District	P.O. Box 672, Tonopah, Nevada	89049
*Melvin D. Close, Jr. (D)	Clark, No. 3	300 S. 4th Street, Suite 700, Las Vegas, Nevada	89101
*Gene Echols (D)	Clark, No. 2	P.O. Box 4438, North Las Vegas, Nevada	89030
Wilbur Faiss (D)	Clark, No. 2	1869 Renada Circle, North Las Vegas, Nevada	89030
*Jean Ford (D)	Clark, No. 3	3511 Pueblo Way, Las Vegas, Nevada	89109
*Virgil M. Getto (R)	Western Nevada Senatorial District	1400 Lovelock Highway, Fallon, Nevada	89406
*James I. Gibson (D)	Clark, No. 1	806 Park Lane, Henderson, Nevada	89015
Norman D. Glaser (D)	Northern Nevada Senatorial District	Box 1, Halleck, Nevada	89824
William H. Herstadt (D)	Clark, No. 3	3111 Bel Air Drive, Apt. 25G, Las Vegas, Nevada	89109
*Lawrence E. Jacobsen (R)	Capitol Senatorial District	P.O. Box 367, Minden, Nevada	89423
*James N. Kosinski (D)	Washoe, No. 2	P.O. Box 1129, Reno, Nevada	89504
Floyd R. Lamb (D)	Clark, No. 3	P.O. Box 18415, Las Vegas, Nevada	89114
*Clifford E. McCorkle (R)	Washoe, No. 1	2782 Lakeridge Shores E. Reno, Nevada	89502
Joe Neal (D)	Clark, No. 4	304 Lance Avenue, North Las Vegas, Nevada	89030
William J. Raggio (R)	Washoe, No. 1	P.O. Box 3137, Reno, Nevada	89505
Sue Wagner (R)	Washoe, No. 1	845 Tamarack Drive, Reno, Nevada	89509
*Thomas R. C. Wilson (D)	Washoe, No. 1	P.O. Box 2670, Reno, Nevada	89505

*Term expires November 1982

ASSEMBLY

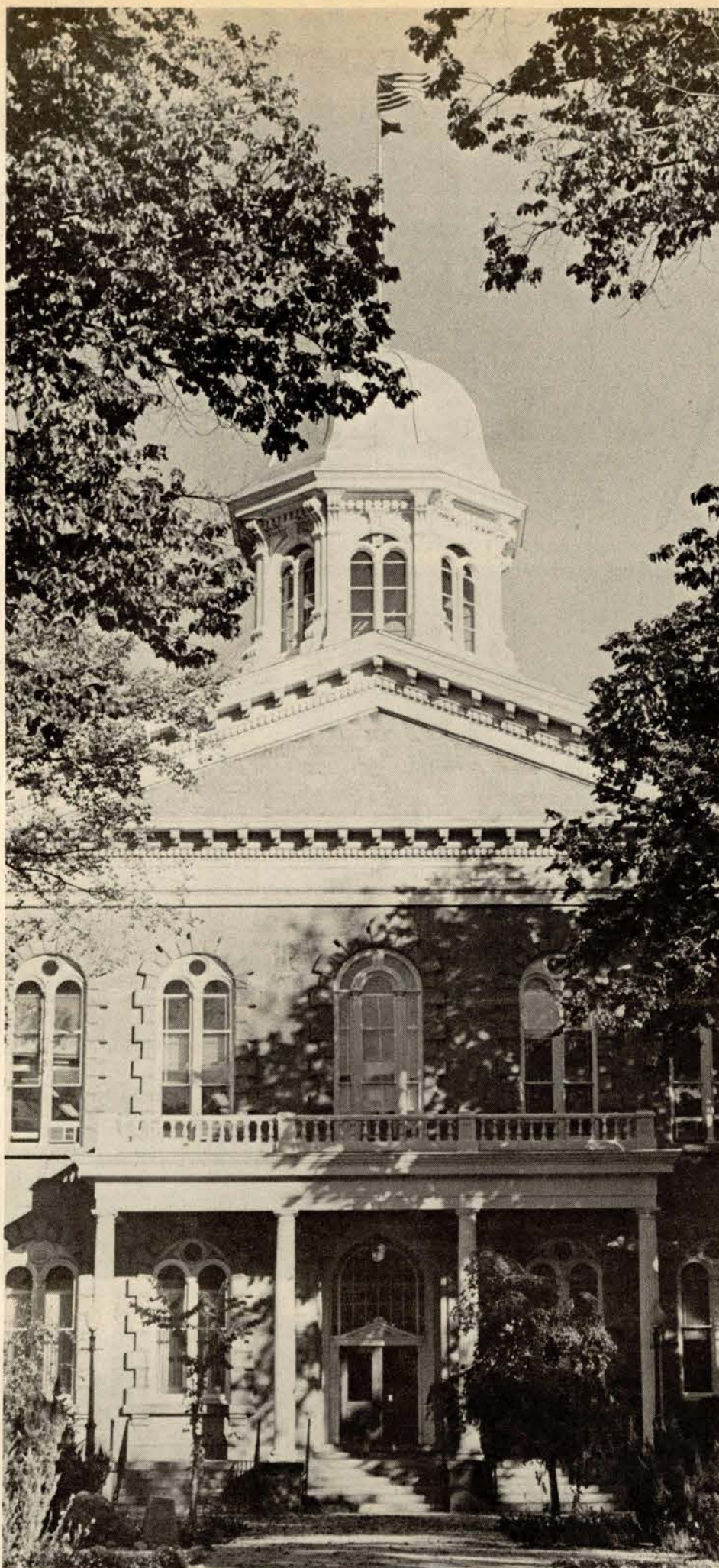
Name and Party	District	Mailing Address	
James J. Banner (D)	Clark, No. 11	2223 Poplar Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89101
Robert R. Barengo (D)	Washoe, No. 29	P.O. Box 1074, Reno, Nevada	89504
Marion D. Bennett (D)	Clark, No. 6	1911 Goldhill Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89106
Louis W. Bergevin (R)	Douglas, Carson City (Part) No. 39	P.O. Box 188, Gardnerville, Nevada	89410
Erik Beyer (R)	Washoe, No. 24	1274 St. Alberts Street, Reno, Nevada	89503
Bill D. Brady (R)	Clark, No. 5	6480 Darby Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89102
Roger Bremner (D)	Clark, No. 3	821 Fairway Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada	89107
Patty D. Cafferata (R)	Washoe, No. 25	205 Urban Road, Reno, Nevada	89509
Lonie Chaney (D)	Clark, No. 7	504 Kasper Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89106
Steven A. Coulter (D)	Washoe, No. 27	P.O. Box 13877, Reno, Nevada	89507
Robert G. Craddock (D)	Clark, No. 20	6090 E. Lake Mead Boulevard, Las Vegas, Nevada	89110
Joseph E. Dini, Jr. (D)	Lyon, Storey, Churchill (Part) No. 38	104 N. Mountain View, Yerington, Nevada	89447
John B. DuBois (R)	Clark, No. 2	2047 Westwind Road, Las Vegas, Nevada	89102
Helen A. Foley (D)	Clark, No. 9	1801 S. 15th Street, Las Vegas, Nevada	89104
Alan Glover (D)	Carson City (Part) No. 40	230 S. Iris Street, Carson City, Nevada	89701
Jane F. Ham (R)	Clark, No. 16	6637 Surrey Street, Las Vegas, Nevada	89119
Karen W. Hayes (D)	Clark, No. 13	6010 Euclid Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89120
Thomas J. Hickey (D)	Clark, No. 18	805 Glendale Avenue, North Las Vegas, Nevada	89030
Nicholas J. Horn (D)	Clark, No. 15	2543 Boise Street, Las Vegas, Nevada	89121
John (Jack) E. Jeffrey (D)	Clark, No. 22	340 E. Chaparral Drive, Henderson, Nevada	89015
Edward J. Kovacs (D)	Clark, No. 1	5820 Velma Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89108
Mike Malone (R)	Clark, No. 4	508 Estella Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89107
John W. Marvel (R)	Eureka, Humboldt, Lander, Carlin Township, No. 34	P.O. Box 432, Battle Mountain, Nevada	89820
Paul W. May (D)	Clark, No. 19	3309 Wright Avenue, North Las Vegas, Nevada	89030
Donald R. Mello (D)	Washoe, No. 30	2590 Oppio Street, Sparks, Nevada	89431
David D. Nicholas (R)	Washoe, No. 23	P.O. Box 5319, Incline Village, Nevada	89450
John M. Polish (D)	Lincoln, White Pine, No. 35	675 Murry Street, Ely, Nevada	89301
Paul Prensaman (R)	Washoe, No. 26	1510 Model Way, Reno, Nevada	89502
Robert E. Price (D)	Clark, No. 17	1809 Renada Circle, North Las Vegas, Nevada	89030
Ira V. Rackley (R)	Pershing County, Part of Churchill County, No. 37	P.O. Box 634, Lovelock, Nevada	89419
Kenneth K. Redelsperger (R)	Esmeralda, Mineral, Nye, No. 36	Star Route Box 6616, Pahrump, Nevada	89041
Dean Rhoads (R)	Elko, Less Carlin Township, No. 33	Tuscarora, Nevada	89834
Robert E. Robinson (D)	Clark, No. 8	3000 W. Charleston, Suite 5, Las Vegas, Nevada	89102
Robert F. Rusk (R)	Washoe, No. 28	1338 Jones Street, Reno, Nevada	89503
Robert M. Sader (D)	Washoe, No. 32	462 Court Street, Reno, Nevada	89501
James W. Schofield (D)	Clark, No. 12	1740 Howard Avenue, Las Vegas, Nevada	89104
Janson F. Stewart (D)	Clark, No. 14	400 E. Stewart, Suite 906, Las Vegas, Nevada	89101
Danny L. Thompson (D)	Clark, No. 21	226 Navajo Drive, Henderson, Nevada	89015
John M. Vergiels (D)	Clark, No. 10	3555 Algonquin Drive, Las Vegas, Nevada	89109
Peggy Westall (D)	Washoe, No. 31	211 Galleron Way, Sparks, Nevada	89431

The federal representatives for the state of Nevada are as follows:

U.S. Senator Howard W. Cannon (D)
259 Old Senate Office Bldg.
Washington D.C. 20510

U.S. Senator Paul Laxalt (R)
326 Russell Office Bldg.
Washington D.C. 20510

U.S. Congressman James Santini (D)
U.S. House of Representatives
2429 Rayburn House Office Bldg.
Washington D.C. 20515



Nevada Capitol Building Carson City, Nevada

Photo: C.J. Hadley

The Nevada legislature has 60 members, 40 in the assembly and 20 in the senate. No U.S. state bicameral legislature is smaller. Alaska's is the same size. Nebraska's unicameral legislature has 49 members.

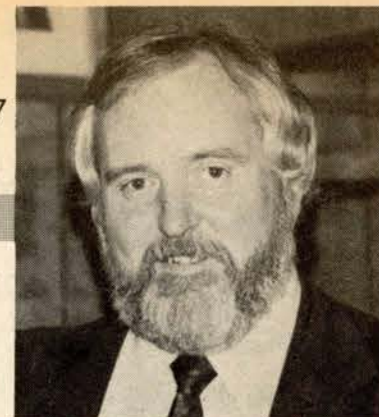
The Nevada constitution sets the maximum size of the legislature at 75. It further stipulates that the senate may not be less than one-third nor more than one-half the

size of the assembly. All legislative districts are based on equal population. Based on the 1970 Census, each assemblyman represents about 12,280 people with senators representing twice that number in single-member districts. If the size of the legislature is maintained in the 1981 reapportionment, the average assembly and senate districts will be about 20,000 and 40,000 respectively.

POINT OF VIEW

By Jack McNally

IBEW 1245 Business Manager



Need for government of the people... not above the people

As we enter the last quarter of 1981, the economic scene does not look very bright, and the outlook for Labor is dim. The inflation rate is still high, interest rates are even higher, the unemployment rate is beginning to rise, and the regulatory bodies governing most of our employers continue to tighten the screws down.

The new administration in Washington thinks the answer to the country's economic ills is to stab the workers, the poor, and the senior citizens by cutting programs that will take away what measure of human rights, dignity, and social justice they now enjoy.

This new administration has quickly demonstrated its attitude toward a union that strikes by firing all the workers, jailing the leaders, and decertifying the union.

In the last 50 years the labor movement has worked hard to improve the quality of the workplace and the quality of life. This new administration would like to wipe most of it out.

A little closer to home, high interest rates and permit delays have caused employers to cut back on capital expansion, just as these problems have caused developers to almost stop building new homes. This affects our members, as many jobs rely on new construction. The regulatory commissions have cut rate increase requests by the utilities, which puts the companies in financial binds and this too ultimately affects our members.

Over 240,000 workers marched on the Capitol in Washington, D.C., along with over 20,000 workers attending rallies in California cities on September 19, Solidarity Day, to demonstrate a massive expression of opposition to the Reagan Administration cuts and to prove to the Congress and the Administration their strong commitment to social and economic justice. The Congress has to be told that they cannot lie back and allow the destruction of people programs.

The Congress is supposed to be representative of people, and if the members of Congress do not listen, and respond, they should be replaced.

Solidarity Day has demonstrated unity...and despite the Reagan Administration's lack of public response to such a show of strength; it is clear there is a growing force that will have to be reckoned with.

Jack McNally

Member alert

Correction: August Utility Reporter article "Pole Ban On" should have read: "...IBEW has called for a complete ban on pine pole climbing throughout the system to insure safety to members."

To avoid any misunderstanding, there is a total ban on climbing "Carney" pine poles only.

Geysers

'Dream come true'

The combined efforts of many IBEW Local 1245 members paid off with the recent establishment of a much-needed, 24-hour emergency medical facility at PG&E's geothermal Geysers Power Plant.

Gaining this essential safety protection has been described as "a dream come true" by those who've struggled to promote the need for the around-the-clock emergency service.

A fully equipped ambulance is now on site at the new emergency facility which is professionally staffed by Paramedics from Brown's Ambulance Company, Santa Rosa.

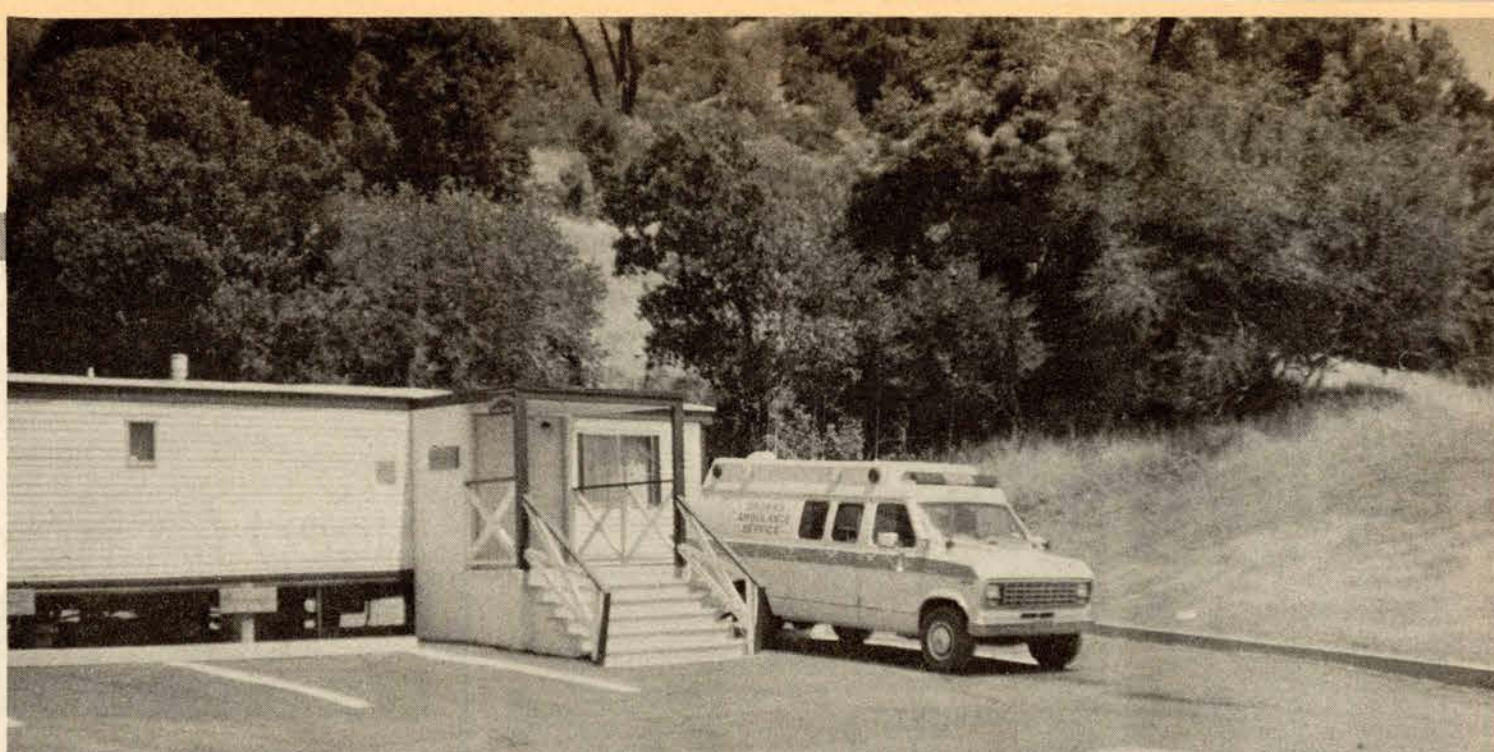
Through the Union's efforts and the work of dedicated members, workers at the Geysers now have access to treatment in a matter of minutes in the event of a serious accident – an important safety factor since the Geysers is located in remote, rugged terrain outside Healdsburg, with the nearest hospital at least 45 minutes away, down narrow, winding mountain roads.

Among those working to develop the emergency facility were: Shop Stewards Jim Findley, Ken Williams, Wally Jones, and Frank Knowlton; along with members of the North Bay Division Joint Grievance Committee; Ocean, Utility Clerk, Customer Services Department, Santa Rosa; Harold Walker, Travelling Certified Welder, Steam Generation Department, Geysers; Al Simontacchi, Lineman, Electric T&D Department, Sonoma; and Marshall Proschold, Line Sub-Foreman, Electric T&D Department, Santa Rosa.

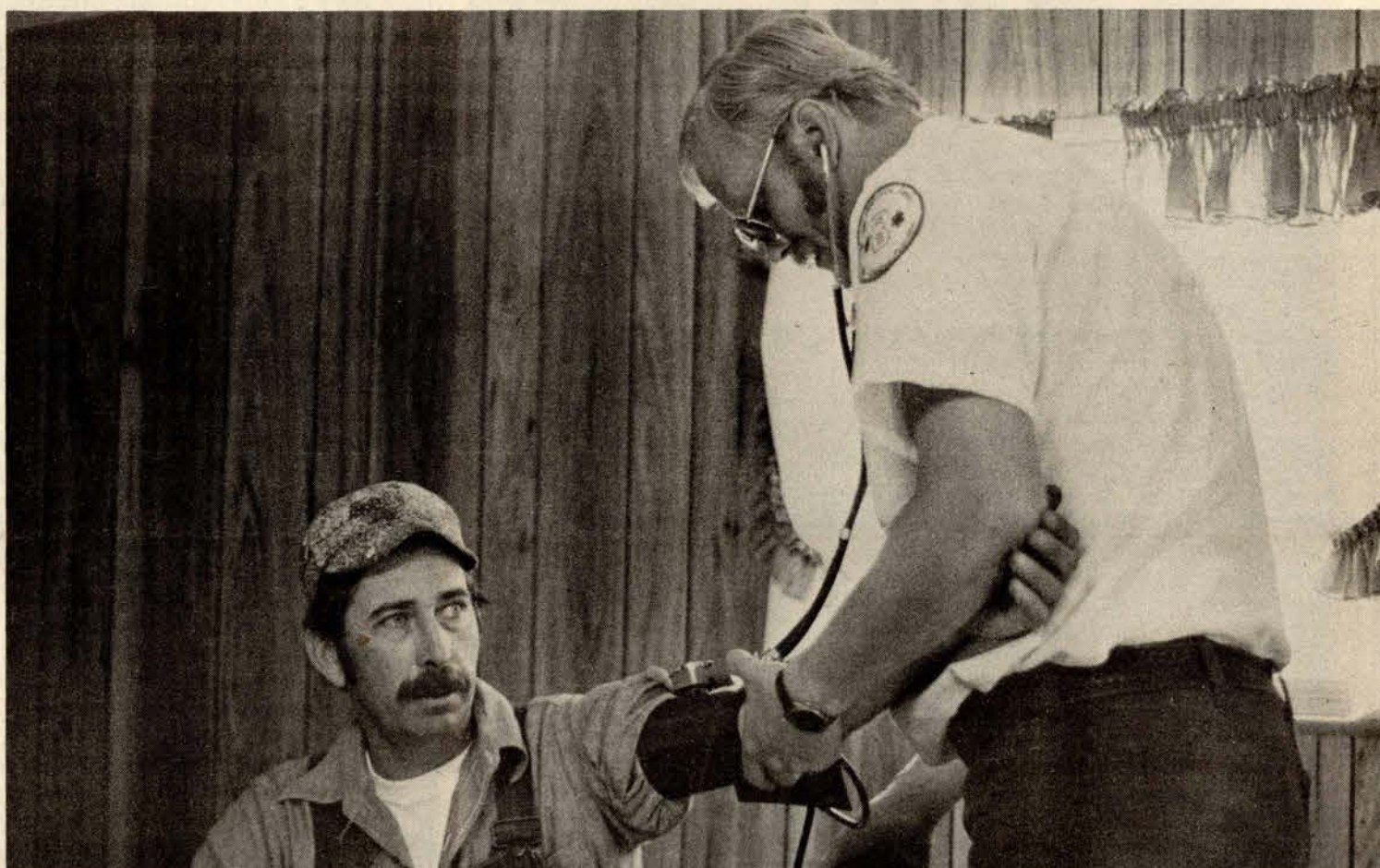
Other members who contributed their time were: General Construction Grievance Committee members Jan McCracken, Don McKinley and Greg Valley.

Staff members who were active in helping to bring the emergency medical facility to the Geysers included Business Representatives Joel Ellioff, Frank Hutchins, Ron Van Dyke, and Gene Wallace.

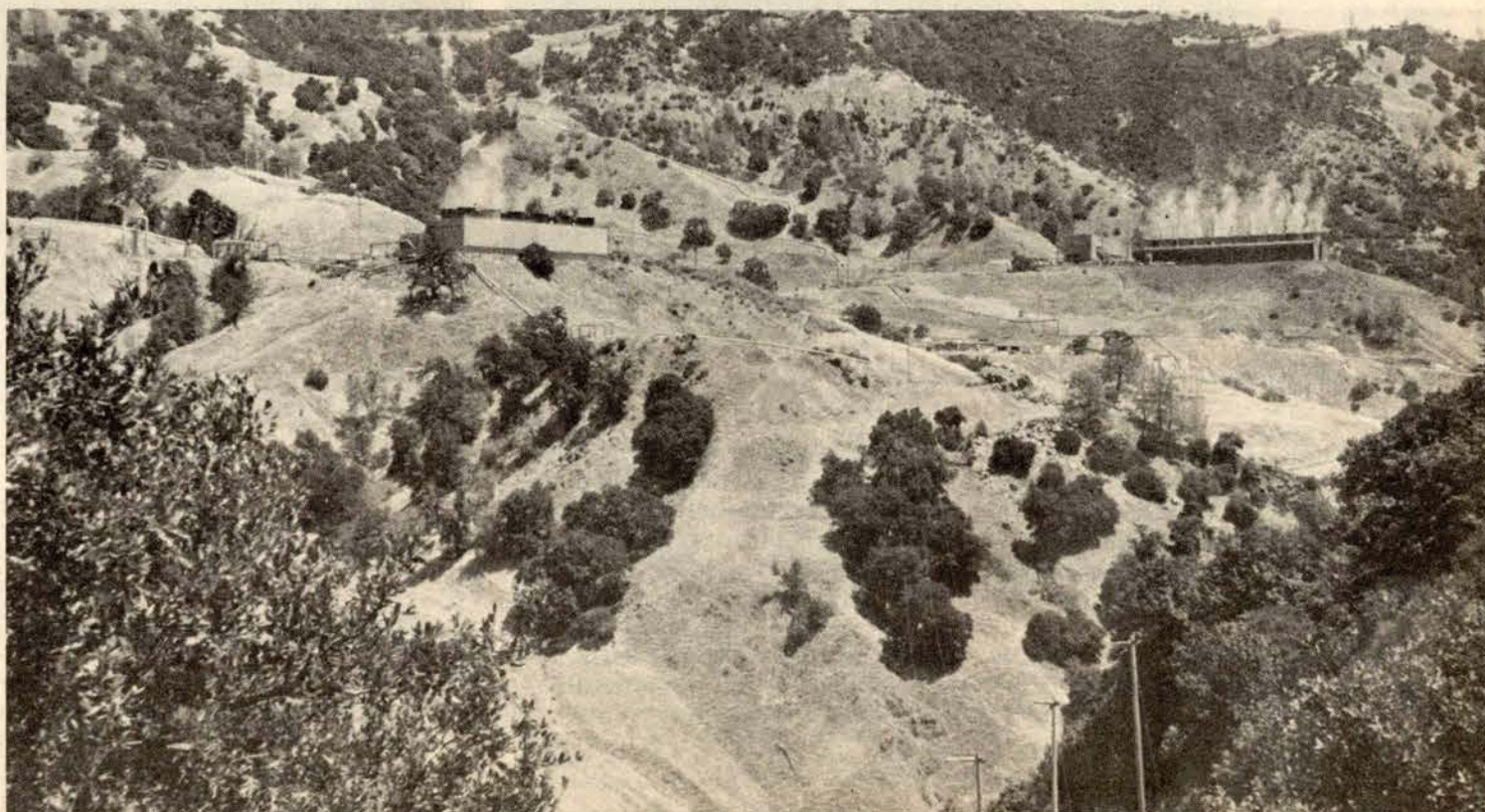
In recognizing the importance of the new emergency service Business Manager Jack McNally praised the efforts of the many members who saw the need, and worked to achieve the 24-hour medical protection for all the workers at the Geysers.



Emergency Medical facility and ambulance.



Paramedic Wayne Pritchard takes Shop Steward Harold Walker's blood pressure.



Geysers Geothermal power plant units are situated in remote mountainous area.

Members get new 'hospital' on site

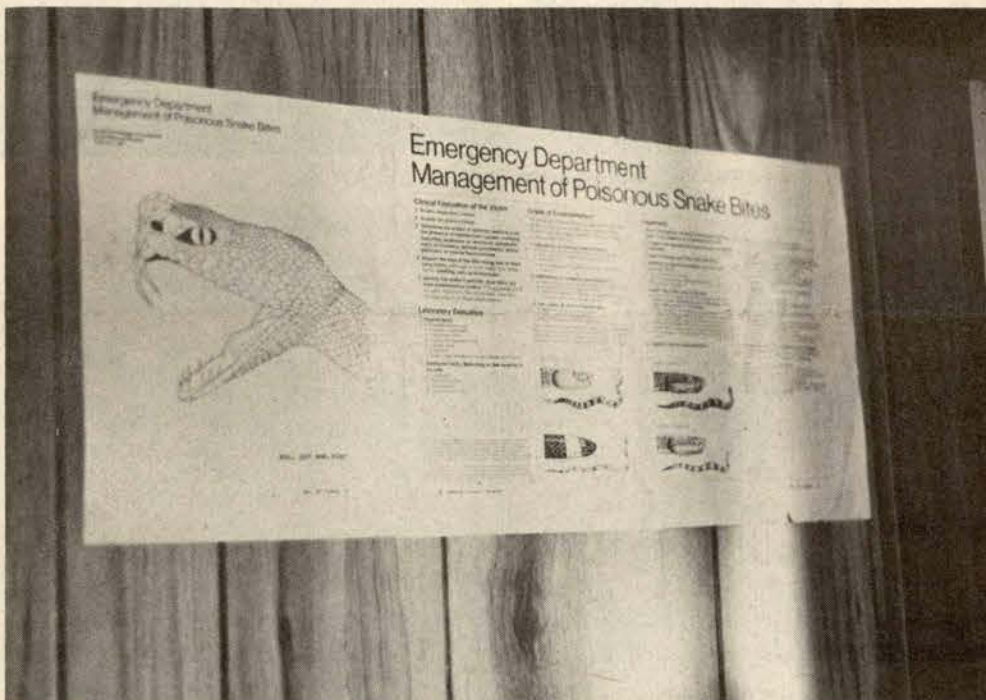
Photos: Jean Fudem, Carol Bedsole



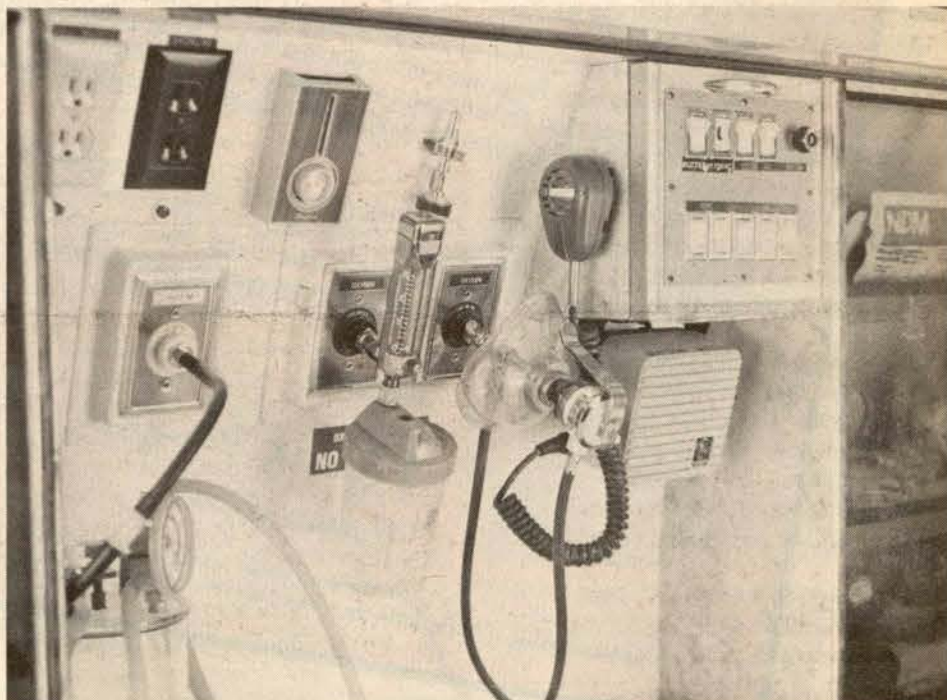
Sophisticated radio network allows instant communication through the area, and with local hospitals.



Ambulance is fully equipped with the latest in life-saving, life support systems.



Snakes are a major hazard in the hot dry hills during the summer.



Gauges permit constant monitoring of injured patients.



Business Representative Gene Wallace, right, learns about the ambulance equipment from paramedic Craig Swehla.



Among the hundreds of members at the Geysers who now have new emergency medical services available are, l-r, James Creed, Senior Field Clerk; Nannette Dominguez, Local 1245's Vice President; Dennis Potts, Field Clerk, G.C.; and Shop Steward John Gibbs.



Business Representative Frank Hutchins was among those responsible for the establishment of the emergency facility.

Letter from a presidential candidate-

October 20, 1980

Robert E. Poli, President
Professional Air Traffic Controllers
Organization
444 Capitol Street
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Poli:

I have been thoroughly briefed by members of my staff as to the deplorable state of our nation's air traffic control system. They have told me that too few people working unreasonable hours with obsolete equipment has placed the nation's air travellers in unwarranted danger. In an area so clearly related to public safety the Carter administration has failed to act responsibly.

You can rest assured that if I am elected President, I will take whatever steps are necessary to provide our air traffic controllers with the most modern equipment available and to adjust staff levels and work days so that they are commensurate with achieving a maximum degree of public safety.

As in all other areas of the federal government where the President has the power of appointment, I fully intend to appoint highly qualified individuals who can work harmoniously with the Congress and the employees of the government agencies they oversee.

I pledge to you that my administration will work very closely with you to bring about a spirit of cooperation between the President and the air traffic controllers. Such harmony can and must exist if we are to restore the people's confidence in their government.

Sincerely,

Ronald Reagan

RONALD REAGAN

901 South Highland Street, Arlington, Virginia 22204
Paid for by Reagan Bush Committee, United States Paul Laxalt, Chairman; Ray Buchanan, Treasurer.

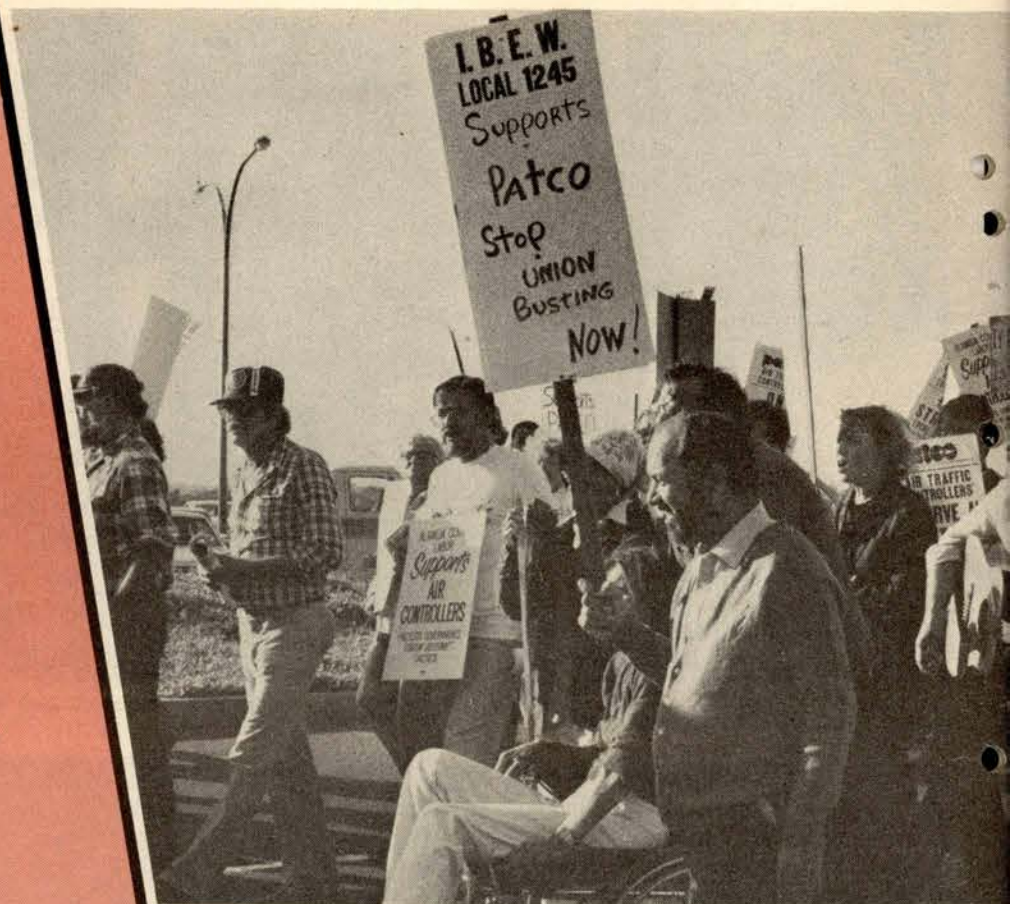
THE LETTER above was written by Presidential candidate Ronald Reagan on October 20, 1980 to Robert E. Poli, president of the Professional Controllers Organization.

PATCO's supporters protest at airport

IBEW Local 1245 members were among the hundreds of supporters that turned out in late August to picket airports throughout the state calling for an end to President Reagan's hard-line stance with the striking Air Traffic Controllers.

At the Oakland International Airport some 50 police officers managed crowd control.

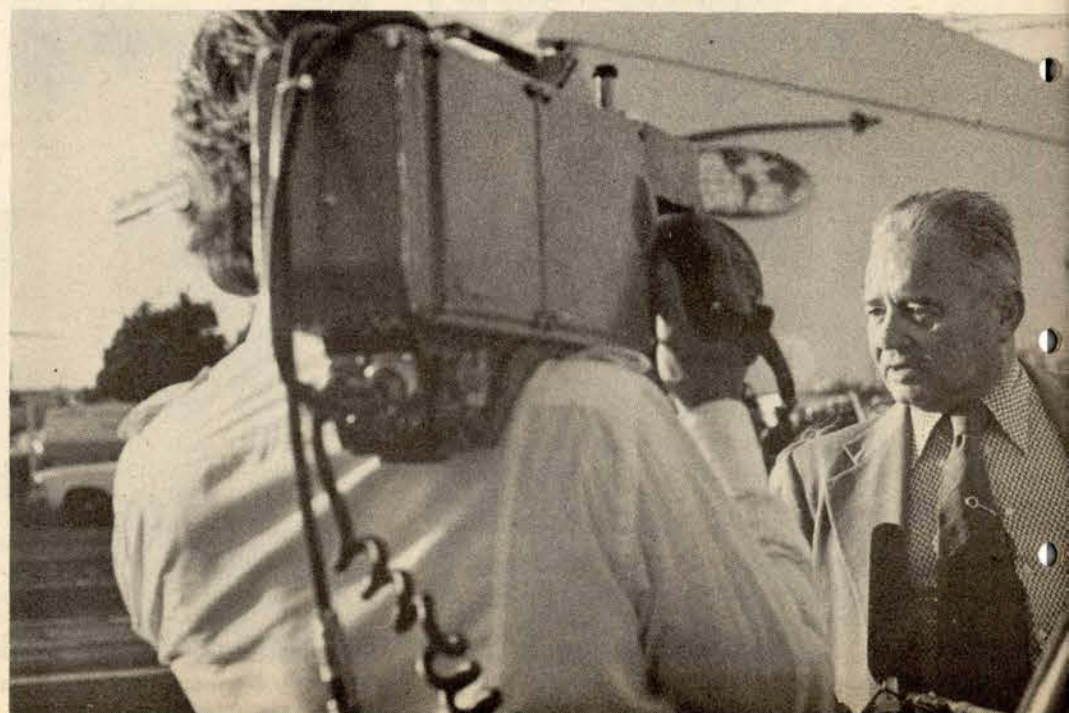
Local 1245 has taken a position of support for the striking Air Traffic Controllers.



IBEW 1245 marched in support of PATCO.



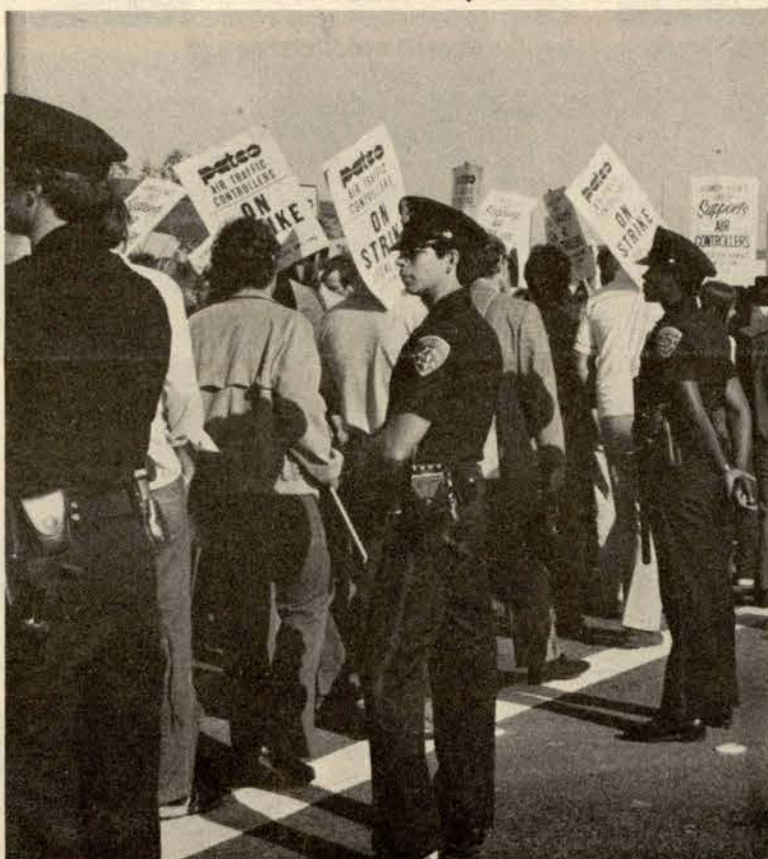
At least 50 Oakland Motorcycle Police Officers patrolled the area.



Dick Groulx, Executive Secretary Alameda County Central Labor Council spoke to media on



Hundreds blocked traffic at Oakland Airport entrance.



Chanting picketers scored President Reagan.



Traffic was backed up for a mile around airport.

Safety concern leads to company citation

By Juliann Sum,
Industrial Hygienist

A Cal/OSHA compliance officer was called in by IBEW Local 1245 to obtain relief for members employed by Citizens Utility Company at Elk Grove who mix and pour dangerous substances that form hardened polyurethane materials used to encapsulate splices.

Severe skin reactions and asthma-like symptoms caused by exposures to the isocyanates triggered the complaint to the State, after unsuccessful discussions with management and with Cal/OSHA Consultation Service. The Consultation Service is a branch of the Division of Occupational Safety and Health offering evaluations to employers without penalty.

Isocyanates cause skin and respiratory irritation and may cause asthma-like symptoms in 5 to 20 percent of the general working population. Lung reactions from isocyanate exposures have led to death in extreme cases.

Due to the potency of extremely small amounts of isocyanates for sensitized individuals, environmental monitoring of potentially harmful air concentrations is very difficult, therefore hindering adequate regulation by governmental agencies.

One manufacturer of these isocyanate products, Communications Technology Corporation, refused to provide Local 1245 specific information on the chemical constitu-

ency of the products, claiming trade secrecy.

After a surprise inspection, the Cal/OSHA compliance officer in July cited Citizens for lack of adequate training regarding hazards and handling of isocyanates and issued an information memorandum on respiratory protection. Shop Steward Joe Aquilio provided the compliance officer signatures from 10 employees defending the citation after the Company called for a meeting with the compliance officer to seek to have the citation retracted or modified.

If Citizens appeals this citation, Cal/OSHA officials will need further testimony from the affected employees in order to have the citation upheld in the appeals procedure.



IBEW Local 1245 Shop Stewards Joe Aquilio, center, John Beck, left and Dave Mason, right.

Committee's survey recapped

By Bob Daniels, Member Health
and Safety Committee

Ever get caught up in a family argument the minute you walk in the door after work?

Chances are that stress may prove an active ingredient in such an instance as well as in many other areas of life...at home and at work.

Recognition of stress as a factor in the job setting has lead increasingly to development of programs where techniques to cope with stress are taught.

During the past few months Local 1245's Health and Safety Committee has met several times with Aaron Back from the Institute for Labor and Mental Health. Back wrote two articles for the *Utility Reporter* outlining how to spot, and deal with stress.

Response to his articles from the membership further prompted the Committee to pursue ways to develop possible workshops dealing

with stress for members.

Initially inquiries were sent to Unit Health and Safety Committees to help prioritize areas of concern including stress and other potential health and safety problems throughout the jurisdiction. Surveyed among members were these items:

- Proper Lighting
- Muscular/Nerve Injuries
- Pesticides
- Noise Control
- Hazardous Chemicals/Materials
- Radiation/Microwave
- Stress
- Proper Safety Training
- Lobbying for Safety/Health Laws
- Video Display Terminals
- Worker Rights on Health/Safety

The Local's Health and Safety Committee will review the responses from the Units and begin considering ways to best help the membership deal with these issues.

Taking care of business at recent Advisory Council meeting ...

Photos: Carol Bedsole



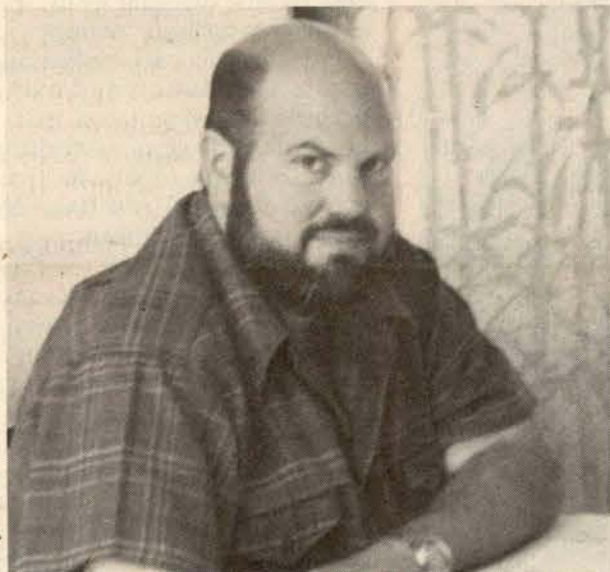
Local 1245 President Howard Stiefer, right, swears in new Advisory Council member Dee James Steadman.



L-r, Jim Russell and Christine Lay.



Ed Myall



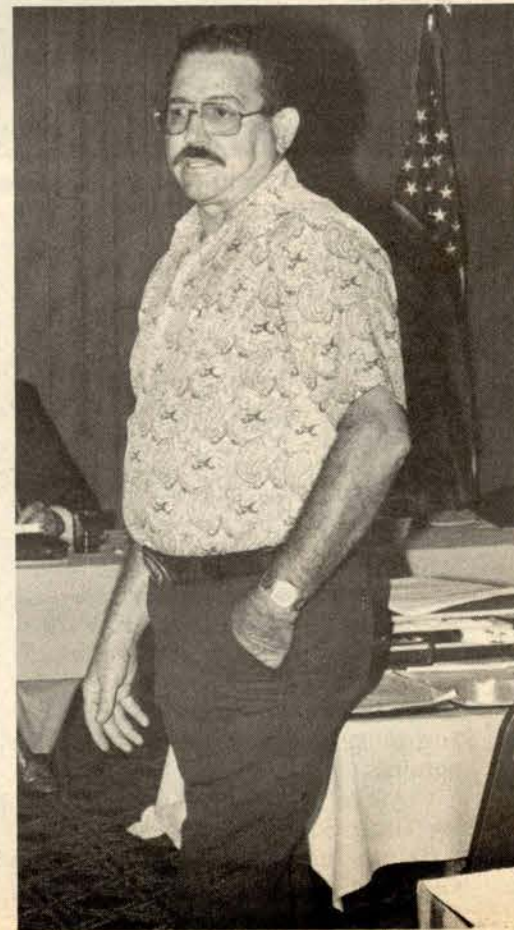
Maurice Marcillac



L-r, Mark Wheeler and Ernie Jones



L-r, Jim Contrestand, Robert Woods and Jim Mitchell.



Duane Bartlow

Next Advisory Council

The next Advisory Council will be held on Saturday, November 14 and Sunday, November 15, beginning at 9 a.m. in Sacramento at the Marina Inn.

The Marina Inn is officially located in Broderick, on the west bank of the Sacramento River across from Old Town, Old Sacramento. To get there heading north on I-5, take the Q street exit, and heading south on I-5, take the J street exit.

Local 1245 scholarship awarded for top essay



Karen Johnson, center, accepts award for her sister's winning essay in Local 1245 competition from California Labor Federation's president Albin Gruhn at recent Advisory Council presentation. Mr. and Mrs. Mel Johnson, left, parents of the winning essayist, Marie Johnson—proudly look on along with IBEW 1245's Business Manager, Jack McNally, far right.



Marie Johnson, the winner.

Winner's father reads letter of appreciation

Unable to receive her award in person due to a prior commitment, Marie Johnson sent along this appreciative acceptance speech which her father, Mel, a Line Subforeman from Los Banos delivered to the assembled Advisory Council where the scholarship was presented.

"I am very happy to accept this scholarship award for the essay I wrote on the role of labor in the political process.

"My career choices include being a registered nurse or a Veterinarian. Being an R.N. is my favored choice because I would like to be involved in the unionization of the nursing profession.

"The field of nuclear medicine is especially interesting to me and I plan on specializing in it in school.

"Again, I would like to thank IBEW Local 1245 for your generous interest in the education of its members' children."

Marie, a graduate of Los Banos High School, will be receiving \$500 annually from Local 1245 for four years to help finance her college career goals.

Her winning essay "Labor's Role in the Political Process," judged by California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, president Albin J. Gruhn is printed here.

Political activity—key priority

by Marie Johnson,
Graduate Los Banos High School

The role of labor in the political process has become one of the most important economic forces in the world. It is a role which organized labor has fought for for more than 100 years. From the beginning, political activity has been a key priority for labor.

The goals of labor have changed little over the years. Labor tries to get workers the highest wages possible and to shorten the hours worked. The unions try to achieve improved working conditions, and cooperate with employers on safety programs in mines, factories...

Labor looks after the welfare of its members...while they are active and continues after they retire...with old-age pensions and other benefits. In order to achieve these goals, labor actively promotes legislation that will ensure these basic rights to working people and their families.

This year, the American labor movement is celebrating its centennial. In 1881, Samuel Gompers and Adolf Strasser formed the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions. It reorganized in

1886 as the American Federation of Labor (AFL). The AFL was the first national association of craft unions to represent the practical economic interests of its members. In 1938, the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) was formed, organizing workers in the mass-production industries. In 1955, the organizations merged, forming the AFL-CIO. Labor became stronger than ever. Union demands for reforms led to many important advances for labor.

Some of the most important laws dealing with labor include the Wagner Act, which guarantees the rights of workers to organize unions, to bargain with employers, and to choose their bargaining representatives.

The Wagner Act also defines a number of unfair labor practices, including penalizing workers for belonging to unions, interfering in the administration of a union by employers and giving money to a union by employers. The Act was amended in 1959 and is referred to as the Taft-Hartley Act.

The Wages and Hours Act defined minimum wages, overtime, and child labor standards for interstate

commerce. The Norris-La Guardia Act prohibited certain kinds of injunctions against unions. Another major piece of legislation pushed through Congress in the Federal Equal Pay Act, requiring employers to pay equal wages to men and women if they perform the same duties.

In the country of Poland, an independent union has just been formed for the first time in a Communist-controlled country. The union's leader, Lech Walensa, is in constant contact with Poland's political leaders to bring about peaceful change. The workers of Poland have united for a common cause. The role of labor in the political process is expanding everywhere.

Because unions are democratic, they offer the worker a voice in his craft or industry. Active political involvement is as essential to the growth and strength of the national labor movement as it is to democracy itself. Labor is the voice of the working people. Through the political process and through organized labor, workers will continue to make their voices heard in the future.

Trade school winners announced at meeting

Winners of the IBEW Local 1245 Trade and Vocational School Grant are Coyle Dean Cofer Jr., 18, of Concord; and Theresa Anne Slayton, 18, of Sonora. Both will receive \$250 annually for two years for attending technical, industrial or trade schools.

Coyle, a graduate of Clayton Valley High School, will be attending Arizona Automotive Institute, in Glendale, Arizona, to begin studying for a career in Automotive

Mechanics. His parents are Dean and Susan Cofer of Concord.

Theresa, a recent graduate of Sonora Union High School, is the daughter of Local 1245 member Louie Slayton and his wife Marian. He is employed by Water and Power Resources Service at New Melones. Theresa will attend Heald Business College in Sacramento, California, and plans a career as a legal secretary.



Bill Peitz, Executive Board member, right, escorts Dorothy Gruhn, center, and California Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO's President Albin Gruhn to podium prior to award's presentation.

APPOINTMENTS

PG&E

Water Department Committee
Joe Robinson (Stockton Division)
Bob Richerson (San Joaquin Division)
Chuck Cotten (Shasta Division)

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS

Kern-Inyo-Mono Counties
Dan W. Morey

CONFERENCES AND CONVENTIONS

California Labor Federation—Problems of the Aging

Jack McNally
Bill Peitz
Barbara Symons
Ron Weakley

California Labor Federation—Women-in-the-Work-Force

Nannette Dominguez
Barbara Symons
Ocean
Kathy Tindall
Carol Bedsole
Dorothy Fortier
Pat Rutherford
Sam Tamimi
Roger Stalcup

IBEW Ninth District Progress Meeting

Jack McNally
Howard Stiefer
Bill Peitz
Corb Wheeler
Ken Ball

Affiliated Gas Workers Conference

Jack McNally
Manuel Mederos

American Prepaid Legal Services Institute Conference

Tom Dalzell

Coalition of Labor Union Women Convention

Carol Bedsole
Nannette Dominguez
Dorothy Fortier
Ocean
Louise Roche

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

If you have just moved, or are about to move, please complete this form to insure your continued receipt of all Union mail. Send completed form and your mailing label from the front page to:

UTILITY REPORTER
P.O. Box 4790
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596

Old label: _____

Name: _____

New Address: _____
(Street and Number)

(City and Zip Code)

Members vote to change Local dues structure

At the August Unit meetings the membership ratified a dues amendment which will provide a modest decrease in dues for most members.

There are four parts or areas to this dues amendment. (1) Dues for Outside Line members. (2) Minimum dues (dues for members not working in the jurisdiction). (3) Regular dues (dues for members working in the jurisdiction other than Outside Line). (4) Cancellation of Policy 27.

Policy 27, adopted by the Executive Board in December 1979, is where the Executive Board has established that dues not be increased when the International raised the per capita tax 50 cents per month in January 1980, and 50 cents per month in January 1981.

Each member would currently be paying \$1 more in dues were it not for this policy. The International Union has stated that the Local Union may pick up the increased per capita tax but that such procedure must be incorporated into the Bylaws and no longer operate under policy. Therefore, the policy will be cancelled.

The change in the dues schedule as provided in this amendment will reduce the dues rate by \$1.50

or \$2 per month depending on each member's wage rate and where it falls into the new brackets. In addition, the brackets will be changed from 50 cents for each \$50 to \$1 for each \$100.

This will have the effect of slowing down the rate of dues increase in the future, depending upon wage increases. However, to offset the effect of Policy 27, the actual dues decrease you see at this time will be 50 cents or \$1 depending upon where your wage rate falls.

The minimum dues (not working in the jurisdiction) will be increased to \$6 per month. Currently, the minimum dues rate should be \$5 per month. However, as a result of Policy 27, the Local Union is receiving only \$4 per month, of which the entire amount is paid to the International Union.

The working dues for the Outside Line Unit has been increased from 1 percent to 2 percent.

The International Union has approved this Bylaw amendment and all the employers are currently being notified of the change, so that the effective date will be November 1, 1981.

Below is the new monthly dues schedule.

LOCAL UNION 1245, I.B.E.W. DUES SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 1, 1981

Except as provided in footnotes 2 and 3, monthly dues shall be in the amounts related to a member's basic wage rate as provided by the following schedule:

Carried 2 Places No Rounding HOURLY ÷ 173.33	Carried 2 Places No Rounding WEEKLY ÷ 4.33	MONTHLY Given	"BA" DUES	"A" DUES
1. \$ 3.17 or less	\$127.02 or less	\$ 550.00 or less	\$ 6.00	\$17.30
2. 3.18 to 3.75	127.03 to 150.11	550.01 to 650.00	7.00	18.30
3. 3.76 to 4.32	150.12 to 173.21	650.01 to 750.00	8.00	19.30
4. 4.33 to 4.90	173.22 to 196.30	750.01 to 850.00	9.00	20.30
5. 4.91 to 5.48	196.31 to 219.39	850.01 to 950.00	10.00	21.30
6. 5.49 to 6.05	219.40 to 242.49	950.01 to 1050.00	11.00	22.30
7. 6.06 to 6.63	242.50 to 265.58	1050.01 to 1150.00	12.00	23.30
8. 6.64 to 7.21	265.59 to 288.68	1150.01 to 1250.00	13.00	24.30
9. 7.22 to 7.78	288.69 to 311.77	1250.01 to 1350.00	14.00	25.30
10. 7.79 to 8.36	311.78 to 334.87	1350.01 to 1450.00	15.00	26.30
11. 8.37 to 8.94	334.88 to 357.96	1450.01 to 1550.00	16.00	27.30
12. 8.95 to 9.51	357.97 to 381.06	1550.01 to 1650.00	17.00	28.30
13. 9.52 to 10.09	381.07 to 404.15	1650.01 to 1750.00	18.00	29.30
14. 10.10 to 10.67	404.16 to 427.25	1750.01 to 1850.00	19.00	30.30
15. 10.68 to 11.25	427.26 to 450.34	1850.01 to 1950.00	20.00	31.30
16. 11.26 to 11.82	450.35 to 473.44	1950.01 to 2050.00	21.00	32.30
17. 11.83 to 12.40	473.45 to 496.53	2050.01 to 2150.00	22.00	33.30
18. 12.41 to 12.98	496.54 to 519.63	2150.01 to 2250.00	23.00	34.30
19. 12.99 to 13.55	519.64 to 542.72	2250.01 to 2350.00	24.00	35.30
20. 13.56 to 14.13	542.73 to 565.81	2350.01 to 2450.00	25.00	36.30
21. 14.14 to 14.71	565.82 to 588.91	2450.01 to 2550.00	26.00	37.30
22. 14.72 to 15.28	588.92 to 612.00	2550.01 to 2650.00	27.00	38.30
23. 15.29 to 15.86	612.01 to 635.10	2650.01 to 2750.00	28.00	39.30
24. 15.87 to 16.44	635.11 to 658.19	2750.01 to 2850.00	29.00	40.30

1. Figures in wage brackets are inclusive.

2. "A" and "BA" members, Utility Division—To maintain continuous membership standing, members off work due to disability shall pay dues of \$6.00 per month for "BA" membership and \$17.30 per month for "A" membership, except when on paid sick leave, in which case the schedule shall apply as long as the sick leave payments are drawn. Payments made under Supplemental Industrial Disability or other disability programs are not considered as sick leave for purpose of the application of the above.

3. Outside Construction members shall pay \$16.30 basic dues, plus working dues of 2% of gross wages.

LETTERS OF AGREEMENT

PG&E Letter of Agreement activity updated:

- 81-45 Pending—Guideline update (Title 104—Meals). (Physical)
- 81-46 Pending—Workweek change: two classifications, Bill Processing Unit, General Office. (Clerical)
- 81-47 New qualifications test, Office Machine Repairman, General Office. (Clerical)
- 81-48 Seasonal hours change, King City Meter Readers; Coast Valleys Division. (Clerical)
- 81-49 Pay rate red circled, four former Senior Auxiliary Operators; San Francisco Division. (Physical)
- 81-50 Redesignation, Lead Building Mechanic, D.E.R. San Ramon, from East Bay Division to General Office. (Physical)
- 81-51 Cancelled/withdrawn.
- 81-52 Incorporates Arbitration Submission Agreement into Labor Agreements by reference. (Clerical and Physical)
- 81-53 Seasonal hours change, Gas T&D, M&C; Merced, San Joaquin Division. (Physical)
- 81-54 Pending—Establishes application of Relief Agreement, Building Services Department; General Office. (Physical)
- 81-55 Seasonal hours change, Meter Readers, Paso Robles; Coast Valleys Division. (Clerical)
- 81-56 Increases mileage allowance, personal autos for Company business; systemwide. (Clerical and Physical)
- 81-57 Seasonal hours change, Pipe Line Operations—Clerical, Antioch, Kettleman, Hinkley, Topock.
- 81-58 Operating Clerk to confidential employee; San Rafael, North Bay Division. (Clerical)
- 81-59 Wage rate increase adjustment, Service Mechanics. Classification deletion Service Subforeman, Gas Service Department; systemwide. (Physical)
- 81-60 Seasonal hours change, Gas T&D; Antioch, Concord, Walnut Creek, East Bay Division. (Physical)
- 81-61 Cancelled/withdrawn.
- 81-62 Service Meterman placement; Sacramento Division. (Physical)
- 81-63 Employee placement in Utilityman position; Building Department, General Office. (Physical)
- 81-64 Materialsman position established D.E.R.; San Ramon, General Office. (Physical)
- 81-65 Pending—Amendment to Section 600.13 Line Construction Department, General Construction. (Physical)
- 81-66 Seasonal hours change—Selma, Dinuba; San Joaquin Division. (Physical)
- 81-67 Non-recurring—temporary hours change (less than six months) to be executed by Union Business Representative and Division Personnel Manager. (Physical)
- 81-68 Return employee to active duty, Light Crew Foreman from LTD. Oakland, East Bay Division. (Physical)
- 81-69 Amend Job Definitions and Lines of Progression, Gas T&D, and Steam Heat Maintenance; systemwide. (Physical)
- 81-70 Established Fieldman and Equipment Operator Training Program; systemwide. (Physical)

Pretty as a picture—and talented too

IBEW Local 1245 member John Callejas, a senior Operator of the Offset/Bindery section in the Reprographics Department of PG&E, General office, San Francisco, reports that his daughter, Jolene, 5, was recently chosen Supreme Queen at a baby pageant sponsored by the Loyal Order of the Moose in Santa Rosa.

A talented youngster, Jolene performed recently in a ballet recital held by Suzanne's Dance Company at Sonoma State University. She also enjoys one of the nation's favorite pastimes, roller skating.

She will be entering a Montessori school in San Rafael for kindergarten this fall.

Jolene's mother Charlene says her daughter loves an audience and thoroughly enjoyed participating in the pageant.



Jolene Callejas, Junior Miss Sonoma County

Photo: Sharon Ross

Boycott 'that' brew!

Stewards call for PSEA to honor Union's boycott

Rather than just sitting back and stewing over some disturbing aspects of a recently sponsored PG&E-PSEA employee baseball tournament, IBEW Local 1245 Shop Steward Ocean, from Santa Rosa, took the bull by the horns and did something about it.

Ocean was upset, and rightly so, that PSEA served only Coors beer at the event. IBEW has sanctioned a boycott of Coors because of the brewery's flagrant anti-union activities and unfair employment practices. Ocean wrote the sports director of the Pacific Service Employees Association letting him know she felt that the PSEA had shown a "blatant disregard" of the Union's boycott.

Her letter also urged the directors of the softball tournament to treat the women's divisions with equal attention next time around. Ocean pointed out that the infields had not been groomed for the women's games while the same field had been groomed properly for the men's division games. In addition she noted that the women's bases had not been set at official distances, nor was the batter's box the correct dimensions.

In addition to Ocean's action supporting the boycott, another Santa Rosa Shop Steward, Cecil Shore, had a legitimate beef when he declined to speak at a PG&E sponsored 530 Club Speak-Off, which, unthinkingly, was held at the Coors Warehouse in Santa Rosa.

Shore, a seven-year member of the club, declined participation in support of the Union boycott. Subsequently Shore reports no 530 Club meetings have been scheduled at that location.

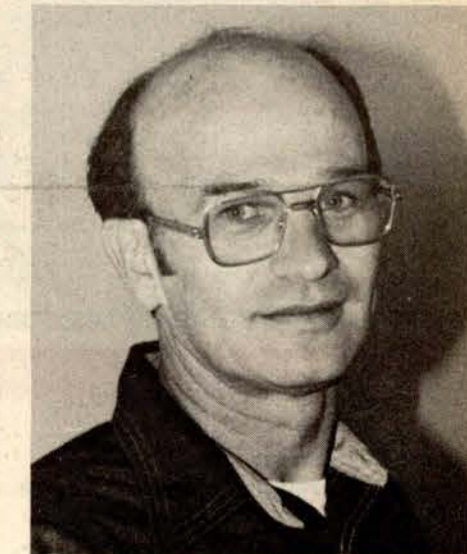
The Coors Company has long been singled out for discriminatory employment practices and demeaning employee policies ranging from race discrimination to steadfastly coercing any attempts at Union-organizing.

The Company's discriminatory action against minorities have been documented in dozens upon dozens of sworn testimonies from employees stating the polygraph tests required upon employment, were unfairly scored and held against minority applicants.

Other statements from women minorities indicate the Golden Colorado based company's disregard for the safety and health of an employee, by aggravating medical problems that were known to the company prior to employment. Beyond extensive employee dis-



Shop Steward Ocean



Shop Steward Cecil Shore

crimination, the brewery is noted for its gross infringement of employee dignity, by requiring all employees to submit to a "lie-detector" test before employment.

The questions asked were both derogatory and demeaning, including:

Do you know of anyone who is presently selling narcotics?

How many bank accounts do you have? Where? How much in each?

Have you ever done anything immoral with your wife?

So you think all this boycotting won't measure up to anything? Well, good news for labor unions: Coors' net income fell 76 percent in the first quarter of this year.

In the past four years, Coors has tried many marketing strategies to increase its sales profit, including: expanding the market area, developing two new beer products, and massive increases in advertising expenditures. Still the company reports an income loss.

The battle is not over yet, Boycott that beer!

NEVADA NEWS

By Orville Owen,
Assistant Business Manager

Based on what came out of the 5/1/81 settlement with Sierra Pacific Local 1245 has entered into discussions on the employee discount issue. Two interim negotiations meetings were held in September.

Employee discounts have been a fringe benefit for over 57 years and are covered by past and present collective bargaining agreements and the Union is working to protect the best interest of the members in this area.

At the initial meeting Union presented a list of questions to the Company that required both verbal and written response on the "Employee Discount" issue.

Union's committee has required answers to these questions before any meaningful discussions can be held on the employee discount issue. The Company has submitted their proposal on substitute benefits to replace the employee discount.

Union's committee is currently evaluating and reviewing Com-

pany's proposal as well as other cost data requested by Union.

Also being discussed at these meetings were classifications and wages, line of progression, and working hours for the classifications:

- Customer Services Clerk (Clerk Department)
- Construction Repairman
- Transport Driver
- Equipment Operator
- Customer Serviceman
- Foreman & Technicians—Measurement & Test
- Shop Mechanics & Welders
- Line Patrolman (new classification)
- Toolman (new classification)

Members will be constantly updated on the outcome of all meetings on these issues through special bulletins, notices in the *Utility Reporter* and at Unit meetings.

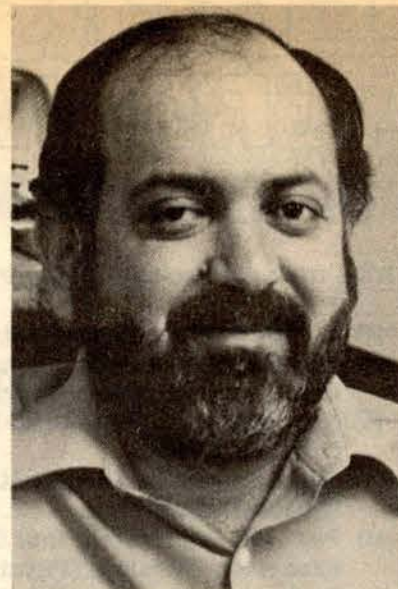
Members of the Negotiating Committee include Gino Aramini, Zenobia Donahue, Pat Lantis, George Ostrander, Kurt Vanderbundt, Business Representative John Stralla and Assistant Business Manager Orville Owen.

New on staff

A new Business Representative, Sam Tamimi, joined IBEW Local 1245's staff in July, replacing Business Representative Mark Smith, who returned to PG&E.

Tamimi is a graduate of the College of Marin and has attended San Francisco State University. He worked for PG&E for 11 years as a Gas Repairman, a Pressure Operator and Service Operator. Previously he worked for the Government of Jordan as a Supervisor in the Overseas Communication Department.

He and his wife, Sharifeh, a student at the College of Marin, live in Larkspur.



Tamimi

Photo: Jean Fudem

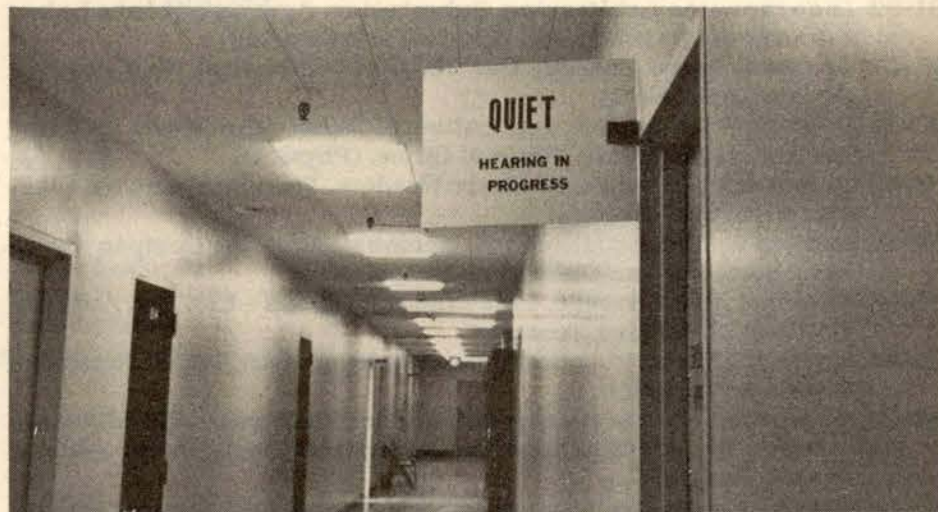


Photo: Carol Bedsole



IBEW Local 1245's Industrial Hygienist Juliann Sum presents testimony at recent PCB Standards hearing in San Diego.

OUTSIDE LINE

By Bill Twohey, Business Representative

Disability Forms

It is very important that members notify LINECO when they are disabled, and unable to work. The LINECO forms have a buff-colored claim form on the back entitled "Weekly Income Benefit Claim Form." The form has three sections that have to be dated and signed. The "Employees Statement" should be filled out by the employee; the "Employer's Statement" by the employer; and the "Attending Physician's Statement" by your doctor. When the form is completed, it should be mailed directly to LINECO.

If you are eligible, you are entitled to receive weekly income benefits. Your eligibility under the Plan will also continue as long as you are totally disabled. As soon as your disability ends, call LINECO immediately, so they can notify you when you must start making self-contributions.

Work-Related Accident or Illness Reports will be filed with LINECO by this office, IF you notify us when the accident, or the illness, started. If you are on Workmen's Compensation, LINECO will continue your eligibility for you.

If you have any questions, please call the Dispatch Office at (415) 933-7121.

Dental Refunds

Dental Refund checks were mailed to those eligible for refunds last month. Please notify this office if you have a change of address, so your check will be received promptly.

Contracts Available

Current contracts between Western Line Constructors Chapter of N.E.C.A. and Local Union 47 & Local Union 1245 of I.B.E.W. are available in the Dispatch Office.

Deepest Sympathy

Our heart-felt sympathy goes to the family of Steve Peterson, who was killed in an automobile accident. Steve had been a member of IBEW 1245 since 1976. His father, Curt Peterson, and his brothers Lon and Rodney are also members of IBEW 1245.

IN MEMORIAM

Steve Peterson

August 18, 1956
September 8, 1981

Local speaks out on PCB's

From page 1

their objections at the upcoming October hearing in San Francisco.

Management representatives also objected to requirements that training information include all known and suspected health effects such as possible reproductive system injury and suspected carcinogenicity.

It is extremely important that Local 1245 members write letters to the Standards Board and testify on the PCB standard at the additional hearing that Local 1245 requested to be held during an evening in Northern California. It is important because:

1. The need for this standard must be defended with factual descriptions of unsafe practices that have occurred in the field.
2. The need for reducing the 50 ppm definition of PCBs to levels of laboratory detectability must

be expressed.

3. The need for similarly reducing the permissible exposures to PCBs in air must be expressed.
4. The need for complete education on health effects must be defended.

You can write to the Standards Board as follows:

Gerald P. O'Hara, Chairman
California Occupational Safety
and Health Standards Board
1006 Fourth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

P.M. Hearing set

The additional public hearing will be held on Thursday, October 29, at 350 McAllister St., San Francisco, 7-10 pm.

Please contact your Business Representative for further information.