RATES UP THIS YEAR

In addition to these outstanding wage rates, members of Local 11 also enjoy union negotiated Health and Welfare and Vacation plans entirely paid for by the employer. Our hearty congratulations to the members of Local 11, and Business Manager George E. O'Brien, are hereby extended.

ALL BUILDING TRADES

A new wage rate for Electrician will be effective July 1, 1956, as announced in the June issue. The wage rate will be $4.14 for General Foreman, $3.70 for Foreman, $3.50 for Cable Splicer, $3.30 for Lineman, and $3.10 for Electrician. The wage rates will be effective retroactive to the date the contract was signed.

The wage rates for members of Local 11 are among the highest in the industry. Members of Local 11 are able to support their families and are able to afford the cost of living in the area. The union is committed to providing its members with competitive wages and benefits.

In addition, the union negotiators are committed to ensuring that the interests of the members are protected. They are dedicated to negotiating agreements that will provide for the well-being of the members and their families.

The union is proud of the achievements of its members and is committed to continuing to represent them in the workplace. The union is committed to ensuring that the members' rights are protected and that the members are treated fairly.

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Bakersfield—Wives Attend Meeting

For the first time in the history of the Local 1155 of the Pacific Division of PG&E, wives of union members met in a formal business meeting held in Bakersfield last month. More than 300 members and their wives were in attendance at the business meeting.

Such problems as safety conditions, wage rates, retirement and job security were discussed for more than two hours. The wives in attendance expressed particular interest in an improved safety program—and urged that the wives be invited to take part in seminars to help them "see what goes on" at a union gathering.

Mrs. Ron Winkler, Mrs. Bill M. Lich and Mrs. Arne W. Mcelroy attended by their wives, and their wives expressed themselves well poised and ready to take on the role of representing their husbands and their organizations.

The wives of Local 1155 thus mark a new milestone in the history of the Pacific Division of PG&E Company, apparently the first time a large group of wives has assembled to discuss the problems of their families and their loved ones in the union meeting.

Dr. London characterized the labor press as "the most important arm of labor," and the strikes, though most unionists are afraid of public relations and publicity, are "the seeds of labor's future." He emphasized the role of newspapers and magazines in labor's drive for publicism. He also urged leaders to help solve the problem of the "double loss" of labor, that is, the loss of the labor movement and the labor leaders alike.

Dr. London also spoke of the importance of the labor press as a means of broadening the consciousness of the labor movement. He stressed the necessity of reaching out to the workers in the community, and of showing them the benefits that come from union membership.

LAW AND SCHOOL

In connection with the "Labor Press and the Community," Mr. L. L. Mitchell, Executive Editor of the Pacific Division of the AFL-CIO, addressed the Labor Press Conference on the subject of the "Labor Press and the Community".

Mr. Mitchell outlined the role of the labor press in the labor community, and emphasized the need for cooperation between the labor press and the labor community. He also discussed the importance of the labor press in publicizing the achievements of the labor movement, and in helping to win the support of public opinion for labor's cause.

Mr. Mitchell also spoke of the need for better organization of the labor press, and of the need for better training of labor press representatives. He stressed the importance of the labor press in fostering a better understanding of labor's aims and ideals, and in helping to win the support of the public for labor's cause.


Since your Editorial Board strives constantly to improve the quality of the UTILITY REPORTER, it is certain that the many ideas and suggestions advanced by the Conference will prove of value for the preparation of future issues.

In short, no one can honestly say that the benefits of trade unionism are not far superior to those of the open shop. We therefore do not think that the benefits we achieve are passed on to every man and woman in the community. The many problems of safety and health which we face today are common in all union areas, and the benefits of union membership are not necessarily passed on to all members equally.
There are people who are eager to prove themselves, to test their limits, to shun mediocrity. But there are also those who are content with mediocrity, who are satisfied with being average, who are comfortable with being ordinary.

For the former, life is a constant challenge, a never-ending quest for excellence. They are driven by a desire to be the best, to achieve greatness, to leave a lasting legacy. They are the ones who push themselves to their limits, who strive for perfection, who refuse to settle for anything less than the very best.

For the latter, life is a constant struggle, a never-ending battle against mediocrity. They are content with being average, they are satisfied with being ordinary, they are comfortable with being mediocre. They are the ones who avoid challenges, who avoid risk, who avoid failure.

It is this struggle against mediocrity that drives us to be better, to do better, to achieve more. It is this struggle against mediocrity that makes us who we are, that defines us, that makes us unique.

In the end, it is our choice. We can choose to be mediocre, or we can choose to be great. We can choose to live a life of mediocrity, or we can choose to live a life of excellence. The choice is ours, and the consequences of our choice will determine our future.
San Diego—

Local 465 Pushes Strong Clerical Organizing Drive

Following the lead of IBEW Local Unions on many utility properties, our sister utility local union in San Diego has also undertaken an organizing campaign aimed at the clerical employees of the San Diego Gas & Electric Company. Local 465, represented in the San Diego area by Larry G. Hughes, has moved in with both feet. Hughes has assigned Aun. Mgr. Lawrence E. "Larry" Greaves, and John E. Jowen, representing the clerical workers.

These two young Union officers, according to Mr. Hughes, have been carrying on an intensive, well-planned campaign against the clerical dog to get the results that are already apparent. While both are young, they are new to the ranks of Union membership, but they have been developing an organized campaign against the clerical workers on both their labor and professional experience.

The officers, members and staff of Local 465 with Bob, Mgr. Hughes, and Rupert, Towne and Weaver the best of success in their efforts in this drive and are confident that they will be successful in representing the clerical workers of the Southern utility.

Jean Weaver

San Francisco—

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