

Gas News

For the men and women of Southern California Gas Company

Jan. 22, 1980

News briefs

RATE HEARINGS BEGIN

California Public Utilities Commission public hearings on SoCal's application for a \$178.9 million general rate increase began Monday, Jan. 21, in Los Angeles.

Other public hearings on the application for test year 1981 will follow this month in San Bernardino, Palm Springs, Bakersfield and Ventura. The PUC has until December 1980 to act on the application.

PL EARNINGS REPORTED

Pacific Lighting Corp. reported preliminary 1979 earnings of \$97.98 million last week, equal to \$3.80 per share of common stock, after provision for preferred dividends. This compared to 1978 earnings of \$79.7 million, equal to \$3.12 per common share.

The increase came almost entirely from the company's non-utility operations, with real estate making up the major portion.

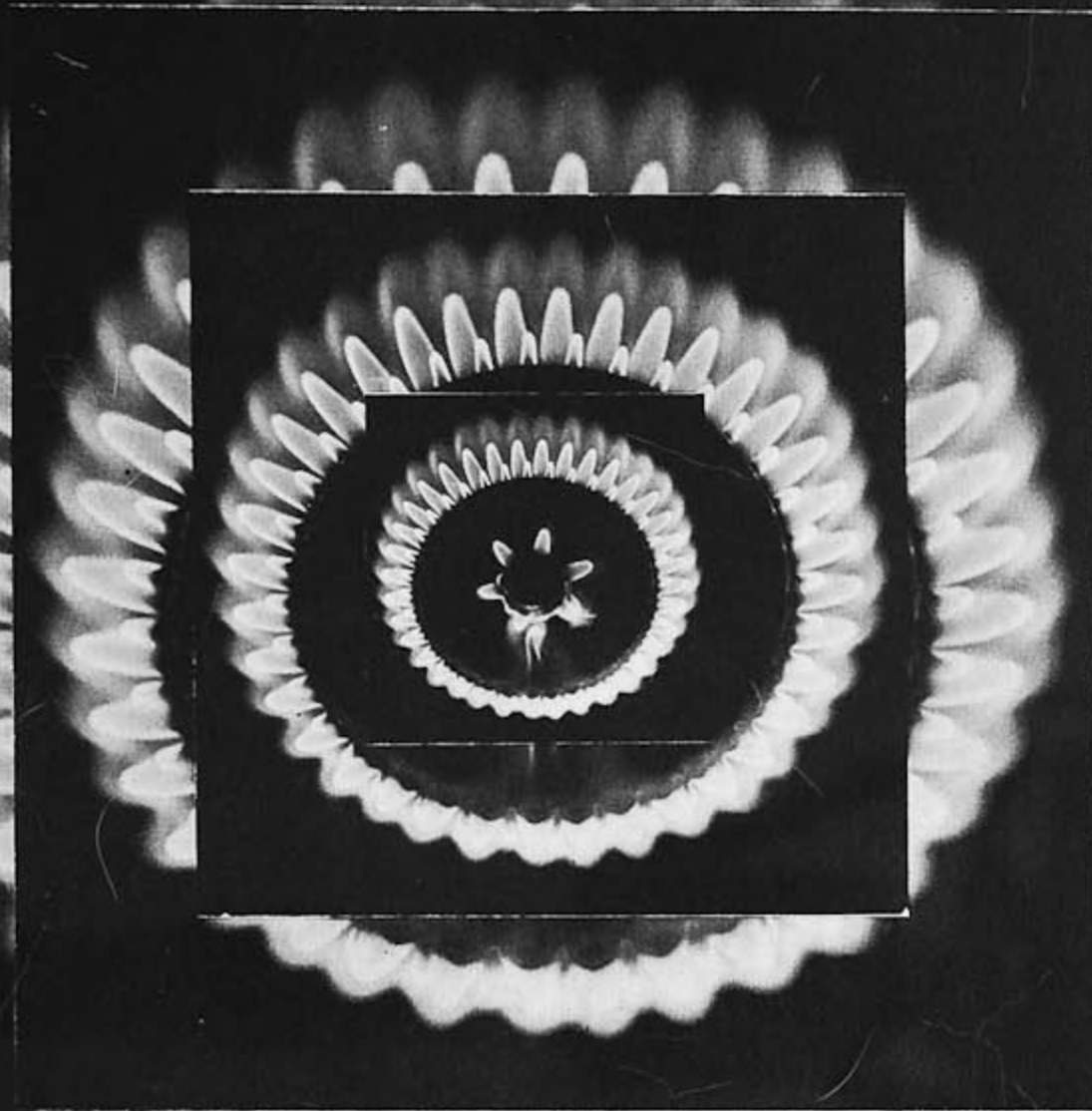
GOSFORD PIPELINE DUE

Construction is under way on a nine-mile long pipeline near Bakersfield that will connect one of SoCal's transmission lines to a parallel line belonging to Pacific Gas & Electric Co. It will allow the companies to balance loads on their systems and share gas if necessary.

The 34-inch diameter intertie will connect PG&E's line near Gosford with SoCal's line near North Coles Levee and run through the proposed field 12 miles southwest of Bakersfield.

WESTERN LEG PREBUILD

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission has granted final approval for construction of a 160-mile portion of the western leg of the proposed 4,800-mile Alaska Highway Pipeline system, following conditional approval last month.



AS THE DECADE UNFOLDED, attention focused more and more on the increasing importance of natural gas.

SOCAL TAKES ON NEW ROLES

The '70s in review: energy story comes of age

Even before it was over, some analysts were calling it the "Me decade," from a term coined by author Tom Wolfe. CBS News concluded that three events had shaped the last 10 years: Watergate, the Bicentennial and the end of the Vietnam War.

The 1970s: other news reports called them uneventful, a time when Americans turned inward. Terrorism increased and inflation went wild. The environmental, women's and consumer movements emerged. Public confidence in business — and all institutions — diminished.

But one topic began to shape Americans' lives more and more as the '70s wore on — energy.

In 1970, energy was on the back pages of newspapers and in few people's minds. Gasoline seemed plentiful and cheap — as was natural gas, with its price kept artificially low by federal regulation: But at SoCal, officials were already talking about a long-range energy shortage.

Deliveries from SoCal's out-of-state suppliers reached a peak in 1970 that would not be matched in the next 10 years. A year

before, SoCal's major suppliers — El Paso Natural Gas Co. and Transwestern Pipeline Co. — said they anticipated no new major sources of supply.

For a look at the decade in pictures, see pages 4 and 5.

Internally, the company underwent a major reorganization in 1970 when, after months of planning, a merger of Southern Counties Gas Co. and SoCal was completed. This meant that a single company — in a service area which once had nearly 100 different gas properties — would face the decade ahead.

It would not be uneventful.

The 1970s were a coming of age for energy issues, as public awareness went from near-zero to almost 100 percent. Thrust into the public eye, SoCal's historic role as a gas distributor expanded as its affiliates began efforts to explore for and acquire new gas supplies.

The friendly neighborhood gas company

became a national leader — of interest to legislators, regulators, courts, consumers and the nightly news.

In short, the 1970s meant a shift from:

- Wasting energy to conserving it,
- Selling gas to selling insulation, conservation devices and the idea of conservation itself,
- Emphasizing imported oil to realizing the increasing importance of gas and other energy forms.

Perhaps most of all, the decade has meant the end to cheap, easily available energy.

Several energy projects — such as a coal gasification plant, Australian liquefied natural gas imports, a propane-air mixing plant — were initiated and abandoned by SoCal affiliates over the years. But the search for gas went on.

Although the shape of the company's LNG projects changed several times during the decade, the need for LNG remained. Its arrival appeared closer to reality at decade's end — with both state and federal conditional approvals in hand for a terminal near Point Conception.

52 receive assignments to 22 classifications

Crew Assistant

Leonard Harrison ... Southern to Western
Lloyd Kirk ... Inland
Estanislao Mendez-Lopez ... HQ to Inland
David Palasky ... Southern to Eastern

Crew Leader

John Jones ... Inland to SGV
David Padilla ... Inland

Field Mechanic

Roland Contreras ... Inland
Guillermo Estrada ... Eastern
Charles Mejia ... Inland
Victor Rodriguez ... Inland
Wayne Rollins ... Inland
Albert Zavala ... Eastern

Field Technician

Jerome Schwickerath ... San Gabriel Valley

Lead Meter & Reg Mechanic

George Russell ... Eastern

Mechanic Welder

Eddy Mata ... Eastern

Meter & Reg Mechanic #1

Robert Lujan ... Metro

Technical Assistant

William Wilson ... Southern

Appliance Service Representative

Milford Adkins ... Northwest
Randall Eck ... Southern
Bruce Krupnik ... San Fernando Valley
Wilbert Miller ... Southern
Anthony Navarro ... Inland
Edward Orr ... Western
Richard Pereida ... Northern
Louis Salazar ... Northwest to OC
Hector Sarinana ... Northwest
Jeffrey Sohler ... Orange County
Ernest Steiner ... San Fernando Valley

Field Collector

Robert Verbelia ... San Gabriel Valley

Meter Reader

Anthony Cano ... Western to Inland
Christopher Kruells ... Northwest
Bruce Running ... Southeast to OC

Armando Rojas



Jerome Schwickerath



Martha Gutierrez



Wilbert Miller



Maxine Hayden

Scott Sterling ... San Fernando Valley
Service Mechanic
Allen Mercer ... Northern
Auto Mechanic
Dev Anand ... San Fernando Valley
Alejandro Perez ... Inland
Lead Auto Mechanic
Mark Ringo ... Orange County
Consumer Information Rep
Susan Shaw ... Headquarters
(Consumer Services)
Field Operator
Delmer Anderson ... North Basin
Journey Painter
Helmut Reckner ... Metro to Headquarters
(Administrative Services)
Meter Mechanic #2
Martha Gutierrez ... Headquarters
(Measurement)
Roger Lopez ... Headquarters
(Measurement)
Mike Minor ... Headquarters
(Measurement)
Armando Rojas ... Headquarters
(Measurement)
Photographer
Michael Paternoster ... Headquarters
(Administrative Services)
Station Assistant
Warren Fien ... Metro to South Basin
Special Clerk
Maxine Hayden ... Western to Southern
Utility Clerk
Marla Derian ... Southeast to HQ
(Consumer Services)
Yolanda Lora ... Northwest to Northern
General Clerk
Gloria Kendrick ... HQ to Eastern
Llanna Masters ... Headquarters
(Information Systems)
Linda Quezada ... Headquarters
(Accounting & Finance)

Q & A

Why are gas bills going up 50 to 60 percent this year while electric bills are only increasing 9 to 10 percent?

Higher natural gas prices this year are related directly to the cost of natural gas SoCal purchases from its suppliers. The price for that gas has begun to rise in part because of recent price increases allowed by the government and in part because finding and producing natural gas is becoming more and more expensive.

Electricity is growing in cost right along with the rapidly increasing price of oil. A 9 or 10 percent increase in the price of electricity may not seem as high as the increase in natural gas, but consumers still will be paying far more for electricity. The cost of natural gas is still slightly more than one-third the cost of an equivalent amount of electricity.

In 1973, electricity for space and hot water heating and clothes drying was 150 percent more expensive than natural gas. In mid-1979, for the same uses, electricity was 250 percent more expensive than natural gas, which is expected to remain below the cost of electricity in the future as well.

In material about Pacific Lighting, I frequently see the term "publicly held" or "publicly owned." Don't you mean "privately owned" or "investor owned"?

Pacific Lighting is "owned" by the approximately 83,000 shareholders who hold the company's common and preferred stock. The four terms you refer to all actually mean about the same thing. The problem may arise from the term "publicly," which many people confuse with "municipally." A publicly owned company is one whose stock is traded publicly, whereas a municipally owned company is one owned by a city.

1.176¢ per therm increase affects all SoCal customers

SoCal increased its rates uniformly 1.176 cents per therm Jan. 12 as part of a \$99.9 million rate increase approved by the California Public Utilities Commission to offset special January increases in the price of gas from out-of-state suppliers.

The increase affects all classes of customers, including those using only lifeline volumes, and adds about \$1.32 a month to a typical residential customer's bill (based on average winter usage of 112 therms per month). Most customers will feel the impact on their February bills.

SoCal originally estimated the

needed increase at \$269 million annually, but reduced that in early December after both El Paso Natural Gas Co. and Transwestern Pipeline Co., its major out-of-state suppliers, significantly cut their estimated price increases.

The PUC essentially approved SoCal's revised request without change.

El Paso and Transwestern normally adjust their gas prices each year on April 1 and Oct. 1. The special Jan. 1 increase is the result of the phased deregulation of gas prices allowed under the federal Natural Gas Policy Act of 1978.

OBITUARIES

Amador Castro, 91, died Dec. 28. Mr. Castro began with the company 32 years prior to his retirement in 1953 as pipe shop mechanic in what was then Central division.

Benjamin Hoskins died Jan. 1 at the age of 73. He began with the company in 1925 and was employed 46 years before retiring as plant engineer in South Basin.

Richard Braman, 86, died Jan. 1. Mr. Braman started with the company in 1948 and was local manager in Eastern division upon his retirement in May 1961.

George Hunter died Jan. 4 at the age of 71. He started with SoCal in 1946 and retired in November 1973, as leadman in Southern division.

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Karen Charest
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EMPLOYEE CLASSIFIED ADS

AUTOS FOR SALE

74 Datsun, pickup truck, camper shell, fully carpeted, am/fm stereo, excel cond, must sell, \$2,000. Tony Lopez, (213) 425-5867.

VW Sand buggie, w/trailer, 1966 VW engine, runs gd, \$600. Bill Klatt, (714) 981-1396.

72 Corvette, t-top, 350/auto, a/c, p/b, am/fm 8-track stereo, low mi, \$6,495 or offer. Dennis Lord, (213) 428-5880.

75 Chevrolet, pickup, a/c, power, gd tires, extras, \$4,000 or offer. Joyce Ruland, (213) 353-2577.

72 Volvo, 164, auto, am/fm radio, gd cond, \$2,500. Dick Hession, (213) 242-4019 eves.

70 Maverick, 2-dr, auto, a/c, 75,000 mi, gd cond, \$1,200. Mark Pocino, (213) 446-9036.

72 Porsche, 911T, 5-sp, a/c, am/fm, \$10,000. Russ Potter, (805) 962-4293 or (805) 966-3033.

78 Cougar, XR7, excel cond, low mi, \$6,000 or offer. Marguerite Casillas, (714) 627-4791 eves.

70 Pontiac, Catalina, 2-dr, fully equipped, am/fm 8-track, \$600. John Ibarra, (213) 321-3677.

72 Chevy, van conversion, 52,000 mi, auto, range/oven, gas/electric refrigerator, \$4,000. Daryl Korns, (213) 285-2603.

79 Subaru, Brat, four wheel drive, camper shell w/custom paint, take over payments, \$182.20 mo. Christine Walker, (714) 893-4491 eves.

75 El Dorado, many extras 43,000 mi, excel cond, \$4,900. Rebecca Maiden, (213) 299-4456 days or (213) 737-2893 eves.

77 Jeep, Renegade, CJ5, 18,000, excel cond, \$5,395. Jim Ragan, (213) 353-5790.

74 Toyota, Corolla, auto, gd running cond, \$1,800. Ann Moreno, (213) 968-4503.

75 Porsche, 914, mint cond, am/fm cassette stereo w/power booster, \$7,200. Barbara Vanettes, (213) 963-0849.

68 Corvette, L-88, convertible, near concours, propane powered twin turbochargers, \$25,000 or cash plus trade. Lew Erlenmeyer, (213) 257-6058 after 11 a.m.

76 Monte Carlo, a/c, cruise control, stereo, new radials, 37,000 mi, excel cond, \$4,000. Bob Bradford, (714) 626-3160.

79 Toyota, Supra, auto, cruise control, sunroof, loaded, 8,000 mi, \$9,200 or offer. Bill Singer, (213) 370-1501 or (714) 963-6361.

76 Chevy, van, am/fm 8-track, stereo, alarm system, \$3,895. Bill Tittle, (213) 282-8783.

FOR SALE

Stool, folding cane, aluminum, \$15. Al Reed, (213) 286-7556.

Stove, new, gold, microwave oven, \$600. Tony Ontiveros, (213) 423-7089.

Range, gas, freestanding w/attached microwave oven, excel cond, \$525. Honda, 750 SS, perfect cond except seat, \$1,200 firm. Doreen or Paul Johnson, (714) 623-1059.

Bedroom set, Mediterranean, 5 piece, pecan finish, double or queen headboard, \$200. Charles Austin, (213) 924-1874 eves.

Washer/dryer, Kenmore, compact size, gold, excel cond, \$399 or offer. Yolanda Aranda, (213) 945-4175 eves.

Piano, Whitley Kimball spinet, 2 years, like new cond, \$1,200 or offer. Ed Musser, (213) 579-5609.

Washer/dryer, Whirlpool, set, excel cond, dryer electric, \$225 for both. Roberta McIntosh, (714) 785-6474.

Hope chest, Lane, very gd cond, \$75. Ron Munoz, (714) 870-8370 eves.

Water bed, queen size, includes frame, box springs, insulation cover, no heater necessary, \$300. David Christian, (213) 463-1097 eves.

Camper shell, for Ford Ranchero, curtains, sliding side windows, \$125. Annie Lombardo, (213) 961-7636.

Boat, Kurtis Kraft, flatbottom, 427 Chevy, tandem trailer, \$6,500. Gene DesJardins, (714) 595-9403.

Hand light, underwater, new, \$30. Water lung, 200 Sportsways, \$150. Wet suit, fits 5'7", 140 lbs, \$40. Dick or Rick Shearer, (213) 332-3607.

Dryer, Kenmore, gas, \$75. Refrigerator, \$50. Range/oven, built in, \$50. Air conditioner, Emerson, \$50. Steve Koppel, (213) 967-2039.

Puppies, Old English sheepdogs, AKC and OFA, from \$300. Show quality available at reasonable prices on co-ownership. Anne Ritchie, (213) 225-4929 eves.

Cookware set, Mirro teflon coated, 7 pieces, new, \$25. Jerry Traub, (213) 798-7701.

Studio beds, 2 w/square table, 3 large pillows, gd cond, \$150. Marsha Teel, (213) 656-5403.

Camper shell, w/cuddle kit for long bed mini truck, \$225. Dawn VanVliet, (213) 992-8587.

Beer signs, illuminated, \$25 ea. Barry Rozzen, (213) 349-6218 eves.

Tires, white lettered, N 50x15's and G

60x14's; Rims, Murrett turbine, 8" and 10" deep, \$300 or offer. Enrique Delgado, (714) 982-2206.

Dog, Shetland sheepdog, male, AKC, 5 mos, \$150. Joyce Herie, (213) 784-4974 eves.

Stereo receiver, Yamaha, model CR820, \$350. Speakers, ESS Tempest, model LS8, walnut, \$300. Larry or Joyce McCullah, (714) 879-4026.

Dining table, w/4 chairs, solid oak table, \$750. Vinyl sofa, chair and ottoman, \$150. Sofa, fabric print, \$150. Roger Bink, (213) 963-0500.

TRAILERS FOR SALE

Trailer, 1977 20 1/2 ft Komfort, self contained, a/c, awning, sleeps 6, like new, \$4,500. Gale Kelley, (213) 288-1554.

Trailer, 18 1/2 ft, completely self contained, canopy, two spare tires, gd cond, \$1,500. Tom Bland, (213) 965-8681.

FOR RENT

Sailboat, \$80/day, Cal-34 sloop to experienced sailors, sleeps 6, full galley, dinghy, weekend or week. Florence Frost, (213) 222-9376.

Motor home, Winnebago, sleeps 5, fully self contained, snow chains, \$200/wk, \$35/day. Bill or Yvonne Jones, (213) 678-7562 eves.

Condominium, San Pedro, 2-bdrm, 2 ba, pool, adults, \$500. Roy Rawlings, (213) 831-5308 after 6 p.m.

House, Norwalk, 3-bdrm, den, 1-3/4 ba, enclosed patio, \$500/mo. Esterlita Bautista, (213) 699-1533 eves or (213) 254-2021 days.

House, Lake Tahoe, 2 and 3 bdrms, furnished, from \$40/day and weekdays and \$50/day and weekends. Mary Jane Mayeda, (213) 924-1454.

House, Moonridge near Goldmine ski area, 3-bdrm, fireplace, sleeps 10, \$80/wkend, \$200/wk. Joe Thompson, (213) 790-3682 eves.

House, Redlands, responsible adults 45 or older, 2-bdrm, 2-ba, \$400 mo. May Kawahara, (714) 792-4527.

Townhouse, Mammoth, 2-bdrm, 2-ba, fully furnished, color TV, sleeps 9, \$60/nite on weekends for 4 people. Frances Lim, (213) 722-5631.

Mobile home, Rancho Mirage (Palm Springs) 2-bdrms, 2-ba, color TV, 2 pools, sauna, \$200/wk, \$100/wkend. Gene Allen, (714) 593-4397.

Condo, Maui, two weeks, June 5-19, furnished, on beach, pool, 1 1/2-ba, accommodates 4, \$60/night. Norm Fetscher, (213) 248-4947.

WANTED

Coins, old or new, gold, silver or copper, any amount. Larry Taylor, (213) 337-0268.

Repair manual, manufacturers for a 1973 Oldsmobile. Paul Soohoo, (213) 268-3085 eves.

Typewriter, portable, in good cond, reasonable. Mrs. Jaro, (213) 282-2054.

Coupons, General Mills (cakes, cereals, frozen foods). Adele Weisberg, M.L. 435.

Refrigerator, in gd cond. Scott or Mark Leonard, (213) 441-2900 eves after 6 p.m.

Old blankets, for bedding, puppies expected soon, no electrics please. Betty Kanter, (213) 332-7630.

Coins, silver and gold, Franklin mint silver medals, ingots and plates. Dominick Sorino, (714) 729-0406.

MISCELLANEOUS

Lost, sterling silver pen, Tues., 1/15, ballpoint. Rose-marie Heron, (213) 336-7976.

Labels, Campbell's soups, gravies, tomato, V-8 juices, all Franco-American, Swanson's products, for children's school. Pati Messersmith, M.L. 421.

Retirement party, for Marge Smith, Jan. 11, 6 p.m. at 13787 S. Hawthorne Blvd. Contact Connie MacDonald, 126-2475 or Cris Bronson, 126-2332.

Retirement party, for Delores Johnson, Jan. 22. Coffee klatch will be held from 2:30-4 p.m. in the 810 building card room. Don Beck, ext. 2529.

Income Tax Returns, professionally and confidentially prepared in your home by retiree. Call anytime. Dave Rosenberger, (213) 943-2168.

Puppies, Doberman/Shepherd mix, 6 weeks old, free to gd home, John Milhoan, (213) 876-0348 eves.

Videotape Co-op, join a co-op videotape exchange, VHS format only, Larry Flexer, (213) 980-3552 eves.

L.A. Area Retirees, lunch/meeting, noon 2/5/80, Taix restaurant. SoCal president Harry Letton will speak. Reservations: Stan Somerville, (213) 474-1986; Phil Scollard, (213) 242-9436.

Retirement party, for Ray Schallert on Saturday, March 15, at Corona National Golf Course. For details contact Carol Hagerman, 133-6102.

Classified Ad Policy

Ads are limited to one per issue per person. Each ad is limited to a maximum of 20 words.

Ads should be submitted in writing to Gas News, mail location 1122. Small slips of paper are discouraged because they can become easily lost.

Next deadline for ads is 10 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 30, 1980.

If you have any questions, please call Carol Jeffries on ext. 2180.

Take a Club Universe vacation in '80 at guaranteed price

Club Universe's 1980 vacation program includes a price guarantee if you pay in full by Feb. 22, says Eleanor Stankiewicz of the employee activities office.

After you choose your 1980

Are you really green & leafy?

Is it true that eating a lot of spinach will turn your eyes green?

Do bread crusts really make curly hair?

Gas News wants to know if employees really believe "You Are What You Eat."

For the proposed article, we'd like to hear about those infallible, miracle-working diets that have melted pounds, and also those nutritional wonders that have failed miserably.

Does anyone still believe in the basic food groups? Do we have a large contingency of vegetarians among us?

Please contact Karen Charest, c/o Gas News, ML 1122, or ext. 2180.

vacation, call the Gasco Club Universe travel desk, at 389-8155, 3878 E. 6th St., Los Angeles, 90020, for reservations and confirmation. Tour information pamphlets are available from local discount ticket coordinators or in the employee activities office.

The price quoted now is guaranteed — in spite of inflationary increases — if payment is received by Club Universe no later than Feb. 22. Payments mailed must be postmarked no later than Feb. 20.

ANSWERS TO LAST PUZZLE

R	H	U	B	A	R	B	P	T	O	L	E	M	Y
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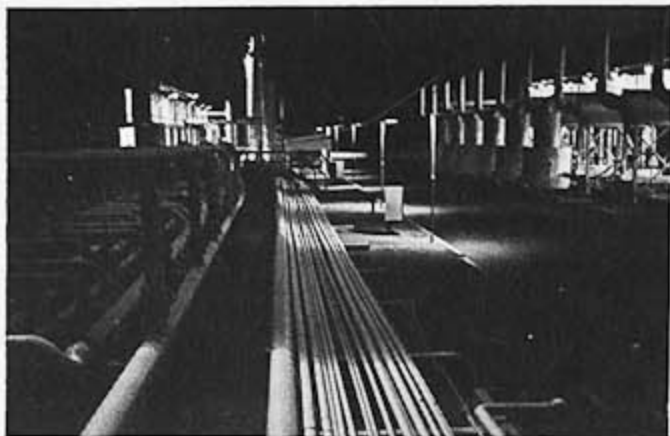
SoCal faces

Gas News is published bi-weekly for Ephraim Taylor and other employees and retirees of Southern California Gas Co. A service technician working out of Satcoy base in San Fernando Valley division, Taylor has been at SoCal nearly 31 years. He started at the pipeyard at 48th Street in Los Angeles.



1970

With the consolidation of Southern Counties and SoCal completed, the new company's attention shifted to acquiring new supplies of gas. The first negotiations by a SoCal affiliate with south Alaskan gas producers took place in 1970. Gas deliveries from out-of-state reached their peak.



1974

POTENTIAL SITE AREAS

By 1974, as the company approached mid-decade, events took place more rapidly. The importance of energy had been heightened by world events. Customers began experiencing shortages for the first time.

Abandoned as no longer feasible were plans for Australian LNG, Pan-Alberta Canadian gas and a synthetic natural gas plant using naphtha.

The coal gasification plant was approved by an FPC administrative law judge. The company filed an FPC application for three LNG terminals — at Los Angeles Harbor, Oxnard and Pt. Conception — and began renegotiations of the Indonesian contract, at a higher price. Research into solar-gas systems began.

1971

In 1971, studies began on the feasibility of building a plant to convert coal into gas on a Navajo Reservation in New Mexico, and a SoCal affiliate became a member of the Gas Arctic studies group developing a way to bring Alaskan North Slope gas south. Northern and Southern divisions were enlarged, representing the last of the realignments of SoCal geographical operating divisions, reduced since the merger with Southern Counties from 20 to 13.

Aliso Canyon — soon to be SoCal's fifth underground storage field — was acquired.

On Feb. 9, 1971, an earthquake registering 6.5 on the Richter Scale and centered around the Sylmar area rocked the Southland. SoCal lines largely withstood the jolt, but nearly 400 breaks were reported in the distribution system and 17,000 customers lost service. Most were restored within a week.



Aliso Canyon

1973

But in 1973 — a year remembered for the Arab oil embargo and the unraveling of Watergate — Transwestern also received FPC approval for a similar gas curtailment plan.

That same year recorded major steps in gas supply projects as a SoCal affiliate signed a contract for Indonesian LNG and applied to the FPC to import the gas to a terminal near Oxnard. An FPC application was also filed to construct the coal gas plant, with deliveries anticipated in 1977. A six-year contract for SoCal to receive Canadian gas via Pan-Alberta Gas Ltd. was signed, and, at home, the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) approved the concept of ratepayers funding the company's efforts to drill for gas in such areas as the southwest U.S. It was known as GEDA, or gas exploration and development adjustment.



Coal gasification

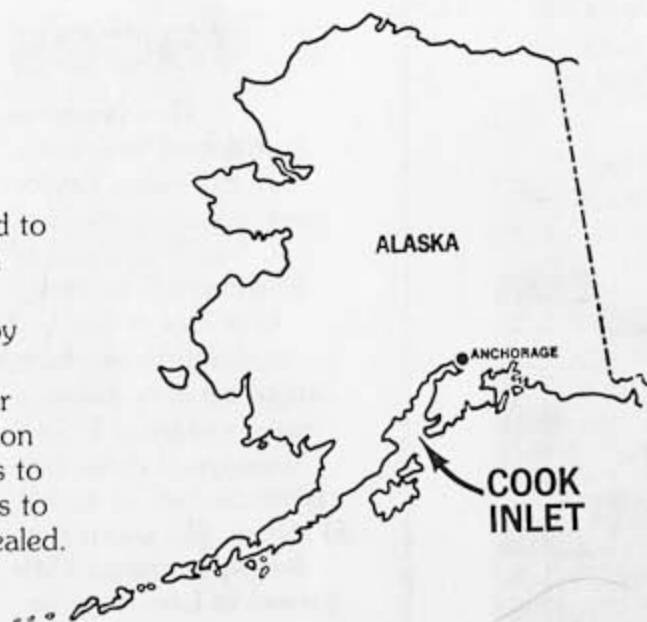
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A fire at Aliso Canyon starting the night of Oct. 17, 1977, lasted 10 days. The fire destroyed 100 feet of the main gas line. The drama unfolded as the fire burned through the 100-foot-diameter main gas line owned by Fernando Valenzuela. A gathering of officials from various agencies threatened to bring New Mexico and California into a renegotiated contract.

1972

The year 1972 brought progress in gas supply, with preliminary agreements reached to acquire gas from Australia, Indonesia, south Alaska and the Northwest Territories of Canada. All were expected to provide gas by 1977. None would.

Deliveries from out-of-state were further reduced when the Federal Power Commission (FPC) permitted El Paso to curtail deliveries to California below contract levels to divert gas to its customers east of California. SoCal appealed.



The tall ships sailed into New York Harbor July 4, 1976, signalling the peak of a long Bicentennial celebration. The year also brought election of a new President, an unknown from Georgia whose campaign platform focused on the nation's energy ills.

An agreement by SoCal to advance funds to Atlantic Richfield Co. for rights to negotiate for 60 percent of its North Slope gas reserves was cancelled in January, after the FPC turned down advance funding arrangements for that gas.

Consumer groups protested utility rate increases with more frequency.

Congress considered but failed to pass federal loan guarantees to help finance

projects like the second year of the Commission on Coastal Corridor. The fate of L... With SoCal's "of decision" Pacific Gas & Electric partners in the costs and profits. Early in 1977, Los Angeles City Council approval to purchase the Los Angeles Harbor tanker — the first although unprofitable or operationally threw event.



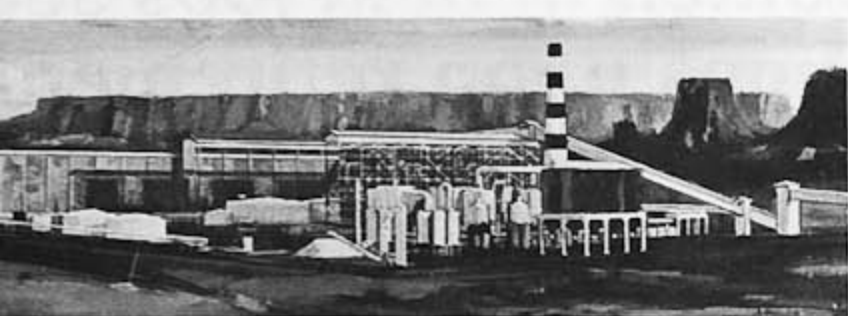
The year 1977 stands a landmark in the progress of LNG, with the passage of the California LNG Terminal Act after months of legislative hearings. It established the PUC as the final state authority on LNG siting and required a decision on a permit by July 31, 1978.

SoCal applied to the PUC to take one transmission line out of service for use by Sohio to ship Alaskan oil to the Midwest, and, also in 1977, proposed a five-year, \$11 million solar demonstration program.

The PUC adopted a "regulatory lag" plan, saying it would process general rate cases within 12 months of application.

Congress approved President Carter's recommendation of the Alaska Highway Pipeline Project as the way to transport North Slope gas, while Mexico announced plans to sell gas to six U.S. companies, plans that were scuttled by year's end because of disagreement over price.

A Department of Energy (DOE) was created by President Carter. The Federal Power Commission was abolished. By the end of 1977, an arm of the DOE approved Indonesian LNG imports to a terminal at Oxnard — no longer allowed under the new state law.



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with Indonesia, while the coal gas plant got a go-ahead from the FPC.

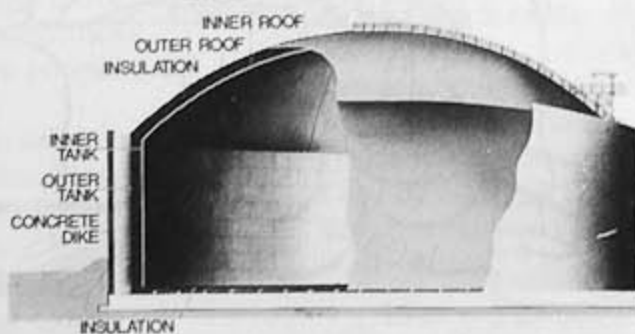
As the company's posture shifted to more aggressive promotion of conservation, it intensified its solar research with the inception of the SAGE (solar-assisted gas energy) and MED (minimum energy dwelling) experimental projects.

At the state level, the PUC in 1975 established the concept of lifeline rates, freezing prices for minimum amounts of gas, and adopted an end-use priority system.

SoCal acquired rights to a sixth underground storage field at Honor Rancho.

1976

LNG TANK PROFILE



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1978

The PUC conditionally approved an LNG terminal near Point Conception on July 31, 1978, stating that the need for the LNG was "unconditional." But the months ahead would be filled with appeals by opponents, questions of seismic safety and attempts to develop an archeological protection plan for the site in spite of local Indian protests.

The DOE approved the revised Indonesian contract, but left the siting issue open.

SoCal decided not to market solar devices, but centered its solar programs on research and market support.

The end of the year 1978 brought the coldest sustained weather in November and December to southern California since 1949, prompting record daily sendouts. Gas receipts from suppliers were essentially the same as the year before, but still 20 percent less than in the early '70s.

THE DECADE IN REVIEW

1979

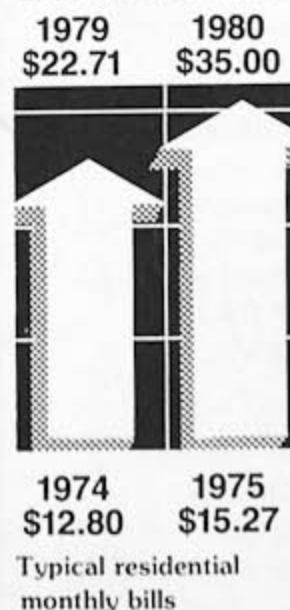
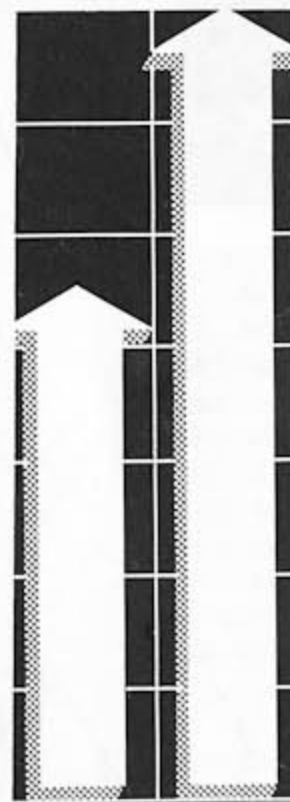
The Natural Gas Policy Act, part of President Carter's energy package, took effect in 1979, implementing the phased deregulation of natural gas prices. As a result, drilling for gas in the U.S. increased.

On Jan. 3, 1979, Eulia Love was shot by Los Angeles police officers after she attacked a company employee attempting to collect an overdue gas bill.

A company task force began studying ways to improve service to customers, issuing a report seven months later that concluded that while service overall was good, the company needed a renewed commitment to service. A change in collection policies recommended by the report was adopted.

By March, plans for the coal gasification plant were finally dropped, after repeated failures to get financial guarantees or the Navajos' site approval. Sohio also abandoned its plan to transport oil by pipeline.

The California Supreme Court rejected all appeals of the PUC's approval of the



Little Cojo Bay LNG site, which also received final federal government approval late in the year.

The U.S. and Mexico reached agreement on a price for gas exports. A SoCal affiliate signed a letter of agreement with Atlantic Richfield for 33 percent of its North Slope gas.

With cold weather and higher gas prices resulting in a record number of bill complaints early in 1979, SoCal launched a program to explain the rising price of gas to customers and employees.

At the beginning of 1980, the typical residential customer's bill would be 59 percent higher than a year earlier. SoCal was receiving 14 percent more gas daily than in 1978, but supplies were still below the peak year when the decade began.

Short-term sources of gas improved during the late 1970s, but the earliest available long-term source of gas was LNG. By the end of the decade, SoCal and the rest of the industry had not received one cubic foot of major long-term gas supplies. But it was closer than ever.

Around the divisions . . .

Are SoCal's customers taking note of the new "report card" bills? You bet they are, says customer services representative **Tina De La Cruz** of the **Banning** office in Eastern division. "A customer called and said she was refusing to pay the \$3.10 customer charge," says Tina, "because she knew she hadn't charged anything" . . . **Northern** division employees in **Lancaster** are scheduled to move into their new office, which comes complete with solar panels, as of Feb. 4 . . . Meanwhile, dedicated **West Basin Golf Assn.** members teed off at the Ontario golf club last weekend, rain or shine . . . The **Travel-Photography Club's** 1980 Mardi Gras celebration is set for Feb. 16 at the Monterey Park canteen. Costumes, prime rib and champagne are on the menu. For info, contact **Bill Kennealley** at ML 422. . . Few employees are willing to



Noreen Cho

advertise their work everywhere they go, but **Noreen Cho**, who works in consumer information, is so dedicated she ordered special license plates for her car. They read: THERMS . . . In **Southeast** division, **Paul Armantrout** arranged for a representative from General Telephone to give "how-tos" to employees on telephone etiquette. Among the tips: use the caller's name and keep your promises . . . Back out in Eastern, **Riverside** storeroom keeper **John Zervos** developed an "empty-full" tag to be hung on the neck of natural gas cylinders kept in the yard, helping crews identify which cylinders are ready for use . . . The **Blue Flame Trailer-Camper Club** went to Lakeview near San Jacinto for a weekend outing where they collected recipes for a club cookbook . . . **Glenn Miller** at **Yukon** base in Western sends a complicated listing of how you can save money with a woodstove. Including the cost of replacing the coffee table and the cost of the divorce settlement (and minus the savings of \$76.37 in conventional fuel), Glenn computes the first year's woodburning to total \$54,805.89 . . . The next SoCal vehicle and equipment auction will take place March 8, reports **Dennis McIlwain**. For those calendar-markers out there, other sales will be held May 10, July 12, Sept. 13 and Nov. 15.

Individual safety emphasized as group award program replaced

Individual safety is receiving new emphasis for the approximately 5,000 employees of SoCal's 13 distribution divisions, which recently adopted a new safety award program.

The policy, similar to one selected in 1978 by the transmission divisions, replaces the group award program that has been in effect for more than 25 years.

"We are emphasizing individual safety excellence," explains **Bob Rickard**, supervisor of employee safety, "rather than simply the lack of lost-time injuries. The program is based on 'preventability,' which permits an employee involved in an accident, but not guilty of any safety violation, to still receive an award. In contrast, employees who violate safety rules, even if there is no accident, can be ruled ineligible for an award."

The new program will be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1979, with employees receiving awards after Jan. 1, 1981. During 1980, distribution divisions will complete the old group program.

With the new policy, all employees in a

division not on general payroll (upper level management positions) may be recognized. Employees whose jobs have the highest risk exposure, such as distribution and customer services field people, and automotive, will be eligible for awards every two years; medium exposure risk, such as storeroom and cathodic protection workers, may receive awards every three years; and lowest risk exposure, primarily clerical functions, every four years.

"Promotions and motivation are important factors in achieving safety excellence," says Rickard. "We must keep people's attention focused on acceptable work habits. The new program will help do that and should boost morale as well. The old system was often inequitable because a whole group could suffer due to one person."

The types of awards given employees will depend upon the number of years of safe work habits. First time recipients, for example, will be invited to attend a division dinner or breakfast.

A safety recognition program is under consideration for Headquarters employees.

Plastic pipe, women in field jobs seen as biggest changes upon retirement

Order dispatcher **Chuck Shaffer** in distribution, San Fernando Valley, thinks the use of plastic pipe, staggered working hours and women in field jobs are the biggest changes he has seen since joining the company in 1948.

His retirement plans include traveling and devoting time to fishing, boating, sailing and civic activities.

Immediate retirement plans for **June Stanley** are to visit children and grandchildren. She enjoys crocheting, reading and musicals.

Stanley departs as customer services representative in North Coastal division after a 19-year career.

"I want to travel, enjoy a few games of golf, paint my house and help my son in his business," says **Prax Cruz**. He began with the company in 1947 and retires as journey painter in administrative services staff, Headquarters.

Michael Chorba, leadman in distribution department, San Fernando Valley, retires after a 27-year career. A native of Cleveland, Ohio,

Chorba began with the company in 1953 as a helper.

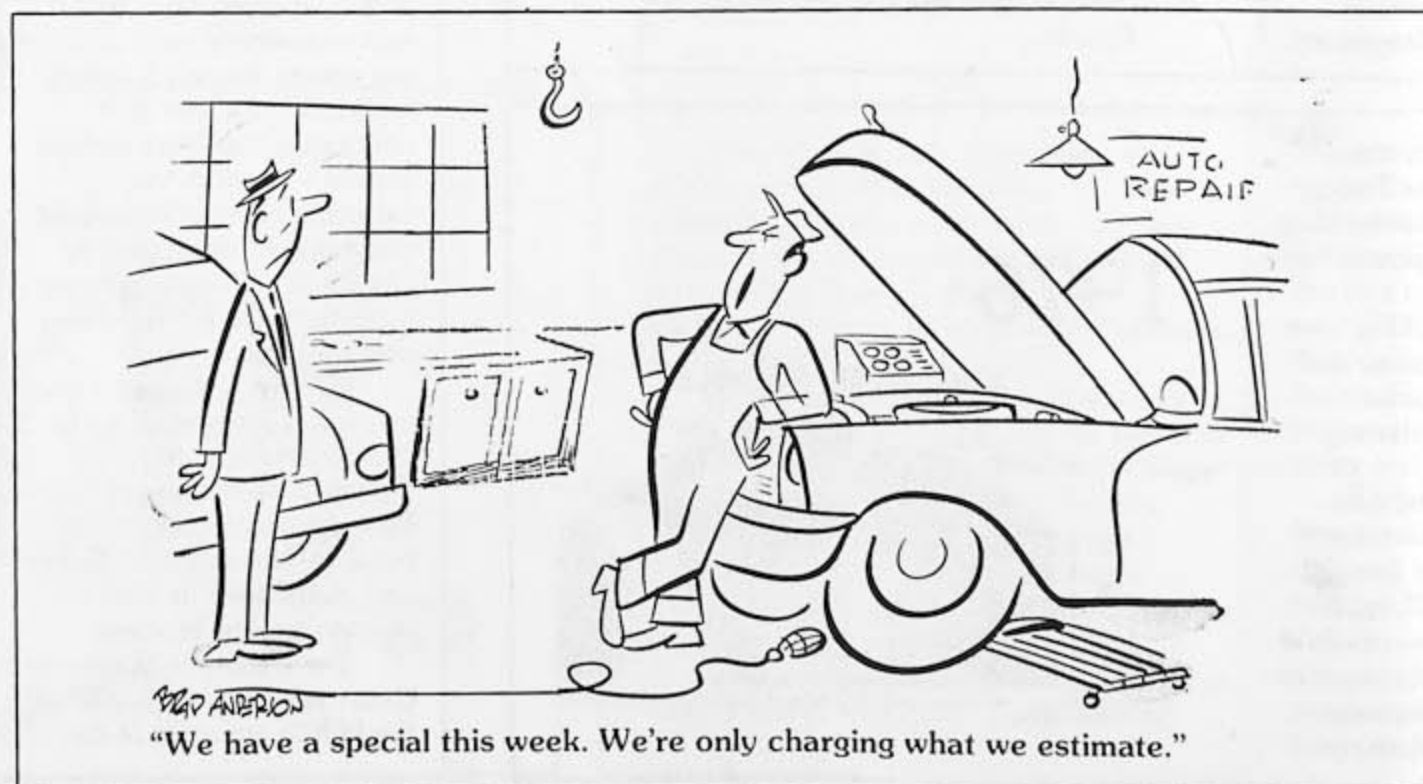
Retirement plans include traveling, fishing and golfing.

"I plan to enjoy a year-long vacation and travel to new places, especially the Far East," says **Earl Lang**. He leaves the company as senior appliance service representative in customer services, Southern, after 28 years.

Lang enjoys model railroading, building doll houses, restoring antique clocks and playing an electric organ.

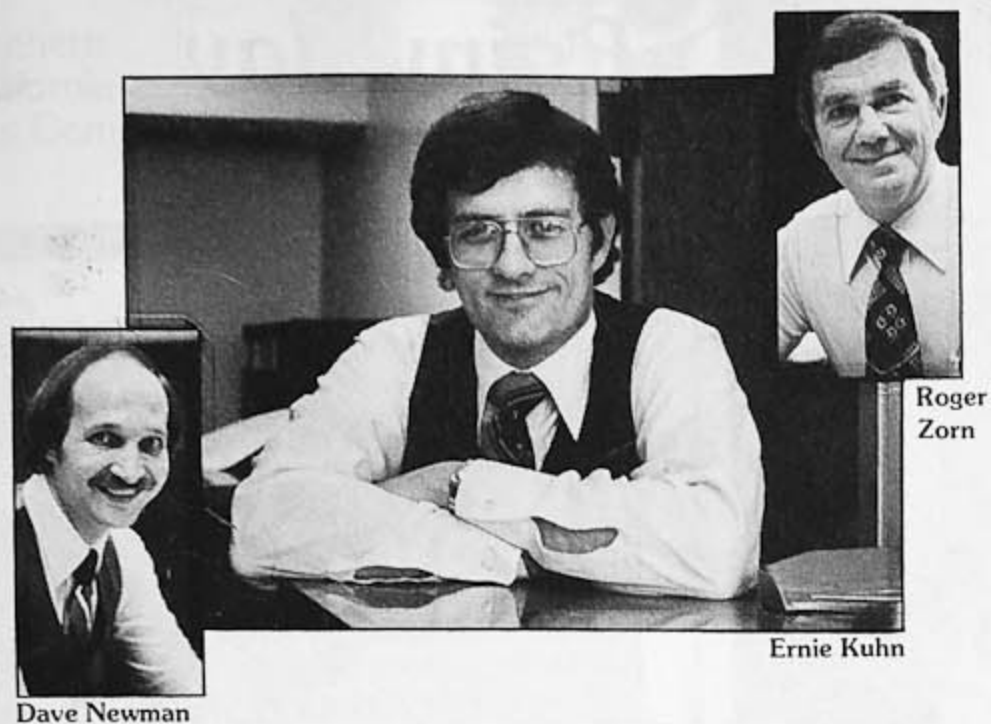
Elmer Mosher will move to a new home in Apple Valley with his wife, Ethel Jean, and enjoy some traveling. He retires as a service technician in customer services, San Gabriel Valley, after 34 years.

Grace Carnevale and her husband, Tony, plan to move to Oxnard, play golf, travel and just enjoy living. She retires as contract services representative in administrative services, Headquarters, after 33 years.



"We have a special this week. We're only charging what we estimate."

3 accept new posts in accounting and finance



Dave Newman

Roger Zorn

Ernie Kuhn

Three out of eight recent management moves reported at Headquarters took place in accounting and finance. One new employee joined the company.

In accounting and finance, **Jim Nakata**, **Yvonne Lang** and **Ernie Kuhn** take new positions.

Nakata and Lang, promoted from positions as accountants to auditors in internal audits, report to Fred Krantz.

Kuhn is promoted from staff accountant in Pacific Lighting Exploration Co. to cash operations supervisor in secretary and treasury, reporting to John Bartoo.

In distribution divisions, **Roger Zorn**, who has been on a temporary assignment as special projects administrator, is promoted to executive assistant on a regular basis. He reports to Phil Bevan.

Promoted from technical assistant in distribution, Orange County, to a temporary assignment as design drafting

supervisor in engineering design, engineering services, is **Lee Weight**. He reports to Sid Gally.

David Newman is promoted from gas supply technician to technical support supervisor in gas supply, reporting to Larry Bennett.

After a temporary assignment as field instructor at Huntington Park in customer services, Southern, **Bill Newman** is promoted to a temporary assignment as industrial engineering specialist in information systems. He reports to Don Deyoe.

Armando Arras is promoted from technical assistant in distribution, Northwest, to a temporary assignment as measurement quality inspector in measurement, reporting to Dick Dodd.

Joining the company is **Al Rowley** as special agent in LNG projects, coming from the California Highway Patrol. He reports to Ray Lang.

HELPFUL HINT NO. 61

Packing takes planning

Wash 'n wear. Easy care. Those are the passwords for today's mobile society. But even with all the modern conveniences that technology has provided, traveling in style requires some forethought — especially when it comes to packing for that long-awaited vacation or a rushed business trip.



Today's traveler is no longer burdened with trunks and tons of baggage. Lighter, more flexible luggage is the norm, and the smart traveler makes good use of small pieces easily carried aboard the jumbo jets.

A holdover from years past, however, is the need to make a list; not so you don't forget anything, but so you won't take anything unnecessary. Mentally run through each day of your trip, and jot down what you'll need from underwear to shoes. Then start combining and subtracting. Concentrate on items that can do double duty, such as a jacket that can be worn casually or dressed up for formal occasions.

With all preparations complete, it's time for the most important step — packing:

- Shoes go in first on the bottom. Roll up socks and other

small items to stuff into shoes. It saves space and helps keep the shape of the shoes.

- Pajamas and underwear fit nicely in corners and can be rolled to act as buffers around shoes and toiletries.

- If you are not carrying a separate toiletry kit, put items in plastic bags to avoid damaging spills. Plastic bottles are best for transporting liquids, but do not fill them completely. External pressure, especially when flying, causes liquids to expand.

- If you travel frequently, restock toiletry items *immediately* after a trip.

- Throw in a few extra plastic bags — great for when you want to take that last minute swim before leaving for your next stop or when your socks aren't quite dry.

- Pants and ties go into the bag next, and should be folded once and packed flat with some pressure to hold them secure.

- Fold a jacket almost inside out. Lay it on a bed with the lining down; fold each sleeve back on itself and turn the lapels over the sleeves. Then fold the entire jacket in half lengthwise down the center of the back and fold the bottom up horizontally.

- Pack shirts and blouses flat after folding with collars at alternate ends. Put tissue paper between items to alleviate wrinkles.

Filling each bag as much as possible to prevent clothes from moving around is the surest way to avoid wrinkles. If, despite precautions, items are wrinkled upon arrival, place them on hangers and position them on the towel racks in the bathroom. Turn on the hot water in the shower and close the door. The steam should relax the wrinkles within 15-20 minutes.

'Drive-time' radio spots reach commuters with conservation

SoCal's advertising program will continue its support of the market services conservation programs in 1980, as well as communicating information about other company programs to customers and providing energy efficiency tips.

Don Robertson, manager of advertising, said the concentration of advertising will be in newspapers, magazines and trade publications. Radio spots will be used again on the KMPC Airwatch reports, which are broadcast Monday through Friday during

peak commuting "drive" times in the morning and evening. One gas company-sponsored announcement per day is scheduled.

In addition, SoCal's long-time sponsorship of the "Evening Concert" program, aired nightly from 8-to-10 p.m. over radio station KFAC-AM and FM began a new decade this month.

Other elements of the advertising program include bill inserts, office posters and displays, exhibits and conservation program literature.

Low-income Californians to get aid for winter bills

Both the federal and state governments have drawn up plans to distribute some \$65.4 million in federal aid to help Californians on low or fixed incomes pay winter heating bills.

A total of \$1.6 billion in financial aid appropriated by Congress in November will be made available throughout the country this year.

Because most of the funds will not be distributed until the latter part of this winter, SoCal customer services people will be particularly sensitive to those customers who may have difficulty paying their bills and will take the extra step in granting extensions to those customers who are potential aid recipients.

Three sources will be used in California to distribute the aid.

About \$14.9 million will be distributed beginning in March by community action agencies through the Energy Crisis Assistance Program administered by the California Office of

Economic Opportunity. An eligible customer could receive up to \$400 in fuel vouchers payable to the utility.

Another \$29.7 million in special energy allowances will be distributed directly by the federal government to Californians who were enrolled in supplemental security income programs as of December 1979.

Each recipient will receive a one-time payment of about \$44 sometime this month.

Finally, a \$20.8 million grant has been given directly to the state for distribution. The state proposes to send each family eligible for food stamps a one-time payment ranging between \$26 to \$112 (depending on the county of residence and amount of heating bills) by March 1. The federal government must approve the state plan.

Energy assistance programs for 1981 and 1982 are under discussion by Congress.

Rainy day people at work



Photos by Tom Kravitz

WELDING IN THE RAIN is not the most ideal condition, but gas company people make do in all kinds of weather, as these scenes last week in San Fernando Valley division prove. Andy Ewing holds the umbrella (above) while crew leader Bob Bloomberg welds a guardrail to protect a meter set assembly. Meter reader Phil Heath (top right) carries on in rain gear, and Gordon Chaney (bottom right) tries to keep dry while fueling cars at the Woodland Hills office.

Gas News

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