Prospect, Payoffs Slated For Gaslights

PLAN RATE INCREASE FLING

SoCal Gas News
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No. 1

GoCal Gas News

Prospect Payment Schedule On Gaslights Effective January 1 For 90-Day Trial

Those nostalgic, modern gaslights are the newest item added to the Gas Company's Prospect Plan, according to a report from Prospective Administrator Freeman Kilner.

PLGS Granted New Rate Hike

California Public Utilities Commission has granted Pacific Lighting Gas Supply Company a rate increase of 4.1% to return PLGS $3,570,000 in additional annual gross revenue.

More than $1,050,000 of the total will go toward wages. The remaining rate relief, to go into effect January 12, is part of PLGS' over-all application for higher rates to return $4,800,000 of additional annual gross revenue.

File annuities will be set to date monthly a second amendment to its application. This second amendment will be filed to add additional cost arising in connection with receipt of large quantities of natural gas from Transwestern Pipeline Company.

In its order approving interim rate relief, the Commission noted that based on existing rates, the rate of return for PLGS would drop to 3.72% during 1959, compared to the 6.5% rate of return the Commission had found "reasonable" in a January, 1956 decision.

At the time the hearings were convened, PLGS was expected to present evidence in support of the second amendment to offset added costs connected with the Transwestern Pipeline. No date has been set as yet for the next hearings.

Application To Be Presented Before PUC On January 15

The Gas Company is now planning to file an application for a general rate increase before the California Public Utilities Commission on January 15, 1960. Southern California Gas Company will file a similar application on the same day, it is understood.

The proposed new SoCal increase would cover all classes of customers and would amount to about 7.1% above present rates overall. It is estimated the rate increase for the typical residential customer on an annual basis would amount to between 30 and 60 cents per month.

To ease the announcement of the proposed filing, it has been decided to file the application on January 15, when the application will be referred to the Commission.

Operating Costs

The Company will cite three principal changes in operating costs since the last general rate increase as contributing toward the need for higher earnings:

1. Wages: New employees—estimated increase in the cost of gas purchased for resale amounting to $15,300,000 annually.

2.: Wage increases of $4,800,000 annually.

3. Fuel tax increases totalling $2,500,000 annually.

Somewhat offsetting these increases are certain miscellaneous reductions in costs and other items amounting to $2,000,000 annually.

Higher Prices

The increased gas costs is attributable mainly to the higher price for gas to be paid to the producers, which is scheduled to start deliveries to Pacific Lighting Gas Supply Company in the 80-day period starting around August 1, 1960.

The Company will request a rate of return of 6.9%, which was found fair and reasonable in the 1952 rate case decision.

Return Decline

The rate of return required by the Company was 7.1% to July 1, 1961. Without rate relief, the present rate of return might be reduced to below 6% during the test year.

The rate is based on total return deficiency anticipated in the test year, and including a deficiency resulting from a Trouble in Indiana is due to increased rate increases, the rate of return would have to be $7,000,000.

Postage Stamp Sales Surged In December

Along with the record setting of one billion cubic feet of gas this past month, the Gas Company did its usual line's share of selling postage stamps to employees during the Christmas rush.

Company Cashier Don Springer reports that although the volume of sales was less this year than last, the amount of money spent for stamps was higher.

As of the end of December, employees spent $1,471 for a whopping $6,500 stamps. Included in the total were 20,000 4-cent stamps, 9,000 3-cent, and the balance was miscellaneous. For those who are interested, the stamp sales were as follows: Group A—$2 per sale, Group B—$3 per sale, and Group C—$4 per sale.

Qualifying Sales

Terms of the existing Employee Appliance Purchase Program will apply to gaslights except for one stipulation. Only gaslights installed in private property will qualify for sales.

As an added boost to Company prospects, Henry noted that previous installation problems of gaslights have been 'ironed out,' plus the fact that gaslight installations may now be financed.

Neighborhood Topic

Henry also said, "Because gaslight interest is often a neighbor-hood topic, we plan to mail addi- tional information to each employ- ees home. This will enable em- ployees to make a decision to buy.

In the near future there will be an advertising and promotional program on gaslights held by the two local gas companies. Information on this extensive program will be announced in a later issue. Subsequent issues of Gas News.

When a picture of a picture was displayed, the customers were asked to rate it from 1 to 10. The majority of the customers rated the picture at 8 out of 10.

Whitey Carter Says, "Twos A Dear—I Think

CANAJO PARK — With Christmas Eve one night away, Fitter Whitey Carter almost saw what greats say they don't believe in anymore. While driving a Company truck through the Woodland Hills area, Carter suddenly saw a deer (which could look like a reindeer in the dark that close to Christmas) come charging at him and slam into the side of his truck.

"If it had a red nose," Carter said, "I didn't notice."

Richardson Resolves

Bill Richardson breaks down and makes a momentous reso- lution in Stepney in The New Year in Richardson's Poor Almanac on Page 2.

Gas Company Women's Com- mittee agrees to sell tickets to area's underprivileged child- ren. Stories on Page 2.

Gas Company Service Dispatch are asked the question, "Do you think 'bowl' is any way to watch a football game?" See their answers on Page 3.

Ever wanted to own a hand- polished crystal chandelier? There's one for sale, along with a myriad of other strange and wonderful objects, in the classifieds on Page 4.
NEVER WAS MUCH OF A 'RESOLUTIONS' MAN — afraid I might permanently injure my will power. But remarks by 'friends' have shamed Uncle Will into at least one resolve for the ensuing annum — to cut my B. T. U. input ...

Eighteen aviator Marcello Hoeter armed my curb calories campaign when he let me off at the ninth floor, mentally measured my missing midriff, and said, 'You write about austerity — doesn't look like it's gone up this high yet.' Homewood Park storekeeper — humorist, John Gatski, helped, too. While defending my gone girth in his supply salon I bragged I could still get into size 42-stout coveralls — 'One pair,' John asked ...

So, at safety suppressors and/or longevity luncheons it's no gravy on my mashed potatos, that is.

FROM THE MAILBAG — A guy who signs himself Puzzled, says back in May he read Jim Savage's account of excitement in Mojave when Ken McGinnis and Harold Moss found a ransackable in a tap vault. Puzzled says the story said the badlack naged between Ken, the snake, and a stove, with the shoved emerging victorious. He asks: what initiated him, is what happened to Harold Moss? Answer: Puzzled — if he wasn't enroute to Lancaster he should have been... love, Uncle Will.

NOTES TO YOU — Glendale Scribe Isabel Hayne sent in a load-survey card from a Lancaster humorist. In the spot for type of clothes-dryer, he wrote: Amana portable. Age: 10,000 years ... A Monster customer wrote: Dear Malay. I've come. I didn't send this sooner. I didn't have an envelope and when I had a chance to get it mailed I forgot. I didn't send it ... Oidelberg Fred Bauer reads service orders for relaxation. One odd, under special instructions, Customer was going to light pipes, but smelled ... another: Oven gas, this. Can't continue it ... and, if no one home, go on. San Benedito this note was left for the Serviceman, on a Bills Paid Turnon, of course: Gas man, go to kitchen door on the latter side. It's unlocked, go on in and turn on our gas, you jog head.

So, of no other of my infrequent, but well earned vacations. Did Old Will forget to say HAPPY NEW YEAR!

SANTA'S HELPERs — Southern-Southeast Women's Committee members, Sharon Denom, Beulah Parach, Deanne Pompkin and Jean Fitz, assist Santa (August Forget of Optimist Club) at children's party in Downtown auditorium.

RICHARDSON'S POOR ALMANAC

CENTRAL

Don't forget the next business meeting, Wednesday, January 20, in the basement auditorium. The social hour will be at 3:15 P.M., and dinner will be served at 6:15 P.M.

Attend this meeting, and you will benefit by a deeper appreciation of Christmas time and its many uses.

A delicious Swiss steak dinner will be served, following the program put on by the Knit Cheer Company.

—Gloria Smith

SOUTHERN-SOUTHEAST

Biggest event of the Southern-Southeast this past week was the Children's Christmas Party, held December 22 in the Downtown Auditorium.

A total of 35 kids attended mainly from needy homes in the Nellis area. Their names were supplied by the Salvation Army.

Among the highlights of the evening, was the breaking of the Christmas piñata, filled with candy, the antics of the two Raggedy Ann dolls, Dorothy Diner and Rose Marie Ruth, and, of course, the arrival of Santa Claus.

During the party games were played, a movie was shown, and there was lots of Christmas music — but the highlight of the evening was the arrival of Santa Claus, whom we all knew:

—Jim Calling

In The News

Beck Given Scouting's Highest Award

INGLEWOOD — Field Meritman Bill Beck was recently honored with the nation's highest award in Boy Scouting at a special ceremony here, Beck, who has been active in Scouting for many years, was presented with the Boy Scouts of America Award of Merit.

Beck joined the Company in December, 1935 and is presently sta-

Brown Aids Arizona Indians

LANCASTER — Building Indus-

try Sales Representative Jim Brown, in cooperation with a local clothing drive for the Papago In-

ians of southern Arizona, has assisted help of the Palmale Rotary Club, Brown gathered over 400 cases of clothing which was delivered personally during his re-

cent vacation.

Becker Leads Civic Promotion

Torrance — Mayor James Becker has been elected Chairman of the Torrance Civic Center Promotion Committee.

The 12-member committee, ap-

pointed by the City Council, will make recommendations to the Council on the development of the civic center here.

Becker was also recently appoint-

Canadian Gas Export Hearings Held Today

OTTAWA, Canada — Canada's new National Energy Board has announced it will open its first hearings on natural gas export today, January 10, in this city.

This will mark the first federal action on Canadian gas export applications. The Conservationist came into office in 1957 and later established the Royal Energy Commission to study Canada's overall energy resources.

Among the applications to be heard will be those of Westcoast Transmission Company and of Al- lberta and Southern Gas Company for export to the western United States and to California.

Following today's hearings, the Board expects to spend about a month considering evidence on the application.

Beverly Hills — Highlights of the Beverly Hills Base "Safe-and-Sane Party" was the arrival of Santa Claus, also known as Speed Warden. The tenth annual family-style Christmas party was held at the Beverly Hills Base on December 18.

John Ormasa Joins Legal Department

Newest addition to the Gas Company's Legal Department is John Ormasa, who joined the Company as an Attorney.

Ormasa was formerly a member of the law firm of Carlson, Collins, Gordon and Bold in Richmond, California. He is a graduate of the University of California and the Harvard Law School.

In his new position, Ormasa will report directly to General Attorney Guy H. Shade, who will give primary to regularity, but will also be concerned with oth-
San Fernando Valley Division

San Joaquin Valley Division

San Francisco Division

Newhall Division

New SF FDs at Christmas (3 the "Bad Boyz"")

Special Services

Purchasing

Christmas Holiday Gifts - France and Turkey

Barbara Poulson had as guest her parents from Las Vegas and Marilyn Swanger's mother from Visalia. The group met for Christmas lunch at Rushes Restaurant. After lunch, Bill Treglown spent the holidays in Las Vegas.

Wine and Turkey Bakers:

Barbara Poulson and Paul Poulson saw the sights in Las Vegas.

Marilyn Swanger and her husband, Bill, entertained the group in Las Vegas.

Bob and Marilyn Swanger enjoyed by Marilyn Swanger and husband, Bill, and by Mary and Bill Treglown at the Treglown home.

Levy's Food Service

The best Christmas present for Don Walsh was from his wife, Alice, who surprised him with their first child. Daughter Sean Marie was born on December 17.

Although father is still a bit shaky, mother and daughter are doing fine.

Cheslake Shakes a week's vacation spent with her family in Alaska.

Welcome to Marilyn Hope and Hope, new employees to staff. Sales counselor was extended to Barbara J. Hart, with the "best" service.

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EXPANDING TERRITORY — Red and Gun Club President Ted Hoag (with pointer) shows Executive Vice President W. R. Davis how Red and Gun Club territory has expanded in past few years. Adding to discussion are Stan Somerville and M. L. Scott, newly elected officers of Club.

Rate Increase

(Continued from Page 7)

The total amount of gross annual revenues required to meet the deficit is estimated as $17,700,000, including $9,800,000 in additional taxes.

El Paso Natural Gas Company is expected to file higher rates with the Federal Power Commission about February 1, 1960. This would increase Southern California Gas Company's cost of gas by $3,900,000 annually beginning August 1, 1960.

In such case, SoCal would amend its proposed January application, probably at the first hearing, to recover offsetting contingent revenues amounting to about one cent per thousand cubic feet applicable to all gas sales.

OBITUARY

Virgil B. Bolonbaugh

Funeral services were held December 25 for Virgil B. Bolonbaugh, who died of a cerebral hemorrhage at the Gates, Kingley and Gates Mortuary in South Santa Monica interment was at Woodland Cemetery.

Mr. Bolonbaugh was born in Indiana in 1907 and came to the Gas Company in 1929. He was a Section Supervisor in Customers, Hollywood at the time of his death. He resided at 1329 Cedar Street, Santa Monica.

He leaves his wife, Mary.

Charles Urraga

Rosary was held December 30 at the Cunningham and O'Connor Mortuary for retired Charles Urraga, who died December 28. Funeral services for Mr. Urraga were held December 31 at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Los Angeles. Interment was at Calvary Cemetery.

Born in Chihuahua, Mexico in 1892, Mr. Urraga came to the Gas Company in 1924 as a Machinist's Helper in Engineering. He was a Welder in Special Services, Central at the time of his retirement. He leaves his wife, Celia, and son, Joseph.

George W. Votaw

Funeral services for George W. Votaw were held December 31 at the First Christian Church in Bell. Interment was at Rose Hills in Whittier.

Mr. Votaw, who died December 28 of a heart attack, was born in Washah, Indiana in 1907. He joined the Gas Company in 1934 as a Laborer in Distribution.

During his years at the Company, Mr. Votaw served as a Stove Room Attendant and was a Stove Room Keeper in Special Services, Central at the time of his death. His residence was at 6066 Mayflower Avenue, Bell.

He leaves his wife, Ruth, and two sons, Ronald T. and Terry S. Votaw.

Major Gas Discoveries Made In West Canada

TOMATO, Canada — Development of "what might become one of North America's leading natural gas fields" in a remote and inaccessible area of Canada is reported by Ralph Blackburn, Financial Editor of the Toronto Globe and Mail.

Location of the recent field is in the northeast corner of British Columbia bordering the province of Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

U.S. and Canadian oil and natural gas companies hold a total of more than two million acres in this section, generally referred to as the Fort Nelson area, Blackburn reports.

U.S. companies include El Paso Natural Gas Company, Gulf States Oil Company (an associate company of El Paso), Pan American Petroleum Corporation and General American Oil Co, Ltd.

Eastern Golf Play Next Week; Ballard Wins Warm-Up Tourney

Prowling those Southern California winter rains don't arrive as predicted, the next regularly scheduled tournament of the SoCal Gas Co. employees' Golf Association will be held on January 16 at the Garden-Aire Golf Course.

Reservations are now being taken for this tournament. Those interested in the winter sport of golfing are requested to contact either Joe Nygaard or George Mezo no later than January 7. Fee for the tournament is $2.25.

Garden Aire also was the site of the second annual tournament held by Eastern Division's Golf Association. A large turnout of members and guests saw Jack Ballard play his same old song by acrobating the course with a 74 gross, 65 net, leaving all others behind.

First-time winners at the Warm-Up Tournament were Harry Wolfe, first in "C" Flight, and guest Vic Wilson, who took the 2nd flag hole.

Blood Bank Boosted By Forty-Nine Pints

Employee's Red Cross Blood Bank was boosted by some 49 pints during the holiday season. Those adding their names to the honor roll were:

Northern Division: Randa D. Jones, Don Roos, P. Beinza and Edna Owen.


Pasadena Branch: V. A. Monaci and John Young.

Central Division donors were as follows:


Vernon District: R. J. Wallis and A. P. Lewis.


River: Ralph Beisel, Wayne Brey, Joseph Dall and Edward Edwards.


WANTS RIDE

(For Flower)

From vicinity of Inglewood Drive and 120th Street, North Hollywood, CA to 4:30 p.m. at Rose Gardens, Glendale.

(For Forest and Washington)

From vicinity of 82nd Street and Inglewood Avenue at 4:30 p.m. at Rose Gardens, Glendale.

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