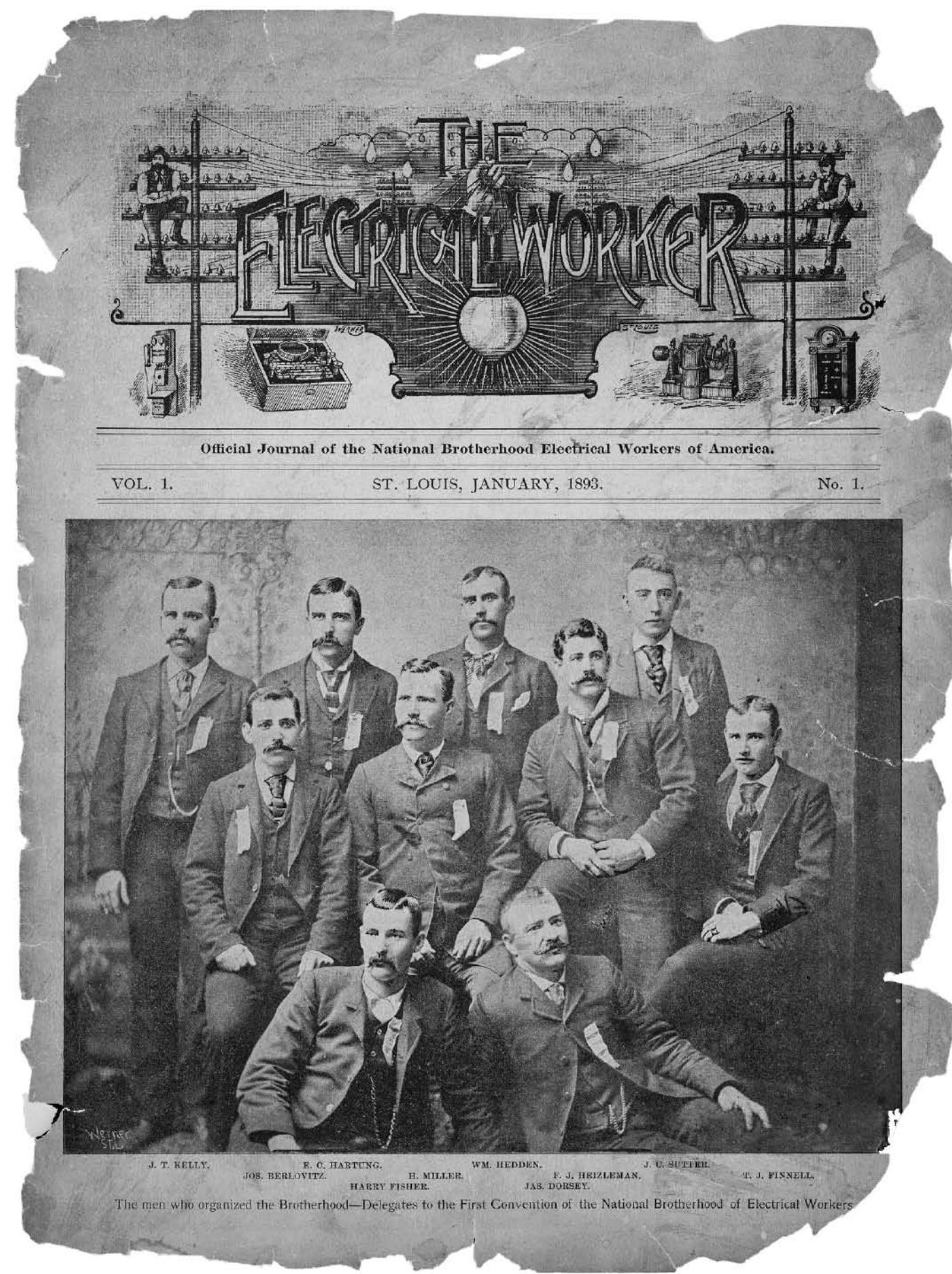


PROMISE OF ELECTRICITY



"The Electrical Worker" January, 1893

In 1905 the Lewis & Clark Exposition in Portland demonstrated electricity was no longer a novelty. Three million attendees of the five-month show learned that electric lights, appliances, pumps and other equipment were going to replace candles and kerosene, outhouses, and horse carriages.

Leading the electric revolution were forebears of the Oregon-Columbia Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA) and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) Local Union No. 48.

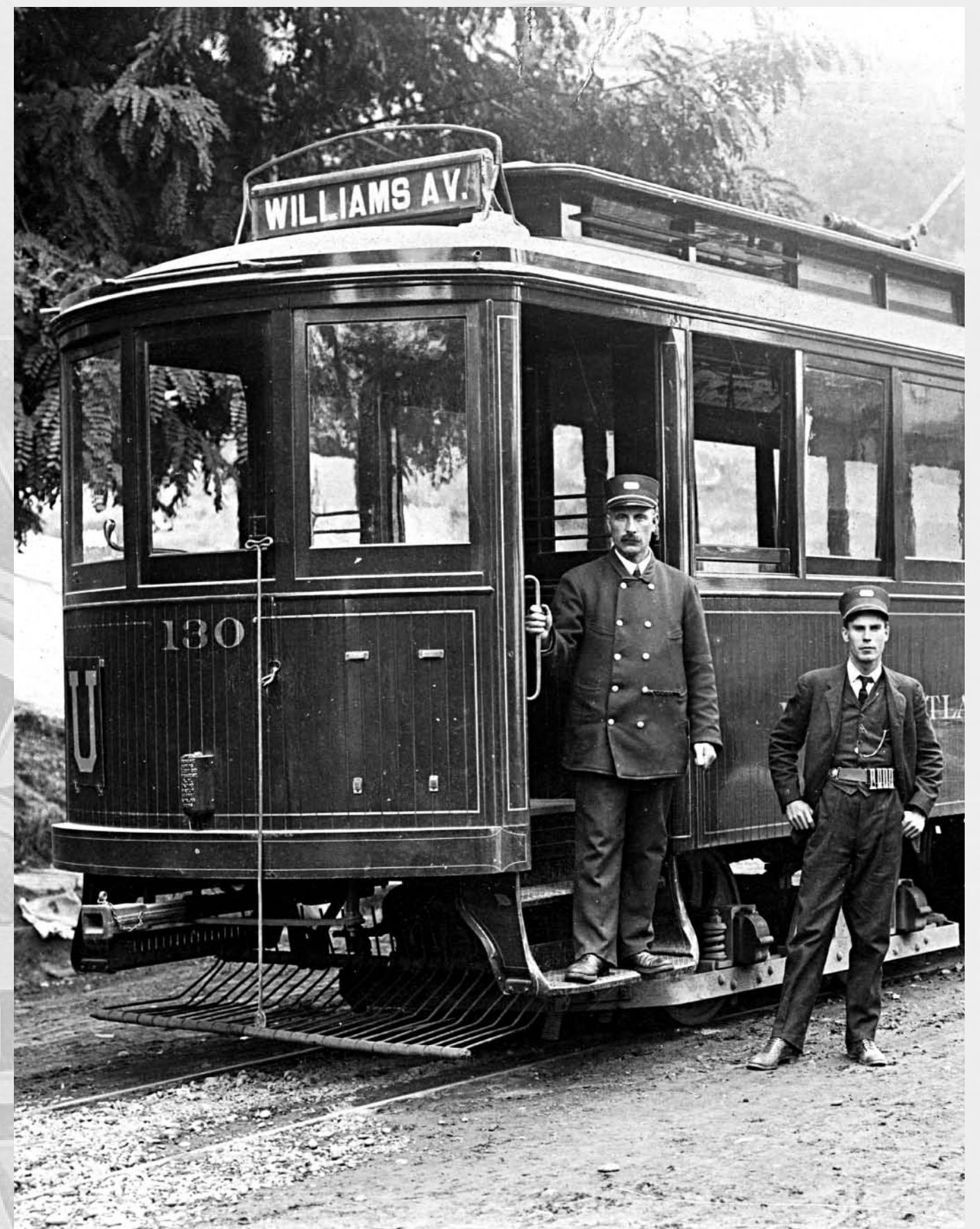
They included electricians like future NECA contractor Samuel I. "Bud" Jaggar. He and other electricians, including members of Local 48 predecessor IBEW Local 317, which was formed in 1904, bent pipe and ran wire for lighting fixtures along the walkways of Guild's Lake. They wired the 23 major fairgrounds buildings, including the Forestry Building, brilliantly lit with 3,000 light bulbs.



The electroliers (electric chandeliers) that lit Guild's Lake and outlined the Lewis and Clark Exposition demonstrated the skill and necessity of a new industry, that of the electrical contractor and his electricians.



The original 14 signers of the IBEW Local 48 charter included Andy Peacher, H. Dickman, Homer Gifford, J.D. Harkleroad, P.A. Spire, B.E. Moore, George Collins, M.A. Rhodes, H.Q. Gannon, W.J. LeDout, J.M. Ahearn, John Goodwick, H.L. Averill and W.H. Emrich.



Conductor and motorman of the Williams Avenue electric streetcar in 1904-1905.

1910 Electricity was the rage. Merchants, consumers and manufacturers demanded contractors wire their factories, homes and buildings with electric lights and labor saving appliances, motors, lifts and other machinery, washing machines and electric ranges - business was good.

1911 A handful of Portland area contractors formed NECA predecessor, the Oregon Electrical Contractors Association.

1912 Electricians needed! Streetcars with complicated electric wiring numbered 526 with 250,000 riders, commuting to work, school, shopping downtown, the park atop Council Crest or Oaks Amusement Park. New construction included Portland City Hall lighting, Ice Hippodrome, movie theatre with seating for 2,200, telephone switchboard for Northwest Steel, electrical installation inside Olson & Rowe Transfer Co., and an auto shop and garage on Broadway.

Demand for electricians increased membership of Local 317. They worked in relative harmony with contractors but disagreed how best to run the union. Dissention resulted in the formation of rival IBEW Local 480.

MAY 21, 1913 Members of Local 317 and Local 480 resolved their differences and chartered IBEW Local 48. From 14 charter-signing members, Local 48's ranks swelled to 200. Dozens of electrical contractors, encouraged by Harry Sroufe, superintendent of NePage-McKenny Co., executed agreements with Local 48:

JOURNEYMEN WAGES 22¢ per hour

WORKWEEK 40 hours

OVERTIME 33¢ per hour

HELPER'S WAGE \$1.00 per day



June 28, 1916 Oregon Association of Electrical Contractors and Dealers, taken in front of Stubbs Electric Co. SW 8th and Pine Streets, Portland OR

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 B.53401-53400, 1/24/59
 Duplicate
 Together with work done under such class
 jurisdiction as defined and approved by the
 International Office
 Trade Association for
 include telephone workers