The Mediation Board, appointed to settle the stevedores' grievances with the shipowners, has been sitting almost a week. In this space of time we have many indications of what the stevedores can expect. The Chairman, Dean Francis Grady, has a background which is anything but favorable to the workers. He was special expert for the U.S. Shipping Board in 1918, a trade commissioner to Europe, and adviser to the S.F. Chamber of Commerce. His recent statement in the News of March 27th, Grady; in reference to the "Settlement of Auto strike has clarified many issues and will greatly aid solution of labor difficulties", plainly indicates that Dean Grady intends to drive the workers back to any Unions and miserable conditions that go with such damnable organizations. Judge Reynolds of Seattle has indicated what this "impartial board" has to offer when he tried to have the men submit to governmental supervised elections, such as was held in Pedro when the men voting had to have a Fink Hall Book stamped for the month in which the vote was held. The Board as a whole are in favor of holding a referendum vote to determine which union is to represent the men. In the Budd Wheel Plant of Philadelphia such elections were held. In the first vote the A.F. of L. won; the company would not accept the vote and (Continued on Page #2)
(Continued from Page #1) fired 500 workers for voting for the A.F. of L. Union. In the second ballot the company union got the majority but due to the dissatisfaction of the men the company and N.R.A. Board called another election, but the men refused to be fooled any longer and refused to vote. The election was boycotted. Gen. Johnson was sent down to address the men but was booted from the platform. The Budd Wheel workers realize by their own bitter experience that nothing can be gained by elections - ONLY MILITANT STRIKE ACTION CAN WIN BETTER WORKING CONDITIONS AND UNION RECOGNITION FROM THE BOSSES.

In the case of the Coast longshoremen, the referendum vote will be a result in joint hiring halls; that is, a hall supported half by the stevedores and half by the shiowners. The present day Pink Halls started in much the same way and now they are nothing but blacklisting agencies run by scabs and gunmen. In order to put over this referendum vote some concessions will be offered to the longshoremen, such as a 10¢ an hour increase in wages and possibly a 44 hour week. But we cannot sacrifice our union for a slight increase in wages and hours. WE MUST CONTINUE TO STRIKE, FOR A CLOSED SHOP. We would not object to a referendum vote to decide whether or not we accept the Board's recommendation of hours, wages and working conditions. Under no circumstances, however, should we consider a referendum vote on the closed shop. This question has already been decided when the Coast stevedores took the strike vote. By submitting to a referendum vote we would place the Blue Book on an equal footing with legitimate labor unions.


The Strike Committees in the various ports should be the guiding force in this critical period. The strength and authority of these strike committees is based on the support given them by the gang committees on the docks. On these docks where gang committees are not elected steps should be taken to elect them immediately. ON THE DOCKS WHERE GANG COMMITTEES HAVE BEEN FORMED LOADS HAVE BEEN CUT DOWN AND SPEED-UP REDUCED. The weary drag of hopelessness of the past 14 years has disappeared and in its place a fighting spirit of independoncoo has been borno, with the men looking into the future of building a strong I.L.A. under rank and file control.

SEALWAN EXPRESSES UNITY WITH LONGSHOREMEN

Editor Waterfront Worker

We seamen on the S.S. — were ready to strike with the longshoremen on the 23rd. We are wondering what happened that the longshoremen allowed themselves to be fooled into the so-called impartial mediation move.

I have spoken to many men from other ships and they all say they were ready to support the longshoremen and at the same time strike for their own demands.

We seamen will have to strike eventually to gain their demands and when they do the support of the seamen is certain. The seamen for the most part realize that only by the solidarity of the workers throughout can they win better conditions.

On this ship we took action in Washington and the entire crew stood solid and won their demands, which were correction of unsafe practices in carrying out ships work, recognition of the ship's committee, all work performed after 5 P.M. to be overtime with the exception of sea watches. During the action we approached the longshoremen and were assured of their support if our demands were not granted.

In this ship the crew is now 100% organized in the Marine Workers Industrial Union and after the strike most of the officers, hunted up the ships delegate and joined the Union.

I joined the ship in Baltimore and believe me the new unemployed seamen and longshoremen relief set-up there is working fine; no discrimination being shown to any worker as there was under the fakers. A broad committee elected from the ranks of the unemployed administer the relief and another broad committee checks on the administration and the men on relief to see that there are no abuses from either side.

I do not mention the ships name because it might put the officers on the spot and cause them to lose their jobs.

Seaman, S.S.——
"DON'T STRIKE, FINNEGAN"

Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan
He runs in again and out again
He runs up to Mr. Oreal.
He is wearing out his heels
Looking out for the stevedores
Instead of doing his own work.

Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan
He's up again and down again
Your speeches are quite nifty
But your politics a little clefty
And your deal is rather raw.
Oh, surely you have studied law.

Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan
He's there again and here again
He wears a leather overcoat
And a muffler round his throat.
But he's always meditating
On how to do some arbitratin'.

Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan
He's with us now and then again
This gentleman (?) is rather tall.
Why doesn't he go and rent a hall.
To make his speeches domestico.
He sure gives us an awful colic.

Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan
He's round again and down again.
And talks too much of arbitration.
That gives us the constipation.
To our health you are a detriment.
We wish you were an ornament.

Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan
Goes out again and in again.
He should emigrate to Spain.
To become a torero.
That wouldn't make us sore.
There he could throw the bull
By giving his tail an awful pull.

Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan
He's off again and on again.
The rank and file were never asked.
When you took upon yourself the task.

Of calling off the coastwise strike.
It wasn't a care of what we liked.
Oh, Mr. Finnegan. Oh, Mr. Finnegan.
Is here again and WHERE? again.
In the future you'll take care
Of all our troubles, or beware.
The big, bad Wolf, by chance,
Will bite you in the pants.

Finnegan, Finnegan, We'll all be for yer
But we don't want a shyster lawyer.
—Elder Allen Poop

(Flashlight Photo of Bro. Finnegan)
Holman Deserts Strike—Flees Waterfront

Lee Holman, the "putty man", has fled from the waterfront like a scared rabbit and from behind the skirts of his faithful wife is crying out about the "reds" and Communists threatening his life. By raising the old threadbare cry of "reds", Holman intends a comeback by the majority of the men of the front know that if it was not for the so-called "reds", local 38-79 would now be in the hands of the racketeer grafters of the Blue Book. Our constitution drawn up to safe-guard the interests of the membership and to keep control of the local where it rightfully belongs in the hands of rank and file, is the instrument that finally spelled defeat for spineless Holman. Now, a group of office seekers who are politically ambitious want to "junk the constitution so they can get into -office and stay there. The attack and suspension from office..., of "gutless" Holman is correct but what the WATERFRONT WORKER would like to know is, "How can the charges of not carrying out the decisions and instructions of the 27th Annual I.L.A. Convention, be proven without involving our present district officials"?

Not only has Holman refused to carry out instructions — laid down at the district convention, but our district officials have done likewise, no steps are being taken to prepare for the strike which has only been postponed, no check-up has been followed to get functioning dock gangs committees on every dock. Absolutely nothing is being done to build a waterfront federation, which was proposed by the Seattle delegation and was unanimously adopted by the convention. The I.L.A. Sec'y of the Masters Mates and Pilots seeing the possibilities of such a Federation took steps to set one up but HIS first step was to bar the Marine Workers Industrial Union which is second only to the I.L.A. in membership of Unions in the Marine industry, on the grounds that it was not an A.F. and L. Union. His action proves that he is out, not so much to build unity among all marine workers, but being personally ambitious, he intends to only use a Marine Federation for what he can get out of it.

There is no question but what the I.L.A. Convention adopted a fighting program, a program if carried out in day to day practice, would go far in building a strong I.L.A. on the coast. By such actions we can prove to all stevedores that the I.L.A. is their Union, controlled by the men on the docks and fighting in their interests, that there would be no need for governmental supervised elections, or any other kind of elections, to see which union the men want to belong to.

Holman, only being a louse, can be easily crushed. In suspending "Husky Lee" we must also take steps to see that the present officials carry out the decisions for which we removed Holman. In other words the officials must carry out the program of the Convention and take the consequences.

— A LONGSHOREMAN

"DOW AND OUT, BUT—"

By Shorty

I'm on the bum, dear Mother, now;
I have't got a bean,
And the record that you set for me
I'm afraid I've not kept clean.
I've ridden freighters from Coast to Coast
In search of the elusive job;
The flight I'm in, dear Mother, now;
Would make you cry and sob.
I'd lie and cheat, or steal for meat;
I've felt the flatfoot's club;
I've sunk so low, I've drunk "Canned Heat"
And maybe "Rub a dub."

I've been inside the calaboose a dozen times for vag;
My pants are just a memory, my coat is just a rag;
In prison camp they've got me now,
In everything but chains.

Trying to work me every day
With nothing for my pains.

Yes, Mother dear, I've sunk quite low, but you know for all my gab,
They'd have to kill me first before THEY'D EVER MAKE ME SCAB!"