Many members of our union raise the question "No Politics in the Union," it is necessary that we have a clear understanding what this means. Certainly a trade union is not a political party, nevertheless, the struggle for the right to organize, to strike, free speech, and assembly, against fascism and a ruinous imperialist war, are political questions and the union must and will express its opinion on these questions. In fact our union has taken a definite position on them. When we demanded congressional investigation into the planned attack of the shipowners, we not only stated our position, but we appealed to members of Congress to bring this matter up on the floor of Congress, and by mass pressure and public opinion we forced the shipowners to delay and even change their plan of attack.

We congressional investigation has "yet taken place, the main reason for this is because "No Politics in the Union" in real life has been to support the so-called friends of labor in the two old Wall Street parties, Democratic and Republican. Whoever made the most promises wins our support. This is politics, but they are bad politics, sometimes rotten politics, like Vandeleur, and Seitt Wilson, pretending to be good EPICs, desert their colleagues and join up with the corrupt McAdoo, Creel, Cotton, outfit that joined with Merriman in the last State election. The question is, not whether we will have politics in the trade union movement. We have it now. It is what kind. Vandeleur, Scharrerberg, Ryan, Green, Well, etc. are up to their ears in politics, playing a leading role in the two old parties, while fighting every attempt on the part of the Rank & File to organize a political party, a Farmer Labor Party, that will carry the struggles of the trade unions into the parliamentary field.

Certainly it would be foolish if we took a position that it is a waste of time to vote, that voting is no good, that Assembly, Congressional and Presidential elections are so much hooey, and that trade unionists should stay home. Under fascism this is what happens, democratic parliament is abolished, trade unions and working class political parties are declared illegal. This is what the workers have in Germany and Italy. This is what the workers would have had in France, if they would have booted those who said "No Politics in the Union." They didn't but on the contrary organized a broad people's front of trade unions, Socialists, Communists, etc., and

(Continued on Page 3 Col.1)
Attempts of waterfront employers to split the ranks of the workers in the maritime crafts have, as we all too well know, been insidious, frequent and varied. Just now they are still doing their dirty work in the Sailors Union, aided and abetted by such contemptible skunks as Scharrenberg, Olander and Purseath.

However, it must come as a surprise to the great Rank & File of waterfront and maritime workers that of late friend been giving a little of his attention in this regard to the checkers and clerks of Local 88-90. They insist that the membership divide themselves as “daily” and “Monthly” men and be treated accordingly, notwithstanding, the well known fact that it is impossible to separate these two groups as far as the work on the docks is concerned.

Ever since November of last year the Union officials have been trying to negotiate with the employers an agreement covering wages, hours, and so on. Last fall the local admitted to membership the crowd that had formerly been organized by Company spies in the Brotherhood of Steamship & Railway Clerks. Also a good many monthly employees that had no affiliation joined, which made the front 100% Union.

A great number of these monthly fellows have been getting wages amounting to as low as $30 and $60, men that have been on the front for years. However, a small clique of the more favored monthly men (all “loyal” workers during the strike) have recently been holding secret conclaves on the premises of the Matson Co., that were arranged during working hours. Of course, the employers had nothing to do with all this. This clique, chiefly employees of Matson, Adams, Norton and Greed had their separate pow wows with the bosses, in spite of the fact that a specially authorized negotiating committee was supposed to do the negotiating and keep the membership advised of developments. Every decent worker on the Front will be surprised to see Grace having anything to do with such lousy, underhanded dealings. Anyone is aware of the hatred that Matson, Am. Haw. and Steel Trust Norton Lilly holds towards our organizations. However, neither these rats within our ranks nor the above employers are fooling the great Rank and File. They know that this favored crowd is only concerned in retaining their preferred status with unlimited overtime at the expense of the daily boys. The great Rank and File of both daily and monthly men further know that these special pets of the bosses are not interested in the well being of the majority of the underpaid monthly clerks.

We clerks want the bosses to know that we are slowly but surely getting wise to their tricks. We will have no more of them, nor will our ranks be purged of traitors and stool-pigeons.

WRITE FOR THE WATERFRONT WORKER

THE BREAKING OF CHAINS
(Reprinted from the Western Worker)

The loose links creak, The shackles bruise, And the ball is a weary weight, It’s one step free And the other drags An iron ball of hate.

Cheer up, my lad, It’s all the style, The world is wearing chains. And some men wear them On the feet. And some men on their brains.

They are linked to a ball Of worry and want, And gripped in the shackles of fear While plenty abounds On every hand And the road ahead lies clear.

Their hearts, their hands, Their hands, their feet, Are chained to a common ball, And no one man Can free himself Until we free them all.

But it’s all hands to, And all heaven ho, And all chained hands unite. Don’t shake your chains And morn your fate, But join your hands in flight.

The selfsame strength That drags the ball Can snap the chains as well. United fronts Of all who toil Can free mankind from hell.

We’ll lose the giant Of reason from The prison of their lies And we’ll strip their holliest System of Its heavenly disguise.

So cheer up, my lad, We’ll live to see The waking of our brains, We will sing the International to The breaking of our chains.

TIE-UP DISCLOSED BETWEEN OFFICIALS AND SHIFTERS

The corrupt tie-up between shipowners and the Department of Commerce broke out into the open following the summary dismissal of two members of the Bureau of Navigation and Steamship Inspection. One of the dismissed men, F. L. Adams, chief investigator, charged that the “higher-ups” in the department had squashed all efforts of the bureau to promote greater safety at sea. Adams declared that the members of the bureau “have found themselves confronted with influences that tended to prevent the successful culmination of their efforts.”
March 9, 1936

WATERFRONT WORKER

A CALL FOR THE IRISH

And those who are not Irish can listen too.

There is going to be a St. Patrick's dance, Saturday March 14th at Druid's Auditorium, 44 Page St., for the benefit of the appeal of the Criminal Syndicalism Act Conference and YOU should attend — Why?

Because the act is put on the statute books to be used against you and me and you. In fact every worker who organizes and fights for better conditions and a higher standard of living can be tried under this employer-inspired law.

At the present time 9 young people are serving time in California prisons under the vicious law.

Spend two-bits on March 14th and dance with your friends and other working class brothers at Druid's Temple, Drink a little beer, eat a few sandwiches; the committee promises a good time for all.

By combining a little pleasure with our working class solidarity we will all benefit - the prison gates will be forced open and once again the present CIO victims will take their places in the ranks of organized labor.

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HUMANITY VS. PROPERTY-STOLEN

"I wonder if the time will come when you will get sufficiently jolted so that you can organize a Labor Party composed of farmers and other producers-of wealth and take charge of the government of the United States and administer it in the interests of humanity instead of continuing to administer it in the interests of property - stolen property" — (Letter written in 1916 by the late Senator R. F. Pettigrew of South Dakota to Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation of Labor.)

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EDITORIAL WORKERS STRIKE HEARST PAPER

(By a Guild Member)

A showdown struggle with labor's most notorious enemy is under way in Milwaukee where the Wisconsin Newspaper Guild has struck Hearst's labor-baiting "Wisconsin News".

The newsmen's union is demanding a contract, a 5 day week, shop committee and dismissal notice. All efforts of the publisher to bully the striking editorial workers or split them with offers of increased wages have failed, the workers standing firmly together.

With them on the picket line are representatives of more than 20 unions, including mechanical men on the paper's staff, who picketed during their hours off. The State Federation of Labor has informed the Milwaukee Federation Trades Council that it is the duty of the unions of the State to support the Guild.

In San Francisco the Northern Newspaper Guild has demanded conferences with publishers of Hearst's Call Bulletin and Examiner to negotiate a return of the 5-day week. To date the publishers have not replied.

Resolutions of support or financial assistance to the striking newsmen should be sent to the American Newspaper Guild, 49 West 46th Street, New York City.

(Continued from Page 1)

defeated the fascists. Hearst Liberty League would like nothing better than to continue as we have been doing swinging from one to the other old parties in the hope that they might do something for us.

The united front idea last fall was politics going in the right direction. The weakness shown in the small vote was because we really did not get into the campaign. The trade unions must take a responsible stand in organizing a political movement that will do justice to the organizations of the farmers, unemployed, liberals, etc., and the existing working class political parties, into a broad Farmer Labor Party that will lead the struggles for labor legislation in the city councils, state assembly and Congress, strengthening the struggles of the trade unions on the economic field, waging a determined struggle against fascism, and especially the Hears, shipowners and vigilante brand here in California.

John L. Lewis and the Industrial Union Committee take a correct and progressive stand against fascism, for organizing the workers on a broad industrial union basis, and we venture to say that he has the full support of 90% of the maritime workers on the Pacific Coast. We believe that he would have strengthened his position if he would have supported the Farmer Labor Party resolution presented to the 56th Annual Convention of the A. F. of L. by Gorman, National Vice President of the Textile Workers (Industrial) Union. To further advance our position on the question we can do all we can in support of the position taken by the industrial group and help to organize the unorganized into the A. F. of L., for strong and powerful federation where craft unions exist, for industrial unions in mass production industry. We can further with Gorman; namely, that the organizing of a Farmer Labor Party based on the trade unions will help strengthen the trade unions. As Rank and Filers we furnish the manpower to unite our own officers in the union. The next step is a Farmer Labor Party where we will elect our own representatives to lead our struggles in the State Assembly and Congress.

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SCHOOL KIDS STRIKE:

The thousands of Alameda School Children are on strike. The kids demand that the superintendent be reinstated who was arbitrarily fired by the Mayor to make room for one of his political friends.

The school kids strike speaks for the rising tide of mass action which is sweeping the country. Let us hope the kids sense that the time is past when the American workers are going to go on taking conditions lying down.

If an injustice is being done there is only one art to give the workers to correct it - BY MASS ACTION. The kids have learned that lesson and they are following it.

We wonder how many of the present strike tactics the kids learned from the Great Maritime Strike of 1934 and the S.F. General Strike?

Without
Tuesday morning, Feb. 18th President Ryan almost dropped dead when 50 longshoremen from Local 866, United Fruit Dock, piled into his office on the 19th floor to ask him some questions. These men were sent up from a meeting of 200 men, which was being held in the I.A.A. Hall, at 50 West Street.

The men who went up to Ryan's office did so at the sacrifice of 4 hour's pay. They showed the spirit that makes unions powerful.

But President Ryan, instead of tackling their problems like a union executive should, put up arguments that would sound better if they came from a company lawyer.

One big laugh was the phoney story he told about the Communists. He said there was a man in the port of New York, who was going to frame him by producing a picture of himself (Joseph P. Ryan) alongside a nude woman, and by doing this would blackmail him into turning the I.A.A. over to the Communists.

Who in the wide world does Ryan think is going to believe a story like that?

However, he did promise some things to the boys. He said that, "AGAINST HIS WILL the delegates were going to vote in the District Council to give the Pier 7 United Fruit men a series charter with the right to elect their own delegates. The men feel certain that this visit from the United Fruit Committee accomplished some results. Other locals are considering similar action."

The handicap was too much when the cartons were a little heavy, all of 5 pounds. But he did amuse the stevedores who witnessed the uneven race. Practice up in the park, Cap. and improve your form, you looked lousy.

BIG FINK SLIPPING

Charles Erickson, used to be a fink at MacCormick's, now he is running in second or third place. He can't stand the pace set by Chief Pink White and his running mate.

May the race be a short one and the better fink win - plot - gurgle - gurgle --- fur-----!
A week ago Friday, when the MAKIA plowed a few splinters off of pier 32 and tore loose her hook, the big shot Matson finks had to go take a "look-see." As it was raining, they all crowded into a car that some permit men were loading. It seems that being generally in the way of these workers was not enough for big Pink Russell, the Port Captain, and he began to question the one nearest him, the permit man, not knowing but what he was answering an I.L.M. brother, replied politely enough to all of the questions and the tone and bearing of Russell caused him to become suspicious. Then he began asking Russell a few questions - who he was and if he had a union book.

When the big fink made the crack that he didn't wear a damned union button and what's more he never would, the permit man realized what a rat he had been talking to and answered that "there will be a day in this country when union men will be proud of their buttons and guys like you will be on the tramp." Also that he knew nothing of principles when you can boast that you don't wear a union button.

Fink Russell became furious and left the car, returning later with a gaffer. Pointing out the permit man, he ordered the gaffer to report to the dispatcher that he (Russell) did not want man sent down to the Matson docks again.

As this is obviously the rawest kind of a blacklisting attempt, the permit man has requested that the incident be published as a matter of record in case it is ever pushed to an issue by the finks.

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WRITE FOR THE
W A T E R F R O N T
WORKER
P.O. Box 1156 - SF

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SEAMAN LOSES OIL SKIN COAT

On Feb. 26, a night gang worked the M. S. Maui at Richmond. The same night the boom lost a new oil skin coat, thereby facing a trip minus the most necessary seaman's equipment.

The boom did not accuse any longshore man of stealing his coat, but when he did say was "after the night gangs knocked off I missed the oil skins." The coat was new and cost $6.00. Every maritime worker knows oil skins are certainly needed in the southern waters, what with sudden squalls, bad weather and all.

The ship was a good catch, the gang made about $80 on the job.

Maybe something can be done, by a few of us working together and doing the right thing. It doesn't have to be told how it is to be done, but the boss's address is

Jack Smith
Auckland, New Zealand

A new oil skin costs $6 and think of the good will that will be in turn developed. Enough said.

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THE SUNDAY WORKER

Is a paper YOU should read every week. It is written for you and your family. Get it from the Loop Bookstore, 16 Embarcadero, or from the newsboy on the Front.
Dear Editor:

It seems that the phonies on the Front think the Rank and File workers are just a bunch of dumb guys who can be fooled all the time. This must be what D. V. Flannagan, ex-secretary-Treasurer of the Warehouse local must have believed when he made a speech around two weeks ago at the union meeting.

Flannagan got up on the floor, and handed out a lot of blarney about let by-gones be by-gones, and anything he did was for the good of the union and there was no sour-grapes in his remarks. In plain words he was making the Rank and File kiss and make up with him.

But one thing slipped into his spiel. He said that HE WOULD STILL TAKE CARE OF ANY PERSONAL QUARRELS ON THE OUTSIDE! This is mighty sure-proof that he hasn't changed his stripes. The members of 38-44 have had all they want of this kind of action -- we can remember how Flannagan and his mob tried to run the locals by violence when they saw their days were numbered.

Flannagan is mighty mistaken if he thinks he can ooze his way back into the good graces of the men. We can see thru his honeyed "let by-gones be by-gones" speeches.

Rank and File Warehouseman

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BOOS - CATCALLS - DISORDER. THE ANSWER? SCARRENBERG

Dear Editor:

Last Friday night, Feb. 26th, I visited the Labor Council. A visitor from L.A. addressed the assembled delegates. He represented the State Employment Bureau. For some reason or other he addressed the chairman as Mr. Scharrenberg and I thought the roof fell in. The catcalls, boos and raspberries that followed cannot be described.

Paul Scharrenberg if he has any shred of decency left must realize that the price of gold is not worth the price of respect from his brothers. Personally I think Paul can't turn back - he is too deeply mired in the slime of betrayal. I wouldn't like to be in his shoes. Every honest person will curse his last breath and so will I.

One Who Has Been Betrayed.

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Dear Editor:

Murderer Eagan, chief clerk in the Captain of Guard's office in San Quentin is busily engaged these days in seeing to it that working class prisoners do not get any workers' papers such as the Western Worker, Voice of the Federation and Waterfront Worker. He is helped in this by Captain Ralph New, a big police bully from Los Angeles.

Working class prisoners are only allowed 15 minutes to speak to visitors while murderers of defenseless old women like Eagan, are given special privileges and plenty of time to see visitors.

Workers who haven't been over to see any of the prisoners should take a ride across the bay one of these fine days, and visit the men who were denied their freedom because they organized and fought in the interests of the working class.

Visit your brothers looked up behind those cold gray walls. Groups of workers going over to the prison will prove to the jailors of these working class fighters that the workers have not forgotten their class brothers, and that we are carrying on the fight more determined than ever.

A Visitor

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TEACHERS ORGANIZE - ACTIVE MEMBER FIRED

Editor Waterfront Worker:

The teachers are organizing and like other workers when they organize into unions the boss fires the most active members. The Eureka School Board fired a young teacher because he was active in the Teacher's Union and because he declared his solidarity with other organized workers by going on the picket line with them.

The teacher who spoke at our last meeting gave a brief history of the case and asked for funds to help carry on the fight in the courts to get Victor Jeawett (the young teacher discriminated against) reinstated.

The meeting voted $25, which was all that the constitution permits at the present time. Such a small sum coming from Local 38-79 must look ridiculous to the teachers so I suggest that the membership changing that part of the constitution dealing with donations be passed at our next meeting and we donate at least $150 to the Victor Jeawett case.

A Teacher's Pet
Brother Editor:

I would like to know if the clerks have any system of limiting the time of their members?

The other day a fellow named Bergendorff, also known as "Finnegan" checking on the Grace Dock, worked an 18 hour continuous shift. Now in hell do the clerks expect to maintain and establish decent conditions if their members and officials allow this sort of thing?

There's a fat guy comes down the dock every day when a ship is working, who from actions seems to be heavy on the bull. I have been told that this bird is the Bus. Agent for the Clerks and got $45 a week, God only knows what for.

It seems to an ignorant stevie that the clerks should get wise to themselves and tell this hot air artist to do something for his 45 bucks and to jerk those chiselers up before the union, of which this Bergendorff is not the only one on Pier 35.

A Disgusted Stevie on Pier 35

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HEARST RAVES - REDS GET STRONGER

Dear Editor:

Hearst must have "Reds" on the brain. I notice he is getting out a red lined paper and the workers who organize into unions and fight for decent wages and humane working conditions are all Reds to Willie. But the Reds are getting stronger and stronger and Hearst becomes more panic-stricken and more scared.

What's the answer?

A Terrible Red

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"LOYAL" CLERKS IN UNION NOW - WHY NOT ACT LIKE UNION MEN?

Dear Editor:

It is pretty near time that some of the clerks got on to themselves. They were taken into the Clerk's Union after swabbing all thru the strike. Yet some of the men have the front to go into the swabbey Matson Cafeteria for their lunch. No one seems to stop them. Anyone can see them every day in the week walking from Pier 26 and 28 to the Matson pier at 12 O'Clock Noon. I wonder if they can remember the treatment they went thru at the time of the strike? When they worked them 12 to 14 hours every day and Sundays, after all the soaks were transferred to the Diana Dollar and a launch was available they came and got all of your soaks, and took you to the Matson, a bunch of tired rats. What did you get for it? You got a week vacation to rest your tired dogs. Plant has you all in a position that you are disliked by your fellow workers, so wake up. For a number on your shill do this is far more honorable than the four letters on your back - S-C-A-B.

A Grank Steward

P.S. How many stieves did Plant invite in the office for a glass of whiskey last Xmas? But he did call all you clerks in.

COLD LUNCHES, CRUMMY WAITER - PROTEST PETITION

Dear Editor:

W. Smith's gang was working up at Richmond last week. We had no lunch with us so the big-hearted company served us cold lunches.

The waiter was so crummy and filthy that 2 of the gang even refused to take the sandwiches from him, but went up-town to eat. He looked like a cool-passeder after doing a turn below and then went shoveling on a coke job for about 12 hours. He was certainly dirty, so the gang got up a petition of protest against the cold lunch and against the crummy waiter. All the gang signed it except the boss, W. Smith - he was afraid it would put him on the spot. Also "Brother" Smith does not wear his I.W.W. button where you can see it, but he either wears it under his coat lapel or on his vest out of sight. The gang is under the unanimous opinion that cold lunches up the country should be stopped by an official protest by the I.W.W., and along with it all crummy waiters.

A Hot Lunch Stevie.

THE PULSE OF THE STEVEDORES

Dear Editor:

A word of respect and thanks for the splendid editorial in the Pob. 24th issue. From the point of strategy and men savvy it was sublime.

It is no wonder the shipowners hate the Waterfront Worker - no wonder they call it the pulse of the stevedores.

Bellow me Ed., if the workers had their own newspapers all over the world, our own journalists, our own cables then there would be a free press. A press that would print news not sex stories, crimes and plain nonsense. Look how the press failed to print the big story about the Nye Investigating Committee about Morgan's graft during the World's War.

In closing I say, keep up with your worthy work, which is a guide & leader of the stevedores. You protest and look out for the interests of NOT only the men who toil on the waterfront but also 7500 women and children and I know they bless you which will always offset the curses of the shipowners.

A Son of a Stevedore.
The renewed terror-drive against Catholics in Germany ought to open wide the eyes of many an athlete participating in the Olympic Games.

Do they want this regime to be their hosts at a sport festival which is supposed to be dedicated to fair play? Do they want this regime to utilize their services in order to spread its vicious propaganda throughout the world?

But even more serious are the questions which the German people, as well as the people of the whole world, cannot now avoid asking themselves:

Why does Hitler torture and kill Catholic priests? Why does he treat Catholic priests, laymen and youth precisely the way he treats Communists and Socialists - with arrest, torture and death? Why does Hitler smash the religious organizations of the Protestants? Why has the Gestapo, Nazi secret police, been made virtually all-powerful in Germany?

The people of Germany are coming to see that Fascism is not merely the enemy of Communists and the Socialists but it is the mortal foe of practically the whole people. With the exception of the very greatest financiers, industrialists and landowners and their puppet army of Nazi storm troops, Fascism can live only by feeding on all the rest of us.

Every wave of terror in Germany comes at a time when misery and unemployment have taken a leap forward. Fascism follows the ancient practice of tyrants who try to meet the discontent and suffering caused by their tyranny - by inflicting more tyranny.

Yesterday, it was the turn of the Jews and shop workers, their trade unions and their political parties. Today, it is the turn of the religious organizations, the Protestants and Catholics. Tomorrow?

It is significant that the 160 Catholic priests, laymen and youth leaders asked in the most recent drive are being charged with treasonable relations with Communist and Marxist groups. The important thing is what the Nazis charge that is what the Nazis fear!

Yesterday, Hitler delivered a funeral oration at the burial of Wilhelm Gustloff, a Nazi agent in Switzerland, sent there to bring to the Swiss people the same misery already forced upon the German masses. In a fit of desperation, Gustloff was assassinated by a Jewish medical student, who foolishly resorted to a bad means to achieve a good cause - the downfall of the Nazis.

But what does Hitler say at such an occasion?

"WE UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGE AND WE ACCEPT IT!"

What challenge? The challenge of the anti-Nazi opposition. By what means? Another pogrom wave against the whole Jewish people in retaliation for the act of a desperate individual.

HERE IS THE CHALLENGE: DO WE UNDERSTAND THE CHALLENGE?

Hitler understands pogroms. We must understand the unflinching unity of all the oppressed, all forces of peace and freedom in common struggle against the fascist butchers.

And this is the Achilles' heel of fascism. Every time the Nazis make a new drive against another group in the population, by so much is their mass base lessened, so many more have enrolled under the banner of the struggle against fascism for their very lives.

Most of all, so many more have realized that their fate cannot be separated from the fate of the leading fighters against Nazi terror, from the Communists and the Socialists in prison and concentration camps.

Here is our opportunity! Rally the united front for the liberation of Ernst Thaelmann, Carl von Ossietzky and the thousands of other prisoners of the Nazis. Go to the Catholic and Protestant organizations! Go to the masses everywhere and tell them:

"FASCISM IS FIRST OF ALL THE ENEMY OF THE WORKING CLASS BUT LIFE ITSELF HAS PROVED THAT IT IS THE ENEMY OF THE WHOLE PEOPLE!"