UNITED WE STAND!!!

The Frisco longshoremen are looked out. About the middle of December the officers of District Council #2 of the Maritime Federation made known that certain plans which they had uncovered, that the shipowners intended a broad attack against the maritime unions. Due to the prompt and immediate action taken at that time the attack was averted.

The plans of the employers as were uncovered at that time were:

1. A wide publicity campaign through the newspapers, over the radio and the publication of such things as "The American Citizen".
2. To break off relations with Local 38-79, thereby terminating the Award.
3. To lock-out the members of 38-79.
4. To have the international officials jerk the charter of Local 38-79.

At the time when the above plan was uncovered and made known to the public, immediately an open Congressional Investigation was demanded by the maritime workers of the Pacific. However, the Morris, Lewis, Peterson clique of reactionaries attacked the demand for a Congressional Investigation as unwarranted and unnecessary. Paddy Morris, I.L. A. district secretary, and editor of the Pacific Coast Longshoreman, in editorials of that paper, accused the 38-79 officials of becoming "jittery", of "suffering from pipe dreams" and being "cowards". Also Secretary Morris asked "who has the information that such an attack is planned?" Now that the plans of the shipowners have gone into effect what has Morris, Lewis and Pedro Pete to say? As usual they are covering up in a flurry of words and meaningless gestures.

What caused the attack to be put thru at this time?

Using the Santa Rosa incident as a pretext, the shippers moved the District Council #2 of the Federation had been trying for some time to get the exact status of the seamen. strike in New York. Upon ascertaining the facts, the 38-79 officials recommended a special meeting of the membership, held Monday, April 13th, that the Santa Rosa be worked. This recommendation was made on the grounds that the strike was not as solid and as far-reaching as first thought. The meeting concurred in the recommendation and the entire proposal referred back to a special meeting of Maritime Council #2. This was done in order to maintain unity and so all maritime groups could not on the recommendation together.

The shipowners have already laid down the terms by which the agreement can be renewed.

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1. No more gangs or men to be ordered from the hiring hall.

2. That the radical and subversive leaders of 38-79, dominated by Communists, be eliminated.

The demand of the shipowners that the present leadership of 38-79 be eliminated is as brazen as if we demanded of them that they hoist Bryan and "Seabby" Peterson from their ranks. But the question goes much deeper than that.

What is behind their demands? The answer is very simple. They fear and hate the kind of leadership that gave the longshoremen the dock and gang steward system, which means a business agent in every gang, a gang steward at each dock, a speed-up, builds uniform leads, maintains safe working conditions, etc. That is what the shipowners fear - the broad constructive leadership of Local 38-79 - the elected officials and the rank and file, who represent the shipowners that dictate who shall or who shall not be officials. We might just as well give them a desk and chair in the I.L.A. office because they will be there any way. The only thing would then be a Blue Book with an I.L.A. charter.

What Needs To Be Done?

Although the shipowners' plans are well laid and they have moved in, there is no need to get panicky.

We are in a much stronger position now than we were during any part of the '54 strike, despite the fact that the working-class discipline to lead us has been taken off the docks - to go back to the days of misery and slavery, discrimination and blacklist. There is not one maritime worker who wishes to return to such dark and unhappy days.

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Thirdly - The rank and file will never go through a maritime picket line.

Fourth - The labor movement is not going to be afraid and match the most greedy, most vicious section of the American capitalist class wreck such a fighting unit of the organized labor movement as Local 38-79 International Longshoremen's Association.

The workers have made their demands. They have launched their violent redbaiting program to split the workers, they have adopted their policy of passive resistance, in an attempt to wreck the heart and soul of the maritime workers, they have closed their dock gates, let the ships go by Frisco in an attempt to demoralize the workers, they have sent their stooges-pigeons and rats to start whispering campaigns of slander, they have laid the egg which for months they have been trying to get out of their system. Despite all of their well laid plans they will remain the few. We are the many. They have to depend on purchased help. We have natural, courageous, working-class leaders and working-class discipline to lead us and to guide us. We are right. We shall win.

Our position is clear. At present we must launch a campaign to bring our side of the question before the public.

1. 75,000 copies of a special edition of the Voice of the Federation will be on the streets of Frisco Monday - 15,000 copies of these to outside ports.

2. A large open-to-the-public mass meeting to be held as soon as the arrangements can be completed.

3. Delegations of speakers to other ports to get our side of the controversy before the rank & file. By maintaining our unity - our solidarity we cannot be defeated.

Let us stick by our leaders who led us out of the mire and stink of the Blue Book, of discrimination and blacklist. Let us be prepared to have won through sacrifice and bloodshed.

UNITED WE STAND - DIVIDED WE FALL!

** RECREATION CENTER AVAILABLE FOR MEETINGS **

The membership meeting of the Recreation Center held March 31st straightened out a lot of screwy ideas that some people spread about the Center. The reports of the temporary Executive Director and the Secretary-Treasurer met the full approval of the membership. The fact that the Rank & File (as in all the waterfront unions) will control the Center, answers all the rumors and slander and sets the people on the right path of honor and as agents of the shipowners.

The trouble is that some union members have been misled by the rumors, one of the favorite ones being that the Center is a "red" organization. Without doubt the center will dominate the new organization, taking up where the unions and Federation cannot enter. The Center will make a means of solidifying the unity of all crafts in the cultural, social and athletic fields. The Center will promote the knowledge of the men through forums, classes and educational forms of all kinds. The hall can also be used for emergency meetings, for Ichthians during a strike or lock-out and can be very easily turned into a present dispatching hall. The hall is available, use it.

** BOOK STORE AT PEDRO ENTERED BY VIGILANTES **

Goodale early on the morning of April 18th broke into the International Bookshop in San Pedro, broke the glass door, knocked books off shelves and tore the books off others.

The store was visited yesterday by Hach, well-known and universally hated red squad member. He was seen again at the door of the store around midnight. The place was entered between 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning.
BUTLER SAYS: "WAR IS A RACKET".

HE STATES: "WE WHOLLY AND FRANKLY ON THE SIDE OF LABOR."

When one of the country's leading military men starts discovering what causes war—that's news. General Smiley D. Butler is that man—and every Rank and File should be present in Dreamland Auditorium the night of Wednesday, April 22, to hear Butler on "War Is A Racket". Butler ought to know. Here is his record, and here is how he stands today, in his own words:

"THE BUSINESS RULERS OF THIS COUNTRY, AND THE POLITICIANS WHO DANCE TO THEIR TUNE, ARE NOW PREPARING THE GREATEST WAR IN HISTORY....."

"I WOULD LIKE TO SEE A GENERAL STRIKE AGAINST WAR ..... I AM WHOLLY AND FRANKLY ON THE SIDE OF LABOR ---- I HATE FASCISM AS MUCH AS I HATE WAR...."

"I HAVE BELIEVED THAT CAPITALISM COULD BE CONTROLLED TO GIVE THE WORKERS A FAIR BREAK. BUT I CONFESSION MY FAITH IN CAPITALISM IS STEADILY GROWING weaker."

"I served in every rank, from private to general, and half that time was spent in fighting on foreign soil for the benefit of American bankers. But now I've sworn that I'll never fight again in a war outside our borders, not let my three sons fight even if I have to shoot the conscription officer that comes to take us."

LISTEN to what Butler says about the police (remember he tried to reorganize the crooked Philadelphia Police force several years ago):

"Like our other armed forces, the police are creatures of the political machine. They must bend to the will of the administration in power, or those who control the administration in power. The army, navy, and national guard do so. The police are not exempt."

Remember July, 1934, we will agree that the General knows his stuff. He also advises workers not to handle ANY goods of any sort to ANY foreign land in time of war, for "In modern war, every product is some kind of war implement."

Butler says: "FIGHT WAR NOW. GET OUT ON THE STREETS AND PARADE. DON'T LET THE WKR CROWD HAVE THE SHOW TO THEMSELVES."

Well, General, we won't. We'll be out in force to prove that San Francisco workers know their own interests when it comes to war and Fascism. And credit to the American League Against War and Fascism, and the American Youth Congress, for arranging this wonderful educational opportunity for us and our sympathizers in the middle class and professional groups.

GEORGE KIDWELL, HEAD OF BAKERY WAGON DRIVERS AND AN OFFICIAL OF THE MARITIME FEDERATION OF THE PACIFIC, WILL SPEAK --
ALL OUT TO HELP GENERAL BUTLER WEDNESDAY NIGHT, APRIL 22, 8 P.M. --
DREAMLAND AUDITORIUM (15, 25, 40c)
Bring your friends - let 'em learn somethin'.

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NEWS IS WHAT YOU WANT AND A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF THE PRESENT SITUATION.

The Waterfront Worker this week is 4 pages. This is due to the urgency and necessity of making as clear as possible why the Lock-Out and how to combat it. There is no question that many workers have become confused and may take the wrong slant on the situation if it is not explained so clearly that every man would have a good understanding of the forces behind the present move. The official I.A. Publicity Committee is issuing a daily Lock-Out Bulletin and for fresh, up-to-the-minute news the editorial committee of the Waterfront Work or suggests that every member stuff himself of a copy and read it thoroughly. The editorial committee may find it necessary to discontinue the Waterfront Worker during the present crisis because the Lock-Out Bulletin will be able to use the latest news and cover it much more thoroughly than the Waterfront Worker coming out once a week.
Sometimes you hear a long-time man say, "Well, here we are, in trouble again."

And rightly so, we are in trouble now but yet. The workers are always in trouble.

Can you ever remember, when the question of a job, of having a roof over your head, of providing for yourself, for your wife, for your children was not uppermost in your mind? The workers are always having those thoughts in mind. Why? Because even if you are steadily employed you know that your job is not secure. If employed you are afraid of losing your job. If unemployed you are afraid of being out of relief. Insecurity is always staring you in the face.

Because the workers realize these things is the reason why they organize into trade unions. In trade unions they discuss their common grievances and lay plans to change them. When they do, then trouble starts with a hatred that the employers, that small group in society who own and control the means of production, do not want the workers to get together and improve their conditions collectively, because when they do, they cut into the employers' profits. The employers' profits are more sacred to them than the health, the welfare and lives of millions of workers.

That is where the class struggle comes into play. On one side you have the greedy employer wringing the last drops of sweet and energy from the workers and on the other side the workers, working for a miserable wage and fighting for his very existence. The employing class also the working class having nothing in common. The employing class demands in terms of profits. The workers in terms of bread and butter. The struggle goes on. At present the employing class are the rulers. They are the dictators except in those countries where the workers became so strongly organized that they overthrow the capitalist rulers and set up their own workers' government, such as in Soviet Russia, or in other countries such as Spain, France and Italy, where the working class combined their strength into a broad united front irrespective of religious opinion, political belief or trade union organization and elected these people's representatives into the government. In such countries the working class have effectively stopped the employers' attacks against labor.

As long as the workers remain unorganized, the employer can do just about as he pleases. Or when the workers take steps for organization the employer immediately moves in with his stooges to take control and run it, not in the workers' interest, but in the interest of the employers.

What the employers fear is militant fighting organizations, with fearless, intelligent trade-union leaders, such as Local 56-79.

On numerous occasions, particularly right now, the employers are demanding that the leadership be removed. Why?

For one thing such leaders can not be bought. They cannot be intimidated. They have out-maneuvered and out-toughed so, shrewdsmen at every turn of the battle. Such leaders the employers do not like to deal with. militant leaders continuously show up the employers' weaknesses, which gives other sections of the working class courage and initiative to demand a living wage and better working conditions.

Peace and security will never reign supreme for the workers until the working class are organized as strongly that the employers can not dictate to them.

Many maritime workers had the illusion or belied vision, that everything was "sitting pretty" on the front. The reason, well, we have steady jobs, good conditions, we can work when we want and lay off when we want, we can buy clothes that we need, maybe buy a car or a home.

The sudden precipitation of the lock-out has shown just how insecure we are and not until the majority of American workers are organized will a broad people's front can we prevent and stop such cold-blooded action as this.

In the city elections last year many waterfront workers voted either for Rosa or OR thinking no doubt, that as far as they were concerned they were economically secure and need not worry a great deal about just who was elected, but now things are a little different.

We are faced with a lock-out and we will find through very bitter experience just who our friends are and the wroth enemies are.

The quicker we learn that our fellow-workers in their own mass organizations are our friends, the quicker we will enjoy peace and security.

The quicker we learn that by uniting all forces of the working class into a fighting people's front the quicker we will enjoy peace and security.

Now more than ever Unity and Solidarity is the primary necessity.

In this hour of struggle let us take steps that will solidify the forces of the working class. Let us take steps to build a Farmer-Labor Party which will look out for our interests and will not depend on the honeyed blah-blah of a slick talking politician.

If we want to enjoy peace and security we must take action now. Let us take steps.

FORWARD TO A FARMER-LABOR PARTY

FOR PEACE AND SECURITY.

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LET LABOR ASSERT ITSELF

"From the most practical standpoint, let labor assert itself independently on the political field, and then the old parties will make the greater mistake than they did. Let labor have its own party, and there will be no "breathing spell" until every worker has a job, purchasing power, and a decent standard of life." - Isidoro Hagler, Worker's Right and public employee in International Labor Contraband Workers Union, from speech at A.F. of L convention.

BOTOCOY STANDARD OIL

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