September 17, 1948

Shipowners to Army: 'Go to Hell!'

Army to Shipowners: 'Okay, Thanks!'

Proposals Voted Down By 18 to 1

SAN FRANCISCO — The most sweeping jolt yet given to the Taft-Hartley Act by any union was served up last week by striking longshoremen, shipclerk, walking boss and warehousemen members of the ILWU who voted against complying with the law's optional provisions by better than 18 to one.

The vote was a ringing "solidarity forever" reply to the red-baiting attempts of the shipowners to wreck the union.

The same striking members of the union cast a similar vote to reject the last take-it-or-leave-it contract offer of the shipowners to the ILWU by the shipowners. While they were pretending to offer continuous adherence to the hiring hall to the union, they were at the same time carrying out a union-busting move. It is a call for scabs to apply at its employment office at Fort Mason at 8 a.m. September 14. The ILWU has used during the past 12 years and it reinstitutes by-passing the hiring hall.

The Taft-Hartley Act also showed up in a ridiculous light September 10 when general counsel Robert Denham of the NLRB announced he was considering halting the hearings on unfair labor practices brought against the ILWU by the shipowners.

Denham, no friend of the union, told the press in Washington he might be in the unique position of asking a court to force a union to bargain with employers who refuse to bargain with the ILWU.

SHIPOWNERS' DOUBLE TALK

The shipowners thus stood charged with double talk by one of their own friends. While they were pretending to offer continuing adherence to the hiring hall to the union, they were at the same time carrying out a union-busting move.

Cops and Pickets — Los Angeles police turned out in full force at San Pedro September 9 to protect Harry Lundeberg's SUP scabs while they unloaded lumber from the fink ship SS Rolando. The vessel was owned by the Irwin-Lyons Lumber Co. of Coos Bay, Ore., which signed a back-door deal with the SUP giving them jobs belonging to the Marine Firemen and Marine Cooks & Stewards. Top, shows motorcycle police armed to teeth before the San Pedro dock where the Rolando was berthed. Bottom, shows pickets from ILWU, MCS and MFOW parading peacefully alongside the fink ship. (See story on page 7.)

Almon Roth's Afraid To Peek at Union Side

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Francisco Employers' Council listened solemnly to the red-baiting anti-labor lines of Frank (Finkhall) Folse and shipowners' attorney Gregory Harrison on September 7 and then, on motion of Adrian Falk, voted to go down the line in support of the shipowners.

Immediately upon adjournment of the meeting, ILWU information director Morris Watson approached Almon E. Roth, president of the S.F. Employers' Council, and asked:

"How is it you are satisfied to take action on such an important issue as this without hearing both sides? Why don't you hear Harry Bridges?"

"Oh," said Roth airily, "Mr. Bridges will never come to meetings like this."

"On the contrary," said Watson, "I represent the union and I can guarantee to you that Mr. Bridges will address you if you will call a meeting."

Mr. Roth spluttered and exploded with a word as unprintable as it is unseemly to the dignity of this place. "Are you afraid to hear Mr. Bridges?" asked Watson.

Roth backed away, shouting the unprintable word over and over. It seems to be the only word he could think up.

Who Said It?

"It is to be regretted that the rich and powerful too often bend the acts of government to their selfish purposes. When the laws undertake . . . to make the rich richer and the potent more powerful, the humble members of society, the farmers, mechanics, and laborers, who have neither the time nor the means of securing like favors to themselves, have a right to complain of the injustice of their government."

(Turn to back page for name of author)
W ith the chips get down Hearst gets dirty. His is not just the yellow journalism for which he has been infamous for so many decades. It is a journalism of senile hatred for the workingman. When this senile hatred is fed, as it has been fed, by the hysterical fantasies of profit-corporated shipowners and strained through the emotional press-agency of an ex-FBI sleuth, the result is nothing short of castor oil.

Since the beginning of the West Coast maritime strike this result has stunk up the pages of all the Hearst papers of the country, and none more than those of the San Francisco Examiner. That newspaper—the term being used for want of a more suitable printable term — has sent its reporters to search for the lowest dregs among the stool-pigeons and quote them as “unionists,” “waterfront observers,” or under some other invented term to lend fancied authority to “waterfront observers,” or under some other

It is not surprising that a committee calling on the editor had at least a little effect. It is an accepted fact that anyone doing wrong operates in fear just as a burglar is gripped with terror by a creaking floor. Hearst and his stooges seek to split the unity of any union and then make it defeat itself. They live in constant fear that the ranks will discover the deception and hit them in the circulation department, which would in turn put their advertising on the downgrade. They play both ends against the middle. They gain advertising from big business by helping to wreck unions and keep workingmen divided, but it is upon the workingman that they depend for circulation figures. Therefore, the more Hearst papers left on the stands and the more subscriptions cancelled, the quicker will Hearst be stopped in his lying.

Almost all Hearst reporters apologize for working for him. Their usual line has been: "Well, it’s a living.”

So is pimping.

PAPERS LOOK SILLY

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At the same time, it has consistently ignored or distorted the statements of union officials or official spokesmen, while giving excited and exaggerated play to the literary flatulence of the shipowners.

The Examiner a mere heckle of a union officer becomes widespread booing, a revolt in union ranks. A vote that doesn’t come out to suit Hearst or the shipowners ...
Sink Taft-Hartley — Members of ILWU Local 13 voting on the referendum conducted by the union on two shipwower proposals, their last offer having taken the form of a public vote to which the Taft-Hartley Act applied. The longshore, clerks, walking boss and watchmen's locals of the union swayed under both proposals.

Congress Witchhunt Is Labeled Tax Evasion

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The British-American disagreement over how many Marshall Plan dollars will go to Germany looks into the open this week, expediting the United States determination to make over the European economy to fit military plans for the next war.

For some weeks now the news media in Europe have been reporting the meetings in Paris are bogged down. Representatives of all the countries involved, at a summit meeting of the Marshall Plan in the first year of operations, the countries of Western Europe, many of whom were devast-ated by the German war machine, felt that $364,000,000 was enough. At the outset, the top Marshall Plan chief in Europe, W. Bernard Harriman, stated that he would stick to this position very long. Harriman soon began pushing the pressure, insisting that the Germans get priority.

The United States policy of splitting deniers has been modified to a joint one. But this time the British stepped out. Although the administration of the Western zone of Germany is jointly British-United States, the British have refused to go along with the American demand. One French spokesman, commenting on this situation, pointed out that the United States program, as it was being spelled out in the Marshall Plan, was being forced to limit Germany's tax evasion and the other way around.

The refusal of the United States to move an inch on this issue, and the importance that is placed on the rebuilding of Ger-

Marshall Plan Scheme to Make Over European Economy Revealed

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a "100 per cent American" whose job was to negotiate the Taft-Hartley Act with the American unions, but his Americanism doesn’t look so good to state income tax collectors.

Kersten, whose House labor subcommittee is currently smear- ing the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers (CIO), was involved in charges of state income tax evasion here a year ago. The Milwaukee Journal, itself anti-labor to the core, said in an editorial on Kersten January 25, 1947:

"Tax evasion is one of the most un-American things a man can do. It is an admission that he is not aspiring to public life, who dodges his just taxes. Kersten failed to file returns on his state base for 1943, 1944 and 1945. After that was brought to public attention, he paid up in January, 1946. In a number of earlier years, he had either failed to make returns or under-estimated his taxes, paying up at a later date.

One of the most active members of the House Labor Committee, Kersten has, since his election in 1946, spent the major part of his energies in attacking labor. Not only did he vote for the Taft-Hartley act but, together with his corporate attorneys, helped draft it.

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agement providing a sliding wage scale.

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Europe Report No. 7

on Gulf of Finland

Helmski, Finland.
August 29, 1948.
Mr. Harry Brown,
President, ILWU,
San Francisco.

Dear Mr. Brown,

I was air-mailed from Moscow August 22nd. We spent three days in Moscow.

There we met the trade union officials and the leaders of other groups from all over the world. We also met the top officials of the Transport Workers Union.

And of course we visited the Port and the quays. The port is well shopped, checkers, crane opera-

tors, and all the shanty. They are all in the Trans-

port Workers Union, a more ex-

pansive union than the ILWU.

PORT IS MECHANIZED

The port is here mechanically, loading and unloading being done with overhead monorail cranes. Winches are used very little. The work is six hours with a half hour for meals between.

There is a second shift which gets an hour for meal time. And the work week is limited to forty-

eight hours. There is overtime for workers. There are different rates of pay for the various jobs. The rates are set while extra milk and fat is provided free where the workers eat.

And the work day is limited to six-

teen hour days with a half hour for

lunch. The hours are twelve hours.

RUSSIANS BIG EATERS

The union also maintains a fine restau-

rant, the dinner hour there is called Olivo in a lovely wooded spot on the outskirts of Helsinki.

The disturbing thing at these af-

ners that the Russians are big-

gers and drinkers and than we

are and we insist that they follow suit.

The American workers here are

very good to the people and their fami-

lies.

The trip from Leningrad to Helsin-

ki took only one hour and a half.

The trip is very comfortable.

The Russian railway is doing a great job.

The trains are very fast and clean.

The food on the trains is good.

The.transit of workers only.

The workers are paid by the hour.

They get paid for all holidays.

The law provides that the worker receives

two and a half times the regular rate.

The overtime the first two hours are

time and a half and after that

an hourly rate is 78 marks but the

tariff brings the average wage up

by 25%. The workers have to

work, no pay, except that the

pension plan is very good.

That is the case in prac-

tically no use of wine.

Dispatches of workers closely

The trip from Leningrad to Helsinki took only one hour and forty-five minutes.

Finnish Trade Unions are housed in an imposing five and a half story building with every modern con-

venience.

U. S. LOSSES, FINNISH GAIN

We have met the top officials of the American Federation of French Workers.

Of course there is no hatred in this land against any, not even the Germans who committed such inhuman crimes.

The people of the Soviet Union so richly deserve.

There is no hatred in this land against any!

The US workers who have met the Russians are big-

ers and drinkers than we

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Here Are Excerpts from Capp's First Radio Script

Before I begin this news comment, I have an exclusive for you. Carefully—oh, I can't repeat it. Exclusive!

I don't know any more about what's going on than you do! I just read the papers and I'm just as confused as you are.

For instance: take these two important dispatches. Both of them are about the thing nearest and dearest to the hearts of the people of the United States.

HEAT PUT ON

When the Voice staff-members Marty Solow and Bernard Stephens learned that Al Capp was being broadcast one night of August 22, they immediately raised the question of what had happened between broadcast one and broadcast two, Capp said he preferred not to talk about it.

While both Capp and his manager were expected to arrive in town before 9 p.m. last night, there had been a change in the nature of the radio program.

The Voice learned from a source close to the American Broadcasting system that Capp had been told his slant on the news was not desirable.

At a meeting of the ABC big-wheels, plus Lee Hotam representative, Capp was informed, but firmly, this source said, that he wasn't exactly a news analyst and that perhaps it would be better all around if he would stick to funny stuff and stay away from politics to other people.

Here's the broadcast on Cappy's amours.

CAPPIE LIKIT

During the course of the interview with Capp, the man whose syndicated strip makes over $46,000, can have one! And the main thing is that, in 25 per cent of America where the high price of meat belonged — on the radio airwaves.

Although Capp wouldn't talk about his new program line, his pre-broadcast warm-up provided further tip-off on what had happened.

Capp, a big, broad-shouldered guy, shook my hand and then shock of black hair akin to L'il Abner's, not at a table in front of the audience, taking the questions of Alka-Seltzer and Alka-Seltzer. He generously offered to share his Alka-Seltzer with the audience, warning them, "They need it after the program."

A few seconds before he went on the air, Capp with a wry smile, remarked that this broadcast marked "Farwell to Al Capp, a big, broad-shouldered guy, and to Alka-Seltzer of dreams."

This type of censorship isn't a new experience for Capp, whose syndicated strip occasionally has a lucky wallop at such sacred cows as Southern poll-tax congressmen. Last year, the Pittsburgh Press marked in its papers a seven-day crusade against Southern congressmen in the person of a cartoon character called Senator Phineas Phongboud. And so the

On the face of it, this is the kind of news comment Capp was not talking about.

But just when you're feeling real good about this, the Detroit Tribune spoils everything with this headline:

"SMALL HOMES AT
NORMALLY SUPPLY 25% OF
DOANYbands OF HOMES."

But just when you're feeling real good about this, the Detroit Tribune spoils everything with this headline:

"HOUSING SHORTAGE
STILL SEVERE IN
52% OF AMERICA (WAVELION.)"

Oh, thanks, let's get back to the good old New York Times, the part about that wonderful 25% of America where there's no shortage of homes.

Of course, the story didn't mention how much they cost, and hav-}

ing seen some of the prices, they've tagged on to some of the things. And the only shortage was money. Better, yes! Those big, small estate fellows can't solve all the shortag-

er.

The main thing is that, in 25 per cent of all American cities, any plain, hard-working chap who can afford to pay, say, $40,000, can have one! And the solution for the other 75 per cent of Americans, where you and your families are living in clerks, and you're not a very row- verted chicken, is simple; let them all move into that grandica, a place where there are plenty of houses for everyone.

And now—for the Al Capp Rap.

To the most embarrassing Ameri- cans, who have had to say all the things that fill in for me here the other 48 states, a tip of the cap to you, Parnell Thomas.

Look here, Drew why do you keep pestering that little (chairman of the Un-American Activities Committee, J. Parnell Thomas? I'm not going to answer those questions."

I predict that J. Parnell Thomas will never answer your nasty, nosy questions! And I also pre- dict that you can't do anything about it—so there.

TACKERS PROFITTER

There's only one man in Ameri- ca who can threaten to toss a fel- low American into the ink for refusing to answer incriminating questions. And that man, fortunately for J. Parnell Thomas—is J. Parnell Thomas. Congratulations J. Parnell Thomas! Aren't you lucky you're lucky? You've made a survey in New York this week shows that meat prices have risen 11 per cent since those nasty alarmist- price ceilings were taken off due to the demand of a large group of indis- cernible citizens, a group which hap- pened to be mainly composed of citizens in the meat business. You remember—the purpose was to allow meat prices to adjust themselves to a sensible level.

BILLIONAIRES EAT WELL

The level they've all usted themselves to is Middle Class—so that is, if you happen to be in the meat business.

Well in a recent issue of the Saturday Evening Post, one of the largest meat-dealers in America ran a full-page ad.

It showed a mother looking at a fat, happy baby—and under-
Shabby Treatment

Shabbily treated received at the hands of the Waterfront Employers Association since the end of World War II by veterans of the merchant marine, according to these veterans, makes it impossible for them to return to normal life after the war. They were especially interested in the peace talks in Paris.
Day to Day
Local 6 warehousemen em-
ployed at the California and Ha-
wan Sugar Co. plant in Crock-
ett, Cal., are working on a day-to-day basis while negoti-
ations between union officials and the company continue in an effort to reach a peaceful settlement.

The old contract expired on Sep-
tember 7. Negotiations with the com-
pany had been in progress for seven weeks. A two-week exten-
sion was agreed upon following the original expiration date of August 20.

Union demands include an across-the-board wage increase, a 3-cent increase for workers em-
ployed on back-to-back work week, a 5-cent overall increase for men employed in departments being mechanized, promotion for casual workers who are qualified into steady jobs, and additional machinery to cover changes in working rules.

The C and M mechanism program is expected to displace up to 300 mechanics.

COMPANY WANTS STRIKE

In an open effort to provoke a strike, the company insists upon removing for- men from the site. If this drive is successful, 10 per cent of the company's warehousemen would be removed from ILWU jurisdiction.

The company also wants to change the expiration date of the agreement. This would make the strike weapon almost useless because it could be used only at the climax of the slow season. It also demands that the company wait until the existing working con-
ditions unilaterally.

AFL, sugar workers' union, which covers refinery employees at C and M, has reached the same impasse in negotiations with the company. It has compiled with Taft-Hartley law and gone through the process of winning a union election, but it is in the same boat as the non-
compliance ILWU. Relations be-
tween the two unions have been good.

AFL Plot Failure

Globe Mill strikers are solid in their seventh week on the bricks, with a company plot to bring the AFL into the Astor Mill ex-
novation.

A Taft-Hartley unfair labor practice case has been brought against Local 17 in Sacramento, but an AFL petition for an elec-
tion has been defeated. The strike against Local 17 in Astor has been withdrawn by the union, though not by the company.

The company is making no at-
tempts to settle the dispute, which is march seven days a week, de-
manding job security and a 20-cent raise.

The company-instigated AFL plot was exposed in a membership meeting by ILWU international representative Matt Meehan. He suspected the company had some thing up its sleeve when it sent letters to all members praising them and saying if only they didn't belong to the ILWU but to some other union everything would be lovely.

STRIKES HAD BASIS

His suspicions proved well-
grounded when in his hotel room after an evening meeting he heard a group of men in an ad-
joining room with an open tran-
smission discussing raising the ILWU Mechan recognized four of the voices as those of Local 18 members. The raiding plot was to start with red-skinning and firing with the signing of the members into the com-
pany. Meehan called a special meet-
ing of the strikers and exposed the plotter to the ballot. The meet-
ning voted a $300 fine each and the four are now back on the picket lines.

One admitted his dealings with the AFL were a company idea and the company com-
manded the company negotiate.

New Contract

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manded the company negotiate.

Hinde & Dauch

At Hinde & Dauch Paper in Clev-
eland Local 209 won an 8 cent per hour increase retro-
estive to June 1, the contract extend-
ion last month after the com-
pany agreed to a 50-cent raise in wages, which was recommended by a joint board of the company and the union.

New Contract

A new contract with U. S. Steel in Cleveland met drastic changes for Local 209 warehouse-
rates. The agreement runs through July 26 and establishes a 90-cent hiring rate for women and $1 for men.

Women used to receive as low as 65 cents per hour and a 90-cent rate was fixed for women.

The raises are retroactive to the plotters, which meet-
ning voted a $300 fine each and the four are now back on the picket lines.

These figures are for sala-
ges and are not income.

Cotton compress negotiations-

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Cotton compress negotiations

Voorhees. These figures are for sala-
ges and are not income.
Rally for Victory — CIO unions in the San Francisco Bay area marched in full force behind the slogan “Unite all unions behind the maritime strikers” on Labor Day. The parade was geared to impress the public with the solidarity of all labor against arrogant shipowners who have union-busting intentions. To left, Richard Lyn- den, secretary of ILWU Local 6 and chairman of the San Francisco CIO Council, addressed the assembled CIO marchers at a meeting late September 2.

Dockers’ 18-to-1 Vote Kicks Taft-Hartleyism in Teeth

(Continued from Page 1) time asking the NLRB to hold their own offer to be illegal. Then, while accusing the union of refusing to bargain with them in good faith, they were them- selves announcing to the press they would never bargain with the union until it signed anti- communist affidavits.

The merry-go-round was even too much for Denham. "We've been Taff-Hartleyized" entered by ILWU Local 78, sent word to the ILWU strike committee that their September 2 membership meeting “unanimously voted to send you an assurance of support. We see you win in the brave struggle you are waging today among the agri-cultural workers are fighting off AFL Teamster raids.

Local 123 of the CIO United Public Workers called the ILWU “the only organization with enough guts to stick its guns,” and offered “whole-hearted sup-

BALK AT DIVERTED CARGO

Union longshoremen stopped speculation by employers on the possibility of diverting cargo North with a refusal to handle any cargo diverted from any strike area to cargoes which would originally have gone through United States ports. Ves-

Another important point on the agenda is to study use of the results of the union’s delegation which visited European countries this past summer and adopt meas-

Proof that child labor leads to curtailment of education is con-

Coast Negotiating Committee,

Answer to Who Said It?

Andrew Jackson, 1832

ILWU Executive Board

To Plan Strike Backing

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU se-

reporter-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt

announced that the regular quar-

tely meeting of the Interna-

tional Executive Board had been

called for Thursday and Friday,

September 16 and 17, to be held

in San Francisco.

Chief question on the agenda

was to be the mobilization of all

ILWU locals behind the maritime

strike. Methods of informing the

entire membership of the impor-

tance of this battle were to be

considered and plans laid for get-

ting the co-operation of other

labor groups and community sup-

port.

A pledge of full support of the

ILWU proposaPfor load-

ings but the egg,” 75 National

Maritime Union members on the

coast side said they were not going to support the ILWU. Waterproof clothing was promised for workers, but no immediate action was taken.

The figures on the vote given

for the ILWU strike committee.

The figures on the vote given in the letter were those available as of noon on September 10. The totals were later increased by late reporting locals. The final figures are given in the tabulation printed on Page 2.