September 16, 1949

The DISPATCHER
Official Newspaper of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO

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Vol. 7, No. 18

September 16, 1949

BIG FIVE WON'T MAKE DEAL

Warehousemen Spurn Peanuts

5 Cent Offer Considered
A Phoney
SAN FRANCISCO—Solidarity hit Bay Area warehouse owners between the eyes during the last fortnight and Local 6 warehousemen marched more determinedly on the picket line.

A miserable offer of 5 cents per hour—dubbed peanuts by the ranks—to settle the strike was flung back into the owners' teeth.

As The Dispatcher went to press on September 14, the strike was in its 33rd day and the ranks were prepared to go another 90 days.

At the outbreak of the strike, the employers said, through Tokyo Rose letters to Local 6 members, "wages should be reduced," "prices indicate a wage increase is not justified" and "general business conditions are bad.

INADEQUATE

With the "inadequate" 5-cent offer they now say . . . we are ready and willing to grant you a wage increase.

A joint membership meeting of 7,500 Oakland and San Francisco members of Local 6 on September 7, almost unanimously rejected the employer offer.

The offer made on the 83rd day of the strike against DANC on September 7, a report by Westchester County District Attorney George M. Fanelli expressing conviction that further mediation was hopeless.

Scores of union members were among those hurt in the rock-cracking at the second Peekskill concert audience. The grinning trooper among the agitated hoodlums shown above put a face up on America that looks all too much like the face of Germany sixteen years ago.

NEW YORK — Talks held between the ILWU and Hawaiian stevedoring firms blew sky high in a cloud of employer bad faith.

Nine proposals by the union to settle the longshore strike in Hawaii were met with stony silence from the employers and not even one counter offer.

It was clear the employers were banking upon the Stalibreaking laws to ride out the unions unshaking solidarity.

CHING OFFERED SERVICES

Negotiations were moved to New York, after an appeal to both sides by Federal Mediation Service chief Cyrus Ching offering his services. The union readily accepted the offer, the Hawaiian Employers Council reluctantly agreed to come to the East Coast.

ILWU President Harry Bridges issued the nine proposals which the employers rejected and whose rejection prompted Ching to remark that in steel industry to make an investigation and recommenda-

Who Said It?

"The American public has always viewed with repugnance everything that smacks of the spy." (Turn to back page for name of author)

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued on Page 3)
TWO attacks upon peaceable assemblies have been made at Peekskill, New York. In the first instance veterans' organizations announced that they would parade in protest against a concert by Paul Robeson. Apparently the veterans had been incited by false newspaper reports and editorials regarding statements which Paul Robeson has made. In the first attack the veterans and hoodlums stoned, kicked and beat Negroes, even including aged women.

In the second instance, after Paul Robeson had announced that he would not be intimidated nor would the people who backed him be intimidated, certain dirty elements operating under the name of "veterans" organized another attack and Governor Dewey of New York supposedly ordered the State Troopers to keep order. From many eye witnesses we know now that at the second concert State police actually led the attack. We know that they guided the automobiles of concert-goers into blind alleys where they knew hoodlums were waiting for them. We know the State Troopers then broke windshields with their billies and gave tickets to drivers with broken windshields.

Even the photographs taken by the apolitical press show State Troopers grinning broadly as skulls are cracked by misguided fascist youth.

* * *

DOES all this have anything to do with us as a union? We believe it does. It started this way in Germany, and what happened in Germany is certainly well known to all of us.

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WINCHELL is not the only commentator who has dragged radio down in the dirt in this situation. Even the fancy little Jimmie Fidler has leaned into the fray. His contribution was to argue in effect that Paul Robeson was causing riots by refusing to drop dead. It is time the Federal Communications Commission looked into this shameful situation and if necessary start lifting some radio station licenses.

Governor Dewey knows that his own State Troopers did most of the skull cracking in the second Peekskill incident. He well knows also that he himself invited it by his very announcement that he would assign policemen, in which he indicated that in his opinion Robeson had no right to sing at a concert—presumably because Robeson is not of exactly the same political persuasions as Mr. Dewey. The injuries inflicted at Peekskill are injuries to all of us. If this sort of thing can be allowed in New York it can be allowed elsewhere. It can mean that all liberty is at an end, as it once, indeed, came to an end in Germany.

* * *

Governor Thomas E. Dewey (R) ordered a full mobilization of police forces to deal with what he termed an "outbreak of lawlessness" at the Bell Aircraft plant near Niagara Falls, N.Y., where United Auto Workers, CIO, strikers succeeded in preventing sales from entering the plant... The New York Teachers Union, CIO, will fight the Feinberg law in the courts. Passed in the last session of the legislature, it bars alleged subversives from public school jobs... The Virginia supreme court of appeals September 7 upheld the state's so-called right-to-work law which bans the closed shop and union stores.

President Gerald B. Ford of the striking Goodrich Rubber Local 5, in the recent strike against the Van Camp Sea Food Co. in San Diego, Cal., threatened to bring his firm's plant operations to a standstill if he is not allowed to continue the strike... The National Broadcasting Co. in Binghamton, N.Y., September 1 was a 9.6-cent hourly wage boost and other benefits... Twenty-two new labor union centers were opened in the United States... The AFL-CIO convention in Cleveland... The United Rubber Workers, CIO, struck against the Singer Sewing Machine Co. rejecting an offer of the Elizabeth, N. J., City Council to intervene in its 20-week dispute with Local 401, United Electrical Workers, CIO, though the union accepted the invitation...

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MORRIS WATSON, EDITOR

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Phone Number 5-6553 or P.0. Box 5-2220

GEORGE WIDMER, President

L. B. ROBINSON, Secretary

EDWARD M. FARMER, Treasurer

CLAYTON AffRENT, General Counsel

LUCIUS TAYLOR, Assistant Secretary

WILLIAM WATSON, Business Manager

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In Other Unions

Two Weeks of Labor Intelligence

Governor Thomas E. Dewey (R) ordered a full mobilization of police forces to deal with what he termed an "outbreak of lawlessness" at the Bell Aircraft plant near Niagara Falls, N.Y., where United Auto Workers, CIO, strikers succeeded in preventing sales from entering the plant... The New York Teachers Union, CIO, will fight the Feinberg law in the courts. Passed in the last session of the legislature, it bars alleged subversives from public school jobs... The Virginia supreme court of appeals September 7 upheld the state's so-called right-to-work law which bans the closed shop and union stores.

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Murray's Steelworkers Abandon Fight For Fourth Round Increase, Delay Strike At Truman's Behest

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—On September 12, the Steelworkers, headed by CIO President David J. McDonald, decided not to fight against the Big Steel fact-finding victory.

The leadership called off the scheduled strike, although Murray had accepted the fact-finding edict.

Included in the agenda was the membership's acceptance of a 170-man executive board and wage policy committee which approved Truman's request for an 11-day strike to determine the facts of the presidential fact-finding board created to seek a solution of the union's dispute with the steel industry.

After meeting all day September 12, the three-man board picked by the President to make recommendations to both the union and the steel industry had already gone along with the presidency's truce extension.

In his telegram to Truman, Murray said he abandoned the wage increase demand "with profound regret," though his union agreed to the federal committee's recommendations "in the interest of concluding a prompt settlement.

Six major steel companies had already gone along with the presidency's truce extension. They have not as yet sounded off on the insurance and pension proposal. The Steelworkers Union asked for a 20-cent hourly increase in wage and benefits; the employers agreed to 8 to 10-cent hourly package to cover insurance and wages.

"Nevertheless, in the interest of ending the legal dispute, the steel companies' recommendation would be the wish of the government," the Steelworkers Union commented on its rejection.

The Steelworkers Union, "authorizes the International Officers to accept the recommendations of the Steel Industry Board as set forth in its report to the President."

"In his message to the President, Murray said, he abandoned the wage increase demand "with profound regret," though his union agreed to the federal committee's recommendations "in the interest of concluding a prompt settlement."

Auxiliary Plans Portland Local

PORTLAND, Ore.—Much interest centers around recent efforts to get ILWU Local 8's Ladies Auxiliary here, Mrs. To Rey Christianen reports.

An important organizational meeting will be held September 28 at 8:30 p.m. at 200 W. Burnside St. and leaders of the Portland Local will attend. The next organizational meeting will be held 9 a.m. on September 25.

Re-affirming their belief that the 12-cent wage increase was fully justified and supported by the facts presented to the fact-finding board, the union added:

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SAN FRANCISCO—The Chi
day News correspondent in Honolulu, H. in an amar
ingly frank article said that ILWU President Jack Byrnes is "still firmly in the pilot's seat of the ILWU Local 8 and 7's shop stewards' immediate 3-month-old shipping strike."".

"Record lends some substance to this suspicion."
The employers refuse to arbitrate the wage issue which led to the ILWU's call for a strike, if not subjected to widespread, though unorganized criticism, by small businessmen and shopkeepers.

STRENGTHENED RANKS

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tions included a reference to other maritime unions.

"The strikers don't know much about Communism but they do know Bridges has always got more money. They're sticking with him."

Alien Hearings Opened To Public

PORTLAND, Ore.—Immigra
tions announced that hearings in Oregon will no longer be held behind locked doors as a result of a law passed here following the recent arrest of Carmen Miranda, a leading member of the Food Tobacco Agricultural & Allied Workers (CIO).

An open policy means admitting the public and the press to all such hearings was announced after a labor delegation visited Immigration Service head Roy J. Needham. The delegation demanded secret grillings of aliens facilitated "framing up and railroading.

PORTLAND, Ore.—A backlog of 282 cases among local employers and govern
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Mine, Mill Union Wins Tough Strike at American Zinc

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill.—Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Local 82, members in the American Zinc Co. plant in Fairmont City ended a year-long strike against the company. The strike was called for better working conditions and the monopoly with the union intact and the best conditions in the industry.

The settlement was reached September 8 after the union men, who had been on strike since January 1, 1950. A wage reopening clause was agreed to for January 15, 1951. A wage reopening clause was agreed to for January 15, 1951.

Grievance machinery remains the same as in the old agreement except that one board of arbitrators will serve for the duration of the contract. Seniority and checkoff provisions of the old agreement are retained and a union shop is guaranteed as soon as the NLRB can hold a union shop election.

METALLINE FALLS, Wash.—The strike at the Metalline Falls plant of American Zinc was settled last week when Local 515 and the company reached an agreement in the Coeur d'Alene district.

This means American Zinc will pay wage rates comparable to those at Coeur d'Alene in each classification, bringing an average increase of 6 cents per hour.

Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Local 82 will return to their former job. Fur-

naces are to be put back in oper-

ation on August 15, 1951.

Annual Picnic

ILWU members of Local 8 in Portland, celebrated their annual picnic at Cedarville Park on August 21. Contributing to the outstanding suc-

cess of the fete, attended by 3,000 people, were the officers of the Waterfront Community Committee. Left to right, standing: Jack Webster, Joe War-

ner, Mike Sickinger, chairman, Bill Mackey, secretary of Local 8 and sports events announcer, and Fred Bartlett, left to right, front row: Bert Pierce, George Brown, Ernie Bersh, Sharp and "Gravel." At extreme right, standing: the caterer who helped feed the 3,000 picnickers. (Don Leas, photographer).

ILWU Plays efter Tata

SAN FRANCISCO—The ILWU on September 2 protested to Gov-

ernor William Tuck of Virginia, the railroading of Lester Tate on a charge of robbery to a Virginia gang in 1942.

In a letter to Tuck ILWU Sec- 

tery Treasurer, Louis Goldblatt, demanded that the Governor

un- 

quash an extradition order he had signed to force the return of Tate to Virginia from California where he had been living since

his escape from the prison gang.

Since the letter was written, Tate has worked at Century Metalcraft in Los Angeles. He became a steward at the plant for his union, Local 700 of the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO and has been an effective leader of his union.

TRUMPED-UP

According to Goldblatt "The charges of robbery on which Tate (Albert Lindsay Grieves) was originally sentenced to the chain gang was a trumped up one, after he had been imprisoned in Norfolk, Virginia, on a charge of murder along with several other suspects. At his trial he was not allowed an attorney; he was the defendant assigned to him by the court, who told him he was 'not guilty' and until the day of the trial none of the men were iden-

ified in the alleged robbery. At the trial all of the defendants were identified by an 80-year-old white man, five months after the alleged robbery took place."

ILWU Plays efter Tata

Railroading

COOS BAY, Ore.—A south-

western Oregon longshore picnic was held at North Lake on Labor Day under the sponsorship of ILWU Local 12 and the ILWU Ladies' Auxiliary Local 1.

Main speaker was Burt Nelson, a member of Local 12's executive board. He warned of the alarming increase of unemployment and its effect on thousands of unemployed.

Burt Nelson Talk

He said that Burt Nelson was a member of Local 12's executive board. He warned of the alarming increase of unemployment and its effect on thousands of unemployed.

Burt Nelson Talk

Peekskill: Prelude To Fascism

By Sidney Roger

Peekskill, as I remember it from years back, was a pleasant Hudson River Valley community. Once, in a revolutionary mood, was a pleasant Hudson River Valley community. In the night. To the delight of the raucous ghosts that still watch over the Nulnremnook book-burning came to America.

Too many reports to be mere rumor indicate the police enjoyed the show as much as the mob writing this booklet. PEEKSKILL prelude to fascism. The ring-leaders of the mob have been exposed to justice.

It should be no trouble to expose the violence. The ring-leaders of the mob have been exposed to justice.

You have senses—if you can see, hear, to make up your mind.

Well, the votes are all counted. Now's the time to stand on that platform and start to produce. McGrath has the power to act—if he wants to.

He doesn't have to read far back into Hitler's history to know that Peekskill is just the first off-beat in the pulse that tells of something wrong with the body; some deeper poison in the blood stream.

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The British Crisis

By ISRAEL EPSTEIN

The so-called British dollar crisis, which has brought England's Foreign Secretary Ern-est Bevin and economic czar Stafford Cripps to Washington with hands outstretched, is really a crisis of the whole private ownership monopoly system.

In its youth, this system was known as free enterprise or competitive industrial capitalism. A profit motive was its prime mover. No factory-made article could be produced or distributed unless some employer or merchant could make a profit on the deal. Profit, not supply and demand, determined what was made and how much. This was proved by recurrent slumps, when food was left to rot and goods stayed in warehouses at precisely the times when people were hungry and unclothed—because they could not pay a profit-yielding price.

Today, as any ex-independent corner grocer now behind a chain store counter can tell you, the old free enterprise is practically dead. Production and distribution in many countries are still moved only by profit—but by the profit of a very few instead of a good number. The average small manufacturer or merchant is not even allowed to try for a profit unless some bank finds it profitable to lend him money, or some national brand manufacturer to give him an agency or sub-contract. This is known as monopoly, or finance capitalism. Under it, when the big fish have eaten the little ones, the biggest ones start on the merely big. And depressions are bigger too. Instead of single trades, or at most nations, they affect the whole free enterprise world.

Under gathering world depression clouds today, the Bevin-Cripps pilgrimage to Washington is an attempt by a shrinking Mr. Big to seek better merger terms from a victorious, but uneasy, Mr. Bigger. In the time honored, stern-faced banker's way, Mr. U. S. Bigger tells Mr. Bevin that he has to have his help to protect his assets, and Mr. Bevin has to have this help if he wants more credit. In the equally time-honored way of the debtor, the British half wheedle, half threaten that all business will go to the devil if terms are too harsh, and even Bigger himself won't escape the consequences. Particularly as some other fellows across the street, the Russians, Chinese and assorted east Europeans, have started a cooperative that asks no bank loans and wants to make things for use with no profit to anyone. Big, Bigger or even Small (with a capital letter). If Big and Bigger fight each other too hard, the British say, these subservient characters may succeed. Worse yet, others may follow their example.

NO LOVE OR TRUST

There is neither love nor mutual trust in this horse-trading. Washington has long told the British that if they will "sharply reduce the price of goods they want to sell," America might buy such goods for dollars (New York Herald Tribune, quoting Ambassador Harriman June 5). The British have replied that they don't believe it, because U. S. customs duties on woolen goods already amount to 50 per cent and American business is asking even higher tariffs to keep out other British goods (New York Times, July 13). They threaten further that if Britain does not get dollars uncondi- tionally, she will have to cut her own imports from U. S. manufacturers, which will "scare American dollars" (New York Times July 12).

Changing the subject, the British say that if they don't make concessions, the U. S. "may leave Britain's ability to compete with its foreign trade" and ruin British and U. S. interests in Hong Kong and the Middle East; or, the British may end up buying from the states resulting from reduced U. S. purchases of tin and rubber, might open the door to more social discontent and com- munism.

The excuse, briefly, that unless the British are paid for this and that other thing, the natives in these countries might take possession of their own natural resources for their own benefit, instead of being shipped into working for coalition profits of Messrs. Bigger & Big.
Justice Department Fails To Balk Susi Citizenship

NEW YORK (FP)---After a 5-year fight, Secretary-Treasurer Archidillo Susi of Local 31, Chefs Cooks Pastry Cooks & Stewards Union (AFL) became an American citizen September 1.

Victory came in federal court here when Judge Leo R. Rayfield swore Susi in after the U.S. Immigration Service failed to prove evidence to back up its charge that he was a member of an organization seeking to overthrow the government by force and violence and thereby subject to deportation.

The government's case was based on an affidavit submitted by George Hewitt, an FBI informer, who alleged Susi was a member of a subversive organization. Since Hewitt was not in court and available for cross-examination, the judge refused to accept the affidavit as evidence. Susi had denied all the allegations and insisted he never met or saw Hewitt.

PROCEEDINGS


According to Susi's lawyer, this is the first time that a federal judge granted citizenship to an applicant while deportation proceedings were being conducted against him.

Susi originally entered the U.S. illegally in 1926. After his entry was legalized, he applied for citizenship in 1944. Meanwhile he married an American wife and had two children.

They were present at a union-sponsored celebration September 1 where Susi praised the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born for its activity on his behalf. "I am proud to be an American citizen," he said, "and to take my place among all the citizens of this country and work for its continued progress.

All-White Jury Convicts Negroes

TAVARES, Fla.---A Florida judge September 8 sentenced Samuel Shepherd and Walter Irvin to die in the electric chair. Their alleged crime has been the excuse for many Lynchings of Negroes. They were charged with raping a white woman. They denied the charge.

The jury which found them guilty was all white. The trial was conducted in a tense, supercharged atmosphere where with spectators sitting quietly in a jump-crow section of the courtroom.

The alleged rape of Mrs. Willia Padgett on July 16 set off a reign of terror against Negroes in Groveland and surrounding towns. Homes were burned to the ground. Property was destroyed.

Many long-time residents were forced to leave the area and were warned never to return.

During World War II, one-third of the men examined were de- clared physically or mentally unfit for service in the armed forces.

President Roosevelt Seeks Injunction Against Unions

FRESNO, Calif.---(FP)--A hearing on an application by the Pacific Local 187 of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union for an injunction against an alleged boycott of an employer was heard September 25 by Judge William H. Bridges, Robertson and Schmidt with what comes out of the B-36.

The hearing was conducted in a tense, supercharged atmosphere where with spectators sitting quietly in a jump-crow section of the courtroom.

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B-36 Investigation in Washington

Uncovered by Lying By Navy Officials

WASHINGTON, D.C.---When the B-36 jet planes flew over the waterfront in Seattle discovered that some fifty of their members were being blacklisted, they protested to Congress and were then sworn in by the top Navy officials in Washington. They demanded an explanation of this "inexplicable" action, and the Navy not only refused to answer the charges, but sent Mr. Kimball, the Under-Secretary of the Navy, to investigate the matter.

It was Under-Secretary of the Navy in March who told the many letters that flowed out of the Navy explaining that this movement was "completely de- nial" and that there was no reason to be alarmed.

He indicated that the Navy was the final judge and its standards necessarily had to be the highest. Mr. Dan A. Kimball is pretty well mixed up in the B-36 scandal, it will be interesting—and enlightening—to compare the charged atmosphere with Negroes. They were charged with raping a white woman. They denied the charge.

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"You're slowing up, Timmons. Frankly we've been rather

Joying with the idea of replacing you with a younger man."
WAREHOUSE & DISTRIBUTION

Local 26 vs. Drug

Local 26 has launched an extensive community education campaign to organize a drive of a large Los Angeles retail drug warehouse whose union members were laid off by the drug company. The campaign began in early September with the goal of organizing the workers at the drug company.

Back Pay

Local 6 members employed at Consolidated Chemical Company in San Francisco received $5,250 in back pay. The money was awarded to the workers after a lengthy strike led by the United Food and Commercial Workers Union.

Local 26 has been bargaining agent for the workers since 1987 and has raised the basic minimum weekly wage to $14 in 50. In August the Teamsters sought to reach a new agreement with the drug company.

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LEGAL RECOUP

Heide pointed out that pears in the cold storage plants were the property of the large canneries. These canneries and other workers had been contacted by the Teamsters to avoid strike breakers and raiders.

Phoney 5-Cent Offer Is Rejected by Local 6 as Solidarity Strengthens

(Continued from Page 1)

5-cent offer flatly refused by Local 6 on September 8 that "it is a phony and a fake". The employer had tried to shift the responsibility for the low wage of union members to Local 6 in its representation of the employers.

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FACTS OF LIFE

"It remains to be seen how long it will take our employers, the members of Local 6, to recognize the facts of life. It remains to be seen how long it will take them to come forward with the kind of offer which can bring peace and a decent, honorable settlement to this industry."

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"It is a tremendous and costly fight. Besides the cost in private lives, it has been a waste of energy, the cost in energy, the cost in labor for the workers."

"It is a tremendous and costly fight. Besides the cost in private lives, it has been a waste of energy, the cost in labor for the workers."

"Honesty, to hear him tell it, this dictionary is never wrong!"

"Honesty, to hear him tell it, this dictionary is never wrong!"

SF Store Picketed On Discrimination

SAN FRANCISCO—Local 6 members last week joined picketers before the Wiseman Store on Fillmore Street in San Francisco because the store refused to sell to Negroes.

This is the first action in a concerted campaign to get the Negroes into the stores. At a time when nearly half of the 90,000 Negroes in the city are unemployed, the sponsors of the move are determined to secure equal job opportunities for Negroes.

The San Francisco CIO Council, Local 6 and the Affiliate Clubs and Organizations have joined to carry on the fight.
Singer Co. Plot Labor Unions End

SAN FRANCISCO—In a protest to the Singer Sewing Machine Co., the United Steelworkers of America, New York, August 29 the ILWU charged that the company is engaged in a plot which is "part of an over-all drive to destroy the organization, into which the working people look for security and protection of their homes and wages."

The letter sent by ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Cyrus S. Ching pointed out that the ILWU has called upon all ILWU locals to support organized labor. In the course of the 18-week old strike of the workers in the Singer plants in Elizabeth, N. J. and Bridgeport, Connecticut for job security and a decent standard of living.

The day is long past in this country when the open-shop can be re-established by corporations, no matter how powerful," he said. "Organized labor will not stand by and permit you to continue this all-out attack against the United Steelworkers of America, Radio and Machine Workers of America, nor will labor tolerate your refusal to bargain in good faith.

PERMANENT HARM

"As a company which manufactures an article for popular consumption, you will do yourself permanent harm in the consuming public unless prompt steps are taken by you to enter into a bargaining relationship and reach agreement with the union representing the workers.

At the same time, Goldblatt called upon all ILWU locals to work together in the Singer Sewing Machine Co. and demand that they sit down and negotiate in good faith with the union.

Social Security Tax Goes Up

WASHINGTON—The Social Security Act amendment, which was passed weekly pay gap will go up from 1 cent to 1 1/2 cents on next January 1. It is expected by House and Senate committee decided August 10 that the employers there were finally persuaded to go to New York where talks looking to settlement of the strike had led to their breaking off September 12. Shown in the picture are Mr. Ching, ILWU President Harry Bridges and Employers Spokesmen Dwight W. Steele, Fred Low, Jr., chairman of the ILWU strike committee, had not yet arrived in New York when picture was taken.

Big Five Won't Make Deal, New York Talks Scuttled by Bosses Bad Faith

Mediator and Spokesmen Since Chief of Federal Mediation and Conciliation Corps S. Ching would not go to Hawaii the employers there were finally persuaded to go to New York where talks looking to settlement of the strike had led to their breaking off September 12. Shown in the picture are Mr. Ching, ILWU President Harry Bridges and Employers Spokesmen Dwight W. Steele, Fred Low, Jr., chairman of the ILWU strike committee, had not yet arrived in New York when picture was taken.

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