Common Expiration Set for Coast Contracts

SECRETARY OF LABOR SLURS ILWU

Sugar, Pine Negotiations Interrupted

Union Accuses Mitchell of Hurling Political Dead Cat

HONOLULU—Negotiations between ILWU Local 142 and Hawaii's two major industries—sugar and pineapple—were suspended February 14, "until the tension created by Mr. Mitchell (US Secretary of Labor) has subsided and Mr. Mitchell has left the Territory."

Mitchell, passing through San Francisco on his way here to make a Republican speaking tour, said he agreed with Representative Francis Walter (Dem. Pa.) that ILWU was a "subversive" organization, and cited Hall as an example of the "Communist" leadership of the union. (See Hall statement on page 3).

Walter had made a similar remark while returning to the mainland on February 13, and said he would ask US Attorney-General Herbert J. Brownell to classify the union as such.

The suspension was announced in a special on-the-record meeting between negotiators of the pineapple industry and the union. It was put into the record by ILWU International President Harry Bridges, who is acting as a spokesman for Local 142 in the talks which have been under way for the past six weeks.

BRIDGES HITS MITCHELL

Bridges charged that Mitchell's attack on Jack Hall was "pre-arranged with the Governor of Hawaii (Samuel Wilder King)." He said negotiations "have been belittled by the gratuitous and prejudicial statements" of the labor secretary and that Mitchell had tossed a "political dead cat on the union's side of the collective bargaining table."

Bridges explained that the union was suspending the talks because "we can't proceed under such a handicap; we would be controlled by the labor relations committee."

SECRETARY OF LABOR SLURS ILWU

California District Councils Issue Call to Political Action

See pages 6 and 7

ILA President

Captain William V. Bradley, president of the International Longshoremen's Association (Independent) is shown here on January 27 when he appeared before the NY committee named the ILA, the PMA and the New York Shipping Association on February 6 agreed here upon August 1 as a common expiration date for all longshore and dock agreements.

The agreement was reached under the auspices of Chairman Herbert C. Bonner (Dem., N.C.) of the House Merchant Marine Committee and the ranking Republican member of the committee, Representative Thor C. Tollefson.

STATEMENT ISSUED

The agreement was subject only to ratification by the NYSA. This ratification was made on February 16. Chairman Bonner, following the February 6 meeting, issued the following statement:

"At the meeting today the leaders of both the management associations and the unions representing longshore labor unanimously agreed upon the desirability of establishing uniform termination dates for the labor contracts on both Coasts of the United States."

"They agreed also upon the desirability of contracts extending over at least a two-year period. The question of the specific date to be agreed upon was the subject of considerable discussion, and August 1 was tentatively selected as the date upon which both contracts would expire."

NYSA TO ACT

"This date was unconditionally agreed to by Paul St. Sure, representing the International Longshoremen's Association. Mr. Louis Goldblatt, representing the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union; and Mr. Patrick Connolly, representing the International Longshoremen's Association. Mr. Alexander Chopin, representing the New York Shipping Association, stated that he had no authority to agree upon any specific date other than the one, September 30, when his contract now expires. He indicated that he would be pleased to take this matter up with the members of his association at once and (Continued on Page 4)
This is the Year!

POLITICAL ACTION PROGRAM

ILWU PROGRAM

In the two presidential elections which have been held since the death of Franklin Delano Roosevelt—the elections of 1948 and 1952—the labor movement was able to do little to influence on America's political life has shown a marked decline over the past ten years.

Roosevelt—the elections of 1948 and 1952—the outcome. For many reasons, labor's professionals, white and Negro workers—are ready to begin to receive the recognition they deserve.

This was most strikingly shown a few weeks ago here in California at the conference of the Democratic Party clubs held at Fresno. Over 1,500 delegates representing the largest political party in the state adopted a series of resolutions which differed little from what we in the ILWU have been working for.

This fact is that this year more and more people—farmers, small businessmen, professionals, white and Negro workers—are ready to follow a political program which isn't very much different from what we in the ILWU have been working for.

As members of a union which held fast to the principles of rank and file democracy during the worst days of cold war hysteria, with loyalty proclamations and waterfront screening, Brownell laws and Taft-Hartley indictments.

The ILWU is, of course, committed to no party and to no candidate. At this stage of the campaign the union feels that the greatest political service individual ILWU members can make is to get into the party of their choice and work there actively for a program in the interest of American working people.

Every member is sure to be welcomed. The experience and savvy of the average ILWU member will be to the benefit of whatever political group he joins.

And our members will be surprised at how receptive people are to our approach and to our point of view.

As more and more ILWU members discover the opportunities which are at hand and throw themselves into the political activity in their own neighborhoods and communities, in the same way that they take on a union beef, the political campaign will still be getting down to brass tacks.

All kinds of high-level deals can be made in Washington, but when the votes are counted the payoff will be on the work that was done at the rank and file level. ILWU members, along with the rest of organized labor, should be in it at this point with both feet.

As individual citizens and as ILWU members, we have everything to gain from bringing about the greatest labor grass roots participation in political action this year.

For the greater our activity now, the fewer will be our regrets after the votes are counted next November.

ON SUCH ISSUES as peaceful negotiations, universal disarmament, self-determination for colonial peoples, civil rights and civil liberties—on appeal of Taft-Hartley and enactment of the amendments to the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act—the conference was remarkably clear and forthright in its position.

The significance of the program is how sharply it breaks with the cold war hysteria, with loyalty proclamations and waterfront screening, Brownell laws and Taft-Hartley indictments.

No kind of interference with collective bargaining will be so crude as to be ruled out by such agreements as fully as possible. In this way we can begin to bring down to brass tacks.

And the rank and file was inspired to move, and this came about because the working people felt they had something to win in the political election—because they had confidence that certain candidates and certain policies were in their interest.

It's no secret that some Democratic Party bigwigs believe that they have the voice of the American working people in their pockets. And believing this they see no reason to make concessions or to take a stand on issues which might embarrass them in their dealings with the anti-labor Dixiecrats of the Democratic party.

It's the old story that "labor has nowhere else to go."

Well, it's about time that one was laid to rest, once and for all.

Any politician who counts on getting elected with the vote and support of working people had just better stop taking anything he hears from the labor chiefs for granted. When the labor movement over into an arm of the Democratic party—as some labor leaders seem bent on doing.

Is that what labor needs? Is that what labor wants? Is that in the interest of labor? Is that in the interest of working people?

It's the old story that "labor has nowhere else to go."

Well, it's about time that one was laid to rest, once and for all.

And the enemies of labor holding political office will have the effect of discriminating against some workers.

Over the years it has been generally assumed that most workers vote Democratic—and this is true, by and large. But nothing would be more disastrous than to make the labor movement over into an arm of the Democratic party—of course, lead leaders seem bent on doing.

One of the things which helped speed the disintegration of the old CIO was just this kind of thinking and planning on the part of Phil Murray and others. And how did it end?

First, in an end to union autonomy within the CIO. Second, in a weakening of labor's political influence and in the enactment of a collection of the most vicious anti-labor laws into our lives because with the farmers, small businessmen and professional people who will be caught up in this drive labor cannot be stopped.
HONOLULU — Medical care for pensioners and a "satisfactory wage increase" are the major stumbling blocks between ILWU Local 142 and Hawaii's pineapple industry, at the time negoatiotis were halted, Feb. 14, because of the pressure in Hawaii of Secretary Mitchell, according to a statement issued by Antonio (Tony) Rania, president of the union.

"The offer made by Mr. E. C. Rinehart, Hawaii Employer Council negotiator and chief spokesman for the employers, "...shows a desire to authorize their negotiators to

Hawaii Sugar Workers Are Ready For Anything; Strike Authorized

HONOLULU — Hawaii's sugar workers last week voted overwhelmingly to authorize their negotiators to call a strike unless a satisfactory agreement is reached at the bargaining table.

The sugar workers, members of ILWU Local 142, by secret ballot, cast 96.1 per cent of the workers in favor of striking. The wage distribution shows the parties far apart. The union asks for a three-year pact they are willing to sign a three-year agreement without any reopening provision.

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Secretary of Labor Slur s

HONOLULU — The spokesman for the union in the current negotiations with the sugar employers by communicating with union sources to influence the course of the negotiations.

"...the ILWU and the important sugar and pineapple industries of the Territory of Hawaii..." the union will advise its members in the current negotiations with the sugar and pineapple companies, Mr. Jack Hall — was pre-arrainged with the Governor of the Territory.

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The office of the Secretary of Labor of the United States of America relieves for responsibility and impartiality, especially where labor disputes are concerned. Mr. Mitchell's contribution to the current negotiations between the ILWU and the important sugar and pineapple industries of the Territory of Hawaii has been to hurl a political cat on the union's side of the collective bargaining table.

"...the unions have a right to pay for the costs of arbitration. The IlwU-PMA trustees have rejected any proposal to eliminate free riding.

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Conducting Election

Pensioners of ILWU locals 13, 63 and 49 in Wilmington served again as the election committee during the three-day balloting for delegates to the Coast Longshore Caucus. From the left: William Dubois, Pensioners' Group Recording Secretary Harry Pethoff, Fred Russell, Paul V. Mellette, Pensioners President Tom Willacy, Pensioners Financial Secretary Harry Simpson, Jack Nelson and Joe Witzman.

Senators, Representatives, Editors

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Reaction to the suggested common expiration date for longshore collective bargaining agreements on East and West Coasts has been impressive here. A public statement was made by Sen- ator Warren Magnuson; Senator Wayne Morse spoke on the floor of the Senate; several religious and labor leaders spoke in the House, and the NY Times and Journal of Commerce commented in prominent editorials.

AFL Fisher Union is in 'Emergency'

SAN PEDRO—The ILWU Local 33 organizing drive has forced the AFL-fishermen's union here to declare a "state of emergency." In a leaflet put out by the ILWU Fishermen's Organizing Committee here, the situation in the AFL outfit is explained to the members of the rai- ding outfit.

The ILWU leaflet asks: And answers it:

"This means that from now until they declare that this emergency no longer exists, the executive board of the Seine & Line Union is going to sell all its policies to the union....

"Where is your constitution? Did they throw it out?.... All union men., the ILWU leaflet says, "should recognize this as a scheme to deprive work- ing men of all the rights they should have in their own union. .... Frustrated by signing with us so that we can have 33, a union where you can speak, where you can run for of- fice,

Meanmeantime, ILWU Local 33 is waiting for court action on the anticpering injunction and job actions charged filed against the boatowners by the local.

The boatowners, who formed the American Tuna Commission, had signed a backdoor agreement with the AFL union immediately after stopping Local 33 24-hour picket lines with the re- straining order.

A Common Expiration Is Reached

(Continued from Page 1)

advise Chairman Bonner of the associa- tion's position.

Also attending the meeting today was the Honorable Clarence C. Morse, Chairman of the Federal Maritime Board and Maritime Administrator. August 1 was recommended to the New York Shipping Association by Chairman Bonner, Congressman Thomas J. Allen, John J. Allen, Jr., of Califor- nia, and Board Chairman Morse.

"Chairman Bonner expressed the hope that the action taken today would be the forerunner in a series of steps designed to provide increased stability to the maritime industry, and that the New York Shipping Association would agree promptly to the August 1 date. He stated that he had discussed with the leaders of the maritime unions rep- resenting the seagoing personnel and asked that they meet with him in a simi- lar context.

Transmitting the text of this state- ment to all longshoremen, shipkers and walking loss locals of the ILWU on Feb- ruary 7, Second Vice President Ger- ald D. Larson and the Commodities Committees Howard Boderne and L. B. Thomas wrote the locals:

"You will note that the common expiration date agreed upon is August 1, 1956. This is subject only to ratifica- tion by the East Coast and West Coast shipowners. If this ratification is not so ratified, which appears likely, it will mean that the present Coast agreement will be extended six weeks, from June 15 to August 1, 1956. It will also mean that the East Coast contract will expire on August 1, two months earlier than the present date of September 30, 1956."

LONG WAS ILWU POLICY

The ILWU has always favored a common expiration date for East and West Coast contracts, but efforts to approach collective bargaining for the mutual advantage of the dock workers on both coasts.

As far back as 1935 in the national ILWU convention, debris Committee of ILA led by Harry Bridges made an instructed proposal for joint negotia- tion and common termination of con- tracts on the two coasts.

The present West Coast agreement, which ordinarily would expire next June 15, provides for extension to a September 30 date if the present agreement is reached.

In proposing the Agreement on the August 1 date, the NYSA attached two minor conditions. First was that wage rates be the present ones, which would continue to September 30. Second, it was stated that there was no legal obstacle against terminating the present agreement on August 1.

Delegates from all dock locals of ILWU on March 13 to take up all mat- ter pertaining to renewal of the West Coast agreement.

Bonnei Teiss Health

Meany Was Mislced

WASHINGTON, D.C. — President George Meany of the AFL-CIO never received an invitation to sit down in the White House with President Eisenhower, Chairman Herbert C. Bonner of the House Merchant Marine Committee told the House of Representatives, February 16.

The day before Meany said he had received a letter from Bonner ask- ing him to meet with Congressmen on the new common expiration date for ILWU, the President.

"Meany was misled," Bonner said.

Local 6 Will Hold Annual Meeting Mar. 24

SAN FRANCISCO — The annual ILWU Local 6 contract convention has been rescheduled for March 24 at 350 Golden Gate Avenue, it was announced last week.

The 1956 agreement with the Dis- tributors Association of Northern Cal- ifornia calls for an automatic 5 cent an hour increase, effective June 1 of this year.

The union's pension demands — the only matter open this year — may be presented to the employers by April 1.

For the past several months the union has been conducting a survey of its membership's work record, in order to determine various facts necessary to the presentation of the pension de- mand.

The March 24 convention will there- fore mainly concern itself, undoubtedly, with presentation of the pension plan, based on the survey which is now being tabulated.
Delegates Impressed by Rank and File Demo Convention in Fresno

FRESNO—ILWU Northern California. In this city, where the state convention held here the weekend of February 4, were many impressed by the rank and file demonstration and called it a real “grass-roots” meeting that will have national repercussions in this year’s presidential campaign. Robert Rohatch (ILWU Local 10 president and delegate) and Phil Golden (Local 6 rank and file member) attended the convention on behalf of the rank and file of ILWU from Northern California.

DELEGATES HAPPY

Robert and Golden expressed themselves as “very happy” to be the first to enter this movement, that will have national repercussions. The number of official labor delegates who will be present at the national convention of the party, AFL, will have 12 California delegates, as at the convention, with CIO and railroad brotherhoods having two each. While there will be no official ILWU delegates, Golden said that the labor caucuses that was headed up by Wendell Phillips of the Bakery Wagon Drivers and George Hardy of the Building Service Employees, has agreed that the labor leaders work with and represent all organized workers in California.

KEAUFER IMPRESSIVE

Both Rohatch and Golden expressed with enthusiasm a deep impression on the meeting, reaction of all labor delegates to the convention, and made a deep impression on the meeting, talking on the issues and the future. “Stevenson sounded like a phonograph record,” Rohatch told The Dispatch.

New ‘Right to Scab’ Law Being Fought by Washington Labor

VANCOUVER, Wash.—Labor here is launching a counter offensive against the vicious “right to work” measure filed for consideration, last month, by Sen. Ketler, ILWU Local 4’s representative on the Labor Unity Council, reports.

The council, which participates in AFL, CIO, ILWU and independent labor activities, made an active reaction in the state in the coming elections, Keller says. One of its main tasks is to have the right to work bill which is headed for the ballot November 6.

SAME OLD TRICK

The bill, known as Initiative Measure 128, is one of the Mudslides, with Washington’s average annual income, of $5,900, billions of dollars of the books in 18 other states. These states have the lowest per capita intake in the nation, Keller points out. Comparing the $18 average annual income in one of them (Mississippi), with Washington’s average annual income of $9,600 shows the type of emptiness of the nonsense.

Contrary to its title, the bill opens up new jobs for anybody and guarantees every man to work. Instead, as State Senator Albert D. Roush, Jr., pointed out, “If you have all forms of union security arrangement worked out in collective bargain- ing agreement.”

RIGHT TO SCAB

One of the basics in which everyone would guarantee is the “right to scab.” It would give the green light to the open shop, which was shut back into the dark days of half a century ago, Keller charges.

A local 6 official the vicious measure was done by Job Research, Incorpor- ated, according to the council of the Initiative petition “to every home in the state of Washington,” giving “people a chance to sign in privacy,” according to the come-on of the sponsors.

The wording in Section 5, R. E. typi- cal: (It shall be unlawful) “For any employer to require as a condition of employment or continuation of employment or possession of employment or any other right or benefit for any person, the discharge or for any person of the use and benefit of any labor organization.”

The measure would, in addition, set up the sort of “legal climate” in which large-scale strikes and labor unions would be encouraged to start damages suits against unions and union officials.

“As this is not a right to work law, it is a right to work law,” Keller says.

Local 13 Vice Seen for New L. B. Hospital

LONG BEACH — ILWU Local 13 members who live in this harbor city were credited with an active grass roots role in the overwhelming vote to spend $5 million for new hospital facilities at a meeting of the 44,000 population of the city.

Local action urging every Local 13 member to take an active part in the pre-election campaign was voted by the membership of the union.

HELP ASKED

“‘If this proposition carries,” Local 13 President George Hurley told the membership before the special election day, “Long Beach will have the finest hospital in the United States, supported by the hospitals for the mentally ill, children, and other special hospitals.”

“It also provides a school for nurses training and substantial clinic facilities for the health needs of the people.”

Among the 11 propositions on the ballot were a new public safety building, park improvements, freeway terminus improvements and increased branch library facilities. All 11 propositions were passed.

Many ILWU members from Northern and Southern California were present as delegates from their local democratic clubs. Included among them were Charles 'Slim' Murray and Joe Blouquez of Local 6 (Oakland), Broad- way Parker (Local 10-SF), Bill Lawr- ence and George Love of Local 13 (the latter is president of the local).

RESOLUTIONS PASSES

Resolutions passed by the conference included the following:

• Demanding fair treatment for small business.
• Insisting atomic energy be developed for peaceful purposes, and keep it under public control.

NO BRINK OF WAR

• Rejecting any “brink of war” policy and demanding “universal, enforceable disarmament”; recognizing that “man-kinds hunger for peace...seek solutions to international problems...negotiations...”
• Increasing federal income tax exemptions from $500 to $1,000, eliminating “special tax advantages for the favored few”; reducing California’s sales tax.
• Rejection of the program of “backing colonialism.”

REPEAL T-H

• Recommending repeal of T-H and establishment of a “fair labor relation law based on the principles of the Wagner Act” opposing the Smith and McCarran Acts, and spoke on anti-lynching and anti-poll-tax legislation and the Em- ployment Act, which was “set up to defeat workers’ rights.”

It was decided to leave the whole issue subject to future development.

CRDC Officers

Cdr. Morey, skipper, presided over the meeting. Guest speakers were Ray Parker, executive director, and Robert H. Trilby, chairman of the board. The meeting was “very successful.”

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A CALL TO POLITICAL ACTION

WITH a confidence and a drive that recalled the intense labor political action of fifteen and twenty years ago, sixty-one delegates from Northern and Southern California ILWU locals met in Fresno on February 11 and hammered out a dynamic program.

Quickly disposing of the key issues—on which there was unanimous agreement—the delegates directed their main attention to the manner in which ILWU members could get into the '56 election campaign. The delegates from ILWU Locals 6, 10, 11, 17, 34 and 54; Locals 13, 26, 33, 63 and the Bakersfield unit, as well as the women's auxiliaries and the International, made no bones about their conviction that this was the year for labor to begin to assert its strength again.

The keynote speech by ILWU Second Vice-President Germain Bulcke laid stress on the unparalleled opportunity presented this year for labor political action.

Bulcke said that the American people are aware that the danger of war has lessened, but that unemployment is growing. Neither political party, he said, has even been willing to discuss this problem, so that the labor movement itself will have to take steps to force the politicians to adopt a program that will lessen the burden of the coming crisis on the workers.

That such a program is possible, Bulcke said, was proved at the state-wide Democratic club conference held in Fresno the weekend before. Real rank and file participation at that conference forced a program that was progressive and militant.

ILWU's job, said its vice-president, is to work out ways and means to become an influential part of the coming political campaign. Issues must be raised, candidates pinned down to unequivocal statements of their position on these issues, voices registered and talked to.

Quoting the ILWU 11th Biennial Convention resolution on political action, Bulcke reminded the delegates that "We need to translate into effective political action the program adopted at this convention—to preserve and promote peace, to promote jobs through trade, peaceful production and public works; to promote fair employment practices; to safeguard and advance unemployment insurance and workmen's compensation; and to secure fair and progressive taxation."

TIMES the main discussion at the conference centered around the political action statement of principles. Richard Lynden, ILWU Local 6 secret- tary-treasurer, analyzed the present state of the 1956 campaign, stressing what Bulcke had told the delegates, that neither political party seems too eager to make decisions or offer programs based on the issues, much less to define the issues themselves.

He described the attempts by politicians of both parties to straddle the issues of peace, civil rights and civil liberties. And he emphasized that the main job of union members was to force the politicians off the fence.

What ILWU members must do, said Lynden, is to stop talking to themselves, and talking defensively at that. If we want to be effective the members will have to move outside the union itself, into community organizations and Democratic and Republican party clubs. We will have to contact people who disagree with us, as well as those who agree.

The discussion on the political action resolution found many delegates hitting the mike to relate their own experiences in political action.

One from Local 6 claimed ILWU was already accepted in the Democratic clubs, and said there had been "a revolution" in the club movements, with the grass-roots finally stirring.

Another San Francisco warehouseman, a Negro, made a stirring address relating the current campaign to the struggle of his people for "what is theirs by right."

Their strategy, he said, is bold and subtle: it is first, to unify the 12 million Negroes in the land, regardless of class, into a "united battering ram" to force equality. The second "prong" of their strategy is "NOT to go it alone, but to work with labor, the Americans for Democratic Action, religious groups and "almost all comers."

Bill Lawrence of ILWU Local 13 and president of the Southern California District Council spoke from personal experience of 22 years in Demo- cratic Party politics in California, and told the delegates that ILWU was deeply respected by politicians and that the Fresno Democratic conference was no accident. "We worked hard to accomplish this," Lawrence said, "and it has had a profound effect on Democratic Party leaders."

The statement on political action adopted said, among other things: "The fact is that for the first time since 1950 the American working people have a chance to move from a defensive position, where
The political action resolution was implemented by a series of recommendations, which included:

- Formation of a continuations committee on political action, composed of the officers of the two councils.
- Each district council to consider itself a legislative committee of the whole with responsibility for spark-plugging the campaign in the locals.
- Each local to reactivate its legislative committee and call on the rank and file to participate.
- A questionnaire for candidates to be prepared, so union members may be informed on where they stand.
- Call on all locals to integrate the women’s auxiliaries in their work.
- Call on all locals to set up a voluntary $1 assessment for political action, half to stay in the local, half to go to the councils.

**Discussion of a civil rights resolution brought active participation by the delegates.**

A Local 15 delegate cited an example of rising anger in the community, which he said was “not progressive,” over a proposal to send a mixed band to the New Orleans Mardi Gras and accept the Jim Crow policy. „An East Bay (Local 6) warehouseman told the delegates that “we fight for the right of all people to express their opinions... We do not fight for rights only for middle-of-the-roaders or anti-Communists or right-wingers. We fight also to defend Communists. It has become clear by now that the citizen and those whose loyalty is questioned is only an excuse to attempt to destroy all the people’s organizations...”

Rank-and-file opinion of the FBI men who have been swarming all over ILWU members for months, ranged from one opinion that they were “just working stiffs, trying to do a job—which has shown in the past.”

Delegates Leroy King and Roland Corley of Local 6 recommended that the joint Northern-Southern ILWU District Councils amended as “The most effective repressive Attorney General Herbert J. Brownell was described as “The most effective repressive Attorney General in the history of our country.”

The demand for repeal of Brownell-Butler recognized the imminence of an attack upon ILWU unionists for the provisions of the law, and called to meet the attack “with the same unity the union has shown in the past.”

**OTHER ACTIONS** taken by the joint Northern-Southern ILWU District Councils included the following:

- Passage of a strong flood control resolution which called for immediate “aid and relief to the victims” of the recent flood disasters in California. A demand was made upon the federal government for a program of flood and disaster insurance for individual home owners, and the building of multi-purpose dams capable of handling flood waters—a program that “must be under federal and state, not private control.”
- It was moved and adopted that the joint councils call on the International union to conduct an immediate survey to determine what damage was done in the recent floods to homes and property of ILWU members, and that they then communicate with the ILWU locals asking funds for relief of ILWU flood victims.

Rose Arian of the Auxiliaries moved a resolution that the joint council call on California’s Governor Knight to place on the agenda of this session of the legislature, the question of immediate relief for flood victims.

- A demand for immediate passage of S.2280, an amended version of the Longshoremen’s & Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act, which was passed by the Senate unanimously last year, and awaits action in the House of Representatives.
- Participation in a lobby in Washington was also approved.
- A report by Jeff Kibbe, ILWU Washington Representative, on legislation now being prepared, which would be beneficial to fishermen, was read and approved.
- A resolution by Anthony Sokolich, secretary of ILWU Local 23, calling for legislation favorable to American fishermen and a call for support for ILWU fishermen now fighting off an AFL raid was adopted.
- The Local 26 delegation presented a resolution calling for a 1956 registration campaign that would be union-wide.
- A mobilization for civil rights, to be held in Washington, D.C., in March, was called to the attention of the conference by a Local 26 member, and after considerable discussion it was voted to have both ILWU councils wire the mobilization, offering support, and that similar action be recommended to the locals with the sending of delegates if they so desire.
- L. B. Thomas of the ILWU Coast Labor Relations Committee urged the meeting to take a stand on safety legislation, which ILWU submitted to the state legislature in 1951, but which died because of inadequate backing. The meeting went on record to support the adoption by the state of a Safety Code and to stand by for the appropriate time to take action on it.
- A Local 6 resolution calling for repeal of the Smith Act was passed.
- Telegrams were sent to Attorney-General Brownell, demanding that he enforce the law at the University of Alabama, and assure admission to that college of Miss Atherine Lucy, a Negro student who has been barred for “her own protection,” and to Representative James Roosevelt, demanding his help on Brownell to see that legislation is drafted to enforce the Supreme Court desegregation order, if such does not exist.
- Senators and representatives in Congress were asked to support repeal of the McCarran-Walter Immigration Act.

The delegates returned to their locals with indicated determination to get the rank-and-file of ILWU into effective political action.

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The Care of Children's and Adults' Teeth

Teeth have to work to stay healthy. With your mouth, or an adult, loses a tooth, the tooth directly above or below the missing tooth has to work to do its normal work. The result is something like paralysis in a leg. A leg withers when it's not used. The bone that supports a tooth is damaged when it's not used.

And teeth next to an empty space are in a bind between two parts of the mouth that try to close, but can't because there's no bone to support them. Missing teeth should be replaced to keep all the teeth healthy.

BROKEN TEETH

Many a front tooth has been broken by a punch on the chin. One dentist told me that the ILWU-PMF Welfare Fund he administers begins to resent the fact that children he'd treated who had been leaning over a drinking fountain when someone came along with a friendly slap. Drinking fountains are hard; teeth are not match for them.

You alone can't prevent this kind of accident of course. You have to teach every child in school and neighborhood to be careful. You can, though, teach your child not to lean over a drinking fountain when others are coming from roughhousing nearby, and you can teach him not to hurt anyone else this way.

A broken tooth is an emergency even though it doesn't hurt, and medical advice for the dentist right away. Prompt treatment can prevent damage to the nerve inside and save the tooth.

FLUORIDATED WATER

Large-scale use of water that is fluoridated water comes from Newburgh and Kingston, New York.

In Newburgh the water has contained one part of fluoride per million parts of water for ten years. In Kingston the water is not fluoridated.

Newburgh children who have been drinking fluoridated water all of their lives have one-third as much tooth decay as Kingston children.

The New York Health Department, thorough before and after studies have been done, show that dental health as well as dental health in the two cities. Newburgh children have the same general health as Kingston children.

The only difference is Newburgh's big advantage in dental health.

MOUTH PROTECTORS

One result of last fall's football season, the mouth guards for many schools was reported this month. A study of several hundred high school football players showed:

Boys who wear rubber mouth protectors almost never have tooth injuries; those who wear face masks have a few; nearly 12 per cent of those who play without both mouth and lower jaws to come together sharply. A recent study showed that more than half of all injuries suffered by high school and college football players are mouth injuries.

Some mouth protectors can be made from cash in bank, 82 loans, and a credit union. The organization was started in 1947 and since then totally amortized. The interest last year was $72,623.67.

Local 11's Credit Union funds grow

SAN JOSE.—The eight annual meeting of ILWU Local 11's Credit Union was held January 21, and its president, Blaise J. Tally, reported that the assets of the organization had grown in the last year by $3,000, and recommended that the board of directors increase the membership declare a 3.6 per cent dividend to shareholders of 1935. This dividend, he stated, is that the insurance on shares and loans, which is carried through the National Credit Union organization, cost the members of Local 11 about 1.2 per cent which, with the dividend, the 4.8 per cent.

Financial report by Secretary-Treasurer Harold Wurstbaugh, revealed the following facts: Total assets of the credit union were $72,623.67, and $72,623.67 (made up from cash in bank, 82 loans, prepaid insurance and loans to Central Credit Union). Liabilities balanced at the same figure.

Of the 11 members, 94 borrowed money last year—a total of $18,990.89. The organization was started in 1947 and since then totally amortized. 472 loans have been made, amounting to $72,623.67.

Of this figure only $247.83 has been written off as bad debts.

Eight Paid Holidays

At Kennedy Mines

LOS ANGELES—An additional paid holiday, making a total of 11, is to roll on the individual's birthday, and Class A health and welfare costs in to be provided in a contract signed last week between ILWU Local 26 and Kennedy Mines.

Auxiliary 16 'Bankrupt's' Self for ILWU Building

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU Auxiliary 16 appeared recently before minor admissions court in the area of Longshoremen's Memorial Association on a complaint by the person of Mrs. Dorothy Draskovich.

On behalf of the auxiliary, Mrs. Draskovich offered to purchase one part of fluoride per million parts of water for ten years. In Kingston the water is not fluoridated.

But they would have trouble getting a young child interested enough in his teeth to brush them, you might try mixing some history in with other ideas on why it's important to brush your teeth.

A child may be intrigued with the fact that it was a dentist who made the discovery of penicillin. Paul Revere was a dentist as well as a silversmith. The story of the toothbrush. Invention of a brush similar to those today dates back to the year 1498 in China. Before brushes there were toothpicks, now considered harmful if you use them habitually, but once the common method of keeping teeth free of dirt was through the National Credit Union organization, cost the members of Local 11 about 1.2 per cent which, with the dividend, the 4.8 per cent.

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Of this figure only $247.83 has been written off as bad debts.
In San Jose, California, at the processing plant of the California Prune and Apricot Growers Association, ILWU Local 11 members, men and women, are engaged in warehousing, processing and packaging fruit. It is an exceptionally clean plant, the floors are spotless.

The men are required to wear caps and the women hair-nets. The pictures above show various stages of the processing the fruit undergoes before it is shipped out to wholesale and retail stores. The association brand name is "Sunsweet."

BIG JOE' Uranga, of Local 13, Wins a Prize

WILMINGTON — ILWU Local 13 member "Big Joe" Uranga, speaking on "The Voice of the Rank and File," won second place recently in a "speak-off" of Toastmaster Club No. 311, with 46 members in the Los Angeles Harbor area.

"I got all my material from The Big Strike," Uranga said, "and I traced the development of Harry Bridges from a school boy in Australia through the organization of the ILWU.

"My aim was to show that if the rank and file will speak up, their voice will be heard."
ILWU Issues 'Call' for Aid To Pass Dock

SAN FRANCISCO—An "emergency call on the Longshoremen & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act was issued by ILWU Local 13 last week in a press of 20,000 copies for distribution to ILWU dock locals and other interested unions.

The leaflet is a four-page job illustrated with photographs graphically portraying the dangers of longshore work and calling for local unions to write or wire their congressmen insisting on immediate action.

The bill was amended and passed unanimously by the House last year and is currently scheduled to go before the House of Representatives. In its present form it would increase the maximum indemnity paid to广州 dollar from $12,000 to $18,000, reduce the waiting period from 7 to 3 days; increase benefits for loss of limb, eye, etc.; eliminate the ceiling on total compensation for injury and increase the basis for figuring death benefits from a maximum of $35.00 to $75 a week.

WRITE TO SOLONS

"These are by no means all the improvements that are needed," the ILWU leaflet explained, "but they do represent real progress. . . ."

"The shipworkers' associations throughout the country have joined forces to kill the improvements voted by the House, and the same companies are working hand in hand with the shipowners. They are calling in the improvements in the bill 'socialistic.'"

The emergency call asks all ILWU locals and district councils to address their congressmen, and to urge clergy, ministers, educators and civic leaders to take similar action. A list of congressmen to be addressed is appended to the leaflet.

A similar leaflet, in one page, was issued on the East Coast by the Inter-Regional Longshoremen's Association (independent).

Anti-Screen Body to Hold St. Pat Dance

SAN FRANCISCO - The newly formed Committee Against Warfront Screening last week announced its first major public function—a St. Patrick's Day Dance, to be held at 150 Golden Gate Avenue on March 17.

Saunders King and his band will provide the music and tickets will sell at the door.

Proceeds of the dance will be used to print and distribute the recent opinion of the Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, which held that the Coast Guard screening was unconstitutional and a violation of due process of law.

Local officers of the new committee are James Herman, chairman, and Walter Stich, executive secretary. It has offices at 1122 Market Street, Room 208. Telephone: VA 4-5444.

The Justice Department recently asked the court and received a two month stay, during which time it will decide whether or not to appeal to the Supreme Court against the appellate court's decision.

On February 6 the executive board of ILWU Local 10 endorsed the St. Patrick's Day Dance.

Local 26's Auxiliary Women Visit the Sick & Give Presents to New Babies

LOS ANGELES — Small gifts, get-well and hospital visits are highlights of a new program started this month by the Health and Welfare Committee of ILWU Women's Auxiliary 26, it was announced by Committee Chairman John Vlacic, who will be responsible for sending the cards, with a personal message.

Sophronia Moore will be in charge of visiting sick members, and patients hospitalized under the Local 26 Sick & Welfare Fund will be urged to register complaints, which will be sent to the visiting sub-committee, and passed on to the local's officers.

Local 26 initiated 64 More in December

LOS ANGELES—ILWU Local 26 investigated and initiated 64 new members in December, 1955. By divisions, 44 new members are in Drug, 16 in Scop, six in General Warehouse, and two in Bag.

ILWU Local 13 Man Assists Navajo Indians

WILMINGTON — Clothing, a canned milk and potatoes for the Navajo Indians of Arizona are being collected by Roy Schmidt, ILWU Local 13, and will be taken to Window Rock, Arizona, by Local 13 Member Johnny Marks, in the fourth year of his program of aiding the Indians.

Three or four drives for clothing and canned milk are made by Marks each year, on a voluntary, non-profit basis, and when he does not take a truck through himself, the Navajo Federal Credit Union carries the cargo to the Exchange Mission (an inter-denominational agency) Window Rock, without charge.

MONEY NOT WELCOME

"Three years ago Local 13 voted to donate $50 to pay expenses of the trip back," Marks said, "but we don't accept money. I bought canned milk and potatoes with the $50, and turned the receipt over to the local.

"I buy a flock from one of the local business houses when I make the trip, and pay for all gas, oil, tires and repairs myself."

Marks said that if individuals or organizations were willing to contribute money to the work of the mission, they should write to Mr. George Clark, Evangelistic Mission, Box 56, Window Rock, Arizona.

His wife, Margaret, and daughter, Mary Ann accompany him on the 16-hour trip from Long Beach to Window Rock, the drives straight through.

"Our mission takes care of about 800 elderly people and 300 children on the reservation," Marks says, "and we have had a lot of opposition in the area. We often go into territory where no other missionaries penetrate."

Three Locals Pick Reps To Dock Caucus

SAN FRANCISCO—Ten delegates to the ILWU Coast Longshore Caucus, which will be held at 150 Golden Gate Avenue on March 13, were elected by ILWU Local 10 at its general membership meeting January 23. They are: John E. Walker, Julius Stern, Henry Schmidt, Martin Callaghan, Robert Eshelbach, James Kearney, Albert Bertial, Reine Erkko, Tomils Silvas and Albert James.

WILMINGTON — Elected to represent Local 13 at the March 13 ILWU Coast Longshore Caucus, "the waterfront's voice" (president of the local), Bill Brunt, is the ILWU's representative to the Longshoremen's Conference.

Brunt represented the auxiliary at a recent meeting of the women's organization, the American Federation of Labor's National Longshoremen's Association (Women's Auxiliary).

To Pass Dock Workers Act

SAN FRANCISCO—Ten delegates to the ILWU Coast Longshore Caucus, which will be held at 150 Golden Gate Avenue on March 13, were elected by ILWU Local 10 at its general membership meeting January 23. They are: John E. Walker, Julius Stern, Henry Schmidt, Martin Callaghan, Robert Eshelbach, James Kearney, Albert Bertial, Reine Erkko, Tomils Silvas and Albert James.
Longshore Earnings in New York Have Gone Up Some

Longshore earnings in New York averaged about $3,750 last year (October 1, 1954 to September 30, 1955). Nearly one-fourth earned over $5,000. These figures represent sizeable increases over the year before. Local 86 ILA has just published the earnings figures in its bulletin "Voice of '56." The accompanying table gives the figures.

Earnings Group
Number Percent Number Percent
Total 27,272 100 33,551 100
Over $5,000 6,774 25 2,156 6
$4,000-$5,000 5,773 21 1,526 4
$3,000-$4,000 3,585 13 1,773 17
$2,000-$3,000 2,298 8 680 2
$1,000-$2,000 1,987 7 650 2
$000-$1,000 1,385 5 650 2

CASUALS CUT DOWN

Similarly, the number of men earning less than $100—the true casuals—has been cut in half. There were nearly four thousand such men in the next earnings group, those earning between $100 and $1,000.

There are several explanations for these changes. In the first place, the end of the strike in 1954 includes a large number of strikers who were registered in 1954 by the Waterfront Commission in its attempt to break the 29-day strike. Most of them were chased off the docks by the regular longshoremen when the strike ended.

Secondly, despite the fact that the Waterfront Commission is still adding men to its system of declassification, that has resulted in some net reduction in the total number of men working.

EARNINGS WERE BETTER

Earnings were better increased over the preceding year. Exports rose some 30 per cent and imports about 9 per cent.

A final factor is that the present ILA contract provides that regular gangs shall have seniority at their piers. This has helped to increase earnings for regular men, though in most cases the practice was already in effect prior to its inclusion in the contract.

Comparable figures for West Coast ports are not available. However, data on average earnings, published by the Pacific Maritime Association, show that West Coast employees are substantially higher than those in New York. In San Francisco, weekly earnings averaged $106.98 in 1955. This, on a full time annual basis, amounts to $5,719. Hourly earnings in San Francisco averaged just over $3.10 last year.

Here, too, there are many men who work only a few days out of the year. They are the men who work off their Local Security cards. Their earnings pull the average down well below what the average registered longshoreman earn. However, the effect of the hiring hall is to narrow the spread between those with high earnings and those with low earnings. Except for the casuals, there is a marked tendency for earnings to be equalized.

ILWU Longshoremen in Honolulu Pledge Their Support to Dock & Ship Foremen When Needed

HONOLULU, T.H.—A pledge to support ship and dock foremen employed by Castle & Cooke Terminals here was made on February 8 by longshoremen belonging to Local 142.

The ship and dock foremen have been told by the company that it is "illegal" for them to join a union, and 40 members have even been informed that the company does not wish them to attend "social gatherings."

The foremen have been thinking of forming a union, The Honolulu Longshoremen's Association, in a letter addressed to them, said:

"It has come to our attention that you have been threatened with the loss of your jobs if you continue your discussion on the possibility of joining a labor union . . . ."

The longshoremen employed by Castle & Cooke Terminals are not going to stop working and do not think the company has any right to discipline or interfere with waterfront union for union activities."

The Local 142 letter informs the foremen that all over the US "there are unions composed of foremen and even high supervisory employees." "If you want to join an existing labor organization or form a local of your own, go ahead and do it. We will back you up."

Friedman Bag Workers Asking 20 Cents More

LOS ANGELES — The Stewards Council of ILWU Local 26 has pledged full support of members at Friedman Bag, where negotiations are in progress for a 20 cents an hour hike. The union boost across the board and the correction of inequities in rates for several classes of employees.

The Council also voted to hold plant meetings in all divisions of the local to explain their wide-rank-and-file support for bag workers.

Application Modeled for New Auxiliary Charter in Ore.

NORTH BEND, Ore.—Valerie Taylor, ILWU Federated Auxiliaries president, has made formal application for a charter for a new ILWU auxiliary that would be affiliated to Local 33 of North Bend, Ore.

The application was sent to ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, Mrs. Taylor said, and she paid credit to Mrs. Darlene Jenkins of Newport for sparking the new organization. Mrs. Jenkins turned in 20 cards for charter members.

Change of Address

If you change your address fill in the following blank and mail to The Dispatcher, 10 Sides 0, San Francisco, Calif., please print, and be sure to include new address.

Current Address:

New Address:

City, State, Zip

City, State, Zip
OAKLAND — A 3-week strike at Comco Paper Stock Corporation here ended last week with a new contract between ILWU Local 6 (East Bay) and the company, that brought wages from a low of $1.00 an hour to starting rates that will be as high as $1.95 on August 1, 1957.

The company had imported 18 Puerto Rican workers and was paying them from $1 to $1.50 an hour at the time. ILWU Local 6 business agent Joe Biasquez started to organize the plant.

To meet the threat of organization, the company raised wages to $1.25 and $1.50 an hour, but on January 18 the workers hit the bricks and were out for three weeks. At the end of three weeks the contract was signed. It brought the newly-organized warehousemen recognition of the union, union security, seniority, 7 paid holidays and overtime on Saturdays and Sundays.

They also won standard sick-leave provisions (one week after one year, two after two and three after three years). A health and welfare plan was negotiated and a steward system installed.

The new contract went into effect on February 6 and will run until January 18, 1958. Starting wages are now $1.38 for women, $1.60 for laborers, $1.70 for boom operators, $1.75 for lift-truck operators.

On August 1 of this year a 10 cents across-the-board hike will go into effect, with another 5 cents to be paid on February 1, 1957. On August 1, 1957, another 5 cent raise will be applied bringing minimums to $1.63. (for women), $1.85 and $1.95 for the other three categories.

The ILWU Story eu 50

San Francisco 2, Calif.

books I have checked off below. I enclose California sales tax.

ILWU Book Club List

ILWU BOOK CLUB
150 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco 2, Calif.

Please send me (postpaid) the books I have checked off below. I enclose the correct sum, in check or money-order.

(Tax included California sales tax.)

(copies) The ILWU Story @ 50 cents (paper);
(copies) The Songs of Joe Hill, edited by Barrie Stavis & Frank Harmon @ 75 cents (paper);
(copies) 1956 Art Calendar, @ 75 cents (paper);
(copies) Labor's Unfold Story, by Richard Lyon & Herbert M. Morris, @ $1.50 (paper);
(copies) Youngblood, by John O. Price @ 25 cents (cloth);
(copies) Shape-Up & Hiring Hall, by Charles P. Larrowe, @ $3.00 (cloth);
(copies) The ILWU Story @ 50 cents (paper);
(copies) Out of Your Pocket, by David W. P. Young & D. W. P. Young, @ 50 cents (paper);
(copies) The Man Who Never Died, by Barrie Stavis, @ $1.90 (cloth);
(copies) Milltown, by Bill Cahn, @ 25 cents (paper);
(copies) Eye-Witness in Indo-China, by Joseph Starobin, @ 50 cents (autographed by the author);
(copies) FDR, by Stefan C. Polansky @ 50 cents (paper);
(copies) Labor Fact Book XI, by Labor Research Assn., @ 50 cents (cloth);
(copies) The American, by Howard Fast, @ 35 cents (cloth);
(copies) The Bundeling Cross, by Raymond M. Dodge, @ 75 cents (cloth);
(copies) The F. B. I., by Max Lowenthal, @ $3.75 (cloth);
(copies) Man's Worldly Goods, by Leo Huberman, @ $1 (paper);
(copies) John L. Lewis, by Saul Alinsky, @ $1.00 (cloth);
(copies) We Can Be Friends, by Carl Marzani, @ 25 cents (cloth);
(copies) Jack London, American Rebel, by Philip S. Foner, @ $1 (cloth);
(copies) False Witness, by Har-vey Matsou, @ 50 cents (paper);
(copies) Labor Research Assn., @ 50 cents (cloth);
(copies) Rebel, by Philip S. Foner, @ $1 (paper);
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(copies) The Songs of Joe Hill, by Charles P. Larrowe, @ 75 cents (paper);
(copies) The Rending Cross, by Ray Ginger, @ 75 cents (cloth);
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The demand for higher wages came in an economic report approved by the 29-member council, which included the Eisenhower administration for not having advanced a "comprehensive and meaningful" program to prevent an economic slump. The administration's social spending plans were termed "half-hearted in conception" and inadequate to meet the nation's economic and welfare needs.

At the end of three weeks the contract was signed. It brought the newly-organized warehousemen recognition of the union, union security, seniority, 7 paid holidays and overtime on Saturdays and Sundays.

They also won standard sick-leave provisions (one week after one year, two after two and three after three years). A health and welfare plan was negotiated and a steward system installed.

The new contract went into effect on February 6 and will run until January 18, 1958. Starting wages are now $1.38 for women, $1.60 for laborers, $1.70 for boom operators, $1.75 for lift-truck operators.

On August 1 of this year a 10 cents across-the-board hike will go into effect, with another 5 cents to be paid on February 1, 1957. On August 1, 1957, another 5 cent raise will be applied bringing minimums to $1.63. (for women), $1.85 and $1.95 for the other three categories.

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