Local 6 Pension Proposal Set

The setting up of a special committee to extend the annual constitutional convention of ILWU Warehouse Local 6 and March 24 and hammered out a program for pensions and policies to end discrimination. Shown above are delegates waiting to "hit the mike" in one of the important discussions.

600 Local 6 Delegates Approve Plan

SAN FRANCISCO—More than 600 delegates and members of ILWU Warehouse Local 6 voted unanimously to adopt a pension proposal at the Annual Constitutional and Contract Convention held here March 24.

The pension plan—long considered by warehousemen to be their single most important demand—will be submitted to all employers prior to April 1, 1956. The plan is a modified version of the Longshore pension now in effect, tailored to meet the specific needs of warehouse men and women, and provides the same basic benefits as the Longshore Plan.

Other actions debated and resolved at the convention included:

• An expression of friendship and solidarity with the tremendous fight for equality being waged by the Negro people in the South.

BUILD RESERVE FUND

A political action program, stressing the need to register and vote and urging every Local 6 member to become active in the political activities of his neighborhood.

A recommendation that a reserve fund be built up in order to be prepared for any contingency. The Convention voted to recommend a 50 cents per month increase in dues for the purpose of building the reserve fund.

The setting up of a special committee of officers and members to survey the extent to which Negro and other minorities have been integrated throughout the warehouse industry.

Finally the convention voted to instruct the General Executive Board, which met this week, to present to the (Continued on Page 11)

Tax Men Seize Daily Worker In New York

NEW YORK—Federal tax agents March 27 seized the offices of the Daily Worker, evicted the editors and blocked the place.

Other tax agents at the same time seized and padlocked the offices of the Communist Party here and in San Francisco, Los Angeles, Philadelphia and Chicago.

At the Daily Worker office one of the agents quipped: "This is one story you won't print!"

The editors nevertheless published the next day from a job shop.

NO WARNING GIVEN

It is probably the first open attempt to stop publication of a newspaper since the British governor of colonial New York ordered John Peter Zenger to close up his paper.

Tax liens were filed against the paper and the Communist Party in the various cities, claiming large tax bills. These same without warning. Both the paper as a non-money-maker and the party as a political organization claim tax exemption.

Donald B. Moyers, internal revenue director in New York, who ordered the raids, said he acted under a law which permits such seizure when the service believes a tax debtor might dispose of assets.

Tax lawyers here said it was the first time they had heard of such procedure.

BRIDGES COMMENTS

In San Francisco ILWU President Harry Bridges commented:

"The seizure by the internal revenue agents of all Communist Party (Continued on Page 8)

Sugar Talks In Hawaii at Critical Stage

HONOLULU—Negotiations between ILWU Local 142 and 27 sugar companies entered a critical stage here last week when industry negotiators flatly refused to alter a take-it-or-strike position bandied to union representatives on February 29.

Taken to the membership, the employer's "final offer" was rejected by an overwhelming majority. Voting was by secret ballot during stop-work meetings and the rejection is considered by union negotiators to be reaffirmation of strike authorization granted them by an earlier polling of the membership.

Following the refusal to accept the employers' "final offer," the union's 64-member negotiating committee called for immediate resumption of negotiations; said they were prepared to "enter the bargaining room with open mind and with a determination to compromise every disputed issue in an effort to reach an agreement by peaceful methods."

SILENCE BROKEN

With International Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt acting as chief spokesman, the talks were resumed here on March 20. The union, believing that "the important thing is the immediate settlement of this dispute," and not a battle of press releases, insisted on bargaining off-the-record.

On March 25 an employer publicity agent broke the silence and announced that the companies were still holding to their earlier take-it-or-strike "final offer."

The following day the union's six-man sub-negotiating committee spent (Continued on Page 4)

Peril at the Golden Door

(See Pages 6 and 7)

Coast United on Program

Local 6 Pension Proposal Set

Locals Vote to Endorse Caucus Acts

SAN FRANCISCO—Reports received from ILWU longshore, shipclippers and walking boss locals up and down the coast indicate nearly unanimous rank and file support of the program adopted by the March Coast caucuses.

Up to Dispatcher press time locals in San Francisco, Olympia, Longview, Oakland, Seattle, Everett, Aberdeen, Raymond, Bellingham, Astoria, New Port, Coos Bay, Bandon and Wilmington had voted en masse on the caucus actions, most of them unanimously.

Scheduled for a stop-work meeting scheduled for April 3 and Portland, St. Helens and Vancouver will meet jointly April 11.

OFFICERS HEARD

In addition to reports from their own delegates all the locals were addressed by one or more of a four-man team made up of ILWU President Harry Bridges, Second Vice President Garnett Bulke and Coast Labor Relations Committeemen Howard Bodine and L. B. Thomas.

The caucus action toward national negotiations and common expiration date for all longshore contracts met with enthusiastic local and national card demmands and other actions. Among these, which came too late to be reported in the March 16 issue of The Dispatcher were two important resolutions against racial discrimination.

ACTION DEMANDED

One of the resolutions, after reviewing recent outrages against Negroes in the South, made a demand upon Attorney General Herbert Brownell to take action.

"We call upon the Attorney General of the United States," it said, "to repudiate the excuses made by J. Edgar Hoover, director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, for his inaction in these and the many other less publicized outrages against civil and human rights in the South; and we further call upon the President and Attorney General to use the police authority they have as enforcers of the laws against segregation as defined by the Supreme Court of the United States."

The other resolution on the subject noted that the present National ILWU policy on equality of opportunity and its opposition to discrimination—of more than twenty years standing—is now more widely accepted as result of the recent Supreme Court decision barring segregation in tax supported schools. It resolved:

SUPPORT PARITY

That this caucus of longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses goes on record welcoming this long overdue
There'll be a new angle

The Coast Guard and the Department of Justice have decided not to appeal to the US Supreme Court to reverse the lower court decision condemning the use of secret informers in waterfront screening.

In deciding to leave the Court of Appeals decision undisturbed, Attorney General Brownell has acted true to form. For what he is out to prevent is a Supreme Court ruling upholding the full and complete guarantees of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

In taking this out the Coast Guard and Department of Justice were trying to salvage the waterfront screening program. The government agencies have publicly announced that they knew they'd lose before the Supreme Court. And that the Supreme Court, with all of its power and authority, would condemn the screening regulations and procedures which the Coast Guard has been following for the past five years.

When the ILWU fought the screening back in 1950, we insisted that the whole procedure was completely unconstitutional and illegal. We had no doubt that eventually the courts would so rule. This is so because no screening program, by its very nature, can be written to conform to the guarantees of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

When faced with the fact that they were running out their string, and fearing that if the Supreme Court ever considered waterfront screening it might hand down an even stronger decision, the Department of Justice looked for some tricky gimmick of the sort for which Brownell is notorious.

This agency of government, whose purpose is supposed to be enforcing the laws of our country, simply did not want to have the Supreme Court upholding these procedures and legal protections for longshoremen and seamen. So, with the Coast Guard, they are now writing a new set of regulations which we have no reason to believe will be any better than the old ones.

It is no secret that the Coast Guard and the Department of Justice think that this slippery maneuver will prolong the screening program for at least another five years. Their new regulations of course will not—and cannot—be any more constitutional than the old. And this is so because no screening program, by its very nature, can be written to conform to the guarantees of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

We can say that there is little difference between illegal Coast Guard screening and the equally vicious class right-to-work laws. In both instances a government agency sets out to test and weigh a worker's private beliefs and associations to determine whether he is eligible for employment in private industry. While the right-to-work laws openly have as their purpose to inhibit and weaken union activities, the Coast Guard regulations would have the same result, though clothed behind claims of "national security."

There is no question but that Coast Guard screening was one of the chief instruments for the wrecking of the old Marine Cooks and Stewards Union. And the ILWU can be proud that in 1956 the ILWU is strong and confident, when it doesn't have to fear headlines arguments within our ranks, and the challenge of the officers by a secret referendum, at the same time they insist that the union is dominated by "infiltrated agents" and they threaten to prosecute the ILWU and put it out of business for this reason. The reason is that the union is not threatened with policies in its own interest; that they're being led around by the nose by outside agitators and can only be "liberated" by the kindness of the Department of Justice and the Brownell Law.

How could our enemies ever understand the true facts? The very things they used to grab at as signs of trouble are in fact the secret of the success of the ILWU. When the enemies of the ILWU are afraid, they're afraid of the union and to a vote—win, lose or draw—the outfit is in good shape.

In fact, issues are sometimes better lost—if lost the right way—that won which sacrifices the morale of the members. When you lose in the right way, you're in a position to fight for victory. But if you win in the wrong way, by intimidation or by dishonesty, your days as a rank and file organization are numbered.

ON THE BEAM

By Harry Bridges

The newspapers and the political experts are all having a field day over the meaning of recent developments in the Soviet Union.

Reading news reports these days suggests certain similarities with what we have heard over the years from the press reading from the same old script in these same papers. There's a familiar ring to many of the newspaper stories; it sounds like the language of experts who have been waiting for the ILWU every time we have a hot debate within the union. How often have newspaper columnists shook hands around the ILWU, hoping to be on the case because the membership and the leaders were in a knockdown, drag out?

We in the ILWU understand that real all-out discussions and differences on policy are signs of strength and of confidence in the organization. When the rank and file members know they can speak out and take on the leadership and win union policies without fear of reprisals, which certainly isn't true in many other unions in this country, you have a strong union—not one which is disintegrating.

The ILWU has never hesitated to call caucuses and conventions where we let our hair down and rally to work on each other, and—more important—on policy, to hammer out agreement. Remember the differences in our ranks on such matters as opening the 1948 longshore contract, the redhot debates over screening in 1950 and 1951, the differences of opinion on union policy on Korea, and even the rough handling the International President received when he stumped for Wilkie in 1940.

On each occasion our enemies raged—employers, newspaper columnists like Pegler and Reisel, CIO and AFL spokesmen—claiming to have discovered signs of the end of the ILWU."

NOW WE know from our own experiences that it is the business of these people to play up and magnify differences and divisions in our own or any other labor union, while ignoring or distorting proposals in good faith on agreements and issues.

And what hypocrisy and deceit these columnists and spokesmen do for certain government agencies whenever they headline arguments within our ranks, and the challenge of the officers by a secret referendum, at the same time they insist that the union is dominated by "infiltrated agents" and which the ILWU and put it out of business for this reason. The reason is that the union is not threatened with their purpose to inhibit and weaken union activities, the Coast Guard regulations would have the same result, though clothed behind claims of "national security."

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 Opposition there's another way to look at these professional experts on Russia. We are being told, for example, that because of internal weakness and disintegration "the possibility of Russia starting a shooting war is now out of the question." Okay. Then how about some changes here at home to lighten the burden of our people? A good tax reduction, the end of the draft, a slack in spending on armaments and A and H bombs, and the dumping of all these security and loyalty investigations and regulations? What about reducing hours of work, and shortening some federal and state school terms, so that the rank and file members are intimidated. When you lose in the right way, you're in a position to fight for victory. But if you win in the wrong way, by intimidation or by dishonesty, your days as a rank and file organization are numbered.

We in the ILWU today are busy with plans for the future; plans to bring together better leadership and members and their families through policies democratically arrived at by the members.

A world of peace and trade and understanding is a world in which our own future will be better and more secure, and our own plans will have a better chance to come to pass.
WILLMINGTON—Ben McDonald was elected president of ILWU Local 13 here, winning over two other candidates. Bill Lack, former local president, and Thomas Ryan. As The Dispatcher went to press several run-off elections were in progress for the presidency of first and second vice-president, day business agent, dispatchers and stewards-at-arms.

RUNOFFS SET

The run-offs were scheduled to begin on March 26 and continue through the month. You can get copies of the Local 8 letter were also sent to all Oregon congressmen, to the CIO Industrial Union Council and the AFL Central Labor Council, urging them to support the measure. Carl H. Anderson, secretary, said last week.

PORTLAND — ILWU Longshore Local 62, in February 16 went to all members of the House Committee on Education and Labor urging them to support passage of the amendments to the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act (S.2880).

The measure was passed unanimously by the Senate last year and early action is expected in the House. Local 6 pointed out that the present bill is still inadequate for an injured worker and his family to exist upon in this age of high rents and living costs. It is a step in the right direction, they say.

VOLUNTARY, They Say

Here is a receipt given to a working man by his stockyard’s steward (but is not accepted into membership). It’s a “voluntary” building fund assessment of $20; the AFL’s “Stewards News,” a total of $100—for what? Many similar receipts have been issued by former members of the BUMC who say the practice of asking for these “voluntary” contributions is universal—and they are at variance as a jail sentence, “Shanghai Abs” Handleman, 55-year-old agent for the Longshoremen’s Union, said he knew that the contributions had better be forthcoming if they want to sail.

SAN FRANCISCO — A chain of labor papers changed hands last week, one paper folding and another paper labeling itself the new name started up in California since the first of this month.

The folding paper was the Western Building Trades Report, which closed down after an upheaval in the State Building and Construction Trades Council. Its editor, Otto E. Never, resigned, and it was reported that the Report would close down after one more issue.

The Bredsteen chain of California labor papers, which is published in Oakland under the new ownership of Blackie” Turek and Jimmie Valbuena. Local 63, its new editor will be Langdon W. Post.

A new publication calling itself the ILWU Local News, made its appearance with a first issue devoted to “free enterprise” propaganda and articles by the president of the New York Stock Exchange and the PG & E.

In public relations and labor relations “experts” were announced as Jack Harris and Charles Reed, respectively. Both men have a background for the Building Trades Report.

Local 63 pointed at the first time that anti-labor in the extreme, with a “platform for all Americans’ calling for the right to work.”

Editor of the new sheet is James T. Lazenby, a former office of labor organization.

Dockers Back Local 6 Bid

For Pensions

SAN FRANCISCO — ILWU Local 10 pledged the “full moral, financial and trade union support” of its membership to Local 6’s 1956 drive for pensions for warehousemen. The pledge was made in the form of a letter signed by Local 10 President Robert Rohatch and Northern California Regional Director Bill Chester, and was read to Local 6’s annual convention, held at 150 Golden Gate Avenue on March 24.

The Local 10 letter read: We are certain that, just as ILWU’s longshoremen, shipbuilders and working families won pensions, so can ILWU’s warehousemen and women achieve a comparable social gain that will enrich their lives and free them from the fear of an old age spent in poverty.

“On the occasion of this . . . convention, we wish to state again the support of Local 10’s five thousand members, to the larger membership of your union, in your determination to win pensions for your members in 1956.”

ABERDEEN, Wash. —One hundred and six letters were sent to Representative Graham A. Bardner, chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor, by members of ILWU Local 63 here, urging approval by the committee of the amendments to the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act, hearings on which were held by Bardner’s committee on March 13.

Similar letters were sent to all Washington representatives, the Speaker of the House, House majority leader, minority leader, and both House “whips.”

Southland Pension Statistics

WILMINGTON Latest statistics gathered by the Pensioners Group in Southland show that 238 from Local 13, 54 from Local 31, and 163 from Local 63 are living, 118 are dead. 79 from Local 63, 62 from Local 31, and 13 from Local 13 of whom could retire now; Local 63 has 59, 2 of whom could retire, and Local 63 has 31, 5 of whom are dead.

Deceased pensioners included 62 from Local 31, 31 of whom died before becoming eligible; 11 from Local 63, seven of whom never received a pension and were deceased. 3 from Local 94, 5 of whom never received their check.
Ten Years Ago

April 1 will mark the tenth anniversary of the great tidal wave that devastated the islands and killed over 115 ILWU members. Oregon was never the same. The ILWU mobilized all its resources to send aid to the victims of the disaster. The cost of the damage done was $10,000,000. The ILWU local to help repair the damage. The picture shows what happened to ships and shore installations when the water rushed in at 400 miles an hour, struck the coastline.

Joblessness in Oregon is Highest in US: Wayne Morse

PORTLAND, Ore.—Oregon in January had the highest unemployment rate in the nation. U.S. Senator Wayne Morse has advised The Dispatcher.

The rate, based on the percentage of covered employment, was 5.9, and outside of the state of Washington (9.8), there were no other close contenders in the whole country,” the Senator charged.

State officials refer to the situation as “seasonal,” but from the standpoint of the Oregon unemployment commission for the same week according to the Federal figures, admitted that this “uninsured unemployment” was from 12 to 14 percent of the formerly covered workers.

In March, the commission, although still shying away from the grim reality, admitted that this “uninsured unemployment” was from 12 to 14 percent of the formerly covered workers. Senator Morse has been pouting away on the unemployment situation for weeks, and he hit the subject again in his farm speech on March 6. But representatives from the areas where the problem is most acute (Harris Ellsworth and Walter Nehrblad), in districts 1 and 4 have remained silent. State officials, also, are mum, although the number of men and women presently out of work in Oregon is in the neighborhood of 60,000, according to a survey made by a labor press service.

To Be Humane Is Now Subversive

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Fred Myers, New York newspaperman who was haled before the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee March 15, and there denied he had ever been a member of the Communist Party, was back in the headlines last Friday. Arthur Brodwin of the American Meat Institute told the press the institute was instrumental in bringing Mr. Myers to the attention of the committee.

Mr. Myers is director of the National Humane Society.

The institute, said Mr. Brodwin, had “potential trouble” with Mr. Myers over legislation to require humane slaughtering of animals.

AFI Pressure Move in Fish Is Torpedoed

SAN PEDRO—Efforts of John Calise, business agent of the AFL Seine and Line Fishermen’s Union, to bring economic pressure through the boatowners and the AFL Cannery Workers Union on ILWU Local 33 members working under the backdoor AFL-American Tuna Committee have blown up.

Calise asked the Cannery Workers to refuse to unload fish from boats on which ILWU members worked. After International Representative John Royal, Local 33 Secretary-Treasurer Anthony Sokolich and other Local 33 officials spoke to a meeting of the Cannery Workers, Calise told them that he would have to do his own fighting.

Boatowners were asked by Calise to make all crew members either join the AFL Union or fire them. They met with officials of the ILWU and agreed to keep hands off.

NO DISCRIMINATION

It has long been the practice in the port for AFL and ILWU fishermen to sail on the same boat. Local 33 has issued a leaflet to AFL fishermen asking each member in the AFL to keep out of ILWU unions. The ILWU will not discriminate against AFL men working on boats under contract to the ILWU.

Meanwhile, Calise, Patricmel Nick Pecoraro and Peter DiMeglio, and a five-man executive board have declared the AFL Union in a state of emergency and have established themselves as the sole bargaining body for the AFL.

Although the by-laws of the union provide that any action of the executive board can be overruled by a 51 percent vote of the membership by mail, several members have already been suspended for protesting against the action of placing the union in a state of emergency.

ILWU observers see the move as one to end the existing program of Local 33, which is gaining momentum daily.

Sugar Talks

In Hawaii at Critical Stage

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1) several hours meeting with Goldblatt and Hawaii Regional Director Jack W. Hull.

Following the meeting, which was closed to all but union officials, Yasuaki Arakaki, chairman of the union committee, tersely announced that “we are summoning our full committee to Honolulu.” He refused to divulge anything further.

FULL COMMITTEE MEETS

The full committee began meeting here last Friday afternoon. One of the items on the agenda is whether or not to set a strike deadline.

In the recent, National Mediators George L. Hillenbrand and Earl J. Rudy, after “feeling things out,” have entered the picture. Senator Morse has been pounding the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee March 26 to recommend four articles.

The companies agreed to pay 5 cents an hour worked into a welfare fund, which will be used to buy insurance coverage for the men and their families. Previously, Local 56 members were covered under a Kaiser Foundation Plan which gives protection to the member only and none to his dependents.

Nominations were handled by Local 56 Secretary-Treasurer Tomas Palacios and Pete Moore, ILWU Regional Director for Southern California.

Pensioners at Caucus

Old-timers, all pensioners, who were fraternal delegates to the March Coast Longshore, Shipbuilders and Walking Boss Caucus in San Francisco were, left to right, Jack Ryan and Dick Hansen of Local 19, Joseph Jilbert of Local 8, Tom Willey of Local 13, and B. Hansen and Joe Georgeson of Local 8.
SEATTLE—Tora Rystad was getting the coffee cake out of the family car for the Longshore Picnic in Peace Arch Park on July 4, 1954, when she saw the two men watching her.

She pointed them out to her husband, ILWE Local 18 member Gus Rystad. Rystad didn't know who they were, "except that they're not longshoremen!" But wherever the Rystads went that day, the two men were there, too.

"I think they're immigration agents," Tora said, mindful that there had been some arrests among foreign born workers in King County.

WHY THE SPIES?
The idea seemed far-detached to Gus. His wife's interests were centered in her home and children, and in various jobs that had taken them out of the family car was needed to pay family bills. On other occasions men purporting to be members of the American Legion had asked them to come down to the ship Gus was working, causing him to throw down his gloves and tell the other men in the gang: "These two are looking for stool pigeons."

The same thing had happened to other members of the local who were foreign-born, however, and there had been no deportation arrests in the HLWU on the Sound.

But Tora refused to leave the American side of the park. "They might not let me come back," she told snoopers, American-born Gus.

The union's Second International Vice President, Germain Bulcke, was speaker of the day; but the picnic events were staged on the Canadian side of the park, and Tora did not get to hear him.

When the Rystads reached home, Gus was still joking fun at Tora's fears. But 12 days later she was slapped with a deportation warrant.

HOW DOES IT FEEL?
How does it feel to face banishment for the rest of your life from your husband; your son planning his high school graduation; the kitchen where you and your daughter make Norsk kaffebrod every Friday; the Crimson Glory rose you have watched grow to a grand size, and the family band, ILWU Local 19 member Gus Rystad, had been labor members in Parliament, as heads of unions which had battled with the Weyerhausers in the forests, and fought Taft-Harley and the Pulp & Sulphite Water-McCurren law.

The Washington Committee for Protection of Foreign Born had found a lawyer for Tora, C. T. Hatten. But the committee, with 13 other cases on its hands, had little money to spare. One day when the Rystads (who have sunk over $1,000 in the defense and borrowed on their car) could not scrape up another dime, a letter came from ILWU Local 8.

PORTLAND Longshoremen, families, with McCarran Law persecution of Tora (who has refused to heed."

Tora Rystad let the one who was the heart and center of her life be set into exile.

Fifty-five year old Gus had survived the blacklist of the Pulp Kings in Everetts, battles with the Weyerhausers, and waterfront screening. He had worked in the harvest fields, in the copper mines, the logging camps, paper mills, sawmills and on the waterfront. He had belonged to three unions and helped to organize two, the Pulp & Sulphite Workers, serving as shop steward, conference delegate, council delegate and labor relations committee chairman. He had fought for wages and conditions for 30 years. Now he would fight for his wife.

"Vi vil ta enke for Retten. (We will take it to the courts)," he promised Tora in the language seldom used between them any more.

The daughter, now married (Tora will be a grandmother this summer) made a scrapbook of pictures of the stone-floored house with its walls of hand-bewn fir which had been her mother's ancestral home in Norway and of her mother in the full-skirted national costume she had worn to the traditional group dances. Using this album to illustrate the first speech she had ever made, she spoke on her mother's case at a meeting of neighbors and friends.

And Tora herself, after the first nights without sleep, summoned fortitude for the fight ahead.

BORN IN NORWAY
In the Setesdal region of Norway where Tora Uppstad and Gus Rystad grew up (Tora having been born in the area and Gus coming there with his father as a small boy), the news that Tora was threatened with deportation from the States was received with astonishment.

Her plight was headlined by Sorlandet, a Norwegian regional Labor Party paper, as follows:

"Woman from Setesdal under Political Persecution in the US"

The Hyllestad folk could not believe that the American people, whose sons had liberated Norwegians from Nazi paws, would be part of the move to break up a Norwegian-American home.

NEIGHBORS SUPPORT
Friends and relatives of the Rystads had been labor members in Parliament. One of them journeyed to Tora's story. The Norwegian State Department instructed its ambassador in Washington to appeal to the American Immigration Board to cancel the deportation proceeding against Tora on humanitarian grounds.

It is a plea the Service has refused to hear.

But the Norwegian paper was right about the American people. Neighbors and friends of the Rystads and in Everett, signed affidavits in Tora's behalf.

One of the statements was from a woman whose witness against Tora had placed with her in a Communist meeting. The woman said under oath she had not seen Tora in such a meeting.

Tora herself has sworn she has never been a party member; and the witness against her, a self-admitted paid informer, has since stated he can "no longer be sure that his testimony is the truth." In spite of all this, the charges against Mrs. Rystad have not been dropped, and her recent request for a redetermination before the immigration Board of Appeals was denied.

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Tora's Fate

Now there is a new wave of expellees. There is Tora Rystad, who has done nothing but marry and stay in this country.

Mrs. Rystad's future is the fate of the foreign-born worker in the unions. But it is more than that. It is the fate of the foreign-born member in the union worker's home.

You may be born here, you may be naturalized. But is there a hostage in your home? That is the psychology behind the Rystad case, and the reason why many locals have felt the defense of a longshoremen's wife was the business of union members.

(Contributions for Mrs. Rystad's defense, earmarked for that purpose, may be sent to the Washington Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, 513 Second & Cherry Building, Seattle.

Resolutions to that effect were sent to Congress urging repeal of the Water-McCurren law.)
The Golden Gate at San Francisco Bay has always been the symbol of American freedom to immigrants from the vast Pacific area. Under the McCarran-Walter law new threats lie behind the gate; arrest without a court order, indefinite jailing, the treatment of a common criminal. Or the gate may never open at all—depending on your race, religion, national origin or suspected political opinions.

The report said in part:

"WARSAW Attention is directed to the character of the majority of persons who are now leaving Poland for the United States... It is only too obvious that they must be subnormal, and their normal state is of a very low level..."

(See page 1-.)

The McCarran-Walter Act is a revision of a 1943 immigration law consolidating the 1917 and 1924 acts, and is of a very low level. The law is intended to touch citizens of all races, religions and nationalities, and to disfranchise a million persons in every Congress. The International Labor Organization and the United Nations Educational and Scientific Organization have eloquently expressed their condemnation of the McCarran-Walter act and of the general restrictive immigration laws of the United States.

The Golden Door" relates the case of an American citizen himself born in China, who was treated as an alien just because he was born in China. His American citizenship is disallowed by the law, and he is now forced to go through the maze of immigration procedures before he can become a full American citizen.


during congressional debate on the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, otherwise known as the McCarran-Walter Act, the chiefs of five Indian tribes wrote to United States Senator Humphrey of Minnesota as follows:

"As America's color non-immigrants, we would like to see a record of being opposed to the major aspects of the McCarran immigration bill... We are against this bill because of its basic philosophy which accepts and provides for the continuance of racial discrimination. To this we are unalterably opposed..."

"As American Indians we are not immediately threatened by laws to stop immigration and to deport men and women born abroad. Sometimes we wish we had established such a law in 1492..."

Had the Indians established such a law in 1492 the ancestors of the authors of the law, Public Law 414, might never have carried the seed that eventually gave birth to two of the most reactionary and bigoted lawmakers in American history.

A reading of what is probably the most authoritative and exhaustive studies of the law and its administration to date, "The Golden Door," subtitled "The Irony of Our Immigration Policy" by J. Campbell Bruce (Random House $3.75), together with some case histories including harassment of ILWU and other trade union members, will convince any reasonable person of the following:

- The law is cruel in intent and violates every known concept of American democracy.
- The law is administered with equally cruel intent by sadistic bureaucrats.
- Senator Pat McCarran of Nevada has died since enactment of the law. Before he died, however, he was able to push through special laws admitting more than a thousand Basque shepherders to work for his friend, the fact that they technically were Falangists (the Spanish version of Nazis) because of the Franco edict making all Spaniards Falangists was a special exception to the main law.
- The Norwegian consul in Seattle has a special exception to the main law as referred to by the Indians is one of racial and nationality superiority. It favors as future American citizens the Norweigans of Northern and Western Europe and squeezing to almost nothing the quotas of the Turks, Greeks, Italians and Slavs of the South and East of Europe.

As to Orientals and Negroes, it cuts them to a meaningless percentage—1 percent for Africa, for instance. A key to the intent is found in the handling of Eurocations. If a person is half Caucasian and half another race, he comes under the quota of the colored group—and that is mainly the excluded group, along with Jews.

This follows precisely the theory of race followed by the segregationists of our deep South against Negro American citizens—a theory they are upholding by intimidation, by violence and murder.

Public Law 414 treats an alien as if he were a dumb animal—and the immigration service and the State Department seem deliberately delighted to enforce that spirit of the law. Consular officials abroad have the final say on visas. If a noted scientist is invited to lecture at an American university, a consular official can decide he doesn't like the cut of his jib. There is no appeal. If an applicant for immigration is of a race or nationality or religion that a consular official has prejudice against, the applicant is out of luck.

No less cruel is the treatment aliens receive when they get to America. Mr. Bruce relates the case of a British couple who merely had a transit visa across America on their way to the Antipodes. Their plane was grounded in Denver—no fault of theirs—and they

arrived in San Francisco in time to miss connection with their trans-ocean plane. The immigration service interned them in a downtown skyscraper like common criminals.

And Bruce Barber, immigration director in San Francisco, said: "What are you thinking about. We gave them our deluxe suite." Barber is the man who refused to meet a Chinese delegate which called upon him to protect the fifth frame-up attempt to cancel the citizenship and deport ILWU President Harry Bridges last year. He finally agreed to see not more than two people and said cynically: "It's not my fault the union elected him president."

This is the same Bruce Barber who has master-minded the last two frame-up attempts against Harry Bridges and whose face has been seen by hundreds of ILWU members as he sat at the prosecution table.

On March 29 Mrs. Tora Rystad, wife of a Seattle longshoreman, Gus Rystad, a member of the ILWU, was scheduled to sail to Norway as a deportee. Her crime—being the wife of an American citizen the immigration service doesn't like because of his militancy as a trade unionist. On March 28 a federal judge granted a show cause order and agreed to review the entire case (see page 8.) The Norwegian foreign office has appealed to the US state department to halt the deportation on humanitarian grounds. (See Page 5.)

Immigration service treatment of Orientals is something hard to believe. No act seems too low. Bruce in "The Golden Door" relates the case of an American native born citizen of Chinese origin. An immigration department inspector told him, during his confinement, that he was born in China his case would be fixed up. On the basis of his confession he was ordered deported.

As to State Department and consular service competence to decide who should be allowed admittance to our shores, let's take a look at State Department thinking about races and nationalities. Here are some comments made by that State Department for the benefit of a House Committee when it was considering the 1921 immigration bill. Bear in mind that the State Department and its consular service hasn't changed much since then. They are career people from a coterie other than what is known as called working.

The report said in part:

"WARSAW Attention is directed to the character of the majority of persons who are now leaving Poland for the United States... It is only too obvious that they must be subnormal, and their normal state is of a very low level..."

(See page 1/.)
"BUCHAREST: A large number of undesirable aliens are applying for permission to proceed to the United States... being as a class economic parasites, tailors, small salooners, butchers, etc... The severest kind of control should be exercised over these immigrants from central Europe as this type of immigrant is not desirable from any point of view at this time."

"ITALY: A large proportion of aliens from this district going to the United States are inimical to the best interests of the American government. This is not to say any Bolshevik or Communist tendency on their part, but to their standards of living and their characteristics, which render them unassimilable. Practically all the immigrants from this district are of the peasant class. For the most part they are small in stature and of a low order of intelligence."

"THE McCARRAN-WALTER Act has seriously affected our efforts to stop immigration. The Immigration Department is amply revealed by the case of Zygumnt Adamusia, a 32-year-old Pole. This is an alien having all the qualifications for citizenship but does not permit going into the many examples of the use of this act against union men and women, in many parts of the country, whose only offense has been their desire and activity to defend and strengthen their unions."

The whole story is by no means told in this short space. The trickeries and double-talk in the law and its administration are manifold. Injuries are the rule, and the injustices are harming all of us, not just the aliens who might be remote to us. The State Department and the immigration service have set themselves up as prosecutor, judge and jury as to who is fit to come to or to stay in America.

The McCarran-Walter Act has seriously affected our efforts to stop immigration. The Immigration Department is amply revealed by the case of Zygumnt Adamusia, a 32-year-old Pole. This is an alien having all the qualifications for citizenship but does not permit going into the many examples of the use of this act against union men and women, in many parts of the country, whose only offense has been their desire and activity to defend and strengthen their unions.

The immigration service has a long record of anti-union activity stemming back many years before the McCarran-Walter legislation. This act merely strengthened and spruced up what was already a custom of the immigration people — the custom of kicking little, defenseless people around. The Act is purposely loaded with double-talk to confuse and confound not only the aliens concerned, but even their lawyers.

What has been added by the Act has been to put into official, legal jargon a kind of racial and religious discrimination which is entirely out of step with the changing times in our country.

The vast majority of our ILWU members can trace their ancestry to the sections of Europe which are legally marked "incriminating" by the McCarran-Walter law. Others of our members belong to races or religions which are legally scorned by the same Act.

And behind it all, there is a purpose — to frighten and intimidate aliens, and even those who are no longer aliens, but who can, by the jabberwocky in the law, find themselves deportable: To make militant men and women keep quiet — or face arrest and deportation.

The case of Tora Rystad, whose only crime is being a wife of an active, militant ILWU longshoreman, is only one case in many that has found the immigration service acting against unionists. The report of the Officers to the 11th Biennial Convention in 1955 sums it up as follows:

"Throughout the union there is hardly a local which does not have one or more cases arising from the efforts of the Immigration Department to harass, intimidate and deport aliens as well as citizens of alien extraction. This is an ugly chapter in American history. Men and women, for years residents of this country — good citizens and heads of families — are being torn from their jobs and communities and subjected to the rack of the Immigration Department."

A LARGE BODIES OF very conservative as well as liberal and trade union Americans is dead set against the cruelties and injustices of the McCarran-Walter Act.

Some day the Act will be repealed and placed in the historical gallery where we keep such monstrosities as the Alien and Sedition laws, the Salem witch hunt, the Parker raids — and prohibition.

A number of Senators, including such men as Magnuson, Morse and Neuberger, have introduced legislation to improve the Act.

The late, liberal Senator Harley Kilgore of West Virginia had scheduled hearings on these revisions, as head of the Senate Judiciary Committee. Then, suddenly, a tragedy put an end to these hearings. Kilgore, an open opponent of the infamous Act, died on February 28.

His place on the powerful Judiciary Committee was taken by a man to whom the racist features of the
Auxiliary Insurance Members of ILWU & Women’s Auxiliary sign up for the life insurance program, which is expected to be adopted by the entire Federation of Auxiliaries within 60 days, according to Auxiliary & Insurance Director Russ Larsen. From the left are Herminia A. Long, Margaret Salcido, Clara Mohr ( Auxiliary & vice-president), Ruth McFarley ( Auxiliary treasurer), and Russ Larsen (secretary). Officials of the insurance company which will underwrite the program will appear at the next meeting of the Auxiliary, to be held at 8 a.m., April 12, at the Longshore Memorial Hall in Washington. Cost of the insurance will be $1 a month for $1,000 coverage, and only Auxiliary members are eligible. More than 200 have already signed applications.

ILWU Locals Vote to Endorse Program of Coast Dock Caucus

(Continued From Page 1)

development in our national life and urges each ILWU local to meet its union responsibility by doing everything in its power to end whatever remnants of discrimination and racial prejudice might still prevail in our jurisdiction. . . .

Other resolutions adopted in the closing session of the caucus were:

- To support the program of Hawaiian longshoremen to reach parity with the West Coast and to maintain the parity in upcoming negotiations.
- To call upon West Coast maritime employers to investigate the possibility of setting up a scholarship fund which would open up educational opportunities to the working longshoremen in the industry. The resolution pointed out that it would be of advantage to the industry and the union to have men with the experience of working longshoremen employed in the higher positions of the maritime industry.
- To request the Pacific Maritime Association to establish a voluntary pay-roll deduction plan by which any ILWU member could arrange to have a regular payment made into a local credit union.

BULCKE REPORTS

To oppose California Assembly Bill 2022 which would take from Long Beach revenues derived from its tidelands and submerged lands. The resolution said that passage of the bill would seriously weaken the financial ability of many municipalities to maintain, operate and improve major harbors.

To invite walking bosses in Seattle and the Puget Sound area to come into the ILWU and enjoy the same autonomy, privileges and benefits now enjoyed by bosses in ILWU Locals 91 and 94.

ILWU Second Vice President Germain Bulcke reported to the caucus on hearings before the House Committee on Education on amendments to the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers Compensation Act.

COMMITTEE NAMED

The caucus elected as members of the committee to negotiate renewal of the Coast Longshore agreement 1956-1958, five International officers, the members of the ILWU executive board representing the longshore division and the members of the Coast Labor Relations Committee.

These are ILWU President Harry Bridges, First Vice President J. R. Robertson, Second Vice President Germain Bulcke, Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, Frank M. Andrews and Charles Appel, representing Washington and Alaska; Charles M. Beckett and Henry Schmidt, representing Northern California; Gordon Giblin, representing Southern California, and Charles M. Ross, representing the Columbia River and Southern Oregon.

The members of the Coast Labor Relations Committee are H. J. Bofine of Portland and L. B. Thomas of Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor Area.

The caucus instructed the International officers and the Coast Labor Relations Committee to explore with the employers ways and means for increasing West Coast lumber trade . . .

BULLETIN LAUDS WORK

Indication of the feeling about the work of the caucus appeared in an editorial in the March bulletin of the ILWU-APA Pension.

Written by Fred Richardson, it said in part:

“It is commendable that such a task was performed with no departure from the basic tenets of democracy and rank-and-file control which is fundamental in our union. At no time was there any resorting to the slippery practices of the well-oiled machine which is the stock in trade of some organizations. Nor was there any from-the-top-down pressure exerted upon the delegates to achieve a pre-established program. The members of the Coast Committee and the International Officers were rather in the position of counselors and advisors, as fountains of information for the delegates who were to determine the policy as outlined by their own memberships.

“The important task now lies in the hands of our Negotiating Committee.

“Times have changed since 1934 and 1936. Important gains are made over conference tables in this generation. We are indeed fortunate that we have working for us most of the caliber of our International officers, the Coast Committee, and the International Executive Board. It is the wisdom, experience, and resourcefulness of these men which will ultimately produce a new and better contract from the caucus recommendations."

Fifteen More ILWU Dockers Are Retired

SAN FRANCISCO—Fifteen more ILWU dock workers were retired on the ILWU-PMA PENSION as of April 1, 1956, Henry Schmidt, Pension Director announced this week:

They are:

Local 2—Charles E. Duback; Local 8—John N. Axelsson, William J. Koller, John Lumsden and Ivan Dell Miller; Local 10—Everett Collier, Charles Jepperson, Manuel Leyva, Torn Lindland; M a n u e l Santos, Paul Schmidt and Fred Zaskewich. Also Local 13: John Krabbo and Local 94: Sven Peterson.

Chris Borgengard (Local 8) retired as of March 15, 1955, it was announced.

Local 33 Men Supported by CTAL Union

SAN FRANCISCO—Pledges of solidarity and support have been received here from the Confederation of Latin American Workers and the Stevedores Union of the Port of Vera Cruz (Mexico) in behalf of ILWU Local 33 fishermen on strike in the Los Angeles-Long Beach harbor area.

A letter dated February 23 from Vicente Lombardo Tellez, president of the CTAL (Latin American Workers Confederation), and addressed to ILWE Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, stated that his organization had called upon its “Trade union organizations and central bodies and other organizations, to give solidarity and support to ILWU fishermen. The CTAL also distributed circulars and leaflets among its affiliates, apprising them of the situation.

The Stevedores’ Union of Vera Cruz called upon the AFL-CIO itself, in a telegram dated March 5, to demonstrate solidarity and support for ILWU fishermen, facing a strike problem designed to improve their conditions.

The wire was signed by Angel Mar- mol, vice-president of the dock-workers’ union.

Tax Men Seize Daily Worker

In New York

(Continued From Page 1)

property and the shutdown of a newspaper should be a matter of alarm to the entire trade union movement. We have seen too many undemocratic events throughout the world start with the Communists and then move on to others.

Unions, political parties, or any other associations—even including corporations—should take a hard look at this one. To shut down a newspaper, seize the property and padlock the buildings for a tax debt without a hearing or any other legal proceeding is a dangerous precedent. It represents more of a threat to American institutions than the Communist Party ever has.”

FREDDIE GRAY ORCHESTRA

Success Story The first public dance held by the Longshoremen’s Memorial Association in its Wilmington auditorium March 17 was pronounced an eminent success and another one has been sched- uled for April 14. Freddie Gray and his orchestra and entertainers will repeat their performance. Shown above are a duo team from the Marion Rankin Dancers (Continued From Page 1)
ILWU Warehousing

Some of the steps in the making of ceramic and quarry tile are shown above. The pictures were taken at the California Art Tile plant at Richmond, Calif. The 135 workers, 40 percent of whom are women, are members of the East Bay division of ILWU Warehouse Local 6. Ceramic tile starts with the blending of several types of clays and ball clays with a percentage of water. The body material is run through a hammer mill, stored in bins and then put into tile presses (last two pictures in top panel). As the tile comes out of the press it is inspected and placed in setters, then stacked in beehive kilns to be fired at 2025 degrees for ten days. From the kiln it is again inspected, sprayed for glaze and stored until it can be loaded into continuous kilns and fired at approximately 2275 degrees for approximately 18 hours. It is stored again ready for sorting, shading, packing and shipping. Quarry tile is made of a blend of California clays and fired but once. (Second picture in bottom panel was taken inside a kiln being loaded.) —Dispatcher Photos

Department of Justice Decides Not to Risk Appeal Against Screening Decision

WASHINGTON—In what appeared on the surface to be a retreat from its former system of upholding “secret informers” the Government last week announced that it would not appeal to the Supreme Court a lower court decision that condemned Coast Guard screening procedures.

The original opinion was handed down by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco in a case involving a number of maritime workers whose Coast Guard passes had been lifted as a result of unchallenged testimony by secret informers.

The court held that the port security program was unconstitutional because the seamen were not told the sources of the charges against them and had no means of challenging or cross-examining the secret witnesses.

The Government has always contended that it must keep the names of its informants secret in the interest of national security.

If this system of unchallengeable statements continued, the court said, we might have to look forward to the day when every one would be forced to report to the FBI what his neighbor says, reads or does.

The New York Times reported that “the basic reason for avoiding a test in the (screened seamen’s case) was apparently a feeling that the government was not likely to win in the Supreme Court.”

The Times Washington Bureau also reported the Coast Guard is already at work drafting new port security regulations. (See Editorial on Page 2.)
In Washington

Senator Warren G. Magnuson, Chairman, Senate Interstate & Foreign Commerce Committee, takes time out during week-long fishing on Oregon coast to talk things over with San Pedro delegation. Scene from left to right are: Anthony Sokolich, secretary-treasurer, ILWU Local 33, Mrs. Frank Manaka, Save Our Fisheries Committee, Senator Magnuson, Mrs. Andrew Xitco, Chairman, Save Our Fisheries Committee, and Jeff Kibre, ILWU Washington Representative. Mrs. Manaka and Mrs. Xitco are wives of fishing boat owners.

**Officers' Report to Local 6 Meet Stresses Pensions**

SAN FRANCISCO—Mobilization to support the membership for better pensions highlighted the report of ILWU Local 6 officers to their annual contract and constitutional convention held at 150 Golden Gate Avenue on March 24.

The officers' report to the convention was presented by local President Charles (Chili) Duarte, who said: "... we need more than a plan on paper if we expect any members of Local 6 ever to get a pension check."

"We already have the pledges of support of the rest of the ILWU and the wholehearted help of the International officers. But these can only supplement our own efforts; they can't substitute for them ..." he said.

**UP TO MEMBERS**

"We should never forget that we'll get no better deal on pensions as little—in the negotiations as the employers feel the membership is ready to fight for. There will be no easy pay-offs on this one. Only hard work down below will determine just how well we do in these negotiations."

Duarte reviewed the achievements of the Bay Area warehouse union since the last convention of March 1955, calling attention to the fact that the mobilization achieved last year resulted in a 7 1/4 cent an hour wage increase, and another 5 cent hike scheduled to go into effect on June 1 of this year.

The employers also agreed that pensions would be "on the deck" in upcoming negotiations and the local has for some months been conducting an extensive survey, in collaboration with the Distributors Association of Northern California, to arrive at an understanding of the pension needs of the membership.

**LOCAL 6 PROBLEM**

A trend toward decentralization of the warehouse industry was mentioned by the Local 6 president. "More and more houses," he said, "are moving down the peninsula ... This has posed real problems for Local 6 ... The increased methods on ... and the changes in technique and methods of work have made many new problems for the members and for the union ..."

Local 6 holds to its own program, Duarte said, "a program which distinguishes our union from other unions ..." He outlined the Local 6 approach toward four points:

1. No free and easy discharges;
2. Strict enforcement of seniority;
3. Hiring halls for both men and women operated on a rotational, non-discriminatory basis;
4. Health and welfare plans which provide maximum protection.

"The general financial condition of the union, Duarte told the 600 delegates to the convention, presents a nearly balanced budget despite some shrinkage in membership as the result of decentralization. Financial reserves remain to be built.

**WARNING OF ATTACKS**

A warning of the possibility of attacks on the union while it is in negotiation, was sounded by Duarte. "Our experience over the years has shown that the trouble comes when we are most deeply involved in negotiations or other dealings with our employers ..."

Full mobilization for negotiations, he stressed, would make it possible for the membership to defeat any such attacks from "the Teamster officidaimen ... or any other source, including the Taft-Hartley or Brownell-Butler Acts.

Other highlights of the officers' report to the Local 6 convention included:

- The need for the local to participate "in every aspect, of political action and advancement of the union's program go hand in hand, the report declared. "... the officers wish to recommend—and urge most sharply—that each Local 6 member become an active member in the neighborhood political club of his choice.
- The explosive issue of civil rights. Condemnation of the mounting terror and violence directed against the Negro people as a result of their determination to win full citizenship, was voiced by the report, and specific instances of these un-American activities detailed. The importance of these attacks to "a trade union in the Bay Area," the report stressed, may be found in the "necessity" of Southern bosses and Northern capitalists to maintain the share-cropping system and the wage-differential between Negro and white ... nothing less than a fight for lower wages and higher profits ...

**Who's in Charge Around Here?**

HONOLULU, T. H.—Dave Beck, president of the Teamsters Union, emerged from a meeting of the union's executive board today to announce that the projected $600,000 loan to the International Longshoremen's Association would not go through.

The resolution, passed by the board, said Beck, "left no question that I run this union."

In San Francisco one well-known ILWU Board member commented: "The ILWU board sure would like to meet in sunny Hawaii, but never on these terms."

**SF Port Heads Want Military Out of Ports**

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Officials of the Ports of San Francisco and Oakland met with western Senators and Congressmen on March 29 to institute a drive to get the military out of the port business.

The ports are trying to get the military and other government agencies to route their cargoes through commercial and other private facilities.

The meeting was opened by a dinner attended by about 30 congressmen as well as by spokesmen for West Coast port industries. The congressmen present included Senators Wayne Morse (Ore.), Warren Magnuson (Washington), William Knowland and Thomas Kuchel of California and Henry M. Jackson (Washington) and Richard Neuberger (Oregon).


**INDUSTRY REPRESENTED**

Industry spokesmen present included: Dudley W. Frost (manager, Port of Oakland), D. L. Dullum (president, E. & O. Terminals) and SF Port Director Charles Tal."
Ladies and Others

Women were well represented at the ILWU Warehouse Local & constitutional convention in San Francisco March 24. Left to right, top panel, Virginia Sameduoff, Pearl Dukas, Minnie Troche, Hazel Gagnan and Betty de Losada; middle panel, Evelyn Friedin, Verna Soanes, Ann Dawson, Margarita Aguilar, Idaline Richman, Olga Grace and Asta Harman (of the Ladies Auxiliary); bottom panel, Concepcion Wood, Ernest Alcachnues, Ione Miller, Dorothy Schmidt and Joe and Milena Zuber.

Discussion

Delegates hitting or waiting to “hit the mike” on Negro rights and civil liberties at the ILWU Local & convention March 24. The resolution was unanimously adopted.

Local 24 Asks Restoration of Bay Jetty

ABERDEEN, Wash.—ILWU Local 24, at its stop-work meeting of February 14, concurred in a resolution submitted to public hearings held on February 23 by the US Army Engineers, who are attempting to determine the advisability of restoring Grays Harbor South Jetty to an elevation of 20 feet above low-tide.

The resolution urged the restoration of the jetty, saying it would be of great benefit to Grays Harbor and would greatly reduce navigation hazards.

The economy of the harbor is largely determined on water-borne traffic and the maintenance of the port and the channel across the bar at the entrance of vital concern to the community.

Warehouse Proposal for Pensions Set

(Continued From Page 1)

next membership meeting a program of education and mobilization on the pension proposals.

(The full text of the pension proposal will be found on this page.)

The major speeches at the Local 6 convention were made by International officers: President Harry Bridges and First Vice-President (Bob) Robertson.

Bridges spoke dealt with the all-important question of longshore unity on the West and East coasts, the negotiations in sugar in Hawaii and the importance of fighting for the new pension proposals.

Regarding sugar negotiations, Bridges reviewed the situation to date and said the delegates about the longshoremen in the event of a strike.

UP TO MEMBERS ON JOB

President Robertson was the keynote speaker at the opening session.

Robertson’s main stress was on the enormous amount of work and study that went into preparing the new pension proposal and the amount of effort and fight that will have to go into winning the pension.

“You don’t negotiate pensions around a table and we have an expert negotiating committee. In the final analysis it is determined by the membership on the job, their understanding, support and willingness to let the employer know that now is the time.

“The employers will feel the pressure of the membership and the workers. We will wind up with one of the best pension plans in the ILWU. I know we can do it.”

Other speakers heard briefly by the more than 600 delegates and friends at the Local 6 convention were Reverend F. D. Haynes, of the Third Baptist Church in San Francisco, who delivered the invocation, Mayor Clifford E. Richell of Oakland and George Walsh, Vice-President, ILWU Local 10.

Farm net income for 1955 was estimated at $4.5 billion, 12 per cent below the 1954 income. It compares with $1.5 billion reached during the Korean war in 1953, and the peak $16.8 billion of 1947. In 1956 is is expected to drop below $10 billion.

On Stage

Shown at the ILWU Local 6 convention March 24 are, left to right, ILWU Regional Director William Chestert, Local & Secretary Richard Lynden, Welfare Director Percy Moore and President Charles (Chile) Duarte.

Here’s the Pension Proposal

1—It shall be non-contributory.
2—There shall be a single pension plan, including both DANC members and independents.
3—The Union shall participate in the plan’s administration jointly with the employers. Except that the funds shall be handled by the employers.
4—Existing company pension plans must provide benefits at least equal to those provided by the industry plan, and must provide such benefits from the employer’s contribution only.
5—In company plans where the employees make contributions, the employees shall have the following options:
   a) To cease further contributions and to purchase deferred pension benefits—over and above the benefits provided by the employer’s contribution—with monies already contributed.
   b) To continue contributions and to purchase larger deferred benefits.
   c) To cease further contributions and get out in cash, all his contributions plus interest to date.
6—Like the Longshore plan, the proposed warehouse plan is a 10-year plan. A list would be set up of all those 55 years of age or older who could, within the 10-year period, qualify for a pension at age 65 with 15 or more years service.
7—The basic benefit to be $100 monthly for those with 25 or more years of service at age 65 or older. This $100 benefit to be based on an accumulation of pension rights of $8,000 a month for each year of service.
8—Retirement at age 65 or later, with 15 to 25 years service at proportionately reduced pensions. The pension after 1.5 years would be $60 and after 20 years, $80.
9—Optional retirement before age 65 at actuarially reduced pensions.
10—Compulsory retirement:
   a) At age 65 for anyone with 25 years service
   b) At age 68 for anyone with 15 or more years of service outside the industry
   c) Upon reaching 75 years of age
11—in computing past service in the industry, all service in the warehouse industry to count, except where service has been broken by a period of 5 years or more of employment outside the industry, and excluding service prior to reaching age 40. In effect, service in the warehouse industry would include all jobs under the jurisdiction of Local 6 or 17 or their predecessors.
12—Workers 55 years of age or older and who are on the pension list and who become permanently and totally disabled from whatever cause, to draw lifetime pensions based on their years of service (since age 40) at time of disability.
13—Workers 40 years of age or older and with 5 or more years of service to have limited vesting rights. Any such worker who leaves the industry 2 years after joining shall be entitled to a cash amount, based upon number of years of service after age 40.
14—Contributions to begin on June 1, 1956, and all contributions will be due and payable beginning on June 1, 1957.
15—A year’s service to be defined as any year in which a man’s (or woman’s) principal source of income was from employment in the warehouse industry.
Boxcars of Anti-Labor Dope Sent to Washington Voters

SEATTLE — Big business' costly campaign to place a right-to-sue law on Washington's November ballot got under way this week with two boxcar loads of anti-labor propaganda, with the companies maintaining rigid control over the workers, not only on the job but also in the company dormitories.

There are reports that much of the freight is being paid by interests linked with Cecil B. DeMille, Hollywood producer and inactive foe of union security clauses. DeMille's agents are said to have secured the state to drog up the 700 allegedly "grass roots" sponsors. Also backing the move are local banking, financial and manufacturing interests.

Labor struck back with paid ads in many daily evening newspapers to sign Initiative 198. The Washington Machinists Council declared the measure "does not give anyone the right to work. No one is guaranteed a job. No one is guaranteed continued employment. No stockholder or business man is assured of profits and custom ers." The sole purpose of No. 198 is to limit and restrict employers and employees from freely negotiating for their future welfare.

ILWU FIGHTS

The United Labor Advisory Committee Against Initiative 198, made up of representatives of all AFL-CIO and independent unions in Washington, including ILWU locals, branded the initiative "un-American," cautioning people not to sign, and declared: "The job you save may be your own."

The last employer effort to foist a comparable measure on this state came in 1938, when an open shop initiative was referred, 295,431 votes against 296,848 in favor. With the memory of the bitterness of that close battle, there is no disposition in labor's ranks to underestimate the new right-to-work threat.

Local 13 Scouts Return From Camp

WILMINGTON — Boy Scout Troop 946, which is sponsored by ILWU Local 13, returned last week from a winter camp-out in the snow at Good Luck Farm near Big Bear Lake. The scouts (26 of whom are registered scouts in the troop) spent Saturday and Sunday in the woods. Scoutmaster Robert Rahnhardt, Local 13 member, announced that Matt Trattini is the new assistant scoutmaster of the troop.

The troop last week received a letter thanking them for the ton and a half of canned milk and clothing they sent recently for the Navajo Indians of Arizona.

"We want to thank you for the clothing," a letter from Clark wrote, "for the Navajo Evangelistic Mission. "... we value your kindness so much... you boys will never know how much joy and happiness your kindness brings..."

There is such a thing as company paternalism and there is such a thing as union paternalism, and both are dangerous which all ILWU members—and members of other unions—have to fight with all their strength.

We have been fighting company paternalism for 20 years or more, and we're going to fight it until we win, and no initiative will make the fight any easier.

The danger that the rank and file will be suppressed.

There is therefore only one way to overcome such a dangerous tendency and that is for our leaders at all levels to develop the patience to continually explain the police philosophy to the membership. This must be explained, even at the initiation of the situation and solve it on its own without involving the rank and file.

Visitors

Fraternal Delegates to the ILWU Local & convention in San Francisco were President Al Caplan and Secretary-Treasurer Lou Sherman of the Los Angeles Warehouse Local 26.

On the AP

By R. Robertson

What we must guard against in ILWU is the possible emergence of a form of pure paternalism, in which the elected leadership, out of the very nature of their jobs, begins to feel that it is quicker, easier and simpler to go ahead and carry on the union's day-to-day work without involving the rank and file.

This danger is especially real at the present time, and while it is true that people who are more mature and have had more experience in the labor movement and in ILWU sometimes find it desirable to work this way, it is also true that this attitude is contrary to ILWU policy.

When leaders, from the local to the international level, work like this, something is missing and the danger could develop—that rather than encourage broad rank and file participation—the leadership of the rank and file will be suppressed.

There is therefore one way to overcome such a dangerous tendency and that is for our leaders at all levels to develop the patience to continually explain the police philosophy to the membership. This must be explained, even at the initiation of the situation and solve it on its own without involving the rank and file.

Our leaders must remember—and never forget—that their leadership came to them as a great honor, conferred upon them by the will of the rank and file. In ILWU leadership is—not and never should be—superimposed or autocratic.

If our leaders fail to recognize the necessity of bringing the rank and file along on every step, not only is there the danger that the rank and file will not be developed, but in the long run they will find themselves believing that all knowledge of how to do things is confined to the leadership and the carrying out of the union's program and policies, administering it, carrying it out and servicing the membership.

The Connecticut Commission on Civil Rights has found racial segregation prevalent in about 40 per cent of the public housing projects in the state's major areas.