Local 6 Opens Pension Talks For C&H Plant

CROCKETT, Calif. — Negotiations for pensions for ILWU Local 6 members who work for the giant California & Hawaii Sugar Company began here on August 6 with an exploratory session.

The warehouse union made no proposals at the meeting, since the company had before it the results of the ILWU-DANC negotiations which resulted in pensions for Local 6 members. It was therefore up to the company to make the first proposal.

No concrete proposal was made by the company, and the warehouse union indicated that this was what it wanted to obtain for C & H workers as well.

The company plan presently operative, the union said, was not nearly as good as C & H said it was, and far inferior to many other company plans.

It was admitted by the company that 49 of the 51 employees scheduled to receive a smaller pension under the company plan than under the newly-negotiated industry-wide plan.

The local said it expected that every member who retired from now on would get at least the industry-wide minimum paid for entirely by the company, plus any pensions purchased by his own contributions on top of this.

Hawaii ILWU Studies Low Cost Housing

HONOLULU, T.H.—ILWU Local 142 is examining its membership to learn how many would be interested in purchasing a home of their own at low cost.

A questionnaire sent out by the local informs the members that a proposed housing project, ten to fifteen minutes from downtown Honolulu, will give ILWU local members first preference, if enough of them are interested.

There will be 300 houses built on the initial project with annual land rental of $125 a year, and the housing units themselves scheduled to cost between $9,000 to $10,500.

Closing charges will be about $200, the local said, and financing will be by the Federal Housing Administration at 5 per cent annual interest.

The questionnaire sent out seeks to learn whether the prospective buyer will want a modern, semi-modern or conventional home, how many bedrooms and baths, and which modern appliances to be included in the payments.

Who Said It?

“Here in America we are descended in blood and in spirit from revolutionists and rebels—men and women who dared to dissent from accepted doctrine. As their heirs, we may never confuse honest dissent with disloyal subversion. Without exhaustive debate, even heated debate, of ideas and programs, free government would weaken and wither. But let us allow ourselves to be persuaded that every individual or party that takes issue with our own convictions is necessarily wicked and treasonous then, indeed, we are approaching the end of freedom’s road.”

(San Francisco) "On The Beam," Page 2

August 17, 1956

Steel, Scrap Pacts Open In Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES—All ILWU Local 26 contracts with firms in the scrap metals and steel industry have been opened, with demands being a 30 cents an hour package (wages and an added $1 a month for health and welfare) at all plants except Berg Metals and Berg Pipe & Steel, where the demand is for parity in wages and working conditions with the rest of the industry.


Negotiators met with company representatives for the first time August 14th.

Conciliation Takes Over at Stafford

LOS ANGELES—Attempts to reach an agreement between Local 26 and Stafford Mills are now in the hands of the State Conciliation Service, after workers at the plant rejected inadequate company offers and authorized negotiators to take any action necessary, including a strike, to win a better contract.

The company offer included 7½ cents an hour across the board wage increase, an increase of $1.90 a month for health and welfare for employees (no coverage for dependents unless employee paid his own cost himself), and a tonnage rate increase of 35 cents a ton for certain grades of scrap.

Offers were far below union demands and were rejected.

New publication is the cover of a booklet published this week by the ILWU-PMA Welfare and Pension Funds to describe operation, and purposes, of the Coast Welfare and Pension Programs. The illustrated booklet will go to other unions and employers through the country, Congressmen and other government officials, and to ILWU local officers, stewards and others on request.

'Sentence First, Verdict Afterwards'

Attorney Hits Coast Guard Stall On De-screening Order of Court

SAN FRANCISCO — “Alice in Wonderland” was quoted to the US Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit on August 7, when the Coast Guard appealed an order by Federal District Judge Edward P. Murphy, requiring it to issue validated papers to screened seamen.

The quotation was used by Attorney Richard Gladstein, representing the screened men, and was cited to show that the so-called “amended” Coast Guard regulations were just as bad as the old ones which the appellate bench last year held were unconstitutional.

He May, OH—

"Sentence first, verdict afterwards," Gladstein quoted, demonstrating that while the “new” Coast Guard regulations were drawn up to meet the appeals’ courts objections to the old ones, it still rested with one man—the Coast Guard commandant in Washington—to whether any given seaman was permitted to work for a living.

The commandant may set up a hearing board, or he may not. He may accept the recommendations of his appeals board—or he may not.

The jury may consider its verdict afterwards," the Queen replies, "No—sentence first, verdict afterwards.”

Gladstein added, "That is what we have here.

Judge Murphy on July 12 ordered the Coast Guard to return forthwith the validated papers of screened seamen, and stamp them as having been issued by order of the district court.

On July 23, the Coast Guard, attempting to stall the order, got a stay of Judge Murphy’s decree, pending argument before the US Court of Appeals. This argument took place on August 7, and the court took the case under submission.

Us Attorney Donald Marquises told Judges Pope, Healy and McAllister that Judge Murphy’s order went beyond the “intent and scope of the appellate court’s mandate of last year, holding the Coast Guard regulations unconstitutional.

Arguing that the Coast Guard had amended the regulations and guaranteed (Continued on Page 6)
ON THE BEAM

By Harry Bridges

NEW YORK—The current East Coast negotiations between the ILA and the New York Shipping Association were still deadlocked as of August 15 on the union's first demand—coastal agreement extending from Brownsville, Tex. to Bangor, Me.

The ILA has so far refused to submit the rest of its demands to the employers although they have already been publicly released in the East Coast ports and have been reported to the members of the ILA. As far as the union's position is concerned, they are insisting that no negotiations take place until after a coastwise contract has been agreed to.

The ILA position obviously strengthens the union's bargaining and also underlines the entire ILA position in this program, which is living up to the commitment made before the Bonner Committee in the hearings last spring. In those hearings the Congressional Committee made clear that they believed that industry stability rested on national agreements with a common expiration date and a reasonable coastwise date. This agreement is unique, similar to the ILWU-PM agreement on the West Coast and will bring about better understanding and a more constructive attitude on the part of the union toward the negotiations.

There is no question in our mind that in the long run management too will find a coastwise agreement to be preferable to the present state of affairs.

Behind the negotiations however, a more significant battle has been going on which is the struggle by the ILA to carry out its highly publicized International Brotherhood of Longshoremen to throw a monkey wrench into the bargaining and to weaken the ILA's position by petitioning for a third demand. This is the way it stands. The IBTL has not yet been heard from the Waterfront Employers Association in '36, and the ILWU-PMA agreement on the West Coast is not yet in effect, so they, too, are now on the side of local autonomy!

The ARGMENTS don't hold water. And the quicker the em-

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The only union so far supporting the ILB is the sailors union. And all the above statements and activities are based on the autonomy of labor and management in those ports. So they, too, are now on the side of local autonomy!

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Some Cost You as Much as 37% Annually

In a pod. Yet if you go out to borrow for it...

The following sums up the story for Joe and Bill:

Joe, and over again this way. He never
borrowed more than $500 and he paid off his loans as rapidly as possible. This way he was always receiving more than 5 per cent interest for his $500 deposit, and he was paying 5 per cent interest on the unpaid balance of the money he borrowed. His unpaid bills averaged $250 so his loans cost him $125 in interest payments over a ten-year period. At the end of the 10-year period Bill paid $1,350 to secure this $10,000 worth of credit over a 10-year period. Bill paid $1,350 in cash for a credit store with the price of a cash store. He found prices in cash stores are generally lower than in credit stores. There are good reasons for this, and we will take these up later.

Joe knew, moreover, that when he bought on credit he paid a somewhat higher price than if he had been able to buy for cash. Let's see how the longshoreman got his credit. Bill went about it in an entirely different way. Bill realized he was going to need a good deal of cash for the purposes of a growing family. He also knew that he could borrow at a much lower interest rate if he had a savings account. So he accumulated $500 as security for a loan from his bank. Then he was able to use his deposit as security for a loan from that bank.

Local 11 Calls for Workers in San Jose

SOMORE, Calif.—ILWU members in the Bay Area will be invited to the union's office for immediate work in the fruit packing plants in the area. The local recruiter, treasurer, Mary Thorne, that will be held on August 17, 1956.

Local 10 Aids Nelsen Defense

SAN FRANCISCO—The Board of Trustees of ILWU Local 10 on July 25 voted a $200 donation to the defense fund of Andrew Nelsen, president of ILWU Local 207 (New Orleans).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EDITOR:

Just prior to, and during the steel strike, there was much clamor in the public prints about the inevitability of a price rise in steel if workers were granted a substantial wage increase.

It is therefore instructive and topical to consider the actual rates charged under agreements made by some of the steel industry's responsible leadership before and during the steel Workers Union began. On March 23, 1955, the Wall Street Journal reported as follows:
"Ernest T. Weir, veteran steel maker, urged price increases to cover steel inputs prices enough to get the money needed to cover..." company managements do so without waiting for price leadership from US Steel Corp. It is quite clear that the solution to the problem lies in two directions, both of which are of major importance. (1) Steel prices must be adjusted to provide an adequate return on the cost of new steelmaking facilities... (2) The federal income tax law..."
The TNEC monograph lists those thoughts—and not surprisingly they are pro-business and anti-labor. In its time the Chamber has sought outright repeal of the National Labor Relations Act, the Fair Labor Standards Act and the Public Contracts Act.

It has been opposed to public housing, to government regulation of securities, to high business taxes, to further anti-trust laws, to regulation of unfair competition, Federal social security laws, to regulation of the hours of work to unions and the closed shop.

Nor has the Chamber altered the “kind of thoughts” it conveys to government in any real essential, although it has been forced to accept many of the things it hates. It has merely shifted its tactics.

A "ORGANIZED BUSINESS" Washington press agent the C of C has always been concerned with "subversive activities" in the United States. And what it considers subversive may be judged by what it has opposed on the national scene and in the national legislature: strong trade unions, fair employment practices, decent wages and hours and government "interference" with the cut-throat competition engaged in by big business.

In 1935 the Chamber published a pamphlet called "Combating Subversive Activities in the United States." The date is significant, for this was at the height of the New Deal and the Chamber opposed every constructive measure designed for the benefit of the workers by the administration of Franklin D. Roosevelt.

The 1935 publication aimed to "set forth facts relating to the interests and objectives of subversive movements in the United States, and (2) to recommend legislative and other measures necessary to combat them."

There is no mention of fascism or Nazism in the 1935 pamphlet, although the Soviet regime and other totalitarian regimes were approaching the high tide of their power and made no bones of their intention to overthrow by force and violence every democratic government in the world.

So great is its power and influence over government that the TNEC monograph speaks of it as "one of the forces of government. Like other citizen groups, the Chamber of Commerce is afraid of the, libel laws."

But this first pamphlet also made an outright attack on American policy in China, on the motion picture industry, on government employees, and for a program that would outlaw the Communist Party.

The Chamber of Commerce is obviously afraid of the libel

THE VERY TITLES of these broadcast pamphlets tell the story. The Chamber found the United States "infested with Communism," the labor union movement "interfered with it, the very government itself professedly influenced by subversives,

And what it considers subversive may be judged by what it has opposed on the national scene and in the national legislature: strong trade unions, fair employment practices, decent wages and hours and government "interference" with the cut-throat competition engaged in by big business.

The threat, to the C of C, then—as now—is the threat of "communism" and it made recommendations for "measures to combat" this threat, which it said existed everywhere on the national scene. The threat is to the Japanese embassy in connection with military activities in China, in "rent, anti-eviction, and unemployment demonstrations in various cities."

The pamphlet sought for "a sedition law" that would prohibit "advocacy of violent overthrow of the federal government," for denial of the mails to any organization that advocated; and for a program that would outlaw the Communist Party.

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This pamphlet, however, was merely a preliminary sketch of what the Chamber had in mind, and apparently it felt its first pamphlet had not had the proper effect, although the Smith Act, which makes criminal the "advocacy of violent overthrow," was passed in 1940 along the lines proposed by the C of C.

In 1946 the Chamber unveiled its major work in the field of anti-communism, the broadcast series of pamphlets, prepared by its so-called Committee on Socialism and Communism. These pamphlets were not only for sale for five cents, but they were widely distributed, free of charge, to the Japanese embassy in connection with military activities in China, in "rent, anti-eviction, and unemployment demonstrations in various cities."

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**The US Chamber of Commerce**

is the main beneficiary of the current wave of anti-communist hysteria. The Chamber is set up by big business in order to "keep out a Communist union," how to "handle grievance procedures, deal with union officials, help his "loyal" workers "fight communism." The Chamber has been active since 1947, and its success can be seen in the number of "Communist" unions that have been "cleaned" of their "subversive" elements. The Chamber's batting average is impressive: One in which criminals run loose? Or one in which crime is fearlessly exposed? With the fear of "Communism," the target is everchanging, making "comfort to the Reds." The Chamber praises "anti-communist thought," and its "Red Channels," a blacklist in the hands of the Chamber. The Chamber's batti...
Auxiliary Executive
To Meet in September
NORTH BEND, Ore.—All ILWU auxiliaries were advised on July 17 by Valerie Taylor, president of the Federated Auxiliaries, that the executive board of the organization will meet in Seattle, Wash., on September 21 and 22.

The board meeting will be held in the ILWU hall (841 Union Street) and will begin at 10 a.m.

Organizational and other matters of importance such as insurance, health and welfare, and finances will be discussed.

Local 26 Asks 25c Across
The Board at Drake Steel

LOS ANGELES—An increase of 25 cents an hour across-the-board locals ILWU Local 26 demands for 50 members at Drake Steel, where negotiations began last week.

Members also seek maternity benefits added to the present insurance, an additional paid holiday, to make a total of eight; company-furnished uniforms for all employees, checkoff for the ILWU Local 26 Credit Union, and a three-year contract with annual openings for wages, and the right to strike reserved to the union.

Arbitrator Balcks Promotion Discrimination

LOS ANGELES—Promotion to the job of dispatcher at Thrifty Drug for ILWU Local 26 member Merle Chaney was won late last month after a long grievance procedure and a final award by Arbitrator Benjamin Aaron that "the company shall immediately assign Merle Chaney to the job of dispatcher."

Local steward Sid London presented the grievance to the company after the company refused to give the job to Chaney despite his ten years' seniority and his qualifications for the job. The grievance charged the company had violated two articles of the collective bargaining agreement:

1. Article 15 (promotion by seniority) that there had been rumors Chaney was refused the promotion because it involves lighter work, more responsibility and better pay.

2. Article 16, which the company charged with violating by discriminating against Chaney because he is a Negro.

Thrifty Drug representatives countered that the job of dispatcher was not a promotion, because it paid less than Chaney's old classification of loader; that he was not qualified; and that there had been rumors Chaney was dishonest.

President Al Caplan, who represented Local 26 in the arbitration proceedings, held that the dispatcher job was a promotion because it involves lighter work, more responsibility and better chances for improvement.

Pensioners' Picnic

Members of Auxiliary 8 of Los Angeles Harbor fishermens Local 33 (below) did the barbecuing of steaks and swordfish. The cooks were, left to right, Anthony Sokolich, John Marinkovich, Gus Anest and Steve Perica. In background are pensioners and their wives.

Attorney Hits Coast Guard Stall Tactics

(Continued from Page 1)

Seattle Locals Name Donors To Open Shop

SEATTLE—ILWU locals here last week posted the names of 32 persons of Seattle who contributed $25 or more to the labor-busting Washington Right to Work Committee.

Photoshopped from a list of more than 2,000 names of contributors throughout the state were obtained by the United Labor Advisory Committee which has been fighting Initiative 198, a measure aimed at destroying such organizations and imposing the open shop by law.

The list was a public record and therefore open to public inspection.

The Seattle list of contributors follows:

A. Z. Limbach, 7516 Fairway Drive, Lynnwood, Wash. $25
John J. Lind, 1328 Vancouver Way, Vancouver, Wash. $25
J. Z. Smith, 720 N. Millen St., Seattle $25
R. E. McPherson, 5317 Red. Ariz, Blvd. $15
A. J. Davis, 5020 Normandy, Seattle. $25
Robert A. Price, 313 2nd Ave. N.E., Seattle $25
Walt F. Hamblen, 300 Westlake, Seattle $25
Kraft A. T. Deemer, 5020 Queen Anne Drive, Seattle $25

Pensioners' Picnic

Members of Auxiliary 8 of Los Angeles Harbor (top picture) did the serving at the Pensioners' annual picnic (locals 13, 63, 94) at Point Fermin Park and members of ILWU Fishermens' Local 33 (below) did the barbecuing of steaks and swordfish. The cooks were, left to right, Anthony Sokolich, John Marinkovich, Gus Anest and Steve Perica. In background are pensioners and their wives.

Promoted Grievance procedure and finally arbitration won promotion to the job of dispatcher at Thrifty Drug in Los Angeles for ILWU Local 26 member Merle Chaney.
Sheets of tin plate are turned into the cans that hold your coffee, beer, fruits and hundreds of foods you find on the grocery store shelves. Above are a few of the processes at the Continental Can Company plant in Oakland, Calif., where all but the lithographers, machinists, teamsters and office workers are members of the East Bay Division of ILWU Warehouse Local 6. The sheets of tin plate are enameled (upper left), labels are lithographed on them and they are run through ovens for baking. Machines cut the sheets, shape them into cans and solder them. Conveyor devices carry them past inspectors who watch for defects. Other machines fit in the bottoms. Human hands only feed the machines and pack or stow the cans as they come out completed. Bottom row of pictures shows packaging in cartons, paper bags and stowage for shipment in box cars. The plant is a maze of overhead conveyors and complicated machinery.
Lundeberg Goons Convicted, He's Called 'Goon Supplier'

SAN DIEGO—Urging a jury here to "breek the back of goon squads in this state," Deputy District Attorney John F. O'Laughlin named Secretary Harry Lundeberg of the Sailors Union of the Pacific as the supplier of goon squads in California.

Two days later the jury convicted four members of Lundeberg's union and four other men of assault and conspiracy to commit assault on a clerks' union business agent. They face prison terms of from one to three years.

The four Lundeberg men were sent from San Francisco by the SUP-head as a "goon squad," the prosecution claimed, to help clerks' union members in a jurisdictional dispute a year ago between the clerks' and butchers' unions.

LUNDEBERG ON STAND
Lundeberg himself was a witness at the trial, and was described by O'Laughlin as the "unindicted co-conspirator" of the eight men who were convicted.

Lundeberg was quoted as saying "sometimes you need a witness instead of a defendant," when asked why Lundeberg hadn't been indicted.

In his testimony, Lundeberg, who didn't appear as witness, said that he had sent the men to this city as "moral support" for defendant Max J. Dimitratos, President of the butchers' union secretary.

"Lundeberg didn't tell you all he knew," said O'Laughlin, told the jury summing up the case. "The defendants don't want to implicate him because he is a big shot.

The convicted SUP-men are: Jerry O'Laughlin, Chester Hazel, Paul Dempster and Charles A. Tucker. Osslo was also convicted and was, ironically enough, a member of the grand jury which brought the indictments.

The new contract is expected to run for 5 years and 14 fired strike leaders will be reinstated. The settlement was reached on a nationwide basis with a national agreement negotiated by UE with Westinghouse.

The key issue in the strike was Westinghouse's desire to cut wages by about 20 per cent.

**Star**

**Half-Million California Workers in Pension Plans**

PHILADELPHIA — Striking members of the United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers of America (Ind.) went back to work after a 296 day sit-down strike here began on October 15 of last year and rapidly became a lockout.

The situation is already a serious one, and every bit as serious as the report that as the months pass it will become more, not less, serious.

How has this come about? And why? And what can we do about it?

I'll have more to say about this in the next column.

PICNIC ROUTE

This is the way to the annual San Francisco Bay Area Pensioners' Picnic, that will be held this year Saturday at Nepadak Park (bottom of map). It's on Lawrence Road (Santa Clara County), crosses Highway 101 about 2½ miles south of Sunnyvale. Look for a big sign saying 'Nepadak.' Those who are not driving can get a bus at Pier 14 (SF) at 10 a.m. that day. A big crowd is expected; there will be old and new music, dancing, refreshments, free ice cream for the kids.

'Union License' Fee Is Defeated in Florida

MALESON, Fla.--An attempt to impose a license fee of $300 a year on union members, plus $2 for each union member, was thrown out of court Tuesday by Circuit Judge R. H. Rowe, who said it was unconstitutional, both by Florida and federal law.

The Florida Federation of Labor is afraid of receiving another federal anti-union law suit, in Marianna, where the city council last week voted the fee of $750 to permit unions to operate.

**The DISPATCHER**

August 17, 1958

T'S CLEAR when you move from one longshore local to another on the coast today that one of the problems concerning is the whole business of mechanical handling.

New techniques and equipment are coming into the apparel industry, and quite a lot of the best union program in the face of the changes which are taking place.

The recent longshore negotiations wrestled with this problem, resulting in a 10-hour shift to 8 hours of work for 9 hours pay. For in biting into this the negotiating committee was making its first real attempt to share in some of the benefits of increased productivity resulting from improved methods of handling cargo on the waterfront.

The main concern of industrial and production engineers for the past ten years has been improvements of handling materials. And from the point of view of the engineers, marine cargo operations are a ripe field for mechanization.

One of the reasons for this is pretty obvious when you stop to think about it: It's a waste. The use of manual handling equipment—which is expensive to purchase—is most profitable when heavy and hard to move; on the other hand, forward facing all the units are heavy—and getting heavy.

In the past the changeover from hand powered to mechanical powered equipment was slow in rate, because of a high cost in use of labor. The rates have been lower, as union strength raised wages and improved working conditions, and increased wages that were shipping in and out of the ports continued at a high level, the changeover toward mechanization became more economical for the operators. Now we can expect that it will speeded up.

Our own membership will be better armed to work out the best kind of a union program in this situation if they understand a little about the principles that are going on in the waterfront today.

**The MAIN TREND in all marine operations is to increased size of the unit handled and to reduce the number of handling operations in or in the hold of the ship.**

The sea train operation on the East Coast is an example of how far the members of this group have gone in this direction. It has reduced the cost of loading the ship in port.

The trailer ship operation, which as the months pass it will become more, not less, serious.

How has this come about? And why? And what can we do about it?

I'll have more to say about this in the next column.