Statehood Advocate

ILWU President Harry Bridges, interviewed by CBS-TV reporter Arthur D. Morse on a pier along the Honolulu waterfront tells why the union favors statehood for Hawaii and Alaska. This was one of many scenes in the Ed Murrow "See It Now" Program, shown to nationwide audiences on the CBS television network on successive Sundays, March 2 and 9. Bridges presented the view that the primary stumbling block to statehood is the Southern bloc of senators who fear that non-white senators would be elected and do a disservice to Hawaii. The committee chairman, a veteran employee of Lihue Plantation Co., Ltd., says he expects major overwork and underpaid employees in Hawaii. The committee chairman, a veteran employee of Lihue Plantation Co., Ltd., says he expects this strike to be a long one. The companies are palakai (Hawaiian word meaning stubborn) and we are going to go for broke," he added.

Sugar Workers Expect Long Strike, 'We Will Hold Out Until We Win'

HONOLULU — "We will hold out until we win," is the slogan of more than 63,000 Hawaii sugar workers as their strike against 26 plantations enters its seventh week.

Walking off the job Feb. 1, after the workers almost unanimously rejected a four-cent wage offer, the strikers are demanding an hourly pay hike of 35 cents across the board and special consideration for employees in the skilled trades.

The base rate in sugar is $1.12 per hour. Maximum rate for highly skilled tradesmen is only $1.79 per hour.

Expect a Long One. "Adding 25 cents to our present wages" rates," says Strike Committee Chairman Mitsuo (Slim) Shimizu, "will still leave us among the most overworked and under paid employees in Hawaii. The committee chairman, a veteran employee of Lihue Plantation Co., Ltd., says he expects this strike to be a long one. The companies are palakai (Hawaiian word meaning stubborn) and we are going to go for broke," he added.

Preparations for a long haul are indicated by the large number of soup kitchens in operation. On Maui, where three plantations are located, 21 kitchens are serving approximately 11,000 meals daily (lunch and dinner).

Utensils, mirrors, plated in anticipation of a strike, are already ready for harvesting. In the meantime, several tons of produce are being donated weekly to the strikers by farmers on all sugar producing islands. Unable to consume the huge quantity of fresh fruits and vegetables contributed in one week by Maui farmers, the strikers opened a "small canner" and produced hundreds of gallons of watermelon juice.

Fishing-Hunting. In addition to cultivating union gardens, union "pickets" are also bringing in large amounts of fish and hunting. The workers are bagging wild sheep, game, pigs and cattle.

Thousands of bags of rice and large amounts of other commodities are stored in the homes of the individual strikers and in union storehouses. A large shipment of beef from New Zealand has arrived and is being served in the kitchens.

The strike, which has been termed "one hundred per cent effective" by one Big Five agency (C Brewer & Co.), is receiving community support. Reports from all strike areas indicate the strike against 26 plantations are almost ready for the major contract convention this month. Twenty delegates from Local 17, Sacramento, will join the many hundreds of delegates from all parts of the island.

Warehouse Convention to Plan Contract Demands

SAN FRANCISCO — More than 700 delegates are expected to attend Warehouse Local 6's Thirteenth Annual Convention and Contract Convention this Saturday, March 15, and address themselves to problems of contract demands, support of Hawaii's sugar workers, defeat of right-to-work labor legislation as well as a variety of budgetary and internal matters.

Mayor Clifford E. Rishel of Oakland will address the opening session and make a statement on the status of the contract negotiations.

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The Unkept Promise

By Harry Bridges

There are more people out of work today than at any time in the last sixteen years. You have to go back to 1931, just before the massive defense and war spending program finally broke the back of the unemployment which had persisted all through the thirties, to find so serious a situation. This is getting worse now, and it is getting worse every day. The reason that the economic situation is improving and that more, not less, job opportunities will be turned to work is apparent. As a union we have no intention of being alarmist about the economic slump. But we have a responsibility to speak out when men and women who want work and need jobs to live can't find employment. And we have a responsibility to take a good hard look at the malfunctioning of the economic system and ask why it is performing so badly.

In an economic system where the purpose of production is to make profits, people are employed only so long as such employment is profitable for the owners and employers; periodic slumps and unemployment are not flexible when profit decline. The rub is that as the economy grows more productive and becomes capable of producing more and more goods, sales and salesmen to sell them have to drop when the demand and sales go down, and unemployment and shutdowns follow.

The American economy is the richest and the most productive of any in the face of its internal contradictions. The people just don't have the dollars to buy all the goods and keep the economy humming.

Incidentally, that's why throwing so much of our production into armaments, missiles and other useless articles helps prop up the structure. These goods are bought by the government and these purchases by the government have become more important in keeping the economy going. Of course, our dollars to pay the bills to keep the armaments, missiles, bombs, planes and rockets.

This is why the politicians are saying that the economy is so fine. The politicians are saying that although there are few people employed, our economy is such that the purchasing power of the people is so much greater than in the past that the economy can do without the few people who don't have work. Nobody questions the purchasing power of the people who have the goods to buy. But the people who don't have the goods to buy, the people who don't have the money to feed and clothe themselves, are not 'programs which face up to ending the condition, which periodically imposes these needs on people.

They have argued that the economy should be run in the first instance from the point of view of the welfare of the people and not for the profits of the individual. When human rights are held in belief of these owners of industry that the profit outlook was bad.

But is this enough? Can you get so complex an economy to make profits, people are employed only so long as such employment is profitable for the owners and employers; periodic slumps and unemployment are not flexible when profit decline. The rub is that as the economy grows more productive and becomes capable of producing more and more goods, sales and salesmen to sell them have to drop when the demand and sales go down, and unemployment and shutdowns follow.

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Unemployment Hits Hard in Sacramento

BRODERICK, CALIF. — ILWU warehousemen of the Sacramento area and Local 48 set up an association, addressed the local on the Forand bill (HR 9467) which would increase social security payments by 10 percent.

The Rev. Edward L. Peet of Mill Valley, previously returned from Russia, showed slides of the Soviet Union which evoked a great deal of questioning. He told the local he was not there for the Moscow chamber of commerce. His report was well received.

People Can’t Buy and Lose What They Own

Folks prices, already raising alarmingly this winter, are expected to push higher still when the government’s own economic experts say that living costs will reach the highest point ever by next summer.

A related factor which adds to higher prices this past year makes the average cost of feeding a family of five $1.23 a day per person—$31 a week for a family of five. Most of living there has come an alarming number of reports of people unable to buy even the necessities of life this year—autos, appliances, building materials.

Also reported was a recent revelation by the American Bankers’ Association that there is a “shortage of money.” Repayment on present installment debts are taking approximately 13 percent of the average family’s disposable income. There are growing reports of people all over the country who show an alarming increase in auto repossession.

Union Men: Will We Have Jobs for All?

The so-called “free enterprise” system cannot provide jobs for all the workers without the stimulus of a national program, Mr. Burke writes:

“On the Beam”

The success of any society and any economic system depends on the ability of the workers, when productively employed, to provide themselves with the things they want and need, and especially a society rich, wealthy and productive as ours.

In a democratic society, by the very spokesmen for the wealth of the country is. produced not by the employers but by the workers, when productively employed and nothing else produces our wealth. And this is true in the United States in any other country in the world.

To paraphrase Abraham Lincoln, labor is prior to and independent of capital. The first responsibility of the nation is to the workers and the common good, precisely the profit of the owners of industry.

Jobless Crisis Grows Near 6,000,000 More Expected

Jobless and the problems involved in coping with the mass misery are nothing new in our country, I cannot help wondering California suggested the unemployed workers think of it all. Do they think that there must be something wrong with a social and an economic system that cannot provide steady employment for all? Do they recognize that unwork and misuse are nothing new in our country—that we have had layoffs and unemployment under both Republican and Democratic administrations.

The unemployed of today are too young to remember the hard times under Grover Cleveland, a Democratic President. Many of them, however, must remember the terrible depression under Herbert Hoover, a Republican President.

“I think it is well to remind both the employers and the unemployed that even Franklin D. Roosevelt, supported by a labor and progressive Democratic bill that was unable to pull the United States out of the depression that started under the administration of Herbert Hoover. I give him and his congresional supporters full credit for trying; but there seems to be that without the stamp of war our so-called “free enterprise” system cannot provide jobs for all the workers. It was World War II that broke the backbone of the depression, not because of all the workers’ leagues and organizations. But in the countryside, the problem is different. A great deal of industry has been rapidly going to Eastern states, but the great bulk of the labor force in this area is service workers, not industrialists. They are not organized; they can’t be, but they do exist.

Senators Act

Hearings on Longshore Safety Set

WASHINGTON, March 20—Chairman John F. Kennedy, D. Mass., will begin hearings on longshoremen’s safety legislation Thursday.

The hearing, expected to run two days, will also work to strengthen existing Federal mine safety laws.

In announcing the hearing, Senator Kennedy said, “The most important benefit to be derived from improved and enforceable standards will be the saving of lives and the prevention of disabling injuries which are all too common in the stevedoring industry.”

For years the ILWU, in concert with the H.A., have sought Congressional enactment of an enforceable longshore safety program. The existing law merely provides for a Federal safety authority to advise and recommend safety regulations.

Both longshore unions have pressed a vigorous campaign this year on legislation that was considered in 1951 but died as a result of opposition from the shipowners and the Coast Guard.

Senator Kennedy’s approval of the AFL-CIO’s efforts and his support of the safety legislation previously reintroduced his bill in the current session of Congress and has won a final approval.

INDIANS ABOUT-FACE

The Administration gave the legislation a big boost when the President in December indicated his support of enforceable Federal safety standards in his Economic Report. The report, which is a revised draft, is a bill that is a draft of the Kennedy measure, will be before the sub-committee.

With the hearing set, Kennedy again spoke out demanding the enactment of legislation. “The longshore industry,” he said, “has one of the highest accident rates in modern American industry—so high that insurance rates are more than 18 percent on payroll imposing a tremendous economic burden on the maritime industry.

“The legislation on which we plan to hold hearings is designed to give the longshoresmen the same kind of benefit, that exist for the steelworkers, rubber workers, and other workers. It is a piece of legislation of the kind that the Senate is about to pass.

“Senator Kennedy, who sponsored the ILWU-ILA PRESSURE

President at the Senate subcommittee hearing by Frank B. Furillo, Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Act.

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Labor's Fight For Health Is Compared to Free Education

High Cost of Health

Voluntary Health Plans Can't Serve All the People
The permanently disabled, poor, aged, or chronically ill.

You can guarantee that the people who need health insurance the most—people three times or more the aged, the unemployed and the ill need it as much or more than others—are the least likely to have it.

Our voluntary system discriminates against people isolated from groups, including many farm families, who can buy only individual coverage, always costing more and providing less than group coverage.

In assessing how well the voluntary plans meet people's needs, we must find out exactly what you count as needs. The World Health Organization chart calls health "complete physical, mental and social well being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity."

If you think the rational method would provide for near this, necessary health services include, besides such requirements as group coverage and medical care:

Prevention of illness and disability, through immunization, checkups, early detection of disease with prompt follow-up care assured.

Treatment.

Most Plans Aim at Treating Standards for basic services:

- Voluntary Health Plans in the US are concerned mainly with the treatment phase. Latest national report calling for providing Family Medical Costs and Voluntary Health Insurance published in 1956, was done by the Health Information Foundation.
- The figures are from 1951-1952 when almost 50 million people had some insurance.
- The nation's annual bill for personal health services 465.8 billion, Voluntary plans covered 15 per cent of this charge.
- Hospital charges—50 per cent covered.
- Physician's charges—13 per cent (higher on surgery—38 per cent—and lower on other kinds of professional care). Other medical goods and services—1 per cent.
- Medicines— Virtually no coverage.

The survey turned up the fact that families with income tend to spend more out-of-pocket on health care than those without insurance.

For families without any insurance, half had annual expenses above $65, half below.

For those with insurance, the figure was $117—out-of-pocket expenses not covered by their insurance.

The proportion of families in debt for health care was practically the same for those with and without insurance.

Suggested explanations include more use of health care among those insured, and use of more expensive services when needed, for instance, diagnostic tests that may be completely out of reach to a family with no insurance.

The figures do show the needs. More people go to the doctor now than ever before; they know the entire cost won't fall on them alone.

Charges Rise When Benefits Are Increased

A further part of the cost problem here is the fact, learned from experience by unions and other groups, that charges rise when benefits are increased.

Needs that are not being met, particularly in the fields of chronic illness and of mental health, were pointed out in another survey just completed by the San Francisco United Community Fund.

More than 800 physicians in the city were questioned on what they feel is needed most. Almost half said services or facilities for alcoholism, half for emotional disturbance, a fourth for physical disability, rheumatism, gout and arthritis.

The city's Health Department Bulletin commented:

"Such things as homekeeping service, treatment of the emotionally disturbed child, social and recreational opportunities for the aged, selective placement facilities, one-to-one counseling, psychological testing and counseling, case work services, occupational therapy, and education, etc.—all these needs for the care of the sick have been neglected by practicing physicians."

"With the rising costs of hospital and medical care, we must investigate further methods for the care of the chronically ill... We must continue to develop rehabilitative services to enable disabled people to live and do useful work socially..."".

"There has been tremendous progress in medical knowledge and skills, but solutions to many problems depend on the end on more and more research, for instance, in chemotherapy in cancer and tuberculosis. In the meantime we can make better use of what is known in providing treatment and rehabilitation, and working for prevention."

Since health plans limit length of treatment, even if needed, this problem seems to grow when the patient with chronic illness is on his own, and unlikely to have money.

Getting work, in depression or boom, is a major problem, although so many people with chronic illness or disabilities have district tasks of hiring the handicapped more than it acts.

Another group which is the subject of more conferences than action is older people. It's not easy to find a decent place to live at reasonable cost, or nursing care, or something useful to do. One doctor's summation up:

"What are the tasks that our modern society has left to older people?"

"Inspect and collect public charge... not to be sick... not to interfere in their inactivity... not to judge or condemn the follies of the world... and finally to keep busy merely by keeping out of everybody else's way."

The doctor leaves no doubt on tasks for the rest of society.

"If people who agree even partially with the proposition that people who are old should not endanger society..."

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The budget cuts hospital construction grants, with a barely a start made toward planned chronic illness facilities.

The Federal Administration will get one more per cent more. It has been understated for years, while the number of food plants it is supposed to inspect and drugs it must test booms.

Another public responsibility is support for education of physicians, dentists, nurses, other workers in health. Estimates vary on how many more trained people we need now, but doctors who have been deputized, and nurses, will cost our country more money.

In thinking about plans for a national health program, including more research and medical education as well as immediate services, the people can learn from experience in other countries, without necessarily repeating their mistakes.

**Federal Health Budget Is Completely Inadequate**

W ith more people in the U. S. every year, and more chronic illness, this budget allows exactly the same amount for research grants as in the current fiscal year. Funds are separately budgeted for the National Heart Institute, the National Cancer Institute and mental health activities are lower.

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**Preventable Pain Is a blot on any society.**

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Medical Health Severely Neglected in Most Plans

Most plans are 40 per cent lower than the nation as a whole, 40 per cent lower, on other kinds of professional care.

Other medical goods and services—1 per cent.

Medicines— Virtually no coverage.

The survey turned up the fact that families with income tend to spend more out-of-pocket on health care than those without insurance.

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The figures do show the needs. More people go to the doctor now than ever before; they know the entire cost won't fall on them alone.
Unfair Labor Charges Set At New High
WASHINGTON, D.C. — A record-breaking number of unfair labor practice cases is the hallmark of the statistics released by the Labor Board for the period April 1 to June 30, 1957.

The NLRB reported a total of 11,953 unfair labor practice charges for the period April 1 to June 30, 1957, a new record.

The number of charges has increased 23 per cent over the previous quarter, with 5,633 charges filed in the last quarter of 1956. The increase is attributed to the economic crisis in the industry.

The number of unfair labor practice charges filed in the period April 1 to June 30, 1956, was 11,287, an increase of 11 per cent over the previous quarter, with 5,558 charges filed in the last quarter of 1955.

The increase in the number of unfair labor practice charges filed in the period April 1 to June 30, 1957, is attributed to the economic crisis in the industry. The number of charges has increased 23 per cent over the previous quarter, with 5,633 charges filed in the last quarter of 1956.
An injury to one fast may be served eventually, depending upon the length of the strike. The

Local 6 Wins
New Vote Order

Los Angeles—The NLRB has set aside an earlier representation election at the Frye and Volney Roofing Co., which ILWU Local 26 lost by only a few votes, and has ordered another election to be held before March 27. Local 26 had filed an objection to the October 25, 1957, election charging that the company had deprived certain employees of the right to vote by claiming these workers were temporary employees. Many of those kept from voting were actively organizing for Local 26 and had been employed for more than three months.

About 80 workers are eligible to vote in the election which will cover two plants of the company's 38 operations in the nation.

The company's San Leandro plant is under contract to ILWU Local 6. Only this other plant on the West Coast is in Portland, Ore., and is unorganized.

Famed Lawyer is UE Counsel

New York—The United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE) has announced the appointment of Frank J. Domer, well-known labor and civil liberties attorney, as the independent union's General Counsel.

T-H Revision Is False Face Of Anti-Labor

Washington, D. C.—Liberal Democrats on the House Labor Committee are holding back on opening up Taft-Hartley revision for fear that favorable amendments would be transformed into punitive legislation.

In a move on March 5, interpreted as a friendly warning to unions and their supporters, the Democratic majority on the Labor-Management Relations Subcommittee rejected a motion to begin hearings on President Eisenhower's proposed changes in the Taft-Hartley Act.

Subcommittee chairman Cleveland Bailey (D. Va.) later said he had made a count of the House and found that a majority of 39 Republicans and Southern Democrats is ready to "throw the book at organized labor."

He forecast that if the subject of Taft-Hartley revision is allowed such extreme proposals as a national "right-to-work" law would be approved on the House floor.
IN THE last issue of The Dispatcher this column dealt with a serious problem that developed in an ILWU local representing the wholesale drug industry in Los Angeles. The problem was the story of how warehouse local 26 came to realize that it had not been moving as fast as a wide gap had developed between the leadership and the rank and file. After weeks of working closely together the rank and file, which had become so much more immediately involved in the problems and the program, as part of shop committees, and as part of the new organizing, became much more immediately involved in the problems and the program, as part of shop committees, and as part of the new organizing.

We have a plan of action. The organizing perspective has been broken into six-month periods. During each of these six-month periods a goal has been set up. At the end of each six-month period we will analyze what progress was made. But it may be—and if it is—still be making more sense. So the lessons learned by us in the Los Angeles wholesale drug industry present a great deal of worthiness of much study by each unit in ILWU. Above all, we learned you can’t stand still. Standing still is not progress—it’s death. We want to live.

It was proved again that there is no such thing as standing still and just letting the times go by for the middle man. Without action, you mean you’re going backward—and the end of that process is dying.

International Longshoremen’s & Warehousemen’s Union
150 Golden Gate Avenue
San Francisco 2-California

FINANCIAL STATEMENT AS REQUIRED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 8 M OF THE TATE-HARTLEY ACT

FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1967

Receipts and sources thereof:

553,894.14

Dispenser subscriptions, bound copies and over-

924,293.23

553,894.14

Public Capital

Dispenser subscriptions, bound copies and over-

924,293.23

553,894.14

Miscellaneous

924,293.23

393.75

Special organization assessment

924,293.23

24,730.50

Total Assets

924,293.23

$8,802.39

Total Liabilities

924,293.23

$4,117.97

By J. R. (Bob) Robertson

ON THE WATER