Sugar Awaits Settlement

HONOLULU — As The Dispatch went to press it was reported a tentative agreement has been reached on an economic package in sugar negotiations, subject to working out language and non-cost secondary items. The full ILWU Local 142 Sugar Negotiating Committee was scheduled to meet on Friday afternoon, and no details will be available for release until the session is concluded. All contracts are subject to membership ratification.

There is every indication that the settlement will not resemble so-called government "guidelines" that put a ceiling on wage increases. Sugar workers were determined from the outset of negotiations not to be guided by any such directives. The negotiations began again last week after sugar workers voted overwhelmingly to authorize a strike. Union negotiators here stated that any settlement will be a direct outcome of the rank and file's strong determination to strike if need be.

The union's demand had been for a three-year contract with substantial increases in welfare, classification adjustments and a number of improvements in welfare and fringe benefits.
A National Disgrace

BIG BUSINESS and the administration are joining hands to beat down pitifully inadequate increases in the minimum wage and thereby depress an already large, oppressive class. What it boils down to is that corpora-tion, even now realizing the largest profits in American history, and politicians of both parties are cold-heartedly maintaining that the affluent society and its military machine must continue to live off the sweat and tears of millions who exist in misery in the richest nation in the world.

From our point of view winning a fair minimum wage is a prime responsibility for all unions and all people in every community. It is the government's responsibility to deliver a minimum guarantee for a decent standard of living. No society, least of all ours, has the right to set a wage limit that at best leaves humans at the brink of starvation, and thereby depress an already large, oppressed group of millions. Workers have the right to set a wage limit that at best leaves millions who exist in misery in the richest nation in the world.

The current $1.25 per hour minimum wage is a prime responsibility for all unions and all people in every community. It is the government's responsibility to deliver a minimum guarantee for a decent standard of living. No society, least of all ours, has the right to set a wage limit that at best leaves humans at the brink of starvation, and thereby depress an already large, oppressed group of millions. Workers have the right to set a wage limit that at best leaves millions who exist in misery in the richest nation in the world.

The President's Economic Report, delivered to Congress in January, 1966, tells us that events have evolved in Eastern Europe to the point "that the west today no longer finds itself threatened as it was when the American protectorate was established in Europe, and that America is involved in other parts of the world." As in Korea, Vietnam, Cuba, and more recently in Algeria, the American government's strategy in NATO is the same as America's, would be automatically implicated, even if it had not wanted it.

In effect, DeGaulle's latest bombshell was a dilly. Simply stated, he said France is going to get the hell out of NATO in the next few years. Furthermore he said that any NATO troops, headquarters, weapons, material that's on French soil after April, '69, would have to be under sole French command.

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Some timid in the future—and maybe sooner than we think—when Americans get busy with their evaluations, might find that as men and their times General Charles DeGaulle, President of France, will certainly come through in the books as a far-seeing leader of his own country and probably as a benefactor to all the free people of the world. This will be accomplished, as calling DeGaulle a radical, or even a "liberal" as we define the term today. After all, DeGaulle was in the French Republican France he put through some measures against unions that showed he was hardly pro-labor.

So, we should look at DeGaulle in terms of the role he plays to remind us that France is a democracy. DeGaulle recently called a press conference at which something like 1,000 news, radio and TV people were on hand, and he laid it on the line. One measure of the man is the fact that he doesn't have to project his image by getting in front of the TV camera or giving a press conference every day. However, for the man who does, everyone listens carefully because he usually has something worthwhile to say, and the results have an impact on the world. It was certainly proved by his huge news conference on February 21, where he grappled with issues France was not at war with the entire world, and concentrating on the future of his own country and world peace.

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In one sharp statement, DeGaulle called for a return to the Geneva Agreement of 1954, and asked that peace be restored to a vote by the people. In other words, he's too damn far-seeing leader of his own country and probably as a benefactor to all the free people of the world. This will be accomplished, as calling DeGaulle a radical, or even a "liberal" as we define the term today. After all, DeGaulle was in the French Republican France he put through some measures against unions that showed he was hardly pro-labor.

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### ILWU Longshoremen Will Get Support From Overseas Unions, Delegates Told

**HONOLULU—** Renewed bonds of friendship, and assurances of support from overseas maritime unions, were reported by ILWU observers who attended the Sixth Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Warsaw, Poland.

The report was presented last month to the International Executive Board meeting here, by ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt and board member Jack Frank of Local 19, Seattle.

The two men attended the WFTU's Sixth Congress after the ILWU Board of Meeting June 24-25, 1965,underline their special trip. They were instructed to meet with maritime and transportation unions, to give them a picture of ILWU longshore developments, to explain that the contracts would be running out in mid-1966 — and that under some circumstances the ILWU might call on them for assistance.

**PURPOSE ACCOMPLISHED**

"This basic purpose was accomplished," Goldblatt and Price reported. "We had an opportunity to meet with representatives of a number of countries with substantial steps of maritime workers. In addition, we talked to a large delegation of seafarers from France, who have been on strike for several months, and who were very interested in finding ways to get the support of other countries."

At this dinner were longshore delegates from France, Italy, Greece, Australia, Finland, Latin America, the socialist countries of Eastern Europe, as well as from India, Japan, China, and Indonesia.

**ILWU WELL KNOWN**

The observers found "the ILWU is very well known around the world and some of the supporting actions we have taken on behalf of the ILWU and other countries are recognized and appreciated." Pointed out were the following reports of ILWU longshoremen, and last year's tie-up to back striking Filipino workers, as well as other actions in behalf of international solidarity.

"The delegation can report that if we have to call for help from overseas unions, we will get an excellent response," Goldblatt and Price said.

Concerning the WFTU itself, whose sessions, large and small, were attended by delegates, the delegates said they found a remarkably favorable feeling among the unions.

**Appointed**

Carl Damaso, president of ILWU Local 142, Hawaii, was appointed last month by the International Executive Board, meeting in Honolulu, to fill the vacancy created on the Board by the resignation of Frank Mendez, Jr., to become the WFTU General Secretary.

**UNIFIED ON VIETNAM**

"Vietnam was the only issue on which the delegates to the congress were completely unified," the ILWU men stated.

"This situation reconciled all kinds of divergent points of view. It compelled many countries and many delegates who are staunch anti-war factions to extend towards finding ways to get an early peaceful solution to the terrible conflict that is open opposition to our action in Vietnam."

The underlying tone of the conference, the ILWU observers said, was one of shock by the majority of trade unionists. Whatever one's position, they determined to find its answers in its own way. There was a fierce intensity of thinking and a determination to make clear that the American war was autonomous and would struggle for its own autonomous, regardless of any general policy laid down by the congress itself."

"The congress was dominated by political considerations, they stated, and sharply critical of the imperialistic American war effort."

The ILWU observers told them that while they might be right on the first point, they would be wrong on the third because in the US "we have an economy where the wars paid for the wars."

The conclusions reached by the ILWU observers were that there would be no withdrawal of American forces in Vietnam. They could not see the point at which the congress could be reunified, all the other details being left to the people of South Vietnam to decide for themselves."

"We doubt whether these people will surrender. There is no question that within this war the American powers have the power to flatten the country and annihilate large sections of the population, but based on our observations we doubt very much whether we will see the people raising the white flag of surrender."

"They are just plain convinced that this is their war and that outsiders do not belong there. Indeed, they are usually sharp in their feelings about the Chinese. They made it plain that they fought against the National Liberation Front for over 40 years and then went on to fight against French occupation."

Goldblatt and Price concluded their report:

"There is no question that the people like war. Satisfied, Fulbright and Mansfield are 100 percent right when they oppose the impatient request of the United Nations, that the US withdraw its forces in Vietnam or any other escalation of the war as soon as possible. Congress has to be found—through the United Nations or other machinery—to bring the people, the whole people, to view themselves how they want to shape their country and reunite this stricken land."
Bartlett Is Right; We Are Wrong

SAN FRANCISCO — Senator E. L. Bartlett, Democrat of Alaska, and a long time friend of the ILWU and the labor movement, was done wrong by clerical errors starting in Washington, compounded in San Francisco, and published in the ILWU Dispatcher of January 21, 1966.

This is a belated correction, gladly made in behalf of a friend of labor.

A published legislative summary of Senate and House votes, incorrectly reported Senator Bartlett's votes in several important issues. The clerical error reported him as "wrong" on these issues.

The fact is he was "right" in his votes, from an ILWU point of view, generally shared by all of labor.

Bartlett voted "RIGHT" on the following issues:
1) Repeal of the poll tax; 2) expansion of voting rights; 3) against repeal of rent subsidies in the Omnibus Housing Bill; 4) against giving governors the right to kill poverty programs; and, 5) in favor of ending debate on 14(b).

An interesting exchange of telegrams was received here recently, indicating the sore problems Senator Bartlett had as a result of these erroneous reports.

A wire from a group signing itself "Rank and File, Local 16, Fairbanks, Alaska," to Senator Bartlett said in part:

"In reviewing your voting record of last year we find that you were not 'right' on Section 14(b) of Taft-Hartley. We urge you strongly to reconsider your vote."

Bartlett answered the next day to Local 16:

"Dear Friends: I am concerned that you of all people came to the conclusion that last year I was not in favor of repealing Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act. I simply cannot understand how this misinformation came to you. I have always been for repeal, and am no more strongly than ever now."

In a letter sent February 15 to secretary of ILWU Local 62, Ketchikan, Alaska, ILWU Washington representative Jeff Kibre had the highest praise for Bartlett. He said in part:

"Senator Bartlett...had an excellent voting record on legislation of importance to labor and the ILWU...It is my hope that the local and all of our members in Alaska will do everything possible in the election next fall to make certain that Bob Bartlett is returned to the US Senate."

PORTLAND Protests Scab Grape Goods

FORTLAND—Wrath in the grapes made itself felt here last week in two-day picketing of an Oregon Liquor Control Commission Store, and in a press release in support of the Delano, California grape strikers.

The statement was signed by State Sen. Don S. Willner, former chairman of the Legislative Interim Committee on Migrant Labor, Francis J. Murnane, president of Local 8, Ed Whelan, state AFL-CIO head, the Right Reverend Monsignor Thomas J. Tobin, and other notables.

"We look upon this strike as a test of whether farm labor migrants have the right to participate in the American dream," it declared.

Banners read: "Schenley Exploits the Poor," "Great Society for Grape Pickers," and "Don't Spend Your Drinking Dollar for Poverty.

The placard carried by the auxiliary standard bearer said simply: "ILWU Federated Auxiliaries Columbia River District Council Supports Grape Strikers at Delano."

Continued from Page 1—

the union is officially opposed to the war, "but whether you as an individual are for or against this war...it is the worker who gives up the butter in order to buy the guns."

Stating that the problem of the war "gets into our pockets and our pork chops" because of President Johnson's "guidelines" limiting wage and benefit demands to 3.3 percent, he said: "The next year is going to be a difficult one...but we do not intend to change our program one iota. We will continue to fight on all fronts for our membership and its just demands, and for all working people.

INTERVENTION

Bridges spoke on the same point, and said that the war, "which even the Air Force doesn't call a war—they call it 'diplomatic interdiction' or some such nonsense"—could lead to federal intervention in the event of a deadlock in the upcoming longshore negotiations.

"But," he added, "the courts cannot monkey with our attempts to improve our economic conditions!"

A number of fraternal delegates from various ILWU locals and the Teamster's Union were introduced and spoke about the need for labor solidarity.

Local 16 President James Kearney, referring to the June 30th expiration of the longshore contract, said: "I hope we don't have to have a strike. But if we do, we know we'll have the complete support of our brothers and sisters in warehouse."

Wholeheartedly endorsing a program for labor unity, the convention voted:

• Full support to the longshoremen;
• Full support to the sugar workers in Hawaii;
• To reaffirm the union's position on Civil Rights;
• To instruct the General Executive Board to find ways to continue aid to the striking grape workers in Delano.

PENSIONS

On the matter of pensions, President Duarte pointed out that about 1000 retired members now draw benefits and that by 1979 the number will increase to 1600, about 25 percent of the membership.

The officers proposed and the delegates accepted for recommendations to the membership, an across-the-board increase to $4.50 for past and future service credit. This would entitle a retiring member, after 25 years of service, to a pension of $112.50.

The officers reported that "if the benefits go only to future retirees, of course the pensions can be substantially larger." Under almost all collectively bargained pension plans those who are already on pension do not gain any benefit when the plan is improved. This is true of the Teamster plan. The longshore plan is one of the few that has extended the higher benefits to present pensioners.

"The consensus at the bull sessions we have had," Duarte continued, "seemed to be that the present pensioners are entitled to the increase."

A half cent of the 5 1/2 cents or more due June 1 under the present agreement is earmarked for welfare. Attempts are being made to integrate this with Medicare and other programs to build a program.
Eccles Viet War Article Impresses Oregon Solons

PORTLAND — The Marriner Eccles article: Viet Nam—We Are The Aggressor,” carried in the January 7 Dispatch, has won much favorable comment in Oregon.

Bill Willits, a regular Dispatch subscriber and one of the very few legislators at Salem with a 100 percent voting record on labor bills, was so impressed with the article that he ordered several additional copies of it to The Gresham Outlook, which used portion of the editorial prefixed by this comment:

The latter-day definition of patriotism, it seems to be agreement with the Johnson administration’s policies in Viet Nam. If you agree, you’re okay; if you don’t, somehow you’re unpatriotic.

“...But we wonder. Some pretty important people have begun to disagree. There is Marriner S. Eccles, famous industrialist, banker and former chairman of the board of the Federal Reserve System, who says the current war, if allowed to escalate, will become intolerable in terms of costs, of loss and prestige, of any we have fought. It is the main burden of organization is to carry on these beefs, and also to campaign “get-tough” attitude which are of concern to Local 6:

- McCormick—Schilling — The company, which has their main office under contract to Local 6 for many years, plans to move to the Salinas valley and wants an agreement cutting wages, pension and welfare benefits, and denying the union the right to bargain for its members. The members at Schilling support the union’s position that the contract and workers move with the plant, with severance pay for those who do not wish to move.

- Hiring Hall — It is getting more and more difficult to discuss the CIF, which is having trouble getting jobs due to employers’ claims that they cannot get qualified people. The union is forced to accept that a base rate worker needs more education and skill than any other employee. The union’s position is that a base rate worker is just that, and is entitled to protection on any and all base rate jobs.

- Dewey & Almy — A member was discharged after three years for allegedly falsifying his application. The union’s position is that the contract does not provide for applications, and that they should be done away with.

- Carpenter Paper — A member of the Office Worker’s Organizing Committee was fired for alleged “incompetence” when he tried to organize the employees. A picket line was set up and the Distributor’s Association obtained a court injunction on the basis that an ILWU union does not have the right to respect the picket line of another ILWU union. This decision is aimed at preventing organization of office workers.

The delegates voted full support to carry on these beefs, and also to campaign against any units of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Department that it intended to boycott all foreign ships belonging to nations that trade with North Vietnam.

This information, sent to all longshore, ship clerk and walking boss locals on the Pacific Coast, Hawaii and Canada, resulted from a recent announcement by the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Department that it intended to boycott all foreign ships belonging to nations that trade with North Vietnam.

This covered many of the major merchant fleets of the world, including all ships from Britain, Scandinavia, Latin American countries, India, Russia, Greece, Liberia, Panama, and several others.

A letter signed by Harry Bridges, the President of the ILWU, and the Coast Committee, called the program “as phony as a $9 bill.”

The message commented: “What they seem to have in mind, among other things, is to tie up ILWU jobs on the West Coast. We are advised: If the demonstration picket lines show up from any units of the AFL-CIO Maritime Trades Department and if they implement their boycott program, ignore them. Keep on working. By no stretch of the imagination could such picket lines be called a labor beef.

“If any of these SIU, or SUP members are so anxious to make their own foreign policy, then let them refuse to sail American ships into any waters of any of those countries. “Let them put their own jobs on the line, not ours!”

The officers noted that ILWU policy, set down by the International convention, “favors free trade with all nations, as well as peace.”

In addition, the letter said, if seagoing unions are looking for “gimmicks and tricks to attack the government because they have a beef over runaway American-owned ships, let them attack those who are responsible.

“Don’t let them attack our jobs!”
We cannot ignore it and we must press even harder now for our previous demands for a cease fire, with war and the total prohibition of nuclear weapons. A great victory is in your meeting.

This day commemorates those who died as a direct result of radioactive fallout and ash when the H-bomb was exploded by the United States at Bikini Atoll, March 1, 1954.

Attending the meeting were 24 delegates and two alternates from eight of the nine California Auxiliaries, representing approximately 800 members. Mrs. Margaret Wallis, San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond, Stockton, Sacramento and Eureka.

Mrs. Pauling, President, introduced to the delegates noted that a longshore strike is possible and was confident that we must lose your money. He was enthusiastically ap plauded when he announced that the delegates voted: "to give any assistance we can render as auxiliaries around the subject matter of the 1966 negotiations."

Symbols of the auxiliaries anti war feeling was the "Peace Apron" circulated among the delegates. The apron was sent to the auxiliaries from Renie Macris of the (Australia) Women's Committee of the Waterside Workers. She with other auxiliary women participated in the Peace Rally March in Sydney, Australia. Accompanying the apron was the request that ILWU Auxiliary 16, San Francisco, who in that year. Other California names on the apron are those of Rose Pritchett. It appeared at the Portland Oregon Peace Workshop in 1960 visited Hiroshima, Japan and also was the request that ILWU Auxiliary 18, San Francisco, who in 1966 negotiations."

The report of Norma Wyatt, Federated Auxiliaries secretary stated that 65 percent of the national budget is allocated to war in another forms, against 10 for the war on poverty. She pointed out that the Negro struggles for civil rights and those of the poor against poverty suffer sharp deprivation of help with a national budget so heavily weighted to the military.

The President's report said: "With this waste of our resources on military expenditures we can't have both guns and butter—we have fewer and fewer dollars to spend on anti-pov ery programs."

Delegates responded to both reports by sending letters to the US House and Senate protesting the military expenditures and demanding that taxes be levied on the corporate profits resulting from the war.

Regarding auxiliary peace activities, Mrs. Taylor urged, "We have to be alert to every new situation; events are moving almost hourly, so we must move quickly with more resolutions, wires, letters and demonstrations."

The California conference issued a statement on Vietnam to be sent to Senators Fulbright, Kuchel and Murphy which said, in part: "We are pursuing a shocking and stupid policy of carving up the earth of Vietnam with the result that there are now over 725,000 refugees for whom we are accountable due to the bombings. We have voted a wide margin on the treatment of non-combatants; we are using poison and other destruc tive devices to destroy the rice crops of South Vietnam. In the words of Senator Morse 'these policies violate morality. They represent a horrendous example of man's inhumanity to man.'"


Reports of Northern and Southern California Federated Vice Presidents Jeannette Whitney and Ruth Harris reflected concern with the war and its effects upon domestic problems and the political climate. From the local level, letters, wires and delegations have gone to Congressional representatives in protest of the war and of atomic pollution, and have demanded peace negotiations of President Johnson by petition, wires and letters.

Bill Chester, Northern California regional director, ILWU in his address to the delegates said: "There has been more discussion in the auxiliaries on peace, civil rights and home. Renewed attention on "trials," and the political climate. From the local level, letters, wires and delegations have gone to Congressional representatives in protest of the war and of atomic pollution, and have demanded peace negotiations of President Johnson by petition, wires and letters.

Bill Chester said: "In 1966 it is vital that there be labor solidarity and labor votes to combat two influences (a) Right wing and conservative forces are armed with vast sums of money to spend on the elections, and (b) in a year when there is no presidential vote, people tend to stay away from the polls. We must campaign and support must be given to the ILWU legislative programs."

The Conference legislative committee recommended that all state and national candidates be questioned on their stand on peace, Vietnam and other issues vital to the ILWU, labor and the consumer. Delegates concurred in the recommendation for an intensified program of phone calls, wires and delegations to visit legislators at the state and national levels. A letter to the governor and to both houses of the state legislature demanded that "dynamite action be taken, and newly printed "Handbook for Officers and Auxiliary Members" now available.

Elaine Yoneda with "peace apron"
Canada ILWU Raps CPR
Docks as 'Boatyard Slum'

VANCOUVER, B.C.—With the Canadian Area ILWU in active lead, the campaign of pressure on the federal government and the Canadian Pacific Railway for development of the port of Vancouver continues to mount.

The CPR owns large tracts of choice waterfront property in the harbor. Although some areas are old and dilapidated, it refuses to undertake any new development.

The National Harbours Board, a federal agency, owns 35 percent of the waterfront and have a look at the area. Although its facilities are old and condemned, with two rusty sheds where water comes in through the roof, and where longshoremen must avoid the water leaking through the roof, and where longshoremen must use "cooie toilettes.

The CPR "lateral wharf" was portrayed by Dechman as bordered by "broken and charred timbers sticking out of the water," and a "glum low tin shed full of columns around which forklift trucks wriggle and dodge in an effort to unload the cargo or to allow it to be developed.

The union called upon Ottawa to take any new development.

'GET A BULLDOZER'

The CPR was sharply criticized by the provincial legislature by labour leaders in its failure to get on with the job. Vancouver city council was also rebuked for standing idly by.

"I want him to see if he can find any heat, any comfort of any kind for anybody who works as a longshoreman along the CPR wharf," ILWU president Barker wired federal transport minister Pickersgill.

Barker described the CPR's Pier "A" as a "boatyard slum," long ago condemned, with two rusty sheds where water comes in through the roof, and longshoremen must use "cooie toilettes.

"This port belongs to all of Canada," said Barker in his wire, "and this union will do all in its power to serve its needs and development."

Other trade unions are also entering the campaign. An editorial in Ship and Shop, the paper of the Marine Workers and Boilermakers Industrial Union, charged the CPR with "being a black cloud over the waterfront like a dog in the mangy, refusing to do anything about it or to allow it to be developed."

The union called upon Ottawa to nationalize the CPR and operate it as a public utility.

New Chairman

Donald Van Brun is seen here as he took over chairmanship of the Governor's Industrial Safety Advisory Committee in the State of Washington, Van Brun, member of ILWU Local 21, Longview, Washington, was appointed six years ago to the governor's committee and on February 12 was elected to the committee. With the existence of 12 ILWU locals and many other unions, Van Brun worked continuously to revise each of the safety codes, copies of which have been mailed to every ILWU local in Washington, Oregon and California. Left to right at table are: Eberth O. Pearson, Division of Safety Supervisor; Van Brun; Carl Woodsmoreland, Safety Supervisor from Olympia Brewery; Jack R. Jones, past chairman, Washington Area Safety Supervisor; PM; Howard Curtis, Safety Director, Simpson Timber, pressure, take your youngsters out on a fishing trip and they, subly, become anglers themselves as they witness the boundless joy crappie fishing brings to the children. It's been said that everyone is a child again "out crappie fishing."

"BOATYARD SLUM"

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He suggested that transport minister J. W. Pickersgill contact the ILWU when he makes his scheduled visit to Vancouver.

"I hope that when the minister of transport goes to Vancouver," he said, "that he will go down that waterfront and have a look at the harbor. I hope that he will ask my friend Bud Barker, president of the longshoremen's local, to go along with him and show him the working facilities which the CPR offer for the people who work on the wharf.

"I want him to see if he can find any heat, any comfort of any kind for anybody who works as a longshoreman along the CPR wharf."

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Local 26 Wins NLRB
Election at Fleetwood

Local 26, ILWU, Fleetwood Products Corp., joined warehouseman's Local 26, ILWU, by a vote of 13 to 6 in an NLRB election held in mid-February.

ILWU President Barker wired federal transport minister Pickersgill. Barker described the CPR's Pier "A" as a "boatyard slum," long ago condemned, with two rusty sheds where water comes in through the roof, and longshoremen must avoid the water leaking through the roof, and longshoremen must use "cooie toilettes."

The CPR "lateral wharf" was portrayed by Dechman as bordered by "broken and charred timbers sticking out of the water," and a "glum low tin shed full of columns around which forklift trucks wriggle and dodge in an effort to unload ships outside."

He suggested that transport minister J. W. Pickersgill contact the ILWU when he makes his scheduled visit to Vancouver.

"I hope that when the minister of transport goes to Vancouver," he said, "that he will go down that waterfront and have a look at the harbor. I hope that he will ask my friend Bud Barker, president of the longshoremen's local, to go along with him and show him the working facilities which the CPR offer for the people who work on the wharf."

"I want him to see if he can find any heat, any comfort of any kind for anybody who works as a longshoreman along the CPR wharf."
A Milestone For Labor

A MILESTONE in West Coast unionism was reached last week in Portland when, for the first time, all six unions—all concerned with forest products and transportation in the Western States and British Columbia—agreed to give each other complete support and coordinate their contract negotiations.

The unions are Lumber and Sawmill Workers, International Woodworkers of America, Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers, Printing Specialties and Paper Products Unions, Teamsters, and ILWU. This represents in the neighborhood of 175,000 workers in all phases of production and transportation of forest products—those who fell the trees, cut them up into lumber, make paper, and all other phases including transportation, with teamsters and longshoremen.

The striking dimensions of this agreement will only be measurable by what we do. But a giant step was made when these six unions agreed to work out a joint program for mutual assistance. We recognize the need to work out—a mutually cooperative basis—the complex, long-term problems we’ve all faced in this fast-changing industry.

More Vital Than leadership understanding, is the need for every member of every union involved to realize they are not alone in this historic fight that working people of America must wage to secure their jobs. When we are strong enough to win security on the job, then all other benefits, as well as our political power to advance the welfare of the entire community, will also fall in line.

When we concluded that meeting in Portland we had a renewed sense about our potentialities, were aware that this could well be a turning point in the whole field of labor relations on the Pacific Coast.

Don’t make any mistakes about it. This did not come about because of any great generosity on the part of any of our unions—but because of absolute necessity! The necessity to meet the serious issues we all share in the face of stripping and wealthy employers. And this includes the necessity to recognize a certain profound trust we must bury past differences, must end past haggling, must work toward common solutions.

The First Historic point was reached when each of our unions went on record to invite all other unions to send delegates to their conferences when wage and other contracts are discussed. We all agreed on the need to work toward a common expiration date on our contracts in this key Pacific Coast industry.

A first step in our long-range plan of mutual aid was undertaken when all the union representatives attended the wage conference of IWA, Region 3, and spoke to the conference of the full support that will be forthcoming to back up the IWA. The Pulp and Paper Workers are in negotiation right now, and each union made it clear that we would back them to the limit. Other unions will have contract terminations soon, and, of course, the ILWU’s longshore division contract expires this June. There is an awful lot we can do for each other, right now, and in the months and years to come.

This six-union conference made all those present aware of the real meaning of that time-honored word—“solidarity.”

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**Longshore Listing Card**

**Important:** Please fill out this card completely, sign and drop in mail. No stamp, no address needed.

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