An Accolade Of Praise for Bob Robertson

LOS ANGELES — The ILWU convention became a testimonial meeting in honor of one of its first and staunchest leaders when the resolution commending vice president J. R. (Bob) Robertson hit the floor. Fourteen speakers rose to express their admiration for Bob and their thanks for his 35 years as the union’s leading organizer. President Bridges presented on behalf of the union a gold ring with the ILWU insignia.

Robertson had announced in his “On the March” column in The Dispatcher of January 10 that “I’m hanging up the gloves . . . when the next convention rolls around I won’t be a candidate for the office of vice president.”

First to speak on the resolution was Paul Heide, business agent for Local 6, who had shared with Bob some of the tough and harrowing organizing drives of the thirties and forties in the south, the midwest and west. Speaking of New Orleans, Heide related that “there was a period of terror by the state and county police . . . the union hall was raided . . . Bob was

Convention Names New ILWU Team

Bridges, Goldblatt Chester and Hall

LOS ANGELES—Delegates at the largest ILWU Convention ever held, last week nominated by acclamation a new team to lead the union for the next two years. Named without opposition were veteran filled officers, President Harry Bridges and Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, as well as vice presidential candidates for two new offices established by newly adopted constitutional changes.

The two men who will be co-equal vice presidents are:

• William Chester, who will become Vice President-Assistant to the President. Chester, longshore Local 10 member and longtime Northern California regional director, has a distinguished record both for his work within the union and in the community. He is the first black man to achieve a titled officer post.

• Jack Hall, named Vice President-Director of Organization, is a veteran regional director of the ILWU in Hawaii, has a lifetime career in union work, and has chalked up an enviable record in organizing, negotiating and directing union political action for some 34 years.

All four titled officers, nominated by acclamation, were given standing ovations. The constitutional change that established two vice presidents also calls for these titled officers to com-

Caucus Debate

Vote Asked To Cancel Dock Pact

LOS ANGELES — The 1969 Longshore Caucus was convened Monday, April 14, following adjournment of the 18th Biennial ILWU Convention. Containers continue to be the prime issue. Elected by acclamation as caucus chairman was G. Johnny Parks, and as caucus secretary, John E. Olson, both of Local 8, Portland. As The Dispatcher went to press caucus delegates were discussing and debating a number of recommendations.

On deck before the caucus is what to do about the work of stuffing and unstuffing containers and vans on docks and adjacent areas on the Pacific Coast. Before the body in Los Angeles is the recommendation of the Coast Negotiating Committee on containers, pension parity and wages. That recommendation asks the caucus to order a referendum of West Coast longshoremen and clerks to determine whether or not to can-
ILWU Influence Growing, Bridges Tells Convention

LOS ANGELES — "The influence of our union is growing," ILWU president Harry Bridges told the delegates in his keynote address to the opening session of the 18th Biennial Convention.

Reasons referred to by Bridges for growing ILWU influence were participation in community and political affairs, and to adopt policies as it sees fit, thanks to independence from other union organizations and political parties, and independent sources of information about national and international developments.

Underlying all of this is the fact that "We do not lose sight of the first goal of this or any other union, which is the day-to-day work of protecting the working conditions and seeking to improve the standard of living in terms of wages and other things."

"We have almost a new union in terms of a younger membership," Bridges said. "Those who fought and worked to put the union together over a quarter-century age are not here any more; they're retired. The younger members ... don't understand much of the work, nor do they care, and I'm not sure that they should care.

PRESENT AND FUTURE

"It is understandable that young people live for the present and the future, and we are not doing our work unless we understand that we do have a new union in the sense that the bulk of the membership is young.

"They are all too willing to try new ways of doing things and to abandon some of the old-fashioned methods that so far, it seems, worked to our advantage."

On the subject of independence, Bridges referred to the welcoming address of Sigmund Arywitz, secretary of the Los Angeles Federation of Labor: "We are separate and apart from the great movement represented by Sig Arywitz; we are a part of the labor movement and we cannot and do not intend to separate ourselves from the working class of our country or the world."

Concerning sources of information: "Through our overseas delegation program we have taken steps to get information and become independent of news media and official government propaganda."

RACIAL EQUALITY

"Our union's record on racial equality speaks for itself," the ILWU president said. "We were pioneers in this field, and although we still have plenty to do, outside the union and within, nevertheless the work done in this connection by our rank and file and local officers chalks up a real mark of distinction for our organization."

"We believe in fighting for peace throughout the world." Bridges declared, "and opposing the forces in our country who all too often set themselves up as judges of what is good for the peoples of other countries."

Bridges expressed gratification that "the administration in Washington has opened the door a little and allowed Craig Fritchett, our Canadian regional director, to be here at this convention." Fritchett had been barred from entering the US to attend the previous two international conventions.

VISITORS BARRED

He added, "We have not been so fortunate in having our governing body admit some other visitors to our convention." Referring to two delegates from the Sea and River Transport Workers Union of the Soviet Union who had been invited as fraternal delegates, Bridges said:

"There are all kinds of dubious characters allowed to land on our shores as long as they do not represent workers. That is a damn disgrace."

"We can't talk about developing good relations with other nations and yet have an official policy of discriminating against representatives of the working class who wish to come here at our invitation."

In closing, Bridges expressed his sadness at the death of Charles Durrett: "This convention will not be the same and we will miss his leadership, the color he used to add, and his very presence."

Delegates Hear from Friend Of ILWU, Stephen Fritchman

LOS ANGELES — The first message heard by delegates to the 18th Biennial Convention of ILWU came from an old and proven friend of the union, the Reverend Stephen Fritchman of the First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles. He is a nationally-known leader in innumerable contests for the rights of working people and minorities. He has come to the defense of ILWU in more than one struggle, including the deportation proceedings against Harry Bridges.

Dr. Fritchman was invited to address the convention after delivering the invocation. He spoke of ILWU leaders with whom he had "shared many battles."

"I remember," he said, "how this union understood and early fought for control of atomic energy, for the recognition that the H-bomb could be the end of all mankind. Now we have the madness coming from the Pentagon in the form of the ARM system.

"Welfare programs are being chased away almost to the point of invisible meaninglessness, at the very time they are proposing $60 billion more for military hardware. . . . I share your resolution to see that the United States will not longer be allowed to play its imperialist policeman's role in the world. There is too much hunger and suffering on all continents for us to lose our image as friend to all the world."

"I am an old man," Dr. Fritchman said, "but I feel a total identification with the young people who say simply that they are born to live and not to die, and will resist programs that are insane for the world.

"Anything I can ever do to support ILWU in its resolution to make this a land we can truly be proud of I will do."

Sigmund Arywitz

'We Must Stand Together,' LA Leader Tells ILWU Meet

LOS ANGELES — A message of union solidarity was brought to the ILWU's 18th Biennial Convention by an old friend, Sigmund Arywitz, secretary-treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO. He thanked ILWU "for the great assistance . . . given in such gigantic struggles and strikes as the one at the Herald-Examiner . . . and many others."

"I would like my standing here to be symbolic," Arywitz added, "of the realization that, though we are organically divided, we must stand together for the sake of the labor movement and the working people we represent, for the sake of all people; we must fight together for our goals."

The Herald-Examiner strike is critical, Arywitz said, because "elements in Los Angeles dedicated to the destruction of the labor movement have continued to bolster the paper."

When the strike had been going for a year, he stated—last December—a representation vote came out 1,569 for the unions and only 25 against. "We are going to keep this struggle going," he declared, "until we have a good contract at Herald-Examiner and it is a union paper."

Speaking of problems faced by all unions, the AFL-CIO leader said "We have to face the fact that our members have become affluent and take everything for granted because it is so long since they have been in major struggles. But in Delano the workers are still fighting. The under-employed are not complacent."

"We have to get home to our members who live high off the hog that everything they have won can be taken away so easily if they don't maintain their organizational strength and loyalty to each other."

"As long as there are poor people, we have not been doing our job, wholly. As long as any human being is lacking, the labor movement still has a job to do."

"I express confidence that you are going to continue working not only for your membership but for all of our society and that you will continue to do the kind of job that has made ILWU a great union."

Patty Winston sings songs of labor and "Talking Union."
Continued from Page 1—
the rise of wages, and living costs and demands for tax reform to make the wealthy pay their share and lower the burden on the working people and the poor.

And there was much, much more. (Readers, please): Many of the most important policy statements are scattered throughout this issue of The Dispatcher, either as full texts or reports about them. More about convention business and policy decisions will appear in the next few issues of the union paper. A summary of all convention actions will be printed in the next issue. A report on the Longshore Caucus, still in session as we went to press, is expected in the next issue.

EXECUTIVE BOARD

In addition to nominating a new team of titled officers to lead the union, the convention also nominated Executive Board members, with contests assured in each ILWU area. They are:

**From Southern California** (two to be elected): L. (Chick) Lovebridge, Local 13; Paul Perlin, Local 26; Albridge, Local 76; and David Womack, Local 20-A. From Northern California (three to be elected): Frank Poulter, Local 10; Carl Smith, Local 10; Duane Peterson, Local 18; and James Herman, Local 34. From Northern California, 57 from Southern California, 24 from Puget Sound, 30 from Oregon and Columbia River, 17 from Canada, and two from Alaska.

**TALKING UNION**
The Convention opened on a note of militancy and youthful vigor at the very outset with working class songs, many of them strange to a large majority of the younger men and women at this convention.

Sung by Miss Patty Winston, who also led the singing of the National Anthem, were such vigorous old-time picket line companions as "We Shall Not Be Moved," "Talking Union," and "Solidarity Forever." The audience joined in, as best they could, though to many, they were strange, this being a generation that marches to its own music.

Yet the entire convention seemed lifted by the feeling that something new had to be done to bring together the older and younger members.

**In fact, the theme of the report by the Publicity and Education Committee was "closing the generation gap" between the apathy of the '60s and the militancy of the '50s.**

The convention's hosts were locals 13, 20, 20-A, 26, 29, 30, 33, 35, 46, 63, 74 and the ILWU Pensioners Association.

A deeply moving invocation was delivered by Reverend Fritchman, of the Unitarian Church, who has been a staunch champion of peace and militant unionism, and a longtime friend of the ILWU, for the 21 years he has lived in Los Angeles.

Fritchman's invocation spoke mostly of peace and honesty: for humanity and all life on earth.

"We pray for the return of our youth and for an end to the killing so that they may work with us for the security and progress and joy of all, and be saved from the madness that can end all future for mankind.

"We pray for personal and collective sanity and courage, and an end of the apathy that destroys the soul and divides people. Make this union strong as it affects human rights, and rebuke the arrogance of power in high and low places.

"May we have the audacity to call down on all beings of authority those who betray the people, who allow racial hatred to crucify our nation."

Reverend Fritchman's prayer ended with a call to the union to identify "with the young people who say simply that they are born to live and not to die, and will resist programs that are insane for the world. Keep up your good work!"

The other guest of honor on opening day was Sigmund Arwyz, Secretary-Treasurer of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO, who warmly welcomed the delegates and thanked the ILWU for its help with the Herald-Examiner strike. He reported that the Herald newspaper here has lost more than half of its circulation in the course of the 15-month strike and lockout, that its advertising volume is declining and that the morale of the strikers is stronger than ever.

"Too many workers," Arwyz said, "are affluent and have grown indifferent to the welfare of others. We have to get home to them that everything they have won in the last can be taken away from them. The grape strikers at Delano, the unemployed and the under-employed are still fighting. As long as there are poor and unemployed people, labor movement has a job to do."

**BRIDGES KEYNOTE**

"The influence of our union is national and growing," ILWU president Bridges said in his keynote address to the union delegates. One reason for this increased influence of the ILWU participation in community and political affairs in addition to keeping up its strength as a trade union whose first goal is improving wages and working conditions.

"Secondly, the union is free to adopt policies as it sees fit, thanks to its independence from other union organizations and from political parties. "No political party can take us for granted."

Bridges welcomed the action of the Nixon administration in admitting the union's Canadian area director, Craig Fritchett, to this country to attend the convention. For some years Fritchett has been barred at the border. At the same time, Bridges attacked the continued refusal of the State Department to admit a fraternal delegation from the Sea and River Workers Union of the Soviet Union. Visitors from the Soviet Union and other socialist countries are admitted to visit meetings of businessmen and scientists and so are journalists and bailiff dancers, Bridges pointed out, adding: "Only workers are barred. It's a damn disgrace."

**PERSPECTIVES**

Louis Goldblatt, ILWU secretary-treasurer, read sections of the Officers' Report to the convention, including one titled "Perspectives," which said in part:

"The United States is a rich country—rich in natural resources . . . (But) There is a basic disparity between the 'haves' and 'have-nots.' We're mired in a war in Asia which we can never win... We are finding it increasingly difficult to provide a decent life in the cities, yet we squander billions of our tax dollars on misguided military adventures and the exploration of outer space."

Procedure for committee assignments provides an example of the internal democracy that characterizes the ILWU. Any documents read by Goldblatt, there was an opportunity for delegates to change them, merely by stating their preferences from the floor microphone. Scores of them did so. Each delegate has the opportunity to serve on a committee (or committees) of his choosing.

The Report of the Officers to the Convention, a 90-page document, was made public as the convention was called to order, Monday, April 7.

ILWU officers reported on their stewardship of the union in the past two years, reviewed contract gains through negotiations and strikes, surveyed growing containerization problems, and developed guidelines on such matters as foreign policy, peace, social movements, economic conditions, labor union developments, and much more.

The officers called Vietnam war spending the most important factor in the American economy and predicted that more social welfare programs would be whittled away in the name of defense. They opposed the surtax, as a war tax, pure and simple.

"If working people in organized labor do not pressure the government to make it at least partly voluntary, they will be—and continue to be— underfunded for the programs that we need."

Continued on Page 4
Resolution to End the War

‘Stop the Killing, No More Vietnams’

LOS ANGELES — A strong resolution calling for an end to the war in Vietnam was adopted by ILWU’s 18th Biennial Convention, in session here April 7-12. The resolution, in part:

It appears that a majority of our fellow Americans now agree that intervention in Vietnam was a disastrous mistake, harmful to our nation’s welfare.

ILWU members can take patriotic pride in the fact that their union spoke out against this mistaken policy from the beginning.

The 1967 ILWU Convention called for our union to persuade the rest of the labor movement to get into the fight for peace. We took part in a noteworthy effort by many leading AFL-CIO and independent union officials to establish a Labor Leadership Assembly for Peace to show that the war movement did not have solid labor support.

Workhorses as these efforts were, it is only fair to say that the leadership in the peace movement has not come from labor. It has come primarily from other groups. The heads and sympathizers — women, teachers and clergymen. The peace movement has been powerfully assisted too by the upsurge of Black resentment against the caste system of racial and economic oppression. Lives and values are directly threatened by war and militarism, and from their ranks come the hunger and sympathy...women, teachers and clergymen.

The peace movement has been powerfully assisted too by the upsurge of Black resentment against the caste system of racial and economic oppression. Lives and values are directly threatened by war and militarism, and from their ranks come the hunger and sympathy...women, teachers and clergymen.

To bring about such a decision will apparently require a massive popular anti-war protest of which labor must be a part. Our union must take a leading role in such a drive, doing all it can to encourage new allies from other unions, but moving ahead nevertheless. We must seek out and develop every natural alliance with other people of every color and background. The peace movement has been powerfully assisted too by the upsurge of Black resentment against the caste system of racial and economic oppression. Lives and values are directly threatened by war and militarism, and from their ranks come the hunger and sympathy...women, teachers and clergymen.

CEASE FIRE

Resolved: We want and will work for these objectives:
1. Stop the killing—cease fire.
2. Negotiate a political settlement with the people who are doing the fighting.
3. Withdraw all support from the present Saigon government if it does not cooperate in the peace negotiations.
4. Cut back on military spending and use the money for urgent domestic needs.
5. Eliminate the 10 percent surtax.
6. No more Vietnams! Stop pouring money down the drain all over the world. Stop trying to be a world cop. Let us straighten out our own house and show how democracy can be made to work at home before we try to tell the rest of the world how to live.

5. Eliminate the 10 percent surtax.

We must seek out and develop every natural alliance with other people of every color and background. The peace movement has been powerfully assisted too by the upsurge of Black resentment against the caste system of racial and economic oppression. Lives and values are directly threatened by war and militarism, and from their ranks come the hunger and sympathy...women, teachers and clergymen.

BEGIN WITHDRAWAL

Resolved: That we demand that the Nixon administration begin the withdrawal of US troops from Vietnam and that the negotiators in Paris be given instructions to move the peace talks ahead with the proposal for the withdrawal of all foreign troops and the establishment of a government of national unity.

9. End the Cold War. Seek peaceful co-existence between nations with different social systems.

Tax Reform

Is Urgent, Says ILWU

Continued from Page 3...

...defense spending will continue to be a burden on the pocketbooks of the working class, while doing little to solve the present economic problems facing this country," the officer wrote.

Pointing to the nation’s "profits inflation," they called for tax reform, including relieving the burden on the wage earner while closing tax loopholes that cost the government more than $50 billion a year.

In dealing with problems of poverty and unemployment, the officers supported a job program which would guarantee we could not be offered, a guaranteed annual income.

ILWU-TEAMO UNITY

On the Convention’s fourth day, top officers of the Teamsters union and ILWU exchanged a continued friendship, cooperation and mutual support, after an address by Teamsters general vice president of the IBT.

"Let us maintain our association and our pledges of support to each other," Fitzsimmons said in his address. "If you have a problem, it is not your problem alone; it is our problem, too. You can take for granted that our association will remain as it was in the past. And the bond stronger as the days go by.

The IBT leader apparently supported the convention’s strong resolution for an end to the war in Vietnam. "As I understand and read the newspapers about your discussions here, I am with you," Fitzsimmons said. "I can’t disagree," he said.

"We are on the verge of a tax revolt in this country," Bridges said. "Those who have the, rich, don’t pay, but as for the working men and women...the government takes it from them before they even see it.

That is one of the reasons the IBT has joined with the United Auto Workers in forming the Alliance for Labor Action. The speaker said that "After long discussions...we feel the Alliance can be one step toward a solution of political and social problems." However, Fitzsimmons said, "We will not create, nor will we use, terroristic tactics. We will not create another federation of labor in this country.

Responding to Fitzsimmons’ address, Bridges told of discussions he had some years back with Hoffa, projecting a federation of transportation unions to include longshoremen, truck drivers, warehousemen, railroad, sea and air transport workers. Because of these plans Hoffa was framed and imprisoned, Bridges declared.

DISPATCHER

April 18, 1969

Resolution Committee in night session. Standing is chairman Curtis McLain, Local 6 president. Seated next to him is secretary Thomas Yagi, Local 142 division director for Maui. At far left: Al Lannon, ILWU Washington representative, who assisted the committee.

Continued on Page 5
Nominations Close a Productive Meet

Continued from Page 4—

its effort to have farm workers included under provisions of the National Labor Relations Act so that they can have the same legal rights as industrial workers.

• Support of UFWOC's boycott of California grapes, directed against agri-business which refuses to recognize the farm workers' union. This puts all the ILWU behind the boycott, long supported by many locals and councils in the US and Canada. Local 142 in Hawaii was also the main instrument in persuading the Hawaiian state legislature to adopt a resolution endorsing the boycott.

• Demanding that the federal government act to stop seizure of US fishing boats, some of which are manned by ILWU members, off the coasts of South America.

• Commending Northwest regional director Bill Gettngs, who will retire this year, on many years of loyal and effective service to the union.

• Opposed the trials on mutiny charges of Gilis at the Presidio stockade in San Francisco who sat down in protest over the killing of a censored prisoner who tried to escape, and called on the Army to make the nooked "fit for human habitation."

• In favor of raising minimum social security benefits to $250 a month and lowering the retirement age with full benefits to 55 for men and women.

• Opposed the Eastland International Security Act as designed to create a "legalized foundation for a truly fascist America."

• Opposed so-called "labor courts," any moves to outlaw strikes, all government intervention in labor disputes or other forms of anti-labor legislation.

• Approved inclusion of the jurisdictional demands of ILWU watchmen in negotiations on container freight stations and negotiation of a coastwide agreement covering watchmen.

• Supported Local 142 in its purpose of organizing all workers in the Hawaiian tourist industry as fast as they are hired.

Among the final actions taken at the convention before nominations and adjournment, were the reading of the Publicity and Education Committee and Insurance Committee reports (to be detailed in the next issue of The Dispatcher).

Then came the politics—always an exciting climax, but even more so this time because there was a changing of the guard.

First to stand before the microphone to nominate Bridges for president was a strong-minded woman with powerful feelings. Alpha Baker, Local 6, said she has known Bridges for the 26 years she has been in the union: "He says what he means, and he means what he says."

The line was long for the second speeches, the time was short, and very soon Bridges was nominated by acclamation and a standing ovation.

He said, simply: "Thank you for the honor and privilege and the confidence you have shown."

Jack Hall was nominated for Vice President-Director of Organization by a man he has known most of his working life, Local 142 president Cari Damaso. The seconds came from every area. Again, acclamation.

Hall commented: "I am humbled and honored by this nomination. . . . When I left the mainland in 1932 I went to sea, and was in San Francisco in the 1934 strike where I was one of the rank and file seamen who got bridges into the sailor's meeting to convince them to settle the strike. I was of the opinion there were only two people who could walk on water—and one of them was Harry Bridges. He can't do that I've found, but he is a big man and most of us feel he will go down in history as the trade unionist of the 20th century."

The same for Bill Chestner who was nominated Vice President-Assistant to the President, by Local 34's president Jim Herman.

Said Chestner: "There are no words I can use to express my profound appreciation of the honor you have bestowed upon me and I pledge will work as a team with the rest of the International Officers. . . . When I took the job of Regional Director, Harry said I'd have 3 months and if I couldn't do a job, I'd be fired. I've been around for 30 years and it has been an honor and privilege to work with Bridges, Robertson and Goldblatt. We will continue to work for the benefit of our union and together we will work for better conditions for all working people."

Finally, with the convention's time running out, Local 6 president Curtis McNeill nominated for Secretary-Treasurer Lou Goldblatt, who responded to the ovation by expressing thanks and adding, "Let's keep the union moving."

At the close of the convention the entire convention stood in silence in memory of Charles (Chili) Duarte, Richard Lynden, Francis Murnane, Tom Willey and Jeff Kibbe; for Anne Rand, founder of the ILWU research library which shall now become a memorial library in her name, and for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., who was an honorary Longshore union member.

A long line from each area to second nominations.

A. Baker speaks for Bridges. LOS ANGELES—The federal government should guarantee a minimum income to all Americans by a "negative income tax," the ILWU 18th Biennial Convention declared in a resolution on poverty.

Calling poverty a "moral disgrace in a nation as rich as the U.S.," the union proposed a dual federal program—guaranteed work opportunity and the negative income tax.

The convention resolution on poverty: POVERTY IN THE UNITED STATES

Poverty in a nation as rich as the United States is a disgrace. Every American should have the right to live within reasonable standards of health and decency. If a job he can fill is available at union wages and conditions, he must be willing to work, but if he is not able to work or to find work, society as a whole must take care of his and his family's needs.

The trade union movement must view poverty not only as a moral disgrace but also as a threat to their jobs and conditions. The poor compete with the employed for jobs. They are forced to accept non-union jobs at sub-standard rates and conditions. Poverty drives down the living standards of all working people.

DUAL PROGRAMS

For the millions of people in this country who live in poverty and the millions more who barely survive on incomes just above the poverty level, for those who desperately need help, a dual program is needed: guaranteed work opportunity and the negative income tax.

A guaranteed work opportunity program must begin with skill training and vocational education adequate to bring the unemployed to the skill levels required in the job market. During training they should receive cash equivalent to what they would make on the job. They would then have to accept jobs offered at union wages and conditions or face loss of benefits.

A negative income tax plan would set a break-even level of income as the dividing line between the poor and non-poor, perhaps $4,000 a year for a family of four, varying by family size and composition. If the income amounted to less than the break-even level, the family would receive a payment instead of paying a tax.
LOS ANGELES — Following is a complete list of all official and fraternal delegates to the 18th ILWU Biennial Convention, held here April 7 to 12.

There were 374 official delegates and 34 fraternal delegates.

Local 1, RATMONO, Wash.; Donal E. Heer- ing.
Local 2, SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.; Roger P. Rosenberg and Jewell G. Webb.
Local 3, SEATTLE, Wash.; Joseph F. Jurich and John F. Tedich.
Local 4, VANCOUVER, Wash.; Edward D. Andrew and Donald D. Poppe.
Local 5, SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.; Alpha Baker, Sylvester Daniels, Durman Ellis, Ola Fe- genbaugh, Louis Goldblatt, Paul Hinde, LeRoy King, Joe Lynch, Claude MacDonald, Dan Mahoney, Curtis McClain, Charles Murray, Juan Rivera, J. R. Robertson, Joseph J. Scott, Angelo Tomasseo, William Valencia, George Valter, Robert Ledendorf.

408 Delegates at Convention

LOS ANGELES — The 18th Biennial Convention was the largest in ILWU history. There were 374 official delegates and 34 fraternal delegates—a total of 408.

The credentials committee announced that there were 62 delegates from Northern California, 57 from Southern California, 173 from Washington—Puget Sound, 17 from Canada and 2 from Alaska.

ILWU fraternal delegates were from the auxiliaries and pensioners' groups. There were also eight fraternal delegates from longshore unions of Veracruz and Mazatlan, Mexico.

Chairman of the credentials committee was L. L. (Chick) Lovett of Local 13; secretary was Paul Per- lin of Local 20.
Los Angeles Was Largest in ILWU History

Local 75, SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.: Denver G. DeVito.
Local 83, PELICAN, Alaska: See Local 67.
Local 84, SKITKA, Alaska: See Local 63.
Local 87, WRANGLER, Alaska: See Local 63.

Geldones, Orpiano Gendia, Dis逍遥 Gessyvala.
Also Daniel Hellesen, Jack W. Hall, Richard Harada, Takao Hiragana, Shiro Hakama, Richard Hino, Harold Ishimura, Hitachy Isakuma, Minoru Isakuma, Robert Isa, Maurice Ishihama, Osamu Iwamura, Frederick Kahalela.
Local 160, HONG KONG, Hawaii: George Ignacio.
Local 502, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.: Harvey Elder, Don Garcia, Andy Katowich.
Local 503, PORT ALBERNI, B.C.: Leonard J. Gallou.
Local 505, VICTORIA, B.C.: Gordon W. Ball.
Local 517, VANCOUVER, B.C.: James E. Coughlan, Garvie Smith.

Roster of Delegates

Local 91, SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.: Chester Nelson.
Local 92, PORTLAND, Ore.: Cecil S. Eklund.
Local 94, WILMINGTON, Calif.: Ernest L. Brown, James North.
Local 98, SEATTLE, Wash.: James R. Heath.
J. Gailloux.

Also Pedro Dela Cruz, Don De Mello, Ignacio Santamaria, Ben De Soto, Pedro DeSoto, Tony DeSoto, Pedro Delgado, Antonio De La Garza, Joseph Delmas, Frank De Costa, Lorenzo De Dios Fabo.

Also Pedro Deya Cruz, Don DeMello, Ignacio Duran, Angelino Diaso, Elias Domingo, Jeremias Domingo, Sylvester Domingo, Marie Dunlap, Albert Estes, Dominado Esten, Benjamin Feliciano, Benjamin Fernandez, Archie Fontanilla, Joseph Franco, Filomeno Fuerte, Robert Fujii, Hiroshi Fujimoto, Saburo Fujii, Robert Fukumaga, Max Galapala, Fred

Also Joseph Kahani, Harold Kawakami, Hiroshi Kawai, Hideki Kawamura, Mitsugu Kawakami, Lawrence Kelley, Robert Kohmura.


Also Haruo Nakamoto, Michael Nakatani, Shippeyki Nakatani, Stanley Naka, Leen Niches, Take Nokheawa, Louis Olaya, Clifford Odo, Sion Oosaday, Akira Oosawa, Robert Otsey, Paul Padilla, Abraham Panyeat, Fred Paulino, Frank Peraire, Raman Pena, Frank Quarantina, Bernabe Quiiteron, Raman Quiotirion, Papilo Rayago, Donald Richard, Eddy Rita, Shigeru Oshihara, Ohira Oonaka.


Fraternal Delegates

Local 9, SEATTLE, Wash.: Eugene C. Hutcherson.

Ask for ILWU Convention photo and enclose check or money order for $3.25, which includes scraping, tax and postage.

How You Can Buy Convention Picture

The full convention picture, 20 inches long and 8 inches deep, can be purchased by writing directly to:

Airport Photography, International Hotel, 6211 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif., 90045.

S.F. Bay Area Pensioners: William H. Berry, Margaret Heath, Mary Gladys Jones, Helen Kishimoto, Clara Maher, Dorothy Yakeel, Auxiliary 3: Nettie Craycraft.
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Roster of Delegates

Local 91, SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.: Chester Nelson.
Local 92, PORTLAND, Ore.: Cecil S. Ekland.
Local 94, WILMINGTON, Calif.: Ernest L. Brown, James North.
Local 98, SEATTLE, Wash.: James R. Heath.

Local 75, SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.: Denver G. DeVito.
Local 83, PELICAN, Alaska: See Local 67.
Local 84, SKITKA, Alaska: See Local 63.
Local 87, WRANGLER, Alaska: See Local 63.

Geldones, Orpiano Gendia, Dis逍遥 Gessyvala.
Also Daniel Hellesen, Jack W. Hall, Richard Harada, Takao Hiragana, Shiro Hakama, Richard Hino, Harold Ishimura, Hitachy Isakuma, Minoru Isakuma, Robert Isa, Maurice Ishihama, Osamu Iwamura, Frederick Kahalela.
Also Shinji Taguchi, James Takara, Warren Talanoa, Henry Torres, Yasuaki Truyell, Hiroshi Tuakami, Moritoshi Ueno, John Yame, Etsuo Yamasaki, Anthony Varito, Alfred Villasmue, Dioscleto Villasmue, Thomas Vranemog, Ibadu Wong, Thomas Yagi, Paul Yamamoto, Tadayoshi Yasutake, David Yata, Harol Yendee.
Local 160, HONG KONG, Hawaii: George Ignacio.
Local 502, NEW WESTMINSTER, B.C.: Harvey Elder, Don Garcia, Andy Katowich.
Local 503, PORT ALBERNI, B.C.: Leonard J. Gallou.
Local 505, VICTORIA, B.C.: Gordon W. Ball.
Local 517, VANCOUVER, B.C.: James E. Coughlan, Garvie Smith.

Fraternal Delegates

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Delegates Demand Tax Reform at All Levels

The cost of running government is enormous. As long as there is a class struggle, workers will have to expect more in services and better schools, housing, medical care, and transportation among other things, the costs are going to keep on rising. Working people are willing to pay their fair share, but they have been burdened with the heaviest share of the tax load while special interest groups enjoy a wide range of money-saving amendments to the tax laws. 

So-called tax loopholes cost the government from $50 to $53 billion a year. These billions are ultimately passed on to the taxpayers who do not benefit from the loopholes, particularly those who are the main beneficiaries of all sorts of government programs.

As a general position we support progressive income taxation, higher corporation taxes, lower property taxes, and sales taxes on natural resources as solutions to the problems of local government. We urge the federal government to assume a greater financial responsibility for providing local government services.

Witholding Taxes

The withholding of income taxes, federal or state, is one of the greatest swindles the government perpetuates on working people. It is estimated that some $80 billion, almost half of the federal budget, is taken directly out of workers' paychecks and deposited into government coffers. This is not a tax cut, it is a tax on workers, a blow to the working class. Without a prompt and thorough reform of the tax system, this gieardian of the property tax must be shifted from renters and home owners to the shoulders of landlords and corporations. There must be sharp cutbacks in the burdens on all levels of government, such as churches, colleges, universities, and state governments.

The three resolutions follow:

1. Repeal the capital gains provision.
2. Recover the taxes on capital gains which are lost at death.
3. Tighten the regulations on charitable deductions and crack down on the tax-free foundations.
4. Eliminate the oil and mineral depletion allowances.
5. Repeat the 7 percent investment tax credit.
6. Allow the tax break for a corporation's subsidiaries.

State and Local Tax Reform

In the past ten years state and local taxes have more than doubled. Even with tax evasion state and local governments have had to go into debt or rely on federal aid.

Sales taxes account for more than 60 percent of all state revenues. We oppose the sales tax, and seek repeal where they exist, of sales taxes on food, medicine, and necessary services.

Property taxes provide about 87 percent of the revenue for local governments. As a result, the progressive burden falls on renters and the owners of modest homes.

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Local 6 Pact Adds 60 Cents to Wages

OAKLAND—Wage increases totaling 60 cents an hour over a three-year period have been negotiated with Del Rey Manufacturing Company by warehouse Local 6.

The contract, effective April 1, provides all fringe benefits of the warehouse area pattern set in 1967. Whatever improvements are added to the area pattern fringe benefits in next year's negotiations with the Industrial Employers and Distrubutors Association will automatically apply to the Del Rey contract as of June 1, 1970.

The agreement can be re-opened on wages on September 1, 1969, and in each succeeding year.

Business agent Joseph Blasquez negotiated the contract, with the Del Rey unit negotiating committee: chief steward McNeil and stewards Mac Jackson and Art Wagner.

Six Teams to Compete in Hawaii Softball Tournament

HONOKAA, Hawaii—Six teams will compete in the ILWU’s 14th annual softball tournament, slated to be held here May 16-17 with Hula Park. A reception at the Honoka ILWU Hall for all visiting teams, and the annual awards banquet at the Honoka Hall Club will be on the weekend schedule.

Tell Your Congressman 'We Want Tax Reform'

WASHINGTON, DC — The time is now to get telegrams and letters in to congress on tax relief and reform. This house Ways and Means Committee in executive session on April 15, an appropriate day—deadline for filing income tax returns including for the first time the 10 percent war surtax.

The 18th ILWU Biennial Convention voted full moral and financial responsibility for providing local government services.

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**Convention Backs Farm Workers**

LOS ANGELES—California's grape strikers and other agricultural workers were the subject of two resolutions by ILWU's 18th Biennial Convention. One urged coverage of farm workers by the National Labor Relations Act; the other, support of the grape boycott.

The statements are reprinted, in part, below.

**Farm Workers and NLRA**

It has been almost 35 years since the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) was enacted. Although the NLRA was written to apply to most workers, it specifically excluded agriculture. Agricultural workers, however, are not the only workers who are likely to be involved in new or expanding agricultural production.

For agricultural workers there are no laws prohibiting employer intimidation, compelling representation elections, or providing for collective bargaining.

In recent years, farm workers, led particularly by the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, have struggled to organize and bargain for the rights and benefits that have been continually resisted by hostile employers, and the organizing drives have been additionally operating on the part, by not being protected by the same labor laws which apply to most other workers.

Coverage under the NLRA will not bring in those workers who farm workers will be organized; laws alone will never do the job. But the rights enjoyed by other workers are long overdue for farm workers.

Extension of NLRA coverage to farm workers is imperative. We support the efforts being made in Congress to achieve this end.

**Support Grape Boycott**

We affirm our sympathy and support for the California grape strikers who are spearheading the most hopeful effort in history to establish an effective union in California agriculture.

All ILWU members have a selfish stake in this struggle. Labor would spend less time and effort in state legislatures if agricultural workers were organized and rural representation was accorded the same status and constituencies.

Hawaii ILWU members have a special interest because low-wage, non-union mainland agriculture is unfair competition for Hawaii's unionized agriculture, making it harder for union members to improve their working conditions.

**SOCIAL HEALTH**

The social health of the entire nation would benefit if agricultural workers, who now constitute 35% of the union, could win democratic rights and eliminate the traditional, lawless trap generation after generation in cycles of poverty.

A crucial way to help win union rights in agriculture is to support the nation-wide consumer boycott of Wrigley Farms grapes. ILWU can take pride in the encouragement they gave to the legislature of Hawaii, which voted in support of this boycott. As the boycott becomes more effective the US government has assumed the role of strikebreaker, trying to rescue the giant growers and defeat the workers by hastily stepping up purchase of scar grapes for the military and other purposes.

We urge our members and locals to do whatever they can to generate support for the boycott among their neighbors, wholesalers and retailers, and in their city and state governments.

**ILWU, Teamsters Pledge Friendship, Cooperation**

LOS ANGELES — The top officers of the Teamsters union and ILWU exchanged pledges of continued friendship and mutual support to each other. This is a convention session largely devoted to discussion of inter-union matters.

Frank Fitzsimmons, general vice president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, addresses ILWU Convention. In foreground is ILWU president Harry Bridges.

Frank Fitzsimmons, general vice president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, addressed ILWU's 18th Biennial Convention. In a speech that lasted several minutes, he outlined the goals of the Teamster union and its plans for the future. He also expressed his support for the grape boycott and the rights of farm workers.

"There has been a determined effort by the press to suggest a battle between the ILWU and Teamsters on containers. That is not true. We have a joint committee in this city, with Bill Ward the chairman from the ILWU and Ted Merrill the chairman from the Teamsters. We will show those employers!"

**LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA**

Evidence that other unions are thinking in similar terms came in the form of a letter from C. H. Fitzgibbon, president of the Waterside Workers Federation of Australia. The letter, addressed to president Bridges, was read to the convention.

Speaking of containerization and mechanization, Fitzgibbon wrote:

"The plans afoot already provide for these types of service between Australia, New Zealand, the USA, Canada, Japan and the United Kingdom, but in addition to that there are already suggested plans for the construction of container berths at Singapore and Hong Kong and our joint committee in this city, with Bill Ward the chairman from the ILWU and Ted Merrill the chairman from the Teamsters, will show those employers!"

**LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA**

April 18, 1969

ILWU Asks Free Trade, Log Export

LOS ANGELES — ILWU restated its longstanding position in favor of free international trade in a resolution adopted by the 18th Biennial Convention. A companion statement opposed limits on export of logs.

The resolutions follow.

**Free Trade**

The direction of American trade policy should be toward elimination of trade barriers and toward expanded trade with all nations, east and west.

In recent years there has been a drive by some industries, especially steel and textiles, for establishment of trade barriers in the form of quotas and tariffs.

A flood of quota bills was introduced in the 91st Congress. If enacted, they will mean fewer jobs and higher prices. A trade war of mutual retaliation, of escalating barriers to free trade would be a danger to economic chaos, including devaluation of the dollar and austerity programs such as have been contemplated on the workers of Britain and France. The quota bills should be defeated.

**Log Export**

A giant market in China, not ignored by the Canadian government for example, has been eliminated from our trade routes as a result of political cold war. Expanding trade with China and other large sections of the world would have many positive effects—improving our balance of payments, creating new jobs, promoting international understanding and peace.

**Log Exports**

On September 9, 1968 Congress acted to limit the export of logs from western Canada for three years beginning January 1, 1969.

The economic facts of life do not justify such a limitation. The limitation is a direct threat to job opportunities of our members.

The limitation threatens to set off a trade war with other nations which would worsen our balance of payments problem. It also necessitates the imposition of further restrictions.

A number of organizations have joined with the ILWU in opposing these limitations.

**RESOLVED:** That we vigorously disagree with the action taken by Congress on September 9, 1968, that we urge prompt repeal of that action, that we commend our brothers from Washington who successfully led the struggle against limits on log exports in 1967 and that we continue to oppose any restrictions on log exports, whether they be by state or federal action.

Hard-working, enthusiastic Hawaii delegation was largest ever at Convention.
Memorial Resolutions

LOS ANGELES—Resolutions me- morializing the late and beloved officers who have died since the time of the 1967 convention were adopted by the delegates of Local 6, Francis Murnane of Local 8 and Jeff Kibre, Washington representa- tive and member of Local 33. Excerpts from the resolutions are reprinted here:

Charles Duarte

Warehouse Union Local 6 lost a courageous and dedicated fighter on January 4, 1969, in the untimely death of Charles "Chili" Duarte.

In 18 years of service, he was able to work under non-union conditions in the warehouses before the union organization began, and he was a hard worker who never minded the employers of their treat- ment of warehousemen and women before signing a union contract.

Chili Duarte was elected president of ILWU Local 6 in 1951, at a time when the San Francisco and Peninsula divi- sions were being torn by factionalism in the membership and through his tireless devotion and hard-nosed trade union program of fighting the boss. As a member of the board, he had a tough job—carrying ILWU policy and program into the nation’s cap- ital and getting them through the complex maze of congressional poli- tics.

He did his job brilliantly and without complaint, despite often bitter frustrations. Whether before congressional committees, depart- ment hearings or in individual con- tact with legislators, Jeff ably repre- sented the union position, a tool instrumental in securing passage of legislation beneficial to all members of the Local.

Jeff Kibre

Brother Jeff Kibre, a member of the Fisherman's Local 33, was Washington representative of the ILWU for some 15 years. He had a tough job—carrying ILWU policy and program into the nation’s cap- ital.

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Jeff Kibre served his union, and the working class. His words and his work remain an inspiration to all of us.

Delegates Pay Homage To Dr. King

LOS ANGELES—ILWU’s 18th Biennial Convention approved a resolution honoring Martin Luther King Jr. on April 4, 1968, and six days later, on April 10, 1968.

Francis Murnane

On April 10, 1968, Brother Francis Murnane, from Local 11, was shot down in Memphis, Tenn. doing trade union work.

He was an untiring fighter for jux- tice and equality for all people. His commitment to civil rights is unparalleled in American history.

His commitment to non-violent struggle has been a constant theme of his union career. He was gunned down in the prime of his life, before he had had a chance to completely fulfill his mission.

He was an honorary member of ILWU Local 10.

RESOLVED: That we re-dedicate ourselves and our union to the work of Dr. King, and that we do every- thing in our power to see to it that his commitment shall not have been in vain.

Tom Williccy Dies

LOS ANGELES—Old-timers at the convention here reported the passing of a veteran ILWU, a labor unionist, Tom Williccy, who passed away at the age of 83.

He had a long and distinguished career in labor, first as a union leader in San Pedro where he represented the Southern California Pensioners' group in 1961, and later as a delegate to conventions and caucuses up to the last one.

He was the man who directed the pensioners in the Los Angeles harbor area. He handled the elections for longshore Local 13, clerical Local 61, and warehouse Local 84. He died on February 11, 1969.

Memorial to Anne Rand

LOS ANGELES—Anne Rand, di- rector of the ILWU research de- partment library from 1946 until her retirement in 1965, was memo- rialized in a convention resolution which directed that the library be named for her and that a memo- rial plaque be placed there.

The resolution follows:

Anne Rand built the ILWU Re- search Department Library and served as its Director for 20 years. We were deeply shocked and saddened to learn of Anne's pass- ing in February 1969.

All of us in the ILWU have lost a loyal friend and colleague whose contribution to our union will not soon be forgotten.

RESOLVED: That a plaque be per- manently hung in the ILWU li- brary bearing the following in- scription:

"In Memoriam, Anne Rand, "Friend and counselor to union members, students and research- ers. "Respected and loved by her associates in the union and by fel- low members of her craft. "Her commitment to our union was unswerving."

RESOLVED: That our library shall from this time on be known as the "Anne Rand Research Li- brary."

Stopping ABMs Can Be Big Step to World Peace

LOS ANGELES—Opposition to President Nixon’s anti-ballistic mis- sile (ABM) plan was expressed by the 18th Biennial Convention.

Text follows in full:

ILWU opposes any deployment—whether thick or thin—of anti- ballistic missiles. The ABM plan is a fraud. It claims to be a defense, but actually it will only create new dangers for the families it pretends to protect.

It will make its area a target for enemy nuclear missiles, and the ex- perts say some are bound to get through. It only takes one to destroy a city.

There is also the danger that fall- out from the so-called defensive missiles themselves would poison our air and water.

Every ABM is an atom bomb at- tached to a missile. Exploding atom bombs in our skies in the hope of destroying other atomic bombs makes about as much sense as run- ning into a gas chamber to get away from a fire.

The third danger is that to begin instal ling these fraudulent defenses means that the continuing to walk down a path which ends in nuclear war. Our nation and our families will be in growing peril until we get off that path, and this can only be done when we face up to the fact in this nuclear age we cannot find safety in building weapons. We can only find it in building peace, and we’d better start concentrating on that before it’s too late.

President Johnson proposed a so- called “thin” ABM system with a $6 billion price tag.

STOPPING THE ABM

President Nixon proposes a mod- ified thin system costing $7 to $10 billion. We believe a “thin” system is really only the thin edge of a wedge, and that once started we’ll have to add more until it will cost 10 times or even 50 times that amount.

Since World War II this country has been wasting its money and best energies in an arms race. The aver- age worker gives up 30 percent of his income for direct and indirect taxes, about two-thirds of which are spent on things related to war.

The trouble we are having now in our cities and our schools is largely the result of 20 years of government neglect of the real needs of our people for education, recre- ation and human environment; these things have been neglected because our energies have been drained off in the Cold War.

After all this sacrifice for so- called “defense,” instead of being safer than we were in 1946, we are in a thousand times greater danger, and to the Russians, because for the first time in history we each have the power to wipe out the human race, and neither of us has the power to stop it if some person in a key position on the other side makes a foolish move.

AIM won’t change this; it will only make it harder for us to get off to each other because it will have us racing again for positions of ad- vantage. We believe that we as unions have a responsibility to our families and to our country to do whatever we can to stop this mad- ness.

We urge President Nixon and our Congressmen to stop the ABM develop- ment. We urge the Mayors of our cities and the city councilmen of our State Legislatures and our City Councils to add their voices to the protest against any ABM deployment. (The Hawaii State Legislature and the Honolulu City Council have both taken such action.)

Stopping the ABM can be a first step on the only path that leads to safety for our loved ones—world peace and disarmament.
We Hail End Of Nuclear Proliferation

Los Angeles — ILWU commanded the US government for signing the nuclear non-proliferation treaty of July, 1968. At the same time, a resolution adopted by the 18th Biennial Convention charged that Nixon’s administration’s ABM plan is a big step in a different direction—toward nuclear proliferation.

The resolution on this subject follows:

Non-Proliferation Treaty and ABM

An important step toward minimization of the danger of nuclear warfare was the Non-Proliferation Treaty signed by eighteen nations in July of 1968.

The United States played a leading role in bringing about this treaty. The Senate finally ratified it on March 13 of this year.

President Nixon has expressed his support for the treaty and his willingness to implement it. However, the Nixon administration’s support for the proposed anti-ballistic missile program violates the spirit if not the letter of the Non-Proliferation Treaty. The Sentinel System, as the ABM program is called, has been the subject of great controversy in Congress as a fraud—useless for defense while creating new dangers to those it is supposed to protect.

After all of our sacrifices for “defense” since 1946, we are in a thousand times greater danger than ever before. ABM is another step down the path toward nuclear war. Our nation must face up to the fact that in this nuclear age we cannot find safety by building weapons, but only in striving directly for peace.

What Do You Do . . . ?

Auxiliary Member Asks

“I think the ILWU as a whole is a great union,” writes an auxiliary member, “but what do you do with men who don’t think enough of themselves, their families and their union to attend meetings? Don’t they realize the union is their bread and butter?”

“Proliferation is their bread and butter? But what do you do with men who don’t think enough of themselves, their families and their union to attend meetings? Don’t they realize the union is their bread and butter?”

Study of Poor Exposes Myths

Washington—“There has been very little change in US income distribution for almost 20 years,” so states a report, “Who Are The Urban Poor,” published by the Committee for Economic Development. The report explores urban poverty, exploring some of the myths about America’s 30 million poor people, and shows how present social institutions reinforce the poverty cycle.

The poor, the study shows, are two-thirds white. One out of four are elderly or disabled. Nearly one-third are in households headed by employed men under 65 whose poverty results from low earnings.

Almost two-thirds of the poor live in 224 metropolitan areas. The poorest single group suffering from poverty are some 6 million children under 18.

More than four times the number of employed nonwhites earn less than the government “poverty level” of $3296, as compared with employed whites.

Higher food and merchandise prices in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, price hikes in low-income neighborhoods, and much more, the report states, “tend to make escape from poverty extremely difficult for many of the persons who become trapped in it by birth or changing circumstances.”

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“Who Are The Urban Poor?”

Committee for Economic Development

477 Madison Avenue

New York, New York 10022

Farm Workers Benefit from Perlin Dinner

Los Angeles — A testimonial banquet is planned for an ILWU executive board member who has spent 35 years in the labor movement, and continued as an activist in the interest of working men and of peace.

Paul Perlin will be honored at the banquet, to be held Sunday, April 27, 6 p.m., at the Biltmore Hotel, Fifth and Olive Streets, Los Angeles.

All proceeds will be donated to the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee. Honorary Chairman of the testimonial is UFWOC leader Cesar Chavez. Co-chairmen are ILWU’s newly nominated Vice President Bill Chester, and Congressmen George E. Brown, Jr. One of the many distinguished sponsors is ILWU president Harry Bridges.

Perlin is a man with a long history in the labor movement. Starting as a hod carrier when he was 17 years old, he was the youngest member of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. He became a movie studio worker, and was technical coordinator for the Mine-Mill movie “Salt of the Earth.”

Since 1952 he has worked in the wholesale drug industry, a member of ILWU Local 26. He was one of the co-founders of Labor SANE and a planner of the Labor Peace Assembly.

Perlin is currently a member of the ILWU International executive board, secretary-treasurer of the Southern California District Council, legislative representative for the California State Assembly, and holds many other important elected positions.

Currently, one of his major interests is the campaign to elect Tom Bradley for Los Angeles mayor. He is on the Bradley campaign steering committee representing the ILWU.

Donations which will be given to the UFWOC may be made out to the Perlin Testimonial Dinner, P. O. Box 94066, Los Angeles, California.

Next Dispatcher Deadline April 25

Dockers, Widows On Pension List

San Francisco — Following is the April, 1969, list of dockworkers retired under various ILWU-PMA plans:


The specially reconvened full negotiating committee meets on Easter Sunday, the day before Convention opened.
Full Backing To Warehouse Negotiations

LOS ANGELES—Support for the warehouse locals of Northern California in their 1970 negotiations for a new area contract was voted by the 18th Biennial Convention. A resolution on this subject included full backing for Local 11 in its negotiation of a new dried fruit agreement next year.

The resolution states, in part:

1967 came to be known as "Warehouse Year." Because of the strength and determination of our brothers and sisters in the warehouse and production industries, the complete and unqualified support given to them by every local of the ILWU, and the concerted action taken by the ILWU-Teamster Warehouse Council, the largest settlements ever were achieved.

In 1970 two of our major industry-wide contracts — Local 6's and 17's — will have expired. It is now time for Local 11's new dried fruit agreement — will once again be open for negotiations. Not only the outcome of these two key negotiations directly affect the lives and working conditions of the members covered by those contracts, but the results will have a pronounced effect on the other contracts and industry by the time of our next convention.

This convention pledges its complete support to the warehousemen and dried fruit workers, and offers its moral and financial support, where and when such support becomes necessary.

Support for the National Alliance of Colgate Unions

The convention also voted support for the National Alliance of Colgate Unions, formed in March of this year. It embraces some 500 members of the Colgate unit of Local 6, alone with locals of three other international unions. They plan joint negotiations in 1970.

Caucus May Order Vote On Dock Pact

Continued from Page 1 —

The Pacific Coast Longshore Agreement with the Pacific Maritime Association.

The Negotiating Committee was specially reconvened on Sunday, April 6, a day before the convention opened. Its recommendation to the caucus to order a referendum followed its decision to honor a federal court order by calling off a limited coastwide work stoppage that halted the loading and unloading of vans and containers.

The discussion on the continental issue and Negotiating Committee's recommendation was still going on as this paper was prepared for the press.

Columbia Pensioners Sponsor Ball Teams

PORTLAND — The Columbia River Pensioners Memorial Association has voted to continue its sponsorship again this year of three Little League baseball teams, CRPMA president Mike Sickinger reported.

The sponsorship of the teams is traditional, "one of our main interests and activities — and well worth the cost, about $400," Sickinger said.

Waterfront Men: May Is Month To Make Health Plan Choice

Attention: Longshoremen, Clerks, Walking Bosses: The ILWU-PMA Benefit Funds has set aside the entire month of May as annual choice month. This is the one month in the year when longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses in the "choice" ports may change from one health plan to another, and when "B" men, eligible for the first time for welfare coverage, choose a health plan for themselves and their eligible dependents for the first time.

Anyone wishing to take advantage of the open enrollment period must go to his local sometime during May, and sign up for the health plan of his choice. This will allow the necessary time for advising the health plans of changes in enrollment so that coverage may begin the following July.

The ports in which a choice of plans may be made are: Tacoma, Seattle, Portland-Vancouver, Sacramento, San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles Harbor and San Diego.

Those not wanting to change medical plans need do nothing. No change can be made during the contract year (July 1 - June 30) after the May sign-up is over.

The medical plan selected now will cover men and their eligible dependents for the full year provided they remain eligible for Welfare Plan benefits.

The choice in all areas is between the Insured Plan, which provides money toward payment of doctor and hospital bills, and a group service plan which provides hospital-medical-surgical services rather than money.

For each choice port, bulletins which compare the benefits under each program will be available at the locals in May.

DENTAL CHOICES

Men in the Los Angeles Harbor and San Francisco Bay Areas can also make a choice of dental plans during May for their children under age 15. Coverage will be effective July 1.

In the Los Angeles Area: The choice is between the California Dental Plan and the Naismith Dental Group Service Plan.

In the San Francisco Bay Area: The choice is between California Dental Service and the Naismith Dental Group Service Plan.

Ages Murray, Longview Auxiliary President, Dies

KELSO, Wash — Funeral services were held here March 28 for Ages Murray, president of Local 142 and his wife, Mrs. Murray, both of Longview.

The affectionate longshoreman and his wife were honored at the recent Biennial Convention for their 50 years as local officers.

Mrs. Murray, widow of a longshoreman and mother of Local 142 president, died suddenly at her home March 26. She was a 28-year member of the auxiliary and well known in auxiliary circles from Wilmington to British Columbia.

And a Report from Longshore Caucus

More in Next Issue:

— Texts of Policy Statements.
— Reports from Committees.
— Summaries of All Resolutions.
— Perspectives and Programs.
— Pictures of Delegates and Guests.
— Publicity and Education.
— Auxiliaries and Pensioners.
— Greetings from Around the World.
— Constitutional Changes.
— And Much, Much More.

Bob Robertson
The Story of An Organizer

Continued from Page 1 —

attacked while alone . . . taken from jail to jail, beaten at every one, in the stomach, lungs and liver, with the result that he suffered fractures of the vertebrae.

(Another time) "the goons escorted them to the county line, set fire to the car and told them to get going. When Bob came to, he trudged right back to New Orleans. We attempted to again an injunction against them, and Bob was brought back on a stretcher to testify.

BEST OF LUCK

"Brother Robertson has given leadership throughout the years, through his columns in The Dispatcher, speaking to the workers in the union himself in his columns in participating in organizing campaigns up and down the coast. It gives me great pride to have worked with Bob. I wish him the best of luck and a long life to come."

Bill Lawrence, President of the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association, invited Robertson to join pension organization and to work at its convention next September.

President of the Teamsters presenting the gold ring, spoke at length in appreciation of Bob as fellow officer and worker and said it was awfully hard for someone to equal the record Bob made," he said.

HBC...

Secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt stated: "If there is one characteristic that marks Bob Robertson it was a rock-ribbed, iron-bound loyalty to this union, no matter how tough the going got with internal dissension or whatever. At no time could you claim that there was any lack of confidence in this organization . . ."

"Handing over a heritage to the younger members to whom he has addressed himself in his columns is another of his important contributions.

Others who spoke in appreciation of Bob Robertson were Roy Smith of Local 596; Carl Damaso, Local 142; Cleophas Williams, Local 10; Michael Johnson, Local 34; Joe Werner, Portland Pensioners; Eugene S. Stone, Portland; (Chuck) Love- ridge, Local 13; Paul Perlin, Local 36; Bill Ward, Local 31; Oliver Olson, Los Angeles; and Bill Goheen, Local 34.

Robertson spoke only briefly at that time in response to the accolades he received, and the subject of organizing was on the floor he talked at length of what he had learned his work as director of organization and perspectives for the future.

"I have tried every way possible," he said, "to work out alliances with other national and local unions, where we could develop a joint program of organization and work together and stop this damn raiding."

THE TEAM

Referring to the Bridges-Robertson-Goldblatt team of ILWU International officers, Bob said: "On this team of ours you had two thoroughbred race horses on the lot. Bill Goheen, the plow horse that plows the field, tills the soil, harvests the crop, so that when we reap the harvest we get a good load in the bin. I am the plow horse, and I am proud of it."

Continuing his final address, Robertson told the delegates: "Everything I am, everything I learned, I learned from you, the working class, the ILWU. You have kept me in this college 36 years, and I am still learning."