Join the Stewards  
See On the Beam, Page 2

Talks Go on  
For Canadian Dockers' Pact

VANCOUVER, BC — Direct talks between the ILWU Canadian Area longshore negotiators and the British Columbia Maritime Employers' Association are continuing here even though the July 31 contract expiration date has passed.

Direct talks between the parties means an end to any intervention or other interference by any government body.

All issues in the contract are on the table.

The specially-appointed government conciliation board's award was unanimously rejected by the ILWU rank-and-file on the BC mainland and Vancouver Island at stopwork meetings in July after the union policy committee stated:

The conciliation board “does not offer a settlement of the dispute” between the union and employers.

No strike date has been fixed and the union has insisted on maintaining continuous direct negotiations.

New Local 6  
Members Gain At St Regis

UNION CITY, Calif. — Some 200 workers at the St. Regis Paper Company are receiving a lower monthly payment. A tenth paid holiday, vacations of four weeks after 15 years and five after 25 years, fully paid medical and pension plans, term of the contract is until March 1, 1971.

Business agent Bill Burke was spokesman for the negotiating committee.

Deaddlocked negotiations were moved to a satisfactory conclusion after a 94 percent membership vote on July 19 authorized a strike.

Wage increases of 19 to 34 cents an hour are retroactive to March 1. Another raise of 6 1/2 percent will take effect on March 1, 1970. This will mean an increase in hourly rates ranging from 16 1/2 to 25 1/2 cents.

Other gains include a ninth paid holiday, vacations of four weeks after 15 years and five after 25 years, fully paid medical and pension plans.

Terms of the contract are until March 1, 1971.

Another raise of 6 1/2 percent will take effect on March 1, 1970. This will mean an increase in hourly rates ranging from 16 1/2 to 25 1/2 cents.

Container Committee Studies Pact Language

SAN FRANCISCO — The ILWU container negotiating committee has been reconvened at International Headquarters here and at the time The Dispatcher went to press was studying the language of a projected “Container Freight Station Supplement.”

The committee, representing the four major locals, the small ports in Seattle, an ILWU executive committee, and the Coast Labor Relations Committee met after several weeks were spent cooperating up the language of the container document.

After several months of negotiating, union representatives and employers reached general agreement as to the contents of the document. The exact language was then to be written by the Coast Committee and staff members.

PENSIONS

In addition to a container freight station supplement, the last longshore caucus also authorized the committee to reach an agreement which will bring about eventual parity between the current pension rate and those pensioners who are receiving a lower monthly payment.

When a document is approved by both union negotiators and employers, it will then be printed in The Dispatcher, and distributed to longshoremen and clerks up and down the coast. Stopwork meetings will be held for discussion and interpretation.

The agreement will then be subject to a coastwise referendum, with all longshoremen and clerks involved having an opportunity to cast ballots.

As soon as language has been agreed upon, and as quickly as it can be printed and distributed, longshore division members will have copies of the document in their hands.

Seattle Flour Strikers Win 50% Increase

SEATTLE—After five weeks on the bricks, Fisher Flouring Mills workers won a 50-cent wage increase and higher fringe benefits in a one-year contract.

Fisher workers are a unit of ILWU warehouse Local 9, with 80 members.

Improvements in fringe benefits include:

- A tenth paid holiday;
- 45 hours’ pay for each vacation week;
- Shift differential pay of 15 cents an hour for swing shift, 20 cents for graveyard.

Negotiating committee members were local secretary-business agent Eugene Hutchinson, shop steward Alvin Rudd, Wilbur Yelling, Ron Edson and Fred Timm.

Dock Comp Bill Goes To House

WASHINGTON—Chairman of the House Select Labor Subcommittee Dominic Daniels, on August 7, introduced HB 13589, to amend the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act. The bill is a companion to a Senate bill S 2487, and would raise weekly benefits to injured longshoremen to $125 and make other improvements in the Act.

"The proposed amendments are long overdue," said Rep. Daniels in introducing the bill, which is supported by all concerned unions.

"In 1966, at the time the President signed the amendments to the Federal Employee's Compensation Act, he urged all jurisdictions to take action which would assure injured workers proper compensation in the event of work injury. The Congress has not amended the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act since 1961. As a result the protection provided by the act has fallen behind that afforded under many state laws," he added.

Co-sponsoring the bill were Education and Labor Committee chairman Carl Perkins (D-Ky.), Edith Green (D-Ore.), Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.), Patsy Mink (D-Hawaii), Lloyd Mounds (D-Wis.), Phillip Burton (D-Calif.), Adam Clayton Powell (D-NY), John Dent (D-Pa.), Hugh Carey (D-NY), James Scheuer (D-NY), Joseph Gaydos (D-Pa.), Louis Stokes (D-Ohio), and William Clay (D-Mo.).

There is still no sign of a promised administration bill, but Secretary of Labor George Schultz indicated recently that one was being worked on which would include limits on "third-party" suits desired by employers.

INTERVIEWING ‘B’ longshore candidates was a well-oiled operation at California Hall in San Francisco August 6-7, as can be seen in the overall picture above. At top left applicants move in to get their application forms. They then wait to be interviewed by one of the five two-man (ILWU-PMA) teams sitting in the foreground. Finally at upper right, the men receive appointments for physical examinations, already taking place, in preparation for the final steps before some 400 of them will become registered “B” longshoremen and go to work.

(More story and pictures of this process on page 8.)
**On the Bean**

Harry Bridges

**Our Union**, like most other unions these days, has reported great difficulties in holding regular rank-and-file membership meetings that are well attended and last long enough to consider fully both the immediate business at hand and matters of general union policy. The ILWU's record for getting good representative membership turnouts is better than most. But it's still a long way from satisfactory.

It's not easy to keep a union in which particular takes public pride in practicing rank-and-file democracy—to see locals with hundreds or even thousands of members, whose meetings are held only once a month, count attendance in the dozens instead of hundreds.

This problem has been hanging on year after year and neither we have found a cure for the malady. Actually the best and most obvious cure is to attend meetings—keeping in mind the principle that only at regular, well-attended and democratically-run membership meetings can the rank-and-file openly discuss problems and reach solutions and keep union democracy alive.

Another aspect of union life which almost equally in importance the membership meeting, is a good job steward system. In the struggle to build the union from the ground up, this demand that workers on the job have the right to be represented by their own spokesman was something we fought for from the very beginning.

A steward's system—representation on the job by workers chosen by their fellow workers—was once vigorously and often viciously opposed by employers. Today union stewards are found in almost all unions and, as a matter of fact, most standard union contracts provide for job stewards.

However, it's well to recall that not too many years ago employers viewed the idea of a union steward standing up to the boss (with the muscle of the union behind him) as something akin to "Bolshevik Revolution." That's what some employer spokesmen called stewards; it was considered downright dangerous!

Employers were object to rank-and-file stewards by saying one effect, why should we be forced to talk to a worker on the job when we can do business with the specially selected and responsible union officials. The fact that in those days when we had to battle to win the right to have stewards on the job, there were also too damn many "respectable" union officers who wouldn't stand up and fight the boss.

That was another important reason why the steward was so necessary. He was the man who was as close to the rank-and-file as he had job level experience, he knew the contract. He was badly needed—in fact indispensable—during the formative days of the union.

For the same reason—to protect the contract, to represent the worker on the job, to assure safety and good working conditions, and generally to watch the game—the steward is as must as ever today as he ever was.

It never does any good to close our eyes to weaknesses in our union. I hate to admit it, but I think one great weakness is that we do not have sufficient knowledgeable and trained union stewards.

**This is Not To say** that we don't have hundreds of very dedicated and hard-working stewards on the job. There are men and women who give their time and energy, on and off the job, and with no compensation whatsoever—to serve and protect the rank-and-file. We honor and thank them.

There is a revival of interest in an expanding steward's system. This is quite an exciting prospect, and I'm looking forward to seeing more members join the stewards in their locals and on their jobs.

I can't think of a better way to point this up than to personally assist every rank-and-file member make a determined effort not only to encourage frequent and well-attended membership meetings in order to rebuild the cornerstone of trust in the rank-and-file democratic control, but become involved in the strengthening of the steward's system.

I want to remind the rank-and-file that practically all contracts have been written so that stewards are required as a condition of the job. The important point however is that we do not have sufficient knowledgeable and trained stewards.
The pickets ranged in age from a silver-halated grandmother with a sign asking, "What About People on Social Security?" to toddlers like her daughter, who rode in what her mother, Jeannie Luak of Auxiliary 5, described as a "picket-mobile," a grocery shopping cart with boycott meat banners. Some men joined the picket lines.

**HOUSEWIVES' REVOLT**
The housewives' revolt against high meat prices began when several Northeast Portland women urged other women to join them in boycotting meat.

The Federated Auxiliaries issued a press release, calling on all auxiliary members in Oregon to boycott meat.

The story hit the front page of the Portland Oregonian and was featured in two Portland papers and on television.

Then women in the swank Portland suburb of Rainier Hills decided to picket a supermarket and invited local women to "come and help us."

A group of women said they plan to visit Rep. Edith Green and Wendell Wyatt during the summer recess to protest high food prices.

**NCDC Plans 1970 Action**

EUREKA—Political action was the principal subject at the July meeting of ILWU's Northern California District Council, held at headquarters of Local 14 here.

The council voted to cooperate with AFL-CIO's COPE in coming Santa Clara County elections. For this purpose a $45 contribution was voted to Local 11 and the San Jose Division of Local 8.

A request was made to commend assemblyman John Knox for his stand against picketer-injured day laborers in the bay-fill issue, and to support the Knox-Petris bill, sharply reducing further filling of San Francisco Bay.

Michael Johnson, secretary and legislative representative, reported that the legislative committee had found it necessary to screen more legislative representatives, periling jobs and wage cuts through the 50 percent mineral depletion allowances, capital gains, charitable deductions, etc.

The council officers to arrange a joint meeting with the Southern California District Council to prepare for the 1970 legislative session and statewide elections.

**ILWU people meet women from "Stop Inflationary Prices" as picketing began August 4. See story at left.**

**PR Package to Stop Taxpayers' Revolt**

WASHINGTON — A lot of pointed questions are being asked about the Tax Reform Act of 1969 (HR 12370), passed overwhelmingly in the House on August 7.

Is it "the most sweeping tax reform legislation in this century," as one legislator said? Or is the package "an aspirin and a tranquilizer," as another put it? One thing is clear: the bill is complex. This prompted one observer to retell it "the lawyers and accountants relief act."

The Tax Reform Act, rushed to the House floor under a rule allowing no amendments, narrows some loopholes — and some say opens some new loopholes — and does provide some relief for taxpayers in all brackets.

It also extends the war surtax for a full year and most of its provisions do not take effect until 1972. In other words, taxpayers will not be affected by the full effects until they file returns in Spring of 1973.

Making sure he cloaked loopholes which the Treasury Department had estimated cost the government (and taxpayers) some $50 billion a year are narrowed, but only to the tune of about $7 billion. Repeal of the Investment Tax Credit accounts for about half of this.

**PUBLIC RELATIONS PACKAGE**

Business Week, in its August 2 issue, raises the relevant point: "...if narrowing a loophole is good, why isn't eliminating it better? If a 37 1/2 percent depletion allowance for oil is an outrage, why is 20 percent tolerable?"

The good question, which leads to the conclusion that the highly-touted Tax Reform Act is a public relations package designed to paint the edge of a taxpayer's revolts.

What does the bill mean to workers? One "worker" in the $200,000 bracket, it means a tax rate cut of 5 percent. If the taxable income of married taxpayers who do not itemize expenses is under $12,000, even a 5 percent relief amounts to only $49.

**PRESSURE NEEDED**

If real tax relief is to be won this year— and Congress acts on major tax legislation, as it did in 1971 and 1972, it will take a lot of pressure on the Senate.

A substantial improvement in relief provisions would be a doubling of the $680 personal exemption to $1,360, as proposed by the ILWU Convention. Our "average longshoreman" would have his taxes cut nearly in half, if this were enacted.

The cost to the Treasury of doubling the exemption would be over $20 billion, but closing loopholes further in the areas of oil and mineral depletion allowances, capital gains, charitable deductions, etc. would also aid in the fight against the war in Vietnam.

The realities of the Tax Reform Act, of which the 1972 edition was adumbrated by Florida Democrat Sam Gibbons. During the rather prolix hearings held this year, a colleague suggested that the average worker would only get relief of about $44. The Gibbons Amendment would provide $400.

Gibbons said: "Let us face it, the most numerous people in our nation are the least wealthy and the middle income, and we could not take away from the very wealthy and give to the least wealthy and the middle income without massive tax reform."

This is not massive tax reform."
Congressmen Rap $80 Billion Budget for Death

By Albert Lannon
ILWU Washington Representative

WHILE DEBATE RAGED on the ABM (anti-ballistic missile) system in Congress, some were questioning the cost and value of our $80 billion military budget. Terms like MIRV, CBW, MBT, ANA, MOL, CYAN and others are entering the public discussion. For the first time in modern history the sacred military budget is being seriously questioned. Here are some examples:

-Some 76 Democratic representa-
tives in Congress have been de-
manding “an immediate and search-
ing reexamination of all military
commitments and expendi-
tures.”

-A group of senators calls for trim-
ing $18 billion worth of “fat” from the
military budget.

-A bi-partisan group of 45 sena-
tors and representatives was 
that the nation is in danger of becoming
a “national security state” and urges that
the military be brought under
congressional control and radically
reduced in size.

-National Commitments reso-

In addition, force levels should be
reduced by 800,000 men —
800,000 will represent a return to the
same end; and (4) the utility of the
freeze imbalance in our federal budget.”

For the first time in modern history
the military is itself entering the public
discussion. Terms like MIRV, CBW,
MBT, and some 40 colleagues are back-
cing Senate Resolution 311, for a
mutual US-Soviet suspension of
MIRV development and flight testing
pending early arms control negoti-
ations. Companion House resolu-
tions (H. Res. 465-469) drew over 100
sponsors under the co-authorship of Cali-
fornia Democratic Jeffrey Cohelan.

SEARCHING LOOK
Another day, another study. What
in the searching new look at the Pentagon’s
power was the creation of Members
of Congress for Peace Through Law.
This group of 79 legislators’ Commit-
tee on Military Spending, chaired by
Oregon Republican Mark Hatfield
and including Brock Adams (D-
Wash.), Jeffrey Cohelan and George
McGovern (D-S.C.), is an example of
on July 3 which carefully examin-
tory: cancelled on June 10; too ex-

The military has gone its own way
for wars past and present.

Tales President Nixon at his
bills the US military is
sufficiency.” Columbia
Professor Arthur Meernak
s a “sufficiency budget” to the
Army Services Committee
maintaining the
balance of terror,”
ļding the war in Vietnam,
maintains force levels of the
US from any attack and
allowing for a peacekeeping
force.

The sufficiency budget
would save American taxpayers $4 billion
right now, with no sacrifice of
national security.

An administration spokesman
recently said: “Our military is
just what suffici-
cy means.” He replied: “It doesn’t
mean a goddamned thing.”

Today the career military
officials are estimated to work as
lobbyists for defense contractors; they
have the money and the power.

As the ABM debate came to a
conclusion the MIRV (multiple inde-
dently-targeted re-entry vehi-
cles) debate escalates. MIRV allows a
missile to carry several nuclear war-
heads, each of which may end up
making the ABM obsolete. A
MIRV attack can easily overcome
the present “balance of terror,”
which is unlikely to perform accord-
ibly. The Pentagon is requesting $2.3 billion
in MIRV during the current fiscal
year.

-MIRV Attack Carriers: these nuclear
shippers cost $1.3 billion each, with four scheduled
to be built. Costs are far exceeding
original estimates by as much as 50
percent. Recommendation: “Con-
struction should be delayed... pend-
Congressional review of the...”

-Military Manpower: the US now
has a force of 3.5 million men, at
a cost of $35 billion annually. Recom-
endations: “Allowing termination
of the Vietnam War... should be
reduced by 800,000 men — the
number involved in that conflict.
In addition, force levels should be
limited by 1,200,000 which is the
statutory ceiling and a total force 15
percent more manageable.”

Implicit in our current defense
posture is the assumption that the
US should be prepared to fight two
major and one minor war at the
same time. The Committee questions
the validity of this assumption.

-Military Procurement: a comprehensive
study of profitability in defense con-
tracting should show that contracts
should be broken down into more manageable
segments. Congress should
be informed periodically of the
status of costs, dates, etc. Auditing
should be regular and procurement and submission of cost
and pricing data should be manda-
tory.

The warmed of “misplaced power.”
That power can be seen in the vast array of unneeded and unwork-
able hardware listed above. That power can be seen in the testing and
exposure of biological and chemical
warfare; no one told the military the
truth.

It can be seen in the establishment of military “riot control centers”;
no one told the people that such
buildings have been built.

It can be seen in the secret agree-
ments with foreign countries, such as
the one signed with the United
States would prefer use of
chemicals by all combatants 
or by none.” On biological warfare:
our nation must face up to the
fact that in this nuclear age we can-
not find safety in building weapons
to use them; but only in striving directly for peace.”
**Port of Seattle Salutes Bill Gettings at Retirement**

SEATTLE—Bill Gettings, recently retired ILWU regional director for the Northwest, was the subject of a three-page feature story in the August 12, 1969 issue of Port of Seattle Reporter. With it was a series of candid photos of Bill, taken at his home on a day when he was moving, following his retirement. Three of the pictures are reproduced on this page.

The story began with Bill's reluctant agreement, back in 1947, to take the job of Northwest regional director. He left his home in Los Angeles for the new assignment at the urging of ILWU president Harry Bridges.

As the Port of Seattle Reporter told it:

Gettings told Bridges he would stay in Seattle only three months, long enough to get the new office opened and operating, and then he was going back to his position as a regional director in Southern California.

So in January 1947, Gettings came up here. He returned to Southern California after three months. He stayed on for 22 years!

Simply stated, Gettings' job as regional director was to administer the policies the board had adopted by the ILWU executive board.

"One3h rule I made the rules and it was my duty to see they were enforced. Much of my work was with employers to help them understand and explain the union's stand on issues. Because I worked very closely with them, I was sometimes accused by some union members of being pro-employer."

"My philosophy was to call a spade a spade whether it be to our own people or to employers," continued Gettings. "I believe in telling the truth. Sometimes it might hurt, but I am not going to get caught lying. I believe in sticking to the basic issues... to stay on the points of discussion. I don't like to argue about the intent of a document. But I will argue on the black written word."

Gettings retired on June 30, 1969, whereupon he was hailed as one of the most outstanding careers in ILWU history.

**NO REGRETS**

"When I got on the job and saw how bad the situation was, I decided to stay on and try to straighten out the mess," Gettings said. "I have no regrets whatsoever. There were a lot of headaches, but the final satisfaction that progress was achieved in union-industry relations made all worthwhile."

Union and industry people soon learned that big Bill Gettings was amiable, kind and generous, but when it came to business, he could be tough and unrelenting, and that he was not one to lose his head.

Gettings' uncompromising honesty has been both a source of strength and distress. Ed Anderson, ILWU Local 13 secretary-treasurer, said that Gettings' honesty brought him respect from those who understood him and his motives, but at the same time, it got him into jams with those who didn't see things his way.

**DYNAMIC**

All in all, however, he has been a dynamic force in creating stability in the industry. Anderson said:

At the 18th Biennial Convention of the ILWU last April in Los Angeles, a resolution saluting Bill Gettings was adopted by standing vote...

Harry Bridges told convention delegates that "Gettings doesn't say much at conventions. His greatest value is down in the ranks, talking to people directly, giving leadership and guidance. A true leader. He would never do justice to all his contributions."

**STARTED AT 17**

Gettings began longshoreing at Hoboken, New Jersey, in 1921, when he was 17 years old. Later that year, he moved to Southern California and after working a short time as a longshoreman, he spent the next 10 years as a logger. In 1932, he went back to longshoreing.

In 1943 he was appointed international representative to help iron out problems of longshoremen at the huge naval arsenals and ammunition center at Port Hueneme, Ventura, California. That was the start of his career as an ILWU officer. Later he became one of the regional ILWU directors for Southern California and from there he moved to Seattle.

Gettings' office, like the man himself, is plain and orderly. On one wall are photos of Franklin D. Roosevelt, John L. Lewis and Harry Bridges. On his desk are photos of his wife, stepdaughter and the apple of his eye, his 6-year-old granddaughter.

**122 CALLS**

The furniture is unpretentious. The only concession to sophistication in the office is the electronic secretary, which allows Gettings to answer the phone and enable callers to leave recorded messages when Gettings is out, or inform callers where he may be reached.

Each morning, he turns on the machine and listens to the messages recorded during the previous day and night. Of the 122 calls we visited, 122 calls were on the tape.

For relaxation from hectic labor problems, Gettings turns to music mostly light classics. He has one of the largest libraries of classical music in Seattle, which was the subject of a recent feature story in the Seattle Times.

**Local 6 Unit Wins Good First Pact**

OAKLAND — After voting for ILWU Local 6 in an election on May 1, Acme Pallet workers have achieved a three-year contract with wage increases totaling 70 cents an hour plus the fringe benefits of the area warehouse agreement.

Wages went up 29 cents an hour on the effective date, July 1. There will be 25-cent boosts at the start of the second and third contract years.

According to the contract, these workers will receive the benefit of all classification and fringe improvements gained by the Northern California ILWU - Teamsters joint negotiating committee, in the new area agreement next year.

Acme workers were organized by International representative Leroy King and organizer Felix Rivera. Business agent Joseph Krasnow was spokesman for the negotiating committee; chief steward Lou Dawron and assistant chief steward Elbert Thomas. Administrative business agent Paul Heide assisted the committee.

Next Dispatcher Deadline—August 20

"My philosophy was to call a spade a spade whether it be to our own people or to an employer."

*Photos by Harry Illmann for Port of Seattle Reporter*
PORTLAND—A modern-day David beat a Goliath here last week when tiny Chemical Workers Local 109 won a victory against a giant in the roofing industry, Lloyd A. Fry.

The battle had lasted four months, and the giant was a stinker. Pollution poured out of his smokestacks; his strikebreakers ran over pickets; he hired rent-a-cops.

But "David" had help—a lot of it from the Peruvian Union, according to the August 8 issue of The Oregon Labor Press, which quoted local Longshoremen as saying, "We'd never have made it without the help of Longshoremen's Local 8 and its president, John Parks.

Strikers were given casual work on the docks, and volunteers from the other industries and students on the picket line.

Handbilling by young activists urging a boycott of Sears Roebuck as a major Fry outlet was a factor in the settlement, The Labor Press said.

Also a factor, according to the strikers was the assist given by ILWU auxiliary members who accompanied strikers’ wives to the Portland Labor Center to drum up support for the day “Wednesday became Fry-Day” at Fry.

MASS PICKETING

It was mass picketing that turned what might have been defeat into victory, according to striker Darrell Michaels, whose permanent residence was during the long and bitter battle to appear to be the small trucker that served as strike headquarters outside the Fry plant.

Following certification of a two-year agreement covering a 26-cents an hour pay boost, with time and a half for all Saturday work and double time on Sunday, grievance procedure, improved benefits, vacation and holiday provisions plus a maintenance of union membership club, the key win.

Fry was forced to return all strikers to their jobs.

The company even promised to install air pollution control equipment.

Several strike-related demonstrations visited the picket line, with signs protesting Fry’s repeated violations of the state’s anti-pollution laws.

The Labor Press noted bitterly that no arrests were made, or charges brought against strikebreakers who ran over pickets.

### Bay Area Warehouses Move To Low-Wage Reno, Nevada

SAN FRANCISCO — A warehouse that has been under contract with ILWU Local 6 (and its predecessor) since 1935 has moved to Reno, Nevada, leaving 38 workers without their jobs.

"It is the Schwabacher-Frey stationary warehouse, now owned by Diamond National Company. The 38 workers received severance pay but their jobs are gone.

This illustrates what the Local 6 Bulletin calls “The New Wage Relocation Lнем." More than 5,000 warehousemen are now employed in the Reno area at wages of $2 an hour for men and $1.50 for women.

And only a few have been organized, the Bulletin adds, mainly because Nevada’s anti-union law.

Many of the warehouses—with space for expansion—exist today in the metropolitan areas. One, for example, has 11 acres under one roof.

In these huge complexes some of the largest well-known corporations store their products, guaranteeing waterfront delivery to Bay Area cities.

They supply food, drugs, books, machines—all manner of equipment and products. Examples of the warehouses that have been established there are Kresge, employing 275 warehousemen, Rexall Drug, Blake Motor & Tow Truck, Bendix Westinghouse, National Cash Register, Addressograph Lithograph, Diamond National, Sea & Ski, Baker & Taylor, Bigelow Bug and Van Heusen Shirt Company.

Local 6 Runs to Keep Even on Jobs

SAN FRANCISCO — Three new contracts have been signed in the East Bay area since the organizing program began.

Curtis McClain, president of the local, said “We have to run fast to keep even” with losses of jobs to runway warehouses and automation.

New contracts in San Francisco are with Holiday Imports, St. Regis Paper Company and Acme Pallet.

### Birchers’ Program

Now that the John Birch Society has come out foursquare against fluoridation and sex education in our schools we have a clue to what they are for: more illegitimate children with rotten teeth.

Steve Adoree Replies

(unsyndicated)

From The Hook, Local 19, Seattle

Dear Stevie: Hey, man! Either I’m some kinda dingbat or else I wasn’t school because all my life I’ve been thinking the United States was all of us or we’ve been so screwed up by the people, by the people—and now I want to know just who is the United States, neither did anyone else.

I’m some kinda dingbat or else I wasn’t school because all my life I’ve been thinking the United States was all of us or we’ve been so screwed up by the people, by the people—and now I want to know just who is the United States, neither did anyone else.

Dear Tizz: Now don’t you go feeling conspicuous, Tizz, because we didn’t clean school, either. I went off to school because all a time I’m thinking the United States was all of us or we’ve been so screwed up by the people, by the people—and now I want to know just who is the United States, neither did anyone else.

Microsoft—Longshoremen and students join with members of AFL-CIO Chemical Workers Local 109, at Fry Roofing Company, Portland, to try to talk scabs out of being longshoremen.

Nelson Rockefeller and big money investors in the W. R. Grace Co., men who ran over pickets.

Arbitrator Reinstates Fired Local 6 Member

SAN FRANCISCO — An arbitration case was won by warehouse Local 6 when Joe Figueredo was given the right to return to Baker and Hamilton, where he had been fired, whenever a job is available in the next six months, without loss of seniority or pension credits.

Arbitrator Sam Kagel ruled that Figueredo had been fired for union activity. The company agreed that he had an unblemished work record and was capable of doing his job.

Figueredo was awarded a week’s pay and reimbursement for his out-of-pocket expenses for health and welfare premiums. Kagel retained jurisdiction of the case for six months, in case Figueredo decides to return to Baker and Hamilton within that time.

Since shortly after he was fired by Baker and Hamilton, Figueredo has been employed at another warehouse here.

Representing the union at the arbitration were International secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt, reprentative director Barry Silverman and business agent Keith Rickman.

Physical examinations of 42,000 members of the Teamsters union in California canneries have revealed that one person in three develops a condition requiring the attention of a doctor a year.

The tests were made during the summers of 1967 and 1968. Men were found to be less healthy and less striking and locked out unions against the Herald-Examiner. The Joint Strike Lockout Council reports that advertising lineage and circulation of the struck paper ceased.

How about regular health checkup?

normally which had not come to the doctor’s attention.

When more than 21,000 were tested in mobile units at their places of work in 1967, more than 50 percent were found to have conditions requiring medical attention. When the same tests were given a year later, many of them to the same persons, about 40 percent were found to need attention.

The significant reduction in abnormal findings may be attributed in part to the health testing program which was instrumental in bringing examinees under the care of a physician," said a report dealing with analysis of the tests.

Money to pay for the health tests was negotiated by the Teamsters in consultation with California Processors, Inc.

SUPPORT—Longshoremen and students join with members of AFL-CIO Chemical Workers Local 109, at Fry Roofing Company, Portland, to try to talk scabs out of being longshoremen.
CRDC Secty. Stoneburg Dies

PORTLAND — A. F. Stoneburg, ILWU Columbia River District Coun-
sel, died suddenly August 6 at Bess Kaiser Memorial Hospital.
He had entered the hospital for 2-3 weeks before, and was jokin-
g with technicians and nurses when stricken with an apparent heart attack.

Stoneburg had an intense interest in ending the arms race and pres-
ervation of the environment. One of his last official acts as council secretary
was to assume leadership in organizing the Columbia River District of the National
Labor Leadership Association. At the time of his death, he was the council's
president, who died August 6 (see separate story), Vic Fuller, pay-
secretary, who died August 6 (see separate story), Vic Fuller, pay-
three grandchildren, and two

During his several terms as CRDC secretary he worked closely with
ILWU lobbyists in Washington, D. C., and in Salmon Idaho to oppose anti-union
bills, and to rally support from the ranks behind legislation of benefit
to labor. He helped build the council's influence and prestige with
other labor groups.

Henry Lunde, CRDC president, de-
clared: "We shall miss Stonie as a
friend and dedicated officer of the
council." Stoneburg's contribution was all the more remarkable in that he
joined the ranks of organized labor late in life, having spent his early
and middle years as an executive in the transportation industry.

J. K. Stranahan, CRDC delegate from Clerks Local 40, described
Stoneburg as "unique—a man who became a labor activist at an age
when most people are retiring to their lives. He was involved when nearly all the crusing is done by youth.

He was a direct participant in the
causes backed by the council, at-
tending grape boycott rallies, cir-
culating resolutions, appearing on
picket lines.

On August 5, he planned to
join ILWU auxiliary members on
a picket line protesting high meat
prices. Instead he was rushed to the
dhospital where he died a few hours
later.

Memorial services were held August
9 at the Ross-Hollywood Chapel.
Commitment was at Portland Mem-
rional, following cremation.

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War Profiteering Robs Wage Gains

The "real wage" of the average American worker went down $2.24 a week during the nine months from September 1968 through June of this year. This figure, based on US Department of Labor statistics, shows what war-induced inflation is doing to American wage earners.

The "real wage" is a measure of what the nominal wage will buy in terms of 1957-59 prices. The government's Consumer Price Index shows that you now have to pay $127.60 for goods and services that would have come to $100 ten years ago.

Inflation broke into a gallop this year when the cost of living went up 7.3 percent during the four-month period, March through June. That is at an annual rate of 6.4 percent.

So, despite an average wage gain of 21.8 cents an hour during the first 30 weeks of this year, "real wages" were down 1.2 percent below the level of September, 1968.

The relationship between the Vietnam war and purchasing power of American workers was shown conclusively in a study by Nathan Spero, research director of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers (UE) and published in the June, 1969 issue of Monthly Review.

EFFECT OF WAR

Prior to 1965, Spero points out, the Consumer Price Index was advancing a little more than 1 percent a year. Beginning with 1965, the year when war escalation began on a big scale, the cost-of-living increase has accelerated year by year to its present 6.4 rate.

These figures refute the contention of some business and government economists that inflation is caused by working people having "too much money" to spend. They support the view expressed in The Wall Street Journal of August 9, 1968, that in the current inflation the "major culprit may be corporate profits."

More recently (April 21, 1969), the Journal observed that "the American factory produces more profits per dollar of sales today than at most times in the post-World War II era." It concludes that a factor in producing these fat profits "has been the ease with which manufacturers have been able to boost prices."

PENSIONERS

While organized workers have been able to boost their wages through collective bargaining to offset partially the effects of inflation, pensioners, persons on welfare and others with fixed incomes have had to adjust by cutting sharply into their spending on food, clothing and shelter.

Labor Department figures did not deal with earnings of "supervisory" workers, a category including corporate executives. On this subject, the Journal commented:

"An indication of how the very top echelon of at least one company is making out may be glimpsed in a recent proxy statement of General Motors Corp. The motor giant's top officers and directors received $17,739.500 last year in salaries, fees, cash bonus awards and stock credits, a rise of 19 percent from the 1967 total. That sort of an increase far exceeds the rise of prices and taxes in the period. Result: A hefty increase in the purchasing power of GM's brain."

Spero offers the following table of corporate profits for the Vietnam war years:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corporation Profits</th>
<th>After Taxes</th>
<th>Dividends</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>$45.1 billion</td>
<td>$19.1 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>47.8 billion</td>
<td>20.6 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>51.0 billion</td>
<td>21.7 billion</td>
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<td>48.1 billion</td>
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<td>51.0 billion</td>
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<tr>
<td>52.9 billion</td>
<td>25.4 billion</td>
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Blacks Are Hit by New Unemployment

WASHINGTON—The growing unemployment in this country is hitting the black population almost exclusively, according to figures released during July by the Department of Labor.

The national jobless rate for whites remained unchanged at 3 percent during the period from February to June, while the non-white rate increased by 1.3 percent up to 7 percent, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The increase was primarily among black teenagers, more than one in three of whom were unemployed during the period studied. One in seven of white teenagers was jobless.

New Local 10 ‘B’ Candidates Interviewed

SAN FRANCISCO—Machinery for the registration of some 400 new “B” longshoremen went into high gear last week here as the Joint Port Labor Relations Committee, representing both ILWU Local 10 and the Pacific Maritime Association—interviewed candidates for these much-desired jobs.

The entire operation started originally in June, with the insertion of short notices in the want ads sections of three Bay Area newspapers announcing the openings. More than 12,500 men applied in person to receive applications.

By the June 26th deadline there were exactly 7,573 applications returned for these 400 jobs. The joint committee started screening applications and invited a limited number of men to appear for interviews.

On Wednesday and Thursday, August 6-7, at California Hall here, the men arrived at the door by two sergeants-at-arms, both from Local 10, Bill Watkins and Henry Conley, they were lined up according to a pre-determined interview schedule.

They then turned in a medical history form previously sent to them. Some of the questions included items about their personal and family medical history, dates of last immunization, etc.

Each was checked off by two of-fice workers, Diane Williams of PMA and Barbara Hayes, Local 10, and handed his original application. They then went to interview tables.

Here five teams of interviewers, one each from Local 16 and PMA, reviewed the application, verified pertinent information, and accepted the applicant a certain number of pre-determined questions.

ILWU Local 10 interviewers were Bob Rohatch, Tom Lpher, Willie Zenn, Morel Marshall, and Dick Schaefer.

PMA interviewers were Bill Weir, Bob Dockendorf, Roy Cunan, John Trupp, and Alonzo Fields.

The applicants each signed the interview form and, on leaving the hall, passed a table where two PMA employees, Kathleen Mason and Jack Hopkins, reviewed the application and made an appointment for a physical examination.

Physical examinations were scheduled for August 9 and 10, August 16-17, and August 23-24. The speed with which the Joint Committee desires to complete the registration process was made clear by PMA area director Ralph Holt-grave and ILWU Vice President William Chester, who said that he expected the “B” registration procedure to take place on September 3, 4, and 5.

The new ‘B’ men will go to work almost immediately afterwards.