First Pension Hike Checks Mailed

SAN FRANCISCO — Pension increases negotiated in the Container Freight Station (CFS) agreement for men who retired before July 1966 brought many holiday greetings and letters from widows and pensioners to the ILWU-PMA Benefit Funds office.

More than $400,000 was mailed out, scheduled to arrive before the holidays for the first scheduled increases of from $6.50 to $25 per month.

Bill Ward, coast committee member and trustee, quoted a few examples: "Thank you very much. This increase will help a great deal in alleviating the pressure on one's budget due to the constantly rising cost of necessities," "These checks took me by surprise, and a very welcome surprise in time for Christmas," "This makes a lovely Christmas holiday," "I sure appreciate your kindness and honesty. I am getting along fine. This extra income will be of great help."

The Fund office reported that among the letters were a number of examples: "Thank you very much. This increase will be of great help."

The figures showing the amount of "tax relief" reflect changes which will not be in full effect until tax-payers file their returns in spring of 1974! And they do not reflect the effects of rising incomes in that period.

In other words, if a worker does not win any wage increases over the next four years, he will save a hundred bucks or so on his tax bill. If his wages rise, however, he can expect to pay more in taxes.

For example, a married taxpayer with two children who does not itemize deduction (as most workers don't) and who earns $7,500 in 1969 will pay about $760 in federal income tax. If his wages rise, however, he can expect to pay more in taxes.

Most ILWU members can expect to be paying more in federal income taxes for 1973 than they will pay for 1969. Had the ILWU tax program — end the surtax, double the $600 personal and dependent exemption to $1,200, raise the standard deduction to $1,200, end the itemized deduction (as most workers don't) — continued to be a blacklist or permanent bar from working in the industry.

In upholding the union's contention, arbitrator Kagel said: "... the Employer ... contends that once a Longshoreman is deregistered for cause he may never thereafter seek registration. Neither the Agreement nor past practice of the parties supports such a conclusion."

The full text of the award is being mailed to all waterfront locals.

Public Support ILWU Spurs GE Strike Aid

As the national strike against GE ground into its third month, the ILWU stepped up its support activity.

Back up the pledge of the International Executive Board to raise $100,000 a month for the United Electrical Workers, ILWU locals continued to push in with their assessments and contributions.

In Southern California, Local 20's contribution will come to $1,000 per month for the strike fund.

The memberships of Local 30, Boron, and longshore Local 13, Wilminton, have approved a $2 assessment.

—Continued on Page 3

Organizing Win in Salinas

SALINAS — Titled a "significant victory in ILWU's organizational drive," a candy plant in this runaway-shop, rural community was decisively won by ILWU in representational voting held Monday, January 12.

Nestle company workers here, whom ILWU has been seeking to represent since 1961, voted as follows:

ILWU Local 6 — 16; No union — 53; American Bakery and Confection, Local 24 (AFL-CIO) — 12.

Director of Organization Jack Hall, hailing this win, noted that a large part of the regional staff had concentrated on Salinas recently, under the direction of regional director LeRoy King. Hall also stressed the importance of this event in a largely agricultural area with a notorious anti-union history.

The next issue of The Dispatcher will have an in-depth story of runaway shops and organizing in the Salinas Valley.

—Continued on Page 8

Arbitrator's Award

PMA Must Register Velasquez

SAN FRANCISCO — In an award dated December 23, 1969, Coast arbitrator Sam Kagel ordered that Local 13 member Pete Velasquez be registered as a Class A longshoreman effective January 5, 1970, thus ending a case which dates back more than four years.

Velasquez was deregistered for cause on June 30, 1965. At the Longshore Caucus on April 13, 1967, Local 63 introduced a motion which was adopted by the Caucus, which said:

"That the Coast Committee be instructed to seek the immediate registration of Brother Pete Velasquez of Local 13."

That order has now been carried out.

The union successfully argued that deregistration for cause was not intended to be a blacklist or permanent bar from working in the industry.

In upholding the union's contention, arbitrator Kagel said: "... the Employer ... contends that once a Longshoreman is deregistered for cause he may never thereafter seek registration. Neither the Agreement nor past practice of the parties supports such a conclusion."

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—Continued on Page 3
WILLIAM CHESTER
Assistant to the President

HARRY BRIDGES
Information Director

LOUIS GOLDBLATT
Research Director

Harry Bridges

SUCH A SCHEME, in my opinion, departs from the basic ideal of equal responsibility and an equal share in the ownership of the union, and that does not add up to good labor practice. I find such a scheme extremely unfair to the rank and file and to the union as a whole.

One way to get around this political problem is by setting a specific and equal monthly amount for dues. This gets us down to examining the fairness or unfairness of different union members being required to pay different dues, depending upon how much each man or woman earns. In other words, the member who earns more, or works longer or overtime hours, or gets paid more for greater skills or incentive plans or piecework, is required to pay higher dues.

One way to get around this political problem is by setting up a percentage dues system and then tie this system into a check-off or withholding scheme. This may be based on the fact that it is politically uncomfortable for workers to pay a fixed amount, and sometimes tough for a union official to have to go before the rank-and-file and ask for more dues money—to pay increased office costs or expenses or officers' wages. It can be especially tough around local or International election time.

One thing is sure: percentage dues may or may not be fair depending on how it is handled. But what is so important is that when ILWU negotiations come up—warehouse this year, dried fruit this year, longshore next year—that we are ready, and know what the stakes are.
Local 142 Board Says:

**Keep Heat On for Peace In Vietnam**

HONOLULU—Now is the time to push hardest for peace in Vietnam, according to the Executive Board of Local 142.

Noting the upsurge of feeling against the war in recent months, especially since the revelations of the massacre of civilians, the board concluded that the struggle toward peace must be made if the administration continues to feel the heat.

An increasingly large percentage of workers are yelling for wage restraint. Haynes sees "tremendous unbridled sentiment" against the war, according to the board, and would be receptive to ILWU discussions about how to get out.

The board recommended a program of peace action for January and February which would keep up the pressure and take the ILWU peace program to the people.

The program would consist of:
- a mass petition against the war;
- a TV program on the war issues as seen by the ILWU;
- a series of Peace Picnics for ILWU families at suitable locations on all islands.

Enlarged membership meetings around the country would be held on the recommendations as The Dispatcher went to press.

**Farewell Fete for Mike Johnson**

SAN FRANCISCO — One of the truly great ILWU veterans, Michael P. Johnson, chairman of clerks Local 34, is retiring February 1.

In honor of his accomplishments as an organizer and union official, Local 34 will throw a farewell dinner for him January 29, at 8 p.m. at the Del Webb Townhouse, 8th and Market, San Francisco.

Mr. Johnson has been a delegate to every ILWU convention since its inception. He is a former president of Local 46. As an international representative, International vice-president, LRC delegate and International Executive Council member, he has been active.

He is now Northern California ILWU legislative representative in Sacramento.

Tickets for the dinner are $10 per person. In charge of arrangements as general chairman, he is developing generous contributions. Del Webb Townhouse, 8th and Market, San Francisco.

**BC Labor Unites For Bargaining**

VANCOUVER, BC — Labor here will present a united front in 1970 collective bargaining.

At a recent conference called by the BC Federation of Labor, of which ILWU is a member, a committee was established to coordinate the efforts of the major unions as they move to the bargaining table.

Over 100,000 BC workers will be negotiating contracts this year. This includes steel, lumber, paper and building trades.

"1970 will be a difficult year," according to Federation secretary Roy Haynes. "Employers, while exploiting the free enterprise system to the limit, are yelling for (wage) restraint.

He pointed out that workers are facing with possible use of Bill 33, which calls for compulsory arbitration. Haynes sees "tremendous unrest among rank-and-file members," in the face of growing economic difficulties.

**ILWU Locals:**

**Keep Pushing GE Support, Officers Urge Public Help**

Continued from Page 1—

In the Northwest, the assessment has been approved by Local 52, Seattle, Local 50, Astoria and Local 32, Everett, which has taken up a voluntary assessment. Foremen's Local 98 and 92 will also pitch in.

In Northern California, walking bosses Local 91 has also voted financial assistance. Auxiliary 16, San Francisco, has contributed $25.

ILWU International officers also urged friends of organized labor to contribute to the U.E.-GE strike support fund.

In a letter that went out to 25,000 politicians, newspaper people, teachers and other professionals, Harry Bridges, president, and Louis Goldblatt, secretary-treasurer, urged generous contributions.

"GE is in hopes they can starve these workers into submission," the ILWU officers said, "and there is every indication the strike will go into the spring of 1979."

"We write in hopes that you will make a generous contribution to keep this fight going. The outcome can well determine the climate for collective bargaining in the '70s."

Bridges and Goldblatt said that the workers' sacrifices behind the picket lines went far beyond "ordinary contract questions."

They cited GE's attempts to gain in a take-it-or-leave-it fashion, to initiate back-to-work movements, and other approaches in uniting the local.

Some of the old methods are dead and gone. We need new methods here in Los Angeles, commonly termed "the jungle.""

"We must grow to survive" said vice president Frank Lopez. He placed the mayor's emphasis, in his brief remarks, on building a "united local here which we are all working together."

Sergeant-at-arms Wil Solomon and local trustees Bill Bridgins, Joseph J. Navarrette and Saulo Saldivar were also inducted at the ceremony.

Executive Board members inducted included: Sam Allen, Harold D. Freyman and John Morris from Retail Drug; Frank Haffner, Anaheim Division; Francis Johnson, Antelope Valley Division; Tony Lars, General Division; John Matul, Elton Powell, Tony Berman and Alex White of the Scrap Division.

**Pensioners Xmas Fete Helps Strikes**

SAN FRANCISCO — An old-fashioned raffle, to benefit striking GE and Farm workers, highlighted the Christmas Party sponsored by the Bay Area Pensioners Club, December 21 at Longshoremen's Hall here.

The party was described by one pensioner as the largest ever, a perfect setting for renewing old acquaintances.

The drive for "Dollars for Delano" concluded successfully just before Christmas as Don Welton, Local 34, presented Caesar Chavez, head of the United Farm Workers' Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO, a check for $932. The money was collected from ILWU members and friends on the various stands and terminals in the San Francisco bay area and Stockton, in addition, Local 34 presented a treasury donation of $500 to the farm workers. This brought the total of $1433 for farm workers' children.
January

The year began on a somber note as ILWU mourned the premature death of Local 142’s president, Michael Fritschnan. Fritschnan, long-time president of Warehouse Local 6, veteran of 1934, was diagnosed with cancer at the first ILWU Convention, and expired in February, leaving the board member until his death. Messages poured in from all over the country expressing deep regret at the sudden end of a great union leader.

The highly successful weekend bargaining session continued into early May, at Honolulu and Maui. Both island workshops were free-swinging and easy-going, brought about by a broad cross section of Hawaiian members: sugar and pine, field and cannery workers, longshoremen, clerks, hotel and tourism, white collar people and more. Special emphasis developed on leadership, attitude of the young people, relations with other unions, community service, Vieques, and the whole system, and much, much more. At the end of the weekend, one member stated, "I lost two days work on the waterfront, but what I lost in money is more than made up for by the four days I lost but 356 days gained. I know better than ever this is my union. No one is going to take it away from me."

CONTAINERS

Container negotiations began again at month’s end. The so-called "legal break of contract" deadline for a new sugar contract was extended to the middle of February, and an employer’s "package" was characterized as unacceptable. Bay area locals gave moral and financial support to the American Federation of Teachers’ strike at San Francisco State College, the oil workers’ strike at Streetcar Company; in Oakland, X-Ray technicians at two Bay Area hospitals, members of Local 6, won wage increases; job security and industry-wide seniority. Said a strike bulletin: "There is nothing less from this prosperous industry which is built on our labor and has had full cooperation, if it is abandoned and sought protective legislation..."

Lines held solid for a full five weeks. Every member had a job on the picket lines, tending strike garb. Eighty percent of a Bus, Temple, cleared line for a Catholic cemetery.

While in tropical Hawaii ILWU members were fighting for a new contract, up in Juneau, Alaska, Local 14 negotiated and signed a new four-year contract with the Weich Panel Company; in Los Angeles County, technicians at two Bay Area hospitals, members of Local 6, won wage and job security increases, plus common expiration dates with other local hospitals.

In Portland, the BC Federation of Labor (with which Canadian ILWU is affiliated) started a campaign for the abolition of compulsory arbitration (Bill 23) "designed to hand labor..."

In Southeastern California, the ILWU, joining with virtually every labor group in the area, sold its newspaper and in the neighborhood, the need to meet the deep discontent of today’s youth, the burden of taxation, attacks on labor, strengthening the union’s political action muscle, and backing up any union in a fight—these were the themes and goals of the ILWU Convention.

Highlighting the 18th Biennial Convention was the naming of a new unit of the ILWU, ABM, the president, Harry Bridges, secretary-treasurer, Louis Goldblatt, William March

After five weeks on the bricks, determined and unified sugar workers won a 3-year package that was estimated to cost the companies more than $75 million. Fifty percent of the workers’ strike on the Coast were organized without opposition, and for the grape boycott; demanded free trade and opposition to ABM was expressed by locals and councils in Hawaii, California and Oregon.

Chester for vice president, assistant to the president; and Jack Hall, for vice president, director of organization. Those elected officers were nominated by acclamation after constitutional changes were adopted.

Meanwhile the nation was watching the vote in Los Angeles, where the entire labor movement had backed the CIO against the AOP. Though he appeared to be ahead, after weeks of vicious racial campaigns, the white, middle class majority, supported by everyone from Sen. John Eastland to X-Ray technicians was elected to the Los Angeles Chapter of the ILWU. The next day, the ILWU and PMA in San Francisco.

Chester for vice president, assistant to the president; and Jack Hall, for vice president, director of organization. Those elected officers were nominated by acclamation after constitutional changes were adopted.
Change

officially appointed government conciliation officer. All issues in the contract were on the table.

In the three West Coast ports - Kaisers Gypsum workers, represented by ILWU Local 6 at Antioch, Local 20 at Oakland, and Local 117 at Seattle, jointly negotiated a new three-year contract with wage increases and fringe benefits. In Washington, D.C. the ILWU and federal negotiators agreed to a 10 percent de-
centment to the Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation Act. They agreed that there would be a weekly temporary disability benefits.

Meanwhile in the San Francisco Bay area, ILWU policy appeared in the want ad sections of several local newspapers, announcing that applications would be taken for registration of Class "B" longshoremen in the San Francisco Bay Area. There were 7673 applications for 496 jobs.

In Oregon, the people led by the labor movement, killed the sales tax by a vote of 8-1. In Los Angeles striking union longshoremen convinced employers they were determined to be represented by Local 10 and longshoremen conversion was underway. In Vancouver, Washington, a new contract was negotiated for the longshoremen of Local 17 who worked in Hawaii more than 1500 people faced fasting for their rights; and an ILWU longshoreman Jack Hall in San Francisco a large fare-well party for Bob Robertson, attended by hundreds of fellow unionists and friends, said so long and well done.

In the middle of June, all trade unionists were saddened by the death of John L. Lewis, 89, former head of the CIO, or the newly-formed ALA. The ILWU officers changed their mourning to joy, for "the peace so deeply desired by all mankind."

Norman Bridge, president of the ILWU, announced that Bridges was a racist or that the union would refuse further support of the Saigon government if it hampers or sabotages peace negotiations; and full use of the next day's meeting.

The final word from ILWU officers was that the National Executive Board pledged $100,000 a month for the duration of what was termed a "well done."

The next day's meeting.

July

The new leadership team of four titled officers was certified, with workers and longshore locals responding quickly and action followed. We never see his equal as a labor leader and I don't expect to see his like again.

Organizing was stepped-up by Local 6 in Northern California; in Las Vegas unionization was underway. In Southern California, in San Diego port officials recommended three ILWU Local 10 members for the Carnegie Medal of Bravery for saving the life of a fellow longshoreman.

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After nine months of negotiations, a new contract covering work at container freight stations on or adjacent to United Airlines' Long Beach terminals was approved by 91 out of 96 percent by Local 12 at Seattle. The new agreement was 91 out of 100 percent by Local 12, approved by 91 out of 96 percent by the Longshore and Clerks' Nego-

The Supplement provides that by June 30, 1971, all stuffing and un-stuffing of containers will be done at container freight stations by ILWU members. The transition pe-

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An Action Year for ILWU Women

FOR ILWU auxiliaries, 1969 began with women in Oregon marching on the Legislature and circulating petitions against Vietnam sales tax and women in California ringing doorbells for mayoral candidate Thomas Bradley.

It ended with many auxiliary women in Los Angeles, San Francisco, North Bend, Portland, Seattle and Vancouver, B.C., participating in the Moratorium march and candlelight demonstrations against the war in Vietnam.

Between January 1 and December 31, auxiliary members licked thousands of stamps on letters backing compensations bills and battling the surtax, and they served hundreds of gallons of coffee at union canopies and dance meetings.

Enough coffee was made and poured during the Canadian dock strike to float two freight ships, according to one report.

Auxiliary officers kept the wires zinging with messages protesting ABM and the Haynsworth appointment. A Puget Sound auxiliary, crucifying the Senator, sent a headline-by-headline telegram to Wilbur D. Mills. Auxiliary members found time to lobby Congressmen in their home state offices during the summer recess and help pensioners—longshoremen, clerks and others—attend to details of their affairs.

In September, 1968, they pulled the guys together for a convention that pumps so many of them as to be impossible to traffic with his working brothers

The same convention called for resolution of the emergency detention (concentration camp) section of the McCarran Act, denounced racism and sexism, underlined the fact that taxes needed for housing, schools and mass transit systems are siphoned into the war effort, and demanded an end to the "research, manufacture, stockpiling and use of agents of chemical and biological warfare."

Federated Auxiliaries' President Valerie Taylor had warned the convention the nerve gas the Army was planning to move that summer to a New Jersey seaport from Colorado.

Portland auxiliary members were on the streets with anti-nurse gas petitions as the bells tolled for the pages of convention proceedings by the Herald-Examiner.

AID INDIANS

The most sensational help given workers on a picket line occurred at the convention when delegates from three states and Canada moved out of a Seattle hotel in support of striking hotel and restaurant workers.

Other high points of the auxiliary year occurred when:

Gold star mother Dorothy Hames, a member of Auxiliary 5, led the massive November M-Day march in Portland.

Esther Clark of Auxiliary 41 was elected Honorary Mayor of Boron. (The auxiliary, one of the newest on the ILWU roster, helped secure a community swimming pool and paved access to hospital parking lot.)

Elaine Yoneda, president of the Federated Auxiliaries' Northern California Council, "returned" to Manzanar, the desolate concentration camp in the California desert where she and 10,000 Americans of Japanese ancestry were forced to live during World War II.

She was part of a pilgrimage organized by the Japanese-American Citizens League to dramatize efforts to repeal Title II of the McCarran Act (it provides for the revival of detention camps).

The first six months of the auxiliary year, as chronicled in the 85 pages of convention proceedings by Federated Auxiliaries' secretary Norma Wyatt, reflect concern for many humanitarian causes, ranging from retarded children, handicapped adults and elderly shut-ins to servicing hospitals, food from home at Christmas, civilian victims of the war in Vietnam and the "thousands of young men in prison or voluntary exile" because of war resistance.

The auxiliaries raised thousands of dollars from its groups as student scholarships, the Mecenas-aid to students, to aid to the Canadian groups, heart monitoring units, kidney dialysis funds, and sewing and knitting materials to help the unattended needs of girls in a juvenile home.

Auxiliary members helped at diabetic clinics and with pre-school vision testing. In British Columbia there was collection of war scanning documents, and in Oakland auxiliary member, Margaret Pryor, described as "constant effort with the present world and the need to make decisions on the side of mankind and the future."

Reports of activity since the convention show the same deep interest in human welfare. Based on what an ancient or modern times which has been spent on labor lives to the God of War in meaningless conflict 9,000 miles from home. And it is the story of a war which has resulted in millions of dollars on armaments during a 24-year period, while thousands perished of hunger.

DETENTION CAMP

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Local 10, is secretary-treasurer. Coordination of activities with the PCPA's program for 1970. There was an auxiliary year, the membership grew in one year, the membership grew.

MEMBERSHIP GROWS

In one year, the membership grew from about 1,000 to about 4,000. A total of 325 delegates, guests, wives, and participants—auxiliary members—attended the second convention in September, 1969.

They're tough organizers. When J. R. "Bob" Robertson retired as international vice-president at the last convention, he was immediately presented with an application for PCPA membership and a statement of his dues.

We believe that when in the course of a man's life he has followed his vocation to the point of accumulation of his years of labor, that he should then be able to relax and enjoy the fruits of his labor.

We further believe that he should not become a forgotten man, and that he should remain active within his union, and in cooperation with his working brothers and strive to further the interests of all his fellow workers.

Janet T. Foster, PCPA Convention

Japanese

Delegates to Federated Auxiliary convention join hotel-restaurant line in Seattle.
Local Union Elections

Local 11 Re-Elects Lucero and Fink

SAN JOSE—Warehouse Local 11 re-elected its major incumbent officers, President George Lucero and secretary-treasurer, Tony Fink.

The tally was Lucero, 508; Roy E. Molina, 218; Joseph Damas, 83; and Lowo H. Chico, 28. Fink ran against Lucio Bernabe with a tally of 481 to 349.

Also elected to the board of trustees were Anthony Rondon, Treva Molina, Ernie Tubb, Mike Tapia and Al Azevedo. Lucio Bernabe was elected without opposition as a member of the longshore board.


LRC delegates will be Jim Barclays, Roy Nickson, Vic Macerie, Shirley S. Poirier, Carl Grier, F. J. James E. Burnison and Robert H. Kinney.

Local 91 Re-Elects Nelson, Testa

SAN FRANCISCO—Walking bosses’ Local 91 re-elected Chester Nelson president for 1970 in elections held last month.

Also elected were James Sutter, vice-president; J. D. (Nick) Testa, secretary-treasurer and dispatcher; Manuel Lopez, assistant secretary-treasurer; Chester Nelson, delegate to the caucus and convention; and John Lewis, Chester Leonard, and John Falconi, LRC. A twenty-man executive board was also elected.

Astoria Local 50

ASTORIA, Ore.—Jerry Riggs was elected president of longshore Local 50 here last month. Incumbent Robert Gauthier was elected secretary-treasurer, while Cliff Harpand will be elected vice-president.

Roy Niemi was named LRC delegate. Other officers will be Joe Renkle and Burt Pohl, dispatchers; J. J. Riggs, Br. and Robert Rieter, auditors; and N. Stafanovays, Gerald Geritz, Carl Gier, R. Gauthier and George Berkstresser, executive board members.

Cordova, Alaska

CORDOVA, Alaska—Members of longshore Local 66 elected Roy Lee Dettinger, president; Antonio Hanks, secretary-treasurer; and Faustina Payne; treasurer, Blanche Sacchi; Katherine Sutterfield and Helen Curfus, trustees.

Local 18 Elects

WESTPORT—Don Hal Columns has been elected president of Local 18 for the year 1970, Waldo Molina will be vice-president, and Don Beamer will be secretary-treasurer.

Also elected were: Tom Phillips, chief dispatcher; Rick Risso, relief dispatcher; Waldo Molina and Pete Berman, sergeants-at-arms; Tom Joiner, River Lines LRC.

The three man LRC team will consist of Don Hal Columns, Dave Peterson and Don Beamer; a five-man executive board was also elected.

Billionaire Heads Pensioners

WILMINGTON—Harold Billardre was installed as president of Wilmington area Pacific Coast Pensioners’ Association on New Year’s Eve. Billardre was installed as president, vice-president; Joseph Bayer, recording secretary and Roy Bratton, financial secretary.

The Wilmington Pensioners’ annual dinner last month honored Assembyman Vincent Thomas. Maurice (Blacky) Turk was presented a plaque by the City of Hope for his contributions to that organization’s activity.

Canadian Returns

Local 500, Vancouver

VANCOUVER—Local 500 has elected the following officers for the next year: President, Don Cordove, vice-president, Bob Cordove; secretary-treasurer, Billy Johnson; and business agents, Bill Kemm and Erv McLean.

Local 504 Postpones

VICTORIA, BC—Local 504 has decided to postpone its 1970 elections until negotiations for its new contract have been completed.

Prince Rupert, BC

PRINCE RUPERT, BC—The following officers for Local 505 have been elected: president, Edward Weltz; vice-president, Glen Ford; secretary-treasurer, Bruce Ferguson; and business agent, Bob Steigenberger.

Port Alberni, BC

PORT ALBERNI, BC—Len Gilloux has been elected president of Local 506, Robert Dublin will be vice-president and Dave Beaumont will be secretary.

Checkers Local 506

VANCOUVER—Ray Leibnich will serve as president of Checkers’ Local 506 next year. T. F. Brun will be vice-president and H. Ford will be secretary-treasurer.

Local 508, Cheamains

CHEAMAINS, B.C.—Ronald Oban has been re-elected president and business agent by the members of Local 508. Other 1970 officers will be Charles Brown, vice-president; Alex Tomozyk, secretary-treasurer; and business agent, Jim O’Donnell.

Local 514, Vancouver

VANCOUVER—Max Hurrell will be president of foremen’s Local 514 this year. Barney Oliver will be secretary-treasurer.

Seattle Clerks Re-Elect Sweeney

SEATTLE—Terry Sweeney, president, and Ed Palmer, business agent-secretary-treasurer, were re-elected by members of clerks Local 52 for 1970.

Other officers will be Luis Castillo, vice-president; Charles Dean and Dennis Kwate, dispatchers; John Tobias, sergeant-at-arms.


LRC delegates will be Jim Barclays, Roy Nickson, Vic Macerie, Shirley S. Poirier, Carl Grier, F. J. James E. Burnison and Robert H. Kinney.

Local 19 Elects

PORTLAND, OR—Local 19 incumbent president Fred Huntsinger defeated Victor Todd, 699 to 349, in an election which saw more than a 58 percent turnout.

But Condard won the vice-president over former business agent Tom Daugherty, 652 to 273 and Andy Wilson, former earnings clerk, defeated executive board member Everett Rife in a close (495 to 445) race for secretary-treasurer.

Phil Badamenti won the combination business agent-LRC job over Wes T. Johnson, 640 to 303.

Others elected were: Willie Degner, marshals; Wes Hannah, rear dispatcher; Bob D. O’Neill, night dispatcher; Preston C. Marshall, earnings clerk; John Craig, business agent-David and William Burbach, trustees.

Ernest E. Biker, Rocky Brown, Everett Rife and Huntsinger will represent the local on the Columbia River District Council. Also elected were: Bill McCauley, and a 23-member executive board.

Heads Heath Local 98; Foremen Aid GE Strike

SEATTLE—J. R. Heath was named last month to serve another year as president of ship and dock foremen’s Local 98. John Trowbridge was elected vice-president and W. E. Shipman was named vice-president for Tacoma.

Also were elected A. C. Johnson, recording secretary; A. Dally, secretary-treasurer; and R. R. Blood, M. C. Rasmussen, L. B. Wirth, Jack Hansen and E. G. Kumprowski, executive board members.

LRC delegates will be Jack Block, J. P. Hill and W. W. Beavert.

Local 98 members also approved the $2 per member assessment to assist national strike against General Electric.

Watchmen Return

Davis, McLaughlin

SAN FRANCISCO—Watchmen’s Local 75 elected its new officers for 1970 last month. President, Denver G. Davis; vice-president, Alfred Pielfinger; and secretary-treasurer, Bob Meister.

McLaughlin will also serve as business agent and dispatcher.

Also were elected assistant dispatcher, John S. Della; mail clerk, Jack deVeale; and pensions clerk; Robert Ingebo, Roy Lee Dettinger and William Miller, LRC delegates; Knute Johnsen, and Roy Lee Dettinger, executive board; and U. E. Peterson, sergeant-at-arms.

ARBITRATORS from Pacific Coast areas met in mid-December in San Francisco to discuss and clarify the new Container Freight Station Supplement. From left, Matt Meehan, Columbia River; Captain Oei A. Persson, Northern California; Captain Colman Shepard, Northern California; George Love, Southern California; Sam Kapel, Coast Arbitrator; Roger Fielding, Oregon; Lincoln Farley, Northern California; William Marlote, Southern California; and Captain Clifford Pryor, Washington.
No Tax Reform for Workers

Gore (D-Tenn.) to raise the personal exemption to $1,000, a move which would have provided some major tax relief for workers.

It was clear that a vote on an exemption increase that size would be close and the Democratic leadership anxious to put their party label on any increase, convinced Gore to rescind the increase down to $200, which passed safely. Rather than fight for real tax relief, the Democrats took the public relations route, and avoided Sen. Gore's original intention of forcing Senators to stand and be counted.

CLOSE DOOR DECISION

The battle was not over; indeed, it had not really begun. Because of the differences between the House and Senate versions, the bills went to conference. It was in that closed-door conference that the final legislation was written by three men: Wilbur Mills, chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and two of his chief assistants, Richard Nixon, who headed the threat of a veto if major tax relief were included in the final bill.

In the end, the working man and woman who pay most of the taxes in this country, ended up with no virtual difference in their tax burdens, with the tax revolt smothered, at least for now.

The last ILWU Convention declared: "A radical change to make our entire tax structure truly progressive is long overdue."

So do unions.

The fourth largest industrial corporation in the US, GE owns, controls or otherwise has its fingers into our entire tax structure. Its cheap-skate labor policies don't only hurt Americans, but also Europeans, Japanese, Latin Americans, Asians and Africans.

GE doesn't have many friends among working people here or abroad. Workers' organizing for their rights and self-defense, the cause of progressive unions, has won the support of the ILWU.

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The National Committee, like the AFL-CIO, avoided the questions of who could vote against the extension. While hundreds of thousands of union members across the nation were signing petitions to abolish the surtax, only the ILWU took a strong official position to let the surtax expire last June.

But the working man and woman, who pay most of the taxes in this country, end up with no virtual difference in their tax burdens, with the tax revolt smothered, at least for now.

The AFL-CIO, because of its support for the war in Vietnam, consistently supported the surtax and only came out in opposition to it the week before the House vote. As one legislator told the labor lobbyists: "You guys got into this too late."

A LA direct mail piece for Tax Justice was eventually formed with the backing of the Alliance for Labor Action, Wilbur Branton, said that last November an ALA conference on tax reform was held "to take a strong stand on tax justice" but made few specific suggestions.

By the time the legislation was effective it would have been if the labor movement had simply demanded major labor law changes, all the hard work on loopholes like the oil depletion allowance.

The Alliance, unlike the House, allows unlimited debate, amendments, etc. and worked night and Saturday sessions to keep the bill on the floor. Trade restrictions, antitrust regulations, special tax breaks for some industries, etc. were subject to the wheeling and dealing of the majority leaders in the final, deadlocked bill.

Local 10 Man

Keep His Cool

Saves Holdman

SAN FRANCISCO—Local 10 longshoreman John Stowe recently saved a life and won a PMA safety award in what he described as an "emergency situation."

Stowe was in charge of a hatch where a holdman was injured. The problem was how to get him out of the hatch safely. It might have been solved by hoisting him out on a cargo pallet, but Stowe insisted on waiting for a Stokes litter so the man could be strapped in.

It was an emotionally charged situation, and Stowe wanted to move fast. But his crew "held off a few minutes until the Stokes litter came paid off."

The litter was jerked violently upward by a backhaul in the winch. The strapped man, who had fallen off a cargo pallet, was protected in the litter.

Local 12 Wins

New Log Workout

COOS BAY—Announcement of a contract with the AI Pierce Company which will bring additional work opportunity to Local 12 was made this week by President Eugene Bailey.

The agreement, involving a log and stowage area which has developed many new cargoes, was signed December 12.

It insures that registered longshoremen from the Local 12 dispatch hall will unload the truck at the point of entry, sort the logs, dock deck them and later deliver them to the ship.

The company, which is not affiliated with PMA, agreed to sign supplementary pension, welfare and M.A.A. agreement and make up to 15 percent of the rate wage negotiated.

The facility, on the site of a sawmill no longer in operation, occupies 30 acres and is known as the Portland Dock.

About ten million feet of logs (scrubber scale) will be processed annually—the equivalent of 12 ships a year.

The work was nailed down before the new development was fully under way. "That was our great advantage, jobs instead of waiting to organize people that might be brought in who weren't registered longshoremen," Bailey said.

Labor Protests

Inflationary Rate Hike

For PG&E

SAN FRANCISCO—Over the protests of organized labor, consumer groups and ordinary people, the Pacific Gas and Electric Company has been granted a rate increase which will amount to up to 7.4 percent for residential users.

Labor sources have charged that PG&E was simply attempting to pass along its share of the war surtax cut, according to the California AFL-CIO News:

"There's no reason why a public utility should be allowed to pass its share of the federal surtax cut on to the individual taxpayer...California utility users would be paying the surtax twice—once for themselves and once for PG&E."

PG&E was able to get its rate increase, according to labor and consumer groups, only because the Public Utilities Commission, which oversees PG&E's operations, is now stacked 4-1 with Reagan appointees.

According to Thomas L. Pitts, secretary-treasurer of the California Federation of Labor, the rate increase "will serve as an open invitation for major public utilities throughout the state to form a line at the right to seek excessive rate increases."

And in fact, six major California public utilities have jumped right in with demands for rate boosts.

The rate increase will give PG&E a profit rate of 7.3 percent, which labor leaders felt was unheard of for a corporation that has no competition.

The PUC's decision, Pitts said, "is directly at odds with the national administration's appeal to state and federal public agencies to hold down inflationary increases."