TACOMA — All ILWU locals involved in the export of logs to Japan will meet here this Monday, February 16th, to develop a strategy for recapturing longshore work in the log industry.

ILWU Wins Pact; Portland Public Docks Join PMA

PORTLAND — The ILWU organizing drive to tighten up union protection for port authority workers scored a major victory Feb. 5 when the Portland Commission of Public Docks became a full fledged member of PMA and a party to the coast agreement.

Fred Huntsinger, Local 8 president, said this was the first public body to join the PMA. He called it "the culmination of many years of effort on our part to gain a collective bargaining agreement with the Portland public docks."

Local 8 shut down all the public docks in December when the commission permitted a low paid non-longshore work force to unload river barges. (Dispatcher, Jan. 28).

On Jan. 9 the commission signed an interim agreement, protecting the union's jurisdiction while a final contract was being negotiated.

In late January Police Local 456 came on the scene. Its members set up a picket line at the public docks to support the police union's demands (see story, page 4).

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THE PLAN CONTRADICTS a report issued shortly after the first of the year by the Department of Labor. This report very clearly and specifically stated that maritime disputes, more specifically that four or five East Coast longshore strikes going back as far as a 55-day tie-up in 1955, did not upset the national economy enough so as to warrant government interfering with collective bargaining by the use of Taft-Hartley injunctions.

The Labor Department report certainly pointed out that the strikes did a whale of a lot of damage to the profits of the shipowners, shippers of cargo, port and terminal operators, but in terms of the overall effect on the security of the nation or the overall economic situation, such effect was not serious enough to force workers back to work under injunctions; or, on the other hand, to take what the union demands and order the employers to accept such terms as the settlement.

As a matter of fact, the Labor Department study and report showed that especially in maritime disputes there were ample time to do what shipowners, dock operators and shipping companies actually did do, namely, to step up the shipments of freight by working day and night prior to a strike deadline, and also diverting cargoes to other means of transportation. Another item was that piled up cargoes were reduced at a rapid rate after the strike had ended.

Boiled down to the nitty gritty, the Labor Department study practically said: From here on in, maritime unions—especially longshore—need not worry about the use of Taft-Hartley injunctions and other restrictions on their right to bargain collectively and to strike if they so desire.

As a union whose basic economic strength is primarily in our waterfront division, both these announcements are of importance to the ILWU. On US West Coast waterfronts, where our last strike was in 1948, we practically proved by the way we operated during that strike (and, incidentally, cooling off period to really have our rank and file cool off) that the 80-day injunction business was pretty useless if the union knew how to handle itself. And, as far as the rest of the law's provisions went, such as the employers making a last offer and the union being required to vote on it, all who were around at the time should remember what action this union took. It was a funny thing. Although we put the last offer to a vote, somehow or other not a single worker in our union (or the other maritime unions we were working with at the time) cast a single vote. So, the relative uselessness...
Local 6 Bull Session Talks Pork-chops

OAKLAND — With warehouse negotiations coming along soon over 250 Local 6 warehousemen — from South San Francisco, the East Bay, Stockton, Sacramento, Redwood City and the Peninsula — got together Saturday for a four bull sessions at which local officials, rank and file members talked about wages, inflation, and other bread-and-butter issues.

A SPORTING OFFER

Shift differentials were also emphasized. One warehouseman broached the night house when he said:

"The employer makes a profit by having us work swing and graveyard. Instead of living like normal people — seeing our families and our friends — we must work at a profit. If he doesn't think it's worth it, let him work the night shift. I'll go spend the night with his wife."

ILWU secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt, a member of Local 6, concurred with a warning: "This will be a rough contract year. The national atmosphere is not friendly. The present administration and the employers are trying to say that the only way you can get a contract is to put the squeeze on wages."

There has been a "mass brainwashing," he said, to convince even working people that they must bear the burden of inflation.

"This is a great falsehood." There are many reasons for inflation, Goldblatt said. He argued that military spending had poured a great deal of money into the economy, without producing a similar increase in consumer goods to bring prices down.

"We are opposed to the idea," Goldblatt said, "that the purpose of negotiations is to keep our standard of living as it is. We don't just want to break even. We want to improve our standard of living."

Goldblatt noted that the strikers had "hung tough for 14 weeks notwithstanding a barrage of back-to-work propaganda, use of office and technical employees to keep the picket lines open, and all-out efforts by GE to recruit strikebreakers."

"Most important, "GE's demand to end national bargaining and to open the way for them to single out and beat down individual plants was successfully denied."

"Finally, "the economic package may or may not have any bearing on other collective bargaining in 1970. What is important is that the union movement scored a major victory over the fourth largest company in the USA, one which has been a spearhead of reaction."
Local 6, NCDC Back ITU Strike

SAN FRANCISCO — The Local 6 executive board has asked all members in Marin County to cancel their subscriptions to the San Rafael Independent Journal. National Typographical Union Local 21 has been on strike against the Journal since early January.

The board asked that Journal advertisements not be patronized. The ILWU Northern California District Council also voted support to the strikers, after Leon Olson, president of Local 21, appeared at their last meeting.

"The issue in this strike is a simple and basic one — an employer who has set out to destroy our union as a bargaining agent and to rid his plant of all unions," Olson said.

"Even before a negotiating session was held he was training non-union employees in our skills to act as scabs." Olson told the NCDC that janitors are being trained to take over printers' jobs, and that college students are also being used.

Armed guards have been escorting scabs in and out of the plant, he said. The Journal is the only bay area daily paper, according to Olson, which has refused to agree to the area pattern settlement negotiated two years ago with the assistance of arbitrator Sam Kagel and ILWU secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt. The publisher is also demanding elimination of many clauses in the union's contract, Olson said, of which are conditions that we have enjoyed for as long as 50 years."

LeRoy King, ILWU Northern California Regional Director, has asked all ILWU members, especially those living in Marin, to support the strike. King remarked that the issues in the Journal strike were very similar to the problems that we have enjoyed for as long as 50 years."

Portland Longshoremen Help Police Picket Line

PORTLAND—A new kind of picket line appeared in Portland last week, with the people who usually are "watching" — and sometimes hassling — pickets, doing the picketing. Off-duty policemen, members of Police Local 456, assisted by longshoremen, manned what they described as an "informational" picket line in front of City Hall, the Memorial Coliseum, and Portland's public docks.

They carried signs spiked with humor: "Support your local fuzz," "No pay, no pigs." "Commissioners are easier to replace than policemen." "Police pay has shrunk" — the last a dig at Portland Mayor Terry Schrunk, who had refused police demands for parity pay with other cities for almost a year.

What ten months of negotiations failed to accomplish, three days of picketing did.

The pickets were withdrawn January 28 "to show good faith to the citizens of this city who have supported us," prior to a bargaining session which resulted in an agreement covering pay increases, promotional improvements, paid overtime, two years of college as a requirement for police recruits and phasing out of police work for private employers (moonlighting).

Dave Callison, president of the Police Union, credited the unprecedented victory to the "wide public support and cooperation of organized labor, particularly the longshoremen."

During the picketing of the waterfront (which ended Wednesday night, January 28), longshoremen and teamsters refused to cross the picket line, and some ten ships were idled in the Willamette, including the M.B. Travatis, a new Swedish flag ship on her maiden voyage to Portland.

The Multnomah Labor Council, AFL-CIO, refused to approve the picket line but members and officers from more than 30 unions turned up at City Hall to demonstrate solidarity with police pay demands.

An ILWU member, veteran of the hard fought maritime strikes of the 30's and 40's put it differently, saying "he'd gone to the picket line at City Hall with his tongue in his cheek, but had come away, feeling for the first time in almost 48 years that "cops are people. At least those I met on the picket line were—they seemed just like us!"

Columbia Pensioners Install

Columbia Pensioners_install

COLUMBIA PENSIONERS Install

PORTLAND — Officers for 1970 installed at the February meeting of the Columbia River Pensioners Memorial Association included Mike Sickinger, president; Joe Werner, vice president; Carl J. "Andy" Anderson, secretary; Louis Young, Pat Adrian and Clyde East, trustees; Joe Zirr, Gaylord Baughman, Mike Oahr, O. Jensen, Frank Lobenstein, Toby Christiansen, and Frank Straus, executive board; and John J. Fougrouse, CRDG delegate.

CROCKETT, Calif. — Keith Hickman, Local 10 vice-president, was elected president of the Northern California District Council at its meeting here two weeks ago.

James Herman, Local 34 president, was elected vice-president. Robert Rohatch, Local 18 vice-president, was elected secretary, to replace the retiring Mike Johnson.

The new officers were sworn in by outgoing president LeRoy King — now Northern California Regional Director. King thanked the delegates for their help in the past and urged them to support their new officers.

Council delegates also expressed their thanks to Johnson for his many years of service as secretary and legislative representative, and asked him to stay at his post in Sacramento until provisions are made for his replacement.

The delegates also voted to purchase a suitable farewell gift for Johnson.

POLITICAL PRISONERS

Father Eugene J. Boyle of the Sacred Heart Parish of San Francisco spoke on behalf of the Committee United for Political Prisoners (CUPP).

Boyle asked the NCDC to make a contribution to help pay the legal fees and bail involved in the recent nationwide series of political arrests.

"If they take the Panthers' rights away, then it also means the rights of labor leaders and rank and file are endangered," he said.

The delegates voted to donate $50 to the CUPP. Also, they voted to concur with the committee in defending the Panthers' rights passed recently by the Alameda County Central Labor Council, which reads in part:

"The labor movement has long been concerned with the preservation of every citizen's right to defend his own political party of his choice."

The question of endorsing the work of the CUPP was referred to the locals.

OPPOSE SCREENING

The Council also voted to send letters to ILWU area congressmen opposing the Defense Facilities and Industrial Security Act of 1970, which would impose waterfront screening.

According to council secretary Roatch, "this act would counteract at least eight Supreme Court decisions on individual civil liberties (hearings without benefit of Fifth Amendment rights, and would deny employment in defense industries to be defined later) to individuals holding unpopular views."

Finally, the delegates voted to re-affirm their support of the repeal of the emergency detention provisions of the McCarran act of 1954. The repeal has been sponsored by Hawaii's Rep. Spark Matsunaga.

Frank Crosby Dies, Past President of Local 9

SEATTLE—Frank Crosby, 64, past president of ILWU Local 9, passed away Monday. He had been retired since May 1969. Frank was a charter member of Local 9, a dedicated trade unionist.

Crosby had been selected as an ILWU overseas delegate in 1966, but had to decline due to health problems. He was employed at Fisher Flouring Mills from 1930 until his retirement.

ILWU secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt joined the ITU picket line in front of the San Rafael Independent-Journal. The strike has been characterized by use of scabs and armed guards.
Local 11 Delegates Demand Hiring Hall, End Sex Bias

SAN JOSE—After spirited debate, delegates to Local 11's annual convention last weekend voted to demand an end to sex discrimination against women in the 1970 dried fruit negotiations, and a hiring hall guaranteed in the contract.

The convention was attended by 65 delegates and Local 11 officers and supported by the executive board, stewards and trustees.

Union president George Lucero noted that an end to sex discrimination will not be achieved overnight. "But by adopting this statement of policy today, our union will at least be committed to the long range struggle to implement its noble goals."

MUCH TO OVERCOME

The vote affirmed the position adopted by the dried fruit contract conference two weeks ago.

"While we are all in the same union, men and women, we have a lot to overcome in our men," said Local 11 secretary Francis Fink.

"Our present system says that women aren't worth as much as men. A woman working in a warehouse for twenty years doesn't get the same treatment as a man who comes in today to sweep floors."

A woman delegate added, "and they even sweep the floors."

"We must see the grease in the corners!"

In other actions, the delegates voted unanimously to demand that the right to a membership renegotiation be provided for in the new contract. In the past, the hiring hall has been run by common consent.

Last year, however, Fink said, some of the companies have hired on the shore and only called the hiring hall when in dire need.

Local 11 stewards, board members and trustees will meet this week to refine the demands made by the delegates and the contract conference. The meetings are expected to be free of union-management conflicts.

The delegates also voted overwhelmingly to demand the impeachment of Supervisor Clara Coulter, a Se- rior Judge Gerald Chargin, who made racist remarks to a Mexican American defendant several months ago. The impeachment proceedings have been initiated by Assemblyman Alex Garcia of Los Angeles.

Also, Local 11 will step up its efforts to help the United Farm Work- ers' Organizing Committee, AFL- CIO. In its five-year old struggle against the table grape industry, Del- guel Ramos, executive board mem- ber, was appointed to coordinate the efforts of the committee.

The Nixon administration was at- tacked for its "intolerable" slowness in disengaging from the war in Vietnam.

Lucero noted that the ILWU had demanded a strike in front in opposition to the war when to do so was un- popular. The delegates demanded, with one dissenting vote, that "all not most, but all, not just combat troops, but all troops" be withdrawn by the end of 1970.

Finally, the delegates called for a one dollar dues increase. This will be subject to annual referendum with the understanding that any increase will be important given approaching contract negotiations.

UNITY IMPORTANT

Northern California Regional Director LeRoy King congratulated the delegates on their "full, free and wide-ranging discussion" of the is- sues before them. But he cautioned that once a vote had been taken, all the members need to come back to- gether and deal with a united em- ployer.

Local 6 business agent Roland Corley also emphasized the need for unity. He said that it was especially important given the financial position of the membership at this time.

Corley called for an organizing campaign, and pointed to Local 6's successes in the Salinas Valley. "We were bailed out of organizing out of Local 11," he said.

Local 11 members discuss what they want in new contract.

On the Beam: Bridges on Nixon's Labor Plans

Continued from Page 2—

of the Taft-Hartley Law to block or bust strikes or split a union is now officially endorsed by the Department of Labor; at least when it comes to a union which is united, determined and knows how to operate and handle itself.

However, the proposed law can be an issue in the campaign. Because the Nixon administration has taken a very tough line on labor-management relations, it is imperative that the Nixon administration or any other administration make it clear that only uni- fied management and unions in opposition to the President's policies or in the President's view, will be realized. There is no question that the President's policies will be put to the test in the upcoming election.

On another front, the delegates urged all troops, but all not just combat troops, but all troops," be withdrawn by the end of 1970.

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NW ILWUers Fight Nerve Gas Shipment

ASTORIA — ILWU members and auxiliaries in Oregon and Washington are playing a big role in a fight to prevent the army from storing lethal nerve gas in Oregon.

Al Rissman, a member of Local 92, and also of the Astoria Port Commission, led the successful fight in the commission to oppose the storage of such gas. It has been charged that there is no practical protection for civilians in case of the outbreak, colorless and very deadly gas — stored in 700 boxes — should escape its containers. After the Astoria commission resolved to oppose the expected shipment, Rissman said he felt other ports should pass similar resolutions.

The nerve gas, which was to have been delivered to the Umatilla Ordinance Depot on the Columbia River, was expected to arrive from Okinawa sometime this month. The Associated Press has reported, however, that the gas probably won’t arrive before April.

Nette Craycraft, Washington state vice-president of the ILWU Federated Auxiliaries warned against “re- laxing our vigilance.” She said that “the army may try to sneak one past us.”

Opposition to the nerve gas shipment has mounted as area residents opposing the gas shipments visited state capitals in Washington and Oregon, while others joined a motorcade which worked its way across both states, meeting in Vancouver on January 24.

Mrs. Craycraft said that nerve gas “and other horror weapons in the arsenal of overkill” would be a major topic of discussion at the Federated Auxiliaries Northwest Convention needed for Tacoma March 14 and 15.

Dockers, Widows
On Pension List

SAN FRANCISCO — Following is the February, 1970, list of dock workers retired under various ILWU-PMA plans:


The widows are: Catherine Blake, (George); Kristina Blomberg, (Oscar); Henrietta Collins, (Robert); Hanna Frederickson, (Paimont); Pearl L. Harper, (Herbert); Gertrude G. Heiser, (Wil lard); Lena Lincoln, (Abraham); Myrtle Lively, (Robert); Cor a Miller, (Albert); Cora Miller, (Sam); Muriel Murray, (John); Ruth Niemi, (Neil); Billie Dunnell, (Jack); Louise Pendu, (Mitchell); Alice J. Peterson, (Sigurd); Margaret Prough, (Nick); Inez L. Huuck, (Luther); Ica D. Runnels, (Fred).

*Names in brackets are the first names of deceased husband.*

Local 30 Elects Harris

BORON — Members of ILWU Local 30 have elected Ed Harris president for 1970-71. Harris was the only former to refuse to cross the picket line during the 1968 strike — and he was fired at that time by U.S. Army representatives.

Other officers are: vice-president, Kenneth Gordon; financial secretary, Winston C. Carter; treasurer and Kenneth Gordon, vice president. (Standing, from right to left) Jack Durham, guide; Bill Piercy, regional director; Chuck Loveridge, member of international executive board; Don Wright, International representative; B. R. O’Dell, Sgt. of Arms; Lloyd Dobbs, sergeant-at-arms.

Newly installed officers for ILWU Local 30, Boron are: (seated left to right) Ed Harris, Local 30 president; Jacob Harper, recording secretary; Winston A. Carter, treasurer and Kenneth Gordon, vice president. (Standing, from right) Jack Durham, guide; Bill Piercy, regional director; Chuck Loveridge, member of international executive board; Don Wright, International representative; B. R. O’Dell, Sgt. of Arms; Lloyd Dobbs, sergeant-at-arms.
Mike Johnson Story of a Union Man

SAN FRANCISCO — Michael P. Johnson has devoted his life to the labor movement — serving on every conceivable level within the ILWU, from rank-and-file activist to international vice president.

Mike has come a long way from his origins — the son of a sheep and cattle ranching family in tiny Douglass, Wyoming. He came to the Bay Area as a boy. Mike began working on the San Francisco waterfront in 1926 and there aren’t many around who recall his first job on the docks was high-piling wooden sardine crates — 73 pounds each. That lasted about a week. He then did some warehouse work, and eventually moved to a retailing-book job.

In the mid-30’s, when jobs were scarce, Mike left his home state and headed south for Long Beach, where he worked for a year in the oil fields. While longshoremen were dragging the West Coast waterfront into the 20th century in the big strike of ’34, Mike was hard at work organizing oil workers. When he came back north in 1935 he became an active member of Local 140, the ancestor of today’s Ship Clerks’ Local 34. He recalls being blackballed in the 1939-40 negotiations with employers. In 1939, when Local 34 hit the bricks, Mike was there, leading the negotiating committee. Out of this strike came unprecedented benefits, such as vacations for casual workers.

He attended the first ILWU Convention, in 1938 at Aberdeen, Washington. He lingered on through the ILWU Convention and caucus from then until 1969. He has been the national legislative representative since 1953, secretary of the Northern California District Council since 1951. He was chairman of the Bridges Defense Committee, in 1938 at Aberdeen, when Mike looked upon the union, his rich sense of humor, or that time when at one of the International Conventions he stood up and made the following comment:

"When a son pays tribute to his father, it’s doubly difficult if they’re in the same union, and the son wants to step into his father’s footsteps. If I ever get both of my feet into one of his shoes I’ll be satisfied."

The most moving moment was when Mike’s son, Mike Henry, former vice president of Local 34 and an active ship clerk, spoke about his father:

"I’ve learned loyalty from my father; my father is as loyal to this union as anything in his life. From the time I learned the English language I heard the words ILWU, I walked into a union that was made by you who are here tonight, and I thank you. He taught me that leaders may come and go, but the union will go on."

WOMEN’S PRISON?

The last speaker was Mike himself who put on one of his more wicked smiles and said he’s “put in for assistant warden at the women’s prison at Corona,” but didn’t think the job was his.

Time goes “faster than you think, and you start to regret that maybe you could have done a better job.” And then he noted that “somehow or other the ILWU has convinced the legislature up in Sacramento that we have at least 600,000 members — and don’t tell ‘em different.”

About the generation gap “I don’t think it’s so big in the ILWU. In recent years there have been lots more young people. I have confidence that the young are going to retain the ideas and ideals of the ILWU. I have confidence in the future.”

It was a good evening. And it couldn’t have happened to a better man.

Local 142 Support

Senate OKs Newspaper Legislation

WASHINGTON — The Newspaper Preservation Act, which would permit competing newspapers in one city to combine their production and commercial facilities, passed the Senate last week by a vote of 64-13.

The bill has been strongly endorsed by Local 142, Hawaii, on the grounds that without such arrangements, papers in a relatively weak financial position, like the Honolulu Advertiser, would fold. Circulation department employees of the Advertiser and the Honolulu Star-Bulletin, are represented by Local 142.

The bill was introduced by 30 Senators after a Supreme Court decision regarding a similar arrangement in Tucson, Arizona. The Court declared that such arrangements were in violation of anti-trust laws.
Local 29
Pickets S.D.

TERMINAL

SAN DIEGO — Local 29 struck the new San Diego Bulk Terminal on Monday, February 2, when the operators refused to agree to contract terms equivalent to those covering similar operations in the L.A. harbor area.

Local 29 obtained recognition at the Terminal several weeks ago and has been unable to get any serious bargaining since.

When the operators attempted to bring in rail cars loaded with alfalfa pellets, the picketers put up mass picket lines. No pellets reached the dumping pit but a lot hit the rail tracks before reaching the pit.

By Monday evening a San Diego judge had issued a temporary restraining order and had set a February 19 show cause hearing for an injunction to permanently prevent physical interference with the union employees.

Nails Barge Jobs

PORTLAND — On January 15 Local 8 President Fred Huntzinger and International Representative John Matull, operators of a new feed mill at Boardman, not only to perform production work at the mill at very low wages but to load and unload sea-going barges at far less than longshore wages and benefits.

The work went under an ILWU contract after the mill shipped a January to Hawaii. Hollister Regional Director Felix Rivera signed up all the employees and the barge for unloading in Honolulu. President chooses to name a "de- fence facility." It also revives waterfront screening of seamen and longshoremen.

It denies accused workers the right to confront their accusers, if the Defense Dept. so chooses, and could jail people for using their constitutional rights. "If it moves, it is a product of the House Internal Security Committee (formerly HUAC).

The bill allows employees screening in virtually any industry which the President chooses to name a "defense facility." It also revives waterfront screening of seamen and longshoremen.

The following morning the recognition for two lab technicians at Charles Pfizer Company. ILWU already represents the company. ILWU already represents the one of its four employees the day he signed a union authorization card.

The last national GE strike of 1946 was followed by a company-led union-busting offensive which resulted in labor disunity and 24 years of relative peace and quiet for GE.

With labor unity once again achieving a large settlement, GE's involvement with this legislation appears to be aimed at securing another 24 years of unfettered Boul- warism.

The bill now goes to the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee whose chair- man, James Eastland (D-Miss.) is the principal author of S. 12, the 84th Congress, 2nd Session. He also sponsored the bill which is teaching them that life in this country has no value: 'if it moves, it is a product of the House Internal Security Committee (formerly HUAC).

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The bill now goes to the Senate Labor and Public Welfare Committee whose chair- man, James Eastland (D-Miss.) is the principal author of S. 12, the 84th Congress, 2nd Session. He also sponsored the bill which is teaching them that life in this country has no value: 'if it moves, it is a product of the House Internal Security Committee (formerly HUAC).

The last national GE strike of 1946 was followed by a company-led union-busting offensive which resulted in labor disunity and 24 years of relative peace and quiet for GE.

With labor unity once again achieving a large settlement, GE's involvement with this legislation appears to be aimed at securing another 24 years of unfettered Boul- warism.