NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WAREHOUSE COUNCIL, IBT-ILWU

STRIKE BALLOT

ARE YOU IN FAVOR OF REJECTING THE EMPLOYER OFFER AND AUTHORIZING THE NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE OF THE NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WAREHOUSE COUNCIL, IBT-ILWU, TO CALL A STRIKE IF AND WHEN THEY DEEM NECESSARY?

YES  NO

FRANCISCO, June 12, approved a three-point program: (1) To step up negotiations, with an intensified schedule to carry on for a week to 10 days. (2) If no meaningful offer is made, call all locals call membership meetings to take strike votes. (3) The joint committee will then craft a final offer. The independent houses.

Members heard reports of the total of 34 meetings held to that date with both employer groups over almost two months. They were informed that any settlement would be retroactive to June 1, 1970. The employers will be given 48 hours notice in the event of a strike.

The balloting rejected the employers' offers and authorized a strike when it becomes necessary.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Proposed new longshore safety rules, approved by outgoing Secretary of Labor George Schultz, were published in the Federal Register on June 26. The proposals cover crane and container operations, with additional language on eye and head protection.

According to Edward P. March, chief of the longshore safety branch of the Bureau of Labor Standards, the new rules "will insure that we know what we are picking up and will avoid container and crane failures due to overloaded containers."

Several recent accidents, including a fatal one in New York, were suspected to be due to container overloading by shipping firms seeking unfair competitive advantages.

UNEMPLOYERS WILL OBJECT

Interested parties have 60 days to file comments, arguments, etc., with the BLS, after which final rules will be issued. Strong employer opposition is expected to the proposals, and unions will have to make their views known if the proposals are to remain reasonably intact.

Letters or statements should be sent, in duplicate, to the Office of Evaluation, Bureau of Labor Standards, US Department of Labor, 400 First Street, NW, Washington, DC 20210.

A summary of the proposals follows:

- Every crane used to load or discharge cargo shall be fitted with a working load indicating device, excepting certain bulk, liquid or magnetic crane operations. This would allow crane operators to know instantly if a load is too heavy for the crane.

- All cargo containers shall be permanently marked with the weight of the empty container, a maximum
News Note: Ten thousand doctors each collect $25,000 or more from Medicare and Medicaid

The trade union movement has led the way in negotiating health care for its members and their families, it is also aware that this is not enough.

With some forty million Americans not covered by any type of health insurance, with more than thirty million living in poverty, with racial discrimination still denying a large section of our population the care that all Americans have coming, and with the cost of medical care skyrocketing, and no end in sight, the time has come to legislate health protection for everyone in the country. Furthermore, today’s “health crises” is not only a matter of cost, but of medicare quality as well.

That is why unions in many states are seeking legislation that might give consumers of health services some representation in regulating the quality of health care — and to begin to take it out of the hands of profiteers. For example, labor is now pointing out that the recent increase of Medicare costs from $4.00 to $3.30 a month (for the elderly, whose needs are greatest, but who are least able to pay) is a typical example of insurance company shenanigans, where the price goes up while there is no corresponding improvement in quality or availability of services. What is needed, American labor is saying, is public regulation of hospitals — just like a public utility.

What is needed is planned, people-oriented health care that aims at healing and keeping people well; that is distributed not by asking where is the money, but where is the need?

The present “medical-industrial” complex is an alliance between those who provide the care (doctors, hospitals, etc.), and the big companies (drug houses, hospital supply and construction companies, the insurance business, etc.). In fact, ask any stockbroker and he’ll tell you “health stocks are the hottest thing on Wall Street.”

But there’s a change coming. Labor leads the line. But it’s been joined by new allies, especially by Toledano who denounced the admission of Argentina into the UN. Argentina, he said, is “the most dangerous country in the world.”

Ten thousand doctors each collect $25,000 or more from Medicare and Medicaid.

The emphasis of the Conference was that only the workers — people of the world — working hand-in-hand with the governments that had fought fascism — would be able to maintain peace.

The mass meeting heard Sir Walter Citrine say that labor’s role in helping guarantee world peace might even include an embargo on an arms race. He asked: “Who would carry out this job?” And then he turned to me and said, “Your union, Mr. Chairman, the dockers, and the seamen and the farmers.”

Phillip Murray spoke about the need for a Universal Bill of Human Rights, which would “destroy forever all kinds of racial discrimination and the economic races.” He talked about a worldwide program for education and cultural advancement and demanded that the UN “guarantee the basic cultural and educational needs of man.”

The basic program of the worldwide labor organization established at the same time as the UN was twofold: (1) To stop war; (2) To unite the workers of the world.

The key to this worldwide labor conference was unity.

The draft constitution of the WFTU spoke of a society in which “all resources of the world will be utilized for the benefit of all its peoples, the vast majority of whom are workers... whose protection and progress depend upon the union of all their organized forces, nationally and internationally.”

World labor, “regardless of race, nationality, religion, or political opinion,” the constitution said, must fight workers in less developed countries, to help them set up trade unions, and to “carry on the struggle for the extension of all forms of government.”

The primary focus was on unity, because it was recognized that enemies of labor have always relied on their ability to split the labor movement.

The time has come again to start thinking in terms of uniting the labor movement. Some day it may be done on a worldwide scale, and “when that happens we will truly see a time of durable peace.”

Meanwhile, today a united American labor movement is still young. Our history, in part, has been that of struggling to start working for it as quickly as possible — one united labor movement in the United States, under the watchful eye of the federal government. But there would always be room inside for dissenting social and political views.

But when it comes to fighting for the best possible economic life for the working people of the country, for racial equality, for good health for all, universal education, in other words for good things like life, this united labor movement would stick together.
Chavez to Lead Labor March For Striking Marin Printers

SAN RAFAEL. — Farmworkers' leader Cesar Chavez is scheduled to lead a huge, non-violent march in Marin County to show support for striking printers at the San Rafael Independent Journal. The march will take place on July 25, top Bay Area labor leaders announced yesterday.

A committee of 25 union officials, including the secretaries of the nine Bay Area County Central Labor Councils, issued an appeal for all unionists and sympathizers to join them and Chavez in a peaceful attempt to end the 6½ month old strike.

The labor committee is chaired by William Ferguson of Machinists Lodge 68, and head of the Bay Cities Metal Trades Council, and co-chairs by Charles Weers, secretary of the Marin Labor Council. The ILWU is represented by Northern California regional director LeRoy King.

Also represented are the Joint Council of Teamsters, the striking printing unions, and the maritime trade department of the AFL-CIO.

BETTER STRIKE

"The strike against the Independent Journal, conducted by Local 16, of the International Typographical Union, and nine other printing unions in the shop, as well as the Teamsters, has seen the use of impoundment and seizure of company property to break union picketing dogs—and has been punctuated by frequent attacks by police and armed guards on union pickets.

Nor has the Independent Journal shown any great willingness to bar gain in good faith—despite the fact that the ITU has represented that shop for the last 36 years, George Tanguay, a strike leader.

Six weeks ago—in the most recent attempt at negotiations—the Independent Journal and the ITU representatives brought in a proposal which would have cut the majority of ITU salaries in half and increased the 15 cents per paper rate.

Also, when a group of Marin County ministers, on June 12, urged the union and the company to "submit the issue separating them to mediation or binding arbitration," the ITU showed no willingness to do so and offered their facilities to solve the dispute, the company did not respond.

Leon Olson, ITU Local 21 president, accepted the ministers' offer immediately.

Playing the Odds On Health Care

In a time of escalating medical costs, most Americans face a gap between what they are charged and what their private health insurance pays for. Here is a rundown of some of the inadequacies.

* 200,000, or 9.5 per cent of all Americans, have no dental health insurance.
* 186 million, or 9.4 per cent of all Americans, have no nursing home coverage.
* 126 million—40 per cent—have no out-of-hospital prescription drug coverage.
* 122 million—48 per cent—have no in-hospital prescription drug coverage.
* 122 million—58 per cent—have no coverage for doctor and dentist home and office visits.
* 115 million—54.5 per cent—have no provision for visiting nurse service.
* 107 million—51 per cent—have no provision for in-hospital doctor's visits.
* 59 million—26.4 per cent—have no surgery fee coverage.
* 53 million—24 per cent—have no hospital coverage.

Finally, when a group of Marin city council members, including former state democratic chairman Roger Kent, ADA vice-president Nancy Swedish, and Marin democratic chief Robert Pollitzer—circulated a letter asking for negotiations, the DJ attacked the signers with a $6 million libel suit.

March organizers are preparing to lead a huge crowd which will parade peacefully through key Marin areas under Chavez leadership. Busloads of sympathizers from nearby counties are expected, and contacts have been made at college campuses and with community groups.

Court Upholds Longshoremen's Right to Container Work

NEW YORK—In the first case of its kind, a US Court of Appeals has upheld the 50 mile container zone provision of a contract between the International Longshoremen's Association and the New York Shipping Association.

The provision, which gives ILA longshoremen all container consolidation work within 50 miles of the port, was upheld by the court on the grounds that it preserved "work traditionally performed by longshoremen."

The decision is subject to further appeal by the plaintiff—the International Container Transport Corp.—to the Supreme Court, but the decision was viewed as an important landmark in labor-management relations on the waterfront, protecting longshore work from the impact of containerization.

Fox In Chicken Coop

WASHINGTON—In a recent re-shuffle, James Hodgson, formerly labor relations director for Lockheed, was named new representative to the National Maritime Union. Also, a group of printing unions, the Independent Journal and the ITU, have cut the majority of ITU salaries in half and increased the 15 cents per paper rate.

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Columbia River District Council

Mounts Political Action Drive
To Protect Workers' Benefits

NORTH BEND, Ore.—A ten-point legislative program covering such bread and butter items as unemployment insurance, taxation, credit, health, and life insurance as well as the over-all welfare of the working men was introduced here June 23 by a delegation of delegates to the Washington state ILWU convention.

A committee set up by the ILWU at the national level, with particular reference to the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court "serving notice he and Newport. A third ILWU member from the union’s veteran lobbyist Ernest J. Baker, the program recommends that:

* The council maintain a full time representative at the 1971 Oregon legislative session.
* He works closely with other labor organizations in achieving goals of the greatest benefit to all.
* Every local set up a political action committee.

"In the real guts and backbone of the thing," declared Local 12 President Eugene Bailey in stressing it as labor for rank-and-file participation, both on the "home plate" and at Salem.

GRIEVED PORT

The meeting featured a report from Council president Fred Huntstung in Seattle, which culminated in the withdrawal of the Portland Dock Commission from the PMA and the agreement that all work dock commission facilities would be done by longshoremen.

Bill Ready of Portland, ILWU member at the 36th anniversary of the "Bloody Thursday"

The council also warned against the second round of a rank-and-file picketing strike. "We have had a first class job of scholarship." Council President Fred Huntstung in Seattle, longshoremen Daffron and Woods came up to The Dispatcher on July 5, at exactly 8 a.m., the 36th anniversary of "Bloody Thursday," and both were active in the permanent strike against the owners. The King County Industrial Council was founded in 1934. He went on to be elected ILWU vice-president.

On July 9, thousands of Bay Area working men held a silent and deeply moving and stranded at San Francisco. It was a first class job of scholarship. "We have had a first class job of scholarship." Council President Fred Huntstung in Seattle, longshoremen Daffron and Woods came up to The Dispatcher on July 5, at exactly 8 a.m., the 36th anniversary of "Bloody Thursday," and both were active in the permanent strike against the owners. The King County Industrial Council was founded in 1934. He went on to be elected ILWU vice-president.

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I and Ernie Woods look through some old truck unloading sacks. As the truck moved up Third Street. "Somebody said it could be a warehouse uptown. They decided to move into some piers and start throwing 'em at the cops."

"I was at the top of the hill and twice we had to stop and start. Twice we took the cut out when it was dark and they had to start cutting off the street lights."

"I decided this wasn't the way to win a strike."

"I'm here to get some strikers up on top of the hill, to the side of the hill and then we decided to stay there."

"We were firing tear gas and also bullets at our men."

"The phone lines were cut when the police saw this gathering."

"Of course, there was a scramble up the side of the hill. People who were fighting were protected by the police."

"I helped him along with a couple of other fellows. I don't know if my name was Alan Bilbo or Alan Lambert."

"The police shot some tear gas shells and eventually they came up along the Embarcadero and ordered us all to disperse."

"They fired three shots, but it hadn't busted open yet so I picked it up."

"I couldn't see my gloves on—and I threw it right back. It exploded down the side of the hill."

"Of course, there was a scramble up and down the hill. Twice we took the top of the hill and twice we had to back down."

"We managed to bring some trucks out of some piers and started down to a warehouse upper somewhere. Some of us jumped on the trucks. Most had sacks of rice on them. As the truck moved up Third Street, those of us who were on the truck flipped the sacks off and it looked like a fancy wedding up all of Third Street for quite a few blocks."

**July Fifth**

On Thursday, July fifth I came down to the union hall, which was on 115 Steuart Street. I was a picket captain and generally prior to going on duty or after having done my shift we stepped into the union hall for formalities or to make a report. I had a little Model A Ford. When I got to Steuart and Mission Streets I could tell that a tire was practically flat so I drove into a service station on the opposite corner from where the Rincon Post Office is now. While I was working on the tire, all of a sudden I heard some rifle shots. I stood up and looked and there was an unmarked car stopped in the middle of Steuart Street, facing Mission Street, and on both sides of this car was a police officer in uniform. Each had a rifle and they were shooting at people going and coming from our union hall. A number of fellows were hit.

"I left my car and ran across the street and helped one of the fellows by the name of Ray Hart, who fortunately survived the injuries he received."

"I helped him along with a couple of other fellows—we didn't recall their names. They helped him up into our union hall where we fortunately had a doctor available who was volun-

"The police shot some tear gas shells right into our union hall, which was on the second floor. We had a number — but I can't recall how many — of injured people lying there and they shot tear gas shells into that union hall."

**WOODS:**

"I was trying to help one of the victims up to the hall. I had him on my arm when a guy turned and snapped a gun at me. It was empty thank God. After I got the man upstairs I went around to see the boys shot on the street. One guy that was doing the shooting was the man who was brought here from some other place. I would call him a murderer who was trying to protect the building."

"We picked up some of the wounded fellows up in the building. People had been shot, people had been gassed, people crippled in all kinds of ways on the picket line. Dr. Lagan was one of the doctors there."

"The police jumped out of the car and threw these bombs — gas bombs through the window. Believe me, the doctor went down and gave the police the devil. He said: 'You people have no principles in the world, you're just murderers.'"
Unemployment at Peak
Economy Periled by Nixon Policies, War

"May was a real disaster. Another few months like that and the pos- sibility of a depression would be real," a prominent government econ- omist recently told The Wall Street Journal.

No one any longer refuses to admit that the American economy is in trouble. Even President Nixon—whose cheerful expressions of con- fidence in his own policies are ri- vals only by similar statements by Herbert Hoover after the 1929 crash—admitted this on national TV.

INFLATION
First of all there's inflation. Living costs in May had risen 4.2 percent higher than a year ago. Gasoline prices just about doubled out in increases in weekly earnings.

Despite wage increases won through strikes in the last year the real weekly income of the average manufacturing worker in this country has dropped from $86.80 in 1965 to $86.22 in March, 1970.

Inflation usually means full em- ployment; prices go up because people are working and want and can afford to buy goods.

Instead, we have a strange mar- riage of high prices and rising un- employment. So one of 20 Ameri- cans, ready, willing and able to work—can't find work! Unemploy- ment is up to five percent, which puts over four million people on the street.

LABOR BLAMEd
Of course, administration officials, business journals and all the assert- ed mouthpieces of high finance have found a convenient reason why all this is happening: working people are too greedy!

In a recent address, outgoing Sec- retary of Labor Schultz said that business leaders take a "strong" position to hold the line against inflation.

Secretary of Treasury David Ken- nedy recently advised employers to hold the line against "inflationary" de-mands by labor.

A no-holds-barred threat to the rights of workers was voiced by Vir- gil B. Day, vice president for indus- trial relations of General Electric.

The "collective bargaining sys- tem," he said, "is going to have to go behind the line and say or if it is going to find itself on the shelf awaiting less turbulent times."

The employers' argument sounds like this: "Big labor" forces management into "outrageous" wage settlements. The only way that management can pay these sums is by raising prices.

The continuing price rise leads to inflation, workers want more money and a new strike wave begins. This is called "the wage-price spiral" or "cost-push inflation."

A PHONY
It's a phony. The ILWU Interna- tional officers at the 1969 Interna- tional Convention defined the real meaning of the so-called "wage-price spiral."

"We are experiencing in stead is a profits inflation or profit push. The rate of increase in both profits and prices has been greater than the increase in wages, and rises in profits and prices have pre- ceded wage gains."

But management and government keep insisting that workers and unions are responsible for both inflation and unemployment. So the next step is to limit or even destroy labor's power.

For example: Nixon-sponsored legislation empowers the president to end strikes in five major trans- portation industries with new "cool- ing off" periods.

The legislation will allow a special board to impose compulsory final and binding settlements.

Other administration proposals would:

• Outlaw multiple union bargain- ing as in the General Electric strike in which 14 unions united to defeat the company's traditional take-it-or-leave-it policy.

• Outlaw national contracts and indus trialwide strikes;

WAR TO BLAME
If the wage-price spiral idea is a phony, then how come the American economy isn't working right now? What other explanations are there for the situation?

At its 1969 Convention, the ILWU put the blame where it belongs: "Spending for the war," they said, "has been a big part, responsible for the spec- tacular rise in prices in the past two years. The federal budget has pushed interest rates to record heights. . . . This was caused by the government spending huge sums of money to finance the war."

The shortage of capital, the offi- cers contended, "is responsible for the present condition of many steel and lumber companies that are almost starved to death."

The "the only possible program," is to limit profits and profit margins, to increase taxes on wealthy people and corporations. Taxes must be held in check if we are to grow at a stable rate and distribute the fruits of the system equitably.

Thus the ILWU developed a pro- gram "for an economically healthy America."

• A prompt withdrawal from Viet- nam.

• A sharp increase in domestic spending.

• The creation of more employ- ment opportunities.

• A guaranteed annual income.

• A redistribution of wealth from the poor to the wealthy.

• Lower interest rates.

• Freer trade.

Unemployment Is 'Planned'

What's really remarkable about the Nixon program of holding back wage gains, restricting union rights and "cooling off" the econ- omy, is that it is a deliber- ate policy of creating unemploy- ment.

According to the Wall Street in- vestment firm of Hayden, Stone, Inc., "for the first time in the history of this nation we have a deliberate attempt to create a recession, on the theory that it is the only answer to the inflation problem."

"We don't agree, either, with the theory or the execution of that re- liability of a man-made recession which, after all, means taking bread from the poor and only cake from the rich."

Logs Keep Small

"Logs." That one word was given as the prime factor in the steady employment being enjoyed this year by the "small ports" on Puget Sound.

Don Caso, Secretary of Local 27 in Port Angeles, stated: "There is no doubt, the steady rise in log exports from this port is the main reason for our steady work. Coupled with lum- ber and pulp it has kept our work up."

As an example of his point, Caso stated that since the Port of Bellingham has also been running a large port, the Port of Port Angeles has also been running a large port.

In the meantime the tug, due to the wind, was having trouble with the boom which drifted away from the ship's side leaving the gangs stranded, bobbing and splashing in the water with no calk sandals and no life jackets.

"It got pretty hairy out there for awhile," said Jim Blagdon. "We had some wet and angry men on that job."

"To compound the problem there

Ports Busy

was no phone contact with the shore to recall the boat. At a Union meeting held shortly before this trip, the local voted unanimously that unless phone con- tact with the shore was available at all times they would refuse to work logs offshore.

EXPERTS

Port Gamble rank-and-filers Don Caso, Secretary of Local 27, and others stated that while their small port was not always busy their gangs went on strike, "We hear the 'log mum- ber experts' the Port Gamble people are the most well traveled gangs on Puget Sound," said Kip. "No other "log mum- berers" have brought us a lot of dock work. All hands up here are happy."

Everett Local 32 has no employ- ment, according to Vice Secre- tary Don Gilchrist. While Everett also works lumber and pulp and some general cargo, again logs are given as the foundation of the steady work.
Pension Parity, Medical, Other Gains on Isles

HONOLULU — A short strike by ILWU Local 142 won pension parity and medical care for pensioners at Kahuku Plantation in May, even though Kahuku is going out of business next year.

Negotiations had been going on ever since the parent company, Alexander and Baldwin, announced over a year ago that the plantation would close down December 31, 1971.

The company at first balked at giving the same pension coverage — $4.50 per month per year of service — as other plantations. Also there was disagreement over how to fund the medical care for pensioners.

Kahuku management didn’t want to put in more than would be actually needed, and the union didn’t want to take the chance that there wouldn’t be enough money, and that there would be unpaid medical bills in 15 or 20 years.

MEDICAL PLAN TRUST

The company finally came around to meeting the industry level on pension benefits, and set up a Medical Plan Trust, to be administered by a jointly selected trustee, and adequately financed.

Also established was a Joint Employer-Union Committee of eight “to facilitate early termination of an employee who has assurance of other employment and without impairing the efficiency of the company.”

Employees who terminate with joint company-union approval will be deemed lay offs, with all rights of seniority and severance.

Fruitpackers Join ILWU

HILO — The employees of Puna Fruitproducers of Hawaii voted overwhelmingly to join the ILWU in an election held in late May. The vote was ILWU-41; No Union — 0.

The vote was ILWU-31; Teamsters -6; No Union -10.

North Bend. The local had 14 mem-

bers at the time of the merger.

AN AERIAL VIEW of a typical crab and shrimp cannery operation manned by ILWU Local 37 members in Squaw Har-

bor, in western Alaska. This cannery is only reachable by air.

In Alaska Canneries

Two Year Pact for ILWU Salmon Packers

SEATTLE—ILWU Local 37, which has represented seasonal workers in the Alaskan salmon canneries since 1937, signed its first two year wage package earlier this month.

The new contract was accepted by a members vote of about nine to one. It calls for a $33 per month raise across the board in 1969 and a $20 raise in 1970; a 12 cent hike in the overtime rate and a 25 cent raise in the penalty overtime rate.

Also, Local 37 members won their first pension plan. The details of the plan will be worked out by company and union representatives in the full.

Unions spokesmen feel the fund should be large enough to start paying pensions in five years.

The settlement raises the minimum rate from $458 to $513 a month over two years.

A new section calls for penalty pay for working during the meal hours. “We used to have to eat on the run.” Coupleed with this was a subject of relief, “We always had this in the contract but the company chassled by going short handed and filling the vacancy with the relief man.” This meant no relief for men working high speed, monotonous jobs. This year there will be two relieff men instead of one.

Jurisdiction over a comparatively new operation known as the “egg crew” was nailed down. Fish eggs are pulled, washed, packed and salted into Japanese caviar. “They sort of sneaked up on us here. It wasn’t much of an operation at first and they slipped in non-union personnel. But the crew started growing and we nailed it down.”

Local 37 president and business agent Gene Navarro chaired the negotiating committee. Also representing the union were attorney Barry Hatten, Chris Mensalves, Benny Abella and Ponce Torres.

ILWU International representa-

tive Oliver Olson assisted in negoti-

ations.

SEASON BEGINS

The contract was signed and approved just as the cannery crews were leaving here for the Alaskan coast for the packing season.

It’s been a big run this year, so 18 canneries will be operating, employ-

ing roughly 850-900 Local 37 mem-

 bers from Bristol Bay in the far north down to Ketchikan in south-

west Alaska. In 1970, when it was from late spring to mid-summer, with the work up north beginning somewhat earlier.

At least half of the workforce is composed of migrant workers — those from California, many of whom be-

long to the militant United Farm Workers Organizing Committee (UFWOC), AFL-CIO, as well as the ILWU. In fact, UFWOC assistant directo Larry Illings was once vice-

president of Local 37.

Crews are dispatched every year out of the Local 37 hiring hall on receipt of personnel requests from employers. First preference is given to those with seniority in the plant requesting a crew, then to those who have worked in other plants owned by the company, especially those which have closed. The remaining jobs are filled by other experienced workers, and then by inexperienced workers.

ISOLED

Most of the canneries are in iso-

lated areas, accessible only by air.

So the company flies its crews from Seattle to Juneau or Anchorage or Nanik, and then on to the cannery. The company also provides housing and some recreational fa-

ilities.

There will be a six day work week, with everything above 48 hours counted as overtime.

Local 37 members start working when the salmon ships come into the cannery. They feed the fish into a conveyor to the plant, sort the fish by specie, operate head cutting and cleaning machines, can the fish, op-

erate the boilers, and box and store the cans.

A STRUGGLING UNION

Local 37 first organized the Alas-

kans in 1937, when it was Local 7 of the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural Workers. When it was dissolved in the late forties, the can-

nery workers joined the ILWU.

The local then fought a fight for its life, as it defeated raiding from AFL and CIO unions and govern-

ment attacks on the local’s leadership. The raiders were decisively defeated in a 1950 election.
BLS Issues

Continued from Page 1

intended cargo weight, and the sum of
these two weights.

1. No container shall be loaded or
discharged by means of hoisting un-
less its actual gross weight has been
certified by a BLS-approved weigh-
ting station.

2. No container shall be hoisted if
the certified weight exceeds the
maximum allowed weight, or if it
exceeds the capacity of the crane or
other hoisting device.

3. All outbound containers shall be
inspected for visible defects; inbound
containers to be inspected where practicable. Visible structural de-
fects will prevent loading until corrected
on outbound containers; inbound
containers to be emptied or discharged by means of
insuring safety.

4. Employees facing eye hazards
from flying particles or heavy dust
must be provided with eye protec-
tion meeting specific standards.

5. Employees handling loose scrap
metal, bulk ores or other chunky
commodities, or those loading or
discharging lift-on lift-off contain-
ers must wear approved protective
hats.

Law Would Ban Scab Grapes

WASHINGTON—Three California
congressmen have co-sponsored a
bill which would bar the sale of
table grapes that were cultivated
and harvested by non-union work-
ers in interstate commerce.

The proposed law, drafted by Cong-
gressmen Philip Burton of San
Francisco, George Brown and
Augustus Hawkins of Los Angeles, as
well as Adam Clayton Powell and
James Scheur of New York, would
provide that in the absence of a vote
by producers accepting a union,
no producer who had not signed an
agreement could sell or distribute
his grapes in interstate commerce.

Pension to Convene

SAN FRANCISCO—The executive
board of the Pacific Coast Pensioners
Association, meeting in San Fran-
cisco last Thursday for an hour and
a half at Bayshore Credit Union,
would have their convention in Anderson,
California September 14-15-16. Arrangements
are being made for rooms, meeting
places and dinner.

Next Dispatcher

Deadline—July 10

Computer Print-Out

Replacing Longshore Shape-Up in the Port of New York

(From the New York Times)

The last vestiges of the once-no-
torious waterfront shape-up are be-
ing plucked from the Port of New York as a new computer hiring sys-
tem is close to becoming portwide.

Both the establishment of the Waterfront Commission in 1953, long-
shoremen "shaped" in a semicircle
in the port are organized in gangs,
year-round gangs have been hired the
night before they are to work.

The new computer hiring deals
specifically with a much small-
ment of the port's work force—the
casual dock workers. About 1,000
casual workers are required daily
now; of this number close to 60 per
cent are being hired by computer
which picks the names at random
from a pool of about 1,200 men.

The big difference made by com-
puter hiring, appreciated by both em-
ployer and employee, is that hiring
of casual dock workers is now done
in a more predictable and socially
more acceptable manner than be-
fore.

EXTRA HOUR OF SLEEP

Computer hiring means many
casual dock workers can sleep an
hour later Mondays through Fridays.

Before computer hiring a worker
had to be at a commission hiring
center in his district at 7 a.m. if he
wanted to get a job for the day.

Now he can check the next day's
work requirement at his pier before
he goes home to see if he has been
hired for the following morning. He
also knows that if he is hired the
day before he need not show up at
a hiring center at 7 a.m. but can go
straight to the pier for an 8 a.m.
start.

$1-MILLION SAVINGS

Annual savings from the port-
wide installation of computerized
hiring are estimated at $1 million.

Complete computer hiring is now
in effect in Brooklyn, Staten Island,
Port Newark-Elizabeth and Hudson
County. It is expected to become
portwide by midsummer, at Pier 46, it
has been used since last November.

Half of the savings will result from
the ability to reduce the number of
Waterfront Commission hiring cen-
ters from 13 to five. Another $500-
000 will be saved through elimin-
ation of time lost.

SOME SHAPE-UPS STILL

With complete and port-wide com-
puter hiring of casual labor, the last
vestiges of the once "odious" shape-
up will be held to the irreducible
minimum, involving about 200 men
a day.

Those 200 or so will still have to
"shape" at hiring centers to be se-
lected by an employee of the Water-
front Commission whose job it is to
fill hiring requirements presented by
employer hiring agents. Additional
men are always needed to make up
shortages resulting from illness or
abseentism.