Coast Committee
Backs New BLS Rules on Safety

SAN FRANCISCO—All dock locals have been asked by the Coast Committee to support a series of proposed amendments to the longshore safety and health regulations.

The amendments would provide that:

- Accurate load-indicating devices be installed on all cranes, with certain exceptions.
- Containers be marked with the weight of the empty container; maximum cargo weight intended; and the sum of these two weights;
- No container could be hoisted unless it is empty, or—in the case of a loaded container—either the gross weight shall be plainly marked and visible, or papers shall be made available to the crane operator, supervisor and foreman stating the actual weight;
- All outbound loaded containers received at a marine terminal be weighed to obtain a certified actual gross weight before loading, with certain exceptions;
- When container weighing scales are located at a marine terminal, outbound containers consolidated at that terminal shall be weighed;
- Where there are no container weighing scales, the actual gross weight may be calculated, subject to random sample weight checks.
- Inbound foreign containers shall, if they have not been weighed, have the calculated weight posted, and shall be subject to random sample weight checks.
- No container shall be hoisted if the actual gross weight exceeds the weight intended by the manufacturer; all containers shall be inspected for visible defects, and defectives containers shall be corrected, discontinued by special means to insure safety, or emptied before discharge.
- The BLS would set standards for eye protection.

“These amendments are not all we would want but minimal as they are, they are being opposed by PMA and others,” said Coast Committee william Ward and William Forrester.

The delegates asked locals to write to the Bureau of Labor Standards by mid-April. The address is:

Ed Marsh, BLS Director
400 First Street, N.W.
Washington, DC, 20210

New Anti-Labor Bills in Works

WASHINGTON, DC—With the prospect of a railroad strike Bennet, the administration's drive for compulsory strike settlement legislation in the transportation industry has been slowed down, and hearing dates has been postponed. Most of these proposals have been unveiled aimed at harassing the labor movement under the cover of "law and order."

Senator Alan Blandy's Cargo Theft Commission bill, S. 942, would set a two-year commission with broad powers to investigate cargo theft and pilferage. Illinois would have two members out of ten, and the commission's mandates would include an inquiry into the feasibility of federal licensing and/or identification of drivers.

Local 6 Convention Faces Challenge

Local 6 president Curtis McClainkeynotes convention.

SAN FRANCISCO—"This is a year of challenge for our union and the entire labor movement," Local 6 president Curtis McClain said in his keynote address to the 26th Annual Constitutional and Contract Convention of the ILWU warehouse union.

"A challenge to become involved and work with labor, students, professionals, and peace organizations. To end the war in Southeast Asia. To call upon our International to take the lead in calling a trade union conference to develop a program of action to force the government to put people to work at union wages; to continue our policy of helping others to attain their civil rights inside and outside the union."

Saturday morning, March 27, when the convention was called to order at International headquarters, 190 Golden Gate Avenue, was a beautiful hot day outdoors, but the nearly 500 delegates from all the houses, shops and locals gathered to make their voice heard.

The delegates also recommended resolutions to the upcoming International Convention.

Local 6 Convention Faces Challenge

The meeting opened on a note of sadness when delegates stood in silence in memory of the late George Valet, longtime secretary-treasurer of Local 6, and Jack Hall, ILWU vice president who died early in January, and all the other departed brothers of challenge for our union and the entire labor movement."

Reminder To Early Retirees

June 1, 1971 is
M & M Vesting Benefit Deadline

Qualified men who wish to retire no later than July 1, 1971, should go to their Locals before June 1 to file for the M&M vesting benefit.

Your deregistration statement must have a postmarked date prior to June 1, 1971, or the benefit will be forfeited.

Reminder To Early Retirees

If you intend to retire at age 62, remember . . .
- Your ILWU-PMA pension payment will not start until the first day of the month following your 63rd birthday, even though
- Your M&M vesting payments start when you retire at age 62

-Continued on Page 5

-Continued on Page 7

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April 2, 1971
You can't fault the armed forces for shooting women and children because the enemy is largely women and children"—State Senator Danzil Garrison of Oklahoma.

Some interesting statistics: Since 1965 in the present Indochina war, the US has dropped 5,693,382 tons of bombs. In World War II and the Korean War combined, the total was only 2,692,000.

"One Question, Please — If It's So Good, Why Doesn't He Pay For It Himself?"

The House and Senate last month killed the "boom-doggle" Supersonic Transport project, in what ILWU Washington representative Al Lannon called "a real victory for the little people—the people who send wires and telegram to their congressmen. The whole organized power structure was for the SST and the little people beat it."

"God help the United States of America. . . . You can't fault the armed forces for shooting women and children because the enemy is largely women and children"—State Senator Danzil Garrison of Oklahoma.

A recent investigation of the profits of defense contractors showed profits of over 56 percent. At the request of the electronics and aerospace industry lobbies this figure was distorted and buried in a recent report of the US General Accounting Office.

"I pledge allegiance to my flag!"

There are a lot of feelings in this country about the fact that Lieutenant Calley was found guilty of premeditated murder of South Vietnamese civilians during that massacre at My Lai three years ago. You can hear many people say that those higher up than he are the real culprits—such as the President, the cabinet, the generals.

You read and hear comments occasionally about the Nuremberg trials and the trials in Japan that took place some 25 years ago where top Nazis and Japanese militarists were tried for playing a leading role in launching the second World War, in pressing facetious aggression, in bloody crimes against entire populations, in unparalleled atrocities. A number were charged and executed as war criminals, and those were the times when you heard many Nazis say that they were only following orders.

But any comparison between the Nazis and our national leaders seems pretty far-fetched. It would be going far afield to say that many of our leaders are cold-blooded monsters or murderers. In fact, individual atrocities in Vietnam are not the important point. The fact is that the entire war itself is an atrocity.

Something came through to me last month when I saw a 90-minute TV show in which veterans who had returned from Vietnam—black and white alike—told how they indulged in killing and torture, and they tried to tell why. "It was me or them," they explained, each in his own way. I recall another TV interview with a group of recently returned Vietnam veterans who candidly reported their role in the My Lai massacre.

And they all say pretty much the same thing. They explained that the whole approach taken by the military, starting with basic training, is that they are to kill or be killed. The whole concept of the "search and destroy" missions is that they are supposed to shoot anything that moves.

They say, in effect, that they are trained to feel that they're just about in the same position, even on the ground, as the man who drops the bombs from far up in the sky and doesn't see the men, women and children who are wiped out. These returning vets were not trying to alibi, but stating that their basic training was to consider everybody in the jungle an enemy.

These vets actually have a very moderate and reasonable program, which is to set up a federal commission to investigate the atrocities being committed in Vietnam.

As far as we're concerned the only answer that makes sense is the position the ILWU has announced over many years.

That is, you start with a cease-fire, and you go on to withdrawal of foreign troops and negotiations.

On the other hand, playing around with the notion of looking back at those post World War II trials and talking about putting the President and cabinet and generals on trial after the crimes are committed is not going to bring back the dead, and it won't keep more people from dying.

Listening to those veterans convinced me, just as the Calley trial does, that showing a few cabinet officers and generals before a jury is no answer.

The only answer is to stop the killing where it's taking place and go on from there.

If you gave the people in Vietnam, who run the risk of being shot every day, a say in the situation, you could be certain that those higher up than Calley who are responsible for those atrocities—such as the President, the cabinet, the generals—would be put on trial and charged and executed as war criminals, and those were the times when you heard many Nazis say that they were only following orders.
Local 142 Board Blasts Phony ‘Vietnamization’

HONOLULU—In the wake of the recent invasion of Laos, the Local 142 executive board has—affirmed that local’s strong position in favor of an end to the killing in Southeast Asia, and blasted “Vietnamization” as an attempt to use Asians to fight Asians.

“These policies,” said the board, “are causing destruction and massive suffering on a scale never before experienced by such small countries.

“The nation was shocked by the calous killing in the My Lai case where defenseless mothers and babies were shot down at close range. Our bombers flying high above Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos do not see their victims face to face, but the death, terror, and destruction which they rain down on the civilians of Laos, Cambodia and Vietnam is just as cruel. As Americans we protest that we do not want another war in our name by our national administration.

“Everyone of these developments show that the Nixon ‘Vietnamization’ policy is a failure. Military assistance to the rebels only encourages them to confront economic and political problems with force. It burdens the people of the U.S. with the cost of large armies and represses their protests with police-state methods which provoke them to further rebellion.

“The ILWU position today—as it was last year and every year since 1965—is that we should ‘stop the killing,’ get out of Vietnam, move away from war and turn to peace. Only this can reunite our country.

“Unusually, the day of the election, the company’s labor relations consultant, Gladyis Selvin, was with a civil service people. It is the second time in our name by our national administration.

“Only this can reunite our country. Only this, our domestic tranquility, can safeguard the interests of our members — and the lives of our sons!”

Local 26 Wins At Chalk Metal

LOS ANGELES—An NLRB election held March 14 at Chalk Metal Company here resulted in a 25 to 2 victory for ILWU Local 26. The organization, which is inter-racial and inter-union, was represented by Chet Menke.

Ironically, the day of the election, the company’s labor relations consultant, Gladyis Selvin, was with a civil service people. It is the second time in our name by our national administration.

“Only this can reunite our country. Only this, our domestic tranquility, can safeguard the interests of our members — and the lives of our sons!”

Local 12 Pushes Peace Bill

NORTH BEND—Local 12 is pushing SB 385 which would make it illegal for any Oregon youth drafted for military service to be sent into foreign combat an unbroken year.

Secretary Jerry Hollday wrote Coos County’s Senator Sam Dement: “There is no system which has military service as a problem.”

“Workers and consumers we want our tax dollars spent more wisely—against unemployment, polluted air and water” instead of on the war in Vietnam.

Army Base Jurisdiction Fight Is Postponed

SAN FRANCISCO—The proposed shift of the Oakland Naval Supply Center civil service personnel over to the Oakland Army Base—a traditional ILWU area—has been temporarily postponed.

The move, which would have displaced many ILWU jobs, was to have taken place April 1, but is now postponed until July 1.

The military plan was to split the territory now handled by the ILWU between the union and the civil service workers. Navy longshoremen would work at Pier 6 at the Oakland Army base, while the ILWU would be confined to Pier 7 and a portion of Pier 6.

Said the Local 34 Digest: “Once the Navy gets a foot in the door at the Oakland Army Base, it will have civil service personnel, BYE-BYE BABY! It would only be a matter of time until they took over the complete facility, and out goes the Local 34 clerks and Local 10 longshoremen.”

Since 1942

According to the Digest, the Army base facility was activated in 1942, and has been staffed by ILWU people since then. On the other hand, the Naval Supply Center had always been staffed by civil service personnel.

With containers being used and the work slowing up, the Navy is now trying to consolidate its operations, at the expense of ILWU dock workers.

Said the Local 34 paper, “We want our congressmen to know of our dis- favor for the proposed half and half split... It is nothing but a wedge and we feel that in six months time, the ILWU would be outside the gates, looking in, despite the (military’s) statements to the contrary.

“The ILWU is not being directed to Washington, DC, so at the time of the protest no congressmen are interested. He went to the Local 6 board and kept the ILWU out of the gates, looking in, despite (the military’s) statements to the contrary.

“Our protests are being directed to the AFL-CIO.”

Panama Canal Strike

The strike, which broke out January 26, has received the warm endorsement and support of virtually all labor leaders.

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Local 6 Honors Paul Heide on Retirement

OAKLAND—ILWU members and friends are invited to a dinner honoring the retirement of one of the last of the great old veterans of the labor movement. The dinner will be held on May 14 at the Local 6 hall, 801 97th Ave., Oakland.

The dinner will be served at 7:30 p.m., preceded by a no-host cocktail hour at 6:30 p.m.

Heide’s career in unionism goes back to 1923 when he and other caddies at the Diablo Country Club organized and struck. He went to sea, worked in the engine room, and was elected Chief Ship’s Steward. In 1935 he organized sea men in support of the Great Maritime Strike. He became an organizer, and worked for the ILWU in the south and northwest.

JOINING IN 74

He joined the ILWU in November, 1945, and was one of the organizers of the first International convention in Aberdeen, Washington.

Heide was one of the organizers of the first United Labor Committee in the East Bay, bringing workers the strength into political action to defeat the reactionary Knowland political machine.

He has been an officer in Local 6 for 39 years, serving as president, vice-president and business agent. For many years he was Northern California Regional director, and served on the International executive board.

United Foam Strike

Two Months Old

OAKLAND—The joint strike by 81 members of Local 6 and seven Teamster truck drivers at the United Foam Company is over two months old with no sign of progress.

The Los Angeles-based firm is still pursuing a leisurely schedule of flying up for negotiations once a week. There is no production going in the plant, despite a restraining order which limits picketing to six at a gate.

The strike, which broke out January 26, has received the warm endorsement and support of virtually all labor leaders.

Alaska Organizing

STITKA, Alaska—An NLRB election will be held in the near future for cold storage and canning workers employed in the Petersburg Fishery, according to an announcement made in Portland March 29 by ILWU Regional Director G. Johnny Parks.

A majority of the workers have signed ILWU pledge cards. About 80 percent are employed at the peak period in the plant, which processes fish and ships King crab by air.

ILWU is aiding the Alaska locals in a drive to organize the fish industry of the 49th state, Parks said.

Isle Board Prepares For Sugar, Pine Talks

HONOLULU—The ILWU Local 142 executive board has advised pineapple and sugar workers to start considering what demands they want to raise when negotiations begin on the FPC.

According to International representative Tommy Trask, “with pineapple negotiations opening up at the end of the year, it is too early now to start having meetings with the company to determine priority demands for negotiations.”
**Container Station, ILWU Style**

SEATTLE — This port's common-user container freight station at Pier 102, completed in 1970, has become a major link in the rapidly growing container commerce of the Pacific Northwest.

Operated with ILWU longshore labor by Container Freight Systems, Ltd., it is a highly functional facility—accessible to truck and rail transportation, and incorporating the latest techniques for fast and efficient handling of containers.

"This is the kind of set-up we'd like to see all around the waterfront," said Local 19 secretary Ed Anderson. "We want to capture that kind of set-up. We're behind the times. Some west coast ports are moving ahead. We need to get going on something to capture that." Anderson said he wants to see more of these installations.

"This is the kind of thing we think will be very important," said Local 98 foreman Frank Lecker. "Then we'll be able to move cargo more efficiently." ILWU representatives waned that CFS, which is the main structure—warehouse No. 1, is to be the center of activity at the station. It is a highly functional facility, said Local 19 secretary Ed Anderson. "We want to capture this. We need to get going on something to capture that." Anderson said he wants to see more of these installations.

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The employers should be carrying out the intent of the 1968 Container Freight Station agreement up and down the coast, and be building more of these installations.

The workers—members of longshore Local 19, clerks Local 52 and foremen's Local 98—come out of the hiring hall, working under the Pacific Coast Longshore Agreement, Container Freight Systems is a new consortium of Rockwell International Stevedoring Company, Sea Port Shipping Co., and Seattle Stevedore Co. This company leases the facility from the Port.

The giant complex, dealing primarily with Japanese cargo, consists of four warehouses, with a total space of 131,000 square feet. The main structure—warehouse No. 1—has 76 loading bays with automatic dock boards or loading ramps which level with truck doors or tailgates of varying heights.

The main job performed by ILWU workers at CFS, according to Rod W. Carlson, general manager, is to "receive and deliver cargo to connecting carriers, consolidate shipments, load and unload cargo from containers and rail cars and trucks. All of this is two-way traffic—tow ing containers to and from the yard; and coordinating all cargo movements in and out of the freight station with steamship lines and other carriers, to effect a smooth cargo flow."

The highly efficient set-up can run and de-van 100-plus containers a day—that is, boxes of both import and export cargo, according to Carlson.

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**Tour Drivers Win Pact**

MAUI—Island tour company drivers have won a 25 cent hourly pay hike effective March 1, 1971. Drivers at two other companies also won an additional 25 cents—a total of fifty cents.

There were also many contract language changes and fringe improvements made in the contract which expires February 28, 1972.

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**ILWU at Work On Old-timer Tax Break**

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**Teamsters Stress Warehouse Unity**

SAN DIEGO—Delegates at a Teamster conference here last month came to a consensus stressing the importance of maintaining and fostering unity among workers in the warehouse industry.

The meeting, sponsored by the Teamsters' Western Warehouse, Industrial Relations, and Union Affairs Committee, was to lay the groundwork for the annual meeting of the National Warehouse Council this month.

Delegate discussed the need to share information and to achieve more uniformity in contracts and common expiration dates.

As an example of the importance of unity, Council Chairman George Mock cited the effectiveness of the gains negotiated by the Teamsters and the ILWU in Northern California. This joint bargaining effort came up with the best contract ever last year for 25,000 warehouse workers.

**Transport Company Hike**

OAHU—Oahu Transport Company clerical workers will receive an across the board raise of $2.10 per month over the life of a new three year contract negotiated by Local 142. In addition to substantial raises, the new contract also provides for a 50 percent increase in pension benefits, and fully paid health and welfare. Formerly, employees paid 25 percent of the premium right.
Local 6 Touches All Bases

Continued from Page 1—producing "the biggest contract gains in the history of both unions." He detailed contract improvements in the wages, fringe benefits and pensions, in addition to the changes in old contract language which had been a thorn in the union's side for many years.

ORGANIZING

Local 6, he pointed out, has moved forward continuously in organizing the unorganized, and since last year a total of 20 new plants were brought under the ILWU banner. On the negative side, he pointed to losses in the last year as ten plants closed their doors, merged or moved out of state.

He also reminded delegates that the strike at United Foam in Oakland has been going on since January 26 for wages, hours and working conditions. This is a newly organized plant. Negotiations are still in progress at Colgate, St. Regis and Continental Can. He predicted that "any of these can well develop into real battles. So, we recommend all-out support for our members working at these plants."

SUPPORT DOCKERS

McClain noted also that sister ILWU locals all along the waterfronts of the three western states may have to hit the bricks in July to get the kind of longshore contract improvements they need. Local 6 pledged all-out support to the longshore locals.

The president's report led to a lively all-day discussion from the floor. Rank-and-file delegates at a Local 6 convention show no signs of being bashful when it comes to swinging out with their opinions. Top priority items included overtime, shorter work days, stopping speed-up to protect health and jobs, safety, more careful policing of the contract.

Speakers at the floor microphones spoke about the need to be alert to make sure members get everything that was negotiated in the last contract and to step up organization.

Considerable time was spent on legislative programs aiming at maintaining the ILWU's traditional independence, to defeat anti-labor candidates and elect those who will advance the interest of the labor movement — regardless of party label.

Delegates expressed extreme resentment at being compelled to work overtime, except in emergencies. At a time of high unemployment, compulsory overtime, several delegates pointed out, not only means more fellow unionists out of work, but is a denial of the historic struggle for the 8-hour day for which labor fought over many decades.

ILWU president Harry Bridges, commenting on the convention program, said it seems to deal with all the most important problems facing the American working people—employment, speedup, discrimination, the war.

IT'S THE SYSTEM

But, said Bridges, it would be a delusion to think that handling problems of overtime on an individual basis would help care unemployment. "It goes much deeper than that," he said. "You have to deal with the whole economic system. "To change that, you have to depend on the entire labor movement, and it has to be unified. Don't put your faith anywhere except in the labor movement. There's no substitute for the workers who produce all the goods in the world. That's where our power is.

"If we have to go out and battle the employers on the picket lines, we'll do it, no matter what phony laws Nixon passes. And we'll get the support of all the other unions in the country. The labor movement could even stop the war and bring peace, if it put its mind to it."

STOP THE KILLING

Several resolutions on ending the war — including a recommendation for a one hour work-stoppage to protest the continuation of the killing, were read and recommended for consideration of the International Convention which opens in Honolulu on April 19.

ILWU secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt, in commenting on the peace resolutions, said, "All actions concerning this illegal, immoral, impossible war should be carried to the entire labor movement. There's no doubt that a national work-stoppage would end it and end it fast."

Also attending the convention was ILWU vice-president William Chester, Northern California regional director LeRoy King, Local 17 secretary O. Brandon, Local 67 office workers head Peggy Banks, Local 26 secretary-treasurer Lou Sherman and all the Local 6 business agents. East Bay business agent Bill Burke acted as convention secretary.
WITH THE MUSIC of Ralph Martin and his Southern California Banjo Band in the background, this was the dinner part of the successful dinner-dance sponsored by Local 13 and Auxiliary 8 at the Longshoremen's Hall in Wilmington last week. On the serving line, from the left, were Isabel Mendoza; Helen Kaunitz, president, Auxiliary; & Abel Suarez, Local 13, who catered the food; Nate Di Biasi, Local 13, who doubled as assistant master of ceremonies; Irene McPeak; Ruth Harris, vice-president, Auxiliary; Margaret Heath, treasurer, Auxiliary. Master of ceremonies was Local 13’s Louis Loverni.

BC Labor Plans Program to Beat Compulsory Arbitration

YANKOUEVER, BC—In the wake of negotiations of a strike to hit 3500 BC Teamsters, the BC Federation of Labor has embarked on a twofold program of action to defend labor's rights.

At a special one-day convention of the 151,000-man Federation late last month, a program of economic and political action was developed. The program includes:

* Full support to any union threatened with compulsory arbitration. (The Teamster strike was broken in February when BC's Bill 33—imposing compulsory arbitration—was invoked in February.)
* Labor candidates, backed by the New Democratic Party, will be run in the next provincial election.

In attendance at the March 25 meeting were delegates from affiliated unions, including eight delegates from the Canadian Area ILWU.

Economic action will include refusal to obey “anti-democratic” orders issued by the BC Mediation Commission which has the power, under Bill 33, to invoke compulsory arbitration. Action taken will involve a flexible program of industrial action, including boycotts or all affiliates in support of the affiliated union. Mediation officers and hearings of the Mediation Commission will also be boycotted.

JOB ACTION

Elaborating the federation’s position at a press conference, BCLF secretary treasurer Ray Haynes stated that economic action will include “any action the labor movement deems necessary including all types of job action.” While stressing that the labor movement was not seeking a confrontation he declared that “we are not going to back away from this if it means the labor movement will be put out of business.”

Labor’s determination to fight Bill 33 was also emphasized by federation president George Johnson. “Our position is,” he said, “that we are going to pursue the Continental freedoms and principles of the labor movement regardless of any legislation enacted.”

The convention also decided to launch “an immediate and intensive campaign to publicize the grave threat to free collective bargaining.”

POLITICS

Political action in support of labor’s rights will include running at least 10 trade union leaders under the banner of the New Democratic Party in the next provincial election, the convention decided. The Federation is affiliated to the NDP.

By resolution, the delegates also agreed to raise a substantial election campaign fund immediately through membership contributions. Labor candidates will include secretary-treasurer Ray Haynes and other federation officers and leaders.

Building Trades Council Pushes Anti-War Petition

SANTA CLARA—Building Trades unionists in Santa Clara and San Benito counties are gathering signatures on a petition calling upon the AFL-CIO to “urge its membership and friends in the Congress and Senate in the United States to withdraw their support of the President’s War policy in Southeast Asia.”

The petition, which will hopefully garner 10,000 signatures, will be carried to the legislative Conference of the AFL-CIO Building Trades Department later this month.

The anti-war position has also been agreed to by the California Labor Councils of both counties.

All Jobs Hit by Unemployment Crisis in Oregon Area

PORTLAND — Unemployment in the Oregon-Southern Washington area hit new highs last month, and a labor committee for Jobs and Peace has scheduled a rally in the Portland Labor Center April 10 to discuss it. (See box, page 7.)

Covered unemployment in Vancouver, stood at 18.4 per cent in mid-March. Actual unemployment is something else again. Edwin S. Bertsch, manager of the Vancouver Employment Service regional office, estimated this “as closer to 18 to 20 per cent.”

If something doesn’t break by late summer when the extended jobless insurance benefits are running out, “unemployment could be in serious trouble,” he said.

It looked as if it’s next to impossible to get a true picture of the unemployment, owing to the various ways in which it’s computed — covered, estimated and seasonally adjusted.

Albert Ott, labor market analyst for the state employment service’s metropolitan office, put the February figure at 6.4 percent, which he said was “out of line with the unemployment in the Portland area. But one-third of the state’s workers aren’t ‘covered’ and not the out of work in this category, as well as those working short shifts, are counted at by estimates.”

Insured unemployment in Coos county in January was 10 percent, 13.3 percent in Newport-Toldeo and 18.3 percent in Clatsop county. In mid-February it was down to 12.8 percent, according to a letter home about.

POLITICAL SUICIDE

Ott mentioned that many school teachers were out of work; he felt things might be better when the children would be back in school.

Asked what would happen to the people who normally do field work, Ott mentioned that many school teachers must now compete with unemployed union workers for the few jobs available, most of which are in small firms and scab plants.

Woodworkers Share Work

PORTLAND—Measures to spread work to the unemployed hit the floor at the International Woodworkers’ Region 3 Convention held here last week.

Two which were adopted urged lowering of the regular retirement age and extension of the unemployment insurance plans to 62, and early retirement to 60.

Al Hartung, the union’s former international president, said work-shy, job-hunting workers ought to adopt the 32 hour work week or divide more of their paychecks with the unemployed.

“Before a shorter work week you will be sharing the work with the unemployed, and not just your pay,” Hartung said.

Local 40 Delegates

PORTLAND—Clerks Local 40 has elected its president, Les Thornton, and three vice-presidents, Walter Bertschinger, Ray Radcliffe and Dewey Long will serve as clerk and stewards, respectively. Tony Rosin and Walterஸtps were named as delegates to the convention in Hawaii; and Thornton, Davidson and Jim Byrne as delegates to the caucus in San Francisco.

Local 94, WILMINGTON

WILMINGTON—Jim North and Jerry Plante were recently reelected as president and vice-president, respectively and Frank D.C. Tabor, treasurer of foremen’s Local 94. North will also serve as the labor chairman; Walter Bertschinger, Ray Radcliffe and Dewey Long were released from their duties.

Edgar Windy Grill, John Viala, and George Dragovich were elected stewards; and Tony Rosin and Walter Stp were named as delegates to the sergeants-at-arms. Fred Van Mulligan was elected vice-president.

He was named a 15-man executive board.
New Anti-Labor Offensive

Continued from Page 1

tion systems" for cargo handling equipment—a form of screening possibly penalizing workers for things far in their past.

ANTI-HOFFA

Also Attorney-General John Mitchell is writing a proposed revision of the Rivers & Harbors Act to expand the list of "criminal acts" which would—retroactively for years prior to being held on union office. Aimed primarily at keeping the imprisoned Jimmy Hoffa from ever returning to office, the administration measure could cost some selected union officials from their posts.

Included in the proposal is language which would give the government to obtain injunctions against persons elected or appointed in defiance of the law. The last year's bill, which died in the Labor Committee, the new proposal will be voted on before Senator McClellan's more receptive Judiciary Committee.

Among the "violations" which could bar people from office would be "misconduct," perjury, and "dangerous drug violations"—the status changes in the charges for frame-ups.

SAFETY LAW

The Occupational Health & Safety Administration by the last Congress will go into effect April 28, but will probably face delays in effective implementation due to the crisis that is facing our cities, which are creating hardship among employees—a form of screening against you as a means of diverting far in their past.

In the administration's "misuse" code for safety on the docks. Shipside regulations have been under the Longshoremen's & Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, and the union has already threatened to sue over that amount, "pain and suffering," and permanent disability or what is considered a "new case" for loss of use of a limb. All drivers would be required to carry the insurance and be considered financially unable to cover loss of earnings and "any loss of earning capability." A revised proposal beefing up regulations requiring use of weight-indicating devices on cranes, certification of container weights, and "dangerous drug violations"—the status changes in the charges for frame-ups.

AUTO INSURANCE REFORM

The automobile insurance industry may well be in for a law that might spell disaster. Congress is going to take another look at the automobile industry, and to cover loss of earnings and "any loss of earning capability." A revised proposal beefing up regulations requiring use of weight-indicating devices on cranes, certification of container weights, and "dangerous drug violations"—the status changes in the charges for frame-ups.

Local 6 Board Backs School Strike, Alioto

SAN FRANCISCO—The Local 6 ex-
er board yesterday decided to endorse a strike called by the American Federation of Teachers in San Francisco.

In response to Superintendent of Schools Thomas Shaheen, the board said the purpose of the strike was "to improve the educational standards and provide better teaching conditions for San Francisco students."

The Local 6 board also informed San Francisco Mayor Joseph L. Alioto of its "strong feelings" that San Francisco officials should support the teachers in their "deliberate efforts to secure funds for schools and the teachers who work there."

"We can only consider this charge against you as a means of diverting the attention of our citizens from the crisis that is facing our cities, and the problems of unemployment which are creating hardship among the working population," said the board.

gressional resolution—not a law—simply asking the industry states to experiment with various kinds of plans, including partial no-fault, with another look at the situation in two years. A former Department of Transportation official who oversaw a two-year government study of the problems termed the Nixon administration's proposals "a disastrous bill, a disgrace to the country, lacking in substance.

The insurance industry has said it will oppose any legislation that would penalize workers for things in their past.

Senators Phillip Hart (D-Mich) and Warren Magnuson (D-Wash.), meanwhile, have introduced a bill aimed at establishing partial no-fault insurance coverage for all drivers and eliminating the cost-cutting development of "true group" plans. These proposals are opposed by the auto industry and the American Trial Lawyers Association.

The lawyers' stake in the present system was described in a Wall Street Journal story on New York no-fault measures: in that state alone, lawyers and claim investigators rake off about 23 percent of the $866 million in premiums each year. Hart-Magnuson package includes:

- S. 945: establishes no-fault insurance which would pay for economic loss (wages, medical care, rehabilitation), etc. without regard to who was at fault. Injury persons would receive 85 percent of lost income, up to $1,000 a month, for 36 months. Dependents of an insured killed in an accident would get a death benefit of $30,000 a year for 12 months. Over that amount, "pain and suffering," and permanent disability or what is considered a "new case" for loss of use of a limb. All drivers would be required to carry the insurance and be considered financially unable to cover loss of earnings and "any loss of earning capability."
- S. 946: wipe out the legal bars in 36 states against true group auto insurance plans, like group medical and life insurance, is cheaper than individual or "bundling" plans, and is estimated to mean an immediate 15 percent reduction in premium costs.
- S. 947 & S. 948: are technical amendments to the two bills which would clear the way for unions to bargain for full or partial auto insurance costs as a fringe benefit, paid by the employer as are other necessary social insurances.

With premiums up in ILWU states since the sugar tax—primary irritation dermatitis and sensitization dermatitis—has received an award commending that local for the lowest disabling injury rate among major ports. Presenting the trophy is J. A. McMillan of the ILWU.

Watch Out for Industrial Chemicals; Major Injury Cause

CHICAGO — Skin diseases are one of the most serious problems in the field of industrial safety, accounting for about 10 percent of all compensation claims for occupational diseases, according to the National Safety Council. Although rarely a direct cause of death, skin disorders cause much discomfort and are often hard to cure. Some substances produce both types of dermatitis. Examples are: organic solvents, formaldehyde, and creosote. Dermatitis often results from contact with cutting fluids. Changing cutting fluids at regular intervals will reduce the possibility of contracting this disorder. Other measures include having the employees use protective creams or gloves, aprons or face shields. Employees who work in these areas should shower at the end of each day's work. They should use warm water, mild soap and soft brush. These simple precautions are very important in combating this very common disorder.

Prevention of skin disorders is made easier where enough convenient and efficient washing facilities are available to serve employees. For many people frequent washing alone is a successful preventive measure, particularly where the dermatitis is caused by mechanical clogging of pores, such as from dust. In all cases, however, the use of large quantities of water on the skin following exposure to irritants is necessary. It may be advisable in some instances to use neutralizing solutions after thorough flushing of water. However, since some neutralizing solutions may themselves cause skin irritations, they should be applied only upon the advice of a doctor.

SOAP

The type of soap used is important, even a generally good soap may cause irritation on certain types of skin. The choice of a soap is best left to the medical department or other qualified department.

Matt. 1, a large number of cases of industrial dermatitis are caused not by substances used in processing, but by the material used to remove these substances. A worker may wash his hands in those cleaning agents which are easily available and work the fastest—often dermatitis producing solvents. To combat this practice, a sufficient number of conveniently located waterless hand-cleaning stations containing properly selected cleaning agents should be installed in the job washing areas and shower rooms.

SAFETY AWARD—At the annual PMA Safety Awards Banquet, Duane Bates (right), chairman of Seattle Longshore Local 19's Joint Accident Prevention Committee, received an award commending that local for the lowest disabling injury rate among major ports. Presenting the trophy is J. A. McMillan of the ILWU.
YOUR RIGHTS TO HEALTH AND SAFETY

On April 28 the new federal Occupational Safety and Health Law goes into effect.

The stated intent of the law is to compel employers to provide workers with conditions of employment "which are free from recognized hazards that are causing or are likely to cause death or serious physical harm," and to "comply with occupational safety and health standards promulgated under this Act."

The law, it is estimated, will cover 57 million workers in more than 4 million places of work. However, the federal enforcement agencies — the Departments of Labor and of Health, Education & Welfare — are not provided with either sufficient manpower or funds to police so sweeping a law covering so many people in so many enterprises.

Business Week magazine (March 27) noted that much depends "on just how serious the (Nixon) Administration is about enforcing the job safety law." Whether the Administration is serious remains to be seen. That many unions are serious is already evident. Said Business Week: "labor protests will be strident" if the law is not enforced effectively.

Whether the law has teeth, and just how sharp they are, depends in large measure on how rank-and-file workers, stewards and union officers exercise the rights it provides. These are some of your rights under the law:

On Site Inspection

If you feel any condition on the job creates an immediate danger to health or safety you or union can demand a special inspection by the Labor Department.

Determination of Danger

Any authorized representative of the workers can request the Health, Education & Welfare Department to determine the toxic effects of any substance at the place of work, setting forth reasonable grounds for this request.

Participation in Decisions

In procedures for establishment of safety standards, or their modification, there are to be hearings in which workers and their unions have a voice. Just how good the final standards are will be affected by how much vigilance and muscle unions display in the hassle over setting them.

Medical Examinations

The HEW is authorized to conduct such medical examinations and tests as it deems necessary to determine the incidence of occupational illness and susceptibility of workers to such illness. If, in your opinion, such a program is warranted at your place of work, you or the union should request its establishment.

Protection Against Reprisals

The law forbids an employer to dismiss a worker or otherwise penalize him for requesting an inspection or otherwise exercising his rights under this law.

Notice of Danger

Subject to standards set, the employer must identify dangerous substances by label or posted notice. HEW is required to publish an annual list of toxic substances with the safe exposure limits.

Policing Inspections

In all inspections by federal agencies, whether they're at the workers' request or on their own initiative, workers or a union representative have the right to accompany the inspector on his rounds, to call his attention to conditions requiring inspection, and to check on his performance.

Shutting It Down

In instances of imminent danger of death or serious physical harm there are provisions for securing a court order to shut down the operation until the dangerous condition is remedied.

The new law does not replace provisions in your contract covering health and safety, or the rights you have under the contract to enforce such provisions. The law may be used to supplement the contract. Just how it may be so used will differ in relation to different ILWU contracts. But a basic union principle applies in all cases: federal agencies are no substitute for union vigilance in protecting health and safety on the job. Such laws as this can help. Longshore unions on both coasts are working to establish the best standards under this law.