Longshore Committee Reconvenes

SAN FRANCISCO — As The Disp

patch reported, the coast nego
tiating committee had reconvened and tentatively slated the first meet
ning with the Pacific Maritime As sociation, since negotiations were recessed in mid-May.

At the time they recessed it was agreed the committee would meet no later than June 1.

In his “On the Beam” column, ILWU president Harry Bridges, who is also chairman of the coast negotiate

ating committee, stated specifically that “our union’s program is one of making every effort to get a new

wave agreement by negotiations and to embark on a strike program only as a last resort when all else

fails.”

Members of the negotiating com

mittee, during the recess, were re porting back to their home areas on the action of the caucus and to bring locals up to date on the union program.

The locals have set up committees to deal with items referred by the caucus to local negotiations.

EIGHT POINTS

Negotiating committee chairman Bridges, in a letter to all locals, urged that negotiations begin im mediately with both PMA and non PMA employers covering the following eight points:

1. Working and dispatching rules;
2. Local miscellaneous agree ments;
3. Manning scales other than base line manning;
4. Section 9.40;
5. Travel Time and Transportation;
6. Port authority agreements;
7. Promotions and Training rules;
8. Clerk Port supplements.

Locals were also advised in the letter that “no coast-wise agreement will be concluded and recommended to the membership for ratification—neither labor nor agreement con tains by way of wages, pensions, etc.—until local negotiations on these items are completed to the local’s or area’s satisfaction.”

Local 26

Three Year Pact at Max Factor

LOS ANGELES — After six weeks of intense negotiations, Local 26 members at Max Factor have ratified a contract which will give them a wage increase of 67 cents over three years. The agreement covers 900 workers at the cosmetics firm.

All employees will receive a 30 cent boost effective June 1, 1971; 29 cents on June 1, 1972; and 28 cents on June 1, 1973.

The company also agreed to main tain the cost of medical and dental care during the life of the agreement.

LANGUAGE

Many substantial changes in con tract language were also written. The pact provides for weekly griev ance meetings as a more efficient way to handle búbles. This was recom mended after a four-month study conducted by the Local 26 Max Fac tor policy committee—consisting of

Free Hoffa Petition Being Circulated to US Labor

SAN FRANCISCO — A rank and file petition to President Richard Nixon, asking for a pardon for jailed Teamster president James Hoffa, has been printed for national circulation.

The Ninetieth Biennial ILWU Convention, in a statement of policy on Hoffa, endorsed the petition and recommended the widest possible distribution.

Hoffa has now spent approximately four years of an eight-year sentence in the federal penitentiary in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. He was charged with jury tampering.

The petition, which will be distributed throughout the American labor movement, charges that Hoffa’s “long imprisonment constitutes cruel and unusual punishment of one of this nation’s most vigorous and courageous labor leaders.” It continues:

VENDETTA

“We are aware that his imprison ment was in large measure the re sult of a vendetta carried on by the Justice Department during the Ken nedy and Johnson administrations, and that Mr. Hoffa was the victim of illegal wiretapping and eaves dropping and the tainted testimony of a convicted criminal informer who was paid and promised immunity from prosecution in exchange for this testimony.

Such official behavior by govern ment agencies, we believe, prejudiced the possibility of a fair trial.”

SORDID STORY

The story of Hoffa’s prosecution is a sordid one in the federal gov ernment’s use of spies, provocateurs and wire-tapping. In fact, a special unit was set up by the Federal De partment, under Attorney General Kennedy, in this campaign to “get Hoffa.”

The Hoffa case began when the Teamster head was accused of stealing union pension funds in a Florida development. No one accused him of stealing the money, nor of making a bad investment on behalf of the pensioners.

The case was tried in Nashville, Tennessee, after it had been thrown out of federal court in Florida three times. Finally, the best Kennedy’s legions could come up with in Nash ville was a hung jury.

STOOL PIGEON

In 1964, Bobby Kennedy was back in court with a new charge—tampering with the jury. At that first trial, Hoffa was tried and found guilty on that charge and sentenced to eight years.

The key testimony leading to conviction came from one Edward Partin, a lower level teamster official from Baton Rouge who was known as a habitual criminal turned fed eral informer.

Partin told a federal court just last year that federal authorities had promised him immunity from prosecution on a long series of charges for which he was being held—if he would join the “get Hoffa” gang.

Partin had a great track record. He had done time for embezzlement, tried and failed to escape from prison—and received a dishonorable discharge from the Marines.

When Hoffa was first coming to trial in 1965, Partin was in the pen waiting to be tried on a series of charges which—if he had been convi cted—would have meant spending the rest of his life in jail. These charges included manslaughter, kidnapping, perjury and auto theft.

When he agreed to work for the government—to infiltrate the inner ranks of the Teamster union—he found that suddenly his ball was lowered so that he could get on the streets, and that his trials were put off indefinitely.

He was given expense money from a secret Justice Department slush fund, and promised immunity from prosecution if he delivered.

PETITION from American Labor to the President:

Pardon James Hoffa

To President Richard M. Nixon

The White House

Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. President:

We, the undersigned rank and file union members respectfully urge you to grant a pardon to James R. Hoffa, General President of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

We feel his long imprisonment constitutes cruel and inhuman punishment of one of this nation’s most vigorous and courageous labor leaders. We are aware that his imprisonment was in large measure the result of a vendetta carried on by the Justice Department during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations, and that Mr. Hoffa was the victim of illegal wiretapping and eaves dropping and the tainted testimony of a convicted criminal informer who was paid and promised immunity from prosecution in exchange for this testimony.

We, the undersigned rank and file union members respectfully urge you to grant a pardon to James R. Hoffa now.

NAME UNION LOCAL # CITY

(Continued on page 8)
"Come and get it!"

Harry Bridges

EVERYONE HAS heard of the so-called Ping-Pong thaw between the United States and the People's Republic of China. Now there appears to be movement toward normal contacts between the two countries. Visas have been issued to some American scientists and newspaper correspondents to visit China, although our union has not yet been able to send an ILWU delegation.

Even more important, though not as dramatic as the Ping-Pong thaw, is the recent joint statement of President Nixon and Premier Kosygin of the Soviet Union that a break-through has been reached between their countries on the SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks) now taking place in Vienna. These talks, if successful, would reduce military expenditures for nuclear weapons, it would reduce the crushing burden of armaments on both the US and the USSR.

Recently there have also been reports that Moscow may seek a substantial increase in trade between the US and the USSR. According to the Journal of Commerce of May 31, discussions are now going on which may lead to the United States supplying the tools and equipment for a one billion dollar truck building plant on the Kama River in the Soviet Union, providing export licenses are issued.

One of the relatively smaller firms involved in the project, the Jervis B. Webb Co. of Detroit, estimates that 10,000 jobs would be created in the Detroit area alone by its participation. Overall, as much as 100,000 jobs could be created in the automobile, machine tool and related industries in this country. Most of these jobs would be in areas of high unemployment and where greater lay-offs are faced by the workers.

SOME ESTIMATE that over 100 shipments of break-bulk freight are involved over a 3-3 year period. We have known for some time that Russia is very anxious to develop Siberia with US machinery and equipment. Should trade continue to develop, West Coast-Siberia service will become an important part of our longshore work here on the coast.

On the other hand, we realize that many Americans could be hurt and development of better trade relations with the socialist countries. Our concern about the flight of American jobs to other countries is growing. If these talks result in a treaty controlling exports of American dollars to the Soviet Union, jobs would be created in the Detroit area alone by its participation. Overall, as much as 100,000 jobs could be created in the automobile, machine tool and related industries in this country. Most of these jobs would be in areas of high unemployment and where greater lay-offs are faced by the workers.

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The present trend has been for US manufacturers to build plants all over the world so that products can be made closer to where they are needed. This is why it is asking for government guaranteed financing of a $500 million loan.

We believe that rather than avoiding the problem by continuing to subsidize military monopolies, we have to face the problem squarely and begin to seriously reorder our priorities, as delegates to the Convention suggested. Those many billions would build a hell of a lot of schools, roads, child-care centers, public transportation—all the things we really need on the domestic front. And that means jobs where it does our communities some good—and a better chance for peace.

The possibilities for trade and jobs could have a great impact when you consider that the total US-Soviet trade in 1965 was about $1.4 billion. During the Ping-Pong thaw, the recent joint statement of President Nixon and Premier Kosygin of the Soviet Union that a break-through has been reached between their countries on the SALT (Strategic Arms Limitation Talks) now taking place in Vienna. These talks, if successful, would reduce military expenditures for nuclear weapons, it would reduce the crushing burden of armaments on both the US and the USSR.

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Joint Cal Council Lobby Drives on Anti-Scab Bill

SACRAMENTO — With their main task of stopping anti-Scab legislation, 47 ILWU District Council delegates joined forces here to lobby for passage of the bill in the State Legislature.

The day joint meeting of the Northern and Southern California District Councils, was described as their most successful and file lobbying venture undertaken in many years.

May 19 with a large meeting at Local 17’s building in Broderick, just across the river in the San Francisco area.

The delegates were given a complete rundown on the ILWU legislative program by their legislative representatives, Cleophas Williams, Local 10, from Northern California, and Nate DiBiasi, Local 13, from Southern California.

In fact, they were given careful instructions in the process of getting around the capital and finding members of the legislature among their Senators and Assemblymen.

The point was to let the solons know that the program was all about and to convince them that certain key bills were essential to the union’s plans.

ANTI-RAT BILL

Chief among these—and of immediate concern to the entire labor movement today—is the AB 489: the anti-professional strikebreaking bill.

This bill would make it a misdemeanor for an employer willingly and upon request to hire any professional strikebreaker in a strike or lockout; or for such a professional to agree to enter the plant to replace a worker involved in a strike or lockout.

The legislation is being pressed particularly at this time by the Teamsters, which has been carrying vicious strikebreaking at the San Rafael Independent-Journal and the Los Angeles Independent-La Times.

“KEEP COOL”

The delegates, who fanned out to the State Legislature to speak to their senators and assemblymen, were advised in a mimeographed instruction sheet to avoid getting into arguments or making impassioned speeches to legislators or their assistants.

“Keep your cool,” the instructions said “Remember what your delegates get—take notes—the use information to write letters to your local unions as you see fit.”

Delegates were advised to study seriously those matters that are of vital importance, do their homework, so that when they speak to legislators they’ll know what it’s all about.

The Northern California District Council president, Joe Lynch, of Local 6, that labor could work with a majority of the legislators.

DiBiasi advised delegates concerning the nature of procedures and committee schedules, and urged delegates to attend committee hearings to express their interests of labor to be properly discussed.

DiBiasi described a careful outlined listing of some 50 bills, including descriptions, status of the bill at the moment, and the last day taken in the union.

During the two days, delegates also heard speeches by Senator George Moscone and Assemblyman John Burton—both from San Francisco.

WIDE RANGE

The delegates were concerned with a wide range of bills, but the most important of these were the bills that would put money in the pockets of working people and protect them.

These include bills to increase disability insurance, compensation, unemployment insurance; other bills of high importance include protecting workers from being gotten rid of by employment agencies; stopping fraudulent car repair practices by excessive interest rates; reduction in finance charges and the like.

Other issues covered by the ILWU program include legislation to control automobile insurance companies; a state lottery to relieve the property tax burden; the right of all workers to organize; civil rights; stronger state and federal safety regulations; consumer protection.

A number of bills of great importance deal with air and water pollution and specifically deals with problems of pollutants released into the environment. This overlaps the whole program of safety on the job.

The delegates called for meaningful tax reform, including reducing income and excise taxes in bank and corporation laws, amending the oil depletion allowances, improved rent control, a property extraction tax paid for by education. (Most oil producing states do that now.) They also called for stronger state and federal defense laws which favor corporations.

AID LONGSHOREMEN

In an important piece of business of the day, ILWU Councils voted a complete and unequivocal support to the longshore division in current negotiations.

Both Williams and DiBiasi said they weren’t surprised by the position of the ILWU legislative representatives on the matter.

“Now the legislators know who we represent, now that they’ve met the men who will run the job,” Williams said.

Delegates came from Locals 2, 6, 10 and 18 in Northern California; from Locals 13, 20-A, 38 and 39 in Southern California.

Some delegates were also pensioners from both Northern and Southern California, and ladies’ auxiliary members in both areas. In fact, the San Francisco legislative coordinator, was also present, as were delegates to the local ILWU of the Electrical Workers.

New Local 4 Contract at Van-Port Panel

VANCOUVER, Wash. — ILWU Local 4 members at the Van-Port Panel Corp. here—after tough negotiations — won a substantial wage boost in negotiations recently concluded here May 26.

Van-Port tried to hold the line with a pay increase of “take-it-or-leave-it” offer at one percent which was met by nine percent of six percent of employees on a $3.30 hourly base, and eight percent the second year.

The turning point in negotiations came when Van-Port workers turned down the company’s offer, and au- thorized a strike by all percent vote.

The contract, retroactive May 1, now covers 25 workers, but as many as 55 are employed when both shifts are running.

A rank-and-file negotiating committee consisted of Bill Richter, Gordon Bokstad and Ron Tucker, assisted by Ed Andrews and Dick Cunlisk of Local 4 and International representative James S. Fans.

Chrysler Sings Requiem for Jobs of American Workers

MAYWOOD, Calif. — American economic domination of other coun-
tries would mean a heavy toll on American workers.

For example, Chrysler Corporation has found that it will have to scrap its 29-year-old Maywood assembly fac-

cy, laying off 1,200 workers. The move is prompted by Chrysler’s in-
vestments in Japanese and European competitors.

According to United Auto Work-

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“It is senseless and without any logic to allow this American auto industry to surrender to the Japanese and Germans when invest-

ments in new technology and car design are the answer for America.”

Maywood plant was built in 1932, and was organized only after union pioneers were jailed and beaten by Chrysler and its thugs. “Many great union organizers helped or-

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I-f. Prisoners of War

We call on all governments, involved in the war in Indochina, to assure humane treatment of all prisoners and negotiate a prisoner of war exchange. We direct the International Executive Board to use the good offices of our union, including the Canadian Area to assist in this, including helping establish a dialogue between the government of North Vietnam and the ILWU.

I-g. Negotiations and Disarmament

Negotiations now going on between the Soviets and the US — the Strategic Arms Limitation Talks — should well represent the beginning of the end of the arms race which has plagued us for generations.

Our experience as trade unionists tell us that all conflicts, no matter how bitter, must wind up at some negotiating table, especially where people’s lives are at stake. Only by negotiation can the Vietnam war be ended.

The peace of the world depends on the two superpowers — the US and the Soviet Union — really wanting to support the SALT II talks — intended to limit the spread of nuclear rockets which have been so heavily stockpiled that each side can destroy the other many times over. These talks could determine the kind of world we and our children will live in — if any! Both countries seem determined to reach meaningful conclusions.

We still believe the United Nations is mankind’s best hope.

I-h. Reorder Priorities

We call upon the US government to reorder priorities in this country — to spend more money on programs of use and benefit to working people, and less on war, so we can convert to a peace-time footing.

Big business has used its economic and political power to perpetuate an enormous defense establishment, for example, to lobby for $600 billion in defense expenditures for the budget — about 60¢ on every tax dollar. These defense expenditures affect everyone. They have led to ten lowest inflationary spiral in US history, and blocked efforts to spend tax money on the real needs of the community.

Millions are employed in precarious situations — as employment in defense and aerospace rises and falls. Unmet social and community needs include education, medical care, urban deterioration, public transportation and recreation and much more. But the Nixon defense policy precludes even a beginning in tackling these domestic needs in an orderly and peaceful way.

I-j. People’s China

Communist China should be admitted to the UN; the US and China should re-establish diplomatic relations; trade and travel restrictions should be dropped. World peace might well begin in the Orient.

Communist China is here to stay, and will likely become an increasingly important factor in the world’s economic and political development. We cannot continue to pretend that China does not exist.

Recent government statistics and actions, including the sending of the US ping-pong team, to China, indicate that our cold war policy toward China is being re-evaluated. Further substantive steps must be taken:

We strongly urge that the People’s Republic of China be given an ILWU rank and file oversea delegations.

As the New York Times has pointed out, “There can be little hope of rapprochement with China as long as Peking perceives an expanding American threat on its borders.” Ending the war in Vietnam would do nothing to improve US-China relations.

2 Wage-Price Controls

The ILWU is opposed to wage-price controls. They are a bad prescription for national economic ills. Inflation is not the fault of wage settlements, but of government war spending.

Government spending for war and defense is the major reason for inflation. Prices are up and wages are trying to keep pace. The largest price hikes have come for goods and services where organized labor is not even an important factor in costs. Interest rate hikes have also been passed on to consumers as high prices. The fact is that business seeks every excuse to raise prices whenever possible.

Economic recovery is based on increased consumer spending, which means higher wages and full employment. Only higher wages will permit workers to improve their standard of living. We oppose any government attempt to limit the gains of the working class.

3 Unemployment

High levels of unemployment are built into the capitalist system. Only a combination of aggressive collective bargaining by labor and progressive legislation by Congress will limit joblessness.

The key to reducing the crisis of unemployment in the US and Canada is to stop government spending to create jobs — and this means higher wages and lower prices and taxes.

Workers must be protected against the job-reducing effects of technological change and speed-up. The shorter work-week — with full pay — is another way to divide available work.

Minority groups last hired and first fired, must be protected against discrimination. Government and private employers must retrain workers and develop remedial programs for the unskilled.

We must depend less on unstable defense spending, and more on useful jobs in areas where there is long-term public demand. Foreign workers, working at a fraction of wages paid to Americans, and under inferior conditions, are being given jobs which would otherwise be available at home. We need a public works program in health, transportation, education, and other areas to provide useful, necessary work.

4 Automation

Big inroads on ILWU jobs are being made by automation and mechanization, and we must recognize that employers “prerogatives” as profit must be challenged to protect the livelihood of our membership.

In order to deal with this increasingly threatening situation, we must demand adequate work and/or wage guarantees for all ILWU divisions.

We must have the right to negotiate conditions under which plants or ports close down or dry up, the timing of these changes, the right to maintain manning scales, and other protections.

There must be a floor under the number of workers in each plant or industry, which could only be changed by agreement.

All divisions should work for a 35 and even a 30 hour week at full pay. We need to go all out to stop layoff and removal of plants. This includes political action, and the need to educate and win the support of the community.

4 Tax Reform

Despite the steps taken toward tax reform in 1969, state and local taxes still take the most from those least able to pay, and still have loopholes favoring the wealthy.

Tax reform should continue high on our list of legislative priorities. On a federal level we need increased taxes on investment income, taxes on interest on state and local bonds, elimination of oil depletion allowances, and repeal of the recent action by the President to liberalize tax rules on depreciation allowances. These are some of the most glaring loopholes.

We need a sharp increase in personal exemptions, which now have no relationship at all to the cost of living.

At state and local levels, sharply regressive sales and property taxes are the basic problem. We must continue to fight the sales tax and shift the burden of property taxation to corporate property owners and land speculators.
5 Consumer Protection

Organized labor has a big role to play in the consumers' movement, a movement to maintain effective purchasing power, to be able to buy goods and services which are dependable, honestly packaged and reasonably priced.

The American marketplace has become a jungle, characterized by inferior products, deceptive advertising, inadequate labeling and evasive products.

We need the enactment of enforceable safety standards for consumer products, guidelines for clearly written, enforceable warranties, strong penalties for phony advertising, and limitations on "service charges" on consumer credit.

Effective and independent consumer protection agencies ought to be established at state and federal levels, to represent purchasers in court, test products, conduct educational campaigns, and process grievances.

6 National Health Care

Medical care in the US has become ruinously expensive, poorly administered and plagued by inequalities. Good health is a right of all people, not the exclusive privilege of the rich.

The traditional way of delivering medical care to Americans is outdated. We believe that everybody should get the best possible medical care when he needs it, for as long as he needs it, without regard to ability to pay.

We support legislation sponsored by Senators梭罗, W._HIDDEN and Warren Magnuson which would provide "no-fault" insurance for everyone — providing payments for lost wages, medical care costs, rehabilitation and death benefits without regard to fault. Policies could be cancelled only for non-payment of premiums and loss of drivers' license. The bill would also abolish re-statements in many states against group insurance plans.

The situation now is intolerable. Less than half of casualties in car accidents receive any benefits. The major portion of auto insurance premiums goes for lawyer's fees and court costs, and other non-benefit expenses.

In the long run, the solution would involve government run auto insurance operated along the lines of workmen's compensation. In the absence of this, the Hart-Magnuson bill is a long overdue first step in the right direction.

9 Release of James R. Hoffa

We call for the immediate pardon of Teamster president James Hoffa, who is in jail, framed and vilified, because of his forceful leadership of the nation's largest labor union.

Noting that the US Parole Board again denied Hoffa's request for parole, without giving any reasons for this, the Convention stated Hoffa is being kept in prison by those who wish to deny him the right to return as the head of the Teamsters union.

The union urged locals and groups within both the ILWU and the Teamsters, and among AFL-CIO unions, to work on behalf of freeing the Teamster president. A petition calling on President Nixon to "graciously pardon the injustice of James R. Hoffa now," was endorsed and its widest possible distribution recommended.

The petition reminds the President that Hoffa's long imprisonment constitutes cruel and inhuman punishment; that it was the result of a vendetta carried on by the Justice Department during the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations; that Hoffa was the victim of illegal wire-tapping and eavesdropping and the tainted testimony of a convicted criminal informer who was promised immunity. This prejudiced the possibility of a fair trial.

10 Legislative Action

A stepped-up legislative program aimed at electing pro-union candidates, working for higher minimum wages and improved compensation, and against compulsory arbitration, wage freezes and other anti-labor laws is critically needed now.

Our contract gains are steadily whittled away by increasing taxes and war inflation. There are legal threats to free collective bargaining through anti-labor laws. Essential public services in health, education and welfare are being crippled under the excuse of "economy.

The Convention instructed local and District Council legislative committees to support only pro-labor candidates pledged to sponsor pro-labor legislation. This includes making compulsions over-time, illegal wage-tapping and eavesdropping and the tainted testimony of a convicted criminal informer who was promised immunity. This prejudiced the possibility of a fair trial.
More on ILWU Convention Policies, Programs

10-a. New Anti-Labor Drive

We oppose any and all anti-labor and anti-strike legislation.

The Nixon Administration is serving big business and attempting to pass a mess of anti-labor laws, which could deny union members the right to vote on wage and contract settlements, the right to strike and picket, and force them to accept compulsory arbitration which would dictate wages, working conditions and contract settlements.

Workers in the transportation industry are the first target of this attack on labor. We protest the Nixon-big business anti-strike and anti-labor attack and call on all labor—AFL-CIO, Teamsters, Auto, Railroad, etc.—for joint action to mobilize their full strength to defeat these attacks.

10-b. Legislative Program

The best defense against repressive legislation during an economic crisis is a vigorous counteroffensive by labor.

An ILWU legislative program must aim to maintain gains, protect and improve the lives and to increase overtime rates so that it is no longer profitable. Repeat Title 2 of the McCarran Act (concentration camps without trial), and those sections of the Organized Crime Control Act which are anti-labor and destructive to civil liberties.

We must establish unlimited collective bargaining for farm workers and workers. Establish responsibility for industrial pollution and make industry pay for cleaning up the mess industry has made.

11-a. Arrest of Chavez

The use of courts and injunctions to jail farm leader Cesar Chavez is aimed at preventing effective farm workers' unionization.

We condemn the use of courts and injunctions to jail militant union leadership, as well as the use of official and unofficial violence. The jailing of farm leader Cesar Chavez is another attempt to defeat effective union organization; it aims at helping corporation grow and make industry pay for cleaning up the mess they have made.

11-b. Pentagon Strikebreaking

We condemn the Pentagon for purchasing non-union lettuce as a form of official strikebreaking.

The union hailed the organization of Californian farm workers and the union contract won from anti-worker for business grape workers. This was done in the face of police violence and unfriendly courts and public officials and government agencies.

During the widely supported grape boycott the Pentagon spent millions of working people's tax money to buy scalab grapes. Pentagon strikebreaking was defeated by protests of working people.

Now we demand the Pentagon brass which bought scalab lettuce to try to ball out the enemy. We protest to President Nixon, to our Congressmen, to the press, and urge all union members to lend every assistance to farm workers' organizing.

12-a. Angela Davis

We support Angela Davis' right to a fair trial and release on bail pending trial.

The use of anti-radical hysteria and frame-ups are anti-labor weapons—as history proved in the Tom Mooney case and in the 20-year persecution of Harry Bridges. The anti-labor offensive goes on, in the form of anti-labor laws, in government attack on strikes, in open shop drives, and in the number of union leaders (such as Jimmy Hoffa) framed and still in jail.

Now prejudice and frame-up are employed to crush black militancy. The relentless crusade against Angela Davis revives an old gimmick—the conspiracy charge—which was used over many years to repress the labor movement. We defend ourselves by defending Angela Davis and go on record to see that she receives a fair trial and is released on bail pending trial.

14-a. Include Hawaii Dockers Under PCLA

Hawaii longshoremen should be covered under the Pacific Coast Longshore Agreement.

Longshore work in Hawaii is performed by ILWU members who work the same ships their mainland brothers work. The longshore job has called for coverage of Hawaii longshoremen under the Pacific Coast Longshore Agreement and the Convention pledged full support of the entire union to the longshoremen's efforts to win such coverage.

In addition the Convention pledged full support of the entire union to the longshore division in its struggle to improve wages and conditions on all ILWU waterfronts.

20 Race

Racism, discrimination, tokenism in employment,11 and selective hiring of workers which movement could eventually destroy every advance we have made.

Racism is pervasive in our society, a sickness that infects the trade union movement as well as every community. Unions must take the lead in eliminating racism from our land. Historically racism has been fostered by employers to divide workers from each other. Unemployment always hits minorities first and hardest, and if unions refuse to live up to their principles, many minority people will seek elsewhere for justice.

The ILWU has always been a leading force for racial progress. We have an obligation to the labor movement of this position and urge all unions to support the black movement.

We must eliminate "tokenism" and recognize that minority groups cannot wait any longer to achieve dignity and justice. They want it now! The real goal of the movement is equality in getting and holding a job; equality in housing, in education, at the polls and in the marketplace.

21 Ecology

The ILWU works for orderly and proper planning for preserving our communities so workers will have a place to live in a healthy environment.

The preservation and improvement of our environment is meant to provide a healthy, livable world for working people and their communities. To achieve this goal we should participate in plans that preserve the environment and still give full consideration to the needs of working people. Extreme, unrealistic ecological approaches generate resistance and prevent progress toward our goal. We must work toward planning, regulation, and anti-pollution measures which will improve the standards of life, while at the same time making sure there are jobs for all.

22 Sugar, Pineapple Talks

We pledge sugar and pineapple workers full support in their effort to obtain good agreements in 1972.

For the first time ILWU agreements with Hawaii's sugar and pineapple companies have a common expiration date—January 31, 1972. Negotiations for both will begin in November, 1971, and the two groups must make basic improvements to defend their standard of living in the face of an attack.

The Convention recognizes the proud history of ILWU sugar and pineapple workers, who have won the highest labor standards of agricultural workers anywhere in the world and have always supported other social and political freedom in that state. We pledge support and cooperation of the entire union in their efforts to obtain good agreements and make 1972 a "sugar and pineapple year."

23 Grand Juries

We urge repeal of legislation which makes it possible to use grand juries to attack the democratic rights of individuals and unions.

Under the guise of fighting organized crime, special federal grand juries have been established throughout the country and the Nixon Administration, through the Department of Justice and other federal agencies, has made labor unions the first object of investigation and attack. A number of union officials have been indicted for labor political activity; other unions are being investigated, including the strikers association. All this is an assault on the Constitution and is illegal.

The grand juries have enormous power to force witnesses to testify and ignore and violate elementary civil rights. They are a direct and immediate threat to the labor movement.

The Convention condemned the use of grand juries against labor, and will inform the rest of the labor movement of this position and urge repeal of legislation authorizing such attacks. Copies of the Resolution were sent to President Nixon, Attorney-General Mitchell and interested US Senators and Congressmen.

24 Tribute to Jack Hall

Jack Hall was a true son of the working class, whose name was synonymous with ILWU in Hawaii. Whether in the textile industry or as head of Hawaii lost a great friend—a man who strung the spark that lit the flame that destroyed economic and political feudalism in that state. The Convention was dedicated to the memory of Jack Hall.

25 Kohala Sugar

We condemn the closing of a company that threatens the livelihood of a community and will work to guarantee that rights of people should supersede the rights of profit.

The announcement by Castle & Cooke, one of the Big Five in Hawaii, that it intends to close Kohala Sugar Company in 1973, would bring economic and social catastrophe to 3,700 workers, their families and the entire community on the Big Island. Sugar is their only source of employment. Governor Burns has appointed a state-wide task force, including representatives of ILWU Local 142, to investigate and make recommendations.

The ILWU takes the position that Castle & Cooke, while making millions of dollars in other areas of Hawaii, has the right to destroy an entire community which it created. The ILWU will take the lead in cooperation with the state, the county and public organizations to exert every effort to guarantee that the rights of people should supersede the rights of profit.
AUXILIARIES SET HEAVY SCHEDULE

OAKLAND — The Fifteenth Biennial Convention of the Federated Auxiliaries is slated to open here June 23 at the Leamington Hotel. It will be preceded by a one-day board meeting.

The 1971 convention theme is “woman power.” However, the scheduled speakers, with one exception, are men—dramatizing the fact that the Federated’s 28 auxiliaries on the Pacific Coast and British Columbia are already involved in planning how best to support the ILWU in the event of a waterfront strike.

Federated Auxiliaries president is Valerie Taylor and secretary is Norma Kala.

Ava Helen Pauling will share her experiences in working for peace with women of all colors and nations. The other invited speakers are from the top leadership of the union, the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association, Warehouse Local 6, and The Dispatcher.

Tim Kelly, retired member of Local 34, will say a few words on the Mississippi Delta Project, and Margaret Pryor, president of the hostess auxiliary, will relate the story of Harriet Tubman, subject of the drawing for the coveted picture for the period.

Taylor said, “undoubtedly will be on display.”

Inspector Pryor, president of the hostess auxiliary, will relate the story of Harriet Tubman, subject of the drawing for the coveted picture for the period.

The five-day meeting, expected to end Friday afternoon, June 25, is expected to set a program of activities for peace and social justice.

But our main emphasis,” Mrs. Taylor said, “undoubtedly will be on how we can mobilize our forces to carry through any supportive actions we may be called on to perform, by the International union or by the parent locals in the event of a strike.”

High Court Says Unemployment Checks Can’t Be Delayed

WASHINGTON, DC — Unemployment checks cannot be stopped simply because the worker cannot meet the job search challenge that is the reason for unemployment, the Supreme Court ruled last month.

The Court unanimously ruled that suspension of payments while the challenge is investigated — which may range from seven to 10 weeks — is in violation of the 1935 Social Security Act.

The ruling overturns legislation in 48 states which permitted lengthy delays of payments pending investigation of employer’s allegations.

SAFETY AIDES—The Bureau of Labor Standards has appointed Richard Sunstedt (left) and Paul Thomas as maritime safety officers. Sunstedt, a longshoreman and member of ILWU Local 13, joins the San Francisco district maritime staff. Thomas, formerly employed in the safety department of Marine Terminals Corporation in Long Beach, will work out of the Portland district office. Both of these young men are well known along the southern California waterfront for their work in safety.

Breath of Life from Retired Local 19 Man

NORTH BEND, Ore.—A heart warming story was revealed here when Evelene Van Sickle, president of ILWU Local 42, of Seafood Processing workers, disclosed that her appeal for help in securing a portable oxygen tank for an ill, out-of-work member drew an immediate response from a retired Local 19 longshoreman.

The story, carried in the April 16 Dispatcher, caught the attention of George Demer, Seattle, and he sent Local 42 a check for $400 so the emphysema sufferer, a laid-off packing room employee at Coos Bay Seafoods, could have a respirator.

A doctor was so impressed by Demer’s generosity that he “arranged for us to buy a ‘bird,’ as it is called, at a much lower price than we had expected to pay,” Mrs. Van Sickle said.

The seafood local still has its back to the wall, with one plant completely under, with hand shrimp pickers in another plant replaced by a machine, and other difficulties.

But Clara Atkinson, the emphysema victim, can breathe again. And according to Mrs. Van Sickle, “That check, winging out of the blue, and the true union brotherhood behind it, was a new lease on life—not only for Clara, but for all of us.”

CRDC SUPPORTS STRIKERS AT WESTERN PAPER PLANTS

PORTLAND—The Columbia River District Council at its May meeting moved to support the Association of Western Pulp & Paper Workers. The union is involved in a strike affecting 8,000 workers in Weyerhaeuser plants in Oregon and Washington and Crown Zellerbach plants in the two Northwest states and California.

The CRDC action was in response to a letter from AWPPW president Hugh D. Bannister and a report by ILWU International Representative James S. Faints concerning a meeting of area unions attended May 14 by him and ILWU regional director G. Johnny Parks.

Others at the meeting included the Inland Boatmen, Lumber & Sawmill Workers, International Woodworkers and the Printing Specialties.

Some legislative developments included efforts to draft an equitable property tax relief bill for senior citizens.

CRDC President Al Wagner represented the ILWU at the Jobs-Peace rally. He said John J. Pougesous, vice-president of the Portland pensioners, “did a fine job as chairman.”

Speakers included Al Hartung, long time president (now retired) of the International Woodworkers; Shirley Gold, executive secretary of the Portland Federation of Teachers; Bill McCoy, chairman of the Multnomah County Democrats; and State Senator Keith Burbridge.

In another major action the Council fired a verbal barrage at the Customs Port Security Act of 1971, terming it a move to “legalize” screening of waterfront workers.

The CRDC took action against HR 7383, the timber conservation bill, so-called, which includes a ban on log exports from federal land and for the first time—from designated commercial lands.

Provisions of the measure are so tricky that if enacted it would amount to a total embargo on log exports—the economic livelihood of most Northwest ports.

The Council went on record for repeal of all legislation banning log exports.

The meeting featured a report by Mel Bannister, Local 21, Longview, a member of the Coast Negotiating Committee, on the progress of contact talks with PMA. He disclosed that his local has already “started preparations for a strike and strategy committee.”

The delegates heard a rundown on legislation pending at Salem from John Olson and from Ernest E. Baker, who replaced Olson while the latter was in Hawaii, also a report on the Labor Rally for Jobs & Peace, held April 10 at the Portland Labor Center.

The Council went on record for repeal of all legislation banning log exports.

In other actions the Council:

Approved the recent appointment of Senate majority leader and Portland labor attorney, Berkeley “Bud” Lent, to a vacancy on the Circuit Court bench in Multnomah county.

Appauled a letter written by Secretary McCormack on a parole for the jailed Teamster president, James Hoffa.
Free Hoffa Petition
Now Ready for Circulation

 Continued from Page 1—

This was what prompted retired
Chief Justice Earl Warren to say
that the use of this slogan was "of
fensive to the fair administration of
Justice."

Farrin wasn't the only "offensive
petitioner." Hoffa and his attorneys
were followed, their rooms were
burglarized, and surveillance was
so great in the 1964 trial that it became almost impos-
able for Hoffa and his counsel to
meet together to plan the case.

Since the 1964 trial, investigators
have unearthed evidence of wit-
tnesses who were apparently coerced
to bribe and destruction of evi-
dence by FBI agents.

FRAME-UP

In short, the ILWU has argued
that the Hoffa case was a "gigantic
frame-up," and that Hoffa was put
away because of his militant ac-
tions as the head of the nation's mos-
t rapidly growing union.

The reason for this position was
first expressed by Hoffa the day he
gone to jail: "If the government
can do this to Hoffa, it can do it to
every American."

And back in 1966, Harry Bridges
commented in his Dispatch col-
munity, "If the Hoffa case was a gigantic
framing, then so was the Teamsters' case of
1957-58."

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ional upset over the two day strike
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Crisis

Meanwhile, while labor forces are
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the transportation industry through
imposed settlements, and the Javits plan giving the president
virtually unlimited authority to do
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BLUEPRINT FOR FASCISM

Reported last month was the in-
troduction of Senator Eastland's
package of "internal security" legis-
lation.

The package has been attacked by
the American Civil Liberties Union

There are plenty of laws against
stealing, hijacking, etc. These might
be made stiffer, not new laws put
on the books which could control
people's jobs.

"National defense premise" and
"unconstitutional, unwise or un-
desirable." The Administration insists that in 1970, west coast
warehouse facilities. The package also revives
"national defense premise." A major
weapon, with no safeguards, for
hauling unions, the SABC could de-
termining who may or may not be a
member.

S. 1504 would bring back political
screening on vessels and waterfront
facilities. The package also revives
the Smith Act which sent hundreds
of radicals to jail in the 30's, travel controls on
US citizens, prohibitions on who may work in defense
industries, all aimed at "national defense premise"—as
promulgated by the ACLU
"unconstitutional, unjust, un-
desirable." The committee in a letter to In-
ternational President Harry Bridges
expressed its appreciation to South-
ern California regional director Bill
Petrey for his "valuable and unflagging
efforts" in assisting the negotia-
tions as "old hat . . . offensive to the
First Amendment. . . designed to
terrorize Americans, to forbid certain political beliefs and associations,
and to threaten imprisonment of some Americans because of
their beliefs and associations."

While the entire set of bills de-
serves to be dumped, several consti-
tute clear and present dangers to
the labor movement specifically:

• S. 1499 would vaguely define a
"national defense premise" and
make "sabotage" of it a crime. The
ACLU points out that "a civil rights
demonstration, or a union picket
line, however peaceful, conducted
to a labor settlement would be a
'Sabotage' of the national defense since
the store is potentially a 'national de-

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