BROOKLYN LONGSHORE officials brought a check for $10,000 as a contribution to the ILWU longshore strike. After discussing the strike situation with international officers in the ILWU Executive Board, meeting here August 5-6, voted to recommend to the Local 142 Board Acts.

Local 142 Board Acts
HONOLULU — The Local 142 Executive Board, meeting here August 5-6, voted to recommend to the members that they assess themselves $3 per month to support the West Coast longshore strike when called upon by the International Executive Board. The local board left the timing of the assessment vote up to the Local Executive Committee. The Hawaii membership has already approved Convention resolutions pledging all-out support to West Coast longshoremen and to Island longshoremen as needed. This was voted overwhelmingly in membership meetings throughout the state in May and June.

The Local 142 Board also instructed the Local Executive Committee to meet with the West Coast Strike Committee in mid-August for a first-hand report and discussion of the strike and its effects. The Board heard a report from its Hawaii members and observers on the Pacific Coast and the Midwest agreements.

Non-Striking ILWU Locals Voting Funds for Longshore
SAN FRANCISCO — September 1 — that's the effective date unanimously recommended by the recent ILWU International Executive Board meeting for a monthly $3 assessment in the non-longshore divisions to help the longshore strike.

On September 1 the strike will be exactly two months old. In a letter urging non-dock locals to act quickly on the recommendation, president Harry Bridges and secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt wrote:

"The strike is crucial in the life of the ILWU, and from all indications will continue for some time. The strike itself is solid and effective. The monies raised by assessment of the membership will not be used to pay strike benefits to longshoremen but to help defray the regular, basic, strike operating expenses."

Among the first to act on the International Executive Board recommendation was the Local 6 executive board. It placed before its membership a proposal to increase monthly dues to $16, effective September 1, for duration of the longshore strike. When the strike ends dues will revert to $7. In the meantime the extra $2 will be turned over to the Coast Longshore Strike Committee.

The proposal is to be discussed at Local 6 membership meetings in August and voted on in September.

Local 142 Board
Dear Sirs and Brothers:

Enclosed is an exchange of letters between the undersigned and Edmund J. Flynn, President of PMA. The letters are self-explanatory and you are free to reprint them in your local strike bulletins if you so desire.

TO THE COAST NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE and to the LOCALS, COAST
August 3, 1971

We urge you to make every effort to expedite meetings with local employers to try to settle the eight items referred to. The tendency will be—once coastwise negotiations resume, and should an agreement be negotiated that warrants the calling of a Caucus and referral of proposed agreements for a referendum vote—that local issues are quite likely to wind up in the background.

We urge also that members of the Coast Negotiating Committee make themselves available to local negotiating committees if requested to assist in settling individual issues. This is not to be construed that members of the Committee are to be paid.

Fraternally yours,
HARRY BRIDGES
Chairman, Coast Strike Strategy Committee

July 30, 1971

Dear Mr. Flynn:
The PMA requests of July 14 and July 23 to resume negotiations were made unconditionally.

Your July 26 letter requests PMA to agree to certain conditions before ILWU will resume bargaining.

These conditions are unacceptable. Indeed, by attempting to establish them you are not bargaining in good faith.

PMA renues its request to resume bargaining immediately.

Very truly yours,

EDMUND J. FLYNN
August 3, 1971

Dear Mr. Flynn:
Answering your letter of July 30, as you are well aware, bargaining between the parties has been continuing for several weeks in the form of local negotiations. We both know that settlement of the eight issues can eventually be concluded.

Indeed, by attempting to establish them you are not bargaining in good faith.

PMA renues its request to resume bargaining immediately.

Very truly yours,

HARRY BRIDGES
The Legacy of the ILWU

SAN FRANCISCO—Old-timers will remember that back in 1947 the Rincon Annex Post Office was decorated with a mural which caused apoplexy among the "patriots." This mural, painted by Anton Refregier, depicts the history of San Francisco beginning with the earliest days and including a panel depicting the Great Strike of 1934.

Because it was obvious that the artist was on our side, the Hearst press and other superpatriots led a campaign to erase the artist's work. Only the concerted action by sensible citizens, art lovers and picketing longshoremen and warehousemen saved the mural.

UP-TO-DATE

Over 20 years later, in the midst of another great strike the artist has again extended himself to the ILWU. In a recent open letter to all members Refregier reminded us that "when the situation got rough . . . I was threatened by the 'goon' some of you guys kept an eye on me. Some stranger may ask: Why all the pictures? I would say because you saw and recognized your own story—your own struggle on the walls of the postoffice.

"When you have a moment, walk over to the post office—right off the Embarcadero on Mission Street—take a look at the '34 strike panel. Look at the newspaper I painted there—at the headline. It reads: 'Strike Won.'"

"I hope in your unity, in your determination and strength you will bring history up to the present date. Make that headline sing! Make it reality—Strike Won!"

"You are a beautiful union. In Solidarity, Anton Refregier"

Shoppers—Attention!

Union men and women who shop at discount stores should be aware that many of these stores are organized—and many are not!

When you shop at a discount store make sure the place is organized. Support your fellow unionists as they support us!

'Free Hoffa' Petition Drive

SAN FRANCISCO—A speeding-up of the "Free Hoffa" petition campaign was urged by ILWU president Harry Bridges and secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt, in a letter to all ILWU locals.

It was pointed out that the recent meeting of the International Executive Board reviewed the progress made in getting signatures on the petition calling for a pardon for James R. Hoffa.

"While a few locals responded fairly well, the big majority have not as yet returned petitions.... The total, as of the moment, is less than 2500," the letter said.

Hoffa's case is expected to be up for review before the parole board in the very near future.

"We are anxious to have as many petitions as possible to forward to President Nixon before that date," the ILWU officers said. "We are asking the locals to check on petition circulation, forward as many names as they have available, and give this drive some added effort."

On the Beam

Harry Bridges

There will be no "On the Beam" column in this issue for the following reason: The column I had in mind is directed to the rank and file and discusses the strike. However, I am skipping it because too much of what I have written is being lifted out by the news media and quoted out of context or otherwise distorted in a way that is detrimental to the strike.

FREE HOFFA' PETITION DRIVE

FIRST LASH SHIP to hit the West Coast moved into San Francisco Bay last week to show her revolutionary features—including: carriers (barges) loaded through high. LASH means "Lighters Aboard Ship." The 820-foot-long 26,000 ton carrier has a capacity of 49 barges with a possible increase to 73 lighters.

Running on rails (in center partly hidden by welcoming fireboat spray) is a massive 500-ton traveling crane that lifts and lowers them into holds or on top of each other. At the destination they are lifted into the water and towed to docks or up rivers to inland facilities. The entire ship can be loaded in 24 hours. She also handles containers with the 35-ton gantry crane, lowered out of the water at stern and lowered into holds or on top of each other. At the destination they are lifted over to the postoffice—right off the Embarcadero.

Once Again, Artist Recalls

SAN FRANCISCO—Old-timers will remember that back in 1947 the Rincon Annex Post Office was decorated with a mural which caused apoplexy among the "patriots."

This mural, painted by Anton Refregier, depicts the history of San Francisco beginning with the earliest days and including a panel depicting the Great Strike of 1934.

Because it was obvious that the artist was on our side, the Hearst press and other superpatriots led a campaign to erase the artist's work—"the key issue, of course, in those cold-war days, being his favorable rendition of the struggles of the ILWU and other unions.

Even a Congressional resolution, in 1953, demanded the removal of the "subversive" work.

"Some stranger may ask: Why all the pictures? I would say because you saw and recognized your own story—your own struggle on the walls of the postoffice.

"When you have a moment, walk over to the post office—right off the Embarcadero on Mission Street—take a look at the '34 strike panel. Look at the newspaper I painted there—at the headline. It reads: 'Strike Won.'"

"I hope in your unity, in your determination and strength you will bring history up to the present date. Make that headline sing! Make it reality—Strike Won!"

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Local G Takes Anti-War Issue To The Ranks

SAN FRANCISCO — The Local 6 General Executive Board moved last week to carry implementation of the peace resolution adopted by ILWU's Ninetieth Biennial Convention to the rank and file in warehouses and processing plants under its jurisdiction.

Pursuant to board action July 28, the resolution was distributed and a related statement by the Ad Hoc Trade Union Committee to End the War went to all locals. A letter was sent to the Public Utilities Commission to support proposals submitted by the ad hoc committee to the entire labor movement.

The committee consists of representatives of the ILWU and other bona fide labor organizations in the San Francisco Bay Area. Its three proposals to all labor are:

• A call for immediate cease-fire, support of Congressional action to end appropriations for the war, and a demand for full withdrawal of all US Armed Forces.

• A demand for immediate steps to shift government funds from military expenditures to civilian needs, specifically in the area of urban renewal, school construction, mass transit facilities.

• ILWU initiative in the ad hoc committee to develop a convention resolution that recommended "a program to rally the entire labor movement to bring an end to the war and to develop a positive program to reorder our lives for peace."

Local 10 Strike Leaflet

Gulfs Arouse in Oregon

PORTLAND — The San Francisco Local 10 leaflet on the issues in the dock strike (The Dispatcher, July 50), has found its way into a newspaper office in North Bend, Astoria, Newport (Ore.), and Vancouver (Wash.).

This farfetched circulation was achieved when the ILWU Oregon- Coast Area Publicity Committee reprinted the leaflet, which begins, "The Longshore Strike, What Would You Do, If . . ."

The content of the leaflet, somewhat rephrased, was also distributed in Dublin, Calif., via an interview with longshoreman John Rutter in The Dispatch on its front page.

Rutter, a Local 10 man, drew heavily on the leaflet to explain why he was striking. The strike was "fairytail," he said, as it was conveyed in the headline over the long interview: "Dublin Working Devices."

The next morning, Friday, a Local 8 membership meeting recessed for mass picketing at Terminal 2 and Nicolai warehouse, a Port of Portland facility about one-fourth of a mile from the waterfront.

No effort was made to work cargo

Puget Sound Locals

Put Emphasis on Unity

VANCOUVER, Wash. — An area strike strategy committee meeting was held in Local 4's hall here July 13, with representation from Local 4, 8, 12, 21, 40 and 53.

Also present were local officers, rank and file members from several locals, including Local 92, and ILWU regional director G. Johnny Parks.

Jim Byrne, Clerk Local 40, served as chairman, with Carl Nys, co-chairman of Local 21's strike committee, as secretary.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways and means of achieving greater solidarity in the strike, both coast and area-wide.

PORTLAND — Employment of scab labor in a Portland dock touched off several days of very high tension here.

Two more agencies were added to the list of agencies already involved in the ILWU picket line. The first was the International Stevedores' Association.

The issue was first joined when a scab truck drove through a small group of surprised ILWU pickets into Terminal 2 on the morning of Aug. 5. By the end of that day two more scab-driven trucks went in and came out with scab-loaded twins.

The actual loading was done by strikers from Kelly's Day Labor, a slave labor pool, which reported pays $1.60 per hour, charging $2.40 per man hour for its services. The trucks were driven by non-union men, which made the Teamsters Union very unhappy.

UNION ANGERED

Local 8 officers were doubly incensed because they had been in negotiations with the Port of Portland officials about the disposition of cargo in Port of Portland facilities — were to resume 2 days later.

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Washington Report

Thoughts on Departing From the Capital Scene

By Albert Lannon
ILWU Washington Representative

WASHINGTON — At long last a bill has been introduced to amend the Longshoremen’s & Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act which labor can enthusiastically support. S. 2318 was introduced by Senate Labor Committee Chairman Harrison Williams, with co-sponsors including Alan Cranston (D-Calif.) and Dan Inouye (D-Hawaii).

The bill adopts a feature long demanded by the ILWU—elimination of the maximum weekly benefit amount, this instead to be set at 60% of the worker's average weekly wages, with no limit on total compensation that can be paid. The proposal also raises the minimum benefit from $18 to $54, and provides for those injured after enactment of the bill annual increases in benefits based on wage hikes in the previous year. Other labor law amendments would improve the notification, legal fees, re-examination of benefits, annuity, and second injury and disfigurement sections of the Act. (Copies may be obtained by writing to the Document Room, Washington, DC 20510.) Hearings may take place here, and a markup by the Senate Committee will be introduced soon in the House.

BARGAINING OR BEGGING?

Administration and employer spokesmen are beating the drums on action for the “Emergency Public Interest Protection Act,” which could ban strikes in the transportation and defense industries. Various officials and legislators, including some old friends of the ILWU, are seeking to whip up a crisis atmosphere with the recent railroad and defense strikes that the Senate Labor Committee Chairman Harrison Williams, however, refuses to be stampeded.

Speaking at last month’s Teamster Convention, Williams labeled the Nixon proposal an “ill-advised effort to take away the right to strike and undermine the free collective bargaining process . . . Without the right to strike, collective bargaining becomes no more than collective begging.”

DOUBLE STANDARD

Socialism for the rich, free enterprise for the poor—that appears to be the Nixon program in pushing for the $250 million loan guarantee for Lockheed, as well as recent efforts to bail out the SST and Penn Central. While at the same time killing a $5.7 billion public works bill to create useful jobs and relieve unemployment.

To be fair, though, the Lockheed loan, which passed the Senate by one vote, won at least as a result of highly applied pressure from the military-industrial complex, the White House—and Labor—which counted for swing votes from Cranston, Tunney, Inouye and other liberals. The AFL-CIO, as usual, is backing the SST, warned of lost jobs. The job issue is real, it is worth repeating what Rep. Bella Abzug (D-NY) said about that during the SST debate:

“The simple economic truth is that anytime the US Government spends a billion dollars, it can create a billion dollars worth of jobs. The question is not whether to spend the money for what I consider to be a non-need. It is whether we are going to create those jobs by building an SST or giving a few wealthy people three hours of trans-Atlantic flight time, or are we going to create them by reducing slum housing, feeding hungry children, improving the Nation’s health care, providing mass transit, or cleaning up the environment?”

The labor movement ought to concentrate on redirecting national priorities and helping to develop a national policy of reconversion of the economy instead of joining the Nixon-Big Business campaign and spending billions to help out giant corporations.

A PERSONAL NOTE

After 3½ years in the ILWU Washington Office, I and my family have decided to return to British Columbia. The Washington Office will be temporarily closed, and I heartily recommend to President Bill Chester has been designated as the officer-in-charge.

In some respects, Washington has been a challenging, if often frustrating and lonely job. I am grateful for the experience and feel I have contributed to the union here. With the support of the locals, councils, auxiliaries and ILWU headquarters, I have continued to make a contribution, to fight the good fight and secure a few victories a year. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as the officer-in-charge.

But in many respects, Washington is not really where the action is. Congress reflects, at least to some extent, the rising voices of discontent in the land. There are real answers to real problems. The outspoken challenges in the Senate over war policies and priorities, the emergence in the House of a tough Black Caucus, the election of John Ranalli as Speaker—honest representatives who truly give a damn, like Abzug and Ron DeLateur and our new likes the reflection a growing mood in the nation, a desire for change, for a break with the military-industrial complex way of death and a redirection towards peace and life.

In this respect, resolutions, committees, demonstrations have had an effect, and demands must be made of candidates who seek our support. We, and the rest of labor, ought to seriously consider running our own candidates on various levels; a great deal of good work on the absence of elected unionists, leaving the field often to wheeler-dealer politicians who never saw the inside of a factory.

There are, of course, exceptions, and some honorable ones, but 99/10 of all politicians put their re-elections and personal peoples or commitments to their constituencies. A year of campaign promises can go down the drain with the flattery of an invitation to a private dinner at the White House. What I think I want to say is just to repeat again that there is no substitute for rank and file involve ment and action if we’re ever going to break the strike. Letters, telegrams, delegations, these all count, and your involvement and action made my job here easier. Thank you.
Pickets in Air, Food Stamp Items, and One Lost Dog

So what’s new in the dock strike?

An airborne picket is just one of the new things, as reflected in local strike bulletins. So are the occasions cropping up for use of an ugly word — scab. There is also more of old things — like welcome support, the hustle for food, good morale, and blasts at sundry politicians who are bating in to no good purpose.

But about that airborne picket. Local 13 men, who pioneered in amphibian picketing, were not content with boats and water skis. So they dreamed up the idea of suspending pickets about 46 feet aloft from a 10 x 12 foot kite.

STRIKE UP IN THE AIR

Intrepid reporter Alex Duthie filed the following dispatch to the Local 13 bulletin:

"Today Henry Oranga used his 18 foot boat, the Maripichi, to haul Richard ‘The Condor’ Mondor on water skis (plus a 35 pound kite and a banana stating ILWU ON STRIKE). This kite is 10 feet wide by 12 feet long, has an aluminum frame held together with nuts and bolts. It took half an hour just to assemble it.

"Myself and Glenn Perry, ID No. 3-4021, who is our photographer, were in Mike Mullen’s 18 foot Ta-hiti Berkeley Jet (with 427 cubic inches of Chevrolet engine).

"We started off slowly in the Long Beach Channel going toward the Queen Mary, and in a matter of seconds both boats were going 60 miles an hour (the kite getting airborne at 30 miles per hour). Because of high winds, brother Richard ‘The Condor’ Mondor took three spectacular falls (Imagine going 60 miles per hour 35 to 40 feet above the sea); the first fall was something else, the second was horrible (it hurt me just watching) and I turned my head to avoid seeing his third fall.

"As we cruised up to the fallen Mondor he looked very pale. Up on his back on top of the water with the aid of a life preserver. His eyes were shut and he looked similar to One Layed Out In a Funeral Home, only this was a watery grave. Five minutes later, The Condor was flying again.

"Later on, brother Mike Mullen took over picketing from Brother Mondor. He is the most experienced ‘flyer’ of the group, and did some amazing flying (considering the wind conditions) for the 45 minutes he was airborne.

"I can think of many things to do besides sailing from a kite 35-40 feet above the water going 60 miles per hour, going three rounds with the Condor All, climbing Mount Everest, swimming the Catalina Chan-

"Our hats are off to these gallant brothers who patrol the harbors ‘on the water and in the air!’ It is just this kind of ‘guts’ it takes to win a strike, and there’s no doubt about it now — WE SHALL WIN!"

SCABS ON THE GROUND

Meanwhile on the ground some nasty scab incidents occurred. The Local 13 bulletin (Aug. 2) reported on one of these things:

"Longshoremen & teamsters were caught picketing at the middle gate, at berth 198 Wilmington, Monday morning, when scabs tried to drive a Mutual Wholesale Liquor Distributors truck through their picket line.

"Mutual Wholesale Liquor Distributors has been struck by the teamsters for some time, and the four scabs (two in a truck & two in a car) had the idea of unstuffing a container. The idea didn’t work. It didn’t work because the men on the picket line worked together.

"The police showed up, but there were no serious incidents that in-

cluded: "We can see no significant material impact on the Coast at the present time or in the immediate future, but the situation should be watched.

"ROLLO, COME BACK

Sooner or later man’s best friend will be brought into the strike. And he did. But unhappily he also got out of it, as is evident from this Local 13 bulletin item:

"Jack Valdez reports that his well known picketing dog ‘C主題’ is reported missing in action. Rollo was last seen on patrol at LB 208, Gate 2 over three weeks ago, and Valdez would appreciate any information on his whereabouts.

"It would be nice to reprint the lists in the various bulletins of individ-

uals, organizations, other organizations, institutions, businesses that have helped the strike with cash, food and other. It’s even nicer to report that such a list would be much too long for publication.

S.F. Labor Council

Supports Dock Strike

SAN FRANCISCO — The San Franci-

isco Central Labor Council, AFL-

CIO, is on record in support of the

ILWU dock strike.

The council recommended that all methods of support, including financial, shall receive the attention of the unions of the AFL-CIO.

The council acted July 28 by con-

curring in the recommendation of its executive, which received a detailed report on the strike from ILWU re-

presentatives. These representatives were Robert Rohatch, Shellee Purr, Jim Herman, Vas Arnautoff, Glenn Ackerman and Jack Hogan.
Dock Strike Leader Blasts 'Let 'Em Starve' Editorial

SAN FRANCISCO — Should workers on strike be starved into submission? Apparently, the Heartland, not the Bay Area. Businessmen think they should. In a recent editorial, the pro-war, anti-everything-else alternative to the strike, that strikers should not be eligible for public food stamps or any form of assistance. In a biting reply to the editor, ILWU Northern California Area Strike Committee Chairman James Herman denounced the editorial, arguing that “this is about like the theory under which the slave owners gave their slaves better treatment than the free human beings they had enslaved—because mules were more valuable.”

“Nobody (unless they are cheating) gets public aid unless they are in desperate need of the basic necessities. In a nutshell as stockholders of the shipping companies feel little, if any, deprivation of food and necessities during a strike—let alone any reduction in their usually affluent standard of living, it remains only to be said that the ships themselves and the machinery should have to be reinstated in a social sense, with the workers.”

“Yes,” Herman wrote, “strikebreakers have complained as taxpayers to welfare funds and are not to draw on those funds when in need. You keynoted this issue when you mistakenly conclude that this argument ignores the fact that they are out of work by choice.”

“This is nonsense. They are out of work because of necessity. They have no funds to match the hand- some subsidies which the ship owners have received from the government over God knows how many years.

Those federal subsidies, paid for in large part out of workers’ taxes, enabled the ship owners to belong to a different country club than the longshoremen with five kids, a frightening mortgage, and a bundle of installment payments.

“You quote Herbert R. Northrup, Director of Industrial Research of the University of Pennsylvania, who says that feeding hungry strikers makes strikes longer and agreements higher. He says, ‘I don’t want anybody to starve, but I know collective bargaining can’t work unless the strike hurts both sides.’

ONE HORSE, ONE RABBIT

‘Mr. Northrup has a glib way of saying that he wants the employers to temporarily forego a little of their profit and that he wants the striker to stop eating. That’s equality! Fifty-fifty—one horse and one rabbit! Don’t feed the idle ships and don’t feed the striker.

‘On the other hand, we want to play fair. Our position is that ship owners who meet the same poverty standards as the agencies require our strikers to meet be allowed to apply for food stamps and the other accoutrements of welfare aid.

‘Fair and square, we say.”

Pickets Demand a Halt To Stall of Food Stamps...

OAKLAND—Local 10 strikers have a feeling that Alameda county welfare offices are playing games. Ronald Colthirst, Local 10 welfare director, says strikers thought two days of picketing of the county welfare offices (Aug. 3 and 3) brought an agreement with William Rainley, the county’s assistant welfare director. But a few days later they weren’t sure.

At issue is the stalling or denial of food stamps to strikers. As samples of reports out of the picket line Colthirst cited two incidents:

• One dock striker, who went to the Aid office at one a.m. brought his home, fulfilled all the requirements for getting stamps. He thought he was all set—only to be told he had to produce Social Security cards for his minor children.

• Welfare officials told men that all who were processed by July 21 would get stamps for July. One man was processed by July 20—and then was told he would have to wait until August.

After the two days of picketing ILWU representatives met with Rainley on Aug. 4. He appeared to agree that such games were out, and pledged that if difficulties arose at lower levels he would work with the strikers to iron them out.

But as of Aug. 10 strikers were still complaining, and Colthirst is skeptical about Rainley’s good faith in promising to expedite food stamps for eligible strikers.

...But Business Gets $30 Billion Handouts Without Any Fuss

SAN FRANCISCO — If a striking longshoreman, bucking the red tape in registering for food stamps or Welfare reform which will sig- nificantly increase the regulated industries and mean to the public aid businesses are pitiful games.

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PICKETING can also be lonely, see below.

President Nixon’s declaration last week that he has an “open mind” about establishing a wage-price review board touched off another flood of Congressional agitation for wage-price controls.

Nixon said Congressional hearings will help him make up his mind about establishing a wage-price review board. Senators and Congressmen of both major parties leaped into the breach to urge wage-price regulation.

Whatever the President’s state of mind, that one issue on which ILWU has firmly made up its mind for a long time.

ILWU’s position was reiterates at the Nineteenth Biennial Convention last April:

“The ILWU is opposed to the imposition of wage -price controls,” the convention declared. “Economic re- covery is dependent on higher wages and full employment.”

The officers’ report to the convention blasted the argument that high wages cause inflation and must, therefore, be controlled. The officers countered with these points:

• “The primary cause for the present inflation in prices has been government spending for defense and the war in Vietnam.”

• “In the present inflation prices have been rising faster long before wage gains tried to keep pace.”

• “As the Wall Street Journal noted last year, ‘Labor costs are not the Frankenstein monster they’re often cracked up to be.’ In 1970 labor costs per unit of output rose much less than they had in 1968 and 1969, but prices soared.”

ILWU: Nix on Wage Lids

• “In such basic industries as steel, auto, and chemicals there is a limited number of sellers (three major auto makers, three or four major steel producers) and a large number of buyers. The sellers rig prices so they don’t have to com- plete with one another price-wise.”

Phrasing it another way two years earlier, the officers report to the Eighteenth Convention said:

“The fact of the matter is that all companies raise their prices whenever they can get away with it. The reason for this is the persistent drive for higher profits.”

As against wage-price controls the officers’ report this year proposes an economic program to improve the condition of workers and to increase mass purchasing power. Among the specific items were:

• Higher wages and job security.

• Higher social security payments.

• Improved workmen’s compensa- tion and unemployment insurance benefits.

• Welfare reform which will sig- nificantly improve the lot of the public aid businesses are pitiful games.

• Necessary steps to control the spread of monopolies in critical sec- tors of the economy and means to control collusion price arrangements.
ILWU Board Texts on Two Prominent Issues

Policy on China

The International Executive Board of the International Longshoremen’s & Warehousemen’s Union, meeting in San Francisco, July 23, 1971, welcomed the initiative between President Nixon of the United States and Premier Chou En-lai of the People’s Republic of China for a meeting to discuss normalizing relations between the United States and the People’s Republic of China and discussions to reduce tensions and improve the possibilities for world peace.

The ILWU has long been in favor of friendly and trade relations between the US and the People’s Republic of China and giving the People’s Republic of China its rightful place in the General Assembly and Security Council of the United Nations.

While we welcome the initiatives of both sides, we fully recognize that the most important need for our country is to end the war in Vietnam and set a date for the early withdrawal of US military forces. Withdrawal of our forces and an end to US intervention and the return of US prisoners of war will do much to improve the chances for lasting international peace.

We join with the entire nation in welcoming the initiative and hope that the talks and discussions will not be directed against any other nation, and will be a step toward a long-term and honorable solution of the tensions and armaments and world peace.

Northwest Jubilant Over China Trade

PORTLAND—News that President Nixon had relaxed the trade embargo on mainland China had trade union, timber tycoon and public officials turning handsprings here.

Bill Towne, Columbia Exporters, said his company had had "already made overtures for sale of our commodities in the usual fashion." He said his firm did major business with Red China before the doors were closed in 1950. "I want to go to China before the doors are closed again," he said.

L. J. Niedermeyer of Niedermeyer-Martin Co., exporters of lumber, said he had heard "of a new development" and that trade relations with Red China before the doors were closed in 1950 "was a great mistake." He said his firm was among the first to load cargoes to China when the doors were opened again.

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Pensioners Issue Call To Annual Convention

SAN FRANCISCO — "The call is out to all ILPCPA members. The Fourth Annual Convention of the Pacific Coast Pensioners Association at the Shasta District Pavilion in Anderson, Calif. (near Redding), Sept. 13-15.

Signed by President William B. Lane, vice-president Mike Sickinger and secretary-treasurer Germaine Rice, the call says:

• All retired members of the ILWU are invited. PCPA members will be sent a letter of introduction to Leilani. Non-PCPA pensioners will be seated as fraternal delegates.

• All resolutions to be considered by the convention shall be submitted to the secretary by Sept. 1.

• Convention headquarters have been set up at the California Motel, 4668 South Market street (old Highway 89 South), Redding.

ARMY OFFICERS meet with Local 10 clearance committee of the union's headquarters to discuss problems arising from the intermingling of civilian cargo with military cargo. ILWU strike policy is to handle military shipments, but what do you do when incoming military cargo is stevedore beneath or behind civilian cargo? To wrestle with this sticky issue Army representatives trooped over to Local 10 headquarters.

Statement on Help to People of Bangladesh East Pakistan

The International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union has received a most urgent appeal from Brother S. R. Kulkarni, President of the All India Port & Dock Workers' Federation, appealing to the conscience of the whole world to stop the slaughter of people in Bangladesh, East Pakistan, by West Pakistan armed forces, and to stop shipments of aircrafts and weapons to be used against the people of Bangladesh, East Pakistan. The Executive Board of the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union fully supports this request, as expressed in the letter of President Bridges answering the appeal of Brother Kulkarni.

"S. R. Kulkarni, President
All India Port & Dock Workers' Federation
Port Shramik Bhavan 26
Dr. Sudhir Basu Road
Calcutta 23, India

"Dear Brother Kulkarni:

"The International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union has received the appeal of the All India Port & Dock Workers' Federation, asking for our help in ending the savage reign of terror and brutality against the people of East Pakistan by the armed forces of Pakistan. We deplore the butchery, the up-rootings by the armed forces of Pakistan of millions of Bengalis, Hindus and Moslem peasants from their homes and land in East Pakistan.

"Our union is presently engaged in a strike involving twenty-four Pacific Coast ports, and we have stopped all loading and discharging of vessels on the Pacific Coast. However, in response to a humanitarians appeal from the President of the United States we have agreed to load approximately 28,000 tons of bagged bulgur wheat and flour destined for the refugees of East Pakistan who have fled to Bengal in India. "Taking this action to load these vessels in the midst of our own general longshore strike is in keeping with past practices of ILWU in maintaining international solidarity with workers and people of all lands. The first shipment of bulgur and flour will start moving to Calcutta... from the Port of Seattle, Washington, USA.

"With past instances of corruption, speculation and other improper uses of aid from the American people to similar refugees, we urge you to make every effort to see that this wheat and flour reaches the starving, homeless, deserving people of East Pakistan, and does not result in lining the pockets of the flour and wheat speculators of Calcutta.

"We urge you to do everything in your power to transmit this message to the government of India so this relief gets to the people who actually need it.

"Our International Executive Board, now in session, is also recommending to our longshore locals not to load or handle any ships which carry military cargo. ILWU strike policy is to handle military shipments, but what do you do when incoming military cargo is stevedore beneath or behind civilian cargo? To wrestle with this sticky issue Army representatives trooped over to Local 10 headquarters.

WHEREAS, This country is engaged in a war in the countries of Indo-China; and

WHEREAS, This war is a prime cause of the rampant inflation that virtually wipes out every wage increase that we are able to negotiate, and that is leading to a decline in the welfare and standard of living of millions of workers and wage earners throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, Only peace can unite America and make it possible for us to use the resources that are being wasted, to rebuild our cities, to solve the crisis of education, to overcome the serious deficiencies in health care, to provide security and dignity to our older citizens and deal effectively with Man's environment.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That the General Executive Board calls upon this 20th Convention of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters to call upon the Government to face up to reality, that there is nothing worth one more drop of blood.

THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this Convention calls upon the President of the United States to bring our troops home as soon as possible, in order to enable America to resume democracy's true work, to mobilize for peace and to turn our resources and the hearts, hands, and minds of our people to the fulfillment of the democratic promise of liberty, equality, justice and brotherhood for all.
A CHECK FOR $15,000 collected by San Francisco Bay Area pensioners from retired members was handed over by pensioner president Bill Rutter (center) to Local 10 officers Glen Ackerman and Bob Rohatch. To a rousing ovation Rutter said: "The feeling among us people who've hung up our hooks is that we still have this union at heart. It's our privilege to bring this to you. One old-timer told me to tell you 'If we stand strong in back of them, they'll stand strong in front of us.' This money didn't come out of our pockets. It came out of our hearts."

**Friendly Session in Hawaii:**

200 Youngsters, 40 Unionists

HONOLULU — A Youth Conference on Labor in Hawaii here brought together 46 trade union leaders and more than 200 high school and college students for two days of frank discussion July 23-24.

Newspapers observed the kids did something no one else had succeeded in doing—they had all Hawaii's major unions cooperating on a single project, including some that are currently battling over jurisdiction.

Participating unions included ILWU, AFL-CIO State Federation, Hawaii Federation of Teachers, Hawaii State Teachers Association, Oahu Education Association, Unity House, UPW, and Hawaii United Federation of College Teachers.

The conference was initiated by the group of young people who were given special observer status at the ILWU International Convention in April. That was part of their pre-conference activity — studying how unions work, attending meetings and conventions, making the rounds with business agents.

The youth presented results of their findings in a packet of reports, a slide show on labor history in Hawaii today. The tone was pro-union throughout, but posed sharp questions about where Hawaii is going and what can be done to preserve its values as a place to live and work for the people of the islands.

Most of the young people, expressing an ethnic consciousness, see Hawaii people having their decisions made for them by "outsiders" (mainland investors, airlines, etc.)—decisions based on profits, rather than people, as at Kohala, for example.

They ask, "How can Hawaii's people get together and get the power to control their own destinies?" They say their study of the history of ethnic groups here has convinced them that unions have most effectively organized local people for this purpose, and they want to know how it is done.

Much of the small group discussion revolved around (1) how unions organize and operate, (2) how youth can help people to realize the value of organization for common goals.

ILWU regional, local, division and unit leaders attended.

ILWU social worker Ah Quon McRirath was a panelist, along with State Federation of Labor president Walter Kupau. Kupau and unionists generally observed that workers must be unified as workers, regardless of race, and that if ethnic consciousness is expressed in a divisive way it can defeat the purposes of every ethnic group.

The group was encouraged to continue its researches and production of slide show lectures on labor history and take them into high schools to make up for neglect of labor in the curriculum.

**Local 6 a Winner In 2 More Elections**

SAN FRANCISCO — Two more houses were brought into the Local 6 fold on August 5.

At Hublein Inc. in Menlo Park, the representation election went: Local 6-66; Winery Workers Local 186-31. At Drug Service Inc. in Oakland the tally was: Local 6-4 no union; challenged ballots—4.

The organizing was conducted by ILWU international representatives working out of the Northern California Regional Office under the direction of regional director LeRoy King.

**Deferred M & M Disability Benefits Go Out at Last**

SAN FRANCISCO — About 340 eligible longshoremen and ship clerks, some of whom have been on the waiting list for more than a year, received early this week the first of two installments of their deferred Mechanization and Modernization (M&M) disability benefits. This was announced in an August 2 Coast Labor Relations Committee letter to all longshore and clerks locals.

One hundred and ten widows of longshoremen and clerks will receive their first deferred M&M death benefit payments later this month. The second installment to both men and widows is payable as of January 1, 1972.

A deficit in the M&M Fund was forecast early in 1970 because of the sharp increase in claims. At that time all death and disability payments were halted and eligibility rules tightened.

The M&M Plan came to an end July 1, and the Fund is short about one-third ($975,000) of the total ($3,100,000) needed to pay all outstanding death and disability claims at what would have been full value had there been no deficit.

This results in each claim now being computed at about two-thirds of full value.

**Pension Checks Continue**

SAN FRANCISCO — Because of the strike it has been necessary to lay off part of the Benefit Funds staff. Pension checks will continue to be issued as usual, but most other services to longshoremen will have to be curtailed.

**Pension Checks Continue**

**In 2 More Elections**