Dock Pact
Goes to Pay Board

ILWU and PMA Officers
Go to Washington

SAN FRANCISCO — The ILWU-PMA longshore and clerks’ agreement is being studied by the national Pay Board staff in the nation’s capital and the full Pay Board is scheduled to hear public testimony April 14 on the contract.

ILWU officials now in Washington include president Harry Bridges and coast committee members William Ward and Fred Hunsinger.

PMA officials will also be present. Both sides are asking the Pay Board to approve the agreement that was reached after a 134-day strike.

Meanwhile, representatives of the union and employer, on both coast and local levels, have concluded not on several items that were left to further negotiation.

PAY GUARANTEE
Chief among them is a complex set of rules governing the pay guarantee. Work was concluded last week and a set of rules mailed to all longshore and clerk locals.

The pay guarantee plan is subject to Pay Board and Internal Revenue Service approval.

However, work under the plan’s rules — for both A and B men — has begun. Its effective date is March 4, 1972. If approved, the first payment is expected by the end of May.

A longshore strike, retroactive to March 4, (Full text of Pay guarantee rules is on pages 4 and 5.)

Other work completed includes agreement on new skill rate applications.

(Full table of new skill rates for various longshore categories is on page 6.)

Concerning a number of items that were left to be resolved by local negotiations, it was agreed that where local negotiations have not been concluded they shall continue until April 30, 1972. If the items remain unresolved, they shall be dropped or mutually submitted to the area arbitrator.

In Hawaii

Sugar, Dock Talks Stalled

HONOLULU—Sugar and longshore talks here were suspended February 25 with no further meetings scheduled between the IIAY and employers in either industry. In both cases, negotiators are armed with strike votes of over 90 percent should a strike prove necessary.

Hawaii’s 900 longshoremen have been working under their old contract, which expired July 1, 1971, at the same time the West Coast contract expired.

Without a contract, the clock was stopped on negotiations, the ILWU and employers in both industries have been working under their old contracts.

The union also dropped its demand for an early opening of the warehouse union local.

So much for the cold facts.

Any visitor to that convention — with its representatives from all reaches of the huge San Francisco Bay Area — would have experienced the typical democracy-in-action that has always been characteristic of Local 6, which also happens to be the largest ILWU local in mainland USA.

Such a visitor would have seen clearly that Local 6 practices the non-discrimination it preaches in every sense of the word.

All races, all colors, all creeds, all nationalities were there — men and women, young and old. Indeed there seemed to be more young delegates than old-timers who have seen or heard in many years.

It is a kind of trade union United Nations.

But more important, as the visitor read the resolutions under discussion, and more significantly, heard the no-holds-barred discussions, ranging through a wide spectrum of ideas, the visitor might also recognize that this local follows the time-honored ILWU tradition of no discrimination because of political beliefs or ideas.

RIGHT TO SPEAK

Every man and woman exercised the right to speak — and to be heard — on all subjects under discussion — pro and con.

And what a range of subjects. They ran the field from constitutional amendments dealing with internal trade union business, officers’ tenure, the dues structure; to full support for their brothers in the longshore division; to provocative, in-depth discussion of Nixon’s drive against labor; to agreement that the death penalty should be abolished in California; and much more.

The Convention, held at the auditorium at International Headquarters, 129 Golden Gate Avenue, opened in traditional fashion. The National Anthem was sung. An invocation was delivered by Reverend Lloyd Wake of the Glide Memorial Methodist Church. Welcoming addresses were delivered by Mayor Joseph L. Alioto of San Francisco, and Councilman John Butler, representing Mayor John Reading of Oakland.

Many guests were introduced, most of them from sister ILWU locals in Northern and Southern California, and many from the Teamsters Union.

ILWU-IBT COOPERATION

Two teamster union officers who spoke emphasized their great satisfaction with the manner in which the ILWU-IBT warehouse alliance has operated, and pledged cooperation in the future.

They were George Mock, an IBT vice president and George Pedrin, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 13 in San Francisco.

Mock spoke of the need to start working now to strengthen the team for the 1975 contract negotiations. He also expressed hope that both ILWU and IBT will eventually negotiate together in Southern California.

He mentioned the tough strike being conducted by soft drink bottlers.

—Continued on Page 8

Local 6 president Curtis McClain keynotes strong program for warehouse workers.

Local 6 Convention — An Example of Rank and File Democracy in Action

SAN FRANCISCO — On a hot, sunny Saturday, March 4, several hundred men and women — delegates from their divisions, plants and houses — conducted the 27th Annual Constitutional and Contract Convention of Warehouse Union Local 6, ILWU.

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Soak the Poor

The American federal tax system—now being seriously studied in Washington—and endorsed by the President—is a fancy name for a federal sales tax—something Republican administrations have wanted for years. The idea is pretty simple. Let's say you had a value-added tax of three percent on a loaf of bread. (See illustration above.) At each step along the way—from the farmer to the baker, wholesaler, retailer—the government would add one third to the price of the tax the added value of the bread by each process. Only you, nobody passes his tax along. And you know who pays it in the end? You do.

The farmer pays his tax based on the price of his wheat and adds that three percent to his price. The miller, who does the same thing when he sells it to the baker, passes it on to the consumer. The consumer pays that price for his loaf of bread. And the government gets its tax.

This goes on, with everyone passing along the added tax of three percent. The tax will fall most heavily on the people who can afford to pay. The tax is not only regressive—it is regressive in a haphazard, costly and wasteful approach—by promoting the welfare interest by promoting the welfare interest, and at the expense of those who need it most.

The notion of a federal sales tax has always been unpopular, and the President is unlikely to spring it on us in an election year. But a new Republican administration—with a new four-year lease on the White House—might find that it is the only way to raise necessary revenues without alienating its corporate supporters.

Nixon Pushes US Sales Tax

Increased depreciation allowances, for example, let one business magazine propose the VAT for short. The VAT idea is pretty simple. Let's say you had a value-added tax of three percent. The government would add one third to the price of the tax. Only you, nobody passes his tax along. And you know who pays it in the end? You do.

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ILWU Position

ILWU delegates to the 19th Biennial Convention in April, 1971 made it clear that they would oppose any extension of the sales tax, and made several specific proposals for plugging up the loopholes which have depleted the federal treasury, as well as drained local finances. Obviously an end to the war would be a major priority.

But even the introduction of the notion of the VAT means that President Nixon is prepared to abandon the principle — badly as it is enforced under existing tax laws, that taxes should be based on ability to pay.

Praise from Mexican Union

SAN FRANCISCO — The Mexican Union de Estibadores y Journaleros del Pacifico has extended warm congratulations to the ILWU for its recent dock strike victory. The message from the Mexican union particularly praised the ILWU's efficient leadership and all those who supported the strike.

New Local 26 House Wins First Union Pact

LOS ANGELES — Warehousemen and office workers employed by American Bravo Company here ratified their first ILWU Local 26 contract earlier this month.

The contract provides for a union shop, check-off, strict seniority, grievance and arbitration procedures, and other items standard for a union contract.

The members also won eight paid holidays, sick leave, paid vacations, health and welfare, and a dental plan beginning in the third year of the contract.

Of course, all employees will receive substantial wage increases during the life of the contract. The negotiating committee consisted of Mona Liebsack, Modesta Keegan, Beryl Hall, and Local 26 President Joe Ibarra.
Public Employees
Canada Labor
Defends Right
To Strike

OTTAWA — The fight to preserve the right to strike was taken up last week when Canadian Labor Congress president Donald MacDonald denounced attempts to take that right away from public employees.

MacDonald denounced the actions of a group of Montreal businessmen who are attempting to get the government to withdraw the right to strike from public workers as "a contemptible attempt to withdraw basic democratic rights."

The Congress president said, "The Canadian labor movement sees the right of employees to withhold their services as an essential part of our democratic society."

If strikes were eliminated it would deny workers a basic civil liberty and replace it with terms and conditions arbitrarily imposed by the employer.

The Montreal businessmen bought a full-page advertisement in the Montreal Gazette urging the government to withdraw the right to strike from public workers or resign themselves. They asked citizens to send telegrams — a million of them — to Prime Minister Trudeau and provincial premier Bourassa demanding such action.

Local 26 Beats Anti-Union Move

LOS ANGELES — A move to oust Local 26 from California Electrovision Corporation was defeated recently when union members voted in an NLRB election to retain the ILWU as bargaining agent by a vote of 70 to 22.

Small anti-union group within the plant attempted to take advantage of a difficult situation when negotiations for a new contract broke down, circulating a petition to decertify the union.

The petition for a new election started a week earlier. Local 26 demanded an immediate election to overrule labor relations in state and local government. The legislation would have provided a national Public Employee Relations Board to oversee labor relations in state and governmental units.

The petition was turned over to the NLRB. The NLRB had set up a national Public Employee Relations Board to oversee labor relations in state and governmental units.

The petition asked the NLRB to set up a new election to verify the results of the previous election.

The NLRB had set up a national Public Employee Relations Board to oversee labor relations in state and governmental units.

Local 26 Negotiations

LOS ANGELES — A new three-year agreement has been negotiated and ratified by members of ILWU Warehouse Local 26 at General American Transportation Company.

The new pact provides a general wage increase of 35 cents per hour during the first year, retroactive to November 14, 1971, plus an additional 30 cents per hour for each succeeding year.

A Unionist's Handbook on Vietnam

It's called "A Rich Man's War and a Poor Man's Fight!" and in the hands of American working people it can be a powerful tool for peace.

Put together by a coalition of Washington, DC area rank-and-file unionists, staff people and officials — AFL-CIO and independent — the 50-page pamphlet is "an attempt to articulate the reasons for labor opposition to the war" and provides a handbook for those in the labor movement who seek to mobilize that opposition.

The pamphlet is loaded with information on how the Indochina war got started, how the US got into it. And it is particularly strong in its discussion of how the Indochina war affects Americans in general and working people in particular.

WHY PAYS?

It points out — with hard cold figures — how the war effort is coming out of the paycheck of the US working family; it spells out the human cost of the war — the fantastic loss of life here and in Southeast Asia.

One chapter called "The Draft: It's Been a Worker's War" points out how the draft system has worked and continues to work to penalize working class young men and minority groups — that they are told to fight a war from which they have nothing to gain.

WHAT TO DO

Other chapters give suggestions on how to work against the war, how to answer the distortions of the mass media, how to educate other people in your union against the war. And it points out forcefully the rise in union opposition to the war, giving examples of statements various unions have made.

In fact, the pamphlet gives the lie to the myth that working people are pro-war — pointing out a recent Harris poll which shows that in fact unionists tend to be more anti-war than the population as a whole.

This pamphlet is a handbook, in other words, full of facts and figures, full of suggestions on how to act and, used properly and distributed widely, it can help make a dent. It costs $2. Bulk orders of 10 or more will receive a 20 percent discount.

Write to: Washington Labor for Peace
304 Colorado Building
Washington, DC 20005

An NLRB for Public Workers?

WASHINGTON, DC — Congressional hearings on a labor-backed bill for collective bargaining for public employees opened this month.

The legislation has the strong backing of American Federation of State County and Municipal Workers (AFSCME, AFL-CIO) whose presence is "very rare," with the lead-off witness for the bill.

The union has argued that only through national legislation can public employees be guaranteed full collective bargaining and bargain collectively in every state.

Citing the wide variation in state public worker collective bargaining rules — from outright prohibition in some states to the progressive legislation in Hawaii — Wurff pointed out the need to have one law applying to all government workers.

The AFSCME bill, introduced by Rep. William Clay (Dem.-Mo.) would set up a national Public Employee Relations Commission which would oversee labor relations in state and local government. The legislation gives the states and localities the option of creating their own collective bargaining boards, but sets up minimum standards to guarantee basic rights to all public employes.

Already, 77 Congressmen have announced support of the bill.

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The new pact provides a general wage increase of 35 cents per hour during the first year, retroactive to November 14, 1971, plus an additional 30 cents per hour for each succeeding year.

ILWU Fish Workers Sign Pact With New Company

COOS BAY, Ore. — ILWU Fish Processing Workers Local 42 has signed an agreement with the Union Fishermen's Cooperative Packing Company of San Diego, California, to process fish here.

The contract, which is to run until May, 1973, provides for an increase in wages over those paid by the plant's former owners.

Bugsene Research Fund of Local 12, aided Local 42 president Evalene Van Slusen's negotiating team, composed of one member from each department, in the talks.

Watson Memorial

SAN FRANCISCO — A memorial service for Morris Watson, founding editor of the ILWU Dispatcher, was held Sunday, March 19 at 3 p.m. at Local 45, Berry Street, San Francisco. Watson died last month.

The Watson family has requested that no flowers be sent, but that friends who wish to do so contribute in his name to one of the many causes for which he worked. For example, Local 19 pension fund and the San Francisco-Oakland scholarship fund made a contribution to the Auxiliary's 5.000 scholarship fund in Watson's name.

The San Francisco-Oakland scholarship fund was set up as a result of a recent meeting in the name of Morris Watson, declaring "in one lifetime he gave more to two great causes than most of us will ever give to one." The newspaper men made a contribution to the Los Angeles Herald-Examiner strikers in his name.
This article deals primarily with the eligibility rules governing the Pay Guarantee Plan. The major points covered are:

1. The 80 percent eligibility tests and how they work.
2. What constitutes earnings, and how payments under the Plan are computed.
3. Rules governing absence from work, pension eligibility, registration for changes, dispatch of longshoremen to clerks' work, and work stoppages.

The effective date for the Pay Guarantee Plan is March 4, 1972, subject to Pay Board and IRS approval. The first payments under the Plan will be made by the end of May, 1972, retroactive to March 4, 1972. Thereafter, payments under the Plan will be made weekly.

However, for the purposes of eligibility, individual hours and earnings records went into effect March 4.

4. Upon return to work from vacation, in order to qualify for "eligibility credit" a man must, on or before his first day of dispatch, complete a Pay Guarantee Plan Eligibility Credit Form which must be filed with a designated Union representative and transmitted to COA.

5. Vacation hours will be excluded in calculating the local or port's average hours of men per pay roll week and the local or port's average paid hours per man.

6. Authorized visitors. Men who, under Supplement I of the Agreement, are granted clearance by the harbor for personal reasons shall not be entitled to vacation, and their pay shall be prorated on the basis of their pay week of vacation and actual earnings.

7. Hours paid to visitors shall be excluded in determining the average hours of either the home port or the visited port.
in their home port for the purpose of determining future guarantee eligibility. Their earnings for guarantee purposes in other than their home port, shall be their actual earnings.

5.3. PMA shall have the right at the end of any payroll week, when guarantee payments are made to either Class A man in a particular port, to cancel the visitation by such man to another port and another visit in such port. A visitor whose authorization is cancelled under these circumstances will not be entitled to another dispatch in the visited port for the remaining period of the authorization.

6. Unauthorized visitors. Unauthorized visitors are men working in one port in another than their home port without having obtained the clearance and approval defined in Supplement I of the Agreement.

6.1. Unauthorized visitors are not entitled to a guarantee payment in the home port visited. They shall be credited to the port to which they were dispatched when the dispatch stops. Their earnings in the home port shall be the average of straight time earnings for such purpose. Either Party at the Coast Labor Relations Committee shall be entitled to have a hearing to determine eligibility credit for loss of hours or earnings during the period of incarceration.

6.2. Hours paid to unauthorized visitors for work in the port to which they are assigned shall be prorated to the average hours in either the home port or the visited port. 60 hours paid while working as unauthorized visitors shall not be credited to the man for the purpose of determining his eligibility in relationship to the 80% tests in these rules. Earnings paid while working as unauthorized visitors shall be included in their record of earnings for determining their port of origin eligibility in their home port.

6.3. Unauthorized visitors shall not be eligible for guarantee purposes until all available Class A and Class B men registered in the port have been offered.

7. Transfers. Men who are transferred to another port under the provisions of Supplement I of the Agreement will be eligible for "Pay Guarantee Plan" benefits in the port to which they are transferred under the following provisions:

7.1. Transfers are to become effective at the beginning of a payroll week.

7.2. At the time a transfer becomes effective a man shall assume his work as an employee of the Class B men, as the case may be, in the port to which transferred. He shall not be entitled to his own individual earnings record.

8. Travel provisions. Historically, travel between ports is an accepted and essential part of the PCL&CA, and neither the Union nor any of its local units will prevent members from traveling or non-travel situations which would result in the dispatch of the "Pay Guarantee Plan" to which the registered men would not otherwise be entitled.

8.1. Travel between ports shall continue in accordance with past practices or under local rules, to fill the travel orders required.

8.3. If travel orders are not filled, when there are sufficient, qualified registered clerks available to fill the orders, the travel time hours and eight (8) hours per man for the total hours of dispatch shall be added to the port hours from which the men refused to travel, for the purpose of calculating average hours per man.

8.3.1. The local LRC of the port involved shall determine the number of hours to be added to the port from which the men refused to travel, for the purpose of calculating average hours per man.

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9. Disciplinary time-off. Men who are absent because of disciplinary time-off shall not be entitled to "eligibility credits" for loss of hours or earnings during such absence.

10. Incarceration. Men who are absent because of incarceration shall not be entitled to "eligibility credits" for the period of incarceration.

11. Normal retirement. A man will not be entitled for a guarantee payment after he becomes eligible for normal retirement.

12. Part-time joint employees, who are not employed full-time, and also work as a longshoreman or clerk shall be included in the calculation of the port's 80%.

13.1. When such full-time joint employees leave their employment and return to longshore or clerk work, they shall then be included in the "Pay Guarantee Plan" based on their actual paid hours and earnings.

13.2. Part-time joint employees, who cease performing duties and also work as a longshoreman or clerk shall be included in the calculation of the port's 80%.

13.3. Only those earnings as a clerk shall be included in determining the 80% tests.

13.4. Earnings for guarantee purposes in other than their home port with or without having obtained the clearance and approval defined in Supplement I of the Agreement.

14.1. Whenever a registered longshoreman refuses to accept such dispatch, during dispatch periods, to clerk's work a report of such inci- dent shall be made by the dispatch in the manner and form developed for such purpose.

14.2. In such event such registered longshoreman dispatched to clerk's work who are determined by an employer to be unauthorized shall be placed in the "Pay Guarantee Plan" of longshoremen unqualified for clerk's work by the local longshore committee. Such men shall be dispatched as a clerk, on a "Pay Guarantee Plan." earning and is exhausted, they shall be immediately classified as clerks.

15. Work stoppages by longshore or clerk locals. A work stoppage by any local in violation of the PCL&CA shall be the 17-week period commencing 8 A.M. Saturday, March 4, 1972 and ending 8 A.M. Saturday, September 2, 1972.

16. Work stoppages by other unions or Acts of God. In the event that unions other than those signed to the PCL&CA, enter into a work stoppage by an Act of God (described herein as "force majeure") that creates a reduction in tonnage handled in a port, area, or otherwise, it shall, for a period extending beyond one payroll week, be a work stoppage by any local in violation of Section 11.1 of the PCL&CA.

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19. Payroll processing. All payroll processing, including the former direct payment plan, shall be made by member companies and payroll of nonmember companies participating in the "Pay Guarantee Plan" shall be processed through the PMA central records office.

20. Guaranrete periods. The guarantee periods of the "Pay Guarantee Plan" shall be as follows:

20.1. The first guarantee period shall be the 26-week period commencing 8 A.M. Saturday, March 4, 1972 and ending 8 A.M. Saturday, September 2, 1972.

20.2. The second guarantee period shall be the 17-week period commencing 8 A.M. Saturday, September 2, 1972 and ending 8 A.M. Saturday, March 4, 1973.


21. Eligibility tests. The averaging of paid hours or work weeks shall be considered a work stoppage in a payroll week or guarantee period unless applied to four groups in each port.

22. Implementation of "Pay Guarantee Plan". Implementation of the "Pay Guarantee Plan" shall be the necessary computer programming and technical provisions to the Agreement under the "Pay Guarantee Plan" shall be made from (60) sixty days after ratification of the Agreement (February 19, 1972) or earlier if possible, with payment being made as of the first payroll week following the date of the "Pay Guarantee Plan" (March 4, 1972).

23. Interpretation.

23.1. Disputes arising over the interpretation or application of these Rules shall be referred directly to the Joint Coast Arbitrator whose decision shall be final and binding.

23.2. The Parties agree that it is to their mutual best interest to prevent abuses and the intent of purpose of the "Pay Guarantee Plan." Recognizing this as their objective, the Parties agree that the Rules contained herein are subject to change, modification, deletion or addition by the Joint Coast Arbitrator Committee and if resolution cannot be reached, the issue(s) shall be presented to the Coast Arbitrator whose decision shall be final and binding.

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New Skill Differential Rates

Longshore skill differential rates negotiated under the new ILWU-PMA Agreement are published in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Sr.</th>
<th>Cat.</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>Cat.</th>
<th>Ovr.</th>
<th>Wash.</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>*Blade Trucker—Aboard ship</td>
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<td></td>
<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Blade Trucker—On deck</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Boom Man</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>0.25</td>
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<td>*Burton Man</td>
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<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Bulldozer Operator</em></td>
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<td>0.50</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Combination Lift Truck—Binny Driver</em></td>
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<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Crane Chaser</td>
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<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
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<td>0.70</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Donkey Driver</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*Dogline Driver</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>*Gong Boss</td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Hatch Boss Tender</em></td>
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<td>0.25</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Holdman (2 in gang)</em></td>
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<td><em>Lift Truck Operator</em></td>
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<tr>
<td><em>Payloader Operator</em></td>
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<td><em>Ross Carrier Driver</em></td>
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<tr>
<td>*Sock Turner</td>
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<td>0.25</td>
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<td>*Side Runner</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Slowing Machine Driver</td>
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<td>0.25</td>
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<tr>
<td>*Winch Driver</td>
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*Section 3.131 does not apply and these men may be shifted to any longshore work retaining their skill differential.

**Notes:**
- Applies to Pt. Hueneme only.
- Two men shall be employed for each machine in continuous operation.
- See Addendum, Continuous Operation.
- Applies to Tacoma, Anacortes and Port Angeles only.

See the meeting schedule below:

**SAN FRANCISCO**

March 21—8 p.m.

Combined stewards and membership meeting—150 Golden Gate Avenue, Santa Maria Hall. Free parking inside garage at 46 Golden Gate Avenue (north side near Jones Street).

1 p.m.

Shift workers meeting—355 Ninth Street, Union Hall.

**EAST BAY**—**OAKLAND**

March 25—8 p.m.

Local 6 Building, 99 Hegenberger Road, Oakland.

**PENINSULA**

March 14—7:30 p.m.

San Jose meeting, 580 Lorraine Avenue, San Jose.

March 22—7:30 p.m.

Redwood City meeting, Foresters of America Hall, Redwood City.

March 9—7:30 p.m.

Salinas meetings, Local 6 office, 1395 East Market Street, Salinas.

**NORTH BAY**—**CROCKETT**

March 17—4:45 p.m.

Crockett Union Hall: Bio-Rad, Bird & Son; O&H, Foremost; Racional Gypsum, Olin Plastics; Port Cost Products.

March 15—4 p.m.

Antioch, 111-10th Street: Interface, Kaiser Gypsum; Standard Pipe Products.

**STOCKTON**

March 24—7 p.m.

Local 6 Hall, 738 South Lincoln.

**Portland Auxiliary**

PORTLAND—Longshore Auxiliary 5 has installed the following officers for 1972: President, Veva Phillips; vice-president, Clara Fambro; secretary, Reta Kerry; treasurer, Fieda Pellum; marshal, Ella Hagen; escort, Virginia Heinrich.

**Isle Pensioners Plan Busy Conference**

WAILUKU — Lt. Gov. George Ariyoshi will be featured speaker at the ILWU State Pensioners Association Sixth Biennial Conference, slated for the Maui Beach Hotel, over the March 10-11-12 weekend.

Other opening-day speakers will include: vice-president, Constantine Samson; Mayor Elmer Cravalho, and Maui ILWU Division Director Yagi. Kyozo Fukushima, president of the ILWU State Pensioners Association, and Mrs. James Ball, chairman of the Maui County Aging Commission, will also speak. Robertu Miyamoto, who is general chairman of the Conference, will emcee.

**186 DELEGATES**

Some 186 persons, representing various Railway, Metal and Longshore councils on the different islands, are registered to attend. The Big Island will have the largest group, with 67 delegates, followed by 56 from Kauai, 33 from Oahu and 34 from Maui.

Following the opening ceremonies, delegates will break up into small discussion groups for a rap session. They will talk on various topics of interest, both personal and political.

A business session is set for Saturday.

A busy round of various social activities will cap off the first day for the delegates for the entire weekend. On Friday night, they will visit the Hale Mahalou elderly center in Kahului, for dinner and a social hour.

On Tuesday, they will meet at the Maui Beach Hotel, over the Margaret L. Young 18 Delegates.

Coordinating the conference plans is inland longshoreman Fukushima, president of the ILWU Pensioners Clubs.

The Maui ILWU Pensioners Council will serve as hosts for the weekend confab. The Council is composed of retirees of HC&S, Pioneer Mill, Kamehameha Sugar Co., Kauai Pineapple, and Wailuku Sugar, who belong to ILWU Pensioners Clubs.

**Devaluation Means Big Profits for Pine Companies**

HONOLULU—Dele and Del Monte pineapple companies, along with other US firms operating in the Philippines, have been making enormous profits there for the last two years.

In February, 1970, the peso was devalued from 3.90 to 6.50 to the dollar. The immediate effect was that labor costs, which were already shockingly low, were cut almost in half for the American-owned firms.

The devaluation was forced on the Philippine government by the US dominated International Monetary Fund as a condition for badly needed loans.

Local 27, Port Angeles

Leroy Jagger has been elected to serve as president of Local 27 for 1972. Harold Bullock will be vice president, Dennis Shore will be secretary-treasurer. Also elected were Rod Lidster, Robert Minish and Ron Gander, LRC; King Dold, Robert Wilcox and Don Reidel, treasurers; Gerald Huff, dispatcher, Robert Wilcox, John Breden, Ron Breden, Gerald Huff, convention and caucus delegates; Dennis Shore, Puget Sound Council Delegate and Richard Deane, marshal.

A seven-member executive board was named as well as a four-man safety committee.

Local 6 to Vote on Dues Hike

SAN FRANCISCO—The Local 6 convention held Saturday, March 4, voted unanimously to recommend that dues be increased by $1.00 beginning in April. (This recommendation was made to put the union in better shape for negotiations in 1973.)

The exact wording on the secret ballot is as follows:

"Are you in favor of the recommendation of the budget committee and the convention to raise dues from $7.00 to $8.00 beginning April 1, 1972, and all other dues regulations shall remain as now in effect?"

This recommendation will be voted on at March meetings. At these same meetings a report will be made on other convention actions.

All pays dues paying members can vote, including Work Card and Red Book.

February dues must be paid. Ballots will be counted Saturday, March 5 at 9 a.m. at 255 Ninth Street, San Francisco.

**NEW FACE**—Eugene, Ore. builder, James H. Weaver, who has taken a strong position against compulsory arbitration, is running for the fourth Congressional district seat now held by John R. Dellenback, who voted for the anti-tax bill passed recently in Washington.

Weaver, a Democrat, is shown above, center, handling bumper strips bearing his campaign slogan, "A Voice, not a Whisper," to Eugene Bailey, president of Local 12, left, and State Rep. Jack Ripper, right.
Washington, D.C. — It is now several months since President Nixon inaugurated the wage-price freeze and other economic programs which were put into effect in late November of last year.

Not too much of substance has happened since.

For example, the Labor Department's annual unemployment report has dropped from 5.9 percent in January to 5.7 percent in February. But this figure, even though the government says, reflects no basic change. The total number of unemployment remained at 4,674,000 as of the beginning of March.

Under congressional questioning, Bureau of Labor Statistics chief George Monthan explained that the percentage drop probably simply reflects a large number of people who have managed to find new jobs for four months and have given up — they are no longer considered part of the total work force.

Hidden Unemployment

The total labor force grew in February and did not drop by as much as it might have, had it not been for a longer and longer period of time.

Evidence of this is given by Alfred Tella of Georgetown University show that while average official unemployment for 21 states was 6.9 percent of the labor force, including hidden unemployment, was close to 6.6 percent.

The eight wage-earners, of course, the unemployment percentage for the nation as a whole was offset by a general rise in the number of young and black people out of work.

Unemployment of blacks remained more than double the figure, including hidden unemployment, was close to 6.6 percent.

"It means more man hours of work. For example, the Labor Department's annual unemployment report has dropped from 5.9 percent in January to 5.7 percent in February. But this figure, even though the government says, reflects no basic change. The total number of unemployment remained at 4,674,000 as of the beginning of March.

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The microphone is where democracy is at.

Longshoremen of Local 143, Hawaii, in the event they are forced to strike, and full support to West Coast longshoremen if they are forced to strike to get Pay Board approval for gains already won on the picket line. Winding up, he said: "It is not too early for the delegations to go back to their divisions... and start uniting for our coming negotiations in 1973."

THAKNS

ILWU president Harry Bridges, speaking also as chairman of the Longshore Coast Negotiating Committee, expressed his thanks to Local 6 for their solid aid and support during the strike.

He told the members why he believes the Pay Board should approve the recent agreement with the PMA, stressing above all the enormous increased productivity delivered by a shrinking work force on the waterfront.

He noted also that the ILWU has a firm understanding with the ILA that if the Pay Board dumps or modifies settlements on both West Coast and East Coast contracts, there are provisions in the agreement that the ILWU and ILA will get together and take action.

Bridges had high praise for the waterfront membership. It was a long strike, he noted, after there had been no strike for 23 years.

"When the chips were down... however, the members did a fine job, and we got enthusiastic support from the entire labor movement, nationally and locally. AFL-CIO president George Meany gave us strong support, especially after Nixon attempted to drive us back under compulsory arbitration."

"Our position is simple: Our workers marched out by vote and they marched back with a v.v. We are not an isolated union and nothing proves that better than the contract we got."

Then, the ILWU's president concentrated on the question that many members have been worrying about —merger with some other major union.

Although the ILWU is not a big union, it is strong. It is in good shape and "we can stand on our own feet," Bridges said. But changing economic and political facts and changing times have made the union's leadership consider moving toward merger.

He also emphasized that the four national titled officers agreed on moving toward a merger with the IBT.

"We are considering it and will recommend a referendum on an enlarged International Executive Board meeting to be held shortly." The question of merger will be the number one issue, he said, and all questions surrounding such a merger will be discussed.

RANKS WILL DECIDE

But it will be the rank and file that makes the final decision, in a referendum, Bridges concluded.

"This union has a great, proud and wonderful record. I am the last person who'd want to see this union disappear. But we're just going to have to consider making changes in the interest of our rank and file."

We must realize that conditions in this country are far different for great labor unions, he concluded.

Other officers of the longshore division came to greet the Local 6 delegates, and express their appreciation for the help provided by the warehousemen.

Local 10 president Cleophas Williams expressed his desire for continued unity between the various sections of the ILWU, he was accompanied by secretary-treasurer Glenn Ackerman.

Local 34 president Jim Herman told of the deep appreciation of the solidarity and support given by Local 6 and added that this is the kind of thing that guarantees success in our future struggles.

ILWU secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt, a member of Local 6 and co-chairman with Teamster vice president Mock of the Northern California Warehouse Council, ILWU-IBT, also spoke at some length on the question of merger.

"The union is in good shape," he said, "and it is now that the longshoremen have come through their difficult strike."

"But there are a couple of tough situations in Hawaii, namely sugar and longshore. There may be more strikes in the future."

He noted that employers feel they can make all kinds of new demands on unions, including strikes, unless they have the Nixon Administration to back them up.

"The warehouse division here, he said, should realize that "it is not too early to get going on preparations for a big strike."

"We have had a good solid working alliance with Teamster Local 82, and they have got as much from Local 6."

"This has been built on good solid trust and confidence in accepting people for what they are with a right to believe as they please, and that is best for them. We are not for any political sanction."

"We are going to struggle with finding answers with only one basic principle in mind, and that is the best for the membership that elects us."

Anti-labor developments in the national scene can only be effectively countered by developing unity.

He agreed with Bridges that the officers of the ILWU are united on the question of merger. And he also agreed that "this is not a rescue operation. We are not derelicts, waiting for anyone to throw us a line."

"We are fighting for our existence. We are a fighting institution."

"Most important, finally before this union acts, the issue of merger or affiliation will have to go back to the last source of strength we have got—and that is the membership of this union."

"This ILWU has been a good family. This is a fine family and I would like to end with an expression of what I will oppose with every ounce of energy I can muster is any idea of fragmenting this union."

Other ILWU guests included Warehouse Local 26 president Joe Ibarra from Los Angeles, who was accompanied by secretary-treasurer Lou Sherman and recently elected vice president Max Aragon; Sacramento Local 17 president Ben Davis and secretary Oscar Jordan; Local 2 shipyards president Robert Edwards; East Bay chief business agent Bill Burke was secretary of the convention.