Clock is Moving on BC Docks

VANCOUVER, BC — The ILWU longshore contract expired here July 31 and government efforts to conclu the issue have so far failed. As this issue of The Dispatcher went to press, it was reported that the President of the government’s three-man conciliation board, had filed his report with Ottawa to the effect that the parties were unable to agree.

Under the Canadian Labor Relations Act, a strike vote may be taken seven days after the Minister of Labor receives the report. The report was officially received at midnight, Monday, July 31 by labor minister Martin O’Connell.

Labor’s nominee on the board was William Stewart of the Marine Shipyard Workers, who had served in a similar capacity for longshoremen previously. Management consultant Richard Mahoney represented dock employers on the board. Mahoney and Stewart were unable to agree on a chairman, as a result of which the federal government named Dr. Hull.

NEGOTIATIONS

Intensive negotiations, with the clock running, began on Tuesday, August 1, while ILWU Canadian longshoremen continued to work under their old agreements.

The union and the employers agreed with Dr. Hull that the conciliation board should be headed up negotiations with the assistance of secretary-treasurer Frank Kennedy and vice presidents Vern Goodfellow, Ken Gregory and Dave Lomax.

British Dock Situation Explodes

LONDON — The long-simmering British dock strike, which started over last week as 42,000 British dock workers walked off their jobs in protest against the arrest of five of their leaders. But almost all British ports are still closed, and only the resolution of the sticky problem of who gets to stuff and strip certain containers will end the strike.

BASIC ISSUE

The basic problem is this: because of the industrial relations court’s decision to speed up the introduction of new methods of cargo handling, the number of jobs available to dock workers has been reduced drastically in the last few years—from 60,000 in 1967 to 42,000 today. In recent years, therefore, the dock workers have tried to re-establish their jurisdiction over the stuffing and stripping at container depots outside port areas—presently being done mainly by non-registered longshoremen.

Also to be discussed at the September meeting is the question of an endorsement of a presidential candidate for the November election. It was pointed out that any endorsement requires a unanimous vote.

Following traditional ILWU practices, locals will be advised of the international position and, in keeping with their position of autonomy, will have the right to act as they wish in the political arena.

CHINA TRIP

Upon receipt of an invitation from the Chinese People’s Association of Friendship with Foreign Countries, the Executive Board moved to firm up plans for a delegation to visit Mainland China this year.

The Board voted to send a six-member delegation to the People’s Republic of China, to include:

- Wesley Johnson, Local 8; Joe Jakovec, Local 12; first alternate, James Van Osdom, Local 58; second alternate, Paul Stephenson, Local 8.
- From Oregon—Columbia River: Wesley Johnson, Local 8; Joe Jakovec, Local 12; first alternate, James Van Osdom, Local 58; second alternate, Henry Rhein, Local 31.
- From Northern California: James S. Grodnik, Local 6; Joe Gemignani, Local 6; alternate, Jewel Fleming, Young, Local 6.
- From Southern California: Jerry Plante, Local 94, alternate, Frank Agundez, Local 94.
- From Hawaii: (all Local 142) Fred Taniguchi, Mariano Aoba, Donald A. Rickard, Norman Amison, Saburu Fujisaki, Antone Kahawailoa, Jr.; first alternate, Joe J. Franco, second alternate, Fred Paulino.

Overseas Delegates Selected
The ILO has always been believed that the working people of all nations should be in touch with each other, support each other whenever possible—regardless of which social system they live under. We have always opposed moves to cut US dues payments to the ILO, and with our overseas delegations and concrete acts of support we have sought to develop our own ties of friendship and solidarity.

We welcome the change in the AFL-CIO policy and hope that this will mean the beginning of a change in many other aspects of AFL-CIO foreign policy with which we have consistently disagreed.

A final note: we are also particularly proud of the role that the Canadian worker delegation—on which the ILWU was represented—played at the recent meeting of the ILO. When a dispute between the West Germans and the Russians came up as to who should head the worker delegation to the conference, the Canadians stepped in—and by mutual agreement a Canadian was chosen to represent their workers. We are glad that the detente between the socialist countries do not have unions which represent their workers. We are glad that cold war hysteria has abated to the point of having to borrow our colleagues in the socialist countries to help us find our way in technical assistance projects.

Even a sophisticated industrial country like the US in 1935 was more than happy to receive the advice and assistance of a team of ILO experts who came here to help the American government write the Social Security Act.

Unfortunately, the ILO has been operating under a cloud for too long. The crisis began in 1970 when incoming director general Wilfred Jenks of Great Britain appointed a Russian as one of his five assistants. This is certainly not unusual in an organization associated with the UN.

But American cold-warriors—including the AFL-CIO leadership—found that this was more than they could take. They had argued for years that the Soviet labor and other socialist delegates were not representative of their members, were non-bonafide workers' delegates.

And so, under tremendous pressure, Congress suspended American contributions to the ILO—a serious blow since the US contributes 25 percent of the ILO's total budget. Thus, one year after winning the Nobel Peace Prize, the ILO announced that it was reduced to the point of having to borrow money in order to offset failure of the US to pay its dues.

Fortunately, the AFL-CIO and the US Congress abandoned this rule or ruin policy this year. Back dues through June, 1971 have been paid, and it is expected that the rest will be forthcoming soon.

What this means, of course, is that the US has abandoned a suicidal policy of refusing to recognize the right of delegates from the socialist countries to participate in the ILO. This is no longer at issue.

Although some sparring goes on, returning labor delegates from the June conference report that red baiting and political dogma is no longer at issue.
Local 26 Hits Kaiser Premium Rate Increase

LOS ANGELES — An announcement by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan that premium costs will go up by 10 percent has drawn an angry response from President Nixon's so-called "anti-inflation" program by Local 26 president Richard Meany.

The increase here will affect 3500 members of Local 26, and will eventually hit another 500 members.

Meany blasted the price commissin for allowing the increase, pointing out that Kaiser here has increased premiums by approximately 42 percent over the past three years, while cutting back on certain maternity benefits.

"BOLD-FACED LIE"

"This situation," commented the Local 26 Warehouse News, "points out the injustices that working people are suffering under the the Nixon policies on economics. Although President Nixon has said that these programs are to be administered fairly on all segments of our country, this we are convinced is a bold-faced lie."

"We are convinced that the ILWU, AFL, CIO or any IAW position on these price and wage controls is and has been on the beam since their inception, and that position is that the Nixon administration ... continues to rob working people of what they can negotiate from their employers, while the large corporations continue to get rich by unchecked profits and excessive price increases.

AFL-CIO Votes 'No Endorsement' For President

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The AFL-CIO Executive Council, in a special one-day conference attended by Democratic convention, voted not to endorse either Senator George McGovern or President Richard Nixon in the 1972 elections.

"Under the circumstances," AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Meany told reporters, the "AFL-CIO will refrain from endorsing either candidate for the office of President of the United States.

"These circumstances call, rather, for the maximum concentration of effort upon the election of senators and representatives whose records commend them to the working people of America."

The Council's action leaves affiliated unions free to support other candidates on the presidential race, but binds the local labor councils or state bodies to a position of no endorsement.

OPPOSITION

The vote for no endorsement was 27-3, with Paul Jennings of the International Union of Electrical Workers, Jerry Wurf of the State, County and Municipal Workers and A. Gray August of the Chemical and Atomic Workers in the minority.

Commenting on some of the reasons given in the opposition action, Meany said, "It's quite obvious there's a division among the rank and file of the AFL-CIO on whether or not they try to solve that division at the top, we're giving a job on which they can agree and let them do as they like on the presidential candidate.

"OUT OF THE STORE—INTO THE STREETS"

The chant of 700 labor union mem-

berv and friends who turned up at the picket line in front of San Francisco's big Emporium department store last week to support a strike by Department Store Employees Union Local 1100 and Retail Store Employees Union Local 410, Represented on the picket line were ILWUs Locals 9, 1D, 34 and 3D, as well as the Culinary Workers, the Garment Workers, Building Trades, Teamsters, Sailors, Communications Workers, Electrical Workers, Farm Workers, Office Workers, and others.

The spirited picketers backed up demands by 1600 Emporium workers for increased wages and fringe and the creation of a company store.

The unions charged that the "Emporium was using the "free rider" issue as an excuse to prevent full bargaining on all other issues. The large number of ILWU members on the picket line was at least partly attributable to a desire to support the Department Store Employees who gave considerable assistance during the longshore strike.

Columbia River Council Safety Idea for Log Locals

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Safety hit the deck at the CRDC's July meeting here, triggered by a report on an accident suffered by a Local 12 mem-

ber, Louis Brock.

A log rolled on Brock's leg when he was straightening logs in the hold of a ship at Coos Bay. The problem involved how to hang the basket (stretcher) from the main bar that pulls up the logs, so the injured docker could be hauled through the hatch.

Time is of the essence in such ac-

cidents, not uncommon in log ports. In Brock's case, he was on his way to the hospital in less than 12 minutes, but all log victims have not been so fortunate, and the report touched off various suggestions on how to rescue the docker and safest way to hang the basket.

SHORT STRAPS

Mervyn C. Leathers, president of Local 4, came up with one that went down in the delegates' notebooks. He suggested that short straps eight to ten feet in length, fitted with a ring in one end and a big snap in the other, be kept on the dock for such emergencies.

In other actions the meeting:

• Urged affidavits to write the Oreg-

on newspaper two years ago to test-

ify against the imposition of similar measures.

The ILWU has always opposed such screening provisions. ILWA vice president Andrew Biemiller sent the bill to Washington two years ago to tes-

ify against the imposition of similar measures.

The bill had been introduced by Charles Mills, the committee sent the bill back to legal counsel for re-

writing.

As a result of this testimony and also a late night visit by AFL-CIO legislative representative Andrew Biemiller to committee chairman Wilbur Mills, the committee sent the Her-Ex back to legal counsel for re-

writing.

Her-Ex Strikers Win Unemployment Pay

LOS ANGELES — Over 150 mem-

bers of the Los Angeles Newspaper Guild, on strike against the Los An-

geles Herald Examiner since 1967 are eligible to receive unemployment in-

surance benefits, according to a de-

scription of the law offered by ILA general counsel Louis Waldman.

"We are convinced that the ILWU, AFL and other unions could handle the theft problem by themselves through collective bargaining.

As a result of this testimony and also a late night visit by AFL-CIO legislative representative Andrew Biemiller to committee chairman Wilbur Mills, the committee sent the bill to legal counsel for re-

writing.

Also pending in committee is an-

other bill, HR 10295, introduced by Representative James J. Pickle (D-

Tex.), which would impose screen-

ings in both retail and wholesale.

Representative John Conroy of New York, a key sponsor of the bill, will have his bill moved to a House Ways and Means Committee.

The Newspaper Guild strike against the Her-Ex has been in progress for 11 months, and the Newspaper Guild has begun operating with strikebreakers.

Referee David Reith ruled that the Hearst paper locked out some 11 workers. Guild members, earlier been operating with strikebreakers.

Referee David Reith ruled that the Newspaper Guild strikers became eligible for unemployment on October 29 because the newspaper hired re-

placements, claimed to be per-

manent employees, and otherwise chang-

ed its operations so as to eliminate certain jobs formerly held by Guild mem-

Opposition to the hearing was filed by the Orange County Employers Committee, the California Retail Merchants Association and the California Grocers Association.

The Longshore Strike

The ILA general counselLouis Wald-
man drew attention to the bill's pro-

vision for the issuance of identity cards for employees of "good moral character."

(During the course of the hear-

ing Representative John Conroy of New York, a key sponsor of the bill, will have his bill moved to a House Ways and Means Committee.

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ed its operations so as to eliminate certain jobs formerly held by Guild mem-

bers.

Apology

The June 21 issue of the Dispat-

cher neglected to mention that Roy Oros was a member of the Local 26 team which helped negotiate a new contract with Kaiser Gympas.

Next Dispatcher Deadline — August 11
ILO Report Urges Protection Against Dock Mechanization

GENEVA, Switz.—A dockers’ charter to protect waterfront workers from unemployment and other hardships caused by the introduction of new cargo handling methods was tentatively approved recently by the International Labor Organization’s 57th annual General Conference here. (For more on the ILO, see editorial, page 4.)

ILWU Canadian regional director Craig Pritchett served on the ILO committee on the Social Repercussions of New Methods of Cargo Handling which wrote the statement. Pritchett, sent for Geneva by the Canadian Labor Congress—was advisor to “worker delegate” Joe Morris, executive vice president of the CLC.

(The ILO was founded in 1919 as a part of the League of Nations, and became part of the United Nations in 1945. Over 120 nations belong—each of which sends a delegation composed of workers, employers and government representatives to the annual conference. Here, guidelines and suggestions concerning labor, social legislation and action are discussed and adopted. The ILO is also active in setting up training programs and other assistance in the third world.)

The preamble to the recommendation on containment notes that “important changes have taken place and are taking place in cargo handling methods on docks—such as the adoption of unit loads, the introduction of roll on/roll off techniques and the increase of mechanization and automation—and in pattern of movement of freight they are expected to become more widespread in the future.”

EFFECT ON WORKERS

“Such changes also involve considerable repercussions on the level of employment, in ports and on the conditions of work and life of dock workers, and measures should be adopted to prevent or to reduce the problems which they face.”

Dockworkers should share in the benefits secured by the introduction of new methods of cargo handling; accordingly, action for the lasting improvement of this situation by such means as regularization of employment and stabilization of income, and other measures related to their conditions of work and life, as well as to safety and health aspects of dockwork, should be planned and taken concurrently with the planning and introduction of new handling methods.

“Positive steps should be taken by all parties concerned to avert or to reduce as far as possible the effects of the work force, without prejudice to the efficient conduct of dockwork operations.”

The ILO statement also suggests that longshore employment be decentralized as far as possible to provide a regular income for dockworkers and that registration lists be made regularly updated to take into account changing needs.

DECREASING WORKFORCE

“If reduction in the overall size of a register becomes unavoidable, all necessary efforts should be made to help dockworkers find employment elsewhere, due to provision of retraining facilities and the assistance of the public employment services.”

Such reductions should be made gradually and “without recourse to termination of employment.”

The resolution and recommendation also calls for the effective enforcement of safety legislation on the docks, standards as regards hours of work, weekly rest, holidays, appropriate pension and retirement programs, and other protections for workers.

According to ILO rules the convention and recommendation is to be sent out to the member nations of the ILO for comment and then will be submitted again to the ILO general conference in 1973, where the final decision will be taken on adoption.

Chairman of the workers delegation on the committee on containerization were Charles Fitgibbons of the Canadian Labor Congress, and M. Bereski of the Polish trade union movement. Important officials of the West German, Danish, Norwegian, Japanese, Soviet and other dock and transport unions also served on the committee. Representative of the US was Matthew Guinan of the Transport Workers Union.

The Pay Board Giveth and The Pay Board Taketh Away

WASHINGTON, DC — On the one hand, the Cost of Living Council recently freed approximately 10 million workers from Pay Board restrictions on wage increases by boosting the exemption level from $1.90 an hour to $2.25 an hour. In other words, workers earning less than $2.75 an hour will not be affected by Pay Board restrictions on wage increases.

The Cost of Living Council was forced to act in this matter by federal court decision on a case brought by the International Union of Electric Workers, in which the Pay Board, William Jones overturned the previous exemption figure set by the Pay Board of $1.90 an hour.

TIGHTENING UP

On the other hand, a growing wave of speculation and rumors has it that the Pay Board may soon tighten up on permitted wage increases.

Business Week reports that “while there is no certainty of reduction of the present 5.5 percent, board members are reported leaning towards somewhat tighter” restrictions after a series of public hearings in five or more cities this week.

Business Week guesses that the guideline for raises may soon be tightened to five percent.

And in a speech before the National Press Club recently, Judge George H. Boldt, chairman of the Pay Board, announced that his board is in the process of “reviewing” its 5.5 percent wage guidelines. “It is now appropriate to review the standard and to assess its applicability to the current economic situation in light of prospects of reaching our year-end target, now less than six months away,” Boldt said.

Recent decisions by the Pay Board show an ever increasing toughness.

The Board has cut back on preferred increases for hospital workers in Minnesota, bookbinders in Buffalo, New York, butchers in Philadelphia and others.

Good Contract For Local 26 At Ashland

MOJAVE, Calif.—Local 26 members at Ashland Chemical Company here have approved an agreement which grants 20 cents on February 21, 1972 provides for an additional 20 cents across the board effective March 6, 1972.

The new increases will amount to between 21 and 26 cents effective February 21, 1973, and 22 to 28 cents on February 21, 1974.

Skilled repairmen will receive an additional 25 cents retroactive to March 6, 1972. Also, a ninth paid holiday will be observed this year, and July and September holidays will be added.

Associated Vacation pay will be granted to an employee upon termination if he has been working for Ashland for at least six months. Jury duty and witness pay will be paid at straight time for all time lost up to eight hours a day or forty hours a week.

The negotiating committee consisted of Bill Parker, Elmer Bratcher, Gene Canady and business agent Sid London.

BENEFITS EXPANDED—The ILWU Credit Union, formerly just serving ILWU members in Locals 13, 63 and 94, has been chartered by the state to provide service now for every ILWU member in Southern California.

The credit union will offer such increased benefits as free checking accounts, money orders, notarizing, safety deposit boxes and other services. To assist locals in making deposits, a mobile unit for the credit union will travel throughout Southern California. Inspector of the credit union is John Lucas, right, general manager of the ILWU Credit Union. Joining for Local 26 are Hy Orkin, business agent, and Lou Sherman, secretary-treasurer. Wielding the pen is Joe Barray, president of Local 26.
Canada Area Asks Upgrading Of Port of Vancouver

VANCOUVER, BC — In a brief submitted to the Canadian federal government in Ottawa, the ILWU Canadian area has charged that the Port of Vancouver, "is losing both import and export business" to other ports because of the lack of action by the government. 

The brief charges that the federal government has done nothing to stop the siphoning off of Vancouver-bound cargo to other ports and that it has permitted development of new facilities in the Vancouver harbor "in serious disarray." 

Signed by Canadian area ILWU president Don Garcia, the brief suggests a number of reasons for Vancouver's loss of cargo: discriminatory rates and lack of development.

The brief charges that a rate structure which discriminates against the Canadian port has been established by shipping companies, "united in price fixing, "conferences." 

**PROMISES**

As far as port development is concerned the brief states: "It would be unfair to suggest that no plans exist for expansion of port facilities. We have not been short of plans or promises, and some of the contracts concerned with port development in Vancouver are thoroughly disturbed at the snail's pace of things here.

For example, plans for a 77-acre container terminal and for an 87-acre general cargo terminal "have been in the office of transport minister Don Jamison for months. It is not clear whether any negotiation on these two plans is completed or is anybody's guess."

"Fast delays do not encourage optimism. Everyone was represented and approved and undertaken soon - to be alk a 1974 at the earliest to complete them."

What makes the whole thing "even more galling" is that the ILWU brief states that Vancouver, "in contrast to almost all other ports in Eastern Canada, is making money; it is not in the red like the others. And since major expansion is being undertaken in other Canadian ports, we can only conclude that the National Harbors Board is using its surplus to subsidize expansion elsewhere."

To remedy the problems facing the Port of Vancouver and to improve its competitive position, the ILWU suggested:

- Immediate action on the construction of the proposed new container and general cargo facilities in Vancouver and New Westminster.
- A thorough and complete examination of the causes of the delays in development and for the reasons for the excessive cost of existing gantry crane operation.
- The government should take action under the Canada Shipping Act, which is clearly being violated by the conference companies, to bring an end to discriminatory rates and practices against the Port of Vancouver.
- The Canadian Transport Commission should have as its objective that imports destined for Canada are handled more efficiently than at Canadian ports, and that Canadian exports go out through Canadian ports.
- Canada should act to build up a public-owned mercantile marine to make it independent of the foreign price-fixing conferences, which now decide the rates on all goods imported into or exported from Canada.

"Involved in this issue," the brief states, "are the future of our port, the survival of the hundreds of businesses and the livelihood of a staggering Canadian economy."

Non-Voters Could Swing Presidential Election

WASHINGTON, DC — There are an estimated 40 million Americans normally "non-voters," who might easily swing the general election in November.

The 40-million estimate is the number of Americans constitutionally eligible to vote, but who probably will not make the effort if past election participation figures are any criterion.

The "non-voters" are said for a variety of reasons. Many Americans move during the course of a year and either forget to register in their new precinct or are confused about residence requirements and absentee ballots.

Millions of others simply do not go to the polls for the reason that they "didn't want to."

**CCHPA Wins $150,000 Grant For Health Evaluation**

BURLINGAME, Calif. — California Council for Health Plan Alternatives (CCHPA) Chairman Einar O. Mohn recently announced acceptance of a $150,000 contract with the Health Services and Mental Health Administration of the Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

The contract provides that CCHPA is "to develop, field-test and distribute nationally an objective, validated rating technique and/or health education-information guide." The guide, developed will be used by union agents and others who pursue care for organized groups to assist in making a rational choice when selecting among alternative health care plans and health insurance plans for their groups.

Additionally, the contract calls for CCHPA to develop a "Plan Marketing Guide" to assist developers of Health Maintenance Organizations (HMO's) in structuring and marketing their services.

"The potential value of these guidelines to trade unions and other consumer groups is immeasurable," said Mohn who is also Director of the Western Conference of Teamsters.

"Over the years organized labor has successfully negotiated larger and larger allocations for its members' health insurance plans," he said, "only to become increasingly aware that larger dollar investments for medical care do not necessarily improve quality."

This CCHPA project undertakes to increase the rational basis for making decisions about the development and selection of health care plans," Mohn stated.

It will do so by creating an objective and definitive system of rating both health insurance and health plans, according to the contract's terms.

With the aid of this rating system, organized groups, large and small, will be able to easily compare any number of options in the selection of the best all-around plan for their particular group situation, the government.

The CCHPA, a voluntary federation of California's trade unions, represents 1,000,000 members of the AFL-CIO, Teamsters United Auto Workers, the ILWU, and their families. It was organized by the unions specifically to stimulate new health systems.

Pay Board Dumped on Aerospace Cuts

WASHINGTON, DC—A federal pay board which last year overstepped its authority by dictating a wage settlement negotiated in the aerospace industry by machinists and auto workers earlier this year.

The judge said that the board had gone too far in slashing cost of living increases that were previously negotiated.

Last January the Pay Board cut back the proposed increase for 51 cents an hour to 34 cents. Responding to a suit brought by the IAM and the UAW, US district judge George Hart this week upheld the union arguments that the 34-cents was part of a cost of living clause negotiated in 1968 and should not have been considered as part of the new three-year package negotiated in 1971.

The judge also said that the Pay Board's action in deferring until the second year of the contract the remaining 17 cents of the original 51-cent package was illegal.

He recommended that the Pay Board consider the 34-cents "old money" even though its guidelines limiting increases to 5.5 percent a year.

The contract affects more than 100,000 workers. They are employees of LTV aerospace, North American Rockwell, Douglas, Boeing and Lockheed.
National Health Care System is Cheaper

WASHINGTON, DC — California alone could save more than $377 million a year in state and local taxes by passage of Senator Edward M. Kennedy's (D-Mass.) Health Security Act (S-3), according to figures recently compiled by the US Department of Health, Education, and Welfare in Washington, DC.

The department reported that due to the present matching monies basis for funding Medi-Cal, California experienced only a small reduction in costs on the program during fiscal 1971.

In contrast, the state would have spent slightly over $132 million during the same period had Kennedy's proposed program been in effect.

Largest savings to California taxpayers would have been realized in the areas of hospital, laboratory, and doctor's fees. Medi-Cal paid out well over $311 million in state and local money on those areas alone during fiscal 1971. Under Kennedy's Health Security bill, the state and local governments would not have spent a dime towards payment of any of these costs.

FUNDING SYSTEM

Kennedy's bill, which provides complete quality health care to all Americans, is funded in much the same way as is Social Security. It will establish a trust, funded partially by employer/employee payroll taxes and partially by general federal revenues, that will ensure that no citizen of the United States is denied or financially devasted by adequate and proper medical care.

Co-sponsored by Congresswoman Martha W. Griffiths (D-Mich.), the bill is currently pending before both the House (HR-22) and the Senate (S-3).

Local 4 Joins Puget Council

VANCOUVER, Wash. — Local 4 voted at a stop work meeting July 12 to disaffiliate from the Columbia River District Council, and to send a delegate instead to the Puget Sound Council.

President Merwyn C. Leathers said the move, which has been under consideration for some time, is because of the membership's feeling "that some of the more political ties with Puget Sound.

David Morse was named delegate.

LA AFL-CIO Head Dies

LOS ANGELES — Irvin P. Mazzei, president of the Los Angeles County Federation of Labor for the past eight years and a union activist for more than 30 years, died July 24 here.

Mazzei began his union career with the American Guild of Variety Artists in 1929. He served as business representative, organizer and ultimately, western regional director. In 1952 he was elected vice president of the LA County Central Labor Council, and in 1964 was elected president.

Reagan's Industrial Relations Director Resigns Under Fire

SACRAMENTO—William C. Herr, who had been an activist since the Sylmar tunnel explosion killed 17 workers in Southern California, was recently named as California's director of Industrial Relations. Organized labor has charged that failure of the Division of Industrial Safety under Herr, to enforce labor regulations, contributed to the disaster.

Army Says Thanks to ILWU

OAKLAND — The ILWU has received official thanks from the US Army for its assistance in working military cargo over the past year. In a letter to president Harry Bridges, Major General H. R. Del Mar said:

"On behalf of Western Area, Military Traffic Management and Terminal Service, I wish to thank all levels of your organization for the unfaltering work performance of the past year in moving Department of Defense cargo essential to the national interest."

"Despite the involved contract dispute that existed over a prolonged period of time, there were no instances when the delivery date of military cargo at ultimate destination was not substantially met because of West Coast longshore delays. This is remarkable under the existing situation and is symbolic of the fine cooperation we enjoyed from the officers and members of your organization."

"Additionally, I wish to express my personal thanks to you and Messrs. William Chester and Charles Velson for affording unstinted help in solving the many problems arising during this period. It was through your able guidance and help that we were able to fulfill our mission without undue delay."

"Your personal commitment to military cargo needs in this troubled period, is deeply appreciated."

Local 21 SCHOLARSHIPS—These four college-bound high school seniors have been awarded $250 scholarships by Local 21. Scholarships are awarded each year. Any local 10 longshoremen. Miss Nevel plans to attend The College of Arts and Crafts in Oakland, California to pursue a career in teaching art. Mr. Montgomery plans to attend the San Francisco Conservatory of Music.

JEPRESS SCHOLARSHIPS—Sonja Nevel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Nevel, and Daniel Montgomery, son of Mr. and Mrs. Nip J. Montgomery, have each been awarded $500 Jepress Memorial Scholarships for 1972, the Bay Area Longshoreman's newspaper.

ILEA Slow Down Port Of Houston

HOUSTON—Hang-ups in the payment of retroactive longshoreman's due to longshoremen employed by the Port of Houston has caused five ILA locals to enforce a partial slowdown.

ILA members, including clerks, car leaders and unloaders, warehousemen and mailmen, empleado, and others called in sick in large numbers July 31, according to E. L. King, president of ILA Local 1331.

Most of these workers are employed by the Port which feels that it has not received adequate action from the Pay Board to deliver the retroactive checks.

The Port agency is apparently not quarrelling over the workers' rights to the retroactive pay, but is unwilling to proceed unless certain technical difficulties are cleared up. Port spokesmen said that the Pay Board, rather than the Port Commission, was "dragging its feet."

But King said that the local "was weary of excuses." Traditionally, he said, public employees on the waterfront receive the increases as those given to other dockworkers. About 2500 workers are involved.

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PORTLAND — ILWU Northwest regional director G. Johnny Parks last month was named a full-fledged member of the City Planning Commission, becoming the first labor representative named to the post in Portland's history.

He was sworn in by City Auditor Vern Vogel, and announced by City Commissioner Francis Ivanicle.

The appointment, made by Ivanicle, had been approved earlier by the Mayor and other members of the city council.

Parks said he was pleased to have the opportunity of serving on the 9-member commission because of the role it would permit him to play in the future development of Portland's waterfront.

Parks the same week was appointed to the committee on economic development of the Oregon State Senate.

The appointment was made by Senator president John Burns. Parks is the only member of the committee who is not a senator.

Loans for Fishermen

WASHINGTON, DC — Two new sources of financing are expected to become available to commercial fishermen this month according to the National Marine Fisheries Service. The NMFPS is a division of the Commerce Department. Under provisions of the Farm Credit Act of 1971, fishermen may obtain loans for vessels, gear, shore facilities and equipment, but financing in rural areas can also get loans for housing. Cooperatives can get loans for construction purposes, working capital, including commodity loans, and fishing equipment. All applications for loans, at first, should be sent to the office of the Farm Credit Administration, Washington, DC 20478.

Correction

The story on the July 21 Dis-patcher on Portland's July 5 cer-e monies inadvertently omitted the name of Toby Christiansen from the Local 8 arrangements committee.
Congress Takes Safety Protection Away From Millions of Workers

WASHINGTON, DC -- "Is life or health less worthwhile to those working for small companies than to those working for the largest corporations?"

This rhetorical question, posed by an AFL-CIO witness before a House Committee here recently, has apparently been answered in the affirmative by members of Congress.

Several weeks ago the US House of Representatives, with no voice and little debate, added a "rider" to an appropriations bill which would provide federal job safety coverage for all plants with less than 25 employees. This would deny the benefits of the 1970 Occupational Safety and Health Act to some 20 million American workers.

Workers show that "the highest concentration of health hazards (and the fewest safeguards)" are to be found in small plants. ILWU's testimony before Congress pointed out this fact dramatically, and the labor movement scored a major victory in securing coverage of smaller firms when the act was first passed.

The anti-safety measure was attached to an appropriation for the Department of Labor and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. Several senators have suggested that the whole package might be vetoed by the president, but the basis for this forecast was the fact that the total bill exceeded by more than $2 billion the Administration's request for these departments.

The move to exempt small employers came about largely because small businessmen were complaining that they were being harassed by inspectors from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

While granting that there had been some abuses, most labor sources charged that the crisis came about because of inept administration of the Act by the government.

FARM WORKERS ENDANGERED BY SAFETY CUTS

WASHINGTON, DC -- Farm workers and others in high-hazard jobs are "being dealt out of the pack" as Administration officials "falling between the cracks" of state compensation laws to provide benefits for over 100,000 workers annually, according to a report submitted to Congress July 31 by a special National Commission.

The extensive report of the National Commission on State Workers' Compensation -- which was created by the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 -- called on the Congress to give the states until 1975 to upgrade and expand legislation in line with the major provisions of the report.

The commission suggested placing the burden of improvement on the employers if the states refuse to act.

In the states where compensation legislation has not been improved by a given cut-off date, the panel recommended that employers be required to provide supplemental insurance or self-insurance to meet the new standards.

WORKERS BEAR BURDEN

Each year, some 14,000 workers die, and 90,000 are permanently injured, and more than two million miss one or more days of work because of work-related injuries or diseases. But because of inadequate benefits, the commission concludes, "some workers pay a high proportion of this burden of work-related disability is borne by workers and the taxpayer rather than by employers."

The commission drew particular attention to low levels of benefits in many states and to helplessness of large categories of workers -- farm workers, domestics and employees of small firms. Some 16 percent of US workers are not covered.

While the original intent of compensation laws was to provide an injured employee two-thirds of his pre-injury earnings, most states pay less than 60 percent.

One-third of the states have limitations as to the total amount and duration of payments, many do not provide full coverage for work-related diseases, or for full medical care and physical rehabilitation.

ILWU TESTIMONY

In testimony before the commission in December, 1971, the ILWU urged that compensation payments be increased to 75 percent of wages lost with no upper limits on benefits, and that the federal government step in to regulate the entire system ending the "intransic and discriminatory differences in benefits from state to state."

The top priority recommendations of the commission were:

- Weekly cash benefits for temporary or permanent disability or death should not be less than two-thirds of the workers' gross weekly wage subject to a maximum weekly benefit of at least two-thirds of the state's annual weekly wage as of July 1, 1973, and 100 percent of the state's average weekly wage by July 1, 1975.
- Benefits should be paid without limitation on the duration of payments or the sum of benefits. One-third of the states now have such limits.
- Coverage should be compulsory.
- State law should not exempt any occupation and should cover all employers with one or more workers, including most farm and household workers. At present this is the case in only half the states. Few cover domestic and farm workers.
- State law should provide full coverage for work-related diseases.
- Full medical care and physical rehabilitation services should be provided for any work-related injury, without any statutory limits on time or dollar amounts.
- Employees should be allowed to file claims in the state where injured or where hired or where employment is principally based. The panel says this change will eliminate the problem of an injured worker "falling between the cracks" of state coverage.

Workmen's Comp Laws Are 'Inadequate and Inequitable'
What is the British Dock Strike About?

From the Labor Movement

by 38-28, with 18 abstentions. And so the strike continued. All major ports were shut down, with support from some 3,000 auto workers, and it seemed unlikely that the strike would be called off by next week.

CHARGES WITHDRAWN

The dockers won a victory however as, on July 21, the Midland Cold Store Company—the firm which had originally initiated the charges against the dock workers—petitioned to have the order banning picketing of its plant lifted by the Industrial Relations Act.

A spokesman for Midland said “we do wish to be known that we are prepared to give preference in the future to dock workers.”

As The Dispatcher went to press, the Jones-Adjunger committee was continuing its deliberations, in an effort to develop a settlement package which would satisfy the longshoremen.

The only ports working were the so-called “unregistered ports”—smaller ports and industrial docks. Demonstrations of solidarity continue.

Championed by the Trades Union Congress, the dock workers went out to protest the Industrial Relations Act as have 4,000 auto workers.

Exec Board Meets in Vancouver

Continued from Page 1—

AFL-CIO Calls for Boycott of Farah Pants Company

WASHINGTON, DC — AFL-CIO President George Meany on July 27 called on the entire American labor movement to support 3,000 clothing workers on strike in Texas and New Mexico and to refuse to buy products of their employer, Farah Manufacturing Co.

In a letter to all national and international unions and all state and local central labor bodies affiliated with the AFL-CIO, Meany reported that Farah has used “vicious tactics” in its efforts to break the strike by thousands of workers, many of them Mexican-Americans, who are seeking representation by the Amalgamated Clothing Workers.

He cited the company’s use of vicious attack dogs patrolling the plants, court orders barring peaceful picketing, midnight arrests of hundreds of workers, unlawful discharges of union supporters and personal intimidation and coercion of workers.

Farah, one of the world’s largest makers of slacks for men, level and women, operates two plants in San Antonio, four in El Paso and one each in Victoria, Texas, and Albuquerque and Las Cruces, New Mexico.

To support the boycott, which was endorsed July 19 by the AFL-CIO Executive Council, Meany urged all AFL-CIO affiliates to:

• Publicize the boycott to all union members by means of meetings, flyers, bulletin board notices, union publications and personal contact through union stewards and officers.

• Inform retailers of the boycott, urge merchants to stop selling Farah pants and to allocate promotion and advertising to products of other manufacturers.

• Establish informational picket lines to seek consumer support of the boycott at all retailers that continue to feature Farah products.

• Employ local advertising, including newspapers, television, radio and billboards, to the maximum extent possible to spread the “Don’t buy Farah pants” message.

AFL-CIO Offers Aid To British Strikers

To British Stewards

SAN FRANCISCO — Shortly after the arrest of the five British longshore stewards, ILWU president Harry Bridges and secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt send the following telegram to Jack Jones, general secretary of the Trans-Pacif-ic General Workers Union there:

“On behalf of the membership of the ILWU, the British longshoremen’s and Warehousemen’s Union we are firmly in support of your struggle against the Boycott Commission. We urge the release of the five jailed London dockworkers who are fighting to maintain the right of British dock workers to assist you in any way in your struggle to maintain your union.

“Please advise if there are any specific solidarity actions which you want us to take. A copy of this telegram has been sent to the British ambassador in Washington.”

British dock stewards are greeted by pickets after release from London prison.

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