No Layoffs, 'Down Payment' Won on Docks

SAN FRANCISCO — Preliminary sparring with the Pacific Maritime Association marked the ILWU’s Longshore, Clerk and Walking Boss Caucus, which convened on May 7, immediately following the union’s Twentieth Biennial Convention here.

Major facet of the preliminary moves was agreement with PMA on an interim wage increase of 25 cents per hour straight time effective June 1, 1973, and agreement that in the new contract there will be a guarantee against any layoff of “A” and “B” longshoremen.

The caucus was still in session when this edition of The Dispatcher went to press, but a committee from the caucus had already submitted a series of preliminary proposals to the PMA, and the response to those proposals had created a framework for negotiations for a new West Coast contract that were to begin no later than May 15.

The preliminary proposals “looking toward extension of the present longshore-clerk contract for one year without strike action July 1” were composed of the following four points:

1. Parties agree now that in the new contract, effective July 1, 1973, there will be a provision guaranteeing against any layoff of “A” and “B” men.

2. Agreement that any new contract must provide for a pay guarantee plan.

3. An interim increase of 25 cents per hour straight time effective June 1, 1973.

4. Negotiations to begin no later than May 15, aimed at reaching an agreement by May 30.

TARGET DATE

ILWU president Harry Bridges, chairman of the committee that met with the PMA, wrote PMA president Edmund J. Flynn on May 10. “With respect to any issues that are not settled by May 30, the parties can at that time attempt to reach agreement on the method of resolving the issues. Except with respect to items three above (the interim wage increase and the pay guarantee plan) the contract shall become effective July 1, 1973.”

The interim pay increase is subject to review by the Nixon administration’s Cost of Living Council, as are all union contracts, but the PMA agreed to join the union in urging approval.

Details of any pay guarantee plan also would be subject to the actual negotiations. The employers indicated they would like to continue the present $100,000 per week “contingent liability” or ceiling.

The 25 cents, of course, is regarded by the union as only a down payment on what it is seeking.

Officers Renominated

SAN FRANCISCO — Delegates to the Twentieth Biennial Convention of the ILWU gave a unanimous vote of confidence to the present International leadership by renominate all four International officers to serve another two years.

Running unopposed will be president Harry Bridges; vice president-assistant to the president William H. Chester; vice president-director of organization George Martin; and secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt.

Speaking immediately after his nomination, Bridges told the cheering delegates: “Remember that there’s no one indispensible man in this union. Pass the word down below that you could get rid of all of us and this outfit would keep right on going.”

Nominated by the various area caucuses for executive board were the following:

Northern California: (three to be elected) Curtis McClain, Local 6; James Herman, Local 30; Joe Mosely, Local 19; George Kaye, Local 18.

Southern California: (two to be elected) Al Perisho, Local 60; Joe Ibarra, Local 8; Rudy Rubbo, Local 13.

Paged Sound-Alaska: (two to be elected) Ed Anderson, Local 19; George Glintis, Local 20; Terry Sweeney, Local 52; Randy Vekich, Local 24.

Oregon-Columbia River: (one to be elected) William T. Ward, Local 8.

Hawaii: (three to be elected) Constantine Suman, Skippy Yatsuake (sugar); Bernabe Quilevia, Hurbert Kanaha (longshore); Lelan Nishik (industrial).

Canada: (one to be elected) Robert Peebles, Local 500; Don Garcia, Local 505.

According to the ILWU constitution ballots for the election of titled officers and executive board members must be forwarded to all locals within 28 days after the convention adjourns. Secret ballot elections, to be counted by the local unions must be held within 60 days of adjournment and the results sent to International headquarters within days.

Immediately after the nomination of the officers, the delegates named Vancouver, BC as the site for the 1973 convention. The delegates then adjourned, expressing unanimous thanks to the Northern California locals for their gracious hospitality.

SAN FRANCISCO — How should the US labor movement, particularly the ILWU, operate in the context of increasing repressiveness and government interference in collective bargaining? This, basically, was the key question raised, discussed and acted upon by delegates at the ILWU’s Twentieth Biennial Convention, held here April 30-May 5.

The tone was set by the “Perspectives” section of the officers report distributed to the delegates the first day (for full text, see pg 2): “We will be negotiating new contracts in longshore, warehouse, sugar, pineapple and other areas in the context of what appears to be a long-term threat by the federal government to the very existence of the institution of free collective bargaining. The government’s actions during the West Coast dock strike were merely examples of a much more generalized attack on collective bargaining throughout the nation.”

Speaker after speaker, resolutions and statements of policy all emphasized the necessity to wage a fight on many fronts for the protection and extension of the victories won by the labor movement and other progressive forces over the years. Among the many resolutions passed by the Convention, were those which emphasized increased unity with other sections of the labor movement, a fight against wage controls and budget cutbacks, vigorous organizing campaigns, and an unremitting struggle for peace.

PER CAPITA HIKE

And after a financial report from secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt, presenting a “light, break-even budget,” the delegates unanimously and enthusiastically voted a 40c increase in per capita payments to the International to make this continued program possible.

A total of 329 regular delegates, representing 60 locals, had voice and vote and participated fully in the convention. Another 83 delegates, from the locals, pension and auxiliary groups, and from the Mexican and Canadian labor movements, also participated in and observed the discussions.

As always it was a hard-working affair—every single regular delegate participated in a committee, often meeting long into the night to prepare reports, and to work over resolutions.

Summaries of other resolutions and convention actions may be found throughout this issue of The Dispatcher. Additional material will be carried in the subsequent issue.
Perspectives for the ILWU

The two years which have passed since the last ILWU Convention have been particularly difficult—for this union, for the American working class. We anticipate that the next threat by the federal government to the very existence of the institution of free collective bargaining will be particularly difficult—for this union, for the US American workers. We believe that the slow build-up of an anti-speed-up movement, which has been going on for some time in the United States, has been accompanied by a slow but steady growth of a more militant attitude among workers. This is particularly true in those areas where the union has made the situation far worse than it might have been.

As we see it, all that this means is that American workers are being told that they must pay the price for the distorted prosperity of the 1960s. The construction and maintenance of the entire apparatus of American expansion—Vietnam, defense expenditures, the continued penetration of the economies of other nations—provided, during the Kennedy-Johnson years, important short-run stimuli for economic growth. Things looked good—unemployment was relatively low, profits were high, wages were going up—there seemed to be enough around for everyone. And many were optimistic that, given this prosperity, our society was around for everyone. And many were optimistic that, given this prosperity, our society was around for everyone. And many were optimistic that, given this prosperity, our society was around for everyone. And many were optimistic that, given this prosperity, our society was around for everyone.

We are determined that, in cooperation with other unions, we will accomplish the following in the next two years:

- Negotiation of new contracts in longshore, warehouse, sugar and pineapple areas and other sections of this union;
- Protection, through legislative and other means, of labor's right to bargain collectively, to enforce adherence to contracts and to strike, if necessary;
- Protection and extension of the legitimate social gains, which unions and other organizations have fought for and won over the last generation, which are now being destroyed by the Nixon administration;
- Continuation, through such organizations as Labor for Peace, of our struggle for a complete end to the hostilities in Indochina. We need to exercise constant vigilance to make sure that this never happens again, anywhere in the world.

(From report of officers to convention)

On the Beam
by Harry Bridges

A THIS PIECE is being written the Longshore, Clerk and Walking Boss Caucus is in the middle of meeting, discussing and deciding on a program designed to get a new contract for the West Coast workers and to help substantially our longshore group in Hawaii to do likewise.

First and foremost completely clear is it that it's a serious one for both our union and the waterfront division employers alike—of whether it will take another strike of either a long or short duration when the present contract expires June 30.

Shipping companies are complaining—and we know they are not dreaming up—that shippers of cargo of all kinds and owners of ships are already doing cargo shipments to other ports and areas away from West Coast ports. Their fears are not only that such cargoes may continue but also that once alternative routes are used, such use will continue, strike or no strike.

Our union's position on this problem has already been conveyed to the owners and operators union—the PMA, and that position is that this union has always had and always will have a strike and at all times, as a matter of solid working class policy, used all means available to secure decent contracts without a shutdown.

Our rank and file doesn't enjoy strikes—and here I exclude those few so-called hot shots and radicals who preach that a strike is a good thing because it brings rank and file workers face-to-face with the class struggle. Our policy is that strikes are weapons to be used with great caution only as a last resort. Such an approach makes for a plan this time around.

But of course, this approach does not exactly make either ship operators or shippers or suggest what should be done. The only thing that is clear is that the strike declaration now by the ILWU that there would be no strike, period, but this we cannot do.

There are other basic issues to be resolved. Certain provisions of the present longshore contract must at least be continued and the contract must be substantially improved. We know already that PMA is not going to commit economic suicide and risk taking another three to four months up by trying to take out of the contract such items as the guaranteed work or pay program, the hiring hall, safety and anti-speed-up rules, etc.

We will be to what extent can the union improve such provisions.

The tough matter of staffing and unstaffing containers is still with us, made more complicated by the federal courts sticking their noses into our business. And on top of it all is the Josue Phase III Cost of Living Council. It's tough enough for a union to talk or to boot a group of labor employers into a decent contract, but to be required to somehow convince a top level federal government agency and deliberately structured to do a job on workers and their unions, is something else again.

The same approach is being used with the Wage-Price Board under Phase II, owes us plenty. It's still a job of this union this time around to collect in some way we have contemplated.

And in this same way, the PMA has a few millions of dollars that are coming to us as part of the wage guarantee plan. This is one thing that the PMA has always been able to get their hands on. And what we can do with whatever we get of what in good faith they had coming.

But if there is a strike we will face a strike this time around it will be because of PMA playing cute over the guarantee, especially in those ports we have agreed are distressed and also in ports where work is slack.

Another place where PMA can meet us more than halfway in negotiations is on fringe benefits. Such benefits can be matters that will get by the Cost of Living Council easier than large wage increases. And when PMA admits and has agreed twice in writing, that the 30-cent wage increase taken from us by the Phase II Pay Board is still owing us, one way to collect a chunk of it is in fringe benefits; and after all, who can argue that we are not just spending monies that are rightfully ours to begin with.

And speaking of wages, we sure need a healthy increase if we are to face up to the real problems we face with price for the bare necessities such as food really hitting the ceiling in all-time highs. And, just a wage increase is not enough. We will need to build in a cost-of-living formula that will be calculated every three months with pay raises, if any, under the formula given at such times.

Some progress already has been made toward reaching an agreement on the changes in the present contract—this part is determined to keep plugging along this line.

But start with our basic physical contract terms, the next important negotiations are the last day, May 15. What has transpired so far with PMA are preliminary commitments.

It seems to us at this stage that PMA really wants to reach a settlement without going into a strike. We do not think that two of us and that's the way the union will continue to operate.

But all hands in our ranks had better, at least, attend union meetings, especially those called to hear reports from the branch. This is one way that the ILWU Longshore caucus now in session. Well-attended and serious meetings of our waterfront group in the last few weeks have been the best contribution and support the rank and file can give the union's officers and negotiating team to get a job done well.
SAN FRANCISCO—United Auto Workers President George Meany called on ILWU Convention delegates to "help create a new coalition of labor...against the federal government...to establish this nation's commitment to free collective bargaining...to resist the incursions of the federal government, and to preserve the rights of working people."

"We can do it if we stick together," he said.

He drew particular attention to the inability of the present Democratic party leadership to mount a real opposition to Administration programs, citing the way in which Alabama Governor George Wallace was able to appeal to many voters—including many in my own union—posing as an anti-establishment leader.

Woodcock also dwelt on the tough bargaining ahead in his own union and the rest of the labor movement—particularly in the context of Phase III.

He said that the UAW will seek numeros improvements in wages, working conditions, and safety, a reduction in hours, and wage increases. Voluntary overtime will also be an important goal.

Given the nature of controls, he said, the length of the contract becomes particularly important. "We started out in 1956-57 with an annual contract to win more adequate union security, but because of inflation, it was disastrous. Later, we moved to three-year contracts, with the right to strike on issues of speed-up, health and safety—and now we will not consider for more than one year which does not include the right to reopen should there be any government interference."

In introducing Woodcock, ILWU president Harry Bridges pointed out that the UAW had once been an "outsider" organization, and that the Pay Board had been a "common fight for survival in terms of the job safety.

"They were being slaughtered because the employers are too cheap to live up to the law," he charged. He urged UAW delegates to place the "fight to the issue of on-the-job safety," so that "we will somehow make Washington to make sure the Occupational Safety and Health Act was enforced.

Convention Ok's More Autonomy For Canada

SAN FRANCISCO—Greater autonomy for ILWU's Canadian area and as well as a simplified financial structure were highlighted by the Twentieth Biennial ILWU Convention.

The convention advanced the Canadian Area's movement of granting charters in its area. It also voted to "eliminate all duplicate accounts in Canada into one financial structure. This will be under the administration of the Canadian Area's charter, which will be forwarded monthly to the International for financial statements."

The latter change was made to eliminate "certain overlapping circumstan-ces in the expenditures of funds that sometimes create difficult and unnecessary duplication of bookkeeping and administrative costs."

The chartering change was described as an extension of rights and privileges that have "helped to develop the union into a progressive fighting organization for the rights of its membership."
Lots of Hard Work—And a Little Fun

SAN FRANCISCO — It was a hard-working convention — marked by long hours in committee and on the Convention Floor — but things were also lightened up some through the successful efforts of the Northern California Entertainment Committee.

Chaired by Oddell Franklin, Local 10, the committee laid out a banquet and dance for the delegates, their spouses, friends and many other friends of the union who came by on Thursday night. May 3. About 1,000 guests ate, partied and danced to the music of "Fats Gary" and his band.

On Wednesday, May 2, all fraternal delegates and the spouses of the regular delegates set out early in the morning by bus on a tour of the Bay Area set up by the committee. They rode San Francisco’s new Bay Area Rapid Transit system, drove to scenic Muir Woods and Sintson Beach for lunch, came back to Sausalito for some late afternoon shopping, and then back across the Golden Gate Bridge into the city.

Also serving on the committee were Keith Eckman, Local 6, secretary; Bob Edwards, Local 5; LeRoy King, Local 6; Oscar Jordan, Local 17; Art Rosen, secretary; Tom Alcaro, Local 34; Duane Peterson, Local 18; and Tony Cecchetti, Local 34.

The Committee also set up a hospitality room Monday and Tuesday night, serving the samples for delegates from the various ILWU areas who sponsored hospitality rooms on subsequent evenings.

Committee Chairmen

SAN FRANCISCO—Key to the success of the convention were the committee chairmen and secretaries, who steered the proceedings of each group and presented their reports. They were as follows:

Rules
Chairman, Bob Pfeiffer, Local 500
Secretary, Joe Ibarra, Local 59

Credentials
Chairman, Constantine Samson, Local 142
Secretary, L. L. Loveridge, Local 13

Publicity and Education
Chairman, Sabu Fujisaki, Local 142
Secretary, Nate Di Biasi, Local 13

Chairman, Bob Rohatch, Local 10
Secretary, Antoine Kahawahilia, Local 142

Constitution
Chairman, Art Pinto, Local 63
Secretary, George Watson, Local 8

Resolutions
Chairman, Curtis McC科技创新 Local 6
Secretary, George Ginnis, Local 23

Fight Against Alcoholism Urged

SAN FRANCISCO — ILWU locals have been urged by the union’s Twentieth Biennial Convention to establish programs to combat alcoholism “and to attempt to negotiate such a humanitarian program clause in all union contracts.”

The resolution notes that 10 million persons “are known alcoholics in the USA” and declares alcoholism is “the number one drug killer.”

Workers, their employers and workers’ families, the resolution says, suffer the “fringe consequences” of the drug-abuse programs. It notes, “have been initiated in some communities, in some companies and in some unions that are trying to solve and/or remedy the problems stemming from the sale, the profit, the use, and the abuse of the deadly disease of alcoholism.” ILWU locals are urged to do likewise.

Local 1, Raymond, Washington: Pete Zambas
Local 2, San Francisco, California: Willie Jones, Lavous Robinsons
Local 3, Seattle, Washington: John F. Tedich
Local 4, Vancouver, Washington: Gary E. Duback, Ralph G. Erickson
Local 7, Bellingham, Washington: John S. Modenesen
Local 8, Portland, Oregon: Robert H. Brandt, William N. Ward, George Watson
Local 9, Seattle, Washington: Lenard Benard, Bob L. Hargis, David Kiolet
Local 10, San Francisco, California: James Anderson, Glenn Ackerman, Harry Bridges, Archie Brown, William Chester, Jack Hogan, George Kaye, George D. Kekai, Herb Mills, Joe Mosley, Robert Rohatch, Larry Wing
Local 11, San Jose, California: Francis G. Fink, Oscar M. Hart, George Lucero
Local 12, North Bend, Oregon: Richard Buchanan, Jerry Holiday, Joseph Jacobsen
Local 13, Wilmington, California: Frank P. Aguilar, Arthur Almeida, Robert Bish, Nate DiBiasi, Henry Fore, Gordon Gilbin, William Lawrence, Chick Loveridge, Jay Luera, Paul Rollins, John Pandora, William Rivera, Rudy Rubio
Local 14, Eureka, California: Richard Kahoaliif, Michael J. Lyons
Local 16, Juneau, Alaska: See Local 62
Local 17, Broderick, California: Albert Bailey, Obie Brandon, Peter Garcia, Oscar H. Jordan, Lupe Martinez, Willis Walker
Local 18, West Sacramento, California: Duane Peterson
Local 19, Seattle, Washington: Carl Christensen, Shaun Maloney, Raymond Reinhardt, Earl Sample, Carl Woot
Local 20-A, Wilmington, California: Ignacio Flores, Elton Freyermuth, Albert Torres, David Womack
Local 21, Longview, Washington: Wray K. Allnutt, Kenneth Swickter
Local 23, Tacoma, Washington: Carl Engels, Sr., George Ginnis, Phillip Lelli, Walter Williamson
Local 24, Aberdeen, Washington: Randy Vekich
Local 25, Anacortes, Washington: James Larsen
Local 27, Port Angeles, Washington: Gerald Huff
Local 29, San Diego, California: Albert Uroso
Local 30, Bearon, California: John Fellow, Thomas McCaffrey
Local 32, Everett, Washington: Irvin Hansen
Local 33, San Pedro, California: Frank Bucina, John J. Royal
Local 34, San Francisco, California: Frank Billeci, Robert Carson, James Herman, Floyd Pillsbury
Local 37, Seattle, Washington, Ted Daddio, Sixto Funtamilla, Rick Querubin
Local 40, Portland, Oregon: Larry Clark, William McCorkam, Hartelli Siron, Carl Sloan
Local 46, Puente, California: Danid McCrady
Local 47, Olympia, Washington: Daniel Knitlle
Local 49, Crescent City, California: Ben Lusia
Local 50, Astoria, Oregon: John Kalllo
Local 51, Port Game, Washington: Charles Hansen
Local 52, Seattle, Washington: Ed Palmer, Terrence Sweeney
Local 53, Newport Oregon: Dan Liss
Local 54, Stockton, California: Charles Foreman, Edward Fuller
Local 56, San Pedro, California: Joe Ibarra
Constitutional Amendment Approved

SAN FRANCISCO — A constitutional change, dealing with the right of the International to investigate and make changes in the affairs of local unions was approved by the International Convention.

The amended section was Article VIII, Section 1. The first part of this section provides that 20 percent of the membership of any local may petition the International to investigate their affairs. Local officials are required to cooperate with this investigation.

The amendment, as adopted by the 20th Convention is inserted after the words “... the International to investigate the...” and reads as follows:

“The official or officials making the investigation shall, as soon as possible, submit a report to the International President regarding the investigation. The International President, if he so decides, shall put into effect in the local union such administrative changes as may be necessary to correct the situation giving rise to the investigation. In the event the International President does institute changes in the administration or administrative affairs of the local, such changes must be submitted to a secret referendum vote of the local conducted under the supervision of the International Union within two weeks of such changes being put into effect. Those eligible to vote in such referendum are limited to active dues paying members of the local who are in good standing as per the constitution and by-laws of the affected local. Following the taking of such action, the International President shall submit a report on the matter to the International Executive Board.”

Deleted from Article VII, Section 1 is the sentence which reads: “The official or officials making the investigation shall, as soon as possible, submit a report, together with recommendations to the Executive Board.”

Fraternal Delegates Pledge Solidarity

SAN FRANCISCO — Fraternal delegates to the 20th Biennial Convention brought greetings and pledges of solidarity from the ILWU Auxiliaries, the pensioners, and from the Mexican labor movements.

Valerie Taylor, president of the ILWU Federated Auxiliaries, was on hand, along with seven other fraternal delegates from the auxiliaries, to bring greetings and to promise assistance in any way possible over the coming years.

Ms. Taylor received a warm greeting from the Convention after her discussion of the role the auxiliaries had played in supporting the longshore strike and lobbying for progressive legislation in the state capitols and in Washington DC.

The hand of friendship was also extended to representatives of the Cruz longshoremen — Armando Huerta, Wendy Octavio, and Local 13 delegate Art Almeida

Luis Luna.

The Mexican delegates, after pledging their solidarity and support, presented International president Bridges with a finely worked, traditionally designed blanket — accepted on behalf of Gordon McCaffrey, assistant legislative director of the Canadian Labour Congress. Aside from bringing the greetings of the Canadian movement, Mr. McCaffrey also brought recommendations to the Executive Board.”

Lieutenant Governor John Arinaga, John Ariusmi, Frederick Assili, Norman Asuncion, Domingo Barboa, Jose Bernal, Tony Bis, Alex Botelho, Secinando Bueno, Antonio Canales.

Alice Carzan, Alfred Castillo, Richard Chinn, Regino Colotario, Jose Corpuz, Joseph Costa, Carl Damaso, Angelina de Asis, Torsachi Deguchi, Paulino Dela Cruz, Pedro Dela Cruz, Donald De Nellos, Eddie De Nellos, Jose Domingo, Herry Dulan, Justo Dumlao, Martin Elizar, Thomas Evans, Lorenzo De Dios Falbo, Saburo Fujisaki.


Albert Ramos, Bueno Rania, Donald Rickard, Anthony Robello, Albert Rodero, August Rodrigues, Jean Samago, Constantine Sancon, Lawrence Santos, Fred Sasen, Yasuta Sato, Esther Scharsh, Akira Shimizu, Harold Chin, Cirilo Sinfuego, William A. Snyder, Satoru Sugawara, Rogerio Tacoli, Larry Tachikawa, Yoshito Takamini.


Local 160, Honolulu, Hawaii: Bor- ick Peroff.

Local 500, Vancouver, BC: Louis Kaufman, Frank Kennedy, Dave Lo- mas, Robert Peebles, Roy Smith.

Local 502, New Westminster, BC: Don Garcia, Bud Hammond.

Local 503, Port Alberni, BC: Flavio Nave, Everett Biggs.

Local 504, Victoria, BC: George Ball.


Local 506, Vancouver, BC: Lloyd Greene.

Local 508, Chemainus, BC: Ronald Oman.

Local 514, Vancouver, BC: Glyn Evans.

Local 517, Vancouver, BC: James Jackson.

Local 57, Fresno, California: Ernest Clark.

Local 60, Seward, Alaska: Bernard Hulm.

Local 61, Ketchikan, Alaska: See Local 62.


Local 63, Wilmington, California: Joseph Argento, Jim Bowen, Albert Perisho.

Local 65, Haines, Alaska: See Local 65.

Local 66, see Local 60.

Local 75, San Francisco, California: Joseph McLaughlin.

Local 83, Pelican, Alaska: See Local 62.

Local 84, Skikia, Alaska: See Local 62.

Local 85, Petersburg, Alaska: See Local 62.

Local 87, Wrangell, Alaska: See Local 62.

Local 91, San Francisco, Calif.: Chester Nelson.

Local 92, Portland, Oregon: Arnie Auvine.

Local 94, Wilmington, California: James North.

Local 98, Seattle, Washington: Donald Minken.


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Defend Labor's Right to Strike
SAN FRANCISCO — Delegates to the 20th Biennial Convention reasserted the Right to Strike arbitration on all strikes in the trans-
portation industry, and other bills funded by the union's congressional delegation. The strikers have to do with the shipping of cargo to and from the islands.

There is no doubt, the delegates pointed out, are among the forebears of more systemic and effective strike legislation.

"We have opposed and will continue to oppose all ill-conceived and repres-
sive schemes designed to deprive work-
ers of the one weapon they have in collective bargaining relations with their employers," they state. "Such laws not only the destruction of the collective bargaining process, but of the trade union movement as well."

"Fair Trial" View
SANTO DOMINGO (Raw Press) — After two hours of debate the Twentieth Biennial Conven-
tion adopted a minority report on the "fair hearing and a fair trial" concept for the am-
nesty approach reported out by the Commissions. Adherence of amnesty approach was consistent with the union's opposi-
tion to the "corrupt and immoral" war in Vietnam.

Troop Withdrawal Cheered, But
Delegates Blast Controls
SAN FRANCISCO — Delegates attending the Twentieth Biennial ILWU Conven-
tion, who described the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Vietnam as an "his-
toric victory for those who have fought for years for the basic right of self-de-
determination of all people."

But, at the same time, the Convention warned the "Cold War takes new forms" and there must be "no more Vietnam." It declared also there must be a halt to "sending any and all mili-
tary supplies, weapons or financial aid to Cambodia, Laos or Thailand."

It expressed concern also at the situa-
tion in South Africa where four million whites dominate the lives of 15 million blacks and three million color-
ized (those of mixed blood or As-
ians).

And it found time to raise its voice in defense of the U.S. trade unions known as the Carabanchel Ten, who face being locked in jail.

Since the early 1960's when the war began, the ILWU has opposed US involvement. We are proud of our union has played some role in the grad-
ual shift of American public opinion away from support of the war. . . ."

The delegates restated previous pol-
icy: "We consider the achievement of full employment — jobs for all who wish to work, they take it away from you."

The delegates endorsed the united labor rally held in San Francisco against controls on April 28 (see page 11) and urged all locals to "consider other economic class, as short term agree-
ments, frequent wage and bene-
fit-reopeners, cost of living adjust-
ment classes and automatic concili-
ation provisions in order to fight the increased unemployment as a tool of government economic policy in com-
hbating inflation."

The delegates also urged union sup-
port for consumer boycotts and similar action to fight inflation.

Since 1965 the unions have been the most effective — within the American econ-
omic system."

The delegates restated previous pol-
cy: "We consider the achievement of full employment — jobs for all who wish to work, they take it away from you."

San Francisco's policy points out that "about 300 US corporations and their political representatives "have only changed tactics, not their overall stra-
tegy."

Some experts, the statement notes, predict that by 1990 the top 100 multi-national corporations will control 50 percent of the gross national product of the non-socialist world.

In the case of South Africa a policy decision was made to "outlaw all kinds of discrimination against na-
tional minority groups" and to take special note of the "opportunities for blacks in California." The other dealt with the difficulties of the , . . ."

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"We have opposed and will continue to oppose all ill-conceived and repres-
sive schemes designed to deprive work-
ers of the one weapon they have in collective bargaining relations with their employers," they state. "Such laws not only the destruction of the collective bargaining process, but of the trade union movement as well."

"Fair Trial" View
SANTO DOMINGO (Raw Press) — After two hours of debate the Twentieth Biennial Conven-
tion adopted a minority report on the "fair hearing and a fair trial" concept for the am-
nesty approach reported out by the Commissions. Adherence of amnesty approach was consistent with the union's opposi-
tion to the "corrupt and immoral" war in Vietnam.

Troop Withdrawal Cheered, But
Delegates Blast Controls
SAN FRANCISCO — Delegates attending the Twentieth Biennial ILWU Conven-
tion, who described the withdrawal of all U.S. troops from Vietnam as an "his-
toric victory for those who have fought for years for the basic right of self-de-
determination of all people."

But, at the same time, the Convention warned the "Cold War takes new forms" and there must be "no more Vietnam." It declared also there must be a halt to "sending any and all mili-
tary supplies, weapons or financial aid to Cambodia, Laos or Thailand."

It expressed concern also at the situa-
tion in South Africa where four million whites dominate the lives of 15 million blacks and three million color-
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Delegates Blast Monetary Chaos, Urge Trade Expansion

SAN FRANCISCO — "US international trade position is in turmoil," according to a statement of policy adopted by the 23rd Biennial ILWU Convention.

Delegates agreed that continued price rises in the US mean that Americans are paying twice as much as the former price level. They declared that the high inflation rates have accelerated the rate of growth of US imports as compared to exports, have placed tremendous strains on the US foreign trade position.

But the delegates disagreed with the two most fashionable panaceas for US trade problems — dollar devaluation and import quotas.

Devaluation — enforced by the Nixon administration twice in the last 18 months — raises the price of foreign money, and hence domestic prices. It also encourages domestic producers in competition with these imports to raise their prices also, they said.

FREE TRADE

They also rejected the protectionist solution of import quotas.

"The ILWU has historically advocated free trade among the nations of the world which is a reaffirmation that general stance." At the same time, they recognize that unique problems affect particular domestic groups and that these problems are to be tackled on an industry-by-industry basis. The delegates felt that solutions that means can be found to solve most of them without erecting more barriers to free trade.

Aside from their inflationary impact, the delegates suggested that the imposition of quotas "may set off a worldwide trade war of disastrous proportions. The actions are invariably borne by working people."

Addressing themselves to what they felt were fundamental solutions of the problems the delegates urged:

- Large cutsbacks in US military expenditures, as well as curbs on military aid to foreign governments.
- Adoption of legislation to limit overseas investment by US corporations.
- "We urge adoption of those portions of the Foreign Trade and Investment Act of 1973 (Burke-Hartke) which will place substantial incentives on US corporations to establish and maintain facilities in the United States and in the various areas of ILWU jurisdiction."
- Product manufactured by US multinational corporations abroad ex- cept in the case of those situations covered by the act, and pointed out that "in practice the large transnational corporations are extremely difficult to hold accountable in the United States if their operations are operated abroad in what is called "tax havens.""

Although the delegates emphasized the benefits of export activities through such means as trade with the USSR and China, they also raised reservations on this issue. The convention pledged to the United Farm Workers, Other Unions:

Convention Pledges Aid to Farm Workers, Other Unions

SAN FRANCISCO — The ILWU has pledged to "continue our support in every way we can to the United Farm Workers, Other Unions" to raise the standard of living of farm workers and their families.

The Twenty-third Biennial Convention of the ILWU hailed the progress made by the United Farm Workers under the leadership of Cesar Chavez, Philip Vera Cruz and Dolores Huerta.

The delegates have, the resolution adopted by the convention notes, "inspired thousands of workers in the United States and throughout the world to participate in their own democratic union, which is the true foundation and file tradition of the ILWU."

The conference noted of the fact that the ILWU has supported the Farm Workers from its earliest beginning against the giant corporate growers and their allies.

The resolution condemns the efforts of opponents of the United Farm Workers to "prevent the predominantly Chi-cano, Filipino and other minority work-ers..." to "engage foreign-built, foreign-made tankers paying slave wages at the same time that the workers would be paid by American flag operators."
Warehouse Talks Head To Deadline

SAN FRANCISCO — With present contracts due to expire May 31, intensive negotiations were underway at The Dispatcher's press time covering 25,000 Northern California warehouse workers scattered from Fresno to the Oregon border.

The workers are members of two ILWU locals (6 and 17) and 12 locals of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. The joint union negotiating apparatus, known as the Northern California Warehouse Council, ILWU-IBT.

Chairmen of the Council are ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt and George Mock, an international vice-president of the Teamsters.

Employers are represented by five associations and a number of independent warehouse employers.

Union proposals, to be met by the employers, cover wages, work rules, hours, health and welfare benefits, and insurance benefits.

The proposal is for a one-year contract.

A partial list of union proposals covers a wide variety of subjects, including an increase of 10 cents per hour in present shift differentials.

In the area of holidays the unions want to add the regular work day before Christmas and the regular work day before New Year's. On vacations the workers want an additional five weeks after 20 years of service.

In total, the comprehensive union proposals cover 31 areas of the present contract. Such proposals, such as those covering health and welfare and pension plans, had not been presented when The Dispatcher went to press.

Editor Named For Dispatcher

SAN FRANCISCO — ILWU President Harry Bridges announced the appointment of Steve Murdock as editor of the ILWU Dispatcher.

Murdock, who also will serve as an administrative assistant to Bridges, is a former San Francisco and San Jose newspaperman who returns to the West Coast after three and half years in New York.

The new editor comes to The Dispatchers Local 1199, Drug and Hospital Union, RWD-SU/AFL-CIO, in New York City where he edited the union's monthly magazine— a prize-winning publication in competition among labor papers and magazines.

But he is no stranger to the West Coast labor movement. As one of the founders of the San Jose Newspaper Guild, Murdock is a former San Francisco and San Jose newspaperman who returns to the West Coast after three and half years in New York.

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Time for Medical-Dental Choice

SAN FRANCISCO—Thousands of Bay Area trade unionists—along with their families, friends and sympathizers—turned out in front of City Hall Saturday, April 28, for a massive labor demonstration against unbridled price increases, restrictions on collective bargaining and wages, and the insured plan for Locals 8, 40, and 52 and the insured plan in Locals 10, 19, 52 and 98.

The demonstration was sponsored by the San Francisco United Labor Council, numerous AFL-CIO affiliates, building trades, and the ILWU, Teamsters, Auto Workers and United Electrical Workers.

ILWU President Harry Bridges, among the featured speakers, told the enthusiastic crowd that the only way the Nixon administration's economic and social policies could be defeated was through the united action of the entire labor movement.

"We possess power—the only power that these corporate and political lords understand—the power to stop production."

ILWU Local 34 president James Herman—co-chairman of the rally—opened with a rousing denunciation of the economic bungling of the last five years. "Some people point to Watergate as an example of corruption," he said. "But the ultimate corruption is seen in the last numbers of unemploy- ment and the denial of a secure and dignified retirement, the denial of child care and working men's rights."

Other main speakers were Jerry Wurf, president of the State Council and Municipal Workers; Stan Jensen, Machinist business representative; Matt Jackson, representing the ILWU; Jack O'Sullivan, chairman of the San Francisco Building Trades' Council, AFL-CIO; and Jack Crowley, executive secretary of the San Francisco Labor Council.

Longshore Families

SAN FRANCISCO—Longshore families can change medical plans during the open enrollment period for health insurance choice May 1 to May 31. Dental insurance change in San Francisco and Los Angeles can be made during the same period for those enrolled under the Children's Dental Plan or the adult Longshore Dental Plan. Choice between the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and the Insured Plan and Group Health Cooperative is allowed.

An active or retired man who is eligible for ILWU-PMA Welfare Fund benefits can change from one medical plan to another by filling out a family enrollment card at his Local. Eligible widows have the same choice.

In southern California, medical plan choice is between the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and the Choice Port Insured Plan in Locals 13, 26, 65, 91 and 91A. In northern California choice is between the Kaiser plan and the insured plan in Locals 10, 15, 75, 91 and 18 (Sacramento). In Oregon, choice is between the Kaiser plan and the Insured Plan for Locals 8, 40, 92 and Vancouver Local 4.

1973 medical plan choice for Seattle Locals extends from May 15 to June 15. Choice is between the Choice Port Insured Plan and either Community Medical Services or Group Health Cooperative for Locals 18, 52 and 98.

In Tacoma Local 23, choice extends from May 1 to May 31, between the Insured plan and Western Clinic. In Olympia Local 47 choice is between the Insured plan and Group Health Cooperative.

Transfer of dental coverage under the Children's Dental Plan for all dependant children from birth to age 15 can be made at Locals in San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Active man, their wives and unmarried dependent children ages 15 to 19 are covered under the adult Longshore Dental Plan. To transfer family dental coverage, choice cards can be filled out at the Locals.

In Los Angeles Locals, choice is between the California Dental Service and the Drs. Sakai, Simon, Simons and Sugiyama, and Drs. Scheer and Samuel. Brochures on both plans can be obtained at the Locals.

In San Francisco Locals, choice is between the California Dental Service and the Nasmith Dental Group. Dental services are the same in each.