Hawaii Talks Hit Snags

HONOLULU—The ILWU’s critical negotiations in Hawaii with the Big Five reached the tough bargaining stage as the holiday season brought a brief respite to the talks. The union has declared the negotiations are “crucial for the future of ILWU and for agriculture in Hawaii.”

The talks, encompassing 9,000 workers in the sugar industry and 6,000 in pineapple, opened on December 3. Present contracts expire January 31.

IMMEDIATE DEADLINE
Even before the contracts expire, however, there may be a manifestation of the basic problem, abandonment and consolidation of Hawaiian operations by the powerful employers.

Grove Farm, a sugar plantation on Kauai, faces a 30 percent layoff of its 775 workers on January 1. The union has demanded a “no layoff” policy.

Robert Grunsky, spokesman for the 17 sugar companies, replied by saying the companies would not agree to any no-layoff concept in any form.

Grunsky said, “We might as well close the doors of our companies if there are ‘no layoff’ provisions in any form.”

ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, who has been chief union spokesman, has advanced the concept of an “industry tax” or a “contingency fund” to finance possible solutions.

SAN FRANCISCO—The economic potential of trade with the People’s Republic of China was demonstrated here with some drama this month when a 19,000-ton bulk cargo carrier named the Caspian Sea loaded 15,000 bales of California cotton for Shanghai.

Earlier, the Caspian Sea had taken 2,000 tons of aluminum ingots in Longview, Wash., and later she added 10,000 more bales of cotton in Long Beach.

She thus became the first ship to load general cargo for Mainland China out of San Francisco in a quarter of a century.

HISTORIC OCCASION—The date was December 12, 1973. The place was the messroom of the Caspian Sea, a vessel owned, in effect, by the People’s Republic of China.

She was the first ship to load general cargo for China out of San Francisco in 25 years, ILWU President Harry Bridges spoke at a ceremony aboard the vessel shown above. Others in the photo include, from left, ILWU Representative Pat Tobin, President James Herman of ILWU Local 34, Cheung Man Piu of the ship’s welfare committee and Yuen Man Kiu, also of the welfare committee.

CRITICAL TALKS . . . This is the sugar section of Hawaiian negotiations in the Hawaiian Sugar and Pineapple Association’s Agee Hall on December 4. ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, chief union spokesman, can be seen center right. Seated behind him are ILWU President Harry Bridges and Local 142 President Carl Damasio.

A Peek At Potential of China Trade

The whole business was a little complicated since the Caspian Sea (the former German vessel August Leobardt) wasn’t built to carry general cargo and has virtually no gear of her own. An arrangement of cranes was necessary to get the cotton aboard.

The ILWU had more than a little to do with the visit of the Caspian Sea to the Pacific Coast.

ILWU President Harry Bridges, the union’s Washington representative, Pat Tobin, and Charles Velson, a former ILWU staffer now employed by the Port of San Francisco, all played roles in persuading the People’s Republic of China to send a ship to the Pacific Coast to load general cargo.

The notable nature of the occasion led to a ceremony aboard the vessel Wednesday, December 12 that became front page news here.

PERSONAL GREETINGS
President Bridges came aboard and extended personal greetings to the crew in their messroom.

While ILWU members were completing stowage of the cotton, Bridges told the assembled crew members and press in the crowded messroom, “This is a great day for our organization.”

It was in two ways. First, it signaled the potential of the resumption of trade with China in purely economic terms. To the ILWU that means jobs.

Secondly, it represented in political expression a hope for more friendly relations with China — particularly between the working people of the two countries.

These thoughts found expression in many ways as participants in the messroom gathering declared the hope that China trade, once so vital to San Francisco and the Pacific Coast, is on the way back as a result of a thaw in relations between the US and China.

Bridges told the crew the ILWU has campaigned for many years for resumption of China trade.

SPECIAL DECORATION
The crew decorated the messroom for Bridges’ arrival. A large red banner declared in Chinese and English, “Welcome ILWU and Port Commission of SF.” Bridges also is a member of the San Francisco Port Commission.


The Caspian Sea, although registered under the flag of the Republic of Somail, is owned by the Chinese National Chartering Corp., and is, in all intents and purposes a Chinese ship. Most of her crewmen are Hong Kong Chinese. Some, however, are from Shanghai.

In recent weeks bulk grain ships have loaded grain here for the People’s Republic of China, but the Caspian Sea is the first vessel to take aboard general cargo for China out of San Francisco.

At the ceremony in the messroom,

Continued on Page 3

Continued on Page 6

Next Issue
Of Dispatcher
Will Be Jan. 11

SAN FRANCISCO — Because of the holiday season there will be a three-week interval between this issue of The Dispatcher instead of the customary two weeks.

This means the next issue of The Dispatcher will appear under the date of Jan. 11. In keeping with union policy there will be 34 issues during the calendar year of 1974.
President Harry Bridges is on vacation. His column will be resumed in the next issue of The Dispatcher, January 11.

A Productive Year

1973 was one of the busiest, most productive years in recent memory. Highlighted, of course, by the Twentieth Biennial Convention in San Francisco and subsequently re-elected for his 37th year as President of the ILWU, said President Harry Bridges in keynoting the Convention. "The ILWU is such an army, and Hawaii is its now and present proving ground. And that is the key point involved in the struggle for a better life in the context of increased domestic and international pressure mounting for a log expert ban, threatening to bleed away the gains in their negotiations."

The point to be emphasized is not whatever gallantry accrues to he who fights the lonely battle in Hawaii. The point to be emphasized is the significance of the battle. And that is the key point involved in the battle in Hawaii.

The pineapple and sugar workers in Hawaii are fighting also to save (or regain) the jobs of US workers who make (or used to make) television sets.

Labor's Laborious Path

A THE OLD YEAR DRAW S to a close, it is a traditional custom to take stock. How far have we come? What does the road ahead look like?

For the organized US labor movement as a whole these are difficult times.

The multi-national corporation has come to look like an elusive giant over the structure of the union movement. Unlike the foes of past years, who could be met head on the picket line, the corporate adversaries of today look like. They are ahead and you can only see them through the fog of the intensive study of an industry that is shrinking because of technological changes.

The ILWU is facing this problem in its current negotiations in Hawaii with the Big Five and Del Monte. More and more unions will have to face the problems we face. The run-away shop has become a world-wide phenomenon.

But, based on the ILWU's 1973 experience, the picture is by no means all bleak. The labor movement's old verities of unity and determination can still pay off. Labor still has a lot of muscle.

The ILWU, in fact, had a pretty good year in 1973. It nailed down a two-year contract with the Pacific Maritime Association covering Pacific Coast longshoremen that contains several historic firsts and important gains in their negotiations.

The big problem remaining is the Hawaiian longshoremen. They are ahead and look like. The big news, of course, was the convening of the 20th Biennial Convention in San Francisco, April 30 - May 5. Speaker after speaker, resolution after resolution, raised the issue of the need for a strong, well-disciplined Labor's laborious road is not easy, but it is a traditional custom to take stock. How far have we come? What does the road ahead look like?

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OVER 40 YEARS—Clarence Grosvird, who came onto the San Francisco docks as a young man in 1930, participated in the 1934 strike and then moved into the clerks' union after the war, was honored for his many years of union activity at a luncheon held by Local 34 on November 27 at Caesar's Palace, where he helped win a settlement—with wage increases—in the trial strike. Joe Jalovesich, president of ILWU Local 12, was active in arranging a demonstration in front of the giant firm's store, and the officers were among the many laborites and sympathizers who joined in the picketing. The strike was called when negotiators failed to agree on a new contract. THE STRIKE was called when negotiators failed to agree on a new contract.

Hawaii to Be Exempt From Daylight Saving

"Because the Island State is further south and closer to the equator than any other state, there is much less variation between long and short days as the seasons change," Matsunaga said.

"In Hilo, for example, hours of daylight on December 21 are only two hours and 23 minutes less than on June 21. By contrast, the difference in Boston is over six hours, in Chicago more than six, in Los Angeles more than four hours, and even in Miami, the difference is three hours and 15 minutes."

Apprenticeship Plan Started for Women
SAN FRANCISCO — The first apprenticeship program for women on the West Coast is now underway in the San Francisco Bay Area under the auspices of a non-profit organization, Advocates for Women.

Operating under the terms of a contract with the U.S. Department of Labor, Advocates expect to place 50 women in apprenticeship programs during the year. George W. Smith, Labor Department regional director, says Advocates will work closely with the Department and the Joint Apprenticeship Committee in setting up courses to prepare the women for apprenticeship examinations.

More About Hawaii Talks
Continued from Page 1—
If said Goldblatt, the workers "live from year to year or day to day in fear of being washed out because the company can make out better in a land deal or by investing its money elsewhere, then we are in serious trouble."

UNION PROPOSALS
In addition to job security, the union is seeking:

• Wage increases of 50 cents an hour in each year of a two-year agreement for a total of $1.
• Additional cost of living allowances based on the consumer price index.
• Increased monthly pension benefits of $1 per year of service, normal retirement benefits at age 65 and elimination of deductions in pineapple.
• Improvement in dental and medical plans with elimination of employee contributions in pineapple.
• More holiday and vacation time with a fifth week of vacation after long service.

Goldblatt reminded the audience that the price of sugar is twice what it was in negotiations two years ago.

He alleged the union's primary concern is to maintain agriculture as a basic part of Hawaii's economy and to replace job opportunities.

Getting the Word — ILWU Research Director Barry Silverman briefs a class from the Naval Postgraduate School at Monterey on operations of the union. The officers are taking a course in personnel management and labor relations.

Local 500 Opens Library To Tell 'True History'

SAN FRANCISCO — The first local to open a library was Local 500 in San Francisco. The library, located at 1760 Francisco St., is open to members and their families, and will be open on Sundays as well.

The library is a sign of our growth," he said, "and the library will help to preserve the true history of our union. It is an achievement for Local 500 and our members.”

MATERIAL NEEDED
The reception was also addressed by Ed Strang on behalf of the B.C. Maritime Employers Association, which donated some periodicals to the library, and by Tom McGrath, secretary of Seamen's Local 500 of the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway, Transport and General Workers.

Don Garcia, Canadian Area ILWU president, unveiled the plaque on the library door, designed by Local 500 member Mike Martin.

"This library is a sign of our growth," he said, "and the library will help to preserve the true history of our union. It is an achievement for Local 500 and our members.”

Unemployment Up
SAN FRANCISCO — California's unemployment rate rose from 5.2 percent in October to 5.3 percent in November, the state's public employment chief announced.

He appealed to members to donate pictures, old contracts and constitutions, newspaper clippings, books and minutes of union meetings.

The reception was chaired by Bert Johnson, chairman of Local 500's ILWU Service Committee.

New Library — Shown at dedication of Local 500's new library in San Francisco is Local 500 President Lou Kaufman, Librarian Larry Moureau and Cana-
The Big Five, No. 5
Theo H. Davies

This is the last of five articles dealing with the structure of the growth of Hawaii's "Big Five" corporations, with whom the ILWU is now involved in critical negotia-
tions.

Job security is the number one issue in pineapples, and will receive considerable attention in sugar. The changing nature of the "Big Five," particularly their dependency on Hawaii agricultural operations creates considerable un-certainty about continued employment for Hawaii's agricultural workers.

by BARRY SILVERMAN
ILWU Research Director

Theo H. Davies and Co., Ltd., was the first of the Big Five to realize the enormous profits which lay in the exploitation of a low-wage, oppressed labor force. But it has been slow to follow the rapid pace and pattern of industrial diversification and geographic expansion set by other of the "Big Five" firms.

"Change, present and pending, is less apparent at Theo. H. Davies and Company than at any of the other Big Five firms," according to the Honolulu Star Bulletin in 1961.

Davies is the smallest of the "Big Five." It is also the most closely held, meaning that control of the corporation rests in the hands of relatively few investors. In addition, 40 percent of the stock outstanding is in the hands of British residents.

Davies' Hawaii holdings include four sugar plantations on the Island of Hawaii—the Big Island—which together account for roughly 10 percent of Hawaii's total cane output; a newly constructed high-rise office building in Honolulu; relatively small scale merchandising; the manufacturing and distribution of heavy equipment, specialized sugar industry equipment, and light construction machinery; insurance; communication; and various maritime trade services.

The Philippines

Through its 79-percent-owned subsidiary Davies Far East, the company's operations in the Philippines rival those in Hawaii both in terms of sales and profits, and potentially hold more promise for the future.

Its many activities in the Philippines—agriculture, sugar, and, to a substantial degree, to corporate profits. They include major holdings in the Philippines' sugar industry. One company, the 60th largest in the Philippines, is owned jointly by Davies and others of the "Big Five." It also has majority interests in subsidiary firms producing and selling a variety of building materials and engineering supplies; television sets, stereo sets, and air conditioning equipment; aviation equipment; chemicals; and diesel equipment.

Davies Far East also operates as a travel agent and insurance agent in the Philippines.

Naturally, Davies is content to work closely with the dictatorship of Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos. In its 1971 Annual Report the company demonstrates its sympathy with repressive measures taken during Marcos' term of office.

In referring to the martial law imposed by Marcos last year, Davies cites as a reason for it "leftist inspired labor unrest."

Davies, along with other foreign entrepreneurs, such as Dole and Del Monte, stands to profit from the quasi-fascist nature of the Marcos Regime

As an aftermath to the imposition of martial law, all labor strikes and demonstrations were banned. And in describing the new Philippines constitution that confers dictatorial powers on Marcos, Davies notes that opposition to it comes in part from "political figures who prefer a less restricted society, and the entire leftist element who are ideologically (sic) committed to a socialistic or communist society."

Davies, along with other foreign entrepreneurs doing business in the Philippines (such as Dole and Del Monte), stands to profit from the quasi-fascist nature of the Marcos regime.

In the Beginning

Second oldest of the "Big Five," Davies was founded by Britons in 1845. In its early years it functioned as a branch of a Liverpool trading and shipping company. Welshman Theophilus Harris Davies joined the Hawaiian firm in 1867. The company went bankrupt in 1867, and, in order to satisfy creditors, was then taken over by Davies in his own name.

Lawrence Fuchs, in his authoritative history of Hawaii, Hawaii Pono, says, "When the sugar boom hit Hawaii, Davies was ready to finance or assist with the organization of twenty-two plantations. It was the first of the "Big Five" to move into Asia."

The company's fastest growing activity in the last 25 years has been in the Philippines. Just last year Davies purchased the refrigerated cargo theatre of C. Brewer from C. Brewer, giving Davies solid control over sugar growing on the islands of the Hawaiian group.

Company actions, following the acquisition of Paauhau, are characteristic of Davies' quasi-fascist nature. In 1941-42, the company had over the years been altered and cut by plantation acquisitions, mergers and consolidation. Davies purchased and merged one plantation in each of the four years. In 1942, all four operations of Theo. H. Davies. It produces 100,000 tons of sugar annually. A Davies subsidiary, the Hawaiian-Philippine Company, owns the plantation. Davies was the first of the "Big Five" to move into Asia.

Del Monte

THE DISPATCHER's series on Hawaii's "Big Five" corporations concludes with this story.

However, there is a sixth employer in Hawaii agriculture that cannot be ignored—Leilani Corp., a San Francisco-based food processing giant that has been active in the Hawaiian pineapple industry since 1933.

Del Monte, which announced earlier this year it plans to trim its operations by closing on its 60-year-old Molokai plantation, is also a part of critical negotiations with the ILWU in Honolulu.

From fields to families, Del Monte grows, processes, cans and distributes an incredible variety of food products "from applesauce to zucchini"—in the US, Canada, and Mexico, and some 15 other countries in Latin America.

Del Monte is the world's largest canner of fruits and vegetables. Through various subsidiaries, divisions and affiliates, Del Monte's transportation and division products come in, owns and operates the truck lines, warehouses, and processing plants in the Hawaiian Islands, Mexico and Latin America.

Del Monte processes over 150,000 tons of fruit and vegetables per year. On its 16,000 acres of land, there are more than 100,000 acres of pineapple, "from applesauce to zucchini." Del Monte's transportation and distribution chain Del Monte profits.

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What is more, for the business quar-
ter ended August 31 this year, Del
Mounte's pineapple sales were fantastic 40.3 percent ahead of earn-
ings for the same quarter a year ear-
er!

On its Board of Directors, along with former executives, the firm in-
cludes Black and the Vice-President of the University of Cal-
ifornia system, students of the University of the Philippines, Rich-
ard in the Philippines, Del Monte's pineapple plant.

Philetus has long been prominent in Del Monte's vast line of products. Its

PLANTATION LIFE

The Corporate Information Center of the National Council of Churches pub-
lished an exhaustive and informative report on The Del Monte pineapple plant.

The 1972-73 pineapple plants in Hawaii operate in a combination plaza and ball

The American executives live far out

The paper went on to say, "We got the raise because we are working on

The editors wanted letters. They promised to print an extra edition if they

One of the main campaigns be-
ing this was by The Waterfront Work-
er in San Francisco, who in those days was to get the stevedores to wear

Some idea of the slim margin

The editors want to know whether the paper

The paper revealed that at that
ear the date the union was keep-
ing a close watch on men who worked on

A scalab who worked on the

The scar was chased off the

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A scalab who worked on the
Cotton for China—Old Trade Renewed

Continued from Page 1—

which was arranged for by ILWU Vice-President William H. Chester, a formal statement from the Welfare Committee of the ship was read that declared, "The American and Chinese peoples historically have had a tradition of friendship. Unfortunately, over the past 20 odd years, this tradition was dis- continued due to certain factors of which we are all aware."

The statement went on to say, "But today, thanks to the sincere efforts of the peoples of both countries and to the frank discussions held between the leaders of both countries, the relations between the United States and China are beginning to take a turn for the better again."

The crew said it gave them "great pride" to be able to participate in the "historic task" of re-establishing trade relations with the United States.

"We take this opportunity," the committee said, "to extend our heartiest greetings to the ILWU and the port authorities of San Francisco. We hope to learn from their spirit of making outstanding and arduous efforts to fur- ther the friendship between the US and Chinese peoples."

Bridges, speaking in response to the greetings from the crew, emphasized that the ILWU long has campaigned for resumption of trade with China and for recognition of the People's Republic of China—the latter sometimes "against difficult odds."

BANNER FOR UNION

He distributed ILWU buttons to the crew members. Toasts were drunk with Chinese beer, and the crew presented the ILWU with a special red banner in commemoration of the occasion.

The ILWU delegation included Vice-President George Martin, James Her- man, President of Local 34; Bob Ro- hatch, president of Local 16; Northern California Regional Director LeRoy King, Tobin, and Legislative Coordina- tor Dave Jenkins, who brought greet- ings from Mayor Joseph Alioto.

The Port Commission also was repre- sented by Velson. The ILWU is still hoping to send a delegation to visit China.

The Port's Mission to The Orient

SAN FRANCISCO—Former ILWU ad- ministrative assistant Charles Velson has returned from a seven-week trip through Asia and the Soviet Union where he met with business and govern- ment leaders for the purpose of im- pressing on them the desire of the Port of San Francisco to accommodate itself to their shipping needs.

Now employed as special representa- tive for the Port, Velson visited Japan, Hong Kong, the Philippines, Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Moscow in or- der to give leaders in those countries assurance that the Port of San Fran- cisco will shape its multi-million dollar development program to the needs of these potential customers, and to gath- er information on their requirements.

Information gathered by Velson in the countries he visited will be fed to the Port's engineering department where it will influence the decisions made in the port's ongoing program of modernization and new construction.

Another purpose of the trip, Velson told reporters, was to begin to make some determinations as to which po- tential user lines will bring in the greatest benefits to the Port.

Visits to factories and other business- es, Velson said, enabled him to learn first-hand management's thinking on its future shipping needs.

Velson served as administrative as- sistant to the ILWU officers from April, 1971 through February, 1973.

Crew Sends Message to Injured Docker

SAN FRANCISCO—When Jose Ramerez of San Leandro, a mem- ber of ILWU Local 10, was in- jured while loading cotton aboard the Caspian Sea on De- cember 10, the crew manifested immediate concern.

The Welfare Committee of the first vessel from Mainland China to call at San Francisco in al- most 25 years composed a letter to Ramerez, which it handed to ILWU President Harry Bridges to deliver to Ramerez.

The letter said, "Dear Fellow Worker: The workers on board our ship are very concerned when we learned you were in- jured while at the job today. We are writing to express our con- cern and to wish you early re- covery."

"The letter was written in both Chinese and English.

Wheat Export Held Vital to Economy

SPOKANE—The opening session of the Washington Wheat Growers annual conference heard key speakers assert that curbs on agricultural export would be disastrous for the US and for the world.

A spokesman for Great Plains Wheat, Inc., Washington, D.C., said US grow- ers would rise or fall on their freedom to produce for other nations.

Rich Fenoll, of the North Pacific Grain Growers, Portland, said the Northwest's market had met the test of the export demand this year. He scoffed at rumors the US would run out of wheat and default on its contracts.
Canadian Area Will Watch Chilean Junta Closely

VANCOUVER, B.C. — The Canadian Area ILWU is keeping a close eye on the Chilean junta in Chile, and if the ILWU International Longshoremen’s and Warehousemen’s Union unions there are the victims of any further atrocities, strong and deter-
imined action will be taken against Chilean ships assisting the junta.

Such action by the ILWU will be coordinated through the B.C. Federa-
tion of Labor.

The Board of Governors was met at a meeting of the Canadian Area Board of the ILWU in Vancouver on Dec. 7th. 

The resolution expressing the policy of the ILWU stated:

WHEREAS a number of trade union-

ers have been murdered by the Chilean junta,

and

WHEREAS their only crime was the support of the democratically elected government of Chile led by Allende, and

WHEREAS to further support in any way a regime which has demonstrated such hatred toward working class peo-
ple is extremely repugnant to the ILWU Canadian Area,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that a close scrutiny of the activities of this fascist regime be maintained and should further atrocities be committed against a Chilean trade unionist, strong and deter-
imined action will be taken against any ships assisting the rightist regime presently in power in Chile.

The Canadian Area Board meeting also discussed a report on the organizing activities and growth of the ILWU.

The resolutions are currently underway with General Testing Laboratories and Commercial Testing, testers and assay-
ers for mineral, coal and other forest products, for renewal of the collective agreement. Employees of the two companies are represented by ILWU Local S18.

The meeting also discussed a progress report on discussions with the Grain Handlers Union on affiliation with the ILWU. The Grain Handlers Union, which has 650 members involved in grain termi-


al work in B.C. ports is an independent union group within the structure of the Brew-

ery Workers Union.

The Brewery Workers Union in the U.S. has merged with the Grain Handlers Union, but Canadian locals of the Brew-

ery Workers are taking action to deter-

mine their own future affiliation. If the Canadian Area ILWU talks with the Grain Handlers Union are concluded successfully, it will mean a substantial addition to its present 300 members.

The Board meeting also discussed fur-
ther attempts by the organizers of the Canadian Area ILWU, which will be held in Van-

couver during the biennial convention of the ILWU, which opens on Feb. 11. The agenda of the meeting will deal with problems of mu-

tal aid to the two longshoremen’s unions.

Support for Farm Workers

OTTAWA — The president of the Canadian Labour Congress has pledged the full support and co-operation of the Congress to the United Farm Workers’ Union in their continuing fight for so-
lidarity and economic justice.

Calling All ILWU Members

Do you know some workers who aren’t making sure they are orga-

ized into the ILWU? If so, please write or telephone infor-
mation to one of the following:

Northwest Regional Office

G. Johnny Parks, President

405 N. 18th Ave.

Portland, Ore. 97209

Phone: (503) 223-1955

Washington-Alaska Office


2320 11th St.

Tacoma, Washington 98403

Phone: (206) 622-5870

Southern California Regional Office

Regional Director

5625 E. Western Ave.

Los Angeles, Calif. 90027

Phone: (213) 753-5594


Donald Wright, Int’l Rep.


Northern California Regional Office

Regional Director

Fred King

Regional Director

150 Golden Gate Ave.

San Francisco, Calif. 94102

Phone: (415) 775-0533


Al Lannon, Organizer

or phone Salinas

(408) 222-4143

Harvey Tanno, Organizer

or phone Salinas

(415) 787-1711

Santana Regional Director

(808) 371-5838

Canadian Area Office

Crigg Pritchett, Regional Director

2661 E. Hastings St.

Vancouver, B.C.

Phone: (604) 824-8141

Hawaii Office

Robert McEakhir

Regional Director

4340 18th Ave.

Honolulu, Hawaii 96814

Phone: (808) 949-4161


Thomas Trask, Int’l Rep.

FARM WORKER THANKS — Philip Veracruz of the United Farm Workers, right, thanks the executive board of ILWU Local 6 for $2,400 raised to help the farm workers in their struggle. At left Local 6 President Curtis McClain.

Local 4, Vancouver

The new slate of officers for Local 4, who were sworn in at the December 12 work stoppage meeting are: President, Richard Cunliff; vice-president Ben Railiff; financial secretary, Gene West-

ling; recording secretary, Bob Schaefer; welfare secretary, Ron Fuller and LRC, Lee Henson (Oregon LRC also),

and Hank Breaker. Dispatchers will be

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Impeachment Petitioners Encounter Eager Signers

PORTLAND — The Ad Hoc Committee to Impeach Nixon launched a petition drive urging Peter Rodino, chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, and the four Oregon Congressmen—"to take an unequivocal and forthright stand for the immediate impeachment of the President."

Champion of the drive in the Portland area is Lois Stranahan, wife of a Local 49 ship's clerk, J. R. Stranahan. She has 1,700 signatures, and is still going strong.

How did she find time to circulate petitions and do her Christmas shopping?

"I'm foregoing Christmas," she said, "to get Nixon his day in court, along with the rest of the crooks in his Administration."

Where did she get the signatures? "Outside department stores and supermarkets, and is still going strong.

Cost of Living Council cut the increase in these independent food markets, in laundromats, and at Portland State University."

AT LONGSHORE HALL

At 6:30 one morning she went to the Longshore Hall with Clara Fambro, president of the longshoremen's auxiliary, and Rita Kerry, another auxiliary member: "They signed in droves.

She doesn't know how many signatures Ms. Fambro has. "She turned her petitions over to her husband to get names on the waterfront," and "Rita took hers to the AFL-CIO Club in Columbia County."

From the Longshore Hall, Ms. Stranahan hurried to the Portland Labor Center to get the name of Lloyd Knudsen, public affairs director of the Oregon AFL-CIO.

She was too late! He had already signed a petition.

She was collecting names in the lobby, and Gene Klare, editor of the Oregon Labor Press, came down and took her picture.

AFL-CIO members are circulating petitions, also. "But we could use a few Lois Stranahans around here," one of their officials said admiringly.

She even obtained the signature of patient in the lobby of a local hospital. The signer, Eva M. Feliner, a young waitress, said she never had any use for Nixon, "even before Watergate, but what's come out since . . . well, it just makes me ill."

Asked if that was what sent her to the hospital, she laughed and said, "No, but it was enough!" Then she asked for some petitions to take home.

ALL AGES

Signers have included both Republicans and Democrats who voted for Nixon, Ms. Stranahan said. "Some of them say they want to undo what they did when they voted him in."

Are young people more likely to sign than their elders?

"No," said Lois, describing a woman of 85, "who bounced ninly off a streetcar to ask, 'What have you got there?' When told it was an impeachment petition, she said, 'I was hoping it was! I heard about the petitions on Channel 8. We thought it was bad under Ford Coolidge and Hoover, but this is nothing I've ever been in.'"

Others seem to agree, said Lois, tickling off reasons people have given for signing the petitions: Watergate, the bombing of Cambodia, "He pays less taxes than I do," "He's been on his staff all those years," the bombing of Cambodia.

"And yesterday, a man said to me, 'You bet I'll sign your petition!' I couldn't get any gas last Sunday and had to hitch to work, and my plant may shut down. But at least Nixon's shipping fuel to Vietnam!"

Council Acts
To Protect Jobs, Aid Strikers

OAKLAND—The ILWU Northern California District Council has asked the State Assembly to dump Bill 484, which would prohibit the manufacture and sale in California of non-returnable soft drink bottles and cans.

Proponents of the bill urge that it would help clear up the state's solid waste disposal problems, but in a letter to the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources and Conservation, the Council pointed out that these contain- ers amount to less than .5 of one percent of the total solid waste in the state.

Council president Joe Lynch, Local 6, also pointed out that ILWU members would stand to lose 1,000 and 700 jobs should the bill go through, and that AB 594 would, in fact "do nothing to solve the problem."

The delegates also voted to make a $100 donation to members of Local 60, now in their seventeenth week of a strike against the Sears outlets in San Francisco. They have also written to company negotiators asking Sears to bargain in good faith.

Finally, the delegates heard an extensive report on the scene in Washington DC from ILWU legislative representa- tive Pat Tobin. The meeting was adjourned in honor of the memory of Local 6 pensioner Henry Gilkohn, who died earlier this month. (See Dispatch- er, December 7).

Jan. 29 New Date
For Movers Show Featuring Bridges

SAN FRANCISCO — The Bill Moy- ers Journal interviewed with ILWU Pres- ident Harry Bridges, scheduled originally for Jan. 22, has been rescheduled for Tuesday evening, Jan. 29, by the National Educational Television Network. The New York broadcast will be at 8 p.m., that date.

Other NET outlets across the nation will not necessarily carry the show on the same date or at the same time. So members should check their local stations.

California outlets are KOCE, Huntington Beach; KEET, Eureka; KCET, Los Angeles; KIXE, Redding; KVIE, Sacramento; KVRN, San Bernar- dono; KFPS, San Diego; KQED and KCQC, San Francisco; KGBH, KSTE, San Jose and KCSM, San Mateo.

Oregon has two stations, KOAC in Corvallis and KATU in Portland.

In Washington the outlets are KCTS in Seattle, KPPT in Spokane, KTPS in Tacoma and KYVE in Yakima.

In Alaska the stations are KYUK in Bethel and KUAC in Fairbanks.

PHOTOS HELPED — A series of photos, including this one, by ILWU Photog- rapher Luis Carballar, helped win $150,000 in back pay for members of ILWU Local 10 employed as mechanics at Sea Train's container repair yard in Oakland. The pictures were instrumental in convincing the Cost of Living Council that the men were indeed entitled to higher pay by reason of special skills.

Appeal Wins $150,000
Back Pay in Sea Train Case

SAN FRANCISCO—The mechanics—400 of the ILWU—report con- tainers in Sea Train's Oakland yard are receiving a nice Christmas present in the form of $150,000 in back pay.

Last year Chrioph Williams and Tom Ligner of Local 10 negotiated a substantial wage increase for the mechanics, but the Nixon administration's Cost of Living Council cut the increase back on the ground it was inflationary. President Bob Rohacht directed Local 10's attorney, Norman Leonard, to ap- peal the case to the full Cost of Living Council.

Armed with affidavits from the spe- cially trained mechanics and photos by Local 10 Photographer Luis Carballar showing the waste in upkeep, Leonard argued the appeal before the COLC in September.

On Dec. 4 the COLC approved the skill rates, and back pay in excess of $150,000 will be paid.

Christmas Will Be First
Paid Dock Holiday

SAN FRANCISCO — For the first time in a long history of struggle Pacific Coast long- shoremen are going to enjoy Christmas as a paid holiday. Under terms of the new con- tract signed this year with the Pacific Maritime Association (as well as under terms of the Alas- ka contract), Christmas this year becomes an historic first paid holiday.

New Year's Day will become the second.

The PMA contract awards the holiday to workers who worked enough hours in the previous week to qualify for one week of vacation (80 hours). In addition, each worker must have been available for work at least two of the five days Monday through Fri- day, exclusive of the holiday, in the week in which the Dock Holiday falls.

If a worker is on vacation or can verify a serious injury or illness, he can still collect for the Holy- day.

Under the PMA plan the Christmas holiday will be paid for on the pay day of Dec. 4. And the New Year's holiday will be paid for on the pay day of Jan. 18.

The Alaska contract simply awards the paid holiday of Christmas and New Year's to the "established registered workforce."