All Chile Is In Jail

Liam McCormack, former Columbia the military take-over in which not only... quite evident of their sympathy and interest. In this picture the photographer caught her in one of the rare moments during her Portland visit when a smile lighted her sad face.

Allende's Widow Says, 'All Chile Is In Jail'

PORTLAND - Mrs. Hortensia Bussi de Allende, wife of Salvador Allende, was in Portland last week on a tour of US cities to denounce the crimes of the Junta and protest continuing American intervention in Chile.

"All Chile at the moment is a jail. There is no human right that has not been cancelled," she said.

She met briefly Oct. 30 with ILWU officials in Portland, October 30. She seemed deeply aware of their sympathy and interest. In this picture the photographer caught her in one of the rare moments during her Portland visit when a smile lighted her sad face.

Canada Dock Negotiations Underway

VANCOUVER, B.C.—With the current contract expiring on December 31 of this year, the Canadian Area ILWU is deep into negotiations with the British Columbia Maritime Employers Association (BCMEA) for a new contract.

ILWU demands, worked out at two contract caucuses, included:

- A one year contract.
- A wage increase of $1.10 an hour on a base rate of $9.00, with the seventh and eighth hour on day shift, Monday to Friday, being paid double time.
- Increased welfare contributions to provide better dental coverage, weekly indemnity and life insurance.
- An increase of the basic pension to $600 a month, with full portability of pensions. Presently longshoremen retiring at age 62 with 25 years of service receive $760 a month.

INFLATION FACTOR

Inflation in Canada is running currently at 12 to 13 percent with labor economists predicting a 15 percent increase by the end of the year.

The average wage increase for workers in all industries in the province covered by collective agreements was 13.7 percent in the second quarter of 1974.

"The program of contract demands determined by our caucuses," said the Negotiating Committee in a recent statement to the Canadian Area ILWU membership, "will require the full support and determination of the membership if we are to attain the changes necessary to keep up to the rising cost of living and inflationary conditions that presently exist in Canada."

There should be no continuation within the Union during the next few months. Discipline and complete adherence to the principles of unionism by all concerned will assist the Negotiating Committee in fulfilling its obligations in securing a good collective agreement.

The Negotiating Committee consists of the Canadian Area officers plus representatives from each local involved.

"We believe our program to be a realistic one," declared Don Garcia, Canadian Area ILWU president, when interviewed by The Dispatcher, "especially our wage demand when it is considered in the light of our increasing productivity since the establishment of the M & M program."

"Our proposals for changes in the Welfare and Pension provisions are in keeping with our program aimed at protecting our membership and enabling them to retire with a measure of security."

Meanwhile ILWU foremen, members of Local 514, have signed collective agreements with two companies and the podem, A one year contract.

The union's Coast Committee, acting on instructions of a Longshore, Clerks and Warehousemen's Union (CUT), has been disbanded by the Junta. "The Central Co-operative of Unions (CUT) has been disbanded by the Junta. "Strikes are not permitted in Chile at the moment." That is why, Mrs. Allende said, that delegates who

---Continued on Page 8---
Arabs Using a Union Weapon

THERE IS GREAT CONCERN in the world because the Arab nations that control the oil of the Middle East are using that control as a bargaining point.

Actually, the weapon that is being used is a traditional one in the union movement and should be understood as such. It's true, the weapon has been used to manipulate prices and that US corporations see it as being in the background of the maneuvering, but there nevertheless is a fundamental change in relationship in the world forces involved in the oil situation. It exemplifies something new.

Withholding something that someone else wants — be it oil or labor power — to win a point in a bargaining situation is a tactic as old as history. But in recent decades this tactic has become the chief weapon of the labor movement in an industrial world. It's not patented. Sheikhs use it, too.

So no one should be very surprised that, in a time of world fuel shortages, the Arab oil nations are employing this stratagem. Whether nations may have been its last gasp. Nam may have been its last gasp. What it does mean is that the capital-imperialist domination is enough to repeat that the present inflationary trend hits people living on fixed incomes, most particularly our pensioned longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses and the widows of departed old-timers.

Perhaps the dividend that came out of the tragic and reprehensible United States intervention in Vietnam was that the old device of sending the Marines simply won't work any more. For one thing, the troops no longer will stand for it. The US worker who suffers as a result of fuel shortages because of the tactics of Arab nations may not agree with those tactics, but it would be difficult for any unionist who has used the same tactics to argue that it isn't the right of the Arabs to make their own decisions and to decide their own tactics.

Chile stands as a frightful warning to all lovers of democracy that evil machinations still take place in the back rooms of power. But no longer can the Marines simply be ordered to Nicaragua.

Otherwise, they probably would be in Arabia. While the era of sending the Marines is finished, it doesn't mean that imperialism is finished. What it does mean is that the capital-imperialist nations that practiced the old style of imperialism have now been vastly restricted. There are two reasons for this. The main one is the world power of the socialist bloc of nations. The second, of course, is the emergence of the so-called third force — or emerging undeveloped — nations that once were under imperialist domination.

The new circumstances do not rule out some reckless adventure, such as nuclear war in the Middle East, but the fact is that the balance of power in the world has shifted. If some sheikdoms, still partially feudal, decide to hold its oil for ransom, the great powers are going to have to accept that fact.

THE DIMENSION of the present situation that is new is that the attitude of the Arabs reflects a change in the power relationships of world forces.

The time was that when some underdeveloped nation dared to defy the United States, we simply sent in the Marines to settle the dispute. Right now, the United States has walked them out of the contract June 30, 1973, on the pension issue alone. The Coast Committee's answer to such arguments was, and still is, that we have full faith in the rank and file of the West Coast longshore division; that if it took a strike to get the amount of pension, along with a cost-of-living escalator in the pension agreement, the Coast Committee and local officers of this union could organize the rank and file to strike and that would be it.

On the other hand, the Coast Committee is well aware of the impact of inflation and high prices on people living on fixed incomes, most particularly our pensioned longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses and the widows of departed old-timers.

THERE IS NO QUESTION about the position adopted by many workers' organizations, that the present inflationary trend hits people living on fixed incomes. I don't have to deal here with how much prices have increased and from all appearances will continue to increase. It is enough to repeat that the present inflationary trend hits people on fixed incomes and hits them hard. And in all too many cases pensioners and others living on fixed incomes are powerless to do much about the problem.

Luckily, our pensioners are in a different position. They do have a union to take care of their interests — and when I speak of the union in this sense, I mean the working rank and file that is still active and, while being hit by inflation, is in a position to do something about it. It is a union that has adopted a program to do something about it. This is the meaning of the Caucus action and our approach to the PMA to get a cost of living increase right now, January 1, 1975, with other increases July 1, 1976 and July 1, 1977.

I AM WRITING THIS COLUMN especially for our longshore pensioners because I have had many inquiries not only as to what is going to happen to the pensioners, but how about this matter of just moving ahead on wages and leaving pensions until the negotiating period now called for under the contract. Specifically, the Coast Committee recommended "our union approach PMA and propose to settle wages now and offer to settle the wage issue for the next two or three years." This approach would mean that the contract would be extended for two or more years on wages only and that there would be no strike July 1, 1975, over wages. All other issues, such as pensions, hours, and the Pacific Guaranty Fund, the negotiating period now called for under the contract.

Thus, what we were offering the PMA was to settle the wage increase for at least the year 1975 and the year 1976 and, in this sense, telling the PMA that the chances of a strike when the present contract ends June 30, 1975, would be greatly reduced.

Before these recommendations were adopted by the caucus as a whole there was plenty of discussion and plenty of questions. One major question has to do with separating wage increases from the issue of pensions.

More than one delegate took the floor to argue that, with wages being dealt separately from pensions, it would be difficult to persuade the rank and file longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses that a strike would take place at the expiration of the contract June 30, 1975, on the pension issue alone. The Coast Committee's answer to such arguments was, and still is, that we have full faith in the rank and file of the West Coast longshore division; that if it took a strike to get the amount of pension, along with a cost-of-living escalator in the pension agreement, the Coast Committee and local officers of this union could organize the rank and file to strike and that would be it.

At the present time the number of working longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses is as follows: "A" men, 10,357; "B" men, 966.

That is a total of 11,313 longshoremen. Add to that 644 walking bosses, and this gives us a grand total of 11,957 presently working . . . to the degree that they work.

As against this total number still working, as of November 1, we have a total of 8,282 on pension. That breaks down into 6,314 men and 1,968 widows and walking bosses.

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On the other hand, the Coast Committee is well aware of the impact of inflation and high prices on people living on fixed incomes, most particularly our pensioned longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses and the widows of departed old-timers.
SAD REMEMBRANCE — Kenneth Rohar (left) a member of ILWU Local 23 in Tacoma, greets Mrs. Salvador Allende during her recent visit to Port-land. Rohar was a member of the ILWU's Women's Unit who visited Chile in 1972. “I spoke with your husband when he received the ILWU delegation at the presidential palace in 1972,” Rohar told the widow of the martyred presid-ent.

Mrs. Allende Thanks ILWU

Continued from Page 1—

from Chile “to a worldwide con-ference of trade unions in Geneva in September were not allowed to par-ticipate.”

MANY IN PERSON

Parks referred to an Associated Press release in the Oct. 30 Oregonian, which reported that 2,000 political prisoners in Chile are soon to be released, of whom 500 will be deported. Mrs. Allende said she hoped there is some accuracy in the report, but warned there are many more prisoners in jails and concentration camps than 2,000—possibly 15,000—.” If some pris-oners are released, it is only to “create a better image abroad,” particularly in the US. The Junta is fearful Congress may cut off military aid.

Rohar shared the platform with Mrs. Allende when she spoke Oct. 30 to a standing-room-only audience at Port-land State University.

When Rohar was introduced as a longshore leader who had been in Chile, the vast crowd, composed mainly of students and professional people, burst into applause.

On the platform with Rohar and Mrs. Allende were Dick Celci, chairman of the Democratic Central Committee of Multnomah County; Elizabeth Linder, co-chairperson of the Women’s Interna-tional League for Peace and Freedom, which sent a delegation to Chile last spring; J. P. Murray, Corvallis, an at-torney connected with the Fair Trial Committee for Chilean Political Prison-ers; Shahid Hanif, representing PSU’s Women’s Studies; and Dr. Fred-erick D. James, history professor at PSU, who presided.

WELCOME FROM MAYOR

Mayor Neil Goldschmidt extended a “warm and cordial welcome” to Mrs. Allende in a letter that regretted he was unable to attend the meeting because of a previous commitment. (He greeted the Junta’s naval training ves-sel Emsralda with silence when it docked in Portland harbor last sum-mer.)

Mrs. Allende, speaking in a calm yet forceful manner, called her country a “victim of aggression” and external pressure. “We know now the total sums of money spent by the CIA.” She linked ITT and Kennecott Copper, which in the past 40 years have taken hundreds of millions of dollars out of Chile’s main resource, her copper mines, to “those forces which operated in the shadow” to overthrow the legally democratically elected coalition govern-ment of Salvador Allende. These forces, she said, were afraid that “the non-violent road to socialism in Chile would become the way for other Latin American and Third World countries” suffering from similar oppression.

She said American intervention in Chile’s affairs was approved by Henry Kissinger and charged President Ford with saying, after CIA involvement became public knowledge, it was “in the best interest of the people of Chile, and certainly in the best interest of the peo-ple of the United States.”

What a contrast, she said, to the resolu-tion charging basic violation of hu-man and democratic rights, passed by overwhelming majority vote in the United Nations—with some abstentions and the US voting no.

OPEN DOOR URGED

She urged that the United States open its doors to refugees, as have many countries in Europe, including France, Sweden, Norway, Holland and Den-mark. “I know that the declaratory of your officials does not represent the views of the American people,” including many in Oregon.

She praised Senators Kennedy, Abourezk and others for trying to cut off military aid to the Junta; Senator Church who called such aid “repulsive and offensive;” Congressman Michael Harrington for exposing the rule of the CIA; and Rep. Donald Fraser for de-manding a Congressional investigation.

WHY SO LONG?

The company, one Local 26 picket told The Dispatcher several months ago, “didn’t expect us to hang together so long.”

Local 26 President Joe Ibarra also pointed out that a Southern California carpenters strike also indirectly helped prolong the strike by cutting into the market for Silkauf’s main product— toilet seats.

New Members for Local 26

COMPTON, Calif.—Local 26 has been named as bargaining agent by workers at Geo International Corporation, by vote of 26-0.

The organizing drive was handled by Chet Meske of the Southern California Regional office.

The company is one of the largest distributors of foreign car parts in the country. Negotiations, being conducted by Bob Passmore, Joe Pratt and Local 26 Secretary-Treasurer Lou Sherman.

In addition, Local 26 also won the right to represent 18 warehousemen at Bernard Ullman by a vote of 13-4. Ber-nard Ullman, a yarn distributor, is a subsidiary of the Indian Head Company.

The drive here was headed by Inter-na tional Representative Earl Barnette, Sr.

Local 26 Victory in Rubber Industry

FULLERTON, Calif.—Workers at Dan-Van Rubber, Inc. have voted 23 to 0 to be represented by Local 26, disregarding a campaign prop-agation against the ILWU to the effect that the union wasn’t capable of rep-re senting the rubber industry workers.

Dan-Van Rubber is engaged in the manufacture of molded rubber goods.

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Fast Turnaround, Fewer Men at New Portland Terminal

PORTLAND — The Port of Portland’s new container facility on the Columbia, Terminal 6, went on the line Oct. 23, with the berthing of the American Mail Line’s Oregon Mail and Japan Line’s Golden Arrow.

Both vessels were bound for Japan, with Yokohama their first port of call.

The Golden Arrow had docked in Vancouver, B.C. and Seattle before coming here to take on 2,500 tons of general cargo.

Eighteen men were involved in the loading operation, according to supercargo Royce Lint, a member of Local 40. Included were four crane operators, two crane chasers, two checkers, one supervisor, one supercargo, and eight extra men employed in undogging the hatches and lashing containers aboard ship.

FAST TURNAROUND

Less than 24 hours was required to load the vessel, with the aid of the 90-ton Hitachi cranes and the new transstainers.

Lint observed wryly that in the old, pre-container ship days, it would have taken four or five nights and six days to tow that much tonnage.

The Oregon Mail, first of the two ships to unload, was in port only a little more than nine hours, “hardly long enough for me to get a hair cut,” the ship’s captain told a reporter.

Terminal 6, served by three giant Hitachi cranes and four transstainers, has the capability to berth four container ships at once, a Port spokesman said.

Seven hatches had been opened as of late reports, the Hitachis have booms long enough to work the hatches and deck of the outbound vessel. At dockside, T-6 can handle two ships.

The 66-acre facility, located in North Rivergate, near the confluence of the Willamette and Columbia rivers, is equipped with a computerized cargo handling system, a container freight station, and a truck check-in depot. It is said to be the most modern terminal on the West Coast.

ILWU INVITED

With Terminal 6 going into full operation, Terminal 2 reverted to a mixed container and break-bulk cargo facility.

The new terminal will handle the four full-container lines calling at Portland, including American Mail, the Japanese Consortium, Orient Overseas Container Line and the Soviet flag Far Eastern Steamship Co. (Pescos-Pacific).

The new terminal was christened the John M. Fulton Terminal Oct. 31, in memory of the late president of the Port of Portland.

ILWU officials, including G. Johnny Parks, regional director; Don Ronne and Everett Ede, president and secretary of Local 8; and Larry Clark, president of Clerks Local 40, were present by invitation, with Governor Tom McCall and other public figures.

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Atomic Workers, with locals in Kansas City and Long Island, N.Y.; Chemical Workers, Jeffersonville, Ind. and Toronto; and the Colgate Employees Association, Inc., Jersey City, N.J.

Local 6 President Curtis McLean chaired the session, while Bill Clark of the Colgate Employees Association, acted as secretary. The Local 6 Colgate workers committee members present were Tom Seclina, Pat Ryle, Saced Reynolds, Will Collins and Eddie Williams.

The delegates also took time out to visit the East Bay Local 6 headquarters and take a tour of the Berkeley plant, joined by East Bay Business Agents Evelyn Johnson, Jo Blasquez and Paul Martin. Local 6 also hosted a farewell dinner for the delegates October 23.

The next meeting will take place in Kansas City in September, 1975.

YONNANDIO: FROM THE THIRTIES

A NOVEL BY TILLIE OLSEN

AUTHOR OF TELL ME A RIDDLE

BOOK REVIEW

A Longtime Friend of ILWU

Writes an Acclaimed Novel

YONNANDIO: FROM THE THIRTIES, by Tillie Olsen. 191 pp., Delacorte Press, $6.95

This is a story of survival. There are no heroes or heroines. The Holbrooks are victims of the depression of the Thirties.

The book, started in the Thirties, was never completed. Put away because there was no time to write while working and raising a family, the manuscript was found by the head of her husband's firm. Jack Olsen, a former member of ILWU Local 6, years after it was put aside. Edited but not re-written, it is a story of the effects of poverty on a family.

Tillie Olsen, herself well-known to many ILWU members in the San Francisco area, achieved belated fame as a writer in 1961 when her anthology of short stories was published under the title of her lead novella, "Tell Me A Riddle." She has since taught at a number of Eastern colleges and currently is back in San Francisco. The new novel has been widely proclaimed.

Yonnandio depicts the life of a working class family too poor to provide food for the children. The Holbrooks move from a mining camp to a farm and from there to an industrial city.

The father, Jim, is a miner, a tenant farmer and a sewer worker. In his search for a job that would provide enough money for his ever-growing family he moves from the bowels of the earth in a coal mine into the water filled sewers.

The mother, Anna, the most sympathetic character in the book, has life. She is the victim of her husband's frustrations as he is the victim of the bosses' oppression. The children, the mother's hope for the future, are also the victims of this never-ending search to just make ends meet.

ABILITY TO LAUGH

It may be, because it was written by a 21-year old woman anxious to make a statement against the inequality of the economic structure of society, it lacked what was absolutely necessary to survive — the ability to laugh and a sense of not just frustration but of anger.

It does not reflect the organizing drives of the Thirties. In only one paragraph is there any reference of the need to change things: "Bide your time, and take it, 'til the many millions of fists clamp in yours, and you could wipe out the whole thing, the whole goddam thing, and a human could be a human for the first time on earth."

Those involved in organizing knew it does not come by hiding your time and taking it. Tillie Olsen's personal life testifies to that. It is unfortunate that the book does not describe some of the battles of the Thirties to develop the union movement.

The life of this family is seen through the eyes of a daughter, Maise. Through her one hopes to find a will to change and yet that hope soon fades as she slowly develops the same feeling of helplessness her parents have.

ACTS OF LOVE

The very acts of love by her father and mother for the children and for each other are luxuries they cannot afford. What comes through most powerfully in this book is the destruction of family relationships when poverty is all that can be thought about. There are no dreamers in this family — only survivors.

The book is beautifully written and never permits any member of the family (even the baby) to lose dignity. It is this sense of warmth and understanding of working men and women and their children that makes this a most important book to be read by those who lived through the Thirties and their children — the survivors.

E.M.

SAN FRANCISCO — Now that almost half a century has passed since the great Pacific Coast Maritime strike of 1934 there is a tendency to surround the events of that torrid summer with any kind of romance.

Actually, some of the problems of that era remain to be solved today — although in a somewhat different form.

Forty years ago, in November of 1934, longshoremen and seamen up and down the Pacific Coast were still fighting the aftermath battles of the "43 strike and striving to achieve some kind of enduring unity among unions that had been involved in the strike.

STILL GOING ON

Today the battle continues to achieve unity.

The unions involved and the exchanges of characters have changed, but the problem remains basically the same. The cargo, which was standard for shipping in the 1930's has been largely replaced by containers, barges, LASH, roll-on/roll-off and Lord knows what new devices to come.

But union rivalries still exist, and the exchange of characters goes on that way. It is sort of prophetic to look back into the November 5, 1934 issue of The Waterfront Worker, the mimeographed rank and file publication of the San Francisco longshoremen, and discover a line that says, "It looked as though the hungry, slave-drive bosses were getting ready to hook off the freight cars and drop them in the hold."

It was meant at the time as a joke, but now it is virtually true.

The freight car has simply become a container.

But it was the consolidation of union strength that was the major concern of those who had led the 1934 strike as they moved through the difficult days that followed the return of the men to work.

So the November 12, 1934 issue of The Waterfront Worker projected for the first time the concept of what it called a "waterfront federation" that in the next year was to become a reality in the form of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

The board would draw all of the traditional craft unions of the Pacific Coast maritime industry into a coordinated body capable of handling union relations with employers on an industrial rather than a craft basis.

NOT A NEW IDEA

The idea of a federation wasn't new. It had been projected by the United Workers of America in the form of a "coastal federation" that in the next year was to become a reality in the form of the Maritime Federation of the Pacific.

The idea was not exactly new. It was not a new idea. It was not even an idea that was considered in the 1934 strike.

The Waterfront Worker spoke on Nov. 12 of "the wonderful lesson of unity and solidarity created by fighting side by side for one common cause" during the strike.

It called the strike unity "a tremendous step forward" and noted the strike "had no equal in the history of the Pacific Coast that the seamen and longshoremen did not scab on each other."
Olympia — Paul Conner, a member of ILWU Local 27 at the Washington State Legislature, reports a judge in Thurston County upheld the legality of unemployment insurance payments made to longshoremen on strike, thereby ending the 1972 maritime strike.

The case has been in litigation since the strike even though the men involved have received and long since spent the back pay awarded during the period of 1972.

There is still the possibility the Pacific Maritime Association will appeal the decision to a higher court.

PRECEDENT SETTING

The original decision, something of a precedent-setter, was made in the spring of 1972 by Daniel S. Bigelow, an attorney representing the state of Washington.

The unemployment payments were challenged by the Pacific Maritime Association over the legality of the payments, since the men involved had not voted to strike.

The association also argued that the payments were illegal under an Oregon statute that states: "The unemployment insurance fund shall not be used to pay unemployment benefits to persons engaged in a strike or other concerted activities in violation of the provisions of chapter 35 of this title." The association also argued that the payments were illegal under an Oregon statute that states: "The unemployment insurance fund shall not be used to pay unemployment benefits to persons engaged in a strike or other concerted activities in violation of the provisions of chapter 35 of this title."

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Various Votes

In The Dispatcher, August 16, 1974, edition under Washington Report, you will find Pat Tabler's reporting on the vote in the Senate regarding the Equal Rights Amendment. The vote was 58-42, with 8 senators absent. The vote was close, with a 3-vote margin. The vote was of great significance as it marked the first time that the Senate had voted on this issue since it was introduced in Congress in 1923.

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Boron Strike Settled

BORON, Calif. — After 142 days, members of ILWU Local 30 voted Oct. 24 to end their hard-fought and often bitter strike against the US Borax Company.

Despite their relative isolation, the power of their employers, strikebreaking by building trades unions, near-marital law imposed by Kern County Sheriff's Department, and despite massive scab-hiring by the company, the locals have held out together for four and a half months.

Although the settlement "falls short of our demands, the union remains intact, and they will be going back as a solid organization," reported the ILWU International in a letter to all locals on the Boron situation.

REBUILDING

"It's clear that we lost ground," said Local 30 President Ken Gordon. "But we're going to get ourselves together, assess where things went wrong, police the contract we have and begin rebuild-

ing the 70,000 members we've lost in one year from now when it expires. . . . We still have a lot of good union people in this town." Gordon added that items and some parts of the settlement go down hard, "but we've just begun. We're going to win." He said Local 30 has already received inquiries from other unions about the strike.

"We have a ways to go," said Gordon, "but we've just begun. We're going into Phase II now, a rebuilding period, and when Phase III comes up in a few years, we're going to win."