Caucus Convenes Monday

SAN FRANCISCO — Ground rules for reopening the “money package” in the ILWU’s Pacific Coast longshore agreement will be before the Coast Longshore, Ship Clerk and Walking Boss Caucus when it reconvenes here Monday, December 9.

The committee, which approached PMA as a result of instructions of an earlier session of the caucus October 7-12, has received a counter-proposal from PMA on procedure, but that proposal has not as yet been made public.

Under the present contract longshoremen have 12 cents an hour as of January 1, but the rise in the cost of living has been so dramatic that the cost-of-living formula in the present contract (which has a built-in ceiling) has been far outstripped.

In addition, the caucus—obviously fearful that wage controls may be reimposed—is anxious to get some sort of parity nailed down with the wage scales won by the International Longshoremen’s Association on the East Coast and in the Gulf.

On top of that, the present recession is imposing strains on the Pay Guarantee Plan, which means that subject also will be up for discussion in the caucus.

The Coast Committee emphasizes that what will be before the caucus is not a mere offer of a proposal on procedure by the PMA that, in effect, will constitute a timetable and ground rules for reopening portions of the contract.

Unionists Report on Variety of Journeys

The ILWU’s Executive Board delegation have been ranging the world in recent weeks.

On pages four and five of this issue of The Dispatcher will be found the reports of three such fraternal and investigative expeditions.

They include:

1. The report of ILWU International Executive Board member Ed Anderson of Seattle, who was the union’s official delegate to a conference of the New Zealand Waterways Workers Federation in Auckland, October 21-25.

2. An account of a visit to the Soviet Union by a broad group of Northern California unionists, including the ILWU’s Dave Jenkins.

3. The report of the first US union delegation to visit the People’s Republic of China, a group of New York hospital union leaders.

Sugar Approves Bonus

HONOLULU — ILWU sugar workers in Hawaii are expected to give overwhelming approval to a revised contract that will bring them over $30 million in bonuses.

As this edition of The Dispatcher went to press, voting on 18 plantations was just drawing to a close, but leaders of Local 142 were predicting overwhelming approval of the revised agreement.

The revised pact essentially is a bonus arrangement for two years, coupled with a one-year extension of the contract that will give the workers an additional pay increase, estimated at $3,350 to the average sugar worker over the life of the extended contract.

The 8,000 sugar workers here thus have won for themselves a share of the tremendous profits generated by the sugar industry as a result of skyrocketing sugar prices.

This is the second sugar settlement this year. When the price of sugar, which reached $1.60 per ton when the strike ended in April, zoomed up and up until it hit the $4.00 mark, the union determined it wanted “a share of the good times.”

Even though the contract had another 14 months to go, the union informed management there must assuredly be a shutdown at contract expiration unless some adjustment could be negotiated now.

THE TERMS

Basically, what the workers are gaining as a result of the negotiations is as follows:

• CASH BONUSES that will average out to $1,000 per regular worker for 1974 and again for 1975. The bonuses, calculated by a complicated formula, will range from $500 upwards, depending on hours worked. In addition to bonuses for regular workers, temporary workers and pensioners who retire during the life of the contract will also benefit. Temporary workers who qualify will receive a pro-rata share of the bonuses as will retirees, who will get it over the next 26 months.

The revised pact essentially is a bonus arrangement for two years, coupled with a one-year extension of the contract that will give the workers an additional pay increase, estimated at $3,350 to the average sugar worker over the life of the extended contract.

The 8,000 sugar workers here thus have won for themselves a share of the tremendous profits generated by the sugar industry as a result of skyrocketing sugar prices.

This is the second sugar settlement this year. When the price of sugar, which reached $1.60 per ton when the strike ended in April, zoomed up and up until it hit the $4.00 mark, the union determined it wanted “a share of the good times.”

Even though the contract had another 14 months to go, the union informed management there must assuredly be a shutdown at contract expiration unless some adjustment could be negotiated now.

THE TERMS

Basically, what the workers are gaining as a result of the negotiations is as follows:

• CASH BONUSES that will average out to $1,000 per regular worker for 1974 and again for 1975. The bonuses, calculated by a complicated formula, will range from $500 upwards, depending on hours worked. In addition to bonuses for regular workers, temporary workers and pensioners who retire during the life of the contract will also benefit. Temporary workers who qualify will receive a pro-rata share of the bonuses as will retirees, who will get it over the next 26 months.

The revised pact essentially is a bonus arrangement for two years, coupled with a one-year extension of the contract that will give the workers an additional pay increase, estimated at $3,350 to the average sugar worker over the life of the extended contract.

The 8,000 sugar workers here thus have won for themselves a share of the tremendous profits generated by the sugar industry as a result of skyrocketing sugar prices.

This is the second sugar settlement this year. When the price of sugar, which reached $1.60 per ton when the strike ended in April, zoomed up and up until it hit the $4.00 mark, the union determined it wanted “a share of the good times.”

Even though the contract had another 14 months to go, the union informed management there must assuredly be a shutdown at contract expiration unless some adjustment could be negotiated now.

THE TERMS

Basically, what the workers are gaining as a result of the negotiations is as follows:

• CASH BONUSES that will average out to $1,000 per regular worker for 1974 and again for 1975. The bonuses, calculated by a complicated formula, will range from $500 upwards, depending on hours worked. In addition to bonuses for regular workers, temporary workers and pensioners who retire during the life of the contract will also benefit. Temporary workers who qualify will receive a pro-rata share of the bonuses as will retirees, who will get it over the next 26 months.

The revised pact essentially is a bonus arrangement for two years, coupled with a one-year extension of the contract that will give the workers an additional pay increase, estimated at $3,350 to the average sugar worker over the life of the extended contract.

The 8,000 sugar workers here thus have won for themselves a share of the tremendous profits generated by the sugar industry as a result of skyrocketing sugar prices.

This is the second sugar settlement this year. When the price of sugar, which reached $1.60 per ton when the strike ended in April, zoomed up and up until it hit the $4.00 mark, the union determined it wanted “a share of the good times.”

Even though the contract had another 14 months to go, the union informed management there must assuredly be a shutdown at contract expiration unless some adjustment could be negotiated now.

THE TERMS

Basically, what the workers are gaining as a result of the negotiations is as follows:

• CASH BONUSES that will average out to $1,000 per regular worker for 1974 and again for 1975. The bonuses, calculated by a complicated formula, will range from $500 upwards, depending on hours worked. In addition to bonuses for regular workers, temporary workers and pensioners who retire during the life of the contract will also benefit. Temporary workers who qualify will receive a pro-rata share of the bonuses as will retirees, who will get it over the next 26 months.

Next Board Meeting

To Be Held In February

SAN FRANCISCO—Next meeting of the ILWU’s International Executive Board will be held in February—no later than the 17th. This decision was reached at the just-concluded meeting of the IEB here November 18-20.

The agenda will include a discussion of union finances and staff pension problems in preparation for the union’s International Convention opening April 7 in Vancouver, B.C.
On the Beam
by Harry Bridges

The Recession

The international executive board of the ILWU has just concluded a three-day meeting, and this coming Monday the Pacific Coast Longshore, Ship Clerk and Walking Boss Caucus will reconvene on the business of going after a new longshore contract.

The two meetings have at least one thing in common, a profound concern over what the current recession, coupled with inflationary pressures, is doing to the members of this union—and to all working people.

In other sectors of the union efforts are underway to re-open contracts and nail down some kind of wage package before Congress or the President decides to reinstate wage controls.

The executive board adopted a resolution that said “the factors that have created this situation are built-in to the profit system and can only be remedied by drastic reforms.”

President Harry Bridges told the board: “It is my judgment that we are heading into a real depression. It looks like the bottom could drop out above the 112,000 mark and apparently will get worse. The supplemental unemployment benefits may now have to be re-opened to the workers left unemployed due to the recession.”

The resolution adopted by the ILWU board proposes a number of solutions to the problem.

Basically, they boil down to the following:

- A complete revision of tax laws to transfer the tax burden from working people and to close tax loopholes for corporations and the rich.
- Drastic cuts in military spending.
- Complete opposition to any re-imposition of wage controls.
- Government assistance in rolling back interest rates.

Admittedly, this is not a comprehensive program. Doubtless the ILWU convention, when it meets in April, will have a great deal more to say on the subject of the economy and recession.

But this union has declared its concern and has taken steps in virtually every contractual field within its jurisdiction to deal with this most critical challenge.

The labor movement of the US and virtually every capitalist nation is on notice that the working people of the United States are thinking power recession. But we know from what we hear from our own longshoremen and warehousemen will tell you in no uncertain terms how they are feeling the pinch of short work weeks or no work at all.

SO IT WAS VERY INTERESTING to read an article in the paper the other day about all the safeguards we have in the United States against a repetition of the great depression of the 1930’s.

That story made me laugh because the way it was written made it sound like a benevolent government backed it sound like a benevolent government backed it.

In the auto industry alone lay-offs are now over the 112,000 mark and apparently will get worse. The supplemental unemployment benefits may now have to be re-opened to the workers left unemployed due to the recession.

The President mentioned unemployment insurance and supplemental unemployment insurance the other day in a casual sort of way that made it seem like a benediction. In the auto industry, had somehow provided all these cushions to protect workers during periods of temporary economic dislocation.

The fact of the matter is that labor had to fight for this in the same way that workers used to face unemployment that threatens to become the worst manifestation of way that made it seem like these programs had never been before.

The hard fact of the matter is that working people in these nations are oppressive. We are told this may be the longest recession since the end of World War II, and there have been no less than six recessions since that war.

We are told that unemployment in the United States, now officially at six percent, will rise to seven percent by late spring. That means 900,000 more unemployed. With massive lay-offs in the auto industry, it must be awfully difficult to tell the guys in Detroit we are not in a depression. Our own longshoremen and warehousemen will tell you in no uncertain terms how they are feeling the pinch of short work weeks or no work at all.

So, of course, we have safeguards now that we didn’t have in the thirties. But the point is they weren’t given to us. We had to fight for them. And in my opinion, there aren’t enough of them—particularly if things get as bad as they have in the past.

It is true things are not as bad today as they were in the depression of the thirties—and the various safeguards fought for by labor are partly responsible. The unemployment rate in the thirties was 24.9 percent of the work force when things were at their worst as compared with six percent today. But we still have major problems.

I can’t help but think, for example, that if employers in California had been required to pay unemployment insurance at the maximum rate envisioned by the original law, we would have millions and millions of dollars of reserves that we don’t have now. The employers engaged something called a “merit rating” system that made it possible for them to escape a lot of taxes.

It’s galling to think that our board was talking about it when it called for tax cuts in military spending, or for a drag-out in military spending or for no restoration of wage controls and for a reduction in interest rates.

Call it recession or call it depression, it’s working people who are being hurt, and the fight we face is just another phase of the fights we waged in the thirties. Conditions are different, and we do have some cushions. But they are cushions we fashioned, and now we need more of them.
OLYMPIA — The 25th annual session of the Governor’s Industrial Safety and Health Conference, held here Nov. 21-22, attracted 16 delegations. ILWU locals, most of them coming from the union’s longshore rank and file.

George Johnson, one of the two delegates from local 21, chaired the panel on longshore, stewards and related operations. Lee Elwell, safety coordinator for the Port of Seattle acted as chairman.

Among those present were Ed May, member of the chemicals and petroleum subcommittee of Dan Evans’ Safety Advisory Board, and State Rep. Del Bausch. Mapes, a shipyard worker in the Welch Corp. plant at Longview, is secretary of the Columbia River District Council. Bausch of Local 47 is a member of the Board.

Both Bausch and Fred Baier, also of the local here, were conference participants. Baier was a member of Local 43. Baier served on the subcommittee that planned the two-day meeting and chose the speakers.

The highlight of the conference, for Baier and Johnson, was a presentation on “Video Tape Safety Training for Longshoremen,” made by Vernon E. Painter, chief marine and dock inspector for Washington state’s Department of Labor and Industries’ division of industrial safety and health.

The tape, covering on-the-job hazards contained imaginary trucks and other operations in three ports, is part of a pilot program that Baier and his associates plan to use later in a state-sponsored safety training program.

“Anybody could get the points across,” Johnson and Baier said of the tape. “The students who went through the presentation were not successful, Baier felt. ‘Still, it was a pretty good conference!’

Participants from Local 4, Vancouver, was impressed with the presentation on “Drugs and the Off the Job,” made by Ron Anderson of the Washington State Patrol’s education and information division, terming it a “real shocker.”

“Alcohol is the No. 1 addiction. Some 82 per cent of the nation’s addicts are alcoholics,” Baier said. “Alcoholism is far less worried about marijuana.”

**Congress Tilting Toward Controls?**

WASHINGTON, DC — More and more congressmen are looking favorably on wage-price controls, according to Business Week magazine.

“Controls legislation couldn’t get through Congress right now,” says the influential magazine. “Labor, business and President Ford are opposed.”

“But Democratic party politics and the deteriorating economy are pushing in the other direction.” Among those behind the tariff bills are Sen. Mike Mansfield and Hubert Humphrey.

One Democrat told Business Week that if Ford did not do something soon the area of the economy was producing pressure in the direction of controls.

**Berk Agents Elect Portland Officers**

PORTLAND — Ken Parks was elected present of the ILWU Berks’ local here at a meeting of the Local 40 unit on November 19.

Denise Ragland was elected vice-president, and Deana Nothburg secretary-treasurer, in their first term as a labor relations committee for the group, Parks said.

The election followed the recent signing of a contract—their first—with the Port of Portland.

An accompanying film showed how the red corpuscles in the blood coagulate or “cluster” after three drinks, slowing reflexes and overloading brain cells.” Brain damage in the alcoholic is irreversible.

Anthony Mazzocchi, legislative director of the Oil, Chemical and Atomic Workers Union, from Washington, D.C., was one of the two featured conference speakers.

“They really laid it on the line,” said Mary Rule, who has been scheduling fights in the area. “The whole way the health of the worker can be impaired over the years”—the effects are cumulative.

One such substance is carbon tetrachloride. Its use in fire extinguishing systems is banned. “Vinyl chloride has been much in the news recently, but “no equipment has been developed for working with it, or with many other substances thought to be cancer-causing.”

Vinyl chloride is used in many spray cans, spray paint and even hair spray. “The inert propellant, freon,” Mapes related, “does not disintegrate in the atmosphere over years. It could eliminate the ozone, the natural barrier to ultra violet light.”

**MUST KNOW HAZARDS**

Mazzocchi urged union officials to ask themselves, “How can you represent your members, protect them from these hazards, when you don’t know what these hazards are?” They are known to management and company chemists, but when workers try to understand the details, management says, “It’s none of your business.”

**Gains Wiped Out**

SALEM — Miniscule increases in welfare aid to dependent children and the elderly which went into effect earlier this month will be wiped out in some cases by federal food stamp regulations, the State Public Welfare Division said here.

**Sugar Workers Approve $30 Million Package**

PORTLAND — The Columbia River District Council hopes to maintain a lobbyist at the 1975 session of the Oregon Legislature. In south-of-the-Colum- bia affiliates adopt a recommendation made at a special meeting of the CRDC Dec. 1.

The delegates, in addition, hammered out a 10-point legislative program, which includes:

- A cost-of-living raise in Workman’s Compensation and unemployment compensation.
- Passage of an anti-strikebreaker bill.
- Legislation to simplify state procedures.
- A consumer bill of rights to include the labeling of all food products and “due process under the law before a utility can cut off service because of alleged nonpayment of bills.”

**Organizing Gain Set at 465 Workers**

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU Vice-President George Martin reported to the Nov. 18-20 meeting of the Interna- tional Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) that his Local 10 in the Seattle area has organized 465 workers since the previous board meeting in July.

Martin noted the gains have been achieved in spite of an “atmosphere of economic uncertainty.”

**Board Sends Appeal Back To Local 10**

SAN FRANCISCO — The ILWU International Executive Board has re- turned back to Local 10 an appeal growing out of an alteration that occurred at the Local’s headquarters here on September 13.

The appeal was brought by Local 10 Business Agent Larry Wing, who was discredited by an interpretation of the International Constitution handed down by President Harry Biddle at the request of a number of defendants in a local trial action.

The Board decided unanimously the local magistrate had not been exhaust- ed and referred the matter back. Trial of the members following the alterca- tion has been continued pending the appeal.

**Goldblatt to Address Labor Studies Group**

SAN FRANCISCO — Louis Goldblatt, ILWU secretary-treasurer, will speak Thursday evening, December 12, at 7:30 p.m., at 33 Gough Street, here on “Automation and Multi-National Conglomer- ates—Threat to Jobs.

The program is the last of four fall lecture-discussions sponsored by the labor studies program of San Francisco Community College. Admission is free.
SAN FRANCISCO — A delegation of Northern California labor leaders stretching clear across the spectrum of the union movement paid a 13-day visit recently to the Soviet Union and has returned to report "the advancement of the best interests of our two countries lie in regular contacts between the people of our two countries."

The delegation, in which Dave Jenkins of the ILWU played a prominent role, expressed its gratitude to its Soviet hosts in the form of a formal statement by Joseph Belardi, president of the San Francisco Labor Council and national vice-president, Hotel and Restaurant Workers; Mrs. Belardi; Reva Olsen, vice-president, Office and Professional Employees; Leon J. Davis, secretary of ILWU Local 9; Morris Less, Building Material and Construction Local 216, Teamsters; Rachel Jenkins, secretary to the delegation; Marita Body, international representative, United Auto Workers. On floor (left to right), Michael Schneider, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers; Mel Rubin, Retail Clerks, Local 137, Bakersfield.

UNION DELEGATION — Delegation of Northern California union members who recently undertook a 13-day visit to the Soviet Union, standing (left to right): Joseph Freitas, labor attorney, San Francisco building trades; Emer- sson Oakland, interim manager, San Jose City Central Labor Council; Morris Evenson, secretary, Painters Union, Local 4, San Francisco; Pat Sanderson, Alameda County Joint Carpenters Council and national vice-president, Alameda County Central Labor Council; Joseph O'Sullivan, president, San Francisco Building Trades Council and national vice-president, Bay Area Council of Carpenters; David Jenkins, legislative coordinator, San Francisco ILWU; Art Carter, secretary-treasurer, Contra Costa County Council and national vice-president, United Auto Workers; Mrs. Joseph O'Sullivan; Ms. Geri Powell; Florence Doughless, president, Dining Room Employees; Leon J. Davis, secretary, Alameda County Central Labor Council; Morris Less, Building Material and Construction Local 216, Teamsters; Rachel Jenkins, secretary to the delegation; Marita Body, international representative, United Auto Workers; Mel Rubin, Retail Clerks, Local 137, Bakersfield.

Typographical error, Local 21, Seated, (left to right): Mrs. Pat Sanders, Joseph Belardi, president, San Francisco Labor Council, and national vice-president, Hotel and Restaurant Workers; Mrs. Belardi; Reva Olsen, vice-president, Office and Professional Employees; Leon J. Davis, president, San Francisco Labor Council, and national vice-president, Hotel and Restaurant Workers; Mrs. Joseph O'Sullivan; Mi. Geri Powell; Florence Doughless, president, Dining Room Employees; Leon J. Davis, secretary, Alameda County Central Labor Council; Morris Less, Building Material and Construction Local 216, Teamsters; Rachel Jenkins, secretary to the delegation; Marita Body, international representative, United Auto Workers; Mel Rubin, Retail Clerks, Local 137, Bakersfield.

Broad Labor Delegation Visits USSR

Ed Anderson Represents ILWU At New Zealand
followed, an infant sister was left in the fields to die, a four-year-old daughter was given away to strangers and a 10-year-old sister went to work for the plantation landlord under such harsh conditions that she was blinded by malnutrition.

Today 15 years after the current government took power, Ms. Wang is a leader of the revolutionary committee of her production brigade, one of her sisters is a health worker in the paramedical category known in China as "barefoot doctor," and the third sister has been cured of her blindness.

Like most of the 80 percent of Chinese who are engaged in production of food, Ms. Wang and her family work hard, eat and dress plainly but adequately and have made major advances in health, sanitation and education.

These changes have come about "thanks to Chairman Mao," Ms. Wang said. Referring to the "fantastic famine, floods and plagues" that killed millions in old China, he said the 1998s saw no hunger, poverty or beggars during their tour.

"We don't know if their system would work in Europe or elsewhere, but from what we could see it seems to be working well for the Chinese," Davis declared.

On the negative side, Davis said he felt Americans would not be comfortable with the sort of hero worship accorded Chairman Mao. He also said he found an "alarmist" tendency among Chinese to regard many foreign nations with hostility and to believe only the Chinese have the answers to world problems.

The National Hotel Union group and the National Maritime Federation who played a key role in the Maritime strike of 1934, the oldest labor dispute in the United States, visited China as part of a United States trade union delegation to visit the People's Republic of China. The group was invited by China's Friendship Association. Its members visited hospitals, two agricultural communes, steel and textile factories and a pharmacy in the cities of Shanghai, Peking, Canton, Hangchow, Shenyang and Anhui. They met with Chinese families in their homes, spoke with workers on the job, and with trade union leaders and attended cultural events.

HEALTH REPORT

Members of the delegation paid for their own transportation to and from China. The Chinese picked up the tab for the delegation's stay in that country.

In reports to delegates and staff members, the returned 1998s made the following points:

- Health care. Malnutrition, cholera, plague, typhoid fever, tuberculosis and other diseases associated with poverty were common in old China. Every fifth child died before its first birthday. There were less than 10,000 poorly distributed doctors for the entire country.

- Today China has reached modern European levels in control of infectious diseases. Malnutrition is gone. There are 260,000 physicians, tens of thousands of hospital beds and health centers and millions of "barefoot doctors." A strong emphasis on the prevention of disease stresses sanitation, immunization and education. Cost of health care is very low. Along with modern western medical practices, the 1998s were impressed by several demonstrations of the ancient Chinese science of acupuncture.

- Education. While it's over 5,000 years old, China is a "young country" in that half its population is under 18. This means there are almost as many Chinese under 18 as there are Americans of all ages. Advances in education include making school compulsory for the first time in Chinese history. Students in the cities must complete high school and in rural areas must complete at least two years of high school. All high school graduates must go to work for two years. Their employers are then determined who goes to college.

- The Great Cultural Revolution. Since the mid-1960's Mao Tse-tung has introduced measures designed to prevent growth of an educated elite with values different from those of the vast majority of Chinese, who work on the land. One of these measures requires intellectuals and all other white collar workers, including government leaders, to spend a period of time each year doing physical labor.

- Role of women. Oppression of women in old China went to extremes such as binding girls' feet or throwing them out because women were considered not as productive as men. Today, women have legal equality and work at virtually all kinds of jobs. Since earnings on the farm are equal to men's, women are considered "the backbone of China's economic strength."

- The Great Leap Forward. Mao launched the "Great Leap Forward" movement in 1958 wherein nearly the entire population took part in the works of agriculture and industry.

- Scientific advance. Advances in health, sanitation and education.

- The People's Republic of China, which is based in New York. Center is Vice President William J. Taylor. Looking aside in the background is Executive Secretary Moe Foner.

First Unionists — Members of the first US union delegation to visit the People's Republic of China.

- First Unionists — Members of the first US delegation to visit the People's Republic of China. The delegation was composed of members of the National Union of Hospital and Health Care Employees, a division of the Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union, AFL-CIO. The bearded man at right is Leon J. Davis, president of the union, which is based in New York. Center is Vice President William J. Taylor. Looking aside in the background is Executive Secretary Moe Foner.

FOOD NEEDS MET

"They are very well-organized to meet their major need: food," Davis said. Referring to the "fantastic famine, floods and plagues" that killed millions in old China, he said the 1998s saw no hunger, poverty or beggars during their tour.

"We don't know if their system would work in Europe or elsewhere, but from what we could see it seems to be working well for the Chinese," Davis declared.

On the negative side, Davis said he felt Americans would not be comfortable with the sort of hero worship accorded Chairman Mao. He also said he found an "alarmist" tendency among Chinese to regard many foreign nations with hostility and to believe only the Chinese have the answers to world problems.

The National Hotel Union group and the National Maritime Federation who played a key role in the Maritime strike of 1934, the oldest labor dispute in the United States, visited China as part of a United States trade union delegation to visit the People's Republic of China. The group was invited by China's Friendship Association. Its members visited hospitals, two agricultural communes, steel and textile factories and a pharmacy in the cities of Shanghai, Peking, Canton, Hangchow, Shenyang and Anhui. They met with Chinese families in their homes, spoke with workers on the job, and with trade union leaders and attended cultural events.

The creation of a maritime federation on the Pacific Coast was very much on the agenda of longshoremen as the Flushing Harbor strike of October, 1934, dawned.

The men who had led the historic May-1st-July maritime strike that summer were seeking to perpetuate in a formal union sense the unity among maritime unions that had been a standing characteristic of that strike.

The advocates of a federation were encountering resistance to their program on some of the existing official unions and the mimeographed pages of The Waterfront Worker, a rank-and-file publication, reflect that fact.

THE STRIKE

The rank and file leaders were still bitter over what they regarded as a sell-out that terminated the San Francisco General Strike and they felt the union officials who played a key role in that decision also were trying either to block or take over the proposed federation.

The Waterfront Worker bristles with phrases such as "the labor movement is "all-out,"" and "to hell with it." There was obviously a real fear that the gains of the bitter strike would be sacrificed through some post-strike machinations.

Actually, viewed now from the perspective of contractual memoirs, the 1934 general strike did play a significant role in winning the basic gains that are now at risk.

Yet, oddly enough the December 3, 1934 issue of the Waterfront Worker has this paragraph, "The orderly retreat made by the strikers, until the gauntlet is dropped, is now labeled "in disgraces through some post-strike machinations."

A strike that today is recognized as something of a landmark in the growth of the American labor movement was being described at the time as an "orderly retreat." It goes to show that perspective is sometimes difficult to determine. What is "in disgrace" is the situation of a battle-scarred force of the Waterfront Worker.

Mike Quin in his historic book, "The Big Strike," was to write more than showing how the struggle was over, "The 1934 strike is comparable to the other strikes above all it demonstrated the power latent in the rank and file. The rank and file only manned the picket lines and did the sacrificing — as it must in every strike — but it also made the big decisions and determined the strategy."

ISOLATION MOVE

The rank and file leaders felt the shipowners and some of the union officials at the district level were "working overtime" to isolate San Francisco longshoremen from the rest of the Coast. The reason, they felt, was that San Francisco had been the center of the most militant strike activity, and in the eyes of the shipowners and the press — the leadership of the International Longshoremen's was considered "irresponsible."

The traditions of rank-and-file autonomy that are so much a part of the ILWU history were born during the strike and the period that followed the return to work.

The creation of a maritime federation and the difficulties it encountered will be dealt with in future editions of this column.
Local 6 Run-off December 12
SAN FRANCISCO—Local 6 members in the San Francisco and East Bay divi-
sions will vote Thursday, December 12, in a run-off election to name business
agents on each side of the Bay.
Elections will be held at the following
times and places.

SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION
• San Francisco, Union Hall, 255
  Ninth Street, San Francisco, 7 a.m. to
  8 p.m.
Special limited parking regulations in
effect on Clinchanda and Ninth Street
between the hours of 7 a.m. and 4 p.m.
WANGO—Do not park on Ninth Street
between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., car subject
to towing and union not responsible. Un-
on parking across from office—next to
free parking).
• South San Francisco, United Steel
Workers Hall, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.
• Burlingame, 1519 Rollins Road, Au-
ditorium of Plumbing and Pipefitting
Joint Apprenticeship Committee of San
Mateo County, 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

EAST BAY-OAKLAND DIVISION
• Oakland, Union Hall, 99 Hegenber-
ger Road, 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. (adequate
free parking).
• Oakland, Veterans Memorial
Building 400 Grand Avenue (downtown
in basement Hall No. 5), 11 a.m. to
7 p.m.
• Berkeley, Columbus School, 2211
  7th Street, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
• Union City, City Council Chambers,
  1154 Whipple Road (use entrance on
  Central Avenue, across from Associated
  Food), 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.
All members in good standing with
dues paid for the month of November,
are eligible to vote.
Dues may be paid in the East Bay at
the Union office, the day of the voting
until 8 p.m.; San Francisco division
members may pay dues at any of the
voting places.
Permit and work card members are
not eligible. Pensioners can vote at any
of the locations by showing their life-
time retired card, pension club mem-
bership or black book.
Members must show their union book
in order to vote.

Local 12, North Bend
Local 12, ILWU, North Bend, Oregon,
will hold its final election December
9 through December 14, 1974, to fill
the offices of president, vice president,
secretary-treasurer, recording secre-
tary and executive board members.
Polling will be held at the union, 2064
Sheridan Avenue. Run-off elections, if
necessary, will be held on December
18 through December 21, 1974.

Chester to Serve
On Bicentennial Group
SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU Vice-Presi-
dent William H. Chester has been ap-
pointed chairman of the maritime sec-
tion of the United States-San Francisco
Twin Bicentennial Committee.
The committee will arrange a cele-
bration in 1976 to mark the 200th anni-
versary of the founding of the nation—
also the 200th anniversary of the City of
San Francisco.

Bridges Now SF
Port Chairman
SAN FRANCISCO — ILWU President
Harry Bridges now is acting chairman of
the San Francisco Port Commission.
He recently was appointed to a second
term as a member of the Commission.

Local 26 Stewards Graduate
GRADUATING STEWARDS — Local 26 stewards who recently completed a course in stews handling, arbitration and safety
enforcement are, above, left to right, Jack Coburn (GATX), Ted
King (Germaine’s), Paul Graf (GATX), Bill Warner (Watchmen),
Richard Castro (Germaine’s), Joe Boyd (Watchmen) and Jim Maples
(Reliance Strel). Shown in bottom picture are: Vera Moore (Sil-
kauf), Carol McLaughlin and Mary Flynn, Local 26 President Joe Ibarra,
Frank Laugel (GATX), Harry Danovich (Germaine’s), Louis San-
ders (McKesson) and John Montes (Brunswig). Other stewards who
were graduated are Gloria Lawson, Jack Bennett (Silkauf), Frances
Keene (American Bravo), Joe Fryos (Aero Alloys), and Herman McQuil-
lan. Local 26 President Ibarra, who served as in-
structor for the eight week course, presided at the stewards ban-
quet at which certificates of completion were handed out. Guest
speakers included Free Port Director Barry Silverman who
discussed current economic trends and the role of stewards in
the union.

More About China Delegation
Continued From Page 5—
Based on productivity, women often
earn less than men.
• Political parties. The Communist
Party is China’s only political party.
• Trade unions. Trade unions were
eliminated at the beginning of the Cul-
tural Revolution. They are slowly re-
appearing, but their main function
seems to be as a mechanism for the
Chinese worker, political leader and
businessman.
• Lives of workers. Hard physical
labor, most of it to produce food, is the
foundation of China’s economy. Pay
is low, but so are food, rent and health
care. Chinese work six-eight hours
days per week, with no vacations. There
are no apparent distinctions on the job
between workers and supervisors.
Chinese workers are able to travel
throughout China and there appear to be no extremes of poverty and wealth.

NEW FACILITY—A new bulk fertilizer facility at Vancouver, Wash., is
expected to be in operation in time to serve the Norwegian vessel, the Star Malmanger, dis-
charging 6,500 tons of urea.
Origin of the cargo was in dispute, and offshore unions were
concerned over a waiver of the Jones Act granted by President Ford.

Many people thought the waiver was
to end Dec. 31, but this report has learned through Sen. Mark O. Hat-
field’s office the cut-off date is Dec. 31, 1974.
R. N. Sweeney, port agent of the
Maine Firemen’s Union, said seamen,
strong supporters of the Jones Act,
are “watching the situation closely be-
cause this waiver could be the opening
wedge to destroy the Act.”
The situation may be of more press-
cence to offshore unions than to ILWU,
but in the words of Regional
Director G. Johnny Parks, “We have
always supported the right of the sea-
men’s unions to get more cargo shipped
in American bottoms.”

Local 47, Olympia
Local 47, ILWU, Olympia, Washing-
ton, will hold its final election Decem-
ber 18-20, 1974, to fill the offices of
president, vice president, secretary-
treasurer, recording secretary and six
members of the executive board.
Nominations will be made December
10, 1974.
Polling will be between the hours
of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m. at 111 West
Thurston Avenue, Olympia, Washing-
ton.

Local 75, San Francisco
Local 75, ILWU, San Francisco, Cal-
fornia, will conduct the ballot count of
the 1975 annual election December
14, 1974, which will determine the re-
sults for the following offices: Presi-
dent, vice president, secretary-treas-
urer/business agent/dischaper, assist-
ant dispatcher, board of trustees and
auditing committee, sergeant-at-arms,
LRC, executive board and convention
delegate. All balloting is by mail.
In Defense of Bridges

A number of sectarian political group-lets, mutually antagonistic to one an- other, seem now to be able to agree on one thing, if nothing else, and that is that Harry Bridges sure doesn’t amount to much as a union leader.

Some of these uptown people have just advanced a program of their own for the ILWU that exceeds in levend- ous any thing I have seen in a long time. The only thing they show real aptitude for is the art of distor- tion, innuendo and prevaricating (with a straight face) when talking about Bridges. And they pretend to be working on the ILWU’s behalf. If workers, what a way to be at a time when unity, if only around a minimum program that embodies labor’s inter- est, worldwide, is so urgently needed.

Take such fundamental questions as independence, noncapital class action, discrimination in any form, peace and detente, and jingoistic red-baiting and Soviet-baiting — what, in the name of political enlightenment, is wrong with the ILWU program?

Nothing, in my opinion, except that resolutions on these and other impor- tant issues passed at our conventions are probably not sufficiently discussed and reflected on by the busy, average rank and file.

Needless to say, neither Bridges nor anybody else can stand infallible. But one thing is sure; he has never let down the rank and file that elected him, and first discussed and endorsed the pro- gram before he set out to put it into effect — or spoke in the rank and file’s name.

Bridges, our top union spokesman, is out, of the question the only individual that has any stretch of the imagination who has contributed to the strength and stal-wartness of the Longshoremen’s and Warehousemen’s union. But without doubt has been over the years — the outstanding theoretician and tactician in the ILWU.

Brother McGee

I want to write you because of a problem that disturbs me very much. Lately in the news and TV news, the story has come out about Brother McGee of Local 10 (Retired).

I believe an answer should be given.

We are on pension and thankful and proud that the ILWU has had to make a decent retirement for its members.

As a result to the fact that Brother McGee collects a substantial pension, I see no reason for the false statements that have appeared.

I at least hope, when he gets to Washington, that he tells the “Big Man” what a wonderful organization that made it possible for him and the others to walk with dignity.

Well, that’s all for now.

CHARLIE A. DAVIS

Local 9, Retired

Seattle

Letters To the Editor

Brother McGee

I want to writing you to a question of a program that disturbs me very much. Lately in the news and TV news, the story has come out about Brother McGee of Local 10 (Retired).

I believe an answer should be given.

We are on pension and thankful and proud that the ILWU has had to make a decent retirement for its members.

As a result to the fact that Brother McGee collects a substantial pension, I see no reason for the false statements that have appeared.

I at least hope, when he gets to Washington, that he tells the “Big Man” what a wonderful organization that made it possible for him and the others to walk with dignity.

Well, that’s all for now.

For the ILWU.

Brother McGee

I want to write you because of a problem that disturbs me very much. Lately in the news and TV news, the story has come out about Brother McGee of Local 10 (Retired).

I believe an answer should be given.

We are on pension and thankful and proud that the ILWU has had to make a decent retirement for its members.

As a result to the fact that Brother McGee collects a substantial pension, I see no reason for the false statements that have appeared.

I at least hope, when he gets to Washington, that he tells the “Big Man” what a wonderful organization that made it possible for him and the others to walk with dignity.

Well, that’s all for now.

GUS RYSTAD

Local 19, Retired

Seattle

New President For Columbia River Pensioners

PORTLAND — Charles Cuculich was elected president of the Columbia River Pensioners Association at a meeting Nov. 6.

Cuculich, a retired member of Local 23, was elected to the post after winning back to a strike on the Tacoma waterfront. He replaces Mike Sickin- ger of Local 10, who had held the post for 1975 named at the meeting Nov. 6.

He is an honorary lifetime vice- president of the Columbia River Pensioners Association.

He also serves as a member of the executive board, in addition to holding the title of president.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.

In Defense of Bridges

In October, Mrs. Phillips said, she got on Senator Hume’s mailing list.
Auto Crisis Spreads—20% on the Street

DETROIT — General Motors, Ford and Chrysler continued to slash production and payroll in early December as the crisis in the US auto industry threatened to "ripple" out into other sectors of the economy.

By December 1, one out of five US auto workers were on temporary or indefinite layoff, and cutbacks in glass, plastics, steel and other suppliers of parts and materials were beginning as well.

"What is happening to this industry is going to happen to the rest of the economy if this is not stopped," said Detroit Mayor Coleman Young.

Behind the massive layoff is a slump in sales and a piling up of inventories. Detroit Mayor Coleman Young.

Lawrence Krattley Dies

EVERETT — Lawrence J. (Sparky) Krattley, 70, past president of longshore Local 32, died November 22 at his home.

Krattley, who retired in 1966, was a charter member of Local 32 and served, over the years, as convention chairman, executive officer and delegate to the Puget Sound District Council.

He is survived by a step-daughter, a sister, two grandchildren and two nieces.

Textile Drive Stalls

WASHINGTON, DC—The United Textile Workers' southern organizing strike received a serious blow last week when workers at Cannon Mills' 16 southern plants voted 8,463 to 6,801 not to select the union as their bargaining agent.

Local 6 Plans St. Regis Union Alliance

OAKLAND—A strong alliance of unions which negotiate with the giant St. Regis Paper Co. is expected to come forth next week in an effort to persuade state legislators to make any new representation efforts effective.

Delegates from the Printing Specialties Union and the United Paper Workers Union will also attend, representing locals in Tacoma, Seattle, Salt Lake City and Los Angeles.

Delegates are optimistic that the St. Regis union would be able to discuss matters of mutual concern for the purpose of working together in close cooperation. Among other items, the delegates will discuss the possibility of asking for an interim wage increase because of the tremendous increase in the cost of living.

Port Willapa

Official Praises Members of Local 1

RAYMOND—James Beal, long time manager of the Port of Willapa Harbor, has resigned due to ill health.

Looking back over his 20 years with the Port, he said some fine things to say about the membership of Local 1. "Our longshore people are the best in the Northwest. They are all highly skilled in their jobs... willing to put forth extra effort to get the ships in and out.

"They belong to Local No. 1, and in my opinion they are Number 1!"

He noted that since 1954, 345 ships called at the port docks, bringing in or shipping out 4.3 million tons of cargo. (and probably a very nearly equal amount in longshore wages — new money in the community, going directly into the local economy. A total of 345 vessels called at the Port of Willapa Harbor during the period (including vessels calling at the Olympic Dock and the old Weyerhaeuser Dock).

Bean's esteem for the longshoremen was well known.

"Our longshore people are the best in the Northwest. They are all highly skilled in their jobs... willing to put forth extra effort to get the ships in and out."

"They belong to Local No. 1, and in my opinion they are Number 1!"

He noted that since 1954, 345 ships called at the port docks, bringing in or shipping out 4.3 million tons of cargo.

Looking back over his 20 years with the Port, he said some fine things to say about the membership of Local 1. "Our longshore people are the best in the Northwest. They are all highly skilled in their jobs... willing to put forth extra effort to get the ships in and out.

"They belong to Local No. 1, and in my opinion they are Number 1!"

He noted that since 1954, 345 ships called at the port docks, bringing in or shipping out 4.3 million tons of cargo.

Looking back over his 20 years with the Port, he said some fine things to say about the membership of Local 1. "Our longshore people are the best in the Northwest. They are all highly skilled in their jobs... willing to put forth extra effort to get the ships in and out.

"They belong to Local No. 1, and in my opinion they are Number 1!"

He noted that since 1954, 345 ships called at the port docks, bringing in or shipping out 4.3 million tons of cargo.

Looking back over his 20 years with the Port, he said some fine things to say about the membership of Local 1. "Our longshore people are the best in the Northwest. They are all highly skilled in their jobs... willing to put forth extra effort to get the ships in and out.

"They belong to Local No. 1, and in my opinion they are Number 1!"

He noted that since 1954, 345 ships called at the port docks, bringing in or shipping out 4.3 million tons of cargo.

Looking back over his 20 years with the Port, he said some fine things to say about the membership of Local 1. "Our longshore people are the best in the Northwest. They are all highly skilled in their jobs... willing to put forth extra effort to get the ships in and out.

"They belong to Local No. 1, and in my opinion they are Number 1!"