In Southern California

Workshop Is Set for June 12-13

SAN FRANCISCO — The first in a series of informal weekend workshops for ILWU members will take place in Southern California the weekend of June 12-13. The workshop program was mandated by action of delegates to the 1975 Bicentennial Convention and set in motion by the March 3-4 meeting of the International Executive Board.

The intent of the workshop is to have a no-holds-barred discussion among the participants and several International officers who will be present, on "The Future of the ILWU.

Each Southern California local has been assigned a number of delegates proportional to its size. In order to permit all delegates to participate fully, the size of the workshops will be limited to 50.

EXPENSES

The workshop will be held at the Queensway Hilton in Long Beach. Participants who live more than 50 miles away will be provided with lodging at the expense of the International. All participants will be reimbursed for travel expenses and meals. There will be no reimbursement for lost wages.

All Southern California ILWU members who wish to participate should get an application from their local offices. These should be filled out and returned to the local no later than May 21, 1976. You will be notified promptly whether or not you have been selected by your local to participate in the workshop.

In Canada

Huge Demo Hits Wage Controls

OTTAWA — Over 25,000 trade unionists converged on Ottawa on March 22. They came from every province in Canada. Blue collar and white collar, they represented every occupation from longshoremen to office workers, from garment workers to steel workers.

Over 10,000 came from the French Canadian province of Quebec. So many auto workers took a "holiday" to attend that some auto plants were forced to close down. Over 100 came by charter plane from Vancouver, including president Don Garcia and first vice president Dave Lomas of the ILWU.

BIGGEST IN 40 YEARS

It was the most representative gathering of unions ever to meet in Ottawa in such numbers. It was the biggest demonstration of labor in Ottawa since the Hungry Thirties.

They gathered on Parliament Hill united by one purpose — to express

UNION DEMANDS

Union members are insisting on a larger wage increase, a cost of living clause, plus a number of fringe items. If the company absolutely refuses to consider a cost of living increase, the members have asked for a shorter contract.

(Continued on Page 8)
NEARLY EVERY AMERICAN citizen has some personal stake in the Social Security system. Many millions rely on it to safeguard themselves and their families against economic catastrophe when earnings stop because of old age, disability or death. Attacks on this system, which are designed to create doubts as to its soundness and durability, are a disservice to all.

There are things wrong with Social Security. The level of benefits, the retirement test, the benefits accorded to women, the adequacy and equity of financing—these are quite properly subject to continuing public debate. Social Security is already strong and in fact it has been improved and extended by the Congress in major respects some 15 times since it was first enacted in 1935.

But this sort of constructive discussion and criticism leading to practical improvement is very different from assertions which have appeared in the press from time to time to the effect that the entire system is in its last days—bankrupt, doomed to fail. These charges have no more basis in fact than they did when they were first made 40 years ago.

The Social Security system has been more thoroughly and continuously studied, both inside and outside government circles, than any other program. On five occasions, between 1938 and 1971, it was exhaustively reviewed by advisory councils of economists and social scientists who predict the bankruptcy of Social Security who support the deliberate policy of doing nothing about the Social Security system. Back in the 1930s, its opponents said it was the first step toward socialism. Today, the whipping-boy is the British working class. Suddenly, the whole crisis in England, which had been building slowly over the last half-century into extremely complex reasons, is coming down on the head of the British worker.

But within this framework, Social Security ranks as one of the greatest victories of the American working class—one off the picket line. The British government has to sharply limit wage increases and to ask for no salary increases at all for those making above a certain amount. They have attempted in good faith to cooperate with the Labor government. Productivity is up, inflation is down—and the rate of price increases is sharply cut back. The government spending was cut back last summer to sharply limit wage increases and to ask for no salary increases at all for those making above a certain amount. They have attempted in good faith to cooperate with the Labor government. Productivity is up, inflation is down—and the rate of price increases is sharply cut back. The government spending was cut back last summer.
Tw0 Year Agreement for Local 142 Pine Clericals

HONOLULU—Pineapple clerical employees in Honolulu, Wahiawa, Maui and Lāna‘i have ratified a new two year agreement with big salary increases and other improvements.

Dole Co., Del Monte and Maui Land and Meat and California Packing, which employ the employees in Honolulu, Wahiawa, Maui and Lāna‘i have ratified the agreement.

Dole Co. employees will receive $12.50 per month for Grades 1 and 2, and $10.30 per month for Grade 3.

Del Monte employees will receive $15.00 per month for Grades 1 and 2, and $12.30 per month for Grade 3.

Maui Land and Meat employees will receive $12.50 per month for Grades 1 and 2, and $10.30 per month for Grade 3.

California Packing employees will receive $12.50 per month for Grades 1 and 2, and $10.30 per month for Grade 3.

The agreement shall be covered if they work a total of 600 hours in the fourth quarter of the year.

The agreement includes other improvements.

Suits of seniority, posting, rate protection, and work opportunity.

The number of exempt weeks is reduced from 50 to 40 per month for all others.

Agreement with big salary increases and work opportunity.

The number of exempt weeks is reduced from 50 to 40 per month for all others.

The agreement includes other improvements.

SEVEN-HOUR DAY

Two of the grades are now receiving over $950 per month for a 7-hour work week, 35-hour work week.

Improvements were made on the issue of seniority, posting, rate protection, temporary transfer, job protection and work opportunity.

An important gain was the elimination of the “exception week” provision from the hours and overtime section.

The number of exempt weeks is reduced to six in 1976 and eliminated completely in 1977.

The funeral leave provision allowing three days off with pay if the event of the death of a husband, wife, son or daughter now includes one day off with pay if the event of the death of a mother-in-law or father-in-law.

Those seasonal employees who were not previously covered by the agreement

For San Leandro City Council

Cut in New York Cargoe Handling Costs

A petition has been filed in the International Longshoremen’s Association and its New York employers have agreed to cut the freight handling charge in the Port of New York 17 percent to $6.35 from $8.38 per ton, effective April 1.

ILA and New York Shipping Association officials informed the Court that they have agreed in principle to attract more cargo to the New York-New Jersey port area. They agreed that if the assessment is cut as expected, they will reduce the rate to $5.35 per ton effective July 1.

The assessment is administered jointly by the ILA and the NYSA to pay for longshore fringe benefits. Because of a downturn in traffic last year, the rate had to be boosted from $8.38 to $8.38.

ILA President Gleason and NYSA President Jacobson also announced the formation of a special joint committee to carefully monitor the costs of the assessment and the cost of fringe benefits which guarantee New York dock workers 2,000 hours work or pay annual.

ILWU Submits Brief in Alaska Cold Storage

WASHINGTON—Four struck airlines received more than $113 million under the industry’s so-called mutual aid pact last year, the Air Line Pilots Association reported.

Nearly all of the strike-insurance funds went to National Airlines.

They received $32.5 million and $45.9 million, respectively. Other recipients were Texas International, $20 million, and Northwest, $4.1 million.

The agreement provides for struck airline revenue from traffic diverted to other carriers, up to 50 percent of non-union operating expenses.

Abolition of the mutual aid pact has long been sought by the AFL-CIO.

The adjustments and the wage increase provided into a trust fund to cover the health and welfare and other fringe benefits.

MAJOR IMPROVEMENT

Next Dispatcher Deadline—April 9

The agreement, which still has to be ratified by the Alaska locals, features wage increases totaling $1.90 over the three-year contract period (82 cents the first year, 85 cents the second year, and $1 the third year). The wage increase for the final year is subject to a cost-of-living adjustment.

The money package, in addition to wages, includes an hourly increase to $7.50 per hour; a $250 deductive per calendar year, and 30-30 percent contribution up to $5,000, with 100 percent over $5,000.

In addition to the major gains embodied in the money package, pensions were increased by $25 per month. A new severance clause was negotiated to cover the workers in the event an employer goes out of business for any purpose during the life of the agreement.

The negotiating committee, in addition to Parks, who served as spokes man, consisted of Mary E. Smith, Local 61, Ketchikan; Cyrus Williams, Local 1, Louisville; Charles Yarborough, Local 20, Seattle; Robert Taylor, Local 5, Petersburg; David E. Wiskan, also of Local 5; Kelly Ferguson, Local 5; Unit 2; Stikas; Lawrence Cooper, Local 41, Juneau; and Donald L. Nash, Local 50, Palenak.

The effective date of the new agreement is April 1, 1976.

Local 6 Boosts Wages at St. Regis Paper

PTTAXED—Local 6 members at St. Regis Paper Co. have won wage increases ranging between 50 cents and 37 cents in the final year of their three-year agreement.

Also gained in the wage re-opener were retirement adjustments affecting 178 of the members in the unit, the adjustments and the wage increase are as follows:

Negotiators were Pete Ybarra, Labor Relations; Goro Hokama, chairman; and Business Agent Paul Marlin.
Washington Report

Labor Unites Behind New Full Employment Bill

by Pat Tobin
ILWU Washington Representative


This new measure was produced by Senator Humphrey and Representative Hawkins after long consultations with the AFL-CIO, the Congressional Black Caucus, and other parties who have united a broad coalition to help alleviate the great pressure of unemployment on millions of Americans.

The new version of the bill directs the President and the Congress "to institute the first comprehensive, national, and continuous program to promote and assure a world of full employment and balanced growth..."

Full Employment and Balanced Growth for All Americans, "is not a program of extravagance," Senator Humphrey said, "but a program of economic stability in the great national interest." He explained that the bill would provide "a plan for action by which the United States will work to correct the national economic and social problem of unemployment,..."

The bill was introduced to "strengthen the economy." The senator said that the unemployment of "some ten million Americans...in the presidential election year..."

Senator Humphrey and Representative Hawkins introduced new versions of S. 50 and H. R. 50 today to work with leadership of the Congress, chairman of the responsible committees, and the Congressional Black Caucus in the House to draft a bill that will "be held in Salem May 6 and 7 before the United Labor Support

"The AFL-CIO is proud to endorse the revisions of the legislation that was introduced on March 19 by the Senator and Rep. Augustus F. Hawkins. The new bill will be introduced to the floor of the Senate and the House of Representatives to help alleviate the great pressure of unemployment on millions of Americans." The new version of the bill directs the President and the Congress "to institute the first comprehensive, national, and continuous program to promote and assure a world of full employment and balanced growth..."

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Log Jobs Threatened by Court's Clear-Cut Decision

PORTLAND—Hearings on forest management currently being held in Washington, DC, before a House agriculture subcommittee have a lot of people in the Northwest holding their breath. Clearcutting is the issue in the hearings.

Few people, even in the timber belt, know what the term means. The practice has been permitted in a checkerboard fashion in those areas where the timber is over-matured. Clearcutting simply means that all the timber in those particular areas would be cut or removed, and the ground re-seeded with young trees.

All the wood fibre is utilized, either as lumber, pulp or chips. Clearcutting is an assured method of managing forest lands to insure that there will be a crop for future generations.

BAN ON CLEARCUTTING

The hearings were triggered by two separate court actions initiated by environmentalists, based on the 80-year-old law, the so-called "Organic Act of 1890," dealing with what the Forest Service could or could not do with regard to selling timber from the national forest.

In both cases—one involving the Mongahela National Forest in Virginia, and the second, the Tongass National Forest in Alaska—the presiding judge ruled that clearcutting could not be continued.

EFFECT ON ILWU

"Assuming the decision of the 80-year-old law is correct, it certainly needs to be amended to fit conditions that exist in 1976," said ILWU Regional Director G. Johnny Parks.

"If the clearcutting decision regarding Alaska is allowed to stand, it will have an adverse effect on whichever of a number of Alaskan ports, including Ketchikan, Metlakatla, Klawock, Wrangell and Holman," he said. "Also affected will be sawmill workers and pulp workers in Southeastern Alaska."

COMPROMISE

Compromise legislation on clearcutting by Senator Hubert Humphrey (D-Minn.) has won widespread labor and industry support, as well as the endorsement of Oregon Governor Robert Straub. Humphrey's bill would set up broad guidelines for timber harvesting but leaves details of enforcement to the Forest Service.

A blanket ban on clearcutting, said Straub, would be devastating to the Oregon economy. Oregonians would suffer an unmeasurable disruption of our largest industry—an industry that provides 45,000 primary jobs if the present judicial clearcutting ban is allowed to stand.

Social Security—A Basically Sound System Under Attack

WASHINGTON, DC—Recent months have seen many scare stories in the daily press about social security. In this presidential year, the program seems to be fair game, particularly for conservatives who have opposed it ever since it was first enacted in 1935.

President Ford, for example, is urging that a Social Security tax rate increase be instituted next January 1, from the present 5.85% for both employee and employer to 6.15%. He says this rate increase is needed to keep the system solvent and also implied that the Democratic Congress would jeopardize the entire program if it does not act immediately.

DON'T PANIC

Now, the fact is that there are some problems in Social Security funding, but nothing that should produce a panic—assuming that forces who have hated the entire idea of Social Security for the last 40 years are not permitted to tear it apart.

The present series of problems were brought about by the current recession. Obviously, the trust fund from which benefits are paid has been receiving less money because of unemployment. In addition, the government has increased with inflation. Benefits go up every year with prices so there has been more money going out of the fund than coming in to the fund.

However, experts agreed that the fund still maintains a very healthy surplus at the present time and the fund will still have more than $1 billion even 5 years from now. The Democrats, therefore, argue that there's no need for great haste as the President has indicated, and charge that he is politically motivated.

LABOR'S PROGRAM

The AFL-CIO believes that the Social Security program is sound, but it does need improvement. At their recent Executive Council meeting in Bali Harbour, Florida on February 17 they issued a statement which recommended that the articles appearing to discredit the Social Security program were written by people who opposed it back in 1895. They called for responsible debate to meet changing needs, but rejected charges of bankruptcy and collapse.

The House Ways and Means Committee and the Senate Finance Committee voted down Ford's proposed Social Security funding increase and could not agree on legislation in this regard. Due to the fact that this is an election year, it is highly unlikely that the Congress will act in 1976.

The AFL-CIO urges the Congress to take the following actions:

• Provide contributions from general revenues to the Social Security trust funds until at least one-third of the program is financed. In this manner, the United States has been unduly backward in financing Social Security benefits as compared with most industrialized countries, which already use general revenues to help finance Social Security benefits.

• Reject the President's proposal to deal with the financing problem by raising the payroll tax and thus harming low and middle income workers.

• Gradually increase, in a series of stages, the maximum earnings subject to the payroll tax until the same proportion of workers will have their full wages covered as when the law was first enacted. Today this would mean an increase in the wage base from $15,200 to $28,000.

It would also mean gradually higher benefits for those affected by this increase since these higher amounts will be included in their benefits.

The new maximum should then continue to be adjusted automatically in accordance with rising earnings as in present law.

• Remove the limit on wages subject to the payroll tax paid by employers. The wage base limit on the employer's side plays no role in determining a worker's benefit. An employer's responsibility for the welfare of his employees should be related to total payroll, not a portion of each employee's earnings.

• Modify a poorly drafted provision enacted in 1972, under which the benefits for some workers could, sometime after the year 2000, conceivably exceed their wages at the time of retirement.

Congress clearly would not let this happen. Nevertheless, billions of Social Security trust funds have made their actuarial projections on the assumption that Congress will not change the law. In the event that this happens, the unwarranted impression that the Social Security system faces an unmanageable, long-range financial problem.

The law should be changed to eliminate this fear, while insuring that future benefits of workers will keep pace with their wages.
MAUNALOA, HI — In the wake of Dole’s shutdown of its pineapple operations, former ILWU Local 142 members at Maunaloa initiated a community effort to plan for the future.

Maunaloa was once a pineapple plantation town. As a result of Dole Company’s phasing down Hawaii operations and setting up shop in the Philippines, only nine workers are employed by the company’s phasing down Hawaii operations.

While the phaseout created unemployment and an uneasiness about the future, you won’t find people in Maunaloa sitting around and crying about it. Instead, the community is examining alternatives for the future, and talking about “getting organized.”

During the pineapple negotiations, the Maunaloa membership made the decision to stick it out in Maunaloa rather than take jobs on other islands. They knew it would be rough going.

Early this year the Housing committee of the Maunaloa Community Council met and decided that they should carefully examine alternatives rather than jump on the first idea for taking care of their housing needs. The committee is made up of former ILWU members as well as others who have come from the community, and is chaired by former Unit Officer Mariano Acoba.

Landlerd Molokai Ranch has assured the community that there will be no drastic changes in rent, no wholesale evictions, and that gradually improvements will be made in the village. Former ILWU members are guaranteed housing by contract with no increase in rent until 1983. Therefore, the committee felt it had time for careful planning.

Based on the committee’s recommendations, the ILWU has held two weekend workshops.

While the workshops, the committee has been active. During the first week of February, committee members contacted a construction estimator house to house, in the rain and mud. Repair costs were estimated pursuant to an agreement between Castle and Cook and the ILWU, that the Company will do no more than “warranty” repairs; even though the houses have been turned over to Molokai Ranch.

A week later a community meeting elected a Maunaloa Housing Committee.

Maunaloa residents are hopeful that the construction of the Kalahului resort has begun. A few former Dole workers who moved to jobs on other islands returned when they heard of the groundbreaking.

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Karl Lepinay, Organizer

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Saratoga Area:
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Thomas Trask, Intl Rep.

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Organize!

Do you know some workers who don’t make union wages? Who have no fringe benefits? Who have no security on the job? In other words, do you know workers who want to be organized into the ILWU? If so, please write or telephone information to one of the following. An ILWU staff member will be happy to help.

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One Remedy for Unemployment

PORTLAND — Potatoes, both fresh and processed, are going over the rail here and in Seattle.

Impetus for the new crop movement is the shortage of last year’s potato crop in several European countries, including England, Sweden and Portugal. Steamship lines operating out of the Northwest have been leasing all the empty 40-foot containers they can lay their hands on, according to a spokesman for the Port of Portland.

MARGINAL PLANS

"Basically," says New Jersey Sena- tor Vincent Williams, one of the spon- sors of the bill, “the effect of ERISA has been overplayed. Last year was the bottom of the worst economic recession since the Great Depression. There were plans of marginal employers that had been buffeted by the recession.”

He noted that many of the pension plans in dispute had folded up before the passage of ERISA. "Another asset of the company rather than what we might be seeing," according to the Labor Department study, "is an acceleration of terminations that would have occurred anyway. Whether there’s potato exports.

Huge Cargo — Three gigantic spoons of oil-filled electric cable from Japan were unloaded by longshoremen March 15, at Terminal 1. They are the first of 18 spoons destined for new powerhouse construction at Grand Coulee, on the upper Columbia. They were transferred by ship’s gear to a trailer rig and hauled to the construction site over the only water grade route through the Cascade Mountains.
Northwest Auxiliary Delegates Hit Anti-Labor Moves in US, Canada

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Anti-labor legis-
lation, renewed buildup of the arms race and the uncontrolled rising prices of food, housing and services.
The concerns were uppermost in the minds of more than 13 auxiliaries who gathered in Vancouver
March 29-31 for the 5th Biennial National Officers’ Conference. Iocal Longshorers’ and Warehouse-
ners’ Union Federated Auxiliaries.

GREAT PROGRESS
Welcoming the delegates, ILWU Ca-
nadian General Secretary Samuels cited
advances made in union work in the past
year, with the affiliated auxiliaries, and said
the so-called free enterprise system “as
it is” was trying to crush the working people
Through the federal government, said
Samuels, charges that DMCC is only one
of 150 compounds on which there are
unreleased reports of cancer-causing prop-
erties. The reports, he said, are tied up
to the National Cancer Institute.

“Dr. Frank Rauscher, director of
the cancer institute, attacked the govern-
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San Pedro—Local 10 of the ILWU, the
American Stevedores Association, the
American Longshoremen’s Association
and the ILWU, Local 40, Portland, are

San Francisco—Following is the
April, 1976 list of dockworkers
who were retested for tuberculosis:

Dockers, Widows
On Pension List
SAN FRANCISCO—Following is the
April, 1976 list of dockworkers.

12 at USFMC—

John Corcoran, Local 2
Local 5.

Lynn Davenport, John Tielsch,

Richard Davenport, George Ellsworth,

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Local 6 Digs
In for Strike at Nestles Co.

Continued from Page 1—

No meetings with the company have been held, as the Nestles' workers settle in for a long haul. Local machinery has been set up to coordinate strike activity and to make sure all members stay informed.

Pickeeting, which is going on in fourhour shifts a day, is being run by a committee headed by Ron Moe. Another committee, led by Doris Sims and Frank Schomp, is helping the membership make ends meet while on strike.

A third committee is coordinating publicity and attempts to win support from area unions and public opinion in general. Heading this group are Gary Kollman and Gerry Dent. The strike has been sanctioned by Teamsters Joint Councils 7 and 38, and Local 6 members are attending meetings of other unions in the area in an attempt to explain the issues.

Isabelle Patrick is overall chairperson of the strike committee. Also working closely with the committee are Organizer Ramon Raya, Local Secretary-Treasurer Keith Eckman and International Vice-President George Martin.

“We are in this for as long as it takes,” says Patty Sims. “I have worked here for 14 years and I have never seen people together. We’re like a family.”

UAW Delegates Push
Job Security Demands In Auto Negotiations

DETOIT —Job security will be the number one issue in this year’s negotiations between the United Auto Workers and the nation’s big auto companies.

At a special three-day convention late last month, 2,600 delegates put together a program with numerous options for creating jobs: a 32-hour week, additional holidays and vacations, no overtime while workers in a given plant are on layoff, no retirement incentives for older workers, etc.

About 54,000 of the UAW’s 700,000 members are now on layoff. Many of the layoffs are attending meetings of other unions and are on layoff. Many of the layoffs are attending meetings of other unions and are also on layoff. Many of the layoffs are attending meetings of other unions and are also on layoff.

Negotiators were also instructed to strengthen the industry’s Supplemental Unemployment Benefits program, which assists laidoff workers. But they were not tied to any particular program, or any particular set of demands.

Bargaining with the auto industry in the US and Canada begins this fall in September.

When the Checks Run Out
WASHINGTON, DC — What happens to people when their unemployment compensation runs out? The answer may fade as monthly statistics, but they don’t fade as human beings. Seventy-five percent of those surveyed by the government remain unemployed, including 14 percent who drop out of the labor market and other expenses of course.

A study of 2,600 families showed that 80 percent of those surveyed who are more than a year because of the new national health care system. It also asked that regulatory agencies be forced to operate openly in developing the rules and guidelines that they enforce for navigational projects.

Portland is Tops
PORTLAND—Portland is the top port among Pacific Northwest ports in total ocean commerce, according to the latest statistics from Waterborne Commerce of the United States.

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Southern Cal Longshore Blood Drive

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Common sufferings make

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For people in unions, ever larger cost inflation has a devastating impact. If the cost of medical care goes up, people are presented with the untenable choice of either going into debt or going without necessary care.

REAL SOLUTION

The ILWU, Silverman continued, understands that “our health care problems will not be solved permanently until we have a national health care system. It also asked that regulatory agencies be forced to operate openly in developing the rules and guidelines that they enforce for navigational projects.

9. The system should be financed through progressive taxation. A person’s ability or inability to pay should in no way relate to the availability, provision or quality of medical care.

10. The national health system should have been built into it incentives to make medical care more efficient and less costly, to avoid excessive duplication of facilities and the uneven distribution of providers, and to encourage the development of innovative delivery systems.

11. The administrators of the system should be subject to public scrutiny, and the public should have a substantial voice in the running of the system.

COMES CLOSEST

The Kennedy-Corman Health Security Act, Silverman said, “comes closest to satisfying these criteria. We urge its prompt enactment. It will not solve all our health care problems, but it will provide care which is comprehensive and universal.”

Other bills prepared by the medical associations, insurance companies, hospital administrators and Republican politicians — “reflect in the main the vested interest of our sponsoring groups.” Each of these bills, he said, “seem to have as its principal purpose, the blocking of a national health scheme and the enrichment of its sponsors.”

If some special interest group of health merchants is going to hold sway over the interests of American consumers, then the ILWU for one would sooner do without a health insurance program than lose its legs. We’ll rock along,” Silverman concluded.