Local 24 Wins
First Pact at Boise-Cascade Log Yard-Sawmill

ABERDEEN — Local 24 has negotiated a contract with Boise-Cascade, incorporating substantial wage increases for 24 workers on a log yard and sawmill combination on the waterfront here. Effective date of the agreement is February 1.

The announcement was made by Northwest Regional Director G. Johnny Parks, who said the operation included a log yard, organized in 1970, and a sawmill, "built in the log yard," which started operations this year.

George F. Irwin, president of Local 24, indicated agreement was reached with the company back in 1975 "to extend our jurisdiction to the sawmill."

FULL OPERATION

There are 24 workers in the log yard and 16 in the sawmill, a one-shift operation. Within 30 days, Irwin said, "they figure on full operation, with two shifts operating 60 to 50 employees."

Workers in both the log yard and the sawmill, plus three mechanics, are in a separate unit of Local 24.

Wage increases, with bracket increases for log yard workers total $1.64 over the life of the agreement, which expires February 1, 1979. In increases over the same period for sawmill employees stack up to $1.26 straight-across-the-board.

Also won, for all workers in the unit, were:
- Improvements in medical, dental and vision benefits.
- The weekly indemnity (for non-industrial accidents and illness) was increased from $80 to $100.

Some of the skilled workers in the sawmill were brought in from a Boise-Cascade Cascade operation being phased out in Idaho, but some local people have been employed also, Irwin reports.

EXPORTS

The lumber is being shipped by rail to Yakima, but "they anticipate shipping some lumber to Japan, also, and they will continue to export logs." Other members of the negotiating team, aside from Irwin and Parks, includes a member of the Local 24 LRC. as is Irwin); Gerald Schwengen, Eugene Schlief, Arvin Bemer, Jack Bucy, and Leroy Winkler, all of the log yard-and-sawmill unit.

Farm Workers, Teamos Reach Agreement

SAN FRANCISCO — Over 300 members of warehouse Local 6 from as far as Stockton and Salinas, and another 100 observers, packed the Tower Hotel February 26 for the 35th Annual Constitution and Contract Convention. Gaveled to order at 9 a.m. by President Curtis McClain, the delegates worked long and argued long over the issues until after 4 p.m.

President McClain reported on the progress and failures of the past year, highlighted by the Master Contract strike and the contract victory it produced—despite strong employer opposition and use of cops and scalps.

Dismissing last year's unsuccessful strike at the Nestle Company in Salinas, McClain said, "If ever there was a group of people that deserves recognition, it is our Nestle members" who stood up for the largest food-conglomerate in the world for four months.

The extension was approved unanimously by the ILWU negotiating committee and also approved by the full Local 142 industry committee made up of delegates from all the companies.

"The basic framework in which we had to operate is the bad situation in the sugar industry, with termination of the Sugar Act and the lack of any substitute legislation or executive action," Goldblatt said. "The ILWU is in the process at meeting with a number of other unions in the industry to put together a joint program for some un深derpinning for the domestic industry."

"The basic question that arose at the termination of the contract will still be on the table next fall, along with pensions, when the extension runs out," he concluded.

Sugar Pact Renewed 'til November

HONOLULU—Local 142 sugar workers have voted overwhelmingly to extend the present contract until November 1, with negotiations for a new pact to begin September 1.

The agreement was characterized by International Secretary-Treasurer Les Goldblatt, who served as union spokesman during the difficult talks, as a "holding operation."

MAIN ISSUE

Key issue in the negotiations has been the employer effort to remove attachment 22 from the contract, which forbids any plantation liquidation on the beginning of any liquidation during the life of the agreement.

For now, the issue is dropped. Attachment 22 remains as well as all other parts of the contract with the exception of two items:

First, the union now has the right to reopen the pension agreement at the same time as the balance of the agreement with the right to strike. Under the previous agreement, pension negotiations were not open until February 1, 1978.

Another modification was a change in language which provided that specific demands had to be submitted at the contract opening. A new provision allows the union to submit demands after the opening date.

The extension was approved unanimously by the ILWU negotiating committee.

Local 6 Delegates Plan Future

LOCAL 6 Secretary-Treasurer Keith Eickman and President Curtis McClain preside at February 26 Convention.

"Of utmost importance," he concluded, "is that we maintain the ILWU. No other union gives its rank and file the same opportunity to express itself, no person is as democratic." Noting that several strikes continue — including

Canadian Wage Controls to End?

VANCOUVER, BC — Federal and provincial officials are now discussing whether to end the Canadian federal wage control program. They are considering several proposals — gradually dropping, wrapping up, or lifting the controls altogether.

The official, seasonally adjusted, unemployment rate for the fourth quarter came to 7.3% in January — or 8.8% unadjusted. Whatever the adjustment, with the total of unemployed Canadians nearing 900,000 the government is in trouble.

The ILWU is in the process at meeting with a number of other unions in the industry to put together a joint program for some underpinning the sugar industry.

"The basic question that arose at the termination of the contract will still be on the table next fall, along with pensions, when the extension runs out," he concluded.

Wage Controls Cause Joblessness

Canadian unemployment is higher than it has ever been since they started collecting statistics north of the 49th parallel, according to a recent report from Statistics Canada.

The official, seasonally adjusted, unemployment rate came to 7.3% in January — or 8.8% unadjusted. Whatever the adjustment, with the total of unemployed Canadians nearing 900,000 the government is in trouble.

"One of the most disastrous consequences of the controls program has been worsening unemployment," according to Canadian Labor Congress President Joe Morris. The government puts the figure at 7.3%, but the real figure is closer to 10%. We told the government from the beginning that the controls would slow the economy down to the stagnation point and our predictions were correct.

Canadian Area ILWU President Don Garcia reports that while "in our industry we are relatively fortunate, there are no guarantees that this will last. Restricting wages while allowing prices to rise without restriction could only bring one result — working people aren't getting enough money in wages and salaries to buy back the goods they produce."

"A slowdown in production is inevitable. . . . We need more jobs, and more money in the hands of working people."
The Inflation Machine

In short, Melman concludes, "there is no viable economic prospect for the United States without conversion of our technology and capital resources from military to civilian priorities. The options for Jimmy Carter are: go civilian or go broke."

During his presidential campaign—while he was clearly trying to sound as tough as anyone else, Jimmy Carter promised to cut wasteful and unnecessary military spending by $5 to $7 billion. That's a drop in the bucket relative to the currently overstuffed budget of $114 billion, but a cut is still a cut. But now it turns out that he's asking only for a cut of less than one percent—and that's not a real cut, just a little nip at the $10 billion increase President Ford approved.

Now, we understand that Jimmy Carter didn't write this budget, and there are certain things he has to live with from the previous administration. Apparently swept along on a new wave of anti-Soviet paranoia, the Carter people are feeding us the old myth that we can have both guns and butter. We have learned that this is not the case—money spent on the military limits the amounts available for needed social programs, contributes to inflation, adds to our debts, and wastes valuable resources. Our society would be much better served by putting these vast sums spent on the military to more productive use.

The military economy produces some jobs in the defense and related industries, but far fewer than would be produced if the money went into more productive areas. One billion dollars spent in military production produces 5,000 jobs. The same amount of money put into mass transit would produce 85,000 jobs.

The Inflation Machine

EXCESSIVE MILITARY SPENDING—spending which is really not necessary for national defense—is not only inflationary but is a major cause of unemployment, according to a recent series of articles in the New York Times by Columbia University Professor Seymour Melman. Melman says that "the United States' military economy is an inflation machine."

What with the cozy relationship between military contractors like Lockheed and Northrup Packard with the Pentagon and key members of the US Congress, "cost and price increases are encouraged and rewarded. Unlike civilian firms that traditionally minimize production costs to maximize profits, firms in the Pentagon economy maximize all costs and the offsetting subsidies. This translates into rising prices," Melman says.

The inflationary impact of such military spending spills over into the civilian economy. "A war economy," means an economy where military production is important and is considered and counted as an economic end and product. The latter is important, because when you count military output as just an ordinary product like any other, you lose sight of the crucial functional difference, namely whatever else you can do with a military airplane; you can't wear it, you can't eat it, you can't be educated by it, you can't travel into it, and you can't use it for further production. The dollars poured into the economy by military production, then, have nowhere to go—and the result is more money running after fewer goods and services, with obvious inflationary results.

THE MILITARY ECONOMY also produces unemployment. Melman says, by increasing costs so much that American firms become non-competitive. American capital then goes overseas to invest, with unemployment resulting.

But, back to DC. I had a good visit with the First Secretary of the USSR Embassy in Washington, to inform them that we have received a request from the People's Republic of China trade union group in Seattle, for permission. The main opposition comes from George Meany, AFL-CIO head. And he seems to have postured to the China trade unionists coming here, and to invest, with unemployment result-

Writers, ballet dancers, musicians, artists, etc., are ok—which is fine as long as it's private. But no trade unions are allowed, with unemployment result-

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Melman says.

The deadline was approaching—once Congress recessed for the weekend, the increase would go into effect on a Saturday. A one-year lobbying prohibition applies to Congress, which in all fairness, I should mention at the same time. A little more maneuvering was necessary because a few brave souls sought to prevent the recess, forcing their brother and sister representatives to discuss the increase. But this too failed. The House recessed on a Wednesday, the increase took effect the following Saturday and there was no debate, no record of anyone's vote on the matter.
Local 6 Convention

Warehouse Delegates Plan Future

Continued from Page 1—

Klickman presented the budget report. Also, a question was asked about tonnage costs. It was estimated that the costs at the local have put the local in the hole. The million dollar plus budget was adopted after much discussion, and March membership meetings will be voted on the Convention-adopted proposed dues increase.

New Local 6 dues, if approved by a membership vote, will be two hours straight time pay for employed members, with dues for unemployed remain-
ing at $.50 per month and minimum dues at $1 per month. The new dues structure would become effective April 1, 1977 and continue until the final 1978 convention.

OTHER ACTIONS

Delegates rejected proposed to set up a new local for age 18 to 66.

Delegates rejected proposals calling for resuming diplomatic and trade relations with Cuba, supporting city workers in San Francisco and continuing extensions on unemployment benefits.

Calls were made to cut the military budget and negotiate an end to the arms race. Unfinished business was re-
turned to the March General Executive Board, with an invitation to all Convention delegates to attend.

The ILWU-Secretary-Treasurer Lloyd Goldblatt received a standing ovation from the delegates as he announced his upcoming retirement and his intention to nominate Curtis McClain for the position of International Secretary-Treasur-
er. Goldblatt told the delegates he would be available if called on, and re-
called his long membership in Local 6.

A number of resolutions were introduced, including a motion in Local 6 by ILWU President Harry Bridges, Vice Presidents Bill Chester and George Martin, Local 34 President Joe Ibarra, Local 34 President Jimmy Herman and Rudy Rubio of Local 13.

Local Stewards' Classes Scheduled

SAN FRANCISCO — Working with the Labor Studies Program of San Fran-
cisco Community College, the Local 6 Executive Board has scheduled a two-steward and Leadership Training Program for the spring.

Open to all members, but especially useful for Stewards, the sessions will be held on consecutive Saturdays — April 15th and 22nd.

DEBATE—Local 6 Delegates line up to hit the mike.

Local 6 Dues Increase Proposed

Here is the exact wording of the Local 6 dues increase resolution approved by the February 26 local convention:

"Are you in favor of the recommendation of the budget committee and the Local 6 Convention that Local 6 dues shall be increased as follows effective June 1, 1977: Two (2) hours straight time pay for employed members; unemployed dues shall remain at $.50 per month; minimum dues shall remain at $1 per month. The dues structure shall continue only until the 1978 convention when a new budget and dues proposal will be presented to the Convention in accordance with the Constitution."

Following is the voting schedule:

North Bay Division: March 15, 5 p.m., Community Auditorium, 100 Ponoma Avenue, Crockett.

East Bay Division: March 17, 1:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., Local 6 East Bay Hall, 99 Hegenerberg Road, Oakland.

Stockton Division: March 18, 7 p.m., Local 6 Union Hall, 738 South Lincoln, Stockton.

West Bay Division: March 22, 2 p.m., Local 6 Union Hall, 255-Ninth Street, San Francisco.

Stockton Division: March 23, 1:30 p.m. and 7 p.m., Local 6 Union Hall, 580 Lorraine Avenue, Stockton.

Marin County Division: March 24, 2 p.m. and 4:30 p.m., Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Workers Hall, AFL-CIO, 900 East Alisal Street, Salinas.

In Washington State

United Labor Dumps Insurance Scam

OLYMPIA, Wash. — Washington state unions got to-
gether last month to help dump a "lawyer bill" which would have let the private insurance companies stick back into the field of state workers' compensation.

The so-called "three-way" bill would have permitted so-called "medical malpractice" losses claimed by private car-
riers — the are presently restricted to working in the State Department of Labor and Industries' system, by state level — and was backed by a coalition of in-
urance companies, small business groups and ranchers. A Joint House and Senate Labor Committee met the meeting of February 17 when a united front of spokespersons for the ILWU, Teamsters, the Association of Western Pulp and Paper Workers, and the AFL-CIO ganged up on the insurance companies' scheme.

HIGHER RATES ADMITTED

Biggest laugh of the evening, according to ILWU repre-
sentative Ken Rohar, Local 23, came when "one of the ins-
curance types went so far as to inform the committee that they were protecting private carrier coverage but you get better coverage." At that one we just about came out of our chairs laughing, even the committee got a chuckle.

Rohar, lobbying for the ILWU Puget Sound District Coun-
cil, called the Labor Committee's move to override the Oregon law as being contrary to what insurance carriers do.

"They have enjoyed for years a $1.05 premium return on each dol-
lar collected. The typical insurance company at $1 per month. The dues struc-
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Carter Asked to Help in East Coast Dock Pact Crisis

NEW YORK — The East Coast’s International Longshoremen’s Association has announced that it has petitioned President Carter to help clean up the mess made out of their contract by the National Labor Relations Board and the federal courts.

The ILA and the Council of North Atlantic Shipping Associations charge that a December, 1973 NLRB decision — upheld by the Appeals Court, the Interstate Commerce Commission and the Supreme Court — and a settlement of certain container handling rules in the ILA contract, have paralyzed labor relations on the east coast waterfront.

The container rules in question guaranteed ILA labor the right to strip and stuff consolidated containers — those with the freight of more than one shipper — moving to or from points within 50 miles of a port. The NLRB held that this was not a valid form of work preservation; the Appeals Court upheld the ILRNB and the Supreme Court has refused to hear an appeal.

CONFUSION

The union and the employers have made several efforts to clarify the confused situation and to remain in the wake of the decision.

The decision applied strictly speaking, only to the Puerto Rico waterfront, where the question arises, did the decisions apply only to New York? Only to the Puerto Rico waterfront? Only to the two companies bringing suit?

The ILA and CONASA, before renegotiation of the agreement, petitioned President Carter to persuade the Labor Department reports — with the latest report by company officials that Stevens had suffered a 17% drop in earnings in the three-month period ending January 29, 1977.

More than 3,000 marchers — some carrying placards reading “Don’t Sleep Tonight with JP Stevens” — picketed last month’s stockholders meeting in New York, demanding that Stevens obey the law, stop harassing union organizers, and bargain in good faith at its Roanoke Rapids, NC, complex where workers who voted in Union, August, 1974 have yet to get their first contract.

CHURCH RESOLUTIONS

Inside, shareholders rejected two church-sponsored resolutions calling for fair collective and minority employment practices, but more than 60% of the shareholders had blasted the company management’s ignorance and arrogance, and vowed that Robert King after she told them that an “abundant and secure life is unattainable for working people except through trade unions of their own choosing.”

NLRB HITS CONTRACT

On other fronts, the national National Labor Relations Board in North Carolina has upheld the union’s charges that the Stevens company has “interfered with, restrained or coerced its employees in the exercise of their right of free collective bargaining.”

Among the charges are that the company and individuals entered into an illegal contract, “organizing non-working time.

The decision applied to the Stevens company which the Appeals Court found the period into the federal court system if necessary.

The case, involving a Stevens plant in Wallace, NC, still must go before an NLRB administrative law judge and then into the federal court system if the company appeals.

Union Bug Returns to Los Angeles Herald-Examiner

LOS ANGELES—You can start buying the Herald-Examiner again.

The International Printing and Graphic Communications Union announced recently that it has reached an agreement with the management of the Hearst-owned newspaper to settle a long history of backcontract covering all of the paper’s 700 employees.

This, hopefully, ends nearly a decade of bitter strife at the Hearst-owned paper. Members of the union, Local 773 of the IPGCU, ratified the agreement by a 2 to 1 margin on Sunday, February 27.

PRESS CONFERENCE

Joining William R. Robertson, executive secretary of the LA Changethe Labor, at a news conference announcing the agreement was William C. Torrence, International Vice President of the IPGCU who had directed the Herald-Examiner Strike-Lockout Committee which represented the 11 unions which made up the Herald-Examiner workforce.

The Press conference was held at the Rather and Marty Keegan, president and secretary-treasurer of the new local, who described to reporters the story of the re-organization of the paper.

Both were in the circulation department (Keegan left the paper a year ago to devote time to union activities) and with a handful of others they formed the Herald-Examiner Employees for Better Working Conditions 1974.

A SINGLE UNION

In 1975 the organization affiliated with IPGCU and set the stage for something unique in the American newspaper industry — a single union covering all workers of a major metropolitan newspaper.

Torrence and the local’s negotiating committee then began — what was viewed by many inside, and the labor movement as an accomplishment. It was a single union covering all workers of a major metropolitan newspaper.

Robertson, who admittedly was “cynical” about the prospects of a settlement gave high praise to Torrence and the leaders of the fledgling union, “This is a start, a beginning, and now the employees can build their own future.”

“International union looks with favor on wall-to-wall organizing in the industry,” was added.

Robertson deflected the distinction of leading the longest strike in the industry’s history — perhaps the longest in any industry — credited the new leadership in the Congress and the Children’s Defense Fund; former United Nations Ambassador Charles Yost; and Representative G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery (Dem.-Miss.), the former chairman of the House Special Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia — will also be authorized to discuss other matters with Vietnamese officials, as part of a long-range program of establishing normal relations.

adays it has been a major factor blocking unionization.

UNION BUSTERS

Kistler acknowledged that the momentum of organizing has been slow over the last decade for both AFL-CIO unions and those outside the federalization.

He said that in addition to a weak economy and less favorable political climate, "the growth of the breed of professional labor-management consultants — union busting in a real sense," has been a major factor block-

WASHINGTON, DC — Leonard Woodcock, President of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, President of the United Auto Workers, and the AFL-CIO’s top level official in Vietnam in mid-1975, is now back in this country and will meet with representatives from the new leadership in the Congress and the Children’s Defense Fund; former United Nations Ambassador Charles Yost; and Representative G. V. (Sonny) Montgomery (Dem.-Miss.), the former chairman of the House Special Committee on Missing Persons in Southeast Asia —will also be authorized to discuss other matters with Vietnamese officials, as part of a long-range program of establishing normal relations.

"We're delighted to have a newspaper here," he said.

BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Torrance said, "We worked hard for two years... and although the contract is not what we’d like... we’ve got a lot of problems, and the employees there, if they wish, build it into a much better contract."

"They certainly made a believer out of me," he said.

WASHINGTON, DC — The National Labor Relations Board in North Carolina has upheld the union’s charges that the Stevens company has “interfered with, restrained or coerced its employees in the exercise of their right of free collective bargaining.”

Among the charges are that the company and individuals entered into an illegal contract, "organizing non-working time.

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Matt Meehan Mourned by All ILWU—Led Struggles in Northwest, Hawaii

Matt Meehan, born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, December 1, 1896, was employed in the textile mills of that state at the age of 14, working a 12-hour shift. While age and stamina, and some said, bullheadedness, were often penniless.

One of the most celebrated chapters of Meehan’s life came when the Union sent him to Hawaii, in 1944, to organize dock, sugar and pineapple workers. To get to the islands, he joined the Marine Corp and stewarded Union and shipped as a messman on the SS Matsonia to overtake World War II travel restrictions.

Meehan, Secretary-Treasurer, of the Waitresses’ Union in 1934, described the man to lead the drive, Jack Hall. Meehan’s conclusions were that the results speak for themselves.

Not long after he came ashore, Meehan, appalled by the shape-up, furloughs and starvation wages on the waterfront, began organizing dock workers into the ILA. As a result, he picked a few jobs, and he and his family were often penniless.

Bridges, in his eulogy of Meehan, said of this period: “Matt and I went through education.”

“Matt gave little thought to his own security and future... how well he did the job for his fellow workers was what counted with him.”

At the ILUWU’s founding convention, held in Aberdeen, Wash. In April, 1938, Bridges was elected President, and Meehan, Secretary-Treasurer.

ORGANIZING IN HAWAII

One of the most celebrated chapters in Meehan’s life came when the Union sent him to Hawaii, in 1944, to organize dock, sugar and pineapple workers. To get to the islands, he joined the Marine Corp and stewarded Union and shipped as a messman on the SS Matsonia to overtake World War II travel restrictions.

He played a major role in our amazingly successful organizing push in Hawaii,” recalled Secretary-Treasurer Lou Goldblatt in a letter to Local 8 President Don Ronne. “After Matt’s visit there on behalf of the International officers he came back with the conclusion that an overall organizing drive was timely, and with a recommendation for the man to lead the drive, Jack Hall. Matt’s conclusions were that the results speak for themselves.

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Meehan, born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, December 1, 1896, was employed in the textile mills of that state at the age of 14, working a 12-hour shift. While a veteran he ran away to sea, shipping out from Newport News, Va., as a cabin boy, and later selecting Portland ‘front; Emil Peterson, who joined the Marine Corp and stewarded Union and shipped as a messman on the SS Matsonia to overtake World War II travel restrictions.

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In the Rostock dock warehouse we were shown the cafeteria where the longshoremen and dockers are provided with a free hot meal service from 6 a.m. to 7 a.m., the 6 a.m. starting time, the workers are given a chance to get a hot breakfast at 8 a.m. The cost of any meal to the worker is minimal. They also have coffee-breaks (relief periods). They have first aid stations, with trained medical personnel and doctor and nursing care available. We noted this type of medical care available in all phases of industry which includes stores, docks, and shipyard.

Every longshoreman, regardless of his job, goes through a two-year apprenticeship. This includes storekeeping, shipyard, and dock work. The store keeping consists of orientation on the care of all types of cargo, storage, stowage, and handling of all cargo, training on lift machines and trucks, and working with electric cranes.

We were taken dockside to see a potato plant where we talked with some of the employees. The workers are all set up identically, to do our part in developing the branches. The plant is brought in by rail car and it is cut up and loaded distributed throughout the plant by conveyor belts and stored according to grade. We were shown plans for modernizing the plant and期has recently been accomplished with our own west coasts, many of whom, too, are feeling the pressure of world competition.

In the port areas we went through we also visited Seaman’s Centers which provided for the seamen’s offship conveniences, i.e. book and record libraries, and short-term family quarters. These centers provide a comfortable atmosphere and homes away from home.

In the Countryside

Contrary to our personal belief, we found that there were large portions of farm land privately owned. The farmer may sell or rent his farm privately, or he may choose to belong to a State controlled cooperative. The farmer working his farm privately or cooperatively is not permitted to sell privatly or pay, and an farm's are relatively small in size. The main reason for this is the 2800 German constitution which guards against the exploitation of workers by limiting any private business from employing more than two or three persons. This method of running a farm, we think will solve the problem.

The farmer belonging to a co-op contributes his land, stock, and machinery, or whatever part thereof he may choose to the cooperative. The work is divided proportion to the members' contribution to the co-op. In most cases, the actual work that is done is highly organized. When necessary the cooperative is run on a twenty-four hour basis, but each individual, whether a co-op member or hired farm hand, just work twelve hours a day.

Most businesses fall into three categories: State owned, or having controlling interest, and State operated; State owned; or having controlling interest, and privately operated; privately owned and operated. All stores; department, drug, variety, food markets, etc., fall within these three categories and are displayed in a manner showing to which category they belong. The State controls all prices, so prices on any given item are exactly the same. This holds true throughout the country.

The State and union both provide education. The State makes policies, and makes mandatory, a 10th grade education. Other advanced education is available for those wishing to continue. As mentioned in our previous papers, a person may continue his formal education and/or upgrading of his knowledge for on-the-job purposes. For the assistance of the working mother, there are nurseries, pre-schools, and even after school programs to care for the children. While there is a charge for the childcare, the cost is minimal.

As mentioned previously, the State takes care of all concerns, health, care, and pension. Any health related problem is handled at no charge to the worker.

For the assistance of the working mother, there are nurseries, pre-schools, and even after school programs to care for the children. While there is a charge for the childcare, the cost is minimal.

Vandalism seems to be non-existent. The crime rate in the DDR is reported to be relatively low. The system provides for a parolee to be assigned to an aforementioned collective. The parolee is responsible to the collective and the collective is responsible for the parolee. The collective will, at any time, for any reason, send the parolee back to the penal institution. This system, reportedly, works very well.

Housing Problems

The majority of the East Germans live in State owned and cooperatively run apartments. The older buildings and cooperatives are well maintained, and are constantly being upgraded to reach modernity, but still retain the old architecture. The new construction is going along more according to the system's plan, and it is estimated that in the next 10 to 15 years, new modern apartments will be available to those who desire such accommodations. We viewed construction sites for highrises containing groups of 50,000, 60,000 and 80,000 flats. We also learned that

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EARLY TOOLS—Local 13 President Art Almeida and Pete "Tusco" Pethick, pensionier, hold Local 13’s exhibit of assorted cargo hooks from years past.

Local 13 Men Collect Old Longshore Tools

WILMINGTON — Pete Pethick, a retired member of ILWU longshoremen, has put together an attractive exhibit of hand tools which "made work easier in the old days before automation."

The exhibit, mounted on an old Liberty Ship-type hatch cover can be seen at Local 13’s hall, 321 West "C" Street, Wilmington.

The tools came from a long list of donors including John Fiesel, Ernest "Tex" Matthews (tools donated by his son Walt), Choo Choo Salcido (son, Mike), Peter Grassi, Archie Royal (son, Johnny), Paul Ware, Rocky Famillathe (brother, Tony), Bill Tillotson (brother, Amos), Emerson "Swanee" Swigan and John Janisse, Stanley Koinsky, Jim Conway, Carl Holliman, Jack Milvesich (son, Tony), Jim Janisse, George Michelli, Bobbi Negrette and Vernon Meubel.

One of the donors, Paul Ware, is the last of the surviving charter members of the original 10 men who went to San Francisco in 1934 to obtain the ILA charter for the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Homer Stevens Honored

VANCOUVER, BC — Homer Stevens, retiring President of the United Fishermen’s and Allied Workers Union was honored at a testimonial banquet at the conclusion of last month’s convention of the British Columbia Federation of Labor.

Stevens was one of three top officials of the FUFU. He served one year in jail in the summer of 1947 after his membership refused to unload "hot" fish during a strike in Prince Rupert.

After 31 years as a full-time union officer, Stevens is returning to his fishing interests.

Over 500 trade unionists and guests attended the dinner. In a telegram read at dinner, ILWU President Harry Bridges, on behalf of all the United Fishermen’s ILWU membership, called Stevens "a great working class leader."

"We are here to glad that Homer will still be standing by to lend a hand as needed in the never-ending struggles of his union and all workers for a better world for all people, and toward all, international solidarity and world peace.

A FIRST — Attending a recent reception aboard the Soviet MV Mikhail Lomonov, the first Soviet passenger ship from the USSR over to hit the west coast were USSR Consul General Alexander Zinchuk, ILWU Vice-President Bill Chester, State Department representative Bernice Behrens, San Francisco developer Al Maisin and Captain Aram M. Oganov.

Representing San Francisco Mayor George Moscone was Mrs. Grace Warnacko. The Lomonov carries a crew of 1,200.

The ILWU is

One of the least appreciated, though an important item of fishing gear, is the bobber. My memory goes back to the first bobberson I used. 50 odd years ago, called quills. Shaped like a double-pointed lead pencil, they were light and sensitive to the slightest nip, nip of the feeding fish. It was about this time that I got a lesson from old Uncle Joe, my longtime angling mentor.

"Do not try to set the hook at the first wiggle of the bobber," cautioned Joe, "til the bobber disappears completely under the surface which means the fish has taken the bait and run."

Joe’s advice has stood me in good stead ever since.

Father of anglers, Issak Walton, liked to bobber fish and read while waiting for tench to take the bait.

Many years ago, I was fishing Silver Lake in the heart of Washington, for largemouth bass. I was using a simple, quadruple-multiplying ratio. "Has a nice set but could not raise a fish," I thought. As an anti line-snagging device, the bobber is an efficient tool. I used it usually on seven or eight juat—just before winter set in—to a near lake where we fish for catfish, sitting comfortably in lawn chairs along the reservoir’s bank. On the lake’s bottom was a growth of heavy algæ which would have obscured a bottom-lined bait but our bobberson kept baited hook at proper depth, just deep enough to avoid any irregular movement.

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Matt Meehan
Rites Held in Portland

Continued from Page 7— in the Portland Labor Council that post until May 1, 1963, but continued as relief arbiter until 1971.

Obituaries in local newspapers suggested that contributions in lieu of flowers be sent to the Matthew J. Meehan Memorial Scholarship Fund in care of Meehan's home local, 422 NW 17th, Portland, 97209. But floral tributes came not only from the International officers and most of the Northwest locals and pension groups.

A floral piece came also from Matt's fellow workers, from his days as a gang boss on the Portland waterfront, with a ribbon inscribed "From Gang 42." And a card locating the names of those who have gone before—John J. Fougereuse, slingman; Charles Ross, winch driver; holdmen Francis J. Murzane, Wes Mills, Gene Hafelter, Tex Atkinson and Johnny Drake; and "Those who are left," Mike Sicklinger, and Johnny Paye.

AGAINST SCREENING
Meehan, a colorful and controversial figure in Northwest labor circles, was a leader in the fight against the Coast Guard screen imposed on longshoremen at the beginning of the Korean War. One of the first to be screened, he was discharged and later called to settle a strike at the old Ammo Dock at Beaver (now known as Fort Vancouver). His satisfaction of telling the military brass: "I can't get through that gate; you screened me. Remember.

Never one to turn his back on his friends, Meehan was accompanied by four members of the ILWU to hearings in Seattle in 1970, to support the HUAC for activities in defense of the foreign born, remaining at their side throughout the investigation.

He served on the John J. Fougereuse Defense Committee, the only defense committee for a longshoreman that was fielded for Bridges during the Immigration Hearing at Mt. Calvary, February 28, a Memorial Service.

Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hi.), termed Royal's testimony "eloquence of the day." At the conclusion of the day's session, the Senator personally thanked Bridges for making the trip to Washington to alert the Senate to the seriousness of the problem and the need for amendment of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

POORPOISE PROBLEMS
The immediate threat to tuna industry jobs is the 1977 regulation limiting the incidental taking of porpoises to 59,000 and prohibiting the killing of any porpoise school that contains the Eastern Spinner. The prohibition of the Eastern Spinner, contends, deprives them of 50%-60% of their opportunities to fish. They challenge the government's contention that the Eastern Spinner is in danger of becoming extinct.

Their view was supported at the hearing by Dr. Carl L. Hobbs, of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, who told the Senators that the porpoise is not in danger of extinction.

TUNA PROBLEMS — Livelihood of Local 33 tuna fishermen is seriously threatened by legislation, the Marine Mammals Protection Act, limiting the number of porpoises which may be incidentally caught.

ILWU Asks Congress—Save 30,000 Jobs in Tuna

WASHINGTON, DC — John Royal, executive secretary of Fishermen's Local 33, ILWU, made a dramatic plea last week to the US Senate, to amend legislation that is threatening the 30,000 jobs in the tuna industry.

Royal appeared before the Senate Committee on Commerce, Science and Transportation, with Harry Bridges, International President of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union.

Senator Daniel K. Inouye (D-Hi.), termed Royal's testimony "eloquence of the day." At the conclusion of the day's session, the Senator personally thanked Bridges for making the trip to Washington to alert the Senate to the seriousness of the problem and the need for amendment of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972.

BRIEF PRESENTED
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Telling the Senators that he was "just an ex-tuna fisherman without a fancy statement," the San Pedro union leader said that they were facing a very, very serious problem that could put people out of work and put people out of business.

"GAMBLING WITH OUR LIVES"
"We have survived foreign competition, harassment and arrests by foreign countries, and scare stories. Now, we are about to be done in by our own people."

Royal added that the "brutal facts are well-intentioned people—the scientists and the environmentalists—are gambling with our lives.

He closed his testimony by telling the Senators not to "put a billion-dollar industry out of business and 30,000 people out of work." Bridges said he was appearing "to express grave concern with respect to the application of the Marine Mammal Protection Act on the tuna fishing industry, including the coastal fishermen and the foreign fishermen in our membership.

They've grave danger to themselves, these fishermen have provided over the past 20 years an increasing important source of high-protein food for the citizens of the United States.

He warned that despite this record, the industry was in danger of being "ditched and abandoned."

Kicking the Profit-Sharing Habit Brings Big Gains at Graybar Electric

SAN FRANCISCO — Used to be that the first thing customers saw on entering the offices of Graybar Electric Company here was a sign saying "An Employee-Owned Business."

Sounds terrific, right? "Employee-owned" turns out to be a fancy way of saying profit-sharing, an employer program which has fooled workers for generations into thinking they own a piece of the action, and left untold numbers out in the cold after years of loyal service.

Vesting Hitch
At Graybar, the catch was that an employee had to be on the job a full two years before he could get in on the profit-sharing program. In another year, the employee was vested at 10%, and so on, gradually, up the ladder until, after a full 12 years on the job, the profit shares became fully the property of the employee.

"It was like the old thing of the carrot on the stick," says steward Mike Miller. "Our real objection was how long it took to get vesting, how many years an employee had to depend on profits, with no pension program."

Controls Headed Canada Wage-For Scrap Heap?

Continued from Page 7— in the Portland Labor Council that launch Phase Three of the fight against wage controls program (pressure on provincial govern- ment not to renew wage control agreements with Ottawa), a conference of trade unionists by the BC Federation of Labor agreed to turn the heat on the provincial government and to bargain for contractual wage increases.

The new Parti Quebecois government of Quebec has already withdrawn from the wage control program, but the pre- miership of the Canadian Democratic Party governments in Manitoba and Saskatchewan has yet to respond to the request of the CLC that they do likewise.

The BC trade union conference also continued to publicize its campaign against wage controls, linking it up with opposition to so-called right to work legislation that is now being promoted by BC Corporate Interests.

Maximum opposition will be exerted against attempts by governments to impose special controls on government and crown corporations and other public sector employees.

BRIEF PRESENTED
The viewpoint of labor was elaborated—by ILWU President and Secretary-Treasurer Dan Garlock in a statement of the fight against wage controls, linking it up with opposition to so-called right to work legislation that is now being promoted by BC Corporate Interests.

"We urge that the provincial government withdraw from the federal government's campaign against wage controls, linking it up with opposition to so-called right to work legislation."

"We express complete and total opposition to the implementation of a provisional wage control program when the current federal controls are abandoned."

The BCFL also reminded the government that the annual convention of the labor body last spring had approved any proposals for a provincial wage control program. This proposal, the BCFL said, was designed to protect employees or those in crown corporations, municipalities and other public bodies, who had been "bounced out and abandoned."

"The full weight of the labor movement will be rallied in support of groups fighting such controls," the BCFL stated.

The membership at Graybar has just ratified their new ILWU contract, having in only one year raised their wages in two steps, up to 86 cents an hour.

Now, under their new agreement, the employees are advanced to full coverage under the area Master Agreement with wages at $6.75 per hour and double time at time and one-half.

They have also won the same high level of benefits as other metal trades, including group insurance, prescription drug, vision care, vacations, holidays, etc.—as in the agreement with the ILWU—Teamster Northern California Warehouse Council.

The new pact represented the agreement of the employers and Distributors' Association which negotiates the agreement with the ILWU—Teamster Northern California Warehouse Council.

The committee consists of steward Mike Millar, Fred Strehlow and Local 6 Business Agent Don Ruth.