‘We will successfully defend the interests of our members if we hold to the traditions on which this union was founded.’

—Officers’ Report to the 22nd Biennial Convention

Looking Backward

“This convention salutes the three retiring officers and expresses its deepest aloha for their faithful, productive and inspiring leadership. May they enjoy good health and long life in retirement and as officers emeritus.”

—Resolution No. 24, 22nd Biennial Convention

Looking Forward

“We look forward to the next two years with optimism, tempered by a realistic sense of what is possible and what is not. Our optimism is based on the nature of the union all of us have built; with all its difficulties, the ILWU remains a strong and democratic working-class organization.”

—Officers’ Report to the 22nd Biennial Convention

Taking Care of Business

The Twenty Second Biennial Convention was extraordinarily productive. Delegates worked long and hard in committees and on the floor to complete their work. For a summary of all resolutions and statements of policy see pages 4-7.

New Leadership on Top

Delegates made nominations for all four titled officer positions and for a new Executive Board. For a list of candidates and an explanation of voting procedures, see page 3. Statements by candidates for titled office in May 13 issue.

22nd Convention

Planning a New Era For ILWU

SEATTLE — The ILWU Twenty-Second Biennial Convention, held here April 18-23, was a memorable event, “a gathering of a huge extended family,” said one delegate.

It marked, after all, the conclusion of one era in the union’s history and the beginning of a new one. A large number of retired and active members, auxiliary members and friends paid their own way so they could join the regular delegates in watching Harry Bridges, Lou Goldblatt and Bill Chester say goodbye and perhaps share a few memories.

LOTS OF WORK

It wasn’t all nostalgia. Lots of work got done. The committees — rules, credentials, constitution, resolutions and officers’ report — put in an enormous amount of time, often going into night-time and early morning sessions. Debate in the committees and on the main floor was often sharp and well-focused.

By the time it was all over delegates had taken care of some important internal union business and adopted informed positions on many international and domestic issues.

Remember also the chemistry that happens when ILWU members — workers in longshore, warehouse, production, agriculture, tourism and other industries, of every possible race, creed and nationality — get together and mix it up for a solid week. It sets off lots of sparks, lots of energy, and a renewed sense of the breadth of this union.

Off the Convention floor — in a comfortable environment provided by a hard working host committee from Seattle and Puget Sound locals — delegates from all sections of the union could meet, shoot the breeze, talk shop, compare experience at the convention and share their hopes for the union’s future.

A NEW BEGINNING

Finally, there’s the excitement and promise generated by a new beginning. Delegates got to meet and talk informally with those who aspire to lead their International union, and to listen to the extended remarks made by each of them at the concluding session. There was, of course, lots of politicking.

But there was also a general agreement, as the two candidates for the President’s job jointly stated, that “the elections within our union must not be allowed to divide us, division against division or local against local. We must emerge with unity and the ability to move forward as a union.”

It adds up to an experience not easily put away or forgotten: for the first-time delegate from Alaska who got his first real look at the entire International; for the Seattle warehouse delegate meeting his Caucus in Session

SEATTLE — As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, the Longshore Clerks and Walking Bosses Caucus is in session at the Washington Plaza Hotel. A full report of caucus activities will be presented in the May 13 issue of The Dispatcher.
Following is the foreign policy section of the Report of the Interna-
tional Vice-Presi-
tional vice-presi-
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president

The collapse of the US-supported gov-

e of the ILWU overseas delegation

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Candidates, Voting Procedures

SEATTLE — Delegates to the ILWU’s Twenty-Fourth Biennial Convention nominated candidates to fill the four titled International Executive Board positions on the International Executive Board. Statements by the candidates for the titled and un-titled offices will be printed in the International Executive Board meeting following the Convention.

The candidates are as follows:

President: James R. Herman, Local 34, San Francisco; G. Johnnys, Local 8, Portland.
Vice-President: Fred Huntington, Local 8, Portland; Curtis McClain, Local 6, San Francisco.
Secretary-Treasurer: Fred Huntington, Local 8, Portland; Curtis McClain, Local 6, San Francisco.

Candidates for the International Executive Board are as follows:

Northern California (three to be elected):
Andrew Dalaney, Local 11; Willie Zem, Local 10; Pete Fuller, Local 54; Frank Hillel, Local 34; Lupe Martinez, Local 17; Kent Dickenman, Local 34.
Southern California (two to be elected):
L. L. “Chuck” Loversi, Local 12; Max Aragon, Local 34; Joe Argento, Local 63.
Washington-Seattle (two to be elected):
George Ginnis, Local 23; Ramiy Vekich, Local 24; Dick Moor, Local 19; Robert Kinley, Local 32.

Oregon-Columbia River (one to be elected):
Ken Swicker, Local 21; Bill Ward, Local 40.
Hawaii (three to be elected): John Aritumi and Tony Bise (sugar); Reno Colotario (pine); and John Uyetake (general trade) from Oregon and 31 from Washington.

The International Constitution (Article 6) provides that ballots are not to be sent out to the locals within 25 days of the conclusion of the Convention. Secret elections are to be held by the locals within 50 days after the conclusion of the Convention, within a span of five consecutive days to be designated by the titled officers; the ballots and a count are sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer and a count is sent to the International balloting committee within 60 days after adjournment; 10 days later, the results are reported by the International balloting committee.

Newly elected officers and Executive Board members take office at the first International Executive Board meeting following the Convention.

Convention Plans New Era for ILWU

Continued from Page 1—

The ILWU International Constitution (Article 6) provides that ballots are to be sent out to the locals within 25 days of the conclusion of the Convention. Secret elections are to be held by the locals within 50 days after the conclusion of the Convention, within a span of five consecutive days to be designated by the titled officers; the ballots and a count are sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer and a count is sent to the International balloting committee within 60 days after adjournment; 10 days later, the results are reported by the International balloting committee. Newly elected officers and Executive Board members take office at the first International Executive Board meeting following the Convention.

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DELEGATE COUNT

Here are the bare bones: there were 319 regular delegates: 21 from Canada, 4 from Alaska, 149 from Hawaii, 65 from Northern California, 195 from Southern California, 19 from Oregon and 31 from Washington. Also present were 150 fraternal delegates, representing the pensioners, auxiliaries, locals and the invited guests.

Delegates received their instructions Monday morning, April 18 and didn’t wrap things up until Saturday afternoon, April 23. They passed a formidable number of resolutions, statements of policy and constitutional changes (see page 47). They also listened to speakers on the way to Washington., for the ILWU’s contributions for their work, said, "It was a great meeting. We had a wonderful time."

SAVING THANKS

A large share of credit for the smoothness of the Convention must go to the best committee: Delegates were treated to a Seattle Mariners Baseball game — they try hard — a beautiful boat trip around Puget Sound and the traditional convention banquet. It went off without a hitch.

Members of the “Save the waterfront” cab had Bob Burns, Local 31, and Ron Thorsberr, Local 22 (bouquet); Ken Rohar, Local 22 (house-keeping); George Ginnis, Local 23; (public relations); John Bukovsky, Local 9, Ed Hicks, Local 19, and Dwayne Wedge, Local 19 (trustees).

Convention delegates also voted to place the following items on the agenda: a memorializing the achievements of the convention as a whole, as compared to a meeting the year before.

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Convention Plans New Era for ILWU

Continued from Page 1—

May Is Time for Longshore Medical and Dental Plan Choice

SAN FRANCISCO—Longshore families in the ports where members have a choice can change medical plans during the open enrollment period May 1 to May 31, 1977.

The change will be effective July 1, 1977. In some ports of the Los Angeles and Longshoremen may also choose between two adult dental plans, and both active and retired longshoremen may choose between two children’s dental plans during the month of May. Dental plan changes will also be effective July 1.

Active and retired longshoremen and eligible widows can change from one medical plan to another by filling out an enrollment card and sending it to the Benefit Plans office. The enrollment cards and information about plan benefits are available at the Locals and can also be obtained from the Benefit Plans office.

The medical plan change is being made in the California Longshore and Warehouse Pension Plan. The Group Insured Plan and Community Health Association (which recently changed its name from Community Medical Services) or Group Health Cooperative.

The choice for Los Angeles Locals, dental choice is between the Choice Port Insured Plan and Group Health Cooperative.

For San Francisco Locals, dental choice is between the California Dental Service and the Naisnfield Dental Group. Services provided under all dental plans are basically the same. Information on the dental plan and forms to change plans can be obtained at the Locals and the Benefi Plans office.

All enrollment cards must be completed, signed and submitted to the Benefit Plans office by May 31 in order for the change to be effective July 1.

‘Pedro Dockers’ Walk Away With Safety Awards

WILMINGTON — Southern California longshoremen and foremen cleaned up at PMA’s Area Accident Prevention Committee’s Maritime safety awards dinner Friday, March 25.

Los Angeles Local 8, which was presented with the Group “A” longshore coast award for having the best safety record on the coast for 1976. Los Angeles Locals 8, 40 and 92, and Northern California Locals 18, 34, 75 and 91, and Oregon-Columbia River Locals 19, 9, 8, 40 and 92.

In the Washington area, choice for Locals 19, 52 and 98 is between the Choice Port Insured Plan and Community Health Association (which recently changed its name from Community Medical Services) or Group Health Cooperative.

For Los Angeles Locals, dental choice is between the Choice Port Insured Plan and Group Health Cooperative.

DENTAL PLANS

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All enrollment cards must be completed, signed and submitted to the Benefit Plans office by May 31 in order for the change to be effective July 1.

A Gift — While Harry Bridges bade an eye, Washington Area Welfare Director Carl Christenson explains to convention delegates the story behind the $50,000 gift to the ILWU by the late Joe Larson, Local 19.

A Generous Gift from Pensioner Joe Larson

SEATTLE — On the meeting of April 26, Carl Christenson — formerly a member of Local 19 and now Washington Area director for the ILWU-PMA Benefit Funds — came before the ILWU Convention to present a partial payment on a $50,000 gift to the ILWU from deceased pensioner Joe Larson, Local 19.

“I make this bequest to memorialize my life-long association with the labor movement and my over 40-year association with the ILWU and its president, Harry Bridges,” the will read.

President Bridges accepted the gifts with thanks, and announced that the funds would be used to extend the operations of the International’s library and to make capital improvements to the International Building.

Larsen began work in April, 1911, retired in 1954 and died August 9, 1976.

Art Almeida and Richard Dukie holding ILWU Local 13’s First Place Safety Award for having the best safety record on the Coast in 1976.

Foreman Albert Smith receiving his lifesaving award from John D. MacEvey.

Local 13 members, Malcolm Smallwood (left) and Robert Agasof receiving their lifesaving awards from John D. MacEvey.
1. Detente
There is no rational alternative to the relaxation of tension between the US and the USSR. There will always be competition between our two systems. The existence of nuclear technology makes war between the US and the USSR unthinkable.

Year after year, there has been progress. The conclusion of the war in Vietnam, the signing of the first Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty, the Helsinki Accords and the recent relaxation of restrictions on travel of US citizens to socialist countries have all been important steps in the detente process.

However, we want to insure that progress continues. Hardline cold warriors have considerable strength. Major bloc groupings such as the Trilateral Commission, are still committed to US economic expansion, although they have come to understand some of the limitations on US power in the world. As the recent breakdown of SALT negotiations prove, detente is still alive.

The ILWU should act as a force within the labor movement to keep up support for a peaceful, non-expansionist US foreign policy. Specifically, we should use whatever influence we have to promote certain prominent policies:

1) Negotiation of a new SALT treaty before the October, 1977, expiration date of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment to the 1974 Trade Act. This amendment denies the Soviets Export-Import Bank credits for purchase of goods which also denies to Soviets the "most-favored-nation" tariff treat- ment enjoyed by a number of other countries. These are all actions geared to the needs of the American people—education, and medical care. We stand for peace in the world, and we have actively fought for civil rights and for the relief of hunger and disease.

We support action to improve relations with the USSR, China and Cuba, to work for mutual arms limitations, to stop all military interference in the affairs of other nations, to halt the arms race, and to withhold any aid or support from the racist governments of South Africa and Rhodesia.

We favor increased use of the United Nations to channel funds between nations to overcome hunger, deprivation and disease.

1E. China
Five years ago, the United States and the People's Republic of China signed the Shanghai Declaration in which they jointly declared that progress toward normalizing relations between China and the United States is in the interests of all countries.

ILWU again calls for full normal diplomatic and trade relations with China, and for speedy implementation of the Shanghai declaration.

1F. Stockholm Peace Appeal
The arms race burdens us with an outrageous military budget to further enlarge an arsenal that could kill the world many times over, and to develop even more sophisticated super-weapons of destruction like the B-1 Bomber, the Cruise Missile, and the Trident Submarine. It robs us of much needed social services promotes US support of foreign dictatorial and racist regimes and increases international tension.

We endorse the International Stockholm Peace Appeal and call upon President Carter and the US Congress to: 1) Substantially cut the US military budget, 2) Use the billions of our tax dollars thus saved to solve our urgent economic and social needs, 3) Vigor- ously move SALT II talks with the Soviet Union to a successful conclusion.

1G. End Cuban Embargo
This Convention calls upon the Carter Administration to immediately end the US embargo against Cuba.

We believe that President Carter's $120.1 billion defense budget could easily be cut by the $13.6 billion proposed by the Coalition for a New Foreign and Military Policy, and still provide more than ample military security for the American people.

We favor the favour the favor in wasteful and dangerous military spending and the transfer of the savings to meet human needs. We support the concept of the "Transfer Resolution" advocated by the Coalition for a New Foreign Policy. This $13.6 billion reduction in the military budget would eliminate some $15,000 jobs in defense. But if that money were applied to programs geared to the needs of the American people—education, child-care, housing, health, education—it would produce an estimated $1,441,000 jobs.

2. The Defense Budget
The United States spends entirely too much money on "defense" — $1.5 trillion since the end of World War II. Such excessive spending has fundamentally dis- turbed the US economy, wasted the hard-earned tax dollars of American workers, and helped bring us to the edge of disaster.

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2B. Southern Africa Majority Rule
The white minority governments of South Africa, Namibia and Rho- desia (Zimbabwe) are engaged in the violent op- pression of the black majority of both nations; and the white minorities of both countries have denied to the black majority of both nations the most basic of human rights, i.e., the right to organize in trade unions, to chose leaders and to participate in the political and educational life of the country.

We point out, however, that US corporations and efforts to totally isolate these repressive regimes. We believe that the US should join the world-wide banks still remain a chief of these regimes.

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We believe that the US should join the world-wide banks still remain a chief of these regimes.
3. Unemployment

Unemployment is now and will continue to be the number one problem confronting North American workers. According to official government statistics, the unemployed in the US now number about 7,000,000. (Unemployment is higher now in Canada than at any time since the end of World War II.) If we include people who have given up hope of ever finding jobs, of people who have taken part-time work because full-time jobs aren't available, of people who don't work because child care is not available or because of some handicap which is not totally disabling, then the actual number of unemployed is probably at least half again as large as the government admits.

Despite our avowed commitment in the US to full employment—jobs for all who are willing and able to work—there is ample reason to question whether or not this can be accomplished in the absence of war. Ultimately, it seems, we will not achieve full employment without a wholesale redistribution of power within our political and economic systems. But that is not at hand. Like it or not, we function within a capitalist economic system.

We can, however, fight for programs which at least take the sting out of massive unemployment. We advocate a three-point program.

1) There should be a sharp and massive increase in government expenditures for public service employment. We support the AFL-CIO's $38 billion program to create 2 million additional jobs.

2) We call for larger unemployment benefits, payable to all workers without exception, and for the full duration of their period of unemployment. We join with the AFL-CIO in urging federalization of the unemployment insurance system. Until that goal is achieved, we urge the adoption of federal minimum standards for eligibility, benefit amounts and duration, and other essential features of the program.

3) We urge the adoption of a federal program to assure continuation of health insurance for the unemployed who lose their coverage when they lose their jobs.

4. Tax Reform

Time and again, along with other unions and progressive organizations, we have called for reforms to the tax systems at the federal, state levels based on ability to pay.

Tax laws have proven to be peculiarly resistant to change. Special interests which benefit from one or the other of the tax avoidance mechanisms have managed to get their way in Congress and other legislative bodies, no doubt due in part to the fact that numerous legislators themselves are the beneficiaries of such tax breaks.

We reaffirm the positions on tax reform advocated by previous ILWU conventions, specifically, repeal the capital gains provisions under which investment earnings are taxed at only half the rate of ordinary income; recover the taxes on capital gains which are not taxed if an investor dies while still owning property; tax the interest earned on state and local bonds; eliminate altogether oil and mineral depletion allowances; and close those shelters whereby wealthy investors are able to bury or obscure large portions of their income.

5. National Health Insurance

The US alone among major industrial nations does not have either a national health system or a national health insurance plan. The quality, availability and cost of health care are considerable problems for most Americans. When measured by conventional criteria, the health of US citizens lags in comparison with other industrial countries. Our present methods of providing and paying for health care simply don't work very well.

Last year health care costs spiraled upward continuing an alarming trend which began several years ago. While the entire Consumer Price Index went up 4.8%, medical care costs jumped a scandalous 10.1%.

The combined impact of inadequate insurance coverage and medical care cost inflation is devastating. For union members covered by negotiated plans, ever larger chunks have to be taken out of settlement packages simply to maintain the limited benefits negotiated previously. New benefits and expanded coverage are often prohibitively expensive.

We in the ILWU are convinced that our health care problems will not be solved permanently until we have a national health care system under the administrative direction of the federal government. Such a system, we know, is not at hand.

We are convinced that the Health Security Act, sponsored by Congressman Corman and Senator Kennedy, comes closest to satisfying the criteria for national health insurance adopted by our 1975 Convention. —Continued on Page 6
6A. Nat'l Labor Relations Act

The old Sugar Act had been federal law for some 40 years. While the legislation and the background about which we often testified, it did provide an environment in which the domestic industry could live, despite the constant threat posed by low wage competition from abroad. The basic structure of the old Act is sound. Insofar as the concept of a consumption quota, an estimate, a price objective, and the allocation of quotas to other nations was concerned, we favor enactment of a new Sugar Act which has as its basic objective the preservation of the domestic sugar industry. We believe that a new Sugar Act is necessary.

8A. Sugar

Today, because the US has become a dumping ground for cheap sugar abroad, many American workers and the unorganized stand to lose. The death of the sugar industry in Hawaii promises to have with the lives of many thousands of working men and women. The death of the industry in Hawaii would be a catastrophe not only for the State and all of its people. We urge modern law to reduce the quota of foreign sugar by an amount that will assure reasonable stability in the US market and we call upon the Cong. to enact long-range legislation which will provide a fair and reasonable return to the industry; fair and reasonable conditions to the sugar workers and fair and reasonable prices to the consumers.

13. Fight for US Jobs

We support the efforts of the International of having been in collusion with the PMA and the other unions to dissolve our negotiations in 1978. There are two national policy alternatives open. One is to do nothing, and watch most of the domestic industry disappear. The economy of the State of Hawaii would be dealt a blow that would, and our nation would become totally dependent upon foreign producers. Al- ternatively, Congress and the Administration could reenact protective legislation which would tend to in- stable our domestic market from the vagaries of world markets.

14. Immigration

This Union will not join in any agitation or legisla- tion which penalize alien residents and taxpayers and high unemployment which have been caused by our big- business oriented national economic policies.

15. Discrimination

We urge the incoming International Executive Board to examine all areas of work under ILWU juris- diction and set clear standards with which all state programs must comply. The purpose of such state laws is simple—to en- sure that all state programs are in accordance with federal and state laws. The new ILWU must strive to produce a new standard at every level.

17. Job Loss from Containerization

The rapid containerization of world shipping during the late 70's and early 80's has had an effect on our ports, resulting in a condition of permanent unemployment. The revised containerization legislation passed by Congress in 1979 was the first step in that direction. This renewal must be the first of many steps to ensure the retire- ment of the workers of our ports.

19. Keep and Build an Autonomous Union

We reaffirm our opposition to any efforts to dissolve and merge our union with others through mergers or in any other way. As in the past, our union will fight for Labor Unity. We support the efforts of the Interna- tional Executive Board to maintain the identity and differ- ence of all independent and unaffiliated unions to dis- cuss the matter of labor unity with representatives of the AFL-CIO.

20. Rededication of ILWU

Our Union will be changing top leadership at a time of sharpening struggle against the crippling effects of mechanization, high unemployment, and high inflation. The strength of our union has been based on basic democratic principles by which we have molded a solid rank and file unity. We reaffirm the support of the basic democratic trade union principles around which the ILWU was built, and we continue with our new leadership in the effort to build a labor movement of which we can be proud.

21. The Williams Lawsuit

Local 10 has always tried to use the good name of the ILWU to help solve the community problems of racism, injustice, and unemployment. In 1982, because of the insistence of the Union, the first “B” men were recruited without regard to race, creed, color, national origin or sponsorship.

For the health of the Union, the joint “B” Committee set up guidelines for the selection and determina- tion of workers, and for promoting and of Class “A” status. Eighty (80) men failed to qualify to be promoted to Class “A” status by the rules and subsequently appealed to the ILWU and the International of having been in collusion with the PMA in its efforts to oust our negotiations.

These eighty men sued the Union and PMA for $3.00 an hour, and establish a system whereby this money is paid to the Union and PMA. About 2 million workers work for cheating employers whose minimum wage, and another 7 million earn between $2.30 and $3.00 an hour, less than what the government itself defines as poverty level earnings. We call upon President Carter to reduce the quota of foreign sugar and to support legislation that would provide a fair and reasonable return to the sugar industry and it has experienced a calamitous effect on the domestic sugar industry. At the same time, the primary benefit of a new sugar act, the producers themselves, must be protected. The sugar industry is one of the nation's most important industries with a history of success action. By manipulating grand juries, the government itself defines as poverty level earnings. We have an interest in the sugar industry and the experience of organizing a new sugar act, the producers themselves, and workers themselves. The sugar industry is one of the nation's most important industries with a long history of success in related to the workers in the sugar industry. This act should set certain guidelines, below which no man would qualify for labor unity. We support the efforts of the Interna- tional Executive Board as the base of operation for the workers' compensation programs, or set reasonable standards with which all state programs must comply.

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22. Discrimination Against Pregnant Workers

ILWU supports the Campaign to End Discrimination Against Pregnant Workers. This campaign began after the Supreme Court decision in Alexander v. Sargent in 1974, which held that Title VII of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, which outlawed discrimination based on sex, does not necessarily prohibit discrimination against pregnant women. The Court held that excluding benefits for disability resulting from pregnancy is sex discrimination.

Legislation has been introduced in Congress to overturn this ruling. It is supported by organized labor, women's rights advocates, and other interested parties. We call upon Congress to enact, and the President to sign, legislation prohibiting discrimination based on pregnancy and related conditions as soon as possible.

23. Pineapple

January 31, 1978, the agreement covering approximately 4,564 workers with the three pineapple producers in Hawaii expired.

Four years ago, the industry took advantage of massive shutdowns and layoffs which required the union to place their members on furlough in order to avoid the termination of their health and welfare and pension plans. The shutdowns and layoffs resulted in the union having to absorb significant costs for health and welfare and pension plans.

This time around the workers are not saddled with the fear of layoffs—none are contemplated in the industry. With the industry's fresh fruit operation in full swing and the world market absorbing all it can produce, the companies are on solid ground and profits have been high.

The issues in 1978 will be basic—money and improved fringe benefits. The pineapple workers feel that the industry will roll over and play dead for him. The industry will resist the bitter end and may even take a step to prevent the worker from getting his share of the profit pie.

This Convention supports the pineapple workers and their leadership in their efforts to obtain their fair and reasonable demands through the combined efforts of the entire union.

24. Aloha to Harry Bridges, Lou Goldblatt and Bill Chester

Harry Bridges, Lou Goldblatt and Bill Chester will retire this year after lifetimes of exceptional service to the members of ILWU and to all working people.

Over a period of more than 40 years, they have given leadership in the great battles and day to day constructive work of our union and our lives and those of untold thousands outside our Union.

They have become widely known as the representatives of a kind of unionism which has unique ability to speak for, defend and advance the interest of working people because ILWU policy is made and carried out by the rank and file on a basis of full internal democracy and mass participation, with no discrimination because of race, color, creed or political belief.

They have become great representatives of policies based on the genuine interest of working people, as determined by the workers themselves, inevitably put them in conflict with some of the wealthiest and most powerful forces in our society. They have earned our respect by the sacrifices they made in their effort to carry out union policy even in times of war or of ultra-conservative reaction and remained true to their responsibility to the rank and file of the working class at the risk of their own safety, honor, freedom and personal welfare.

At its 1975 Convention the International Union adopted a Constitution limiting eligibility for International Officers, which becomes effective this year.

This Convention affirms that the Constitution and should not compel us to cut ourselves off from the wisdom, good counsel and cherished companionship of officers who retire.

We, therefore, ask the Executive Board to continue in each of the three retiring officers: International President Lou Goldblatt, Secretary-Treasurer Bill Chester and International Secretary Louise J. Goldblatt, and Vice President William Chester, the title of their present office "emeritus" as a symbol of the membership's appreciation for their untiring efforts in the interest of the union and assistance whenever necessary.

This Convention supports the leadership of these officers and expresses its deepest aloha for their faithful, productive and inspiring leadership. May they enjoy good health and long life in retirement and as officers emeritus!

25. Support Sugar Workers

The collective bargaining agreements between local 142 and Hawaii sugar industry expire on November 1, 1977. The sugar workers have agreed to reintegrate and extend agreements for a two-year period, the largest ever won in the industry. With the industry's fresh fruit operation in full swing and the world market absorbing all it can produce, the companies are on solid ground and profits have been high.

The ILWU goes on record supporting the sugar workers of Hawaii when they reopen their agreements later this year.

26. Assistance Programs

The national Congress has never successfully grappled with the essential problem of the unequal distribution of wealth normally accorded other visitors. To the extent that AFL-CIO President George Meany is responsible for the present situation, and despite his honest to the sugar workers, we urge that the owners establish and maintain a fund which will be used to help workers and their families in the U.S. who are thereby denied the opportunity to live and perhaps learn from such work.

We again call on the US State Department to revoke its policy and to grant union trade unionists the same rights normally accorded other visitors. To the extent that AFL-CIO President George Meany is responsible for the present situation, and despite his honest to the sugar workers, we urge that the owners establish and maintain a fund which will be used to help workers and their families in the U.S. who are thereby denied the opportunity to live and perhaps learn from such work.

27. Government Strike-Breaking

Senator Bill 977 (Essential Maritime Transportation Act) introduced by Hawaii Senator Daniel K. Inouye, provides for open and unbalanced strike-breaking by the Secretary of Commerce and/or the Administrator of the Maritime Administration to break down the U.S. government's ability to strike a social policy which says that all of us must be given a standard of living which inspires at our greatest potential

To this end, we call on the Congress to (1) federalize all assistance programs, (2) devote one standard of need to be applied to all states and their municipalities.

28. Waste into Energy

In the United States, the biggest single, non-producer of consumer power is in waste disposal whereby food mountains this year will be fed to the world's oceans and rivers and lakes, endangering mankind and major food sources.

We urge local, state and federal governments to develop a crash program of (1) processing waste into methane gas and other forms of energy and (2) reclaiming metals, glass, paper and waste.

29. Organize Unorganized

The membership of ILWU has not significantly increased during past years, although organizing in various areas has been significant.

This Convention instructs the National Organizing Committee and the Local Officers to double their efforts in putting the necessary staff, finances and rank and file effort into organizing unorganized, with special emphasis on those areas showing the most promise.

The International Officers along with the International Executive Board should study and implement, if feasible, the organizing program in conjunction with the Local Officers, to determine the modality of a new approach to our policies, and enlarge and expand our organizing to include any and every segment, with the understanding that ILWU maintains its no-raid policy.

30. Herald-Examiner Victory

The ILWU and the entire Labor Movement supported the Herald-Examiner workers in their nine-year-long struggle against a brutal strike-breaking campaign in Southern California. In early March, 1977, this survival struggle ended in a brilliant victory through the signing of a contract that established a union with dignity and security by waiving of.largening rights.

31. Oppose Capital Punishment

Statistical evidence shows that those states which have capital punishment have much higher murder, and other crime, than states without the death penalty. The death penalty is being used as a scapegoat to explain and sometimes delay a whole array of social problems. It is a law that has been tried in the past and is just as ineffective as the past.

During times of great poverty and stress there is a temptation by reactionary and anti-liberal elements to seek scapegoats as part of a drive to enact or re-enact capital punishment. Capital punishment is only applied to minorities, the poor and the transient.

We reaffirm the opposition of the ILWU to capital punishment taken at the 1963 Convention.

32. Soviet Trade Union Delegation

A delegation from the Sea and River Workers Union of the Soviet Union, invited guests to this Convention, has been denied entry to the United States by action of the State Department.

In this newly emerging era of friendship between the US and the USSR, Soviet trade unionists alone are denied the right of entry to the United States, that is even a model of denunciation on the part of any other foreigner, of such a denouement. We are appalled, and consider this to be a negative step, and we ask that the US government and their unions here in the US who are thereby denied the opportunity to listen and perhaps learn from such work.

We again call on the US State Department to revoke its policy and to grant union trade unionists the same rights normally accorded other visitors. To the extent that AFL-CIO President George Meany is responsible for the present situation, and despite his honest intentions to the sugar workers, we urge that the owners establish and maintain a fund which will be used to help workers and their families in the US who are thereby denied the opportunity to live and perhaps learn from such work.

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34. Save US Tuna Industry

The ILWU and the entire Labor Movement supported the ILWU's position on tuna fishing should be relaxed immediately. Government experts have gone on record to state that the porpoise is threatened but that the porpoise is not threatened and that the government's position is still under study.

We request Governor Brown of California to immediately contact President Carter and Senator Alan Cranston to act to provide relief for the tuna industry by requiring that the Department of Commerce relax its regulations and that the Congress act immediately to amend the 1972 Marine Mammals Act.

35. Foreign Factory Ships

The members of Local 41 and the members of our coastal community of Alaska and Washington State, and their livelihood solely from the processing of fish and shell-fish from the sea. The governments and corporations which control the salmon factory ships and the tuna factory ships within the 200-mile economic zone of the United States employing natives of their own countries or countries other than the US at wages far below US rates.

These operations violate the intent of the 200-mile economic zone extension and pose a great danger to the economic security of all US workers involved in the fish and shellfish industry as well as those employed in the longshore division.

The ILWU goes on record supporting the Alaska Fish and Shellfish Industry Delegation to protest with all other workers employed in the processing industry the linking of special incentives with subsistence and their livelihood, and instructs the Washington office to assist in every way.

Constitutional Changes

In Next Issue
The Number One Problem is Jobs

The number one problem in the immediate past is jobs, or the lack of jobs. According to the conservative economic analysis of the magazine US News and World Report, we need to create no less than 19 million new jobs in just two years for a growing work force and to reduce unemployment to 4% and even 0% if we could.

Not enough, but a step in the right direction. Worse yet, President Carter, apparently swept along on the new tide of anti-Sovietismo, believes that we can have both guns and butter in peacetime. We know this not to be the case. Money spent on the military limits the amount available for needed social programs, contributes to inflation, adds to our spending deficits, and wastes valuable resources. Society is better served by putting the vast sums spent on the military to productive use in the economy. The Coalition for a New Foreign Policy estimates that $13.6 billion cut from non-essential military spending would cost $16,500,000 jobs, but would also mean that millions of people need would create 1,411,000 new jobs.

SHORTER HOURS OF WORK

Finally, one asks, would increased spending in the public sector and the redistribution of military expenditures themselves produce the millions of jobs needed to achieve full employment? We think not. Our economic system may be incapable of providing jobs at union rates of pay for each and every American who is capable of and willing to work. If, however, we then move to shorter hours of work as a means of sharing equally a limited number of jobs, shorter hours demand no less an economic revolution than the full employment program themselves. Currently, the average work week for industrial and service workers ranges from fewer than 40 hours per day, during school vacations, and periodic paid leaves. (The slogan "30 hours work for 40 hours pay" is in effect.) Some workers' schedules must be changed in order to provide full employment. Workers must have the freedom to choose to work fewer hours in exchange for the opportunity to work a shorter work week.

A SOP TO BUSINESS

The proposal to give business further tax credit makes no sense at all. First, in the last 25 years (4.8%) no fewer than 36 million productive people have been abandoned hope of ever finding jobs. Others have taken part-time work because they cannot afford their own insurance benefits had run out for more than 2 years.

The REAL FIGURES

Government statistics alone are not an accurate measure of the actual extent of unemployment. We know that over one million workers who are willing and able to work have simply abandoned hope of ever finding jobs. Others have taken part-time work because full-time jobs aren't available. Thousands of would-be workers were diverted: those who are handicapped or disabled would work if jobs were tailored to fit their particular skills. Those with skills of older workers would jump at the chance for work which is not available. 

The number one problem in the immediate past is jobs, or the lack of jobs. According to the conservative economic analysis of the magazine US News and World Report, we need to create no less than 19 million new jobs in just two years for a growing work force and to reduce unemployment to 4% and even 0% if we could. Not enough, but a step in the right direction. Worse yet, President Carter, apparently swept along on the new tide of anti-Sovietismo, believes that we can have both guns and butter in peacetime. We know this not to be the case. Money spent on the military limits the amount available for needed social programs, contributes to inflation, adds to our spending deficits, and wastes valuable resources. Society is better served by putting the vast sums spent on the military to productive use in the economy. The Coalition for a New Foreign Policy estimates that $13.6 billion cut from non-essential military spending would cost $16,500,000 jobs, but would also mean that millions of people need would create 1,411,000 new jobs.

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