Big Hikes in 3rd Year of Dock Pact

SAN FRANCISCO—As of July 1, 1977, the 1975-1978 ILWU-PMA longshore contract goes into its final year, with substantial improvements in wages, the pay guarantee, pensions and holidays.

Longshore wage rates, effective July 2, are increased by 6½c per hour. It's a big increase—the median wage increase negotiated in the first two weeks of May, 1977, for example, was 4c.

For a longshoreman working six hours' straight time and two hours' overtime the latest increase brings the base rate to $8.37 per hour, providing a wage improvement of $7.45 per hour. For container freight station workers and clerks working a straight 40-hour week, the hourly rate increase is 9½c, bringing the base rate to $9.415 per hour.

This brings guarantee payments for "A" registered longshoremen—figured on a basis of 56 hours at $3.37—up to $301.32 per week. For "B" men who are guaranteed 48 hours, the weekly benefit will be $318.66.

The final year of the agreement also brings in three new paid holidays—Veteran's Day, Washington's Birthday and Memorial Day—bringing the total up to nine.

Effective July 1, 1977, the maximum pension will be increased to $50 per month for those pensioners who retired on or after July 1, 1975. Those who retired before that date, pensions will be increased by $25 per month. Pro rata and widow's pensions will be increased proportionately.

Lifetime welfare plan coverage for all pensioners and widows continues, and includes hospital-medical coverage as well as the prescription drug plan and dental coverage for dependents.

The Coast agreement also sets the pattern for wages and fringes in Hawaii and Alaska.

Auto Beef

Support for Portland Dockers

PORTLAND—"The full weight of the International will be brought to bear" to protect long-held rights and longshore jobs in Portland, Jim Herman told 1,500 applauding dock workers and their families July 5.

The crowd was gathered at Kelly Point Park to commemorate men killed and wounded in the 1934 maritime strike. (See next issue for story and pictures on picnic sponsored by Local 8, which followed the dedication.

"One-half the commitment you have to this community, we would not have this dispute," he added.

The dispute involves ILWU objections to efforts by the Port to sell port property for a new auto facility, to be worked by non-IWU labor in violation of agreements between the union and the port.

Transitions

Outgoing International President Harry Bridges turns over gavel to his successor, Jim Herman.

Cooperating in the changeover were, from left, Secretary-Treasurer Curt McClain, Vice-President George Martin, outgoing Secretary-Treasurer Lou Goldblatt, Herman, Bridges, Vice-President Rudy Rubio and his predecessor, Bill Chester.

New Officers, Board Take Charge

SAN FRANCISCO—With the simple raising of right hands and the swearing of an oath, a new team of titled officers and a new International Executive Board took charge of the ILWU July 6 and got to work.

At the same time three men—Harry Bridges, Lou Goldblatt and Bill Chester—who had guided the International for better than a generation, joined the ranks of union pensioners.

Taking office at the start of the July 6-7 International Board meeting were President Jim Herman (clerks Local 34, San Francisco); Vice-President Assistant to the President Rudy Rubio (longshore Local 13, Wilmington); Vice-President-Director of Organization George Martin (Local 142, Hawaii) and Secretary-Treasurer Curt McClain (warehouse Local 6, San Francisco).

Also sworn in were longshore Coast Committeemen William Ward, Local 13, Wilmington and Dick Wise, Local 8, Portland. The new board members are:

Northern California: Keith Eickman, Local 6, San Francisco; Frank Belleci, Local 34, San Francisco; Willie Zenn, Local 10, San Francisco.


Hawaii: John Arisumi, Reno Colotario, John Uyetake, all of Local 142.

As this issue of The Dispatcher went to press, the Board had upheld the report of the International Balloting committee, verifying the vote of the June 6-10 International election and denying all challenges submitted. The board also heard and accepted reports from the outgoing International officers, and moved on to new business.

A full report of the board's actions will be published in the July 22 issue of The Dispatcher.
The cruise missile is a subsonic, pilotless jet plane—with a range of 1,000 miles, pinpoint accuracy and the capability of flying low enough to avoid radar detection. It can deliver a cluster of nuclear warheads, each of which can be dispatched into a renewed arms race.

The only way this increasing tendency toward a renewal of the cold war can be stopped is if the American people, specifically the American labor movement, can be made to realize how dangerous it is, not only to their lives, but to their pocketbooks. Such a movement is a long way off, but we believe that large sections of the US labor movement, which has thrown the future of the SALT talks into serious doubt, can be made to realize how dangerous it is.

THE CRUISE MISSILE: It is the real fly in the ointment. At the press conference called to announce the end of the B-1 bomber program, Carter stated that the US would speed up development of this new weapon—which has almost by itself caused this entire input into the development of a world anti-war movement. The entire labor movement, can be made to realize how dangerous it is to have this kind of weapon at the disposal of a superpower which would like to see a renewal of the cold war can be stopped is if the American people, specifically the American labor movement, can be made to realize how dangerous it is, not only to their lives, but to their pocketbooks. Such a movement is a long way off, but we believe that large sections of the US labor movement, which has thrown the future of the SALT talks into serious doubt, can be made to realize how dangerous it is.

Looking forward, I want to repeat that I have the fullest confidence in the incoming group of officers. I've known them for years, and I've also understood that we must have a broader vision. Our record in peace, civil rights, and our support and good relations with other unions have stood up in good stead and time again, and have given us more clout than sheer numbers alone would give us. Our new officers are products of this tradition and I know that they intend to carry on.

One other point I'd like to make is that part of this union's strength rests in the fact that while we have understood that the better and broader needs of our own membership come first, we have also understood that we must have a broader vision. Our record in peace, civil rights, and our support and good relations with other unions have stood up in good stead and time again, and have given us more clout than sheer numbers alone would give us. Our new officers are products of this tradition and I know that they intend to carry it on.

Things happen so fast, it's hard to put things in perspective. But I want to conclude by pointing out that while I came to the ILWU 57 years ago, unions were scarcely the power they are today. Few of us really believed that we could win decent wages, a little dignity if we were sick or injured we wouldn't be told to get lost—let alone any secrets or press anything. But a changing world demands a changing world, and we must learn to move with the times.

W e are extremely gratified that President Carter has announced that he has decided to halt work on the $94 billion B-1 bomber project. Although his action can be overturned by Congress, the odds are that his decision would have been allowed to stand.

We won't go over all the arguments again. Suffice it to say that the B-1 bomber was militarily unnecessary, ruinously expensive, and that its development would have been extremely provocative and unnecessarily expensive, called every name under the sun.

We want all the members of this union, active and retired, to know that my life, with all its ups and downs, would have been nothing without them. Sure I got the publicity, the testimonial dinners, the interviews on television, I got to meet with all kinds of famous people. Mainly, I got to play a small part in some of the great events of this century. I was also able to get attacked, red-baited, because, even better, he wanted to send a signal to the World Peace Council, headquartered in Stockholm, that there will be some real trade union input into the development of a world anti-war movement. The entire labor movement should get together to work for such benefits.

We believe that the government has a definite obligation to make some provisions to ease the burden on those workers who will be thrown onto the unemployment rolls—and to the assistance it gives workers displaced by imports. The entire labor movement should get together to work for such benefits.

We would like to be able to report that the President's decision to dump the B-1 was made because he wanted to use the money for peaceful purposes, or because, even better, he wanted to send a signal to the Soviet Union that the US was seriously interested in disarmament.

Unfortunately, that is not the case. His decision, Carter t11 the press, was made on purely technical grounds. According to Secretary of Defense Harold Brown the decision was based solely on the fact that alternative weapons systems—which more or less have been developed to render the B-1 unnecessary. In addition, "the B-1 would have been a more attractive option had it been 30 percent less expensive," said Brown, "but I believe that the technology of the cruise missile played a larger part."

THE CRUISE MISSILE: It is the real fly in the ointment. At the press conference called to announce the end of the B-1 bomber program, Carter stated that the US would speed up development of this new weapon—which has almost by itself caused the breakdown of the US-Soviet negotiations for a new Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty.

The way this increasing tendency toward a renewal of the cold war can be stopped is if the American people, specifically the American labor movement, can be made to realize how dangerous it is, not only to their lives, but to their pocketbooks. Such a movement is a long way off, but we believe that large sections of the US labor movement are ready for it. The action by the 1977 I. L. U. W Convention naming outgoing International President Harry Bridges to the executive body of the World Peace Council, headquartered in Stockholm, is a step in the right direction. This will mark the first time that there will be some real trade union input into the development of a world anti-war movement, and we hope that it will have some bearing on developments in the US.
Canada Longshore Pact Takes Effect

VANCOUVER, B.C.-Canada’s Anti-Infla-
tion Board has declared acceptable the
agreement signed between the Canadian
Area ILWU and the British Columbia
Maritime Employers Association on De-

The agreement, effective Jan-
uary 1, 1977, provided for a wage increase
of 57c an hour on a base rate of $8.03,
bringing the hourly straight rate to
$8.60.

Other changes in the agreement were:

- The employers will contribute $1,500,-
  000 into the Pension Plan in 1977 for un-
  funded liability.

- The employers will contribute an addi-
nal 9c per hour into the Supplementary
Unemployment Benefit Program until such
time as the fund reaches $500,000.

- The 'Union and the employers have
  added a new clause to the 'Union's
  Arbitration (Automation Protection Pro-
  visions) which will now also cover all
  those who have joined the union
  subsequent to August 1, 1962, and who
  are still working and are union members.

- While the wage increase and
  employer contributions are effective Jan-
  uary 1, 1977, it was agreed that they
  would be paid immediately following acceptance
  by the Anti-Inflation Board.

Pine Workers Get Ready

HONOLULU—As the pineapple season
began this month, ILWU Local 142 at the
Pan American Lines, Local 10, and
Local 8 at the International Longshore
and Warehouse Union headquarters in
San Francisco at the request of the
Canadian Longshoremen’s and Harbor
Workers’ Compensation Act and the way it has been adminis-
ted is the interpretative act and the way it has been adminis-
ted has never been so

South Korea

SAN FRANCISCO — Newly organized
ILWU Local 6 members at Duracell, a
subsidiary of Mallory Bat-
ter Company, a division of
Duracell Industrial, which provides a wage increase of between $8.87 and $9.

The first year increase comes to 52.15
per hour across the board, with two mem-
ers getting 50c per hour increases, and five
men earning $1.20 per hour.

Duracell members also won $800 in retro-
active to compensate them for the two
month period of negotiations. Also nego-
tiated were provisions for area health
and welfare, dental, vision, prescription drug
and life insurance; the Local 6 pension plan,
10 holidays in the first year, 11 in the
second; and standard language on
union security, hiring hall, grievance pro-
cedure, and sick pay.

Under the old company health and wel-
fare plan, which applied to the employee
only under one year of service, 10% of
the $48 monthly premium was paid by the
employer.

The negotiating committee consisted of Business Agent Don Ruth and steward
Leo Palileo. Since Local 6 had lost two
previous representation elections before
the final vote, "one of our strong
arguments in negotiations was that if the
employer solved the money that was long
overdue they could well afford these in-
creased wages and benefits," Ruth said.

Big Wage Gains in
Local 9 Contracts

WASHINGTON, D.C.—In a major deci-
dion last month, the US Supreme Court
ruled in favor of the Longshoremen’s and

The Supreme Court ruled on August 1, that the law will cover a worker under the
state system instead of under the federal system, as the ILWU attorneys had predicted.

The insurance carriers tried to claim that
any work they were involved with was not
"maritime employment." "That was not a success in the case as we generally succeeded in winning
more liberal federal benefits," the ILWU attorney said.

Several cases are going to the US Court of Claims to make important gains. Pine delegates said
they were "delighted" with the Court’s de-
cision and "quite happy with the Long-
shore and Harbor Workers’ Compensation
Act and the way it has been adminis-
tered." Ilwulists would be entitled to
their share of the money raised and the
supplies and raised thousands of dollars
for union members who wanted to pitch in.

High Court Upholds Broad Coverage,
Increased Benefits in US Dock Comp

"We must have phone all of them indivi-
ually to tell them 'to report for work or
they’d have on the line before night-
days,'" says negotiating spokesman Hubert
Kinchla. "The participation was really
beautiful. It’s a group of men, and 12 men
ever allowed them to take an active part. Strike commit-
tees were appointed and picketing was
stopped. That’s what gave us the steam we
needed to push through a key benefit —

Cigarette Money

"When I was young, I used to work..." Harris recalls, "Standard Fruit used to give me
bananas and I would take them to the
school. On one visit, one of the children
asked for a second glass of milk, and when I
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"My Longshore Brothers Are Generous"
Beware of White Sales! Don't Buy J. P. Stevens Products!

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court held an Ohio law that denies jobless benefits to workers laid off by strikes, even when the layoffs are due to a strike at another location.

The eight-to-zero ruling overruled a lower court decision and were in favor of employers, whose unemployment taxes rise along with the numbers of their workers collecting benefits.

However, the court didn't indicate how it would rule in the reverse situation, where state law permits benefits to strikers. More than half of the states allow such benefits, although the law took effect in the late 19th century.

In contrast, the Board rolls back only one percent of the price increases submitted to it. And that figure does not include items over which the AIB has no control whatsoever—food, energy and government levies.

SHRINKING STAFF

A continuing shortage of technical staff will also add to OSHA's difficulties in determining long-range health hazards caused by chemicals and toxic substances, Marshall said.

As a result, OSHA's standing with the public plummeted and its policies were reversed against small businesses and other employers.

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Guarantee Claims To Be Made Whole Up to $500

SAN FRANCISCO — The ILWU and the Pacific Maritime Association agreed last week to make whole all coast dock workers with claims against the Cayce St. was set aside by the individual. It was noted that this payment will make whole all workers and claimants paying claims for the 1976-77 contract year. All claimants in Oregon and Washington will be paid in full. During the discussion, 13 longshoremen and 20 men in Southern California have claimed above.

The special payment will be disbursed on July 22, 1977. Payment will be made on an agreed-upon basis. The minimum possible payment is $10 million.

The transfer of the agreement will be made on or about July 22, 1977. Payment will be made from the Cayce St. was set aside for claims against the Cayce St. was set aside by the individual.

Seven of the fourteen seamen voted for the ILWU's program to support dock workers and voted to dump the Cayce St. was set aside by the individual.

The International Brotherhood of Longshoremen and the ILWU have separated the three parties that voted to dump the Cayce St. was set aside by the individual. The ILWU's program to support dock workers and voted to dump the Cayce St. was set aside by the individual. The ILWU's program to support dock workers and voted to dump the Cayce St. was set aside by the individual. The ILWU's program to support dock workers and voted to dump the Cayce St. was set aside by the individual.

Washingon Report

Sen. Gary Hart of Colorado recently proposed an amendment to the energy bill that would require utilities to install low-sulfur coal at existing power plants. The amendment, if adopted, would require utilities to install low-sulfur coal at existing power plants.

The Senate and House will rescind July 11, 1977, over the objections of some members, to be completed in the districts.

Although it's water under the bridge, we were extremely disappointed that the Se- nate majority allowed itself to be stumped by the coal lobby. Nevertheless, the Senate will vote to dump the Dole amendment. Lobbying was intense. A letter signed by ILWU International President Harry Bridges and Teamster President Frank Fitzsimmons, describing the high costs which many observers believe the sugar program if cut, was sent to members of Congress.

Senators Daniel Inouye and Spark Matsunaga also reminded their colleagues who have been watching the sugar industry, and the large number of farmers who depend on it, directly or indirectly.

To no avail. We were unable to overcome Sen. Stennis's argument that the 4% cut would be a step in the right direction.

The Senate voted 78-0 in favor of the sugar amendment. Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon, the sole disappointment, voted for the sugar amendment. Sen. Mark Hatfield of Oregon, the sole disappointment, voted for the sugar amendment.

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SCHOLAR — Pamela Schutt is the winner of this year's scholarship awarded jointly by Longshore Local 4 and ILWU Auxiliary 11. Daughter of a longshoreman, she will attend Clark Community College in Vancouver.

Bill Rutter Dies—Helped Lead 1934 Strike

OAKLAND — Bill Rutter, a 1934 strike leader and President of the San Francisco Pensioners Club, died of a heart ailment June 11. He was 72.

"Bill loved this union and worked hard for it," remembered International President Harry Bridges. "He was an active and important leader in 1934 and every strike we had after that up until his retirement. All of us will miss him very deeply, and extend our deepest sympathies to his family."

Born in 1904 in Missouri, Rutter came to California as a young man, graduated from high school in Sutter County and briefly attended San Jose State College.

Going to work on the waterfront in 1933, Rutter partook in the organizing campaign to bring the ILA back to the West Coast, and was one of the first organized members ever held in San Francisco. During the 1934 strike he was secretary of the East Bay strike committee.

Over the years, Rutter was extremely active in Local 10 affairs, though he never occupied a full-time office. He was a frequent member of the Local 10 executive board, the appeals committee, the investigating committee, a director of the Longshoremen's Memorial Association, and a caucuser and convention delegate.

"The union was his life," recalls his widow, with whom he had made certain to vote in the ILWU Pensioners Club, elected Vice-President in the 1977 strike. During the 1934 strike he was secretary of the East Bay strike committee.

The ILWU Auxiliary

Bill Shepard, Local 32, Everett.

Local 32 Unites Past and Present

EVERETT—Latest addition to the decor at longshore Local 32's hall here is a beautiful retirement board, designed and executed by Bill Shepard, a member of the local.

The small brochure plaques shown above have the names and dates of the men who have retired from Local 32 since 1946, and the large plaque underneath is inscribed with the following:

"We the brothers of Local 32 stand together in bringing to our membership a tie between the past and future members of our union. This is a record of our retired brothers who gave their hearts and the sweat of their brows to build a better place for us. For together we stand and divided we fall."
Log Trade Is
Threatened Again

EUGENE, Ore.—A hearing was held here recently on a bill to ban log exports which hit the dock recently in Congress under the sponsorship of Rep. James Weaver (D-Ore).

The bill would choke off the log shipments to Japan which are the economic mainstay of the Oregon-Washington ports.

ILIWW Northwest Regional Director G. Johnny Parks, testifying before the sub-committee on Public Lands and Indian Affairs, Pacific-Asian Trade Association, said Weaver should consider the fact that in Oregon only one in 30 of the state's trucking jobs was in the woods who otherwise would wind up unemployed.

But even that small amount of log exporting keeps "wage earners doers, in log trucks and in the woods" who otherwise would wind up unemployed.

"I should remind Congressman Weaver," Parks said, "that nearly one-third of the logs exported from his home state cross the docks at Coos Bay, which is in his district. "Our Congressional delegation should turn its attention to maintaining this form of stable economy."

PUT PEOPLE ON BREADLINES

"The Weaver bill would put people in the breadline," said Mrs. Helen Kaunisto, Long Beach, and the small ports on the Sound.

And it would not "create any sawmill jobs," said Parks, stating that he had "an honest difference of opinion on the subject with Denny Scott, who testified in behalf of the bill for the International Woodcarvers of America.

The Weaver bill, HR 6658, which Parks said "hardly one of the logs exported from his home state crosses the docks at Coos Bay, which is in his district. "Our Congressional delegation should turn its attention to maintaining this form of stable economy."

More on Meehan

In deference to the memory of Matt Meehan and the history of his life as a working man and dedicated citizen of the working man, publication of the following image under the photo and caption: "Mason Navigation Company Gate Pass showing a rating of Messman for M.J. Meehan aboard the SS Matsonia, Voyage 115.

Many other interesting items are among Matt Meehan's papers, which the writer intends to preserve.

Thank you for the detailed story on Daddy's life. His dedication was so intense that the ILWU emblem has been made a part of his headstone.

Mickey Meehan"

Among the guest speakers was North- west Regional Director G. Johnny Parks. To his left, Helen Kaunisto, Long Beach.

A partial view of delegates to the ILWU Federated Auxiliaries Convention, held in Portland, June 13-17.

ILA Auxiliary Delegates Chart Plan For Peace, Full Employment, Security

PORTLAND— Forty delegates from union locals across Oregon, Washington and Alaska attended the ILWU, Federated Auxiliaries Convention at the Holiday Inn here, June 13-17.

In her opening address Auxiliary Presi- dent Dawn Rutter warned against the possibility of the US again "becoming involved in somebody else's war," and the dangers posed by nuclear weapons and power plants.

The convention later passed a resolution calling for a worldwide ban against nuclear weapons. But it declined, after heated debate, to call for a moratorium against construction of nuclear plants.

MANY RESOLUTIONS

In other actions, the women called for prohibition of biochemical weapons; stopping the 1978-1980 tax reform of supply and national defense; taking saccharin off the drug list; a 50 percent reduction in coffee-buying to bring prices down; defeat of a log ban introduced in Congress by Rep. James Weaver, Ore., which North-west delegates said would cut off log exports to Japan "essential to the economy of the Cana- dian border."

The convention also supported establishment of a National Consumer Protection Agency; passage of the Equal Rights Amendment; labeled passage of the 1977 "sugar-coated wheat" of S. 1; pledged continued support of Handymen outlets in California and Oregon; and demanded return of the postal service to its former status in accordance with President Carter's Executive order.

Trillia Fox, Legislative and Political Di- rector of the Oregon AFL-CIO, was a fea- tured speaker at one of the three lunches hosted for the delegates by area locals.

"Many working people aren't registered and fail to vote," Ms. Fox said. "Unemployment and a mobile work force make it difficult, but an ERA registration in some states has been accomplished by employer attempts to rip off rights previously won by women as equal to men in temporary overtime and rest breaks. But the way to "keep women workers from losing rights already won at state level," is not through turning back the clock hands of history, but by "seeing that the ERA is carefully extended also to men workers, and through support of ERA, we can avoid compromise agreements," the resolution said.

In two other actions, the convention passed resolutions against red-lining in residential areas; and a resolution condemning commercial fishing for repeaters of serious crimes.

Auxiliary reports reflected a wide range of involvement in civic and community affairs, as well as in fund raising for handicapped work shops, nursing centers and work for blood banks and seamers' centers. A number of auxiliaries sponsor scholarships. TWIN HAVE FOLDEN

Two auxiliaries have folded since the 1975 convention in Torrance, California, including ILWU's first chartered auxiliary (North Bend). A poll of delegates, following a report to the convention by Auxiliary President Dawn Rutter, head of the organizing committee, indi- cated that 80% of the local auxiliaries, including Boron and Vancouver. An auxil- iary was recently organized in Hawaii, it was reported, but not yet chartered in the Federated.

In Northern California, Auxiliary 4, the youngest delegate present, served on the press convention committee with Emma Phillips, West Coast District. Auxiliary 4 has enabled convention news to zero in on community issues.

Newly elected Federated Auxiliary offi- cers are Dawn Rutter, President; Veva Phillips, First Vice President; Lucy Southern California Vice-President; Mar- garet Pryor, Northern California Vice- President; Betty Arnold, Washington State Vice-President; Frances Grassi, Secre- tary; Gladysne Hoover, Treasurer.
Big Step Forward For Richmond Container Port

RICHMOND, Calif.—A major step in the creation of a new container port on the east side of the Port last week when the Richmond City Council approved acquisition of 900 acres of land from the Santa Fe railroad for use as a marina and as back-up land for a new container terminal.

Acquisition of back-up land was considered necessary for the smooth functioning of the new container terminal, to be operated by Matson, now under construction. (See Dispatcher, November 19, 1976.) Total investment in the Port is $12 billion.

In a separate development, the University of California removed another roadblock from port development by agreeing to give up its claim on port space used for book storage in exchange for assistance in finding another location. If a tentative agreement is approved, some 54 acres will become available for the expansion of container facilities. Assemblyman John Knox, who initiated the settlement, reported last week.

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Herman accused the Port administration of “covering up some ugly designs on our sit- ies,” and on “rights that are inviolate,” some of them won “in the struggles we have made over the years.” He held the Port’s public “believe that the dispute (cen- tered on the proposed new auto facility at Terminal 6) on the Columbia—less than a mile from the port where Herman spoke—is with the Teamsters. That flatly is not so. There is no dispute between our Union and the workers in any other union.”

The Port wants to disregard the “com- munity of people who work here,” and “they’re selling us down the drain,” someone not being done in any other part on this Coast—a slicker to deprive workers of their livelihood.

He made it clear ILWU is not interested in “verbal gymnastics” and “getting into an adversarial relationship” with the Port. The locals are prepared to sit down peace- fully and resolve the matter. But Port officials think they can “grind our mem- bership into the dust. They had better get back to the drawing board.”

INJUNCTION

At July 6 hearing in US District Court, Local 8 President Don Ronne and clerks Local 40 secretary Larry Clark testified that there was and is no slowdown. The workers were observed strict safety rules and regulations as provided by OSHA and the Pacific Coast Marine Safety Code to which the Port of Portland is a party.

On decision handed down that same afternoon, Judge Edward Leavy granted an injunction, but ruled that nothing in the ruling serves to be construed as a binding of employers or their grantee. The injunction was requested by the re- gional director of the National Labor Re- lations Board, pursuant to a complaint filed with the board on behalf of the Port of Port- land. A hearing on the complaint will be held in the near future but no decision is expected for several months.

Maintenance Workers Join ILWU in Canada

VANCOUVER, B.C.—Representatives of Local 1580, Canadian Labour Congress, voted unanimously recently to affiliate with the ILWU in Canada.

The nine members involved are em- ployees of the Coast Marine Safety and Health Service and perform maintenance work on the Princess Patricia, Trailer Princesse and Princess Victoria of Vancouver.

Representative Treff, CLC western repre- sentative, and Canadian Area Secretary Treffer told delegates to the ILWU and the members in attendant.

The existing agreement for this group has expired and negotiations will commence May 31.

The ILWU welcomed the new members and expresses thanks to William Smalley of the ILA for his assistance.

Oregon Legislators Honor Bridges

SALEM—The House of Representatives of the Oregon Legislature has passed a resolution honoring Harry Bridges.

The resolution, sponsored by Represen- tative Jim Creast, and passed by 47 to 77, said Bridges not only has been instrumental in organizing the ILWU and fighting for a higher wage for longshoremen and warehouse workers, but “has sought to preserve the rights of the individual worker in his long career as a leader of organized labor” and been “outspoken in his efforts to achieve disarmament and peace and to secure civil rights and civil liberties for all without regard to race, creed, sex or national origin.”

Representative Creast is a member of Clerks Local 40, Portland.

One of those voting “aye” was Rep. Theodore Bugay, D-Portland, a 25-year ILWU agent who, at one time, reportedly con- ducted an “investigation” of the interna- tionally known labor leader under the infamous Smith Act.

Bargaining Will Work

WASHINGTON, D.C.—With a pledge to keep on the track of compromise even more effectively, Wayne L. Horvitz was sworn in as the ninth director of the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Mr. Horvitz is one of two men who have been chief mediators for the Matson lines. He worked very closely with the ILWU and has an excel- lent understanding of the longshoreman-pro- labor thing’s problems.

In remarks following acceptance of his appointment, Mr. Horvitz said, “Increasingly we hear the cry that our industry is in need of union and management, that the collective bargaining system is no longer equal to the task. We are told that the courts—not the parties or the arbitrators—must resolve what the parties or the administration can no longer resolve without challenge.

Horvitz rejected all these arguments, saying that "collective bargaining is still alive and it is functioning pretty well. It may get battered from time to time, but it keeps coming back—because there is no other mechanism that can do its job."

Newly elected members of the longshore committee council sworn in at Dick Wiese, Local 8, Portland (at left) and incumbent Bill Ward, Local 13, Wilmington (second from right).

Executive Secretary Avery A. Thorn, left, and President William C. "Bill" Lach, right, with the new executive board of Local 8.

Support Portland Locals

Vita Signs: a look at the US economy

The Wage-Price Spiral Revisited

Do rapid wage rises really benefit work- ers? At the conservative Bank for Interna- tional Settlements, that’s like asking if crime really pays. Higher wages are sup- posed to drive prices up, too, so that work- ers don’t end up with any gain at all.

To the BIS’s embarrassment, though, workers “are now demanding—annually that factory workers often have scored the highest gains in “real” earnings in indus- trial countries where wages have soared the most in recent years.”

The US isn’t one of them. Last year’s 7% average factory wage rise was one of the non-Communist world’s lowest, yielding 2.2% in “real” terms, after stripping away the effects of price inflation.

Spain is at the other end of the spect- rum. A torrid 32.7% wage rise kept work- ers well ahead of 10.9% inflation, so that they scored a solid 10.6% real gain, far above any other major nation. Nor are there such gains a one-time fluke in Spain: in the five-year period, wages boost averaging 16.6% yearly translated into real gains of 7.5% annually.

Similar experiences in other nations help explain continued trade union opposition to “moderate” settlements. Canada’s 13.8% wage rise last year netted a 6.7% real rise, while the US 4.5% five-average advance noted a lesser 3.8% average real rise. Double-digit wage boosts brought real advances in the 4%-to-6% range in Den- mark, Italy and France last year.

Workers in the nations most noted for wage behavior didn’t fare as well. West Germany’s 6.6% pay rise in 1976 equaled a real 2.6% gain, while Swit- zerland’s minimal 1.7% overall annual gain in an even more minimal 0.4% real rise. It is “sad, but true,” says a Swiss an- alyst, “that union restraint isn’t instantly rewarded and that ambitious wage de- mands don’t quickly prove self-defeating.”

True Unemployment Figure

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The Bureau of Labor Statistics reported that the national unemployment rate dropped to 6.9 percent in May from 7 percent the month before, its lowest level in two-and-one-half years.

But the AFL-CIO warns that the govern- ment’s figures “are highly consistent unemploy- ment” and the May figures are no excep- tion.

“Our test of unemployment, which includes the discouraged to seek work and half of the number forced to work part-time because full-time jobs are not available, shows actual unemployment at 9.6 percent,” or 7.5 million people.