Regarding the pension plan, it's important to note that the normal retirement age is reduced from 65 to 63, with no actuarial reduction of benefits. Retirees age 63 or younger will be cut back by $10 per month per year of service, up to a maximum of $50. Beneﬁts for current pensioners are increased by $96 per month per year of service, bringing the maximum beneﬁt after 35 years to $337.50.

The pension improvements also cover those retiring on or after June 1 who are increased by an amount of $1 to a level of $350. Beneﬁts for current pensioners are increased by $96 per month per year of service, bringing the maximum beneﬁt after 35 years to $337.50.

The pension improvements also cover all independent employers signatory to the ILWU contractor agreement got under way May 9. On the ILWU side of the table are, from left, Bill Luch, Local 8; Coast Committee research, Evelyn Wakefeld, International President Jim Herman, Vice-President Rudy Rubic, Coast Committeeman Bill Ward and John Pandora, Local 13. Behind them are theﬁghters, a “powerhouse,” to be observed between June 1, 1979 and May 31, 1979.

Showdown Time On Labor Law Bill
WASHINGTON, DC — With President Carter pledging “strong and constant” support, organized labor and the Demo- cratic leadership took their labor law re- form package to the Senate floor May 18, determined to push the bill through despite massive opposition from a well-greased corporate lobby.

Debate promises to be long and bitter. Senator Orrin Hatch (R-Ut) who has been leading the opposition, has already given notice that he will lead a filibuster on the second debate on the second try are there, say the bill’s spon- sors. Adds Senate Democratic whip Alan Cranston (D-Ca): “we’ll keep going until we get cloture.” Referring to the possibility that opponents would attempt to amend the bill to death, Cranston prom- ised that “we won’t pull it back.” We will grind away at the amendments. We will keep fighting until we get passage of this bill.

Northern Cal Warehouse

Big Pension, Wage Gains Due June 1
SAN FRANCISCO — Members of ILWU warehouse Locals 6 and 17 who are con- versed by the Northern California master warehouse agreement will beneﬁt from major pension, wage and other improve- ments effective June 1.

These improvements were won in the 1976 round of bargaining — marked by a 24-day strike — between the ILWU-IBT Northern California Warehouse Council and several employer associations. The Council negotiates on behalf of ILWU and Teamster warehouse locals between Pres- no and the Oregon border.

RETIREMENT AGE LOWERED

In a major breakthrough on pensions, normal retirement age is reduced from 65 to 63, with no actuarial reduction of beneﬁts. Retirement age 63 is, how- ever, not compulsory.

In other pension improvements, beneﬁts for those retiring on or after June 1 are increased by an amount of $1 to a level of $350 per month per year of service, up to a maximum of $50. Beneﬁts for current pensioners are increased by $96 per month per year of service, bringing the maximum beneﬁt after 35 years to $337.50.

The pension improvements also cover all independent employers signatory to the Distribution Association Warehouseman’s Pension Plan.

Also effective June 1, wages are in- creased by 25¢ per hour. An additional 25¢ per hour of living increase will bring the total wage increase to 75¢ per hour. This brings the base rate for ware- house freight handlers to $9.10 per hour. The final improvement is one additional holiday, a “float,” to be observed between June 1, 1979 and May 31, 1979.

In California — Vote ‘No’ on 13 June 6
It’s a disaster, any way you look at it.

Proposition 13, if it gets past California voters June 6, will wipe out thousands — some say hundreds of thousands — of jobs.

Proposition 13 — if it passes — will cripple or eliminate a vast array of public services — security, health, recreation, education, and more.

Nobody in their right mind can doubt that. The proponents of Proposition 13 freely admit that it’s intended to do. How can you cut property taxes unless you get rid of the programs and the services (and the people that run them) that property taxes support?

The alternative is just as clear-cut. If you don’t trim the serv- ices, you’ll have to increase every other form of taxation to pay for them. That means, mostly, the sales tax and your income tax.

One way or another somebody pays. The question is who?

The answer is you — the everyday, garden variety of homeowners or workers.

You’ll pay for it in crippled public services. Schools will be forced to cut back. Police and fire protection will have to be trimmed. Public health services will have to be reduced.

Continued on Page 4

Continued on Page 8
Convocation Necessary

Machinists Hit Military Overspending

William W. Winpisinger, president of the International Association of Machinists, is urging his members in a national campaign to convert our military-oriented, war-time economy to a peacetime, people-related economy. Speaking in Washington recently before members of a coalition for a new foreign and military policy, Winpisinger said that much of our economic and defense thinking is based on a false premise. That premise, the IAM President explains, is that if we keep fattening our defense budget, we will somehow achieve a decisive and final edge of superiority over all adversaries. Winpisinger labeled this premise "shallow."

"We spend more, for more and newer weapons. The Soviets do the same trick to us. That forces us to spend more to get ahead again. The Soviets catch up again. In the world of the future, both US and Soviet defense planners, the future never arrives. The imperative is to spend more now."

PUBLIC WORKS

Winpisinger likened our military defense program to a "giant public works program."

"Some two million skilled crafts people are machinists, mechanics, assemblers, laborers, engineers, office and clerical personnel and middle management personnel. All have a direct interest in defense production and are dependent on it for their paychecks and livelihoods."

Winpisinger questioned why this nation would convert its entire industry into an awesome war machine in the 1940's and be able to convert to a full employment peacetime economy in a similarly efficient and smooth manner. He outlined the dilemma facing American workers today:

"A DEMANDING EXPERIENCE" I have seen the frustration experienced by thousands of defense workers who were trained uniquely, who were quite free from the specter of nuclear holocaust and the strain of the arms race converging, when they are faced with a plant base closing, or a production shutdown, they are forced to march arm-in-arm with their employer . . . and beg for their jobs. It's a compromising and personally demeaning experience.

"This is where economic conversion comes in. Simply put, economic conversion means planning now to avoid unemployment and loss of income and benefits in the future when a defense plant or program is cut back or terminated."

"Conversion," he said, "means converting idle defense and military plant and equipment to civilian and socially useful production. It means the possibility of building railroads, mass transit systems, houses, and solar energy systems. It would provide real employment, rather than unemployment when defense work stops."

Winpisinger pledged full IAM support for conversion and legislation expected to be introduced in Congress this fall.

"Hopefully, we are on the move toward economic conversion. Without it a new foreign and military policy in this country probably isn't possible. And if that's true, then peace and prosperity probably aren't achievable either."

ILO Makes Do After US Withdrawal

The International Labor Organization, an agency of the UN, is supposed to serve the public interest of countries by finding ways to distribute income and land reforms. But when they are faced with a plant closing, or a production shutdown, they are forced to march arm-in-arm with their employer, and beg for their jobs. It's a compromising and personally demeaning experience. This is where economic conversion comes in. Simply put, economic conversion means planning now to avoid unemployment and loss of income and benefits in the future when a defense plant or program is cut back or terminated. Conversion," he said, "means converting idle defense and military plant and equipment to civilian and socially useful production. It means the possibility of building railroads, mass transit systems, houses, and solar energy systems. It would provide real employment, rather than unemployment when defense work stops."

Winpisinger pledged full IAM support for transfer and conversion legislation expected to be introduced in Congress this fall.

"Hopefully, we are on the move toward economic conversion. Without it a new foreign and military policy in this country probably isn't possible. And if that's true, then peace and prosperity probably aren't achievable either."

The ILO makes a demand for inflation in the industrial nations cannot be solved by more unemployment and that short-term financial aid to developing nations is needed in the developing countries.

HOW ILO COULD HELP

The world prohibits a declaration at a time when the US Department of Labor is studying "let's go it alone" proposals to take low wage industries operating in working conditions into account when the US negotiates international trade agreements. Labor Secretary Marshall states that this approach would help protect US industry and jobs from unfair foreign competition.

This is an issue that has been and should continue to be discussed in the international forum of the ILO. The tri-partite structure of the ILO consisting of government, labor and management organizations should be the key international body to solve the complex problem of international economic stagnation.

The United States, more than ever, must regain the ILO and assume its responsible role in the international forum designed to protect the welfare of working people throughout the world. Solidarity rather than separation can assure success of the basic humanitarian goals fostered by the members of the ILO.
Local 142 Delegates Stress Unity At Hawaii Longshore Caucus

HONOLULU—A statewide Hawaii ILWU dock caucus, April 15-19, drafted demands for new agreements which have already been sent to the employers. Present agreements expire June 30, the same as those on the West Coast.

The caucus was attended by delegates from longshore, clerks, bulk sugar and natives in four islands.

Local 142 President Carl Damaso and Regional Director Robert McElrath told delegates it is important for all groups to maintain unity in negotiations. Hubert Kanamoto reported on the West Coast caucus, which he and Damaso attended. He said West Coast demands reflect concern over low wages, pensions and other fringe benefits.

NEGOTIATORS
The caucus elected Joe Soares chairman and Howard Tanaka secretary of the full and negotiating committees. International president Jim Herman will lead the union team here along with Damaso. Also elected to the Hawaii negotiating subcommittee were, for bulk sugar, Richard Matsumoto (Oahu), and Charles Aiona (Kauai); for clerks, Takso Hirotsuna (Maui) for longshore, John Smith (Hilo), Joe Kawamura (Maui), Kazuto Yoshimitsu (Kauai).

Security Officers
Ten Local 160 security officers, mostly on their own off-day, observed the longshore caucus. They reviewed for the delegates demands which they had drafted earlier. Their negotiating committee will be Virgil Akuna, Nelson Ledward, George Beckley and Phyllis Lee, assisted by president Borick Peroff.

Southern Africa Conclave June 10

A delegated trade union conference on the issue that will be held June 18, 1978. The ILWU shipclerks Local 34 headquarters, 4 Berry Street, San Francisco. Registration begins at 8:30 and the conference will start promptly at 9 a.m.

The purpose of the conference is to discuss ways to develop labor support for black workers and others in South Africa, Rhodesia (Zimbabwe)纳米比亚 in their fight for self-determination, free trade unions and civil rights.

Specifically, the conference will declare that since "the primary supporter of the South African Government is the United States," the labor movement in the US must move to end US support of the present Southern African governments, put economic pressure on US companies doing business in South Africa, encourage unions to investigate the South African connection of the pension and welfare trusts which they participate in, and encourage financial and moral support of the trade union movement in South Africa.

The conference, initiated by the ILWU Local 6 and Local 10 Southern Africa Support Port Committees, is sponsored by a wide variety of local unions, including teachers, typographers, hospital workers, machinists, transport workers, public workers and others.

Sugar Caucus Set
HONOLULU—ILWU Local 140 will hold a Sugar caucus on Thursday and Friday, September 7 and 8, 1978. The caucuses will be for the purpose of drafting contract proposals. The present agreements expire on January 31, 1979.

Local Secretary-Treasurer Newton Miura adds that all sugar stevedores and sugar clerical units should meet as soon as possible for the purpose of discussing proposals to be submitted to the caucus for consideration. Units should submit proposals to their respective divisions no later than August 8, 1978.

Local 9 Organizing
Local 9 won an ILWU election at Unit-11, Northwest, April 30. The Committee is located in Tulalip.

Joe Arguello was responsible for this lead, and will be the first member to receive a $50 award.

Better Days Ahead For Stockton Port

STOCKTON—Things are looking up at the Port of Stockton since the advent of new port administration, according to warehouse Local 6 Business Agent Nick Jones.

"In years past I have felt that our members always tried to keep the best for the port under whoever was port director. But since the arrival of Alex Krygsman as our new port director, it all seems to be happening all over again," Jones said in an interview in the port's magazine Port Soundings.

Krygsman, said Jones, "has injected a new pride and spirit ... He knows the business and he knows what he is doing."

Your contract at work

As for the present day hardship of asbestos workers, Jones said, "we are just one of the parties to the contract. That's because the union won an extremely important arbitration back in July of 1976 (NC 49-76, July 16, 1976). The arbitration took place on the SS Mactol Majella, one of the Mexican vessels that berthed at Pier 50."

Jones said the gang was working asbestos, but as the holdmen dug down they noticed small pockets and clumps of asbestos in the coamings, sweatboard, strongback, etc. When they alerted the camera men in the hatch four voyages prior to the one in question.

Gang steward Herb Mills and Business Agent Richard Austin contacted Chemclad, the asbestos supplier, and were told that the hatch should be vacated by workers equipped with self-contained respirators and equipped and the men walking would stir up more than enough asbestos to constitute a definite hazard."

He ordered that the ship be cleaned as recommended by Chemclad and that the asbestos be chemically removed. With this arbitration, we've got a whole new set of procedures, we just step work and contact the union.

More on Asbestos See Page 5

Fishing Workers Fight to Preserve Processing Jobs

JUNEAU—Alaskan fish processing workers are in an important fight to protect their jobs against efforts by US, Japanese and Korean companies to assign their work to lower-paid foreign nationals.

Mary Burns, local president of the ILWU for local 41 has protested to the US Labor Department against the consideration of their own citizens of temporary work permits to South Korean nationals who will reside on a "factory ship" in territorial waters processing fish purchased from US fishermen.

Local 41, which represents the majority of workers at the western Alaskan longliner fleet, has a strong position against foreign "factory ships" in coastal waters to process Alaska fish with low-wage labor. See story at left.

Local 9 Begins Major Contract Negotiations

SEATTLE—Warehouse Local 9 has begun negotiations for new contracts at its major houses—Fisher Mills, Salmon Terminals and the Port of Seattle.

Negotiations are headed up by Local 9 Secretary-Business Agent Mike Frith.

The 80 members of the ILWU Local 9 part of Seattle are represented by John Kurlock, Rod Edson, Fred Hawley and alternate Walt Coby; the committee representing 60 members at Salmon Terminals consists of Tom Grumme, Pat Crosby and Fred Stern; the 52 Local 9 members at Fisher Mills have named Bob Jenson, Curt Castonia and Bruce Hedrick to the negotiating committee.

The contracts at all three houses expire July 1.

Local 9 is also negotiating separately with the overwhelming majority of its employers for improvements in health and welfare programs. The negotiating committee will consist of one shop steward from each unit with Cliff Shoa representing the retired members.

Some 350 members are covered by the local's health and welfare trust. Among other improvements sought is making a vision care plan, a large increase in dental benefits and improved benefits for retirees.

May 19, 1978
Continental Grain Fined $47,000 in Worker Deaths

DAHLAS—The federal government May 16 recommended that Continental Grain Co. be fined more than $47,000 for "willful" health and safety violations at a Westgo station, L., grain plant that exploded last December killing 36 persons. The Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration's regional officials and the parties proposed that $40,000 for five alleged willful violations, $7,300 for 16 serious violations and $100 for one of three violations of a category other than willful, serious or non-serious categories. 

An OSHA official said Continental had 15 days to appeal or pay the fines. If Continental appealed, the case would be heard by the independent Occupations Safety and Health Review Commission. The delinquent cited by OSHA included allegations that Continental failed to exercise proper safety precautions while using compressed air to blow dust from around machines on the roof of the grain company's headoffice. The December explosion killed 36 workers. It was centered at the 250-foot beam-office, located along the Mississip River five miles above New Orleans. The blast destroyed the headoffice and blew the roof off the factory at the $100 million grain complex. Another violation alleged by OSHA was that Continental failed to provide "adequate means for removal of static electrical charge from the conveyor belt. "Among the 10 alleged serious violations, four were cited under the occupational electric code," said a OSHA spokesman. Mine Tragedies

Six members of the United Mine Workers died on the job in five separate accidents during the first three-week period in which the mines were resuming operations to get the mines in safe condition for production and not taking adequate precautions to get the mines in safe condition after the mine closing at the 11-day strike.

Law Reform Month Marked in Seattle

SEATTLE—April was observed in Seat- tle as Labor Reform Month by proclama- tion of the mayor. Roy Noble, P, president of the Seattle Business and Professional Men's Association, and outspoken advocate of the reform legis- lation pending on Congress. The rights of the union-banned by law are denied to many citizens today, Roy noted. "As a union man, he declared, "it is in the interest of the citizens of Seattle and Americans everywhere that these rights be guaranteed to all.

Supporters Optimistic as Debate on Labor Law Reform Begins in Senate

Continued from Page 1—

I don't think they missed a single possible oppponent of the bill in our state. President Carter has charged the business community with "grossly distorted" attack on the measure. "It's not right that unfair procedural delays be used against American workers in labor disputes," he told labor leaders who visit- ed the White House last week, "and that's what's happening." AFL-CIO and Independent unions have also mounted a concerted lobbying and grass-roots pressure campaign to put the bill over, and are fundamentally optimis- tic that they can beat the filibuster and pass the bill. "This is the final crunch," according to Victor Kamber, director of the AFL-CIO's Task Force on Labor Reform Law. "We must continue to demonstrate to the mem- bers of the Senate that there is broad pub- lic support." He urged individual tele- phone letters and visits to Senators demanding the defeat of the filibuster and support of the Labor Law Reform bill without crippling amendments.

Printing Industry Plots to 'De-Unionize'

Sixty employers met secretly here last December in a con- spiratorial atmosphere to plot how to get rid of unions in the printing trades. An "inside" report of the employers' "deunionizing" tactics — including bargaining to impasse strategy — was revealed recently by Kenneth Brown, President of the Graphic Arts International Un- ion. "The right-wing group of the Master Printers Association of America has captured the printing trade's leadership," he charged.

Ignoring decades of established good faith bargaining relationships with PIAs union members, the employer drive was prompted by the union Master Printers sections of PIAs, "in order to get rid of the unions in the PIA union division at a time when the industry's vigorous comeback economy permits it in an effort to afford the benefits its employees de- serve," Brown declared.

Details of the secret meeting run by the Master Printers Association of Chicago and major firms from Cleveland and other former union organizer who was in- vited to "be a business executive." Wilson revealed: 

Employers' shoule plan well in advance for a union-busting strike, including secretly moving equipment six to nine months in advance to other plants in the case of multi-plant opera- tions.

Know which employees will cross the picketline. "Maintain communica- tions" with employers who are leading the decertification movement.

Strike insurance is vital (and available) to cover property losses and last profits.

The Mutual Assistance Plans (MAPS) provide help whereby a struck employee can afford the benefits it's workers.

This is the reason for the meeting being held in "secret," Wilson said. I don't think they missed a single possible oppponent of the bill in our state. President Carter has charged the business community with "grossly distorted" attack on the measure. "It's not right that unfair procedural delays be used against American workers in labor disputes," he told labor leaders who visit- ed the White House last week, "and that's what's happening." AFL-CIO and Independent unions have also mounted a concerted lobbying and grass-roots pressure campaign to put the bill over, and are fundamentally optimis- tic that they can beat the filibuster and pass the bill.

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Seven Growers Sign Contracts With UFW

FRESNO—The United Farm Workers announced May 8 that it had reached con- tract agreements with seven table-grape growers at Delano, California. 16 recommended that Continental failed to provide "adequate means for removal of static electrical charge from the conveyor belt. "Among the 10 alleged serious violations, four were cited under the occupational electric code," said an OSHA spokesman. Mine Tragedies

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Sugar Industry, Set Fair Wage Floor

WASHINGTON - The US sugar market was limited under the 1974 Sugar Act, under a quota system designed to stabilize US prices. The Sugar Act was allowed to lapse in 1974 as part of a reaction against a rising price of sugar.

With the removal of federal protection, the US market was flooded and domestic prices fell drastically. Finally, in 1977, thanks to the efforts of a sugar coalition of unions and employers put together in large part by the ILWU, Congress established a series of programs to support domestic sugar. Under the 1974 Sugar Act, Congress established a series of programs to support domestic sugar. Under the 1974 Sugar Act, Congress established a series of programs to support domestic sugar. Under the 1974 Sugar Act, Congress established a series of programs to support domestic sugar.

Given this uncertainty, Senate Bill 2990 has been introduced by Sen. Frank Church (D-ID) and 33 co-sponsors to provide:

- Maintenance of a viable domestic sugar industry
- Employment of workers providing the larger part of sugar consumed in the United States
- An increase in the welfare of consumers and producers in providing supplies of sugar which can be consumed at fair prices in the United States and in the world market

In addition to these prices and supply objectives through cooperation with sugar producing and consuming countries under the framework of the International Sugar Agreement and the operation of a complementary import management program.

- The promotion of the export trade of the US sugar producing countries of the world.

The ILWU's Stake

In presenting the ILWU's testimony, Tobin reminded the subcommittee that ILWU sugar workers, he pointed out, are the highest paid in the world, had made since Congress failed to renew the Sugar Act in 1974.

SUGAR ACT LAPSE

Until that time, foreign producers' accounts of the American sugar market were limited under the 1933 Sugar Act, under a quota system designed to stabilize US prices. The Sugar Act was allowed to lapse in 1974 as part of a reaction against a rising price of sugar.

The International Sugar Agreement, signed in October 1977 designed to set a world price range of 11 to 21 per pound through a complicated system of buffer stocks and export quotas, and would produce the desired US price of 13.5c per pound once shipping costs, duties and insurance are added.

Tobin asked that S. 2990 be modified, according to Matsunaga, "about how soon its intended stabilizing effects will be realized in the light of continuing surpluses of world sugar stocks."

ILWU Local 142 sugar workers in Hawaii are among the best paid agricultural workers in the world, but thousands of their jobs continue to be threatened by instability of US sugar prices.

Japen Fears Worldwide Depression, Trade War

The danger of a world depression—and the political and military disasters to which it might give rise—are very much on the minds of Japanese leaders today. Nobushige Usiba, Japan's Minister of External Economic Affairs, says he sees an alarming parallel between world economic conditions today and those at the start of the Depression of the 1930s. He is particularly worried about the threat of the fragility of the world monetary system with an unstable dollar.

"There is no question," he said, "that the Depression led to World War II. How can we prevent a recurrence of that tragic sequence of events is the dominant worry of Japan's Government."

"There's room for optimism on the part of either developed or developing countries," Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda told Congress, "I am deeply concerned that unless we find a way out of this situation we may develop world stability and peace are endangered."

Mr. Usiba said that Japan's worry was that, in the present disordered state of the world economy, country after country might be driven to take protectionist measures, with a ruinous impact on world trade.

"Did he think the United States was moving in that direction?"

"There is much protectionist talk in Congress," he said, "but the present Carter Administration is not protectionist."

Mr. Usiba has worked closely with Robert S. Strauss, President Carter's trade negotiator, and feels that his aim is to contain protectionist pressures by giving ground when necessary but not surrendering liberal trade principles.

Inflation to Continue

Drastic Drop in US-USSSR Trade

The biggest drop was in sales of US farm products to the USSR—which were 29.8% lower than 1976's total. This was 2.5 billion, which was 26.5% lower than 1976's total turnover of $1.4 billion.

More on Asbestos
See Page 3

"One by one, just about all the men who worked with me at that place have died. Mostly they just seemed to stop breathing."

Drastic Drop in US-USSSR Trade

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Asbestos is a killer, "with the most dangerous and insidious substances known in the workplace, according to US Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph Califano.

The whisk fibers of the widely used insulator and flame retardant are nearly indestructible when inhaled, they lodge in the lungs and within 20 to 25 years produce detectable scar tissue known as asbestosis. Asbestosis makes the lung tissue more inelastic and permanently non-elastic. Victims find mild exertion impossible.

Insulation and exposure to asbestos also causes lung cancer, gastrointestinal cancer and mesotheliomas, a rare and inoperable form of cancer in the chest and abdominal membrane.

Around half a million US workers, currently work directly with asbestos, another three million are exposed to the substance on their jobs in construction, shipbuilding, the chemical industry, roofing, textiles, cement, etc. Old time longshoremen can recall wading up to their ankles in the stuff years ago when it used to come in paper sacks which frequently broke in passage; warehousemen in at least one California 6 hour warehouse were exposed to asbestos years ago until the company stopped.

INDUSTRY FOUGHT OSHA

Asbestos manufacturing is big business—about $1 billion per year for companies like Johns-Manville. The industry fought bitterly against government regulation, but was unable to block the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, which it might give rise—are very much on the minds of Japanese leaders today. Nobushige Usiba, Japan's Minister of External Economic Affairs, says he sees an alarming parallel between world economic conditions today and those at the start of the Depression of the 1930s. He is particularly worried about the threat of the fragility of the world monetary system with an unstable dollar.

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Inflation to Continue

The Carter economic game plan envisaged some of this situation, even though it hopes to pick away at the rate by 0.5 percentage point a year through a so-called voluntary anti-inflation program.

Consumer prices closed out the year with a December rise at a monthly seasonally adjusted annual rate, according to the Labor Department. It was a welcome report, coming a week after the surprisingly good news that unemployment dropped in December to 6.4% of the labor force, the lowest level in more than three years.

But, Labor Department chief economist Courtney Slater cautioned. "The basic rate is still near 6% and so I expect to see some pickup in rates in the coming year faster than they were last year."
MATT DUGGAN

Matt Duggan, 56, former president of longshore Local 19, died April 30 in a boating accident. The funeral was held April 29.

"Matt was a loyal supporter of the ILWU. He devoted his life to building this union and keeping it strong. He held many offices and was looked up to by the membership as a solid, reliable leader," said Local 19 Secretary-Treasurer Del Castle. "His important contribution will be badly missed."

Duggan went to work on the Seattle waterfront in 1946, and over the next three decades served on the Local 19 executive board labor relations committee, and as vice-president. He was a frequent delegate to the International Convention and longshore caucuses. He served as President of Local 19 in 1977.

Matt is survived by his wife, Margie, and two sons, Jim and Tom.

Local 26 Honors Neal Pettibone

LOS ANGELES — Friends of Neal Pettibone gathered on Friday, March 31 at Gates Rubber Company's warehouse and office to say goodbye on his retirement.

After 21 years of service with the company, Neal decided to take an early re- tirement because of his health.

Neal has a long history of activity as a member of ILWU Local 26. Over the past 10 years, 1945 to 1954, he worked for Zellerbach Paper Company and was Chief Steward for the Union. He was also editor of a Union bulletin published at that house.

After coming to Gates, Neal decided to give leadership by serving as Steward for a number of years. He was elected to ILWU Local 26 Executive Board, serving several terms as Chairman of the Education and Training Committee.

"I want to wish Neal and his wife Phyllis, the best of health and many happy years to come in retirement.

Local 13 Honors A 'Typical' Member

WILMINGTON — As one of his last official actions before leaving office, Arth Almeida, outgoing president of longshore Local 13, had the pleasure of pre-senting the Local 13 service award to his father-in-law, Manuel Horta, at the monthly pensioner's meeting at the Longshore Memorial Halls.

At the same meeting the Southern Cali-fornia Pensioners presented Almeida a commemorative plaque for his "Outstanding defense of our voice and vote."

After 38 years of service, Manuel Horta has retired and left his position as a longshoreman due to health reasons. He is a member of ILWU Local 13.

The change will be effective July 1, 1978. While an employee may be able to continue to work until age 70, the law does not permit granting of additional pension credit for service beyond the normal retirement date provided in the pension plan. Nevertheless, the pensioner may be allowed to actuarially increased because the employee continues to work and will thus receive pension benefits over a shorter length of time.

An employee who is incompetent or unable to perform his or her job is not protected from discharge or retirement. In such cases, the research department memo concludes, the employer will be required to produce evidence that the employee continued to work and will thus receive pension benefits over a shorter length of time.

Social Security Benefits to Improve July 1

WASHINGTON, DC — The nation's 38.8 million Social Security beneficiaries and roughly 3.5 million Medicare recipients 65 and disabled will receive a 6.5% increase in benefits in the checks they receive at the end of June or beginning of July.

The size of the automatic increase, which is tied by law to the rising cost of living, was announced by the Social Security Administra-tion.

The increase means the maximum monthly Social Security benefit for a worker retiring this year at age 65 will rise from $408.80 to $434.40, and the minimum benefit for a worker in the same category will go from $144.10 to $151.80.

The average monthly Social Security benefit for a couple, both of whom re-tire, will increase from $607 to $632.

The nation's 35.4 million beneficiaries of old age, survivors and disability money from the Social Security trust fund should receive their checks with a cut-off date of July 1978.

Monthly payments to the 4.3 million recipi-ents of the federally run Supplemental Security Income program for the aged, blind and disabled will increase from $220 to $238 for individuals and $360 to $384 for couples.

Beneficiaries of the SSI program, which is the one federally-operated welfare program, should receive the increases in checks they get on June 30.

It Costs More To Be Poorer

Families with incomes of less than $3,000 per year, who are United States citizens, spend over 20% of their income on fuel for their homes, plus almost 10% for gaso-line, says noted economist Lester Thurow of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In contrast, families with incomes above $30,000 per year spend only 2% of their income on fuel and another 2.2% on gasoline.

"The poor live in older and less well-built housing, have less insulation and storm windows and so spend more on heating than the affluent.

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"There are many more poor people than affluent people, and since the affluent have more people per household, the cost of fuel goes up faster than the total income they pay is greater.

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Next Dispatcher


May is Time for Longshore Medical and Dental Plan Choice

SAN FRANCISCO — Longshore families in ports where members have a choice can medical plans during the open enrollment period, May 1 to May 31, 1978.

The change will be effective July 1, 1978. In San Francisco and Los Angeles, active and retired longshoremen may 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 Benefits Plans office. The enrollment card and information about plan benefits are available at the Locals and can also be obtained from the Benefits Plans office.

"The medical plan choice is between the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and the

Local 26 joins his many friends in wishing Neal and his wife Phyllis, the best of health and many happy years to come in retirement.

Dockers, Widows On Pension List

SAN FRANCISCO—Following is the May, 1978 list of dockworkers retired under various ILWU-PMA plans:


Local 23, Tacoma: Carl Engles; Local 19, San Francisco: Peter Keenan; Local 10, Seattle: Jack Ellis; Local 54, Stockton: Thomas Dalesandro; Local 11, Portland: Richard Sutton.

"The widows are: Candelaria Azpeitia (Jim, Local 10); Della Benin, (Francis, Local 47); Edith Berkovil, (Graciela, Local 63); Edith Cambas, (Chester, Local 34); Beatrice Cusino, (Hector, Local 29); Anne Green, (Clarence, Local 13); Helen Gropec, (Ben, Local 13); Ellen Huesca, (Oscar, Local 13); Avis Kendall, (Carl, Local 13); Arvis Kendall, (Charlie, Local 13); Bernice Landers, (James, Local 19); Josephine Lopez, (Victoriano, Local 13); Madalena Mancini (Manuela, Local 19); Guadalupe Paetz, (John, Local 23);厉 Fournier, (Charles, Local 18)."
Is Labor to Blame for Housing Costs?

Let’s say you’ve hit up your in-laws for a down payment, and you’re looking for a place for your family to grow in. You discover, first of all, that average homes today cost $43,000—virtually unaffordable for 36% of the cost, 1969-38% and 1976-33%. 1949 was 16%, in 1969-31%, and 1976-13% in 1969, and 12% in 1976.

Land and financing was quite an increase, in all, of the total cost to construct a home; land and financing in 1949 was 16%, in 1969-31%, and 1976-39%. But all these statistics have been the cost to build a home. Someone has to put a chase a home. What’s the difference?

Interest. In 1949 the average home cost $9,780. With 10% down and a 30 year loan at 5% interest rate the purchaser paid $17,764. That’s 48% ($8,214) over and above actual building costs.

Twenty-six years later, when all the post-war babies were, by definition, on their feet and no greater demand. By 1969 the average home was now $20,534 with the cost of on-site labor dropping from 33% to 18% of the total construction costs.

So, the same money changers, who had ripped off the parents at a tune of 45% over the cost of their homes had the same opportunity for the second generation of housing buyers. Yet, after all, you shouldn’t expect them to scrimp on by the same old 46% profit.

On a 30 year loan at 8% with 10% down, on the average home of $30,534, you were now privileged to pay $30,532 interest over and above the costs of construction—that’s 69%.

ACUTE SHORTAGE

The housing shortage was acute, speculators stepped in, old homes skyrocketed in price (of course, no new labor on those to make the price rise). The average new single family dwelling by 1976 had inflated to $43,700, up over 100% in seven years. By 1976 on-site labor had dropped to 16% of the cost of construction. And, were the money changers satisfied with over 100% increase of the 60 profit? Hell, no! The interest rate now is 9%, which meant on an average $43,700 home 10% down on the 30-year loan, you now were paid to pay $74,502 in interest over and above the construction cost—that’s 69%!

SPECulators

That is, if you can beat the richest speculators to the home. The ones who buy a half dozen and sit on them for five or six months and then sell them at an even more inflated price, but forget all that silly stuff about interest costs, the rate of land, rich speculators, ripping off the public.

Is it the construction worker who is totally at fault for the housing price? Phooey! 

—Thanks to Stan Smith
SF Building and Construction Trades Council

What’s Happened To Home Prices? Ask Your Bank

The relentless inflation that grips today’s housing market is confronting the average home buyer. He or she is discovering: either spend a larger share of income to buy and maintain a home than buyers did in earlier years or accept much smaller amenities than people have come to expect.

So far, home buyers have chosen to pay more. But many housing experts now fear that inflation has run close to the upper limits of their ability to carry a mortgage over the life of the ownership. And they see trouble ahead.

By all measures, inflation has hit housing with a vengeance. Between 1965 and 1977 the consumer price index for all items rose 207%, and for family income rose 134%. But the median sales price of a new house rose 144%, and average monthly housing expenses jumped 189%. The median price of an existing house increased 136% between 1968 and early this year.

As a result, on any given day, a greater share of their incomes to own a house than ever before. Annual housing expense as a share of median family income rose from 28% in 1965 to 36% in 1977.

Generally, consumers must expect new- house prices and operating costs to move up. Only last week, in fact, savings and loan associations posted mortgage rates of 11%. Michael Symposium, chief economist at the National Association of Home Builders, has been predicting nationwide mortgage rates of 14% or higher this year. "We have a real problem right now," he comments. Such rates will choke off buying, he believes.

The real steam behind soaring new house prices, builders say, comes from jumps in the costs of financing, land, and land development. Between 1949 and 1977 financing costs as a share of selling price rose from 11% to between 15% and 20% in 1973. When such costs rise to 15%, the average new home is costing between 4 and 5% more to finance.

Employment Group

Meets Cranston Aide

S A N F R A N C I S C O — A group represent- ing the Northwest ILWU Regional Office met April 24 with J a d i n e N e i l e n , assistant to Senator Alan Cranston, D-California, to discuss crock of a package of em- ployment legislation.

The Coalition, represented by labor, women, Vietnam veterans, church spokespersons, asked that Cranston play a leadership role in sup- port of the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Em- ployment and Balanced Growth Act in the Senate.

ILWU Local 6 Business Agent Al Lann- 0r with the Mitchell-Mathias Transfer Amendment, which would reduce the military budget and put the money into socially useful programs. Lannom called attention to the recent formation of the Trade Union Committee for Full Employment and Economic Conversion, chaired by ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Curt- iss McCaine.

The Coalition also urged Cranston to co- sponsor the Mathias-McGovern Economic Conversion Act, which would provide for conversion planning in all defense plants and military base areas. Payments to affected workers during the process of retraining for peaceful production.

Reading Glasses Found

Someone left a brand new pair of silver metal framed reading glasses at the Local 24 — Local 24 dinner on Wednesday, May 1, 1978, at the SunHung Huong Restaurant in San Francisco.

They are at the San Francisco Union off- ice of Local 34 363-3822.

BOYCOTT
J P STEEVENS
Here are the endorsements of the ILWU California District Councils and area legislative committees for state, county and city offices in the June 6 primary.

STATEWIDE OFFICES

Governor  ... Edmund G. (Jerry) BROWN, Jr. (D)
Lieut. Governor  ... Melvyn D. DAVIS (D)
Secretary of State  ... March Fong EU (D)
Controller  ... Kenneth CORY (D)
Treasurer  ... Jesse M. UNRUH (D)
Attorney General  ... Dual Endorsement (Yvonnn B. BURKE, Burri PINES)
Supt. of Public Instruction  ... Wilson RILES (D)

STATE PROPOSITIONS

Proposition 1
Bond issue for public schools  YES
Proposition 2
Clean water and conservation bond law  YES
Proposition 3
Tax exemption, alternative energy systems  YES
Proposition 4
School bond procedures  YES
Proposition 5
Bars an administrative agency from declaring a tax unconstitutional  YES
Proposition 6
Requires legislature & county treasurers to provide for election county sheriffs  YES
Proposition 7
Permits legislature to authorize insurance pooling arrangements by local government agencies  NO
Proposition 8
Legislative constitutional amendment, Legislative committee to tax rate on owner-occupied dwellings  YES
Proposition 9
Requires legislature to set state court judgment interest rate not to exceed 10%  YES
Proposition 10
Tax exemption — rehabilitated property  YES
Proposition 11
Taxation exemption — county owned property  YES
Proposition 12
A commission to set compensation of legislators, and judges  YES
Proposition 13
Jarvis-Gann tax initiative  NO

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

San Francisco County

5th Cong. Dist.  John BURTON (D)
6th Cong. Dist.  Philip BURTON (D)
16th Assembly Dist.  Arthur AGNOS (D)
17th Assembly Dist.  Willie BROWN (D)
18th Assembly Dist.  Leo McCARTHY (D)
30th Assembly Dist.  John FORAN (D)

Superior Court

#1  Ollie MARIE-VICTOIRE (R)
#2  ira BROWN, JR. (D)
#3  S. Lee VAVURIS (D)
#4  Jay FOTENHAUSER (R)
#5  William E. MULLING (D)
#6  Joseph G. MUNDY (D)
#10  Donald KING (D)

Municipal Court

#1  Albert WOLLENBERG (R)
#2  Frank E. HART (R)
#3  Richard FIGONE (R)
#4  Raymond ARATA (D)
#5  John E. DEARMAN (D)

San Francisco City Propositions

Proposition A  YES
Proposition B  YES
Proposition C  YES
Proposition D  NO
Proposition E  NO
Proposition F  YES
Proposition G  YES
Proposition H  NO
Proposition J  NO

Alameda County

8th Cong. Dist.  Ron DULLUMS (D)
14th Cong. Dist.  Fortney H. STARK (D)
12th Assembly Dist.  Tom BATES (D)
13th Assembly Dist.  Elhnu HARRIS (D)
14th Assembly Dist.  Allen JONES (D)

Contra Costa County

7th Cong. Dist.  George MILLER (D)
10th Assembly Dist.  Daniel BOATWRIGHT (D)
11th Assembly Dist.  John T. KNOX (D)
Supervisors #1  James P. KENNY (D)
Sheriff  Richard RAINNEY (D)
County Auditor  Don BOUCHET (D)

Marin County

5th Cong. Dist.  John BURTON (D)
San Mateo and Santa Clara Counties

10th Cong. Dist.  Don EDWARDS (D)
11th Cong. Dist.  Leo J. RYAN (D)
13th Cong. Dist.  Norman MINETA (D)
16th State Senatorial Dist.  NO RECOMMENDATION
12th State Senatorial Dist.  Lynn SMITH (D)
19th Assembly Dist.  Louis J. PAPAN (D)
21st Assembly Dist.  Victor CALVO (D)
22nd Assembly Dist.  Russell HAMMER (D)
23rd Assembly Dist.  John VASCONCELLOS (D)
25th Assembly Dist.  Richard EGENHARDT (D)
26th Assembly Dist.  PLEASE, DO NOT VOTE FOR ALISTER McALISTER

Santa Clara County Superior Court

District #1  Susanne WILSON (D)
District #2  James GEARY (D)
District #3  Al GARZA (D)
San Jose Municipal Court

#2  Jola WILLIAMS (D)
#3  NO RECOMMENDATION

Superior Court

Supervisors #2  Taka KANAI (R)
#2  Fred LUCERO (D)
#3  Taka KANAI (R)
#4  Fred LUCERO (D)
San Jose/Milpitas Municipal Court

#5  Stephen MANLEY

Santa Clara County

Sacramento County

3rd Cong. Dist.  Gene GUALCO (D)
Supervisors #2  Joe COOPER (D)

Fresno and Madera Counties

15th Cong. Dist.  Tony COELHO (D)
17th Cong. Dist.  OPEN
4th State Senatorial Dist.  George N. ZENOVICH (D)
30th Assembly Dist.  OPEN
31st Assembly Dist.  Richard LEHMAN (D)
Supervisor Dist. #1  Les KIMBER

District Attorney  Harold HABBUSCH

State Board of Equalization

District 1  George R. REILLY (D)
District 2  Iris G. SANKE (R)
District 3  William M. BENNETT (D)
District 4  Richard NEVINS (D)

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

18th Cong. Dist.  Bob SOGGE (D)
20th Cong. Dist.  Patti LEAR (D)
21st Cong. Dist.  James C. CORMAN (D)
22nd Cong. Dist.  John HAYS (D)
23rd Cong. Dist.  Anthony C. BEILENSON (D)
24th Cong. Dist.  Henry A. WAXMAN (D)
25th Cong. Dist.  Richard E. ROYBAL (D)
27th Cong. Dist.  James C. HUGHES (D)
28th Cong. Dist.  David CUNNINGHAM (D)

Secretary of State . .  March Fong EU (D)
Treasurer  Jesse M. UNRUH (D)
Attorney General  (Dual Endorsement)

ILWU California District Councils and area legislative committees for state, county and city offices in the June 6 primary.

KIDS WILL PAY
But the kids in our schools will pay for it with their paychecks.

Many of us who earn a piece of our living from supplying local government with services or materials of one kind or another will take the rap, too. The employees of small business will dry up, for sure, if Proposition 13 goes through.

ECONOMIC EFFECTS
And, of course, if you throw thousands of new-employed workers out of work, the money they spent on goods and services of all kinds will dry up. Most of them, too, would be eligible for unemployment insurance under a recent law.

Exaggerated? Possibly. We won't even really know until June 6. What we do know is this: That's like drinking polluted water to find out if it's poisonous.

Nobody questions the need for tax relief. It's overdue, but it doesn't usually make good sense to tear down the whole house when we need some repairs.

It makes even less sense when, as in Proposition 13, it holds out the promise of tax relief it can't really deliver. And what relief it can deliver goes to those whose pockets are already well-lined.