Can't Beat Filibuster

Labor Law Reform in Trouble

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A fifth attempt to shut off the 7-day Senate filibuster against the labor law revision bill fell just short of success late on June 15.

The vote was 58 to 41, two short of the 60 affirmative votes required.

Labor officials and some Senate supporters of the bill had been saying for months that they would win cloture on the “third or fourth” attempt, once early commitments to back the filibuster withered away.

The Labor Law Reform Bill is a small step toward bringing the National Labor Relations Act up to date. It reduces unnecessary delays in the holding of union representation elections. It imposes stiff penalties on employers who fire workers for union activities. It allows equal time to union organizers in cases where management holds captive meetings. It denies government contracts to employers who repeatedly and willfully trample on workers’ rights.

STRATEGY

Filibuster leader Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) called on Senate Majority Leader Robert Byrd to drop the legislation.

But Byrd has promised to keep trying for cloture as long as necessary.

As this issue of The Dispatcher went to press, labor hopes were centered around an offer by Sen. John Stennis (D-Miss.) to the 58th vote for cloture if someone would join him with the necessary 60th vote. "Today everybody is out beating the bushes, but we don't know if that vote is there," said ILWU Washington Area President Tobin.

Within the four states comprising the ILWU’s jurisdiction, only Sen. S. I. Hayakawa (D-Calif.) is supporting the filibuster, according to Tobin.

With another vote scheduled for late in the week to keep the filibuster alive, it was feared that the Democrat's administration wouldn't do any harm to put some heat on Hayakawa and to let Republicans like Packwood and Hatfield in Oregon, and Stevens in Alaska, know that we appreciate their refusal to go along with the dictatorial dictates of the filibuster.

"VICTIMS VIGIL"

Among those joining a “victims vigil” outside the Senate—demonstrating the need for Labor Law Reform—are 125 steelworkers, part of a 1,200 member bargaining unit at the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Co. in Newport, Va.

This group was established as an appropriate bargaining unit by the National Labor Relations Board in January 7, 1977. When the company refused to bargain with them they struck on April 1, 1977. Finally, on February 15, 1978, the company and the NLRB found the company guilty of refusal to bargain. But the Newport News workers are still waiting for the right to reclaim their jobs while the company appeals the decision.

The story of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock workers is important because passage of the Labor Law Reform Bill would help overcome the ability of the company to avoid good-faith bargaining by taking advantage of loopholes in the existing law.

First Pact at Hobice

LIVERMORE, Ca. — "If both sides take it seriously, collective bargaining really works," says Dave Lee who—as a member of the negotiating committee which has just wrapped up a two-year agreement with Hexcel Chemical Co.—should know.

The Hexcel committee, negotiating a first contract since the membership voted to join ILWU Warehouse Local 6 earlier that year, did not have an easy time convincing their employer to give it a go.

"LIKE MAGIC"

"But once they came around it was like magic," says committee member Ron McKinley. "They stalled for four or five sessions. Nothing was happening. But on Friday, June 2, they came back from lunch and started dealing and by late in the afternoon we had a contract. I can't explain it."

Whatever the explanation, the 560-odd members of the new Local 6 unit at Hexcel—manufacturers of high technology, structural materials—have walked away with a contract with "the best up-front money we've ever had." The agreement raises the wage base to $1.24 an hour for the next two years, with increases ranging from 41¢ to $1.60 each year, depending on classification.

Maintenance of a cost-of-living allowance, committee members say, was a major victory. "We made out pretty well considering that they tried to take the whole thing away," says Gordon Austin, the third member of the plant committee.

The new COLA kicks in when inflation hits an annual rate of 6% and is payable monthly, without a cap.

Hexcel workers voted 38-1 by secret ballot to accept the new contract.

a strong grievance procedure and language to stop the practice of "temporary" promotions becoming permanent at the old rate of pay.

BIG VOTE

Company efforts to sharply restrict access to the plant by union officials, and to block leaves of absence for union business, were defeated. The agreement was ratified by the membership.

ILWU Fishermen On the Bricks

SAN DIEGO — Some 250 members of ILWU Fishermen and Allied Workers’ Local 33 have been on strike against the Fishermen’s Cooperative Association since May 1.

The strike affects 36 local boats which fish for sardines, anchovies, local bluefin and bonita. The tuna fleet is not involved. Issues in the strike, according to Local 33 BA Frank Bucina, are prices (wages) and crew structure. A recent offer by the employers was rejected by the fishermen on Friday, June 8.

"On behalf of the membership, I want to particularly thank the members and officers of Local 13 who have generously made work available to us on the "front," Bucina said. "It has been of tremendous assistance to our members."

SAN FRANCISCO — As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, negotiations for a new ILWU-FMA coast longshore agreement are continuing on an intensive basis. FMA and ILWU representatives have been meeting nearly every day since Memorial Day, as well as evenings.

The current contract expires July 1. "Although many of the issues are extremely difficult, we are making progress and remain optimistic that we can reach an agreement by the time the contract expires," said International President Jim Herman, chairman of the ILWU negotiating committee.

Other members of the negotiating committee include Vice-Presidents Rudy Rubio and George Martin, Secretary-Treasurer Curtis McClain, Coast commiteemen Bill Ward and Dick Wise, and the following representatives from the Longshore locals:

Large ports: John Pandora, Local 13, William Zenk, Local 10, San Francisco; Bill Luch, Local 8, Portland; Dick Moerk, Local 19, Seattle.

Clarks: Frank Billie, Local 34, San Francisco (California), and Larry Clark, Local 40, Portland (Northwest).

Small ports: Joe Jakowec, Local 32, North Bend (Oregon—Columbia River); Randy Yavich, Local 54, Aberdeen (Puget Sound); Pete Fuller, Local 54, Stockton (California).

Last Call for Overseas Delegates

The ILWU International Executive Board will select overseas delegates at its next meeting which will be held early next month.

In accordance with policy adopted at the 22nd Biennial Convention in April, 1977, the Board will select 24 overseas delegates, plus alternates. The titled officers, subject to the approval of the Board, “assign delegates to visit particular countries only so often as conditions in those countries warrant such visits.”

CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISIONS

The overseas delegates operate in accordance with Article IX, Section 1a of the International Constitution, which reads as follows:

Five cents ($0.05) of this amount shall be assigned to a permanent Overseas Fund to be at the disposal of the International Executive Board solely for

Dock Talks Progress

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Unemployment Comes to Stay in BC

From the ILWU Canadian Area

UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE

If this work load keeps up we'll need another computer

You're working more or less steady? Checks coming in every two weeks? No need to worry? Right?

Wrong!

If the economy doesn't pick up soon, you may be next in line for idle days. And if you've got any grown up kids you'd better enter the work force, they may be out of luck too.

Just look at the economic picture. According to Statistics Canada there are 1,056,800 unemployed in Canada. The rate is 8.7%. The figures for BC are 168,000 with a rate of 9.1%. These are the figures for March, the latest available.

To make these figures look quite so bad, they have another method of estimating the extent of unemployment. It's called seasonally adjusted. Under this method the total number of unemployed is considerably low—90,000 for Canada and a rate of 8.6% and 102,000 for BC and a rate of 8.5%.

THE REAL FACTS

The unemployed figures from Statistics Canada do not include people who have given up looking for work, women staying at home because there are no jobs for their students just entering the labour force, people taking training courses, part-time workers and many others.

Labour economists estimate that the actual unemployment rate is at least 50% higher than official statistics.

Even economics faculties have dared to predict that unemployment will depend on the unforeseeable future. Most of them admit it will stay high even if the inflation is reduced.

Unemployment and jobs depend, of course, on the growth rate of our economy —the Gross National Product (GNP). which is the total value of all the goods and services produced in a year. A healthy growth rate is considered to be seven or eight percent. Five percent growth is regarded as necessary to make any dent in unemployment.

Last year the growth rate was a mere 2.6%.

Employment in the US and Western Europe is also on the rise although not as high as ours. Our economy is particularly vulnerable because it is a branch-plant economy of the big US multi-national.

Now some of these big corporations, who have made literally billions from the exploitation of Canadian labour, Canadian resources and over-generous tax concessions, are moving their operations to other countries where they can make a higher rate of profit.

Is something being done to put Canada back on its economic feet?

The Canadian Labour Congress believes it can. The CLC at its Quebec City Convention in April adopted a number of economic policy statement papers that indicate the path ahead. They advocated:

• Process and finish more of our resources before they enter the export market. Build secondary industries. Strengthen our manufacturing industries. • Corporate profits made in Canada should be kept in Canada. • Invested to create new jobs. Place the multi-nationals under public control. • Increase the purchasing power of the people by cutting income taxes, increasing pensions, by 6%. Increasing the minimum wage to $4.50 an hour.

Build a Canadian merchant marine.

Reduce the work week to 32 hours.

Other unions have pointed to the need to cut defense expenditures (which this year will be $4.1 billion plus the rate of inflation) and to develop more trade with the socialist countries which are not experiencing economic recession and have stable economies.

Meet Hawaii Unionists

Japanese Delegates Say War Must End

HONOLULU — At an unprecedented meeting June 3, 83 officials from Hawaii's big unions talked earnestly with all the people we met.

The delegation of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) was led by Buddhist peace leaders and sponsored by the four big trade union federations, religious, women's, scientist's, youth and other community organizations, particularly Indian, agricultural workers, part-time workers and many others.

Of some 150 prominent labor leaders, officially represented on the antiquated duty and the business union union is to protect workers—the livelihood, employment, and the life and family of the worker. —A TRADE UNION DUTY

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One of them said this was natural because "the most important task of a trade union is to protect workers—the livelihood, employment, and the life and family of the worker." —A TRADE UNION DUTY

VAN HORN DIAMOND, secretary of the Hawaii State Labor Federation—AFL-CIO, chaired the meeting. He said that American unions want peace and genuine disarmament, but have different opinions on how to achieve it. He said unions around the Pacific must find a way to be "energetic and dynamic" and "get out of the constant problems, as we are doing here today."

UNITED IN PURPOSE

Tak Ogawa headed the Japanese labor delegation. He is director of the political affairs department of Dorei (Japanese Federation of Labor).

Ogawa said the delegation represents people from all walks of life, who may disagree on many issues, but are united in opposing (1) the arms race, (2) all nuclear weapons and (3) obtaining real peace for victims of atomic weapons.

The Japanese were part of a 502 member delegation which visited the US in Hawaii to talk about nuclear disarmament in its various forms.

Japanese delegates are trying where possible to organize labor unions in the United States and in Canada where construction is underway on facilities which are considered as storage for N-Weapons.

Dave Thompson of ILWU was a speaker at the Monday night meeting, along with Albertini, and Haunani Trask of Save Kahoolawe, Ohana Tamo, vice president of CHURTSUBRENIEN, Noho Yoshinaga of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union, and Hiroshi Uno of the Peace and a Tuesday walk and vigil for disarmament at Pearl Harbor's West Loch with Albertini, and Haunani Trask of Save Kahoolawe, Ohana Tamo, vice president of CHURTSUBRENIEN, Noho Yoshinaga of the Japanese Consumers Cooperative Union, and Hiroshi Uno of the Peace and

MAY WE MEAN

They also met with AFL-CIO president George Meany and with John Paul Warn-...
Bomb Fins won't Handle Chile Military Cargo

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU longshoremen will refuse to load 21 crates of bomb fins bound for Chile, now stored at the Oakland Army Base.

In a statement issued June 14, Interna-
tional President Jim Herman said that the refusal to work the Chilean military cargo was in accordance with resolutions passed at a number of ILWU Conventions con-
demning the destruction of the trade union movement in Chile and the violation of civil liberties by the present military government, and calling for a boycott of cargo to that country.

The workers of Chile, Herman pointed out, are not free to exercise the most elem-
entary trade union rights. They are for-
biden by the Junta decree to strike, or-
ganize or to elect their own union officials. (A statement by Senator Edward F. Ken-
nedy (D-Mass.) supporting the ILWU ac-
tion was issued as The Dispatcher went to press.)

On May 23, longshore Local 10 and clerks' Local 34 received information that a shipment of bomb fins weighing some 22,000 pounds, destined for Santiago, Chile, was scheduled to be loaded aboard the Pru-

Fears of ILWU

The company's main problem was fear, according to the committee, "that the men were scared of the ILWU and scared of Local 6. They believed the propaganda they put out during the organizing campaign—that the ILWU was trying to take over the plant and the whole town of Livermore," he recalls.

Efforts to split the committee members off from the local were a keystone of the company's negotiating strategy in the early stages. "They'd say that such and such a demand, like union security, was a Local 6 demand and not from the membership. They were trying to intim-
ate that we were being manipulated," says Bill Kanui, Local 12, president of the Distributors Association.

But "at some point they were convinced that we wanted to bargain in good faith, that we were scared of bomb fins, and that we wanted to bargain in good faith, and it was very helpful to have access to the expertise at the International Office. That's why we were willing to compromise, where it was possible. They also realized that the Local 6 people working with us didn't have horns and tails." Strike san-
tion voted by the Local 6 Executive Board, May 31, may also have helped.

Bargaining has its limitations. "We still need improvement on vacations, and the closest we could get on a hiring hall was a provision for referral from the Local 6 hall in Stockton," says Austin. There were other areas, like a work clothing allow-

Pension Paid to Weighers and Strappers

SAN FRANCISCO — In 1968 a group of members of ILWU warehouse Local 8, representing the local's clerks and warehouse employees in the Oakland and San Francisco areas, were the weighers and strappers. Pay-
ments for pensions were paid into the Distributors Association's Pension Fund. Since 1968 over half of these brothers have retired but they did not get full benefi-
tions because the Distributors Association had no collective bargaining contract to cover them after 1968.

Local 19 started to move on this a couple of years ago. Then came problems with the IRS, ERIHA, the Department of Labor and the whole machinery of government, plus difficulties in getting the money from the Distributors Association.

Finally, last week, all the money was delivered to the trustees of the ILWU— Bay Area Contractors Plan (the ILWU truckers are International Secretary-Treas-

GOOD REPRESENTATION

"But after going through this experi-
ence," Lee concludes, "I understand even better why we voted for the ILWU. We got good representation, and the whole way of doing business was very democratic. The officers of the local were very re-

gressive to our particular problems, and it was very helpful to have access to the expertise at the International Office. Working with Lee, McKinley and Austin were Local 6 Business Agents Al Lannon and Nick Jones.
Projectors
On Strike vs. Speed-up

"Don't let United Artists and Syfy Theaters operators have you sitting in the dark," declares Edward C. Powell, an international vice-president of the AFL-CIO Theatrical Stage Employees and Moving Picture Machine Operators Union, in appealing for support for the monthlong strike against United Artists and Syfy Theaters by union projectionists in California and Nevada.

The central issue in the strike is the insistence by United Artists and Syfy managers on the right to require a projectionist to operate projection booths in two or more theaters even if they're five miles or more apart on the same shift, Powell explained.

Emphasizing that "the strike is not about wages but about jobs and the right of the public to immediate service when equipment fails," Powell said that "other theater operators have agreed that our request for a 25 cents per hour wage increase was fair and signed contracts with us."

UNION TRIED
He pointed out that union projectionists worked without a contract for four months—from January 15, 1978 until May 17—in an effort to resolve the issue without success.

"The UA and Syfy policy means," Powell said, "that if your projectionist is in theater you've paid money to attend. If inability to rely on the scheduled showing results in loss of money but it's also likely to result in a theft of your dollars."

"It would only wipe out 50% of our jobs and save UA and Syfy a lot of money," Powell said, "but it would also be a substantial public inconvenience and an inability to rely on the scheduled showing times at UA and Syfy theaters."

NEEDS PUBLIC HELP
Pointing out that the IATSE is a small union, Powell added: "Our request to help us can win this strike. Only if you withhold your dollars from UA and Syfy, money will be lost instead of being made."

Specifically, Powell said, the union is appealing to trade unions and the public to help to save UA and Syfy theaters throughout the state.

Steelworkers'
Pensions Saved

Nearly 1,000 steelworkers who were laid off last year due to plant closings are eligible to select early retirement. A private arbitration panel ruled in their favor in April after hearing strong arguments from the steelmakers that the "rule of 65" pensions couldn't be done.

Bethlehem Steel Corp. argued that its expenditures would be at least $35 million, while Youngstown Sheet & Tube Co. (Ohio) Sheet and Tube Co. claimed its cost could be as much as $55 million.

While the steelworkers around a clause in the contract negotiated last year by the steelworkers and the United Steelworkers of America, which provided the pension option for employees with 20 years of service, whose age and service in the 65.

It was the industry's contention that since no new job security benefits didn't officially become effective until January 1979, those steelworkers who left their jobs before the first year of the pension weren't eligible for the "rule of 65" pensions.

Unusual Cargo

TACOMA—A 45-foot deluxe double cabin sedan cruiser—one of the most unusual cargoes ever loaded in this port—recently was put aboard the Hapag-Lloyd vessel, Wener Express.

The yacht was going to Choy Yee of United Garment Manufacturing in Hong Kong.

The Long Knives

Oregon AFL-CIO Says Labor Must Wake Up

SEASIDE—Ore.—Conventions of the Oregon State Industrial Union Council and the Machinists Council, in session here last week, heard the AFL-CIO General Director for the State AFL-CIO, declare that if working people "don't use the right to vote, we're going to lose it one of these days."

She was referring to the fact that only 44% of those registered to vote cast ballots in the May primary.

STATE QUO

One of the guest speakers, Don Clark, Chairman of the Multnomah County Board of Commissioners, said there was a time when organized labor "was recognized as being on the cutting edge of social change. Now many people see labor as being an agent of the status quo."

However, in the mini-conventions which preceded the state AFL-CIO convention being held here at this writing, there was evidence the Oregon labor movement to alert the political and economic peril of the late '70's.

Both the Machinists and the IUC called for unemployed workers "a hit and food stamps for strikers. IUC charged the state legislature not only to discourage the use of strikebreakers, but instead to prohibit special security forces "who incite, threaten and sometimes physically harm workers."

They reaffirmed consumer boycotts against companies that break union contracts and recommended unions avoid meeting in states which have failed to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. (Oregon has ratified it twice.)

Machinists from throughout the state, learning that their convention that Sen. Hatfield planned to be out of Washington during the convention, called for the picket line against United Steel Labor Law Reform, urged him to return to the Capitol and vote.

Chavez Arrested On Picket Line

YUMA, Ariz. — United Farm Workers leader Cesar Chavez was arrested on Thursday for defying a court injunction against picketing at a melon field.

Chavez, who was arrested by Yuma county Superior Court Judge B. L. Helin, unconstitutional and said he decided to issue the arrest warrant to allow the court to decide the constitutionality of the injunction.

The arrest occurred at the G&S Produce Co.'s cantaloupe fields near Somerton, south of Yuma. The injunction had banned UFW picketing at the G&S fields and at those operated by Pasquinielli Produce Co.

The UFW began picketing the farms in May, calling for higher pay for the cantaloupe harvest.

Chavez was arrested in Salinas in 1970 when he deliberately defied an injunction against a lettuce boycott.

Protest on Oil Drillers Union Busting

NEW YORK—East Coast labor unions demonstrated against oil companies and contractors drilling in the Atlantic Ocean off New Jersey.

The protests, most of which were peaceful, were aimed at what one union official termed "the 'cooie' wages and 'substandard' benefit offered by the companies for work in the offshore oil drilling industry."

^ Don't Buy J. P. Stevens Products!
**Local 142 Sets 'Do It Yourself' Safety Program**

HONOLULU — A health and safety program emphasizing the role of rank and file activity on a unit-by-unit level was approved last month by the Local 142 Executive Board. The program was developed under the direction of last year's Safety and Health Convention.

Local 142 represents 33,000 workers at 250 companies—or "units"—on six islands, in all sorts of industries — sugar, tourism, pineapple, railroads, and lots more.

The basic scheme relies on itself being a "do-it-yourself/union" which relies on literally thousands of on-the-job leaders to carry out the union's program. At each company, members elect their own officers, stewards, committeemen, and size them directly with management on problems there.

The Local recommends that the ILWU unit at each company now augment this system with a volume of work aimed at signing one or more persons to job safety. Every Local 142 steward will be advisory to the unit executive board.

The units are advised to "encourage the company to establish a safety and health committee to make a top management commitment to safety and health" if they haven't already done so.

(Many companies with ILWU agreements, especially in Hawaii, have long ago and already have strong safety programs; at some, however, there is room for improvement.)

The Local's program statement makes it clear that the program will "make the unit as safe as the management can make it" and will be at the union's discretion and control. The safety and health committee on which the union members may serve are seen as "exclusively limited to providing advice and assistance to management on safety and health matters."

The Local explains that the union does not have the authority, organization or resources to provide a safe place to work; therefore, leaving to the company the responsibility which only management can have. It does recommend, however, that employee representatives on the committee should be named by the union.

Members are advised that this program, "to take all safety and health questions out of the stewards' hands and to make the steward should be immediately notified. If necessary, a complaint should be made to the company."

**CONSTRUCTIVE RELATIONSHIPS**

The union statement advocates seeking "a constructive relationship with management, so that management will be encouraged to assist and be supported in their efficient management of our concerns instead of surprising management with complaints to DOSH."

It warns that "constructive efforts to protect our members must be supported and -at-by individuals using technicalities of safety and health laws against the company for harassment, revenge, union pick or ego building," and "we must use good judgment of whether an interest of a probability for a long-term safety program."

But it says this can only be done if members should take a back seat on health and safety issues. Remember the law also provides that any question may be taken against any member for raising complaints about health and safety conditions."

The program calls for the full-time participation of the stewards at the unit and safety and health programs. It will be presented to the union's full-time personnel and that health will be provided "through Division stewards councils, classes and other activities arranged for by the Health and Safety Department."
Big Utilities Hit Consumers for Whatever the Traffic Will Bear

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Two separate examinations of the nation’s electric utilities show that consumers are getting burned on their household electricity bills. Home electricity costs have soared 72.7 percent in the last five years—almost twice as fast as the cost of living—according to a survey conducted by the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners.

A kilowatt hour of electricity cost an average of 2.43 cents in 1972, but rose to 4.18 cents by November 1977, the utility commissioners found.

The costs were computed before the effects of the coal strike were calculated. Under a special fuel adjustment provision, utilities were allowed to pass along to consumers any increase in costs when they had been converted from coal to oil to generate electricity.

While the utility commissioners’ study blamed skyrocketing home electricity bills on increasing fuel costs, another study found a few more factors not directly related to the price of coal or oil.

Electric companies charged their residential customers an average of 73 percent per kilowatt hour more in 1978 than they charged industrial customers, the Environmental Action Foundation found. While there may be valid reason for some discrimination in rate structures, EAF noted, many utilities unduly rewarded their large customers, encouraging them to waste energy.

TAX EVASION

In 1976, the nation’s major power companies also billed their customers $2.1 billion in federal taxes that never made it to the U.S. Treasury, EAF said.

According to the consumer organization’s survey, 80% of the utilities overstated their power needs for 1976 and 54% overstated their costs right along with the revenue.

It attributed the alleged tax overcharges to a federal law permitting utilities to avoid paying the savings from special tax “loopholes” along with the federal income taxes.

Career Day at Fernwood School

PORTLAND — It was Career Day at Fernwood School.

One of the experts invited to lecture on the subject was Walt Butler, Business Agent of Local 4.

He got the format of his talk, he says, from the ILWU publication “Men and Machines,” using excerpts from the book and slides borrowed from the Port of Portland to dramatize what he had to say about the waterfront and how work there has changed over the years, from breakback to hand labor to mechanization.

“I talked about log ships, ore ships, steel ships, drive-on/drive-off auto ships, the grain trade, mini barges, container barges, container freight stations.

“I went into longshore wages and fringes.” Along with the benefits and freedom of work on the docks, Butler noted with his four classes of 6th, 7th and 8th graders, on the drawbacks. “I told them about working hides in the summertime, the maggots they described, although it’s better now than it was when we had to ‘wing up’ with them in the holds of ships!”

The group cited government figures that show that 100,000 people, including their dependents, were on welfare in 1965, a group the utility industry has charged their customers $2.5 billion in federal income taxes but paid only $375 million to the Internal Revenue Service.

Thirty of these utilities paid no federal income taxes at all and 26 of them received refunds or credits amounting to $11 million, EFA explained.

Electric rates jumped 4.9% nationwide in 1978, EFA found, citing advertising and public relations expenditures as some of the reasons.

One hundred utilities representing about 85% of the nation’s private power industry, spent $60 million on advertising and public relations increases to prove their profits and claim that the American consumer is getting a good job, EAF noted.

These expenditures are generally passed on to the customer, the group explained. Utilities also spent at least $9 million on political campaigns and paid $385,000 in penalties for illegal activities, EAF said.

Labor Snubbed by NW Grain Industry

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Labor Center Moved

PORTLAND — Under a headline “Center Skewered,” the Oregon Labor Press reported in its June 2 issue that the Oregon Bank, owner of the Portland Labor Center, has ordered tenants to vacate by June 30.

Eviction notices followed foreclosure on a delinquent mortgage. Plans for the dispossessed to rebuild in a building on NE 42nd also were down the tube, the paper said.

Meanwhile—as delegates to the AFL-CIO State Convention were in session at Seattle—the exodus was on from 201 SW Arbour.

The Labor Press, first published on Labor Day, 1900, is moving to 1902 SE Morrison.

San Pedro, 1934

Gordon Gilbin, President of the ILWU, issued a statement in 1934 that earned him the title of “The Father of the San Pedro Areas Cultural Resource Survey.”

The survey, which was one of the first of its kind, was conducted by the CEDC in 1934—when two strikers were killed in a major confrontation on May 13, 1934—be designated a State Historical Landmark.
What’s Really Going on Inside The Coors Beer Empire?

What is the Coors strike and boycott all about? During my term as AFL-CIO representative, I was a member of Brewery Workers’ Local No. 156 for 15 years, and on employee at Coors’ brewery in Golden, Colorado, for over 15 years beginning in 1963. Here’s my story of what kind of company Coors is.

I was employed by the Adolph Coors Brewery of Golden, Colorado on March 26, 1963.

I was then 19 years old and had worked as a laborer on a construction crew outside Denver.

When I first learned of the possibility of working for Coors, my friends and relatives were worried.

The company had a reputation for paying high wages. Compared to the heavy and dirty type of work I was doing as a laborer, Coors seemed like a gold mine.

When I reported to the Coors personnel office I was instructed to fill out a polygraph test before being allowed to work. The "runner test" consisting of over 200 questions designed to trip you up by asking the same questions in several different ways.

BIGGEST SHOCK

Then came the biggest shock. I was scheduled for a lie detector test. When I reported to the polygraph operator, I was shocked to be confronted with a heavy set man dressed in white.

He looked like a medical examiner. The polygraph operator instructed me to sit in a chair next to the lie detector machine.

Once I was in position, a metal attached strap around my chest, stomach and ankles felt helpless and wondered why all this was made necessary.

When the polygraph operator began the test, he dealt with the questions I had answered on the employment application.

However, it didn’t take long before the operator began to deal with more personal questions. Like: “Are you having sexual relations with your girlfriend? Have you ever committed an unrelated crime?”

"What kind of sex?" “Are you a Communist? Have you ever participated in an unregistered party?”

"Have you ever done anything in your past that if known could bring embarrassment upon this company?” “Have you ever participated in or witnessed any demonstration?” “Have you ever stolen anything from anyone in your life?”

"What was it worth?” “What is the total worth of what you have stolen in your life?”

TWISTED PLEASURE

At this point, I was angry and felt dirty. I believe that the job was the anger I felt at being forced to go through an interrogation in which every particle of one’s private life was laid bare under the microscope. There is no doubt in my mind that the company asked extremely personal questions for their own prurient and twisted pleasure. Many of those questions had absolutely nothing to do with employment or protection of the Adolph Coors Co.

In September, 1977, long after the current polygraph test against Coors started, a number of workers aware out affidavits listing the questions they were asked when applying for employment at the brewery.

That affirmed something I really knew already: that every Coors employee was put through the wringer. The workers listed questions they had been asked like:

- How many bank accounts do you have? What kind, what banks, and how much money in each?
- Do you have any relatives or friends that have any ties such as stocks and bonds and how much are they worth?
- How much do you owe on your home, what are your month-to-month payments, and when does your mortgage expire?

Of course, Coors seldom omitted the purely prurient questions, such standards designed to make you appear to be a suspect criminal like: Have you ever done anything with your wife that you would consider immoral? Have you ever been involved with homosexuals? Is there anything that you know about your co-workers that you should be embarrassed about?

You had to wonder what would happen if the machine said you were lying to some unbelievable vague question. Would you not get the job? Suppose one of your friends, relatives or acquaintances was a homosexual. Does that mean that if you answered "no" to ever having been involved with homosexuals that the polygraph would say yes it had?

One fact I was quickly becoming aware of was the fear the men had of Coors and its supervision. Coors management reigned and ruled with an iron hand.

Another thing I became aware of was that the polygraph test was not only done to women working in production. We remember three Mexican American women and one black employee between 1963 and 1964.

During the probationary period, we would be called into the office for questioning and our job performance evaluated. It was designed to make you sweat and squirm, designing in such a way as to make you feel at being forced to go through an inquisition.

The workers listed questions. Like: "What kind of sex?" "Are you a Communist? Have you ever participated in or witnessed any demonstration?" "Have you ever stolen anything from anyone in your life?" "What was it worth?" "What is the total worth of what you have stolen in your life?"

In other words, do you know

Northwest Regional Office
G. Johnny Parks, Regional Director
405 N.W., 18th Ave.
Seattle, Wash. 98109
Phone: (206) 762-8640

Canadian Area Office
Craig Prickett, Regional Director
215 Adam Street
Vancouver, B.C.
Phone: (604) 254-1814

Southern California Regional Office
Douglas R. Shaler, Regional Director
3525 South Figueroa St.
Los Angeles, Ca. 90037
Phone: (213) 753-5384
Lawrence Gonzalez, Organizer
F. W. Nagel, Jr., Organizer
Northern California Regional Office
1188 Franklin Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94109
Phone: (415) 775-5533
Phonelines: Crockett Office
(415) 757-5771
Sacramento Area: (916) 371-5638

Hawaii Office
Thomas Trask
Regional Director
451 Atkinson Dr.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone: (808) 484-4161

The March Inland: Origins of the ILWU Warehouse Division, 1934-1938, by Harvey Schwartz. Institute of Industrial Relations, University of California, Los Angeles 90024; $7.50.

Everyone’s in favor of labor unity. The very idea of a united labor movement speaks to a gut understanding that the most powerful weapon in the employer arsenal is his ability to divide workers by nationality, race, sex, craft, religion and any other way that works.

A CREATIVE VISION

Harvey Schwartz’ March Inland is an excellent attempt to understand the epic struggle for unity waged by the ILWU in the transport and distribution industry in the mid-1930s. It may sound like ancient history, but to understand what happened in those critical years is to begin to understand the creative vision that fired the imagination of the men and women who founded this union, and to understand the heart and soul of the institution we created.

Schwartz has been through the ILWU archives, he’s waded through the correspondence, leaflets and bulletins, and he’s talked to the people who stood in the shape-ups, the organizing, walked the picket line, and stood in the first contract negotiations. He’s made an effort to understand the structure and dynamics of labor unions, and to recognize themselves; younger readers will develop a new understanding of the relationship between their unions’ histories and where it is at today.

Schwartz’s book is first of all the history of how the militancy and energy that was generated in 1934 by the seamen and longshoremen spread into the terminal and inland warehouse workers. Conditions in the warehouse houses were, after all, every bit as bad as they had been on the waterfronts and as longshoremen who first began to talk to warehouse workers met an immediate and enthusiastic responsive.

The founders of the ILWU had a powerful vision of a unified West Coast transport and distribution labor movement, taking in seamen, longshoremen, warehousemen, truckers and ultimately agricultural workers. This dream sent shudders through employer ranks; it inspired and strengthened the strikers who took on C&H, the Santa Cruz Packing Company, Calpak and the entire warehouse industry in the long and bitter strikes of those years.

Schwartz’s book is also the story of a new kind of unionism: militant, democratic, imaginative and, at the same time, disciplined—capable of taking enormous risks and enduring long struggles to better the lives of all working people.

But it’s also the story of how the dream came apart and then changed over time. Most of the second part of the book is taken up with an account of the employer attacks and jurisdictional war between the ILWU and the Teamsters, which ended the first phase of the effort to forge real labor unity. Clearly, the message of the book is that achieving such unity is a great deal more complex and difficult than anyone thought.

Schwartz hits off a whole lot when he starts this book, and there are some holes. The book is almost totally apolitical—that is, it does not in any way attempt to integrate the political thinking of the ILWU into the larger picture of union organizational work; it does not touch at all on the question of how the ILWU solidified its position within the union; it only touches lightly the story of warehouse unionism in Sacramento.

But these are all different books. If he has not touched every base, Schwartz has certainly set out a framework for further study to help us understand who we are and where we come from.
Oppose Joint Venture
Local 12 Tries
To Save Fish
Processing Jobs

NORTH BEND—ILWU longshore Local 12 is opposing joint ventures by foreign and American interests to process hake within the 200 mile limit, according to Secretary Eugene Bailey.

In a letter addressed to the Secretary of Commerce, Local 12 President Joe Jakovac early this year asked for a delay in such joint ventures for a year. However for the pressure for foreign factory ships to process hake came from the State Department.

Local 12's position is that such an arrangement was not possible because it had agreed to some union standards for the joint venture.

COMMERCE DEPT OK

In spite of this, according to the weekly Columbian, published in Astoria, the Commerce Department has given "final approval" to a Russian-American joint venture to come from the State Department.

"We have "swallowed whole by foreign processors," Bailey said. "We hope the commerce department will insist on improvements." He joined in a civil suit against Commerce Inc. and the New Horizon Fish Co. have joined in a civil suit against Commerce

The long term prospects for logs, lumber excluding representatives of the ILWU, attended a Testimonial Dinner at the Ben- son Hotel on April 27 for Clyde Crosby, Local 60, Seward; Dave Howitz and Charles Narraway, Local 85, Petersburg.

US Jobs Bill

Carter administration economists expect real job growth in the second half with big uncertainties about 1979. The "real" GNP gain in the current quarter is likely to hit a strong annual rate of 8%-plus brand new labor movement. The first meeting was set for April 27.

Delegates also agreed that the ILWU local jobs needed to get together to strengthen interests. They agreed to establish an Alaska ILWU Council with assistance from the International Labor movement.

The AFUECIO, factoring these workers into the international labor movement, is a look at the US economy

Carter administration economists expect real job growth in the second half with big uncertainties about 1979. The "real" GNP gain in the current quarter is likely to hit a strong annual rate of 8%-plus -- a smart man from the International to coordinate organizing and political work. The first meeting was set for June 15.

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The AFUECIO, factoring these workers into the international labor movement, said. But because total employment rose from May 27 1979 innovations, from the new labor movement.

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