Rough Go
For Sugar Legislation

WASHINGTON, DC—President Carter's decision to propose a 15.8c-per-pound support price for raw sugar starting November 1 is expected to ease the way for a new domestic sugar law this year as well as US entry into the international sugar agreement.

Still, moving a new sugar bill through Congress may not be without problems for the administration. US sugar refiners and industrial users are likely to protest the Carter support level as too costly.

The battle probably will be joined on the House floor, where sugar bills traditionally run into trouble. It was the House that rejected 1974 sugar legislation and voted down a sugar bill last October.

The House Agriculture Committee begins hearings on the president's sugar proposals February 27.

Agriculture Committee Chairman Thomas Foley (D, Wash.) and Ways and Means Committee Chairman Al Ullman (D, Ore.) are behind legislation to lift the sugar support price to 16.1c in the coming crop year, with annual increases thereafter based on production costs but limited to 7 percent a year.

For the current year, the Foley-Ullman bill would raise the support price to 15.8c. The present level, set by the administration, is 14.75c.

Complicating matters, Sen. Frank Church (D, Idaho) the Foreign Relations Committee chairman, talks of a 17-c-per-pound support level next crop year.

The senator places his bet in Senate politics, as the administration's International Sugar Agreement proposal is before his committee.

So far, he has declined to act on the ISA, instead opting to pass a new tax bill first. The ISA would be included in this legislation.

In deciding on a 15.8c price support for crop year 1979, President Carter sided with the Treasury and the Agriculture Department. The Treasury Department and the Council of Economic Advisers had argued for a lower price, about 15.2c.

The State Department apparently backed the higher price in its quest for Senate approval of the ISA. The administration is counting on the ISA to eventually keep world sugar prices reasonably stable.

So far, the ISA has been working, despite US sugar's lack of tariff protection. The sugar market has held up as the administration's international sugar agreement was being negotiated.

But many still-active members can recall when the thought of such cooperation was considered, at best, idle fantasy and, at worst, treason. For from 1937 to 1958, the two unions were in a state of war.

FRUITS OF COOPERATION

For the past 20 years, however, the ILWU and the Teamsters have bargained together, struck together, and harvested the fruits of such unity. The alliance has become a permanent fact of life because it has succeeded in its purpose of providing a better life for the rank and file.

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Since 1958, when ILWU and Teamster leaders agreed to bury the hatchet, the basic wage for freight handlers in the Northern California warehouse industry has gone from just over $2 per hour to $8.10. A rudimentary pension plan has been expanded to provide real security for pensioners and their spouses.

Health and welfare coverage and other benefits set the pace in the industry.

For the full story of how this productive relationship developed and why it is so highly valued, see Pages 4-5.
How Military Spending Loses Jobs

As the military budget goes up, and procurement programs pile up, jobs in the defense industry steadily decline. That's the revealing conclusion of a new study commissioned by the International Association of Machinists. The study was conducted by Dr. Marion Anderson, a nationally-known employment research analyst.


Working with the IAM Research Department, Anderson contacted 242 IAM locals in 42 states. Two questionnaires were sent to all districts and locals. These were followed up with hundreds of phone calls to those who had not responded. Finally over 90% of the IAM membership was heard from, and estimates of IAM contracts were made for the remaining 10%.

By comparing the number of members working on civilian contracts to those working on military contracts, Anderson was able to measure fewer IAM members are employed in military production than were employed 25 years ago.

It had been widely assumed that from 25% to 30% of the total IAM dues-paying membership were employed in military and military-related work. That would mean roughly 300,000 to 360,000 IAM members working in military production. Anderson's report finds that only 12.5% of the total IAM membership — 25,000 members — are engaged in military work.

NET LOSS

Even more significant, in 30 states — many of them recipients of major military contracts — IAM members suffer a net loss of job opportunities when military spending is high. This is because the number of people employed in producing civilian goods and services exceeds the number of jobs generated by military contracts.

A Pentagon budget of $124 billion costs $36 billion to $50 billion civilian jobs, the report states. These are jobs that new materializes when people are heavily taxed to pay for the defense budget and are unable to spend the money on their own needs.

The study points out that workers in the services industry, including airline employees and auto mechanics, durable goods (with many IAM members), the retail working force, machinery production, and transportation equipment manufacturing are all local government, and even construction, suffer the most in lost job opportunities when military expenditures are high.

The Pentagon Secret Stash--Trouble Brews

The Defense Department has quietly amassed $75 billion in funds that were not spent in previous budget years, and the surplus is making some Carter administration officials nervous and liberal members of Congress angry.

Most of the Pentagon's backlog of funds is the result of a decision by Congress to fund the defense budget for one year all at once. This means that the Pentagon needs to pay for major weapon programs — like shipbuilding — that run from one to five years.

Pentagon officials assert that the backlog is an inevitable part of long-term defense planning. Weapons systems are costly and complex and take a long time to complete, they say. Having the funds in hand in the beginning gives the Pentagon the flexibility it needs to stay on course.

New York Democrats, Representative Elizabeth Holtzman, a member of the Budget Committee, and Joseph Biden, chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, have been preparing a $75 billion Pentagon fund to argue for the $10 billion defense budget.

INFLATION SURGE

At the same time, Carter administration officials are worrying about a surge in the inflation rate. The Pentagon has to speed up spending to lower its reserve of unspent funds. Such a surge, they privately concede, would just about kill the President's program to control inflation.

When the $5,000 IAM jobs generated by the $124 billion military spending are subtracted from the 125,000 civilian jobs that would have been generated, the net jobs to Machinists Union members is over 90,000 jobs a year. Even the members currently working on military contracts lose less than one job for every six that would have been.

"If there are fewer Machinists' jobs available nationwide, a member who is disindividualized with the present job, who wants to move, or who wants to negotiate his wages upward, has just that much less reason to do so," the Anderson study points out.

Spending money on either military in- dustry or on military personnel increases the nation's unemployment. The study determined that far fewer JAM members are suffering the effects of increased military spending than are suffering the consequences of lessened military spending.

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Finally, Elevator Workers Win

HEMERTON, Ore.—After a six-month strike, ILWU members at the McNary grain elevator returned to work February 12 after reaching a tentative agreement on a first contract with Pendleton Grain Growers.

The 17-month contract features a wage increase of between 29% and 27% in two jump rate increases, and a common expiration date with other elevators on the Columbia Ring.

The contract also provides for an additional paid holiday (for a total of six), for the first time in the history of the company.

HELP APPRECIATED

Seward, Wyo.—Strand Schultz, who worked with ILWU's in the negotiations, cited President Carter's direct efforts to prevent a strike.

The two other members of the bargaining unit are Steve Carlson and Dan McCoy.

Pine Workers Ask Protection

HAWAII.—The ILWU is trying to protect workers here with a stoppage of logging of foreign pineapples from low-wage areas.

The union is asking the Legislature to pass a resolution (SCR-4) urging President Carter to ensure that pineapple from Nicaragua or the Philippines should not be imported.

Governor Ariyoshi and Hawaii's Congressmen are also urging the Carter administration to ensure that pineapple imported into Hawaii is subject to the same labor conditions that exist in Hawaii.

INEQUITABLY LOW

ILWU regional director Tommy Trask told the government that the ILWU agrees that the present tariff should not be lowered, but in the past, they believe that the present 3% tariff is inequitable and should be raised to $1 million.

In testimony at the Legislature, ILWU representative Sajo Okazaki pointed out that "hundreds of ILWU members in Hawaii have lost jobs and earnings because union-made Hawaiian pineapples have been displaced in the market by foreign pineapples, which give the unfair advantage of intolerably low wages, freedom from environmental protection costs and lower ocean shipping costs on foreign vessels."

JOBS GENERATED

Hawaii was once the world leader in pineapple, but today produces only 4.4% of the pineapple consumed in the US. The industry employs 1,200 workers year-round, and another 7,000 during the peak season, with a wage bill of $12,000 million. The industry also provides indirect employment to many other industries.

Okazaki said that "unlike most farming states on the mainland, Hawaii does not have the choice of several major crops. If we should lose sugar or pineapple production, there are no known alternatives. The land which would be of comparable benefit to the economy and the welfare of the state."

He said it is neither desirable nor possible for American workers to reduce their wages and employment to meet the demands of foreign industries.

Hotel Maintenance Unit Joins Alaska Local

JUNEAU—Five maintenance workers at the Haines Hotel became members of ILWU Local 41 on February 12. The group immediately got together to write out a contract proposal, and negotiations are in progress.

This is the first ILWU maintenance work group in Alaska.

Five-Year Pacts Save Newspaper

WASHINGTON, DC — The Washington Star and 11 unions reached deadline agreements on new contracts, averting a permanent shutdown of the newspaper by the Star's parent company, Time, Inc.

Time had threatened to withhold $60 million investment in the financially ailing newspaper unless all 11 unions signed new five-year contracts by December 31, although existing agreements covering 1,200 employees were not to expire until the end of 1979.

The Printers' agreement, the last to be signed, 80 of the 175 printers will voluntarily resign in exchange for a "buyout" of $40,000 each. Remaining printers will receive weekly increases totaling $129 over four years. Teamsters—represented drivers and paperhandlers receive $29 in January 1979, $39 in January 1980, and $79 in January 1981.

The Newspaper Guild accepted weekly increases of $50 each the first year, $40 the second, and individual increases based on merit in the third for employees earning $471.12 or more per week. Employees paid below $471.12 receive from $21 to $31 in each of the first three years.

Agreements with all other unions—including Machinists, Service Employees, Electrical Workers (IBEW), Typographers, Firemen, and Operating Engineers—provide for weekly pay boosts of $40 the first year, $35 the second, and $30 in each of the next two years.

J P Stevens Hit

For Bad Faith Bargaining

The National Labor Relations Board has upheld an administrative law judge's 1977 ruling that the J P Stevens Co. is guilty of bad-faith bargaining in negotiations that began four years ago at the textile firm's Roanoke Rapids, NC plants.

The Dec. 14, decision, affirming Judge Bernard Ries' earlier order in which he charged Stevens approached collective bargaining with "all the tractability and open-mindedness of Sherman at the outskirts of Atlanta," noted that the company was "undermining the collective bargaining process and denigrating the union's status as... bargaining agent," won after workers voted for AFTW representation in August 1974.

STALL TACTICS

In affirming Judge Ries' decision, the labor board held that Stevens violated the National Labor Relations Act by using delaying tactics in contract talks at Roanoke Rapids "to chill the ardor of employees" support for the union at other Stevens plants.

The 3,500 Roanoke Rapids workers still have no contract; neither do more than 40,000 other Stevens employees.

Stevens' violations "go to the very heart of the Act and our national policy," the board pointed out. The new decision cited Stevens for "keeping the union in the dark regarding information necessary and relevant for the purposes of collective bargaining."

NEW MEMBERS—These are some of the 40 office workers at the New York Merchandise Company who voted overwhelmingly this month to join ILWU Warehouse Local 26, Los Angeles, uniting with more than 100 warehousemen who have belonged to ILWU since 1964.

The company distributes imported and domestic hardwaro, toys and electrical items. Seasonal workers assemble Christmas tree lights and Easter bunnies.

Organizing was conducted by the Southern California Regional Office.

Olympia—Several bills to ban log exports have hit the Evergreen State legislature's hopper.

It's a matter of grandstanding. Whenever some politician wants to get himself a little publicity he sponsors a bill to ban the export of logs. He doesn't bother to explain what would happen to Washington's secondary road system or to the schools (funding for which comes from the sale of timber from state-owned lands). Chris Mallis, legislative representative for the Puget Sound Council, testified last week at House and Senate hearings that the tab, which homeowner and renters would have to pick up, would come to $15 million every two years.

On the Senate side, the export ban bill has been sidetracked. The House bill is now in the rules committee, Mallis reports.

MANY JOBS LOST

Should the bill pass and be signed into law by Gov. Dixie Lee Ray, the job loss, not that of a few longshoremen but among many other workers, as well as in the supply trades in Washington coastal and Puget Sound ports, would be high.

There would be no immediate impact on the log ports in Oregon, but observers point out that legislation of this type is apt to have a chain reaction.
In this Dispatcher feature, ILWU attorney Arnold Leonard and Richard Roving ask us to consider the legal and political implications of a recent court decision striking employer. The court concluded that shopping center security guards and they solicitors were ordered to leave by the court because it wished to publicize its position to the public. A redress of grievances under the provisions of the interstate compact its position to the public. A redress of grievances under the provisions of the interstate compact its position to the public. A redress of grievances under the provisions of the interstate compact its position to the public. A redress of grievances under the provisions of the interstate compact its position to the public. A redress of grievances under the provisions of the interstate compact its position to the public. A redress of grievances under the provisions of the interstate compact its position to the public. 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BIG BREAKTHROUGH

But the biggest breakthrough came early in 1969, when ILWU and Teamster officials agreed to coordinate bargaining on the re-opening of wages. The two unions set up a “joint committee” to keep communications open. Local 6 President Charles “Chili” Duarte played a major role on this committee as did Frank Thompson, President of ILWU warehouse Local 17, Sacramento, which had been negotiating in cooperation with Local 6 for many years.

This new unity produced an unprecedented wage increase of 21c per hour across the board in negotiations, which for the first time, saw a join ILWU and Teamster committee meet face-to-face with representatives of the major employer associations.

At a “victory meeting,” ILWU President Bridges told hundreds of ILWU and Teamster warehouse stewards that, “we have set up here a pretty unbeatable combination… I’m proud to know Hoffa and to work with him; and we are going to pool our efforts to get a better deal out of life for our members.” In 1961, and thereafter, the master contract was negotiated jointly as a matter of course, under the auspices of the Northern California Warehouse Council. 

Since that time, new benefits such as vesting, disability, surviving spouse coverage, and accrual of benefits have been greatly strengthened, while Local 6 could negotiate free-vesting, disability, surviving spouse coverage, and accrual of benefits have been greatly strengthened, while Local 6 could negotiate free-

And we have made these gains without either union being forced to sacrifice one inch of its autonomy or its method of conducting its own internal affairs. All we have given up is the right to waste our energy and resources in futile and destructive warfare.

First joint meeting of ILWU and Teamster warehouse stewards in 1960 celebrate 21c wage increase won the first time the two unions negotiated jointly.

Teamster Alliance Praises ILWU

Goldblatt met with Joe Dillon, head of the warehouse division of the Western States of Teamsters, and the two agreed to some minimal cooperation. The situation in that year found the Teamsters committed to arbitrate their wage decrease, while Local 6 could negotiate free-

Teamsters and assisted the Teamsters in a number of Bay Area strikes. The Teamsters assisted ILWU pickets in Southern California, and both unions employed employer threats again.

The legislation, therefore, gives DOSH new power to regulate (by prohibition) the manufacture, sale, purchase, or transport of any manufactured product containing asbestos. By July 1, 1979, the Board will prohibit the manufacture, sale, purchase, or transport of any manufactured product containing asbestos to be sprayed on a building or other structure during its construction, alteration or repair. It is illegal to provide or use asbestos-containing products to be used for such a purpose. Under SB 158, DOSH is responsible for prohibiting the manufacture or use of asbestos-containing substances suitable for spraying, unless the substances are exempt by law. The exemptions (until July 1, 1979) permit:

- Portland cement plaster containing less than one-half of one percent of asbestos
- Exterior and interior coatings and linings, after being sprayed, containing uncapped asbestos fibers bound within the finished products from manufacture through application
- Cold process asphalt roof coatings
- Asbestos chance containing less than one-quarter of one percent of naturally occurring asbestos impurities

The most significant aspect of this enforcement program is that ILWU is able to issue an Order Prohibiting Use if it becomes aware of the manufacture of such a product. Employers are handling the manufactured material. Employee exposure to a hazard resulting from the manufactured material need not be shown.

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To Ranks of Pro Baseball Stars
the San Pedro Merchants. From the left are Alex (now retired out of ILWU Local 12), Nick, John, Ambrose Sr., Erv (who achieved fame with the Brook- lyn Dodgers) and Ambrose, Jr.

This 1945 photo shows the five Palica brothers in their days of glory with TINY'S TEAM

The Palicas grew up in Lomita, Cali-

RANKING CHAIN

A few years ago, Erv returned to New York to play in Shea Stadium with the Metropolitans. As one of the 1940s' best players, he was one of the most prominent.

Local 10 pensioner George Shillingworth, left, and son George Shillingworth, right, recently in the Sacramento delta region.

Dockers, Widows On Pension List

SANDRONE—Following is the February, 1979 listing of dockworkers retired under various ILWU-PMA plans.

Canada Unions Seek Return of Runaway Fleet

WASHINGTON, DC—Social Security will be a lot less secure, if President Carter concludes in his plan to cut Social Security benefits, according to the people who visited the country in the 1970s.

The Palicas are shown off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught shows off immense sturgeon caught
Jack Hall Kona Apartments will be ready for occupancy next month, serving a long-time need for ILWU members in hotels and tourism.

Jack Hall Housing Completed

HAWAII—The Jack Hall apartment projects, ILWU Local 142’s answer to its members’ housing needs, has been completed, with moving-in dates and dedication ceremonies scheduled for March. Occupancy was stalled by last-minute construction problems and the processing of necessary permits. But red tape delays are nothing new to the members, while the 144 one- and two-bedroom Waipahu apartments are designed to accommodate Oahu Sugar members and pensioners.

Nevertheless, the apartments stand today; one in Kona on the Big Island, and one in Waipahu on Oahu. Both complexes were developed by non-profit corporations organized by the ILWU. ILWU members employed by subcontractors did the cement work, cabinet work and landscaping. In addition, an ILWU house holds the garbage collection contract.

The 48 Kona apartments will serve Kailua area hotel and tourism members. ILWU Local 214’s answer to its members’ housing needs, has been completed, with moving-in dates and dedication ceremonies scheduled for March. Occupancy was stalled by last-minute construction problems and the processing of necessary permits. But red tape delays are nothing new to the members. Nevertheless, the apartments stand today; one in Kona on the Big Island, and one in Waipahu on Oahu. Both complexes were developed by non-profit corporations organized by the ILWU. ILWU members employed by subcontractors did the cement work, cabinet work and landscaping. In addition, an ILWU house holds the garbage collection contract.

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Pulp, Paper Strike Wraps Up With 10-9-8% Increase

PORTLAND—After seven months, the strike of 155,000 paper and pulp workers at mills stretching from Alaska to California appears to be winding down.

Crow-Zellerbach reached a tentative agreement with the Association of West Coast Paper Workers covering workers in Oregon and California. The agreement includes general, second and 8% in the third year, plus pension and other fringe benefit improvements. The base rate will be 8% less this time the past expire.

Similar agreements have been ratified by 1,256 AWPFW workers at Scott Paper in Everett, by union members at four Boise Cascade plants and at the Georgia Pacific plant in Everett, Washington.

A contract with ITT-Rayonier in the Aspen, Washington, area has been ratified also, and union negotiators are back at the negotiating table with International Paper at Gardiner, Oregon and with Louisiana-Pacific at Samoa, California, and with the Weyerhaeuser Company in plants that guy the Northwest.

5.96 AFWPW members remain on the bricks as of this writing including those at the Menasha Plant in North Bend, Oregon. Workers at a Georgia Pacific plant in Raymond, Oregon are working under a no-strike company offer and talks with Louisiana Pacific in Ketchikan, Alaska and with Gray's Harbor Paper have also broken down.

THANKS TO ILWU Thanks to the ILWU International and to many area locals who helped out were expressed by AWPFW President Bob Rodgers. ILWU members respected AWPFW picket lines, partici- pated in sympathy demonstrations, pro- vided extra waterfront work, and donated for union-bearing workers, Rodgers said: "We can't say enough about the ILWU, they have received and we will always remember it." Rodgers said his members were some- what better prepared last year than this year, with more members and less-than the companies agreed in settle- ment.

The companies, which produce about 14% of the nation's pulp and paper on the West Coast, brought in salesmen, account- ants and secretaries from as far away as New York City to work to the mills. The salaried personnel typically worked 12 hours a day for 10 days at a stretch, then took four days off.

Speaker reporter interviews AWP

PW striker Hugh Brown outside Men-asha plant near North Bend.

"We should not take revenge. We will leave that to the courts," said Chavez. The AFWPW promised an all-out attack on Big Business, and threatened ear- lier to defy a court injunction ordering strikers to stay out of the fields at the 11 struck farms where scabs are attempt- ing to harvest the rotating lettuce, brussel- sprouts, and asparagus.

Contreras was shot after he and ap- proximately 75 other union members climbed a fence next to a lettuce field and approached a group of some 60 workers who had been brought in by the growers, reported the Imperial Valley County Sheriff's Department.

Two foremen and a man who works for the outfit which supplied the strikebreakers were booked in connection with the slaying. All were released the next day on bail ranging between $7,000 and $3,000.

The usual bail sum for suspects in the Imperial Valley is $50,000.

Chavez, charging "possible collusion," has asked the California Commission on Judicial Performance to investigate the superior court judge who set the low bail. He pointed out that UFW members had been given bail of up to $8,000 for such lesser offenses as rock-throwing and tres- passing.

A six-member blue-ribbon panel, includ- ing former Lieutenant Governor Mervyn Dymally, has begun its investigation into the slaying.

IMPORTANT STRIKE—Workers at the Newport News Shipbuilding & Dry Dock Company remain off the job as the United Steel Workers strike for Dynegonion enters its fourth week. So far 25 pickets have been arrested. Police are armed with .38's, shotguns, attack dogs and tear gas. A few bricks as of this writing including those at the Weyerhaeuser Company in plants that guy the Northwest.

From the labor movement

Farmworker Picket Killed as Lettuce Strike Enters Second Month

CALEDONIA, Ca.—Shaky negotiations between the United Farm Workers and 28 lettuce growers broke off over the opening of laborers to the 27-year old Mexican national who was shot in the Salinas Valley on February 21. Six- teen pickets were arrested.

The basic issue in the strike is wages.

The five-week old strike, which now involves nearly 5,000 UFW members, has been marked with several other incidents of violence. One picker was shot and about 20 others injured in a melee in the Valley on January 30. And on Feb. 16 sev- eral dozen sheriff deputies dented tear gas to disperse strikers who broke the wind- shields of the buses that brought scabs to the field. Strikers and scabs also clashed in the Salinas Valley on February 21. Six- teen pickets were arrested.

The basic issue in the strike is wages. The UFW is seeking an increase in the minimum hourly rate for pickers from $7.25 to $9.35 an hour, and an increase in the piece rates from 37c to 68c a box.

Environmentalists equity to end any strike or lockout of public employees in the province and to impose compulsory arbi- tration.

The BCPFL is already calling for the defeat of the Social Credit in the provincial elec- tion to be held May 2.

The rallies have the support of the Ca- nadaian Area of the ILWU. Former Cana- dian Area president Don Garcia, who is a vice president of the BCPFL, has been a speaker at many of the events, attracting overflow audiences.

“Everything this government has done since being elected,” said Jim Kinnard, president of the BC Federal of Labor, “appears aimed at destroying labor in BC . . . If they can successfully destroy the union in this area, they can destroy the union everywhere.”

“If we are to survive this head-on at- tack we must begin to form an indepen- dent organization politically, we must help the pub- lic sector workers in their fight, and above all . . . we must defeat Social Credit in the next election.”

Big Price Jump

With food, especially beef, leading a broad range of price increases, the pro- duction costs of goods ready to be sold to retailers, the Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. The increase was the largest since the end of the Vietnam War in November 1975. An upward movement of producer prices usually presages a rise of retail prices. For food and for cars, that rise may al- ready be well underway, in part or altogether, economists said.

Oil Companies Hold US Hosting

WASHINGTON, DC—You don't have to look too hard for the answer: Oil companies pay less for their utility bill. Currently, gas and electricity rates will pay more for the same amount of energy inflation is raging out of control.

For food and for cars, that rise may al- ready be well underway, in part or altogether, economists said.

BC Labor to Organize Against Anti-Union Laws

VANCOUVER, BC—The 290,000 member British Columbia Federation of Labor has mounted a province-wide campaign against Big Business, led by the provincial Social Credit govern- ment.

The problem is that these monopolies are involved in the form of public rallies in nine selected urban and industrial areas. It will culminate in a huge rally in Vancouver at the Orpheum Theatre on March 7.

Specifically the campaign is aiming at the Essential Services Act and the threat of "right-to-work" laws.

The Essential Services Act gives the government authority to end any strike or lockout of public employees in the province and to impose compulsory arbi- tration.

Profits Keep Climbing

Although many analysts fear that the economy soon will be in the soup, a look at fourth-quarter 1978 profits turns up a lot.

In the fourth quarter of last year, after- tax profits for the "big 20" company rose 28% from a year earlier, a Wall Street Journal survey finds. The gains capped a three-year increase in all last year. In the depressed first quar- ter, the advance was a slim 3.4%. In the second, it sped up to 10%, and in the third, it surged to 21%.