Eastern Airlines

IAM strike seen as turning point

(As this edition of The Dispatcher goes to press, the strike against Eastern Airlines by 8,500 members of the International Association of Machinists, with the critical support of pilots and flight attendants, is nearly a week old. The company, a subsidiary of Frank Lorenzo's Texas Air, has shut down nearly all operations, and has filed for bankruptcy. Rumours of an attempted buyout of Eastern by TWA are circulating.

The following article by Henry Weinstein of the Los Angeles Times is among the most successful efforts we've seen to get a view of the strike from the point of view of the rank-and-file Machinists.)

LOS ANGELES—For Ron Dunn, a veteran Los Angeles ramp serviceman for Eastern Airlines, the time had come to draw the line and "stop Lorenzo."

So the 42-year-old Arcadia resident and 8,500 of his fellow unionists have launched a high-risk strike in an effort to bring to heel their boss, Frank Lorenzo, chairman of Eastern's parent Company, Texas Air Corp.

The first day of the battle brought cheer to the hearts of the members of the International Association of Machinists, who were supported in demonstrations by 8,500 of his fellow unionists have launched a high-risk strike in an effort to bring to heel their boss, Frank Lorenzo, chairman of Eastern's parent Company, Texas Air Corp.

Even Los Angeles Times correspondent Verna Valukas's "Organizing top priority for 1989" won't get a view of the strike from the point of view of the rank-and-file Machinists.)

OAKLAND—Organizing. That’s where it’s at. Internal and external, through educational programs, affiliations, stewards’ councils, and member services—organizing is the key to the survival of the union.

This theme dominated the proceedings of the 44th Annual Convention of ILWU warehouse Local 6 held in Oakland, California late last month where 190 delegates gathered at the Local hall to consider and adopt a variety of proposals specifically aimed at expanding and strengthening the huge warehouse Local.

It won’t be easy. Events of the last 10 years have set the labor movement back at least 50 years. Local finances, while improving, are limited. Membership apathy has marred its ugly head in some units while others have suffered from automation, relocation and closures.

But this is not a Local at odds with itself. Despite the challenges, the officers, staff and delegates demonstrated a singleness of purpose in getting down to business at this "no BS" convention.

MIXED BAG

The Officers’ Report, delivered by Local 6 president Jim Ryder, presented delegates with a mixed bag of good and bad news in its review of 1988.

On one hand, significant organizing victories were realized in several houses, and in 123 contracts negotiated during the year. The centerpiece was the master warehouse contract which resulted in important gains for members of both ILWU Local 6 and various Teamsters Locals. International Secretary-Treasurer Curtis McClain was credited with providing continued leadership as co-chair of the North-

What’s the biggest issue facing your unit?

Mario Santos
Mills Bros.

"Favoritism. Management asserts they can promote whom they want regardless of seniority or qualifications, and that erodes the bargaining power of the union."

Mary Biddell
Heublein

"Automation. It’s become an extremely divisive force. Jobs are lost almost everyday, and people are fighting over what’s left. They’re just trying to survive."

Don Durkee
Stapleton

"Rotating shifts. We alternate from days to swing to graveyard and back again. Families are disrupted, workers are discouraged, and that’s hazardous."

Abby Sullivan
Kaiser

"Understaffing. Pay and conditions aren’t sufficient to attract qualified and stay. We’re treated like robots. In the end, it’s the patients who suffer."

Nick Jones
Stockton Port

"No jobs. Our steady workforce has dwindled from 130 people down to 12. We need to organize new houses and plants and get more work for our people."

Gary Kollman
Westco

"Mechanization, robotics, computers. There’s been a dramatic change in our production methods. Jobs have been lost because it takes one person to do the work of five."

TWA case

High court ruling will haunt unions

(As this edition of the Dispatch goes to press, the strike against Eastern Airlines by 8,500 members of the International Association of Machinists, who were supported in demonstrations by 8,500 of his fellow unionists have launched a high-risk strike in an effort to bring to heel their boss, Frank Lorenzo, chairman of Eastern's parent Company, Texas Air Corp.

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See President’s Report, Page 2

The Eastern strike

See President’s Report, Page 2
Drawing the line at Eastern

By JIM HERMAN
ILWU International President

As this is written, 6,500 members of the International Association of Machinists—mechanics, baggage handlers and other ground workers—have been on strike against Eastern Airlines for nearly a week. In a magnificent display of solidarity, another 3,500 pilots, and 5,800 flight attendants have respected their picket lines, effectively paralyzing the airline.

Eastern's owner, Frank Lorenzo, has filed for bankruptcy in hopes that he will be allowed to unilaterally abrogate union contracts and slash wages and conditions—just like he did when he acquired Continental in the early 80s. Rumors of a buyout of Eastern by TWA or some other company are also circulating.

The issues are extraordinarily complex. On one hand, we have employees who have had 17 years to try in good faith to negotiate an agreement. They have already rescued the company once, absorbing some $1.5 billion in financial losses and another company's $8.5 million more in interest. But the last two decades—amounting to a 20% cut in labor costs. Machinists at Eastern are already paid less than those at any other unionized airline. To go on strike would mean agreeing to a new contract that includes—among other things—47% wage cuts, they are on strike only because 47% wage cuts have no other alternative.

Johns Manville asbestos suit, or the $2.9 billion received by the 195,000 victims of the Johns Manville asbestos disaster. Compare, for instance, the $470 million received by the 190,000 victims of Bhopal to the $2.5 billion received by 60,000 claimants in Bhopal to the $2.5 million free riders, workers who are already rescued the company once, absorbing some $1.5 billion in financial losses and another company's $8.5 million more in interest. But the last two decades—amounting to a 20% cut in labor costs. Machinists at Eastern are already paid less than those at any other unionized airline. To go on strike would mean agreeing to a new contract that includes—among other things—47% wage cuts, they are on strike only because 47% wage cuts have no other alternative.

So that's where it went. Wages in 1969 were 10% below those in 1972, according to the Center for Ethics and Social Policy. This means that who people enter the workforce today will mean less than who entered 15 years ago.

Between 1968 and 1983, the poorest 20% of American families saw their share of income decline from 7.2% to 5.2%. Over 60% of all jobs created since 1979 paid less than $7,000 a year. Involuntary part-time workers increased 155% in the last 15 years.

Where did the money go? Ask your friendly, neighborhood corporate executive. The next time you hear a big, US corporation make a pronouncement about the resource center. And, shortly before the disaster, safety systems were shut down to cut operating costs.

The settlement is clearly geared to the financial health of Union Carbide—not to the health of its victims in Bhopal. It is not a resolution of the issues; instead, the settlement is woven from the same fabric as the disaster itself.

UNION CARBIDE

COST OF A LIFE

Because of the enormity and severity of the medical catastrophe, and the long-term character of the victims' ailments, the Bhopal Action Resource Center estimates the cost of adequate medical care alone at $600 million. Including adequate compensation for the 3,330 who were killed and the estimated 1,700 who will die from the disaster over the next seven years, job rehabilitation, property damage, medical research and damages for suffering and distress would bring the total to $4.1 billion, according to the resource center.

The Bhopal settlement is based on the chauvinist premise that Third World life is less precious than American life. Compare, for instance, resources serving out of its 1984 gas disaster in Bhopal the sum of its record 1988 profits of $720 million. No wonder news of the settlement pushed Carbide stock up $2 per share.

But $470 million does not even provide for the care and rehabilitation of the victims, as Carbide contends, let alone provide a just overall settlement. Between 1968 and 1983, the poorest 20% of American families saw their share of income decline from 7.2% to 5.2%. Over 60% of all jobs created since 1979 paid less than $7,000 a year. Involuntary part-time workers increased 155% in the last 15 years.

So where did the money go? Ask your friendly, neighborhood corporate executive. The next time you hear a big, US corporation make a pronouncement about the economic costs of the Bhopal tragedy, it will be precisely the opposite. In the case of American workers, the economic costs are far higher, but the publicity is far less.

The Eastern strikers deserve and will have our 100% support. At very least we owe it to ourselves to warn this Nation that a critical social contract has been broken. If we let it happen today, and the public as a whole are drawing the line.

Bhopal tragedy

Settlement lets Union Carbide off hook

Union Carbide has called the $470 million settlement over the gas disaster in Bhopal India "a fair resolution of all issues." But it would be more accurate to describe this settlement, reached in December at the latest, as the Bhopal Action Resource Center estimates the cost of adequate medical care alone at $600 million. Including adequate compensation for the 3,330 who were killed and the estimated 1,700 who will die from the disaster over the next seven years, job rehabilitation, property damage, medical research and damages for suffering and distress would bring the total to $4.1 billion, according to the resource center.

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Local 200 hospital unit stronger

JUNEAU—As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, members of the Local 200 bargaining unit at Bartlett Memorial Hospital are holding regular meetings with their employer in hopes of arriving at a new contract as early as possible.

The current agreement, their first, does not expire until July. "But the hospital asked for early bargaining in order to deal with certain problems they face, and the members agreed," said International Representative John Bukoskey, who is serving as negotiating spokesman. "It’s our approach that we can deal with the hospital’s problems and the membership’s needs in a more productive way."

The 150-member unit has been strengthened 17 percent, and the longshoremen "are excited about this". Rogers noted. "Our first reaction was that we made an error in judgment, but when the workers found out how things were, they knew we were misled."

The workers are now, in their own words, "getting victory".

Local 19 gets manlifts at Seattle port

SEATTLE—In the space of just one year, two deaths occurred on high-riser cranes at the Port of Seattle. In each case, the workers were assigned as emergency workers to rescue the crews who were struggling to rescue them. In each case, help was not given in a timely manner. Similar tragedies don’t happen again. ILWU Port Longshore Local 19 has been working with Pacific Towboat operators to get elevators, or “man-lifts”, installed on all cranes used at the Port. Writing innumerable letters and haggling out the issues at countless meetings, Local’s efforts have finally spurred the Port into action.

"We got the Port to agree to retrofit eight cranes with manlifts,” said Local Secretary-Treasurer Bob Rogers. "Six of the cranes have been in service for several years; the other two are on order and should be in service within the month.

Rogers said he hoped installation of the man-lifts would “come sometime this year.” The cost of retrofitting, he said, has been estimated by the Port at approximately $125,000 per crane.

DOMINO EFFECT

Although he’s been actively involved in the crane issue for well over a year, the debate heated up considerably when Rogers read an article in the December 1988 edition of The Dispatcher about the Port of Los Angeles decision to install man-lifts there beginning May 1989.

“Personally angered me,” Rogers said. “Ports all up and down the coast are installing man-lifts, including the Port of Oakland, and we were getting resistance from Seattle. So I wrote a strong letter to the Port and sent along a copy of the article. I think the crusade-story-so-to-speak meetings that followed triggered the Port’s approval.”

The decision, however, falls short of what Rogers and others at Local 19 would like to see. "The Port has only authorized installation of man-lifts for the eight of the highest cranes; there are still fifteen others in use,” Rogers noted.

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Shell boycott continues

ILWU is among the hundreds of labor, community and civil rights organizations actively supporting the boycott of Royal Dutch Shell, the parent company of Shell Oil. The boycott is directed at products to the government of South Africa which uses force and violence to suppress dissent against its system of apartheid. The boycott is now in its fourth year.

Some 200 members of the Inlandboatmen’s Union of the Pacific, joined by supporters from LA Harbor Area locals—including a strong turnout by members of shipscalers Local 56—rallied at PacTow gates February 22. Some 200 members of the Inlandboatmen’s Union of the Pacific, joined by supporters from LA Harbor Area locals—including a strong turnout by members of shipscalers Local 56—rallied at PacTow gates February 22.

IBU tightens nose at PacTow

LONG BEACH—The strike by some 45 members of the Inlandboatmen’s Union of the Pacific, ILWU, against Pacific Towboat and Salvage, a Pose Marine subsidiary, in nearly four months old, as of this issue of The Dispatcher goes on.

The latest round of meetings with the employer, held February 27-28, produced no progress. The company offer, which still contains substantial takeaways, was rejected unanimously by the membership in a meeting held at the ILWU hall March 6, followed by a rally at the PacTow gate.

The strike remains highly effective. "Thanks to the support of ILWU longshore division locals, PacTow has only touched one freighter and moved about 8 or 9 tankers in and out of the oil docks since the strike started on November 15," said ILWU Southern California Regional Director Bob Forrester. "The oil barges are nearly shut down; several attempts to load barges have been turned away. Ship bunkering is at a near standstill."

BARGE-ING IN

A maneuver by PacTow to end the blockade was frustrated February 20 by some heads-up play by the unit members. Using a large leased from a third party, PacTow pulled alongside a Matson ship to offload a cargo of Navy helicopters brought in from Hawaii. ILWU members converged on the site, picketing on water and land.

"The longshoremen wouldn't touch it, and the work stopped immediately," said Forrester. "Matson called PacTow and told them to come get their barges. At first, PacTow management denied having anything to do with it. Then they showed up a few hours later in a tug—with the local company present aboard—and picked up the barges."

In the meantime, picketing continues. Members are getting by with the assistance of Harber Area longshore locals, but a strike assistance fund has been established. To contribute, send checks to the ILWU Southern California Regional Office, 728 Lagoon Avenue, Wilmington, CA 90744, or call the office at 213-549-6730 for more information.

Nature Co. unit makes solid gains in first-time pact

BERKELEY, Calif.—The Nature Company store in Berkeley, California is a sensual delight, a “toy” store for adults with a curiosity about the myriad wonders of the universe. Stunning photographs of astronomical phenomena dazzle your eyes. Telescopes, microscopes, and other things stimulate your imagination. New age music carousels.

Half a block down the road at the company’s warehouse, the scene is not so laid back. There some 40 workers have been battling the company for the last three years over the right to organize. For ILWU Warehouse Local 6 and get a contract that will give them the protections they need now—and in the not too distant future.

ALL IN THE FAMILY

The first attempt by Local 6 to organize Nature’s warehouse went down in resounding defeat in 1986. It was a family-owned business then; the owners knew everybody and knew management successfully persuaded workers that they were all just one big happy family.

But two years later it was a different story. Nature had been taken over by a Boston-based holding company, a revolving door of inept managers replaced the owner, and the work stopped immediately,” said assistant steward Robbie Holland, “each one with new rules and policies. They were coming

Some of the fine points of the new deal with the Nature Company. Flanking Lindsay, from left to right, are Troy Garner, Paul Hirsch, Robbie Holland and Norman Sanker.

Gathering in front of the Nature Company warehouse in Berkeley, California, members of the new Local 6 unit celebrate their first contract. Since everyone there is on a first-name basis, that’s all we got. Standing in the back row are Bessie, Mary, Barb, Robert, Paul, Morris, Troy, Dave, Dan and Lorraine; in front are Allison, Norman, Adriene, Heather, Catherine, Damon, Tara, Anne, John and Derek.

Despite rocky past and uncertain future

Talking with the rank-and-file members of the union negotiating committee during their afternoon break, Local 6 BA Joe Lindsay, center, went over some of the fine points of the new deal with Nature Company. Flanking Lindsay, from left to right, are Troy Garner, Paul Hirsch, Robbie Holland and Norman Sanker.

Layoffs loom

"The company came after us again," said Chief steward Troy Garner. "But by that time, nobody was buying it." Hanging tough bought them a new contract, but ironically the unit faces a mass layoff as the company explores plans to relocate its distribution center far from the union’s jurisdiction.

Anticipating the question, the union negotiating committee member Norm Sanker said, "No, they’re not just moving to get away from us. They talked about it long before we got the union in.”

The bright side is that the clericals, truck drivers and warehouse workers at Nature’s future are likely to get solid protections whether the company relocates or not. “We made sure everybody got something out of this contract,” said Local 6 BA Joe Lindsay.

Ratified by a vote of 29-2, the new contract brings wage increases to about 80% of the members there, a $600 lump sum payment, a seniority clause, grievance procedures, union shop provisions, and “honor and fire” protective language, “none of which we had before,” said negotiating committee member Paul Hirsch. "Service provisions give additional protections if “we shut down.”

"It is a word you hear a lot at Nature Company. “If they stay,” “If they move.” "If I lose my job.” “But, although the future is—at best—uncertain, spirits are amazingly high.

"We didn’t get what we wanted, but at least we have some protection, and we’ll have access to the hiring hall if we need it,” Garner observed. “The main thing is that our members knew that we’ve gone through in the last three years we’ve been unionized, and now we’re more together than ever. I think, no matter what happens, we are better off for it.”
Oregon threatens log exports

SALEM, Ore.—As The Dispatcher went to press it appeared that efforts made by the Columbia River District Council (CRDC) and Oregon ILWU locals once again had halted a big deal of timber exports on log reports from state-owned lands in Oregon.

Instead of an outright log ban, the House Agricultural Committee of the Oregon Legislature this week reported out SJR 8, a compromise measure which would allow 15 key log counties the right to determine whether higher bids for timber on state-owned lands would be accepted from exporters over local bids made by companies for domestic use.

50-YEAR TRUST

The aspect is based on a 50-year trust agreement the state has with the 15 counties in Oregon wherein monies earned from the sale of timber on state-owned lands are used for school funding, thereby lowering property taxes for school support in those counties. Under this arrangement the state authority involved could in effect approve the export of logs from state-owned lands and receive in turn when exporters' bids are higher than bids from other sources.

A number of ILWU officers and members testified at the hearings against any total ban of exports, including Dick Wise, International Representative, Jeff Adams, CRDC Legislative Representative, Mark Hamlin, Local 12, Cose Bay; John Kluge, Local 53, Newport; and Charles McBride, Local 8, Portland. Any written testimony was read from Art Wagner, Local 8, Portland; and CRDC President '89 PROGRAM

On Wednesday, March 8, CRDC Legisla
tive Representative Adams delivered to every member of the Oregon House of Rep
desatives a short statement outlining the ILWU's position in favor of the comprome

sed log measure, SJR 8.

Other items on the CRDC's Legislative Agenda for Oregon's 1989 session include:

• Opposition to any legislation adversely affecting the shipment of lumber, autos, gr
ds, paper, wheat and oil.
• Opposition to the enactment of any sales values added or flat taxes.
• Opposition to any "right-to-work for

less" proposals.
• Other concerns on the Council's Agenda include safety, plant closures, retirement compensation, and a number of items submitted by the Colum
bia River Pensioners, which deal with such senior concerns as nursing homes, hous
ing, mental health care, prescription drugs, transportation, and a state health plan.

The Columbia River Pensioners 18-
member executive board has volunteered to assist the CRDC in achieving its agenda at the legislature by writing letters and making telephone calls to key state Sena

tors at "their behest whenever needed.

At its February meeting the CRDC voted to become a part of the Coalition for Peti
tion Rights. In addition to making a finan
cial donation, the Council went on record to support the Coalition's upcoming petition drive to ask the state Constitution updating the section on petition rights.

New bill seeks comp benefits

SACRAMENTO—"California's treat
ment of injured workers has become a national embarrassment," said California state senator Bill Greene. "We are now competing with Georgia for the dubious
distinction of having the lowest maximum benefits relative to the state average weekly wage.

As chairman of the Senate Committee on Industrial Relations, Greene recently introduced a constitutional amendment to create a minimum standard for workers' compensation benefits. The amendment, SCA 8, sets the maximum weekly temporary

ability disability at a level not less than the average weekly wage in the state. Currently, the maximum is $224. The state projects the average weekly wage for 1989 will rise to $465.

Noting that past attempts to increase the benefit have been stymied by insurance

business interests, workers and other pro

viders, Greene said that injured workers have become defenseless hostages in the workers' compensation wars. "No one sug
gests the income support they receive even approaches adequacy, or that it contributes to unwarranted costs, but they pay the highest price for the gridlock over reform.," Greene said.

PEOPLE VS. PROFITS

In fact, only a meager 13% of workers' compensation costs goes to injured workers. "That's nearly as much as what insurance companies spend to sell this state-mandated insurance," Greene said.

The problem, Greene explained, is that most of the money goes into medical expenses, permanent partial disability elements, vocational rehabilitation and insurance company expenses—all areas from which service providers make their profits.

"While everyone should be able to earn a decent income," Greene said, "we need to reorient the priorities. Income support for injured workers should not be kept at star

vation levels to protect the fees and profits of service providers.

PROP 97 SEQUEL

Greene expressed confidence that the voters would approve SCA 8 if the Legisla
ture agrees to place it on the ballot, and

indicated he would push for an initiative if necessary.

"I want to get this on the 1990 ballot and will explore doing so directly if I can't con

vince enough of my colleagues to support it. The Cal-Osha campaign showed that voters will respond when worker protec

tion levels to protect the fees and profits of service providers."

SAFER, TIGHTER, CLEANER

As chairman of the Senate Committee on Health and Environment, Greene has introduced a new bill that would increase the number of inspections and penalties for pollution offenses. The bill, SB 272, would also increase the fines for violations.

"The bill is a step in the right direction, but we need to do more," Greene said. "We need to hold polluters accountable and make sure they are paying for the damage they've done.

In addition, Greene has introduced a bill that would require companies to provide full disclosure of their operations and the effects of their operations on the environment. The bill, SB 273, also would require companies to develop and implement pollution prevention plans.

"These bills are the first step in making our state a safer, cleaner place to live," Greene said. "We need to make sure that our industries are not polluting our air and water, and that we are doing our part to protect the environment.

"I am committed to ensuring that our state has a healthy, clean environment for all of our citizens. I will continue to work on these issues until we have achieved this goal.

Consumer revolt spreads nationwide

SALEM, Ore.—"California was just the tip of the iceberg," said Robert Bran

en. He's the vice-president of Citizen Action, a 1.75 million-member coalition of consumer and civic organizations which is launching campaigns across the nation to reform the insurance industry.

Referring to the success of Proposition 103, the "consumer revolt" initiative which stunned the Golden State's huge and pow

erful insurance industry, Brandon said similar movements are "spreading like wildfire" to the rest of the country.

Brandon blamed state governments for allowing the industry to "get away with preda
yous practices.

In most states, the industry is exempt from anti-trust statutes," he noted. "At the same time, it's virtually untouched by state regulation.

"Union members, like most consumers, have had enough," he said. "They're demanding tougher regulation, lower rates, full disclosure of information on anti-trust exemptions. In state after state, we're mobilizing people to make these goals a reality, not just at a state level, but nationally."
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The DISPATCHER

Continued from page 1

ern California Warehouse Council.
The downsides was that almost every
gain made last year was marred by
employers who preferred union-busting
to good faith bargaining. In many cases,
employer manipulation pit ited worker
against worker; the Local continues to
grapple with the aftermath of a “house
divided” in several locations, despite solid
victories in organizing and negotiations.

But there is but hope for better things
to come—and more than that, a plan of
action. Discussing a new “Program of
Organizing” Ryder said: “This program is
not limited to new members. If we are
internally strong, united in our knowledge
that our struggles for better working
conditions and a better standard of living
for union members translates into the broader
struggle for social and economic justice, we
will successfully carry this message into
our communities and organize.”

Internal organizing, he said, will consist of
“education and integration” as methods
to combat membership apathy. The Local
will use its recently resurrected Public
and Education Committee, the Pension
Clubs and a new open-door policy to
courage member participation and awareness.

“In this convention you will make policy
through debate and resolution of the
issues,” Ryder said. “The challenge will be
to involve those who are not here in carry-
ning out the program to be adopted here,
and for those present to organize and edu-
cate themselves to do the work.”

BEYOND BREAD AND BUTTER

The political and personal nature of the
topic, in one form or the other, of almost
every speech given at the convention.

ILWU International President Jim Her-
man, who gave the keynote address, urged
del egates to “not just deal with the bread
and butter issues, but all those issues that
directly or indirectly involve us.”

“Most of us have had a good piece out of
life. If that is enough, we can walk away
resting on our laurels. But what do we tell
the generation behind us, those who are
yet to come? That there is no hope of a
decent job and a decent struggle.” Herman
said. “With your help, we are sending the message of
Saferoy a strong and clear message that
we will not stand idle as they ruin workers’
lives.”

Using services as a means of enhancing
member participation in the union was the
focus of addresses given by Wanda Riker of
the ILWU-PUC Credit Union, Bill Carder of
Leonard, Carder and Zuckerman, and
Gary Atkinson of DARE.

Encouraging enrollment, Riker said
“most Local 6 members should view the
credit union as another part of the union itself,
not something separate from it. Carder gave a
detailed legal analysis on employer
drug testing, and Atkinson followed with
information about DARE, the Local’s drug
and alcohol treatment program.

Every nickel the local spent was
accounted for in a detailed financial report
presented by secretary-treasurer Leon
Harris. Despite hard times and hard
choices—including layoffs of some of the
staff—the Local is in the black and con-
tinues to provide necessary services to its
members thanks to careful management of
union funds.

“I don’t think we lost one phone call or
one grievance because of our financial
limitations,” Harris said. “But the one
message you must carry back to the
membership is that there is no longer any
justifiable allies for not paying union dues.
That has to be the first bill you pay. With-
out dues, your union and your job, there is
nothing. So, pay yourself first!”

BE IT RESOLVED

The resolutions adopted at the conve-
tion followed the path carved by the
Local 6 officers in their report. A key
resolution called for the Local’s
affiliation with the state and county bodies
of the AFL-CIO. Sponsors of the resolution
stated that the full benefits of the Interna-
tional’s recent affiliation with a national level
would best be realized through participa-
tion at local levels.

A beefed-up organizing program was
the subject of another important proposal, and
should pump new life into the Local’s drive
for new members. Plans include expanding
into new industries, assisting unemployed members and non-members
get in on the act through new organizing.

Since organizing begins at the shop,
delегates laid a new foundation for the Local 6
Stewards Council as part of an overall
effort to “rebuild our union.” The resolu-
tion seeking to strengthen the steward sys-
tem offered a wide range of ideas to help
these vital, first-line union representatives
more effectively serve their members.

New plans for the Publicity and Educa-
tion Committee and the Action
Committee will go a long way toward increasing
the Local’s political awareness. Among other things, the Local will be
using educational materials from a variety
of sources and perhaps even video to keep
members informed and interested. Ball-
bearing andJuan Pierre are among the
many activities the Local will sponsor to
bring the membership together in a social
and political environment.

Other resolutions offered contract
provisions for future arbitration and state-
ments of policy regarding South Africa, El
Salvador, the Middle East and
disarmament.

Convention guests included a number of
distinguished visitors from the community
and other segments of the union.

Bishop M. J. Clifton gave the invocation
preceding the keynote address. International Secretary-Treasurer Curt McClain also
taled the delegates for allowing him to watch “demonstrations at work.” International Vice President Randy Vekich and International Secre-
tary-Treasurer Curt McClain also
attended along with International rep
Abba Ramo. Local 34 secretary-treasurer
Brian McWilliams, IUB regional director
Charlie Clark, Local 2 president Annie Coleman, and Jeff and Gina Milbourn from
warehouse Local 17.

Wishes for a productive session were
received from the officers of Local 142 in
Hawaii and ILWU warehouse Local 26
president Luiso Guets. Harry Bridges sent
his regrets for being unable to attend and
wished the delegates good luck in conduct-
ing their business.

Dedicated to the memory of ILWU
activity Elaine Black Yunna, Bill Forre, August Hemez, Henry McNight and
Felix Rivera, the convention adjourned late in the afternoon after a day of
debates, speeches and just plain hard
work.

Over the course of the day-long Local 6 convention held last month delegates studied, debated and approved a number of resolutions leading toward strengthening and expanding the warehouse Local.

Organizing key to Local 6 future

At the head table, Local 6 President Jim Ryder, Secretary-Treasurer Leon Harris, Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson, International Secretary-Treasurer Curt McClain and President Jim Herman.
MAN OF THE YEAR — ILWU longshore Local 32 president Harold Pyatte made headlines again, this time for being named "Man of the Year in Sports" by his hometown's newspaper, The Everett Herald. As the manager of the town's semi-pro baseball team, the Everett Merchants, Pyatte captured national attention by bringing the team out of relative obscurity to win the championship. The World Series held in August. Above, Pyatte is shown receiving his award at the banquet held in his honor last month.

Local 27 set to tee off in 5th Annual Golf Tourney

PORT ANGELES, Wa. — ILWU longshore Local 27 has scheduled its Fifth Annual Golf Tournament for April 27, 1989 at the Dungeness Golf Course S. The tourney is open to all longshoremen, clerks and walking bosses currently working or retired.

Players will come from as far north as Port Alberni, B.C. and as far south as Los Angeles. "We also expect a large contingent from Canada," said tourney organizer Saul Uranga.

There will be three handicap divisions, plus a senior division for the 55-and-over crowd. Entries are limited to 144 golfers and will be on a first come, first served basis. The $40 entry fee includes golf fees, dinner and lots of prizes.

To enter, make checks payable to the Local 27 Sports Committee, 565 Marine Drive, Port Angeles, Washington 98362. For more information, contact Golf Committee chairman Rick Parkhurst or George Schonfeldt at 206-457-7595.

April 27, 1989

In 5th Annual Golf Tourney

SAN FRANCISCO — Jack Olsen, a longtime ILWU member, organizer and educator died Sunday, February 20 in San Francisco after a short illness. He would have been 78 on March 16.

Olsen came to San Francisco in 1933 after organizing homeless youth in Los Angeles during the depression. While in LA, he participated in a "Free Tom Mooney " demonstration during which he was arrested at the University of Southern California in 1932, in which several youths circulated a Communist tract carrying a banner urging the release of the imprisoned labor leader.

JOIN LOCAL 6

Employed at a San Francisco waterfront warehouse, Olsen was instrumental in the organization of ILWU Warehouse Local 6. He established and taught classes for warehousemen on such subjects as parliamentary procedure, labor history, politics, and reading and writing skills. Later he became the first director of education of ILWU Local 6 in San Francisco. He also edited Local 6's union bulletin.

During World War II he saw active combat in southern and central France.

Olsen was "blacklisted" in 1952, largely because of his refusal to testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Denied work on the waterfront during the McCarthy era, Olsen became a printer in 1952, working at Phillips and Van Orden where he often set type for the ILWU Dispatcher and other commercial printing plants in San Francisco. He was an active member of Bay Area Typographical Union Local 21 and a delegate to the San Francisco Labor Council from that union. He remained a member of Local 21 until his death.

LABOR STUDIES

In 1973, along with the ILWU's Dave Jenkins and Paul Chown of the UE, he spearheaded the founding of the Labor Studies Program at City College of San Francisco and was appointed its founding director. Although self-educated, he taught a number of courses in that program until shortly before his death. Many students from the program have gone on to become officers in Bay Area unions.

Jack Olsen was a 25-year resident of St. Francis Square, a cooperatively owned housing development in the Western Addition, built with ILWU-PMA pension funds. He was its president for two years, edited its newsletter "Circling the Square," and remained active in it until his death.

Jack Olsen is survived by his wife Tillie; four daughters, Karla Lutz of Larkspur, Julie Olsen Edwards of Santa Cruz, Kathy Olsen of Ashland, Oregon and Laurie Olsen of Oakland; two brothers, Max Olsen of Portland, Oregon and Robert Olsen of Los Angeles.

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SCHOLARSHIP CHECK—Show receiving a $1500 scholarship check from Port of LA/Long Beach Propeller Club President Glenn Hughes, at right, are Nate DiBiasi, ILWU liaison to the Port of Los Angeles; Jim North, president of foreman’s Local 94; Jim Sponzo, president of clerks Local 63; Domenick Miretti, Local 63, ILWU liaison to the Port of Long Beach; and Local 13 President John Pandora.

ILWU joins Propeller Club scholarship

LOS ANGELES—The ILWU has joined with the Propeller Club in the Ports of LA and Long Beach to establish an ILWU Propeller Club Memorial Scholarship Fund. This “scholarship program is the result of our desire to establish a memorial to those who have lost their lives working on the waterfront,” said Local 13 President John Pandora.

The first check, for $1500, constitutes the proceeds from a Seafood Feast held jointly by the Propeller Club and the ILWU last year.

Students from San Pedro High School will be the first recipients of the scholarship money. Three $500 scholarships will be presented at the next Seafood Feast, scheduled for June 7 at berth 55, San Pedro. Each student, you are a member of a bona fide collective bargaining organization.

CLUW gives voice to union women

Where do union women turn to for action and support on child care issues, affirmative action, for help in becoming more active within their own unions?

To the Coalition of Labor Union Women (CLUW) naturally. CLUW was founded in 1974 to give a voice to working women. It was founded because working women still experience less pay than men doing the same or comparable work, because they face discrimination in hiring and promotion, because they are often reluctant to participate fully in union affairs.

Union membership makes a difference. But women also need support in being effective within their unions, combating the importance of women’s issues to unions, and uniting among themselves to fight for these resources available to them.

EDUCATION

That’s what CLUW is about. Over the years, CLUW has put together programs to educate women union members; to encourage affirmative action in the workplace; to promote needed family related programs and legislation; and to lobby on legislation affecting working women in the workplace.

Become part of this dynamic, growing organization. National dues are $20 per year—chapter dues range between $5 and $10 per year. CALL YOUR LOCAL CHAP- TER TO FIND OUT YOUR TOTAL DUES OBLIGATION.

Safety awards

PORTLAND—A total of five awards were presented at the Oregon-Columbia River Area annual safety awards banquet held at the Red Lion Inn-Columbia River. Overall local awards went to ILWU longshore Local 8, Portland and Local 50. In Long Beach, Local 34 and Local 91 were the recipients of the awards.

If you have any questions contact the BALMA Office at (415) 441-5511.

SARA (Stevedoring Services of America) is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to the betterment of the economic and educational status of the longshore workers of America. This scholarship is financed by SARA, but is administered by the longshore locals. In order to promote safety and to reduce job injuries, SARA sets aside funds each quarter in an amount reflecting the injury record for that quarter. The number of scholarships available in a given year depends on the size of the fund.

This scholarship is financed by SARA, but is operated by the locals. In order to promote safety and to reduce job injuries, SARA sets aside funds each quarter in an amount reflecting the injury record for that quarter. The number of scholarships available in a given year depends on the size of the fund.

The current procedure is to award scholar- ships only after a student has been in college for at least a semester (or a quarter) and also be actively involved in union activities, not necessarily on grades. Renewals are therefore not automatic. Applications must be in by July. Decisions are made by the Executive Board of the Pensioners’ Clubs.

For all application forms and for addi- tional information contact Tilly Sylvia, Vice President, Longshore & Harbor Area Pensions Office at 400 North Point Street, San Francisco, California 94133, phone (415) 474-0050.

COALITION OF LABOR UNION WOMEN

Application for Membership

please print clearly

Name:
Street:
Address:
Phone (home) (work)
City/state/zip:
(work) (home)
Union name and local number:
Enclosed are my annual CLUW dues in the amount of:
national dues ($20) + chapter dues
I am a member of a bona fide collective bargaining organization
Date
Signature
Attach your check to this form, and mail to the appropriate chapter.

Dockers, Widows on pension list

SAN FRANCISCO—Following is the February 1989 listing of dockers retired under various ILWU-PMA pension plans.

Local 4, Vancouver: James Brous; Local 5, San Francisco: Emanue Casarez, Louis Navarro, Jose Nuno, O. P. Painter, Raymond Bousquet, David Birge, Paul Burks, Ed Serfes, John Thwaits; Local 23, North Bend: Ronald Olson, Local 13, Wilmington: Samuel Andrade, George Ramsay (George, Local 10); Robert Konstad (Robert, Local 10); Edna Lee Sprague (Gustavius, Local 53); Mildred Thwaits (James, Local 94); Annie Bachelier Von Ronne (Edward, Local 34); Dorothy Waldman (Albert, Local 10).

Local 8, Portland: Susan Kurewitz (Joe, Local 8); Annie Bachelor (Albert, Local 13); Willita Bair (Ray, Local 24); Alice Boryenko (Mick, Local 10); Margaret Rubbo (William, Local 10); Frances Clauer (Clarence, Local 34); Barbara Douglas (Milford, Local 50); Local 13, North Bend: Ronald Olson; Local 13, Wilmington: Samuel Andrade, George Ramsay (George, Local 10); Robert Konstad (Robert, Local 10); Edna Lee Sprague (Gustavius, Local 53); Mildred Thwaits (James, Local 94); Annie Bachelier Von Ronne (Edward, Local 34); Dorothy Waldman (Albert, Local 10).

Local 91, San Francisco: Charles Whiting.

The widows are: Louise Anthony (James, Local 10); Annie Bachelor (Albert, Local 13); Willita Bair (Ray, Local 24); Alice Boryenko (Mick, Local 10); Margaret Rubbo (William, Local 10); Frances Clauer (Clarence, Local 34); Barbara Douglas (Milford, Local 50); Esther Garcia (Gilbert, Local 13); Ethel Goodwin (William, Local 4).

Local 50, San Francisco: Georgia Hensley (Clarence, Local 19); Juanita Johnson (Joseph, Local 10); Earline Kisses (Ray, Local 54); Aramyn Konstad (Robert, Local 10); Edna Lee (William, Local 10); Virginia Mecca (Milford, Local 50); Local 40, Portland: Local 12; Esther Garcia (Gilbert, Local 13); Ethel Goodwin (William, Local 4).

Local 50, San Francisco: Georgia Hensley (Clarence, Local 19); Juanita Johnson (Joseph, Local 10); Earline Kisses (Ray, Local 54); Aramyn Konstad (Robert, Local 10); Edna Lee (William, Local 10); Virginia Mecca (Milford, Local 50); Local 40, Portland: Local 12; Esther Garcia (Gilbert, Local 13); Ethel Goodwin (William, Local 4).

New area director named

PORTLAND—James Welch, a 25-year member of longshore Local 8, has been appointed the new area director of the Sub- committee as the new Oregon/Columbia River Area Director for the new job February 1, taking over from John Kallio.

During his years with Local 8, Welch held a number of other work positions actively involved and interested in health and safety. "This is a new challenge for me," he said simply, "I just want to serve the membership better.

Speaking on behalf of the benefits sub- committee, ILWU Coast Committeeman Richard Austin said, "Jim Welch will be a valuable addition to the team. We all look forward to working with him."
I've seen in the American labor movement—the IAM's largest Eastern local, based in Miami—continued from page 1—acknowledging that strikes are hard to tract. TWA informed the flight attendants striking employees as well as any striker the biggest company in Texas Air's empire. Lorenzo transferring more and more of its assets to non-union Continental Airlines, it said that the more successful strike are in shutting down Eastern, the greater are the prospects that Lorenzo would file for bankruptcy, and either abandon its contracts or liquidate the company, and the more the strike would lose their jobs.

Nonetheless, Dunn said it was worth the risk because he saw "no future" with the company the way it is running now, with Lorenzo transferring more and more of its assets to non-union Continental Airlines, the biggest company in Texas Air's empire. The strikers said if they accepted the lowered wages and less favorable work rules, Eastern was demanding, the savings simply would be passed on to Continental, and Eastern would continue to decline.

What you're seeing here is an act of shop, Dunn insisted, "it's not as if you just walk on a way out," said Barry Blasioune, a University of Massachusetts political economist.

The Eastern clash clearly has ramifications for other labor disputes, according to the strikers and a host of labor relations experts.

POST-REAGAN LABOR RELATIONS

"The stakes are quite high here," said Happy Goodman, 41, a union labor relations professor at the University of Technology at UC San Diego. "This is the first post-Reagan strike, and what we are seeing is a post-Reagan labor movement," that is more willing to take chances because it is battered, bruised and angry, he said.

"For years, Lorenzo and Eastern have done is to galvanize the entire labor movement in a way that has not existed for years," Shaiken said. "Labor is attempting to broaden the terrain on which the strike will be fought," he said. "The company has set the fact that simply picking Eastern would not be enough.

Since Lorenzo took over Eastern in 1986—but especially over the last six months—the company and its production means have meant less and less in the daily working lives of the laborers.

There's not a single elected shop steward left on the Miami base who hasn't been fired, transferred, demoted or placed in some form of tension and repression people felt at work. They've been responding without a way up.

"There are 33,000 Eastern employees like myself with families, with car notes and mortgages who have to maintain a struggling and depressed lifestyle," said an Eastern ramp serviceman at LAX. "If we lose our jobs, we're lost. I won't roll the dice. We've been devastated, not just Eastern's employees but to other workers in the airline industry and other industries as well."

"This is one of those cornerstone events."