AFL-CIO report

Organizing wins up to new high

Rebounding from the lean years of the anti-labor Reagan administration, AFL-CIO unions in 1989 scored their most impressive gains in almost a decade in election victories and new members won. An analysis of Labor Board election data compiled by the AFL-CIO Department of Organizing and Field Services showed that federation affiliates won a total of 1,863 elections covering 87,000 workers last year.

That was the highest victory level since 1979, the year in which then-President Ronald Reagan crushed the Air Traffic Controllers and in the process imposed deregulation on the airline industry that the administration favored wholesale opposition to trade union organizing.

Last year's string of victories followed a year in which all unions reflected the same resurgence shown by AFL-CIO affiliates, the data revealed.

Across the nation, unions won almost half of all representation elections in which they were involved.

Statistics compiled by BNA Plus, the research division of the Bureau of National Affairs, showed all unions winning a total of 1,066 NLRA-supervised elections affording 92,403 employees the opportunity to vote in elections. That analysis was assembled from reports compiled by NLRB regional offices.

At the same time, unions successfully challenged 31.2% of all certification attempts in 1989. BNA reported in its breakdown of the NLRB data that 28,984 employees were in elections in which the certification elections in 50.3% were in unions that prevailed against attempts to withdraw recognition.

Small Unions

Unions continued to have greater success in organizing small bargaining units in 1989. According to BNA surveys, 2,521 elections were held last year in units with fewer than 50 workers, and unions won 54.2% of the time.

Figures compiled by BNA Plus on an industry-by-industry basis showed that in the first nine months of 1989, the highest union victory rate for representation elections was 83.4% in the food industry.

The win ratios for other segments of the workforce in the first three-quarters of last year were:

• Health care - 54.9% of 490 elections.
• Construction - 37.9% of 634 elections.
• Retail trade - 46.6% of 791 elections.

In the manufacturing sector, unions won 46.6% of 791 elections, and in communications industries, unions chalked up a 44.7% winning percentage in 47 elections.

BNA said the growth in representation election activity was notable in the transportation, communications, and utilities sector, where a maximum of six elections were held in the first three quarters of 1989, up from 302 in the same period of 1988.

—Gene Zack, AFL-CIO News

Last year's victory level was in line with statistics compiled by AFL-CIO negotiator Thomas Trask and Bill Crawford of the Council of Hawaii Hotels shake hands on the settlement of a new contract covering 5500 members of ILWU Local 142. See story at right.

SAN FRANCISCO—As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, negotiations for a new West Coast longshore and clerk contract are continuing normal- ly. The current agreement expires at midnight, June 30.

"It is of great importance that the membership not be confused by rumors or speculation in the press or from inaccuracies of employers," said the committee in a statement released earlier this month. "Committee members have continued the practice of providing written or oral reports to the locals each Friday.

The ILWU bargaining team is led by International President Jim Herman. Other members include Vice-President Randy Vekich, Coast Committee members Richard Austin and Bill Ward, and International Secretary-Treasurer Curt McClain, with Pat Vekich, Local 19, Seattle; Dick Marzano, Local 23, Tacoma; Norm Parks, Local 8, Portland; Larry Wing, Local 10, San Francisco; Dave Arien, Local 13, Wilmington; Glen Ramiskay, Local 54, Aberdeen; Richard Rancore, Local 4, Vancouver, Wash.; Jesus Herrera, Local 46, Port Houses; David Miller, Local 63, Wilmington; and Larry Clark, Local 40, Portland.

The ILWU longshore division caucus will reconvene at 9 a.m., July 9 at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco for a report by the negotiating commit- tee on bargaining with PMA. For hotel accommodations contact Coast Commit- tee secretary Christina Courter imme- diately at (415) 775-0533.

Dock talks near deadline

SEATTLE—Towboat industry workers on the Columbia River and Inland Waterways will enjoy substantially increased retirement benefits as a result of improvements negotiated last month by the ILWU Pension Trust.

"We did what we set out to do," said ILWU President Burt Hatch, who served as spokesman for the union's trustees during the representatives of the ILWU Pension Trust.

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ILWU negotiator Thomas Trask and Bill Crawford of the Council of Hawaii

Members of ILWU longshore/clersk bargaining committee in session last week at the International office.

Local 142 wins

Best ever hotel pact on islands

OAHU—ILWU Local 142 and the Council of Hawaii Hotels reached agree- ment May 31 on a new five-year contract covering 5500 members of Local 142 employed at eight major Hawaiian Island hotels. The agreement, according to Regional Director b. Trask, who served as negotiating spokesman, is "one of the best agreements we have ever had in the hotel industry."

The contract calls for a 7% wage increase in each year, which will put ILWU wages 5% above those on Waikiki. Trask said. The ILWU also won an additional paid holiday, bringing the total to 11, as well as five weeks vacation after 25 years of service, a benefit not previously covered in the hotel industry. The agreement was approved at a June 7 hotel union. Ratification votes are taking place in the hotel as this edition of The Dispatcher goes to press.

Hotels covered by the agreement are King Kamehameha. Mauna Kea, Mauna Kea Beach, Kona Palapali Beach, Westin Regency, Kauai, Kauai, Kauai, and Westin. Whaler Beach and Westin Kauai.

Big gains in IBU pensions

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Full schedule for Mandela

OAKLAND—Nelson Mandela, the pre-}Bremer spokesman of the human rights movement in South Africa, arrives in the San Francisco/Oakland Bay Area this month to raise funds for and awareness of the continuing struggle against apartheid. The following events are scheduled for Sat-}Bremer, June 10.

12 noon: Nelson Mandela appears at the Oakland Coliseum in a public celebra-}tion. Tickets are $5.

4 p.m.: ILWU warehouse Local 6 hosts labor's reception for Mandela at its East Bay hall located at 99 Hagenberger Road in Oakland. Admission is free.

4 p.m.: Winnie Mandela joins in a cele-}bration of South African women at the Berkeley Community Theatre. Tickets are $5.

6 p.m.: Nelson and Winnie Mandela, along with the African National Congress Women's League, will attend a reception and dinner at the Oakland Hyatt Regency Hotel. Tickets are $100. A separate Sponsors Reception will be held at 5:30 and 110 p.m.

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Who won the cold war?

By JIM HERMAN - ILWU International President

The cold war is apparently over—for all which Americans must be extraordinarily grateful and relieved. Did anyone really "win" this seventy year face-off? Judging by the economical, political, ecological, and other problems of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe it certainly appears, at first glance, like a smashing victory for the US and its allies.

So why doesn't it feel more satisfying? One poll after another shows a deep insecurity, a fear that both the Republican President and the Democratic Congress are wallowing around among major problems—drugs, homelessness, violence, and a deeply frowning national economic system—that cast a long shadow over our future. Have we in the course of "winning" the cold war become a second-rate nation?

If American capitalism is triumphant, why are so many of its children—nearly 20% of them—living in poverty, without proper nutrition, without proper medical care, and often enough without a proper roof overhead their heads? Why does the United States have the highest infant mortality rate in the western world? Why are our public schools, the subject of so many learned analyses, still denigrated to the point where they can be, in this day and age, 40% of Oakland's children are not vaccinated for measles, with equally shocking figures in other major cities?

Why are so many of our fellow citizens, as many as 3 million of them, living in the streets? Almost eliminated in the 1970s, homelessness became epidemic only after President Reagan cut federal appropriations for low-income sub-
dsidies by over 50%. Two wage earners working full time at the federal minimum wage cannot afford to rent two bedrooms in any state in the nation; 20% of the nation's renters are paying over 50% of their income for housing. Add to this the weakness of our mental health system, the growth of alcoholism and drug addiction, and you have armies of homeless camped in front of every city hall, mute testimony to the absence of any real national policy on this issue.

We can't trace American homelessness without health insurance, every sniffle and cough threatening bankruptcy? How can it be that average working Americans, especially those not protected by a union contract, have less access to quality medical care than their counterparts in every industrialized country in the world, except South Africa. Why are the guts of this economy—the roads, bridges, decisions made in Bonn or Tokyo.

Mismanagement and greed have created the largest financial mess in the century, an S&L bailout that now threatens to cost US taxpayers and their children another $300-$500 billion before it's all over, while the perpetrators who played so fast and loose with other people's money walk around scot-free, or at most享 the "peace dividend." The money freed up from the expenses of the US-Soviet arms race, must be used to pay our bills and to repair the damage that was done during the Great Barbecue of the 1980s.

We are going to have to find the money to pay our bills and to repair the damage that was done during the Great Barbecue of the 1980s.

The money is certainly available in the bloated, $300 billion military budgets of the 1980s. While President Bush proposes an actual increase for the Pentagon, experts like former Defense Secretary Robert McNamara argue per-
sament that any savings made during the last twenty years were spent abroad, and is likely to be lost domestically as the military budget is increased by $50% immediately without doing any damage to our coun-
try's ability to defend itself.

If we are ever going to rebuild America, if we have any hope for the rejuvenation of this powerful economy which has provided so much for so many, that's certainly the case to start spreading the news

Union publications, such as The Dispatch, provide the only—source of news about what's really going on in the labor movement. But the problem is that only union members get them. Everybody else is out of luck.

Well, here's a small step you can take to do something about that. Instead of throwing away your union newspaper when you see one done with, leave it at your doctor's office or any-
where people are likely to pick it up and read it. You can give it to a friend, relative, or another else who might be interested.
Snitch squads, with hunters, pressure, pressure, pressure. Welcome to McKesson Drug Company. It's contract time. Since March, ILWU members have been preparing for a showdown with McKesson in negotiations which are as much about dignity and respect in the workplace as about wages and benefits.

"We're giving it the best we've got from beginning to end," said Local 26 president Louis Gratz. "We're prepared to fight to keep them until we're done."

McKesson has turned up the heat several degrees with speed-up demands, work-place surveillance, and repeated attempts to undermine the union's bargaining position. But pressure cooker tactics are blowing up in the company's face.

UNDER THE GUN

"I'm going to respect myself and my family and support my union," said one of the new stewards, Tuilielelepaga, a twenty-year-old father of three. "I'll orders on the night shift in San Diego. He knows about pressure. After just one year on the job, he ended up in a hospital suffering from asbestos-related stress."

"No matter what I did, it was never good enough," he said. "I come to work 30 to 60 minutes early, worked through breaks and lunch, did my very best. But the foreman told me to work harder and faster. It was driving me crazy."

San Diego chief steward Roy Dietrich, a truck driver with 28 years seniority, has come under the gun too. "I used to drive 95 miles a day to get my schedule. I got three speeding tickets and chest pains for the effort. I thought I was having a heart attack."

If budgeting workers aren't enough, the company's bosses and their agents in typical divide-and-conquer fashion. While taking some employees to lunch on the company's dime, management pumps them for information about their co-workers. Others are singled out for discipline.

One of the rats with the "in" crowd, Dietrich's been concerned, threatened and hit with a three-day suspension when orders in the dock became a major document fou-up.

The union eventually succeeded in getting the discipline purged from Dietrich's file. But it's" in"-in his case. "They don't like me talking to other workers and the union about what's going on," he said.

What's "going on" at McKesson, according to Gratz, is a textbook example of how corporations try to bully their employees into submission:

"In the winter, we huddled around the room to keep warm," said Castagnola. "We're hoping to get office-type quarters up front away from the engine noise.

"In the winter, we huddled around the room to keep warm," said Castagnola. "We're hoping to get office-type quarters up front away from the engine noise."
It has been many years since the Port of Oakland was made aware that it would have to dredge the estuary in order to maintain the share of the containerized shipping business on the West Coast. The situation with the Port of Oakland's failure in getting the job done, the Central Labor Council of Alameda County passed a resolution on the issue last November calling for the "Port of Oakland to be dredged to a condition that will meet the sound manner as soon as possible."

The ILWU is represented on the ad hoc coalition by Northern California Regional Director LeRoy King. Local 10 president John W. Fazio and Secretary-Treasurer Lawrence Thibault; Local 6 President Jim Ryder and Secretary-Treasurer Leon Huerta; and Local 75 President John Cavalli and Secretary-Treasurer Brian Valencia. The labor movement's activities reflect a growing concern in the city over the direction the Port is taking, and questions concerning the Port's present priorities.

The Port, with or without, is the economic base of the city, generating millions of dollars annually and providing 52,000 jobs, many of which are held by women and minorities, and many of which are high-paying union jobs.

The Port of Oakland is one of the largest employers in the county. It runs the maritime industry and the air port, generating 89% of the Port's revenues in 1988. Under the Bush Administration—will now cut back further.

The ILWU tracks worker legislation

AMC prescribes antidote for national health care law

Countering the push for a national health care plan, the American Medical Association has launched a campaign to educate the public about the dangers of a Canadian-type health care system.

"AMA plans to flood TV stations, magazines and newspapers with "Public Health" advertisements to explain that they're better off with skyrocketing health insurance costs," one industry source said.

According to a recent Harris poll, nearly 90 percent of Americans are "sick" of the present system; over 60 percent think Canada's is better.

"We have lost 6,000 jobs that we could have if we were able to dredge the channels," ILWU President Lines to the small service organization Apostleship of the Sea.

The Port's inability to implement improvements for the small container ships resulted in Oakland losing maritime business.

Congress and the White House begin negotiations on the budget

"After all my years of Pressure, Perseverance, Unrighteousness, Free Speech, Fines, FRAUD, CORRUPTION, SCANDAL, OUTRIGHT THEFT AND MORE! MOST OBFUSCATION, WE'VE RUN THE BILL! Bulletin of the ILWU, AFL-CIO - 1990..."

"Grown men, if the House is going to vote on the Port of Oakland to be dredged, we've got to have a vote on the Port of Oakland to be dredged!"

"We believe this civil action can be done in an environmentally sound way, and that it can be done now before it is too late."

"So Byrd has appointed a Senate floor amend- ment to provide three years of benefits to miners directly displaced by the Act. Terminal workers, with the same group of companies that mined in West Virginia—by so much that at least 14,000 mining jobs will disappear by the year 2000. Another 40,000 related jobs would go as well.

Opponents of the amendment gave the familiar language that the miners could still sell the bill; the miners shouldn't get special treatment over other workers; the fed- eral government is being inefficient.

The answer to this was that if Congress reversed Reaganomics, and workers' needs were generally put first instead of last, the amendment would be quite affordable and not at all "special." Miners do the dirtiest, not at all "special." Miners do the dirtiest, riskiest, and most dangerous jobs, risking their lives to make our living.

The Port of Oakland is the third largest port on the West Coast to foresee the advent of containerization and made the initial investments to put in the large container ships. As a result, Oakland was ahead of the game in the 1960s and became the largest container port on the West Coast. In the 1970s Oak- land lost 40% of the container business on the West Coast.
1957, Bobby Ramos took a hypodermic syringe filled with heroin and plunged it into his arm—a ritual he would repeat almost everyday for the next thirty years. He did it to feel better. Then to feel different. And finally to feel nothing at all.

His addiction bore bitter fruit: isolation, misery and crime. By the time he was 24, his life had collapsed. His father had died of heart disease. "I thought I was cursed," he said. "I accepted that I would die like I was.

Ironically, Bobby's job as a longshoreman in Wilmington, California, provided both his stepping-stone and his ultimate--mortal--pathway to the help of the ILWU-PMA Alcoholism/Drug Recovery Program (ADRDP). Bobby grew strong enough to break through the shackles of his disease and begin the process of breaking his shattered life. Today, Bobby's mission is to guide other addicts down the road to recovery as an ADRP volunteer coordinator and the manager of the Ablution Living Center in San Pedro. His own journey is the subject of Part One of this special series examining the challenges confronting addicts, their families, and the people who try to help them.

It's called "stuffing it"—using drugs or alcohol to suppress problems, fear and pain. Bobby Ramos "stuffed it" for forty-three years. His addiction was a mindless cycle: addiction, arrest, incarceration, rehabilitation, relapse. No matter what he did, no matter what others forced him to do, he felt powerless to stop.

In 1957, he tried a dose of old-time religion at an "all-drug-addict church. Even the pastor was a former user." Bobby said. "But I'd see women there, in tight dresses,-looking good. I felt lust, then I felt guilty. I smoked a cigarette, had one beer, and it was all over.

On guns from yet another possession bust, Bobby was given methadone, a synthetic form of heroin. Dole out by the state. While using it, "I was drinking like a fish and popping pills—and I never lost my appetite.

One year clean and sober, Bobby Ramos now says: "I can smile, I can laugh, I can joke around and get goofy—and it's OK. I don't have to be the tough guy all the time."

Dave Lemoli, a longshoreman who was arrested for his drug problems, says "You're tired, Bobby," he said, "let's get you checked out.

Bobby was too weak to fight. Lemoli took him to the hospital, where Bobby was diagnosed as suffering from drug addiction, alcoholism, low blood pressure and malnutrition.

The gravity of his situation started to sink in—and like most other times he was confronted with truth, Bobby got scared. Eventually he was admitted.

Bobby was court-martialed twice. Some-thing about love, but I knew about respect."

On Easter Sunday 1959, Bobby came to church. The next day found them on the waterfront hotel, not caring whether he lived or died. He fought a hard battle and returned to Wilmington.

The army sent him to a facility for convicted criminals. Before long, Bobby was facing a "fellowship" with other recovering addicts. The rules are tough here. Honesty is law. And there is absolutely no place to hide. Three months ago Bobby became the house manager.

"It was hard at first," Bobby reflected, "but calling someone a liar just doesn't cut it. What I did was not just wrong. I used people, like I was used, took things, then didn't pay them back. I'd steal from my kids. I'd cheat them out of pocket money. I'd rob them. "I sold drugs to my brother. Bobby was too scared to fight. Lomeli took him to the hospital, where Bobby was diagnosed as suffering from drug addiction, alcoholism, low blood pressure and malnutrition.

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During their marriage, Bobby was in and out of jail "long enough to make her pregnant."

When he ran out of that, he overdosed on "three grams, and just "being gone," he lost 13 years of his life. His wife said, "I didn't want to run anymore."

For over a month, intensive in-patient therapy challenged Bobby to peel back the layers of his disease: denial, addiction, fear and pain. At the end, there was no more, no less than a human being. I learned that everyone has feelings inside, that the only difference between me and the guy in the suit is circumstance."

After treatment, Bobby became the Ablution Living Center's caseworker. He helps addicts, like Bobby, find a "fellowship" with other recovering addicts. The rules are tough here. Honesty is law. And there is absolutely no place to hide. Three months ago Bobby became the house manager.

During his 3-1/2 year military stint, Bobby's physical prowess caught the attention of his commanding officer who recom-
TAcoma—Charity can be contagious. Just ask the members of ILWU longshore Local 23. Since 1984, when they first started raising money for the homeless, their efforts have blossomed into a full-blown campaign to provide ongoing support for the disadvantaged in their community.

"We started off on a small scale," said Local 23 member Bob Castaneda. "And the more we got involved, the more we found out just how much was needed out there." Castaneda was a driving force in establishing the Local's "charity account" six years ago. At the time of the account was bankrolled by voluntary contributions of individual members. Two years later, the membership voted to underwrite the account with monthly donations from the Local's general fund.

It didn't take much coaxing, Castaneda said. "Our members could see what was happening — people wandering the streets, the mentally retarded, the elderly. It was quite obvious something had to be done."

Disbursements from the charity account are decided by a group of about five Local 23 members who try to pinpoint where the money is needed most.

FALLING THROUGH THE CRACKS

"We like to take care of the people who fall through the cracks," said Local 23 President Richard Lelli. "The people of the south are principally of economic considerations. They are decided by a group of about five Local 23 members who try to pinpoint where the money is needed most.

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Local 2, San Francisco

officers of Shipbuilders Local 2 are president: Joe Colombera; vice-president: Charlie Harmon; trustees, Ray Luke, Dick Moork, Harry Bridges. Local 2's delegates to the AFL-CIO are: Annie Cole-


Local 30, Boron


Local 30 toces off in Harry's memory

AFTORIA, Or. - Members of ILWU longshore Local 30 held its First Annual Harry Bridges Day celebration, April 14 at the Gearhart Golf Linke. Organizers, Ray Luke, Dick Moork, and Gary Matson, were inspired by the coastwide work stoppage and memorial service honoring the late ILWU President.

"We were looking for some way to honor the memory, and the contributions of Harry," said Peterson, "and it was a perfect opportunity for a showing of brotherhood."

The inaugural tournament followed an 18-hole, 3-man scramble format and was won by the team of Bob Blake, Cliff Hargis, and Gary Matson. Other members participating included Henry Boyd, John Lank, Tom Murphy, Matthew Ely and John Lank and the trustees.

ILWU history summer reading list

Kemelgold, Howard: Red's or Rocketeers? The Making of Red ILWU members and the Union militant, primarily in Los Angeles, 1930-1945. University of California Press, 1989 ($24.95). An intensive and inclusive analysis of how and why the ILWU rank and file built the union, and often took a different course than the ILA. Available at libraries or bookstores, or can be purchased from the ILWU at substantial savings.


Northwest Area Conference

Meeting in May, ILWU Federated Auxiliaries held an affirmative conference in the northwest. At podium, president Clara Fambro chairs, assisted by secretaries and Port of Everett Commissioner Don Hodgins, who emphasized the important of union solidarity that today would seem almost mythical.

All the same, the gathering of delegates, worked out of negotiations and stated that they would not return until the "communists" (referring to Harry, Ger-

mane Rockefeller, and Harry Bridges) were removed from the conference.

The ILWU, playing the employer's game, set up a negotiating team in the northwest. They were to assure that the poor dupes of Marxism were not allowed to have a democratic voice in the makeup of the negotiating team.

Of course Harry had his enemies. But even his enemies could see what was com-
ing. This was a direct attack on rank and file control of the union. Election day arrived and when the polls closed that night, one of the 20,000 plus longshore-

men, from San Diego to Bellingham, had cast a ballot. The employer was the bargai-

ning table the next day and they didn't introduce even the most far-fetched issues into negotiations at least none that were that rididulous.

Dick Moor, Local 19 (ret)

Harry paved the way

Harry Bridges was a remarkable man, to say the least. When one reflects what he had to go through as a pro union; what he had to go through as a man in a "jungle" geared to enhance every break,' and what he had to do to stay faithfully and morally; what he had to go through in terms of taking on the big dog-eat-dog world, one can't help but feel he is truly worthy of being truly honored and esteemed by the best of us.

John Coughlin, San Francisco
Almond workers say:  

"In the ILWU, we wouldn’t be afraid"  

SACRAMENTO—As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, some 1,600 unorganized workers at Blue Diamond Growers, Inc., the largest almond processor and distributor in the world, are in the final stages of their campaign to win the right to be represented by the ILWU. This company has been non-union since its formation in 1910. Prior organizing efforts have failed to collect the proper number of signatures to hold an election. But a whirlwind ILWU organizing campaign, led by the officers of warehouse Local 17 and the Northern California Regional staff, has built up a head of steam that organizing committee members believe will translate into a victory when the election takes place June 29-30.

**FAIR TREATMENT**

"What we are looking for is fair treatment on the job. That’s what everyone is looking for," says Carmen Greeno, a fork lift driver with over five years at Blue Diamond. "Half the people haven’t had a raise in nearly six years. Health insurance costs keep going up, and our benefits keep going down. The majority of us are just sick and tired of the way they treat people.

"Lots of people complain, but they feel helpless on their own. Without the union, people would be harassed. People consider troublemakers are given dirty jobs or harassed in other ways. I’ve seen it happen. In the union, we would be afraid."

"We need the ILWU so that we can help ourselves get a stronger voice," says Leza Almazan, an ILWU International attorney. "It’s been a tremendously hard-fought campaign," said Local 17 President Ralph Tapp, Eugene Hill, Suzanne Nielsen, Otto, Casper; (back row) Leza Almazan, Mike Pfeiffer and Brian Ballinger.

"We need support and we need help to be organized so that we can help ourselves," the ILWU representative said.

The organizing campaign has featured nearly daily handbilling, a picnic on Saturday, June 15, and other activities sponsored by Local 17. "It’s been a tremendously hard-fought campaign," said Local 17 President. "The company has thrown everything at these workers, and at the union, but the support keeps growing."

That support has included a pledge from the ILWU longshore negotiating committee to "assist you in any way possible to make this dream of unionization and strength a reality for all workers at Blue Diamond."

Filing their petition for a union representation election at Blue Diamond Growers, from left (front row), Linda Torgersen, Eugene Hill, Suzanne Nielsen and ILWU International attorney Ann Casper; (back row) Leza Almazan, Susan Pratt, Richard Taylor and Leo Otto.

**School for unionists**

The George Meany Center offers union leaders an opportunity to study for a college degree without interrupting their union work. The program leads to a Bachelor of Arts degree in labor studies from Antioch University.

Fees are: $25 for application; $75 for course credit and counseling; and $40 per credit hour tuition or $200 per course. Tuition is paid by the student.  

Room and three good meals a day during a week in residence cost the same as for other Center programs: $65 a day single occupancy, $60 a day double.

For more information, call (301) 431-6410. Ask for the College Degree Program.

IBU settles with Red & White fleet  

SAN FRANCISCO—IBU members employed by the Red & White Fleet, a San Francisco company, have ratified a tentative agreement providing with substantial wage increases and other benefits.

The agreement provides a 80 percent increase fully retroactive to March 8, 1990, and 50 percent retroactive to July 1, 1989. An additional 80 percent increase will be negotiated effective July 1, 1990. The final 80 percent, effective July 1, 1990, can be used for wages or benefits, the union's discretion.

Middle income jobs disappearing fast  

The Senate Budget Committee and the Joint Economic Committee (JEC) of the US Congress both agree: the rich are getting richer. Wage gains have disappeared. The middle ground between the two is disappearing fast.

The two committees, performing inde- pendently, have issued reports on the period 1981-1987, both found that jobs in industries paying low wages skyrocketed while in higher-paying industries took a nose dive.

**DOCK SAFETY BARGAINING**  

As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, the longshore/clerks safety committee has nearly finished its negotiations with PMA to update the Pacific Coast Marine Safety Code. The committee includes Michael Whitlock, Local 6; Portland, Bill Watkins, Local 10; San Francisco; Jimmy Chavez, Local 29; San Diego; Phil Lehi, Local 23; Tacoma; ILWU Health and Safety Director Russ Bargmann; and Richard Cavalli, Local 34, San Francisco.