Longshore Caucus
Debates &
Recommends
New Contract
See President's Report
& Notice to Members
page 2

Special Washington Report:
Republicans
Run Amok
pages 6-7

Janitors Sweep
To Victory
pages 8-9

Tradewinds: Unpleasant Hotels p. 3
Gay Pride at Work p. 9
Old Timers Corner p. 11
Notice To All ILWU Longshore Division Members

Delegates to the Longshore Division Caucus have returned to their respective locals with ballots and contract supplements to be distributed to the membership for contract ratification.

The supplement contains changes to the PCLCD and the PCCCD, and, for the first time, includes Safety Rules.

Check your local bulletin board, or call your local office, for information about voting eligibility, Columbia River, date, location, etc.

Don't forget to vote!

Longshore Negotiating Committee

ILWU International
Brian McWilliams, President
Richard Austin, VP, Mainland

Coast Committee
Richard Olson, Member
Glen Ramiskey, Member

Local & Area Representatives
Frank Billeci, Clerks
Lee Broach, Tacoma
Timmy Chavez, Cal., Small Ports
Del Edgbert, Wash., Small Ports
Larry Hansen, Seattle
Bob McElrath, Columbia River
Norm Parks, Portland
George Romero, San Francisco
Jim Spinnax, Local 63 Clerks
Norm Tuck, Los Angeles

Alternates
Bob Dalsell, Seattle
Bob Guillory, San Francisco
Ron Hansen, Portland
Juss Herrera, Cal., Small Ports
Den Holtman, Clerks
Dan Imbagliazzo, Los Angeles
Duane Johnson, Wash.
Small Ports
Scott Mason, Tacoma
Dave Miller, Local 63 Clerks
Wally Robbins, Columbia River

Observers
Ivan Olson, Walking Bosses
Bill Ward, Pensioners

Longshore Safety Committee

Local & Area Representatives
Tony DePaul, Washington
Tom Hebert, So. California
Doug Getchell, Oregon
Bill Watkins, No. California
Paul Weiser, Walking Bosses:
Mike Zuliani, Clerks

Alternates
Mark Dieth, Oregon
Bob Lindsey, Washington
Lawrence Thibeaux, No. California

By Brian McWilliams
ILWU International President

After two months of bargaining with the Pacific Maritime Association and after a week of debate in our Longshore Caucus, we have a tentative agreement ready for ratification by the rank and file of the ILWU Longshore Division.

It's all a part of a contract, if I do say so myself. And I'm not the only one. It has the support of the Coast Labor Relations Committee, the Longshore Contract Negotiating Committee, the Longshore Safety Committee, and, now, the Caucus. In fact, if the contract hadn't passed muster at any of these bodies, we'd either be bar-

The beauty of the pact is that it accomplishes two primary objectives: It ensures that the ILWU Longshore Division will survive, even thrive, into the next century.

It resolves a number of hot issues that have been on the back burner for too long.

We've talked (forever, it seems) about having a "seamless operation" on the waterfront. We've talked about drayage, on-dock and near-dock rail, vessel planning and M&R.

Now we've got more than talk. We've got expanded jurisdiction in some areas. We've got training. We've got a shot at other work down the road.

So, where modernization has diminished our longshore membership by half, now we have the opportunity to grow. Where adversarialism once threatened to leave some of us behind, we now have new kinds of work, and training programs for that work.

We've talked about drayage, on-dock and near-dock rail, vessel planning and M&R.

Now we've got more than talk. We've got expanded jurisdiction in some areas. We've got training. We've got a shot at other work down the road.

And where employers prosper, we pros-
By LEONARD HOSHIJO
ILWU International Vice President, Hawaii

TRADEWINDS

NEVER FORGET

"When the manager told me to take off my black ribbon (signifying solidarity and dismay with the company’s stance), I was pissed! I’ll never forget…" That Hilton Hawaiian village member’s feeling was repeated time and again during public demonstrations and internal shows of solidarity and management reaction. These members will work together for quality hotel service, but won’t forget the ruling-owning class that came out and showed itself as the enemy. Thousands are seeing their hotels for the first time as they really are. Peaceful years of contract advances and economic growth can blur the lines, but the aggressor hotels brought those lines back into focus. When it counted, money and control came first, people last. Members saw what companies would have done if there was no union.

These hotels also solidified a new generation’s union identity. The mentality of “I pay dues, the union takes care of it” was challenged, changing to “We’re the union. What we’re willing to do will decide it. It’s my union, my strength.” Old basics driven home by heavy-handed hotels. It was poetic justice that Westin Maui workers settled first since they mobilized most and earliest. They and other ILWU hotel workers are sharing the nation-wide experience, the plain hard work, of organizing their own members: taking one on one to each member; showing in-house solidarity with union pins, ribbon days, etc.; escalating the number and noise of public demonstrations and leafleting; greeting tourists at the entrance, on the beach, at the airport.

MOBILIZE THE MEMBERS

For unions the call of the day is membership turn-out, numbers of bodies, whether for their own contract mobilization, organizing, or political action. A negotiator, a handful of organizers, a lobbyist can’t pull a union through individually, especially when the stakes are high and powerful forces close. "Peace as usual" doesn't do it. Inseparable from the five hotel settlements, the news in Hawaii is of thousands of ILWU members mobilizing—like a union. While we’re still done, the ongoing hotel struggles sets a direction we must hold to in all the work of the union.

Feel like a phone call? ILWU hotels and condos listed below are without contract settlements. Some are on anti-union offensives, others have taken milder wait-and-see stances. Except for the Kaiula Resort, no boycott has been called at this time. Ask general managers if a fair contract has been settled? If not, why not, since others have settled? Note: The area code for Hawaii is (808). The (800) numbers are regular reservation numbers.

ISLAND OF MAUI

Renaissance Wailea Beach Resort  879-4900
(1-800-468-3571)
Kapalua Bay Hotel  669-5656
Aston Maui Lu Resort  879-5881
(1-800-321-2558)
Royal Lahaina Resort  661-3611
Owner is Pleasant Travel, largest Hawaii tour wholesaler

Pleasant Travel in Southern California  (1-818) 242-9241
Ritz Carlton Kapalua  669-6200
Maui Eldorado  661-0021
Diamond Resort  874-0500
The Whaler (Village Resorts)  661-4861
Napili Shores  669-8061
Lahaina Shores  661-4835

ISLAND OF HAWAII

Hilton Waikoloa Village  885-1234
(1-800-445-8667)
Hapuna Prince Hotel  880-1111
Mauna Kea Beach Hotel  322-3411
Mauna Lani Bay Hotel  885-6622
Orchid At Mauna Lani (ITT Sheraton)  885-2000
King Kamehameha’s Kona Beach  329-2911
Kona Surf Hotel  329-2911
Hawaiian Prince Hotel  696-3333

ISLAND OF OAHU

Hilton Hawaiian Village Beach Hotel  922-6300
Holiday Inn Airport  836-0661

ISLAND OF KAUI

Kauai Resort (boycott continues)  245-9351
(The Hyatt Kauai and Hyatt Maui contracts expire Septem-
ber 30, 1996. Kauai’s Kiahuna Plantation contract expires August 31, 1996. The Grand Wailea’s contract is in place in 1997 as is Wailea Ekahi’s and Hotel Lanai’s.)

Organizing:
A Civil Rights Movement

At this time the struggle for the Hawaii ILWU continues: educating, agitating, organizing member action, short of a strike, bringing the people-pressure to bear…

Hawaii hotel bargaining:
Victory in trench warfare

Progress… while still locked in trench warfare. That’s Hawaii ILWU hotel negotiations, with five hotel contract set-tlements during May and June won by 1,800 members and thousands of others still facing off with separate companies.

The Westin Maui and the Kaanapali Beach Hotel sepa-rately broke from a union-busting attorney’s “council” after a year of “who’s blink first?” and then came to agreement with the union within weeks. The Maui Prince, never one of the contemptibles, quickly agreed to the standards established by those first two settlements. Upon settling next with Lanai’s Kolea Lodge and Manele Bay Hotel, Local 142 President Bo Laperia observed, “They have some of the toughest fin-
cials, and they came to a fair agreement for the work-
ers.” Why not the others?

TURNING BACK THE CLOCK

To go back: Half of the ILWU’s 12,000 hotel members started June 1995 with hotels breaking their word to “snap-back” seven percent wage increases deferred in bad times. The main hotel council dissolved, leading to separate negoti-
gations. Groups of hotels joined in a take-away scheme, not for recovery, but for ganging a chance to set Hawaii stan-dards back a generation.

Hotel management set the tone with proposals like cut-ting family medical benefits and overtime after eight hours. Unemployment anxiety ranged from stopping authorized payroll deduction of union dues to the Hilton declaring an impasse (which the union disputed) and implementing “final offers.” The Kauai Resort, lawyered by the same firm fronting those four hotels, called a lockout. ("Mahalo" for the $10,000 sent in support by mainland members.)

At this time the struggle for the Hawaii ILWU continues: educating, agitating, organizing member action; short of a strike, bringing the people-pressure to bear on hotel sales, business, public image and community relations; selectively raising and lowering the heat: layering Unfair Labor Prac-
tice charges; probing pressure points and sensitivities of management and owners.

NEVER FORGET

"When the manager told me to take off my black ribbon (signifying solidarity and dismay with the company’s stance), I was pissed! I’ll never forget…" That Hilton Hawaiian village member’s feeling was repeated time and again during public demonstrations and internal shows of solidarity and management reaction. These members will work together for quality hotel service, but won’t forget the ruling-owning class that came out and showed itself as the enemy. Thousands are seeing their hotels for the first time as they really are. Peaceful years of contract advances and economic growth can blur the lines, but the aggressor hotels brought those lines back into focus. When it counted, money and control came first, people last. Members saw what companies would have done if there was no union.

These hotels also solidified a new generation’s union identity. The mentality of “I pay dues, the union takes care of it” was challenged, changing to “We’re the union. What we’re willing to do will decide it. It’s my union, my strength.” Old basics driven home by heavy-handed hotels. It was poetic justice that Westin Maui workers settled
A three-part series about longshore work, life, death and taxes on America's left coast

By KATHY WILKES

The Negotiating Committee leave their posts either empty-handed or clutching their last remaining copies of the flyer. Scattered over a five block area, they find their separate ways back to International Headquarters on the western edge of downtown San Francisco. Mission accomplished, back to the bargaining table—first to negotiate among themselves, then later with the employers.

HEADS UP

Notified of the coastalwise leafleting the day before, the commercial media apparently couldn't care less. No phone calls. No inquiries of any sort. Not even speculation about why longshoremen, in their white longshore caps and ILWU jackets, could be found far from the waterfront, deep over 50 per cent of the cargo coming into and going out of the United States of America, and we don't have to take crap from anybody.

2.) How dare we? Because we want to and we can.

Finally the press is paying attention. The coast longshore contract is expired, tough negotiations continue. Inquiring minds want to know: What's going on in contract talks? ... are they getting anywhere at all? ... when we will know for sure? ... what about slowdowns? ... will there be a strike? ... Ad infinitum.

The days wear on. The papers seem desperate to print something—anything! This is a big story, an important story. All of a sudden. A possible west coast shutdown, shipping paralyzed, chaos, ruin.

COMMUNITY ROOTS

In the pages of The Dispatcher, old timers recall the ILWU's past history, its fight for survival and justice, and the support of people in their communities who understood what was at stake.

The groundbreaking Great Strike of 1934 was just the first of many steps that turned into great strides for the union, its members and their communities. From San Pedro, California—the birthplace of the struggle from which the ILWU took form—to the towns along the coast of the great Pacific Northwest.

The 1934 longshore strike expanded to a full-blown West Coast Maritime Strike. In San Francisco, it erupted into a massive General Strike with the wholehearted support of the city's working class and, amazingly, hundreds of small shopkeepers and merchants.

All along the coast, denizens of port communities set up soup kitchens, provided shelter and first aid, and helped with picket lines and strike papers, ensuring, ultimately, a resounding victory for the union which, in turn, jump-started organizing across the nation.

Ever since then, port communities (the people if not the politicians) have placed their faith in the ILWU to lead the battle for a decent standard of living for everyone. They have not been disappointed. The union indeed, a rising tide that lifts all ships.

Employers may say what they will, but they cannot deny the tremendous positive effect the ILWU has had on them. And, as the self-de-
scribed "economic engines" that drive regional and state economies, west coast ports proudly and loudly of generating hundreds of thousands of jobs and billions of dollars in wages and tax revenues.

Skilled and dependable longshore labor has helped them all prosper beyond their wildest expectations. Why shouldn't ILWU members?

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

Militant and proud of it, the ranks of the ILWU Longshore Division have also been second to none in their desire to improve the fortunes of less fortunate workers. They won't cross other unions' picket lines. They don't have to. Their contract says so. They will rally to the call of workers in need. And they do. Their conscience and tradition demands it.

They've come to the aid of hotel workers in Longview, ship radio operators in Los Angeles and Portland, auto workers in Astoria, farm workers in Monterey and Salinas, and paper workers, machinists and grocery workers in the Northwest. They've reached out to striking Liv.

justice—including, most recently, the new Labor Party.

They support local charities, sponsor events to feed the hungry, shelter the homeless, and help the hopeless find their way.

They are movers and shakers in dozens of progressive organizations in support of human rights and social and tax revenues.

And they know that ILWU members know how to fight for what they want—and win; they've been doing it for over sixty years.

THERE THEN AND NOW

One thing is certain: It is pure folly for employers or the press to presume that a few caustic remarks will undermine the ILWU's standing in the eyes of the community.

Friends, neighbors and civic leaders alike know what the ILWU has done for them, their families and their town. They know this.

When a dying child wanted to make one last wish, the ILWU was there.

When an inner-city kid finally got the chance to join a team, put on a uniform and play ball, the ILWU was there.

When poor families faced Christmas with no food for the table or toys under the tree, the ILWU was there.

When workers took a stand, pressed for economic justice, organized unions, or went on strike, the ILWU was there.

The members of the ILWU have earned their reputation for being there when it counts. Because that's just what they do. Because it's the right thing to do. And, finally, because they want to and they can.

COASTWISE...

Detractors can't diminish the ILWU's reputation and influence, and it doesn't matter how hard they try.

Solidarity and activism are ingrained in the union's culture.

It's been that way for more than 60 years.
GOP big guns bombard labor, blast unions

By LINDSAY McLAUGHLIN
ILWU Washington Representative

Representative David Funderburk (R-NC) stood in front of the AFL-CIO headquarters in Washington D.C. and called its president John Sweeney a "communist." House Conference Chairman John Boehner (R-Ohio) chastised the In-ternational Brotherhood of Electrical Workers for making contributions to such "radical" groups as the National Rainbow Coalition and the Children's Defense Fund.

Senators and Senators brought the Right-to-Work Act to a vote July 10 and suffered one of the worst and most humiliating defeats of the year for this anti-labor Congress.

In their brazen attempts to "get" labor and working families the question must be raised: Has the GOP Congress gone stark raving mad?

In November 1994 many voters said that the Democrats had lost their touch with the working class after 40 years of Congressional control, so they gave the Republicans a chance.

"Even GOP lawmakers who represent port areas voted to kill their own"

What did the GOP Congress do in turn? They have orchestrated the crudest attacks on working families, their values and their institutions that we have seen in generations.

PORT KILLERS

 Virtually every GOP member of the House of Representatives voted to place the jobs of hundreds of thou-sands of longshoremen and other port-dependent workers in jeopardy last May Day by supporting the Ocean Shipping Reform Act.

This bill would eviscerate the current maritime regulatory structure and, without public disclosure or public recourse, would allow large carriers and large shippers to discriminate against smaller ports in favor of "super hub" ports. The result would be a cutthroat economic environment that would throw entire communities into chaos and drive down wages, benefits and living standards.

Even GOP lawmakers who repres-ent port areas voted to kill their own, including Brian Bilbray (San Diego), Steve Horn (Long Beach), Bill Baker (Oakland), Frank Riggs (Eureka), Jim Bunn (Port-land), Randy Tate (Tacoma), and Rick White (Seattle).

ILWU President Brian Mc-Williams testified against the bill in the Senate Commerce Committee, calling it "anti-labor." Senator Larry Pressler (R-SD), who introduced the bill, was surprised by all the oppo-sition and said he had never gotten so much criticism on any of his past legis-lation.

The bill is now being rewritten to be more moderate and probably will be reintroduced in September, but the ILWU will oppose all attempts to deregulate the industry. It is unlikely any version will pass this year.

NOW YOU SEE IT...

Hopefully, low wage workers will get a well-deserved raise this year because the House and Senate have both approved a Minimum Wage In-crease, thanks to a few (and I mean few) GOP moderates.

The Repubs brought the wage in-crease to the floor for a vote after intense pressure from working people. However, they insisted on offering an amendment that would have exempted small businesses doing less than $500,000 in commerce annually, by-passing virtually everyone the in-crease was designed to help. This ex-treme amendment narrowly failed, but the GOP Congress did pass other anti-labor amendments.

The so-called Team Act passed both houses of Congress but is, fortu-nately, headed for a Presidential veto. Republican leaders claim it will foster cooperation between labor and man-agement and has nothing to do with unions. But the labor movement con-tends the bill, touted as a tool to avoid unions in business seminar ads by American Enterprises, will lead to oppressive company unions and deny workers independent represen-tation.

The Team Act would amend the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) to permit employers "to es-tablish, assist, maintain or partici-pate in" organizations for their em-ployees—a change that would under-mine independent representation by allowing the cre-ation of employer-dominated organiza-tions in both union and nonunion work-places.

It would allow employers to hand-pick the workers to speak on behalf of other workers, under-mining democ-ratically-chosen union representation and contracts negotiated through collective bargaining.

HOGTIED WITH RED TAPE

The Republican Congress wanted to pass a Labor/ HHS/Education Appropriations bill which would have forbidden the Labor Depart-ment from even col-lecting data or studying repetitive motion injuries—a workplace hazard afflicting millions. Democrats balked at this silly and mean idea, and it was nixed. But the bill massively cut funding for the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), making it difficult at best for the agency to con-duct union elections or remedy illegal company actions. The cut was a direct slap at unions and union members.

While working to deregulate worker
health and safety oversight. Republicans are trying to add new regulations to union finances.

The Worker Right to Know Act would create so many hoops for a labor organization to jump through that unions likely would have to cease all political and charitable activities. It would require that international unions and locals do a CPA accounting of their expenditures; that unions annually go to every member to advise them that the cost of activities other than collective bargaining may be excluded from dues; and that "agency fee payers" workers who opt not to be members but still receive the full benefit of collective bargaining have the same rights as union members, including voting for officers and contracts. The bill would effectively create unprecedented red tape and bureaucracy costing millions of dollars and weakening the labor movement. It is still in committee, but Speaker of the House Speaker Newt Gingrich wants it, so it will likely come up soon.

PRIVATIZE AND NEUTRALIZE
HR 1907, Port Privatization Act, introduced by Rep. Steve Horn (R-CA), would offer federal aid to state and local governments to privatize ports and other public infrastructure projects. Congress is attempting to move this bill in the last days of the Congress, and of course, it would have disastrous effects on the maritime workers of the ILWU. Privatized ports on the east coast and Gulf coast now have nonunion labor and weakened labor standards.

Considering the heat Local 13's Kevin Schroeder and Local 63's Debbie Cruise are generating in his district, Horn must be breaking out in a sweat. To further the agenda of his big business sponsors Gingrich called a meeting March 22 in Washington, D.C. between Republican leaders and party activists to map out the campaign against organized labor. The plan is to spread disinformation about the labor movement, intimidate the movement and take its focus off its organizational and political goals.

According to an AFL-CIO publication entitled "Republican Attempts to Silence Working Families," the campaign will be spearheaded by Rep. Boehner and Senator Paul Coverdell (R-GA) and coordinated with the Republican National Committee and business interests.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce has accepted a major organizational and fundraising role and support has already been solicited from the National Federation of Independent Businesses and the National Right-to-Work Committee. Boehner and Coverdell want to raise $12 million for the campaign by coaxing CEOs to make personal contributions. Much of the money will be used to run ads designed to counter AFL-CIO electoral efforts. Republican members of Congress are also sending letters to local TV and radio stations to dissuade them from airing labor political advertisements. The letters claim the ads violate federal election laws and go on to make not-so-veiled threats of federal investigations of broadcasters who don't bow to their demands.

Continuing the attack, Congressional Republicans are hauling labor leaders before House committees and accusing them of corruption and alleged affiliations with organized crime. Numerous hearings are planned to examine union activities, especially the use of union dues.

GOP BITES
Have you had enough of these mad dogs biting the hands that feed them? Working people everywhere are rising up with renewed vigor to take on this GOP Congress. A key Republican strategist, quoted anonymously in the July 15, 1996 issue of the New York Times, said of the effects of the new energy in the labor movement on his party: "The sheer weight of it has been corrosive."

Like it or not, the 1996 elections have become in part a referendum on the American labor movement. If we are able to defeat these rabidly anti-labor Republicans, we will be perceived as a strong force in American politics and emboldened to pursue the progressive agenda of the Labor Party, including restoring workers' rights to organize, bargain, and strike.

For the time being that means restoring Democrats back to power. But we will not have a strong labor movement or a Labor Party unless we participate fully in the 1996 electoral debate.

I urge you to do whatever is necessary to ensure that the ILWU plays a key role in the '96 elections. Work with your ILWU District Council to help out in an important national campaign to map out the campaign against organized labor.
New contract wins all demands

Janitors clean employers' clocks

BY MARCY REIN

Eight pasty-faced guys in suits file down the hall at 5:30 a.m. June 1, representatives of janitorial companies that have been negotiating a new contract with Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 1877. As if their expressions weren't clue enough that talks just broke down, a rumble rises from the conference room where 30-some members of the union's bargaining committee remain. Feet stomping, palms pounding the table, they are chanting in Spanish: "Huelga! Huelga! Strike! Strike!"

Later that day union members meet in the midday heat in Oakland and San Jose. The church basement across from the Oakland union hall echoes with background din, kids running, a futile fan buzzing, about 200 members debating in small groups over weak coffee, KoolAid and as always, pan dulce, sweet bread.

The discussion goes slowly, translated back and forth between English and Spanish, but in the end they go with the negotiators' recommendation. They vote by a six-to-one margin to reject the employers' offer and once more the chant goes up, this time reverberating off the low ceiling, "Huelga! Huelga!"

DRIVING THE STRIKE

"It's not just that the companies rejected our demands for better wages and health care, but they laughed in our face," said bargaining committee member DelMar Perez, a janitor at Bishop Ranch in San Ramon. "We need to unite, all of us as workers, to get what we deserve. Now is the moment for us to move forward.

And through the next four hard weeks, the members drove the strike.

The "new labor organizing" took on the "new economy" of Silicon Valley, and the janitors cleaned up. Their faces were lined, their hands calloused, their talk driven by a sense of urgency amid the business of the day: "This gives us a critical edge going into negotiations," said Tom Csekey, the union's chief negotiator.

Four months of preparation preceded the strike, starting in February and March with the selection of bargaining committee members and the union's legal department. The campaign March 30 in San Jose, some 700 janitors set the contract goals they would fight for in the coming months:

• A master contract for all of Local 1877's janitors: Going into this year's bargaining, the Local's members were covered under three separate agreements.

• Wages above poverty level.

• Family health care: Under the old contract, two in five Local members couldn't get health insurance for their families. Those who could get it often had to wait two to five years before it kicked in.

• Protection for immigrant workers.

TAKING IT TO THE STREETS

Goals set, union members hit the streets with a series of marches and other activities. In early April, 3,000 marched in downtown Oakland. Under the gaze of several buildings they clean, 12 janitors and communi- cators blocked the intersection of Harrison Street and Grand Avenue, singing "No tenemos miedo, no nos movemos, we are not afraid, we shall not be moved," before being decorously hauled off by the Oakland police.

One of those arrested was Reyna Alferz, a bargaining committee member who just two weeks before had been sworn in as a U.S. citizen. "I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

Two months into talks the employers were offering only token compromise. And with the contract expiration looming, active unionists and bargaining committee members were being confronted and mowed down by supervisors.

Suddenly more work was dumped on the bargaining committee members according to the union's legal coordi- nator, Andrew Gross. Active union members were grilled about strike plans. A few people were fired. Two got resignations for gross personal neglect at home, accompanied by warnings to "stop that shit with the union."

In the final week the strike the union filed close to 30 unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board. "In its most protracted campaign before this, the Local filed only 14 charges, less than one per month," Gross said.

The mix of intimidation at work and lack of progress in bargaining did not sit well with members. They rejected the contractors' "final offer" hands down and the strike was on.

BUILDING MOMENTUM

Organizers adopted a "rolling strike," to meaningfully challenge contractors—making it harder to hire permanent replacements—while minimizing hardship on the workers who, living paycheck to paycheck, could neither a continuous nor a regular strike.

The strike started slowly. In the first week workers struck in a differ- ent county each night, taking out three to five work sites.

But in the second week the strike exploded, walkouts spreading in a chain reaction. Workers hit every county every night. In the best-organized counties union members over the strike, sometimes refusing to go back to work, sometimes taking on the day-to-day management of strike affairs. They took charge of organiz- ing the picket shifts, keeping discipline among the lines, providing food and water and talking to the police and the public.

"I'd never seen such a spirit of car- ing and solidarity," said organizer Luz Savala, a negotiating committee member, was arrested at a civil disobedi- ence demonstration in Palo Alto April 30 as part of the union's pre-strike pressure campaign.

"I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

One of those arrested was Reyna Alferz, a bargaining committee mem- ber who just two weeks before had been sworn in as a U.S. citizen. "I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

Two months into talks the employers were offering only token compromise. And with the contract expiration looming, active unionists and bargaining committee members were being confronted and mowed down by supervisors.

Suddenly more work was dumped on the bargaining committee members according to the union's legal coordi- nator, Andrew Gross. Active union members were grilled about strike plans. A few people were fired. Two got resignations for gross personal neglect at home, accompanied by warnings to "stop that shit with the union."

In the final week the strike the union filed close to 30 unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board. "In its most protracted campaign before this, the Local filed only 14 charges, less than one per month," Gross said.

The mix of intimidation at work and lack of progress in bargaining did not sit well with members. They rejected the contractors' "final offer" hands down and the strike was on.

BUILDING MOMENTUM

Organizers adopted a "rolling strike," to meaningfully challenge contractors—making it harder to hire permanent replacements—while minimizing hardship on the workers who, living paycheck to paycheck, could neither a continuous nor a regular strike.

The strike started slowly. In the first week workers struck in a differ- ent county each night, taking out three to five work sites.

But in the second week the strike exploded, walkouts spreading in a chain reaction. Workers hit every county every night. In the best-organized counties union members over the strike, sometimes refusing to go back to work, sometimes taking on the day-to-day management of strike affairs. They took charge of organiz- ing the picket shifts, keeping discipline among the lines, providing food and water and talking to the police and the public.

"I'd never seen such a spirit of car- ing and solidarity," said organizer Luz Savala, a negotiating committee member, was arrested at a civil disobedi- ence demonstration in Palo Alto April 30 as part of the union's pre-strike pressure campaign.

"I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

One of those arrested was Reyna Alferz, a bargaining committee mem- ber who just two weeks before had been sworn in as a U.S. citizen. "I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

Two months into talks the employers were offering only token compromise. And with the contract expiration looming, active unionists and bargaining committee members were being confronted and mowed down by supervisors.

Suddenly more work was dumped on the bargaining committee members according to the union's legal coordi- nator, Andrew Gross. Active union members were grilled about strike plans. A few people were fired. Two got resignations for gross personal neglect at home, accompanied by warnings to "stop that shit with the union."

In the final week the strike the union filed close to 30 unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board. "In its most protracted campaign before this, the Local filed only 14 charges, less than one per month," Gross said.

The mix of intimidation at work and lack of progress in bargaining did not sit well with members. They rejected the contractors' "final offer" hands down and the strike was on.

BUILDING MOMENTUM

Organizers adopted a "rolling strike," to meaningfully challenge contractors—making it harder to hire permanent replacements—while minimizing hardship on the workers who, living paycheck to paycheck, could neither a continuous nor a regular strike.

The strike started slowly. In the first week workers struck in a differ- ent county each night, taking out three to five work sites.

But in the second week the strike exploded, walkouts spreading in a chain reaction. Workers hit every county every night. In the best-organized counties union members over the strike, sometimes refusing to go back to work, sometimes taking on the day-to-day management of strike affairs. They took charge of organiz- ing the picket shifts, keeping discipline among the lines, providing food and water and talking to the police and the public.

"I'd never seen such a spirit of car- ing and solidarity," said organizer Luz Savala, a negotiating committee member, was arrested at a civil disobedi- ence demonstration in Palo Alto April 30 as part of the union's pre-strike pressure campaign.

"I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

One of those arrested was Reyna Alferz, a bargaining committee mem- ber who just two weeks before had been sworn in as a U.S. citizen. "I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

Two months into talks the employers were offering only token compromise. And with the contract expiration looming, active unionists and bargaining committee members were being confronted and mowed down by supervisors.

Suddenly more work was dumped on the bargaining committee members according to the union's legal coordi- nator, Andrew Gross. Active union members were grilled about strike plans. A few people were fired. Two got resignations for gross personal neglect at home, accompanied by warnings to "stop that shit with the union."

In the final week the strike the union filed close to 30 unfair labor practice charges with the National Labor Relations Board. "In its most protracted campaign before this, the Local filed only 14 charges, less than one per month," Gross said.

The mix of intimidation at work and lack of progress in bargaining did not sit well with members. They rejected the contractors' "final offer" hands down and the strike was on.

BUILDING MOMENTUM

Organizers adopted a "rolling strike," to meaningfully challenge contractors—making it harder to hire permanent replacements—while minimizing hardship on the workers who, living paycheck to paycheck, could neither a continuous nor a regular strike.

The strike started slowly. In the first week workers struck in a differ- ent county each night, taking out three to five work sites.

But in the second week the strike exploded, walkouts spreading in a chain reaction. Workers hit every county every night. In the best-organized counties union members over the strike, sometimes refusing to go back to work, sometimes taking on the day-to-day management of strike affairs. They took charge of organiz- ing the picket shifts, keeping discipline among the lines, providing food and water and talking to the police and the public.

"I'd never seen such a spirit of car- ing and solidarity," said organizer Luz Savala, a negotiating committee member, was arrested at a civil disobed- ence demonstration in Palo Alto April 30 as part of the union's pre-strike pressure campaign.

"I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.

One of those arrested was Reyna Alferz, a bargaining committee mem- ber who just two weeks before had been sworn in as a U.S. citizen. "I wasn't scared because I wasn't making big problems," she said. She was only hoping the action would jump-start day one.
"Sin contrato, no hay trabajo," no canned janitors' services and leafleted sites from Tanforan Mall in San Mateo to coln Center in San Mateo and IBM in Concord Center and Bank of America, thread through the union's spirit.

feeling the pinch of lost income, other San Jose. Black -and -red signs consistent acknowledgment of the Janitors tied up traffic in San Jose, bristling, bullhorns blaring, they than that, it touched the nerve of raza said Lina Avidan, Local 1877's East County Community Coordinator.

busses from Oakland, San Mateo and Walnut Creek. Going into the third week of the strike, meetings Local members were feeling the pinch of lost income, other unions and community supporters came through with donations of food and money. Strike fund contributions mounted.

GOING THE DISTANCE

Supporters also lent their strength to the public actions, which played out on at the pace of two or three a week. Janitors tied up traffic in San Jose, held a "trash-in" at a contractors' regional headquarters in San Francisco, climbed Los Altos Hills for a candlelight vigil at the home of a building trades locals—boosted the strike region -wide with one-night walkouts.

Churches and community organi-ations pitched in as well. More than 150 signed a resolution in support of the janitors and groups as diverse as the 46-church Presidency of San Jose and the Progressive Alliance of Alameda County -sanitized members to back the strikers however they could. Such supporters played a critical role in taking the janitors' case to the public and to the contractors' client companies, said South Bay Community Coordinator.

into the union's hard fighters off -guard. "The contractors promised that endorsement power would en-able family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

The new master contract brings all Local members above the current poverty wage. Annual increases aver-age 4 percent. Members on the bot-tom of the scale get 5.5 percent and everyone stays ahead of inflation.

Everyone in the Local will be eligi-ble for family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

The new master contract brings all Local members above the current poverty wage. Annual increases average 4 percent. Members on the bottom of the scale get 5.5 percent and everyone stays ahead of inflation.

Everyone in the Local will be eligi-ble for family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

Going into the third week of the strike, meetings Local members were feeling the pinch of lost income, other unions and community supporters came through with donations of food and money. Strike fund contributions mounted.

supporters also lent their strength to the public actions, which played out on at the pace of two or three a week. Janitors tied up traffic in San Jose, held a "trash-in" at a contractors' regional headquarters in San Francisco, climbed Los Altos Hills for a candlelight vigil at the home of a building trades locals—boosted the strike region -wide with one-night walkouts.

Churches and community organi-ations pitched in as well. More than 150 signed a resolution in support of the janitors and groups as diverse as the 46-church Presidency of San Jose and the Progressive Alliance of Alameda County -sanitized members to back the strikers however they could. Such supporters played a critical role in taking the janitors' case to the public and to the contractors' client companies, said South Bay Community Coordinator.

into the union's hard fighters off -guard. "The contractors promised that endorsement power would en-able family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

The new master contract brings all Local members above the current poverty wage. Annual increases average 4 percent. Members on the bottom of the scale get 5.5 percent and everyone stays ahead of inflation.

Everyone in the Local will be eligi-ble for family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

The new master contract brings all Local members above the current poverty wage. Annual increases average 4 percent. Members on the bottom of the scale get 5.5 percent and everyone stays ahead of inflation.

Everyone in the Local will be eligi-ble for family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

Going into the third week of the strike, meetings Local members were feeling the pinch of lost income, other unions and community supporters came through with donations of food and money. Strike fund contributions mounted.

supporters also lent their strength to the public actions, which played out on at the pace of two or three a week. Janitors tied up traffic in San Jose, held a "trash-in" at a contractors' regional headquarters in San Francisco, climbed Los Altos Hills for a candlelight vigil at the home of a building trades locals—boosted the strike region -wide with one-night walkouts.

Churches and community organi-ations pitched in as well. More than 150 signed a resolution in support of the janitors and groups as diverse as the 46-church Presidency of San Jose and the Progressive Alliance of Alameda County -sanitized members to back the strikers however they could. Such supporters played a critical role in taking the janitors' case to the public and to the contractors' client companies, said South Bay Community Coordinator.

into the union's hard fighters off -guard. "The contractors promised that endorsement power would en-able family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

The new master contract brings all Local members above the current poverty wage. Annual increases average 4 percent. Members on the bottom of the scale get 5.5 percent and everyone stays ahead of inflation.

Everyone in the Local will be eligi-ble for family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

The new master contract brings all Local members above the current poverty wage. Annual increases average 4 percent. Members on the bottom of the scale get 5.5 percent and everyone stays ahead of inflation.

Everyone in the Local will be eligi-ble for family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

Going into the third week of the strike, meetings Local members were feeling the pinch of lost income, other unions and community supporters came through with donations of food and money. Strike fund contributions mounted.

supporters also lent their strength to the public actions, which played out on at the pace of two or three a week. Janitors tied up traffic in San Jose, held a "trash-in" at a contractors' regional headquarters in San Francisco, climbed Los Altos Hills for a candlelight vigil at the home of a building trades locals—boosted the strike region -wide with one-night walkouts.

Churches and community organi-ations pitched in as well. More than 150 signed a resolution in support of the janitors and groups as diverse as the 46-church Presidency of San Jose and the Progressive Alliance of Alameda County -sanitized members to back the strikers however they could. Such supporters played a critical role in taking the janitors' case to the public and to the contractors' client companies, said South Bay Community Coordinator.

into the union's hard fighters off -guard. "The contractors promised that endorsement power would en-able family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.

The new master contract brings all Local members above the current poverty wage. Annual increases average 4 percent. Members on the bottom of the scale get 5.5 percent and everyone stays ahead of inflation.

Everyone in the Local will be eligi-ble for family health care. Waiting pe-riods will drop to a year for most peo-ple, 18 months for a few. Members will not be penalized for changing their legal status and will be protected from sexual harassment and other illegal discrimination.
In defense of Sid

Regarding Randy Vekich's letter in the July issue of The Dispatcher, Sid Rodgers was one of the most loyal and dedicated ILWU members ever, a man who put his union before his family. Vekich claims to have been a friend of Sid, yet repeats as fact the utterly false charges that Harry Bridges raised against Sid in forcing him to resign as Dispatcher. Like the rest of the ILWU, Sid leaked "confidential negotiating committee information to the commercial press" during the 1971-72 longshoremen's strike. It didn't happen. As the principle reporter to whom Sid supposedly leaked information, I know. As I reported on KQED's Newsroom at the time of Sid's dismissal in April 1972, Bridges' claim was "outrageous to any reporter who covered the strike, since Sid was consistently and frustratingly unwilling to give out inside information to any kind of the Nau family on the San Francisco waterfront [May-Aug. 1967]."

Anyone who was truly a friend of Sid would know he was far too loyal to the ILWU, and far too smart, to disclose anything that would be of value to employer negotiators.


Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Confessions of a 'sacked docker' on the front line in Liverpool

I know you are all aware of the situation in the Port of Liverpool, but I think I would put pen to paper and let you into the mind of one of those sacked dockers.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids

I write to thank you for the very good article you wrote in The Dispatcher about orchids. Men and women from the orchid family have a very sweet smell.

I am 49 years old, and I worked on Liverpool docks since 1970. My father died when I was 2 years old, his death was sudden in 1965. I was not informed of his death until I was 20 years old, I thought he was dead or retired. As you can see, we have a few legal problems. We will not do things and honestly think such court records should be censored, left out of The Dispatcher.

Bill Proctor

Orchids
Pensioners: Have we got a convention for you!

By ARNE AUVINEN

Pensioners from ILWU International headquar- ters in San Francisco.

Steve lives just across the bay home. He spent five years as managing editor of the California anti-nuke newspaper It's About Times; worked for ten years as the news poster editor and columnist at the San Francisco Bay Guardian; and free lance wrote and edited for numerous other publications. He will be teaching a journalism course at New College of California next fall.

Steve's hiring brought The Dispatcher's new Assistant Editor position. Steve has already been in contact with some of our ILWU locals and the IBU regions on stories for this and future issues. He'll be in touch with others the next several months.

Two ILWU kids have been chosen from a pool of nearly 10,000 applicants to receive Union MasterCard scholarships. They were among 108 winners representing 38 AFL-CIO unions. The 1996 Union MasterCard Scholarship winners are: Gutierrez, who comes from an active union family, plans to attend Seattle University where he will major in civil engineering. Zupunski also comes from a long line of unionists. His grandfathers were members of the ILWU, and his father is also a member of the ILWU. Zupunski plans to attend Aloha Community College where he will pursue a degree in diesel mechanics.

Gutierrez, who comes from an active union family, plans to attend Seattle University where he will major in civil engineering. Zupunski also comes from a long line of unionists. His grandfathers were members of the ILWU, and his father is also a member of the ILWU. Zupunski plans to attend Aloha Community College where he will pursue a degree in diesel mechanics.

The 1996 Union MasterCard Scholarship recipients are a diverse group, ranging from high school valued-added recipients to unemployed union members to students with disabilities. They all have outstanding academic records and an understanding of and a commitment to labor—factors that figured highly in determining who would be chosen.

The 1996 Union MasterCard Scholarship recipients are a diverse group, ranging from high school valued-added recipients to unemployed union members to students with disabilities. They all have outstanding academic records and an understanding of and a commitment to labor—factors that figured highly in determining who would be chosen.

Unionists participating in the Union MasterCard Program are eligible to apply for the award regardless of whether they carry a Union MasterCard.

Two ILWU kids win Union MasterCard scholarships

Important Notice on ILWU Political Action Fund

Delegates to the 29th Triennial Convention of the ILWU, meeting in Seattle, June 3-7, 1991, amended Article X of the International Constitution to read:

"SECTION 2. The International shall establish a Political Action Fund which shall consist exclusively of voluntary contributions. The union will not favor or disadvantage any member because of the status of the fund and the uses to which the voluntary contributions of the members are put will be the decision of the International Executive Board.

"The voluntary contributions to the Political Action Fund shall be collected as follows:

"For the years 1991 and 1992, $1.20 per cent of each of March and August, per capita payment to the International Union shall be diverted to the Political Action Fund where it will be used in connection with federal, state, and local political campaigns. These deductions are suggestions only, and individual members are free to contribute more or less than that guideline suggests. The diverted funds will be contributed in the form of two contributions who voluntarily permit that portion of their per capita payment to be used for that purpose. The Titled officers may suspend the March deviation if, in their judgment, the financial condition of the International warrants suspension.

"For three consecutive months prior to each election, upon the election of each dues paying member of the union shall be advised of his/her right to withhold the One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) payment or any portion thereof. Either the President or the International Executive Board may give the members opportunity to reduce the per capita payment provided by the International Union, shall be sent a check in the amount of One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) or less. If the member desires, in advance of the member making a deduction, in writing to the local union for the month in which the deviation occurs.

"Those members who do not wish to have any portion of their per capita payment diverted to the Political Action Fund, but wish to make political contributions directly to either the Political Action Fund or their local union, may do so in any amounts whenever they wish.

Pensioners: Have we got a convention for you!

Two ILWU kids win Union MasterCard scholarships

Important Notice on ILWU Political Action Fund

Delegates to the 29th Triennial Convention of the ILWU, meeting in Seattle, June 3-7, 1991, amended Article X of the International Constitution to read:

"SECTION 2. The International shall establish a Political Action Fund which shall consist exclusively of voluntary contributions. The union will not favor or disadvantage any member because of the status of the fund and the uses to which the voluntary contributions of the members are put will be the decision of the International Executive Board.

"The voluntary contributions to the Political Action Fund shall be collected as follows:

"For the years 1991 and 1992, $1.20 per cent of each of March and August, per capita payment to the International Union shall be diverted to the Political Action Fund where it will be used in connection with federal, state, and local political campaigns. These deductions are suggestions only, and individual members are free to contribute more or less than that guideline suggests. The diverted funds will be contributed in the form of two contributions who voluntarily permit that portion of their per capita payment to be used for that purpose. The Titled officers may suspend the March deviation if, in their judgment, the financial condition of the International warrants suspension.

"For three consecutive months prior to each election, upon the election of each dues paying member of the union shall be advised of his/her right to withhold the One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) payment or any portion thereof. Either the President or the International Executive Board may give the members opportunity to reduce the per capita payment provided by the International Union, shall be sent a check in the amount of One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) or less. If the member desires, in advance of the member making a deduction, in writing to the local union for the month in which the deviation occurs.

"Those members who do not wish to have any portion of their per capita payment diverted to the Political Action Fund, but wish to make political contributions directly to either the Political Action Fund or their local union, may do so in any amounts whenever they wish.

Two ILWU kids win Union MasterCard scholarships

Important Notice on ILWU Political Action Fund

Delegates to the 29th Triennial Convention of the ILWU, meeting in Seattle, June 3-7, 1991, amended Article X of the International Constitution to read: 

"SECTION 2. The International shall establish a Political Action Fund which shall consist exclusively of voluntary contributions. The union will not favor or disadvantage any member because of the status of the fund and the uses to which the voluntary contributions of the members are put will be the decision of the International Executive Board.

"The voluntary contributions to the Political Action Fund shall be collected as follows:

"For the years 1991 and 1992, $1.20 per cent of each of March and August, per capita payment to the International Union shall be diverted to the Political Action Fund where it will be used in connection with federal, state, and local political campaigns. These deductions are suggestions only, and individual members are free to contribute more or less than that guideline suggests. The diverted funds will be contributed in the form of two contributions who voluntarily permit that portion of their per capita payment to be used for that purpose. The Titled officers may suspend the March deviation if, in their judgment, the financial condition of the International warrants suspension.

"For three consecutive months prior to each election, upon the election of each dues paying member of the union shall be advised of his/her right to withhold the One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) payment or any portion thereof. Either the President or the International Executive Board may give the members opportunity to reduce the per capita payment provided by the International Union, shall be sent a check in the amount of One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) or less. If the member desires, in advance of the member making a deduction, in writing to the local union for the month in which the deviation occurs.

"Those members who do not wish to have any portion of their per capita payment diverted to the Political Action Fund, but wish to make political contributions directly to either the Political Action Fund or their local union, may do so in any amounts whenever they wish.

Two ILWU kids win Union MasterCard scholarships

Important Notice on ILWU Political Action Fund

Delegates to the 29th Triennial Convention of the ILWU, meeting in Seattle, June 3-7, 1991, amended Article X of the International Constitution to read:

"SECTION 2. The International shall establish a Political Action Fund which shall consist exclusively of voluntary contributions. The union will not favor or disadvantage any member because of the status of the fund and the uses to which the voluntary contributions of the members are put will be the decision of the International Executive Board.

"The voluntary contributions to the Political Action Fund shall be collected as follows:

"For the years 1991 and 1992, $1.20 per cent of each of March and August, per capita payment to the International Union shall be diverted to the Political Action Fund where it will be used in connection with federal, state, and local political campaigns. These deductions are suggestions only, and individual members are free to contribute more or less than that guideline suggests. The diverted funds will be contributed in the form of two contributions who voluntarily permit that portion of their per capita payment to be used for that purpose. The Titled officers may suspend the March deviation if, in their judgment, the financial condition of the International warrants suspension.

"For three consecutive months prior to each election, upon the election of each dues paying member of the union shall be advised of his/her right to withhold the One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) payment or any portion thereof. Either the President or the International Executive Board may give the members opportunity to reduce the per capita payment provided by the International Union, shall be sent a check in the amount of One Dollar and Twenty-Cents ($1.20) or less. If the member desires, in advance of the member making a deduction, in writing to the local union for the month in which the deviation occurs.

"Those members who do not wish to have any portion of their per capita payment diverted to the Political Action Fund, but wish to make political contributions directly to either the Political Action Fund or their local union, may do so in any amounts whenever they wish.
Solemn Bloody Thursday by the Bay

By STEVE STALLONE
Assistant Editor

SAN FRANCISCO—Amid serious concerns about the pending contract negotiations some 100 ILWU members, retirees and their families gathered at the longshore Local 10 hall July 5 to commemorate Bloody Thursday, the union’s most sacred anniversary. It was on this day in 1934 that police officers shot and killed longshoremen on strike, igniting a general strike in San Francisco.

In an annual ritual tapes was played as members laid wreaths and flowers around a chalk outline of the slain strikers Nicholas Bordoise and Howard Sperry on the sidewalk right outside the local’s building. Red paint lay splattered around the figures encircled with the words “Police Murder” and “Men killed—shot in back.”

City On Strike

During that strike San Francisco experienced regular police gun fire and tear gas. Dozens were wounded. The murder of Bordoise, a member of the Cooks Union helping in the strike kitchen, and Sperry, a seaman on shore that day, was overlooked if anyone could be next.

Their deaths precipitated the city’s other unions to join in a general strike and spread the longshore strike across the entire Pacific Coast. Its victory established the longshoremen’s union on the west coast and San Francisco as a union town. It was one of those historical moments of working class solidarity, one of those moments after which nothing is ever quite the same.

The commemorative gathering was hit by news that workers and pensioners remembered and honored those who gave their lives and others who fought and sacrificed to build the union, while at the same time greeting old friends and cohorts, catching up on recent events, trading old stories and showing off new grandchildren.

Past and Present

With the contract negotiations still unsettled union officials addressing the assembly stressed the links between the union’s history and present circumstances.

“This is an opportunity for us to learn more about our past. We need to keep learning to be successful in the future,” said ILWU International President Brian McWilliams.

Owen Marron, head of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, similarly recalled the past as a guide to the future. “The people who gave their lives on Bloody Thursday led to the mobilization and rejuvenation of the labor movement. By their blood they set up the labor movement as we know it,” Marron said. “We are at war not because we want to be, but because the system we work under is at war with us. The only way to stop it is to organize and organize and organize.”

Study labor, then & now

City College of San Francisco is offering a new lineup of labor classes in the Fall of 1996 beginning August 19 at its downtown center.

Classes cover the soup-to-nuts of labor: managing unions, collective bargaining, American labor movement, labor leader communications skills, labor law, labor literature and arts, economics for labor/community leadership, steward’s training, peer counseling, and assertive behavior.

Instructors are union organizers, labor attorneys and labor relations specialists who practice what they teach. Register and pay at the Downtown Center the first night of class. Fees are $13 per unit plus $1 a student per fee. For more info call 415-267-4550.

ILWU Book & Video Sale

Important books and videos about the ILWU are available from the ILWU library at discounted prices!

The Big Strike

By Mike Quin: the classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. Price: $7.00

Workers on the Waterfront: Seamen, Longshoremen, and Unionism in the 1930s

By Bruce Nelson: the most complete history of the origins, meaning, and impact of the 1934 strike and its aftermath. Price: $9.95

Reds or Rackets: The Making of Radical and Conservative Unions on the Waterfront

By Howard Kimeldorf: a thoughtful and provocative comparison of the ILA and the ILWU. Price $9.95

Longshoremen At Work

A 17 minute VHS video adaptation of a stunning slide/sound presentation about work on the waterfront by Mike Vavider, Bruce Nelson, and Frank Silva. Price: $25.00

The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront

By David Weilman: the important new study of longshore in the ILWU since the 1930s. Price: $38.00 (hardcover)

Life on the Beam: A Memorial to Harry Bridges

A 17 minute VHS video production by California Working Group, Inc. memorizes Harry Bridges through still photographs, recorded interviews, and reminiscences. Originally produced for the 1990 memorial service in San Francisco. Price: $20.00

Order By Mail

# Copies of Nelson’s Workers on the Waterfront @ $9.95 each = 
# Copies of Kimeldorf’s Reds or Rackets? @ $9.95 each = 
# Copies of Quin’s The Big Strike @ $7.95 each = 
# Copies of Longshoremen at Work @ $25.00 each = 
# Copies of The Union Makes Us Strong @ $38.00 each = 
# Copies of Life on the Beam @ $20.00 each = 
Add $1.50 per item for orders outside U.S.

Total Enclosed $ 

Name 
Street Address or PO Box 
City State Zip 

Make check or money order (U.S. funds) payable to “ILWU” and send to ILWU Library, 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 Prices include shipping and handling. Please allow up to four weeks for delivery.

ILWU
Library
1188 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94109

Harry Bridges and his union knew the only way;
Give the boss man your demands, see what he has to say;
The bosses hired strike breakers, or scabs as they were known,
When all that they offered was hot air and a smile,
The workers voted for a strike, the union rank and file.

Finally there came the time hostilities did cease,
The Union beat the bosses, beat them down onto their knees;
Conditions met, contracts signed, ships loaded and they sailed,
After many long hard months, the Union had prevailed.

We can thank Harry Bridges, and longshoremen of his breed,
For standing ground and fighting for the things that they believed.
We owe those men of long ago, those men who led the way.
The legacy they left to us: the life we live today.

By STEVE STALLONE
Assistant Editor

LONGSHOREMEN
Solemn Bloody Thursday by the Bay

BY STEVE STALLONE
Assistant Editor

San Francisco—Amid serious concerns about the pending contract negotiations some 100 ILWU members, retirees and their families gathered at the longshore Local 10 hall July 5 to commemorate Bloody Thursday, the union’s most sacred anniversary. It was on this day in 1934 that police officers shot and killed longshoremen on strike, igniting a general strike in San Francisco. In an annual ritual tapes was played as members laid wreaths and flowers around a chalk outline of the slain strikers Nicholas Bordoise and Howard Sperry on the sidewalk right outside the local’s building. Red paint lay splattered around the figures encircled with the words “Police Murder” and “Men killed—shot in back.”

City On Strike

During that strike San Francisco experienced regular police gun fire and tear gas. Dozens were wounded. The murder of Bordoise, a member of the Cooks Union helping in the strike kitchen, and Sperry, a seaman on shore that day, was overlooked if anyone could be next.

Their deaths precipitated the city’s other unions to join in a general strike and spread the longshore strike across the entire Pacific Coast. Its victory established the longshoremen’s union on the west coast and San Francisco as a union town. It was one of those historical moments of working class solidarity, one of those moments after which nothing is ever quite the same.

The commemorative gathering was hit by news that workers and pensioners remembered and honored those who gave their lives and others who fought and sacrificed to build the union, while at the same time greeting old friends and cohorts, catching up on recent events, trading old stories and showing off new grandchildren.

Past and Present

With the contract negotiations still unsettled union officials addressing the assembly stressed the links between the union’s history and present circumstances.

“This is an opportunity for us to learn more about our past. We need to keep learning to be successful in the future,” said ILWU International President Brian McWilliams.

Owen Marron, head of the Alameda County Central Labor Council, similarly recalled the past as a guide to the future. “The people who gave their lives on Bloody Thursday led to the mobilization and rejuvenation of the labor movement. By their blood they set up the labor movement as we know it,” Marron said. “We are at war not because we want to be, but because the system we work under is at war with us. The only way to stop it is to organize and organize and organize.”

Study labor, then & now

City College of San Francisco is offering a new lineup of labor classes in the Fall of 1996 beginning August 19 at its downtown center.

Classes cover the soup-to-nuts of labor: managing unions, collective bargaining, American labor movement, labor leader communications skills, labor law, labor literature and arts, economics for labor/community leadership, steward’s training, peer counseling, and assertive behavior.

Instructors are union organizers, labor attorneys and labor relations specialists who practice what they teach. Register and pay at the Downtown Center the first night of class. Fees are $13 per unit plus $1 a student per fee. For more info call 415-267-4550.

ILWU Book & Video Sale

Important books and videos about the ILWU are available from the ILWU library at discounted prices!

The Big Strike

By Mike Quin: the classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. Price: $7.00

Workers on the Waterfront: Seamen, Longshoremen, and Unionism in the 1930s

By Bruce Nelson: the most complete history of the origins, meaning, and impact of the 1934 strike and its aftermath. Price: $9.95

Reds or Rackets: The Making of Radical and Conservative Unions on the Waterfront

By Howard Kimeldorf: a thoughtful and provocative comparison of the ILA and the ILWU. Price $9.95

Longshoremen At Work

A 17 minute VHS video adaptation of a stunning slide/sound presentation about work on the waterfront by Mike Vavider, Bruce Nelson, and Frank Silva. Price: $25.00

The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront

By David Weilman: the important new study of longshore in the ILWU since the 1930s. Price: $38.00 (hardcover)

Life on the Beam: A Memorial to Harry Bridges

A 17 minute VHS video production by California Working Group, Inc. memorizes Harry Bridges through still photographs, recorded interviews, and reminiscences. Originally produced for the 1990 memorial service in San Francisco. Price: $20.00

Order By Mail

# Copies of Nelson’s Workers on the Waterfront @ $9.95 each = 
# Copies of Kimeldorf’s Reds or Rackets? @ $9.95 each = 
# Copies of Quin’s The Big Strike @ $7.95 each = 
# Copies of Longshoremen at Work @ $25.00 each = 
# Copies of The Union Makes Us Strong @ $38.00 each = 
# Copies of Life on the Beam @ $20.00 each = 
Add $1.50 per item for orders outside U.S.

Total Enclosed $ 

Name 
Street Address or PO Box 
City State Zip 

Make check or money order (U.S. funds) payable to “ILWU” and send to ILWU Library, 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 Prices include shipping and handling. Please allow up to four weeks for delivery.

Just Plane Nuts

Longshoreman Steve Martizia (Local 12, Coos Bay) says he jumps into action “to commemorate Bloody Thursday.” Drop it, Steve. Nobody will fall for that!

On the photo chute:

Tim McMahan, Eugene, Oregon

ILWU
Library
1188 Franklin Street
San Francisco, CA 94109