On a work opportunity guarantee, the union demanded 40 straight time hours guaranteed for registered "A" men and 32 hours for "B" men. The employers in effect tried to buy out the guarantee by offering an incentive plan noting not to offer a guarantee but to add some of the cost to the entire package.

On pensions, the union asked $300 at age 55 for all men retiring after 10 years with 25 years of service. The employers' basic pension offer was $325 a month for new retirees.

ALL COMPANIES

The ILWU longshore strike is against all companies, PMA and non-PMA alike.

The Negotiating Committee, chaired by ILWU president Bridges, agreed to the following:

Military cargo will be worked as will passengers’ baggage; also mail.

The other exception is perishables, now on ships or docks. This includes chill cargo but not freezer.

CONTAINER ACTION

The day before the strike was called, starting at 12:01 am, June 30, a program of action was undertaken at all ports in which any containerists not staffed by the registered work force were not loaded and boarded ship, unless those loads fell under the provisions of manufacturers’ loads, military cargo, door-to-door delivery or pickup (domestic trade).

At all ports on the Pacific Coast, longshoremen and clerks were taking strike preparations all during the week. Strike committees were set up, including picketing committees.

Local 63, Wilmington

WILMINGTON — In recent elections, Nick Podiue was elected secretary-treasurer of the local. T. C. Harrison was elected relief dispatcher; Manueal Balver was alternate dispatcher. Al Periaho will serve on JRC and Jim Bowen, Harlan R. Aspetula, Al Periaho, James Jackson, Joseph Ackerman, Podiue, Harry B. Alken will serve as directors of the Marine Clerks’ Memorial Association, Inc.

The 1934 strike fell on the eve of the 75th anniversary of Bloody Thursday, which happened during the "Big Strike" that was won in 1934.

BACKGROUND

The background of the present strike began with the "preliminary longshore caucus" held in October, 1970. Then the 101 delegates from 40 locals developed a heavy set of demands covering every aspect of waterfront work and conditions.

The first of these negotiations began in November, 1970, shortly after the caucus adjourned, and demands were presented to the employers. On December 7 both sides met again but by December 15 negotiations broke down.

Negotiations were resumed again February 21 and after many days spent at the bargaining table, the Negotiating Committee reported to the April longshore caucus, which took place immediately after the Nineteenth Biennial Convention.

That five-day caucus, April 27-May 1, was told that the PMA had rejected the "October demands."

The caucus determined the following program:

- No negotiations with PMA unless the Negotiating Committee believes employers will come up quickly with a settlement position which can be recommended to the rank and file.
- Locals to enforce the Container Freight Station Agreement by not working in union containers, made up of ship and/or cargo staffed by the ILWU registered work force (with certain exceptions).
- The Negotiating Committee, when it feels such action is necessary, may call a coastwide strike vote.

SUPPORT

The caucus was told of the full backing by the rest of the ILWU, including a special pledge of June 25, 1970, by Canadian area longshoremen. Support was also pledged by the International Longshoremen’s Association, which operates in Atlantic and Gulf Coast and Great Lakes ports.

Negotiations were recessed shortly after the caucus to give the sympathy vote of the ILWU a chance to get back to their home ports to negotiate on local issues and explain the program.

June 29, 1971

1) JURISDICTION — Containerists

- Extend for two years the present CPS, subject to review after one year, with elimination of transition period provision and addition of union’s representation of shippers’ loads. PCLA wages for CPS work.

- EXCEPTIONS: Manufacturers’ loads Door to door delivery or pickup (domestic trade)

Other exceptions by mutual agreement;

2) CONTRACT PROVISION ON SCOPE OF WORK AND CONTRACT COVERAGE, i.e., Industrial Decks, teamsters loading and unloading trucks at designated areas, log assembly — still to be negotiated.

3) WORK OPPORTUNITY GUARANTEE.

- Registered "A" men — 40 straight time hours per week.
- "B" men — 22 hours plus guarantee of being moved to "A" registration in stipulated numbers, and over stipulated periods of time during two-year term of contract, or a longer time as mutually agreed upon.
- Hours worked or paid for under the guarantee to be counted for all fringe benefits.

4) WAGES. First year — 85c; second year — 95c.

5) PENSIONS. $500 at age 55 for all men retiring after July 1 with 25 years of service.

6) WELFARE. New welfare benefits limited to active men only, except prescription drugs.

- Continue present level of benefits under Kaiser Plan.
- Eliminate inequities in small ports where no group plan is available.
- Add dental care and prescription drugs for all who qualify under the contract.
- Life insurance of $25,000, double indemnity, and A.D. & D. for men whose survivors are entitled to benefits under the Pension Plan.

7) MANNING SCALES.

- New for operations: Before being started, to be decided by JLRG or Local Arbitrator’s interim decision.
- Basic minimum manning for handling, as now in Section 16.1.
- Present T-letter manning scales to be carried over to new agreement, subject to challenge and change by the parties.
- D. Present T-letter manning procedure to be abolished. All Manning other than basic hand-handling (10.1) and manning in present negotiations abolished for all ports to be determined locally by parties and by Area Arbitrator if necessary.

8) GRIEVANCE MACHINERY.

- Revised to provide for speedy settlement of on-job disputes, with on-job interim arbitration;
- Define assault;
- Amend Section 17.12 on non-dispatch to put limit on the period of time a man can be on the list;
- Revise Section 17.81 regarding penalty clause.

9) LENGTH OF CONTRACT — two years.

10) CLERKS’ DEMANDS — to sub-committee.

11) Five PAID HOLIDAYS the first year; five more the second contract year.

These demands are strike demands. All other union demands as submitted to PMA on November 6, 1970, to be negotiated by the parties, and to be finally resolved by negotiation and/or arbitration.