



U. S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
San Francisco, Calif.  
Permit No. 4229

# The DISPATCHER

Official Newspaper of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, CIO

September 3, 1948

Published every two weeks at 150 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco (2), Calif. Entered as second class matter as of Dec. 15, 1942, at the Postoffice at San Francisco, Calif., under the act of Aug. 24, 1912. Subscription \$1 per year.

Vol. 6, No. 18

## THE SHIPS ARE DOWN

### Europe Reports Nos. 5, 6

Life in Czechoslovakia

Warsaw, August 13, 1948.

Mr. Harry Bridges,  
President ILWU,  
San Francisco.

Dear Harry:

From report No. 4 sent from Belgrade on the 8th you learned that our first assault upon fortress "Iron Curtain" staged from the Allied base of Trieste was a complete success. Something many alarmists back home had predicted could not be done. The defenses protecting the next line, Czechoslovakia, gave way without any battle and today we succeeded in obtaining total, complete and unconditional surrender of the most impregnable stronghold, namely the USSR. The victory was so complete that the Consul General of the USSR in Warsaw agreed to arrange for the trip by air to Moscow and personally escort us to the airport.

Putting all jokes aside it will no doubt be a pleasure to all of you to hear that we were granted our visas to the USSR as soon as we arrived at the Consulate. Evidently good work was done from San Francisco and Paris. Everything was in readiness for the O.K. The Consul, a gentleman in every sense of the world, quiet-spoken, very intelligent, fixed us up in no time. Them Terrible Roosians. We guessed it all happened because we represent much of the American working class to whom the Russians are evidently very partial. The consul arranged for our air transportation himself and promised to come to the airport to see us off. Naturally we are looking forward to this visit with tremendous anxiety and interest.

#### PEOPLE HARD AT WORK

From Monday until Thursday afternoon we were in Czechoslovakia. We were met at the airport and received the same courteous, friendly reception and treatment as in the previous countries. Prague is a very beautiful city and was spared from the fury of the Master Race. The people are hard at work growing, producing and manufacturing so that they can improve the living standards of the people. As in Yugoslavia much has been done and is being done to make the life of the people more secure. The new Social Security measures are very advanced.

Life in Czechoslovakia is quite strenuous, rationing and price control is very strict. Last year the harvest was very bad and they are still suffering from that situation. This year the crops will be good. Czechoslovakia is exporting many of the things they themselves need very badly. But they

need the foreign exchange to buy and sell in other markets. The labor leaders are very intelligent, well informed on world affairs, economics and international politics. Political and labor leaders and the people we met know where they are going. They know that some tough times are still ahead of them.

#### ILWU WELL-KNOWN

Yesterday we were received by the Prime Minister, Antonin Zapotovsky. He is also the President of the Czechoslovakia Labor Syndicate. He is a very friendly, very calm sort of man. He, his government and the people are fondly hoping for a change in the warmongering attitude of the American people. We assured him that it was our hope that if and when we had the opportunity to bring our report before the trades unions and other people that there would be a change for the better. Our own ILWU is well known here and much is expected from us. We told everyone of the tough battle that was confronting us in September.

In the afternoon we took off for Warsaw. We arrived two hours later. Today we met the Trades Union leaders and we will report on this later. We toured some of Warsaw also. The destruction and devastation is sickening. This is a good place to which to send warmongering politicians and put them to work at cleaning up the debris and rubble. It might change their war lust somewhat.

The people are hard at work rebuilding and cleaning. Their spirit is just marvelous and what they have already accomplished is beyond belief and comprehension. Tomorrow we are going to the Baltic sea ports of Gdwyne, Danzig and possibly Stettin. The workers there have been expecting us for the last week.

#### NEED TIME

As you know we have lost much time in getting visas. Also the first and last days of our stay in a given place is generally taken up with getting settled and leaving and arranging transportation. All this was not considered when the schedule was prepared in San Francisco. In Czechoslovakia we only had two actual days of study. We should have stayed at least two more days.

In other places still to be visited we will have similar experience

(Continued on Page 3)

### WE'RE NOT SUCKERS!



### WE'RE NOT VOTING!

INTERNATIONAL LONGSHOREMEN'S & WAREHOUSEMEN'S UNION-CIO

**No Suckers** Not a single sucker showed up at the Taft-Hartley employers' "final offer." The poster above, displayed prominently in every port up and down the coast, reminded longshoremen just how insulting was the employers' "final offer." The government's NLRB spent thousands of dollars setting up the polls for the vote August 30 and 31. Deserted polls and unmarked ballots bore evidence that no self-respecting union man stooped to consider an "offer" that amounted to the open shop and worsening of wages and conditions.

### Workers Must Make Momentous Decision

By HENRY WALLACE

On this Labor Day, the working people of America face a political choice of the deepest significance. It is a choice between supporting the two old parties of Wall Street and building a new party of labor and the common people.

The Democratic and Republican parties are captives of Wall Street and the big corporations. They

have shackled labor with the Taft-Hartley Law, voted by a majority of both old parties. They have destroyed price control and unleashed an inflation which has cut the value of the worker's dollar in half and which threatens a disastrous depression.

They have failed to provide homes for the homeless, an adequate minimum wage for the underpaid, decent pensions for the aged, and American standards of social security for all. They have failed to protect the civil rights of minorities, and instead have launched witch-hunts which threaten the democratic liberties of all Americans. Their tax and other special favors to profiteers

have been as noteworthy as their assaults on labor's rights and living standards.

#### DEWEY BRAGS

The only distinction between the two old parties is that Dewey and his Republicans brag of this record, while Truman and his Democrats make professions of liberalism that are belied by their acts. Truman has issued more strike-breaking injunctions than any president in history, and the majority of Democrats in Congress have voted with the Republicans against labor on nearly every issue.

The Democratic and Republican parties have reversed the "One" (Continued on Page 7)

### Who Said It?

"The apparent increase in living costs since OP-1 days is largely illusory."

(Turn to back page for name of author.)

# Labor Day



**N**EXT MONDAY is Labor Day, the day on which we traditionally celebrate our advance toward freedom and security. It is the day on which we hear from everyone, including monopolists and lawmakers, that nothing is too good for the working man.

The dignity and importance of labor has been extolled by the high and famous for centuries. Twenty-six hundred years ago the rich told workers that labor is no disgrace. The rich may have meant what they said, but labor was not rewarded with riches any more then than it is now.

Adolf Hitler said the same thing to German workers before he organized them into a labor front as an essential part of his fascist system and led them to war.

American labor came out of Hitler's war heaped with praise from our so-called national leaders. President Truman on Labor Day, 1945, told us: "We recognize the importance and dignity of labor, and we recognize the right of every American citizen to a wage which will permit him and his dependents to maintain a decent standard of living."

Two years later we celebrated Labor Day with the Taft-Hartley Law on our necks and a steadily declining standard of living. In 1948 Labor Day marks the end of a year in which the Taft-Hartley Law worked as well as its perpetrators hoped, witness the fact that management is pleased with the law because it makes unions less "aggressive," that is less adamant on the subjects of wages, hours and working conditions.

**S**TRONG UNIONS have been split in the past year, pickets have been clubbed by cops, scabs have flourished, profits and the cost of living have far outstripped wage increases. Truman who made a brave statement on how he didn't approve of the Taft-Hartley Law, has been busy enforcing it

with a glee uncalled for any part of his disapproval was honest.

In every country under the Truman-Marshall military influence, labor is struggling to maintain any rights. Greece shoots strikers. MacArthur, who once pledged to help rebuild the organization of labor in Japan, bans strikes when he feels like it. In Hawaii two school teachers who have shown themselves actively interested in the welfare of labor have been fired and are undergoing a full-fledged inquisition.

In our union we are faced with the ridiculous spectacle of the government we are supposed to respect asking our members if they don't want to accept a splitting and degrading "final offer" from shipowners who well knew they would find no takers.

Truman and even some Republicans are still telling labor they think it is noble this year, but we have learned to recognize when a man means what he says.

We recognize the statement of Henry Wallace on page 1 of this paper as the statement of a man who does mean what he says, and backs it up with an honest program to advance labor's rights.

## The DISPATCH

MORRIS WATSON, EDITOR

Published every two weeks by the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union at 150 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco 2, Calif. Entered as second class matter as of Dec. 15, 1942, at the Postoffice at San Francisco, Calif., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Subscription \$1 per year.

150 Golden Gate Ave., San Francisco 2  
Phone FRospect 5-0533 or FRospect 5-2220

<b>HARRY BRIDGES,</b> President	<b>LOUIS GOLDBLATT,</b> Secretary-Treasurer
<b>J. R. ROBERTSON,</b> First Vice President	<b>ORISSAIN BUCKLEY,</b> Second Vice President
<b>LINCOLN FAIRLEY,</b> Research Director	<b>MORRIS WATSON,</b> Information Director

Deadline for next issue, Sept. 12, 1948



# On the Beam

BY HARRY BRIDGES

**T**HE NEWSPAPERS have brushed off the big story of the year. The big story is the collapse of the Taft-Hartley Act on the business of an employer's final offer. The final offer of the shipowners to our union was, according to the law, put before our longshore and shipsclerk membership.

Nobody voted. Not a single member showed at the polls up and down the coast. The boycott was, as the union predicted publicly, 100 percent effective.

It was the greatest demonstration of solidarity the country has seen since trade unions were formed.

And that is precisely why the newspapers are brushing it off and rationalizing it. Their rationalizing takes the form of "oh, well, negotiations resumed and everybody knows it wasn't the final offer, anyway."

**W**HEN THE shipowners made their final offer they kidded themselves into believing that longshoremen and clerks were being misled by a bunch of commies at the head of their union. "Just let us get to them over the heads of their elected committees," they said to themselves, "and we'll find they really like to work long hours at low pay because they admire, respect and love us shipowners."

It boomeranged, and how! Now the shipowners must know a little better, unless they let their own press agents kid them. They must know by now that the only fighting words on the waterfront are those that imply a man is "like a shipowner."

**I** AM NOT, never have been and, Heaven help me, never will be a newspaperman. That doesn't stop me from speculating upon so-called news judgment. Newspapermen are supposed to have it. Yet, here is a real phenomenon—some 15 to 20 thousand workers voluntarily and in unison boycott a poll conducted by the majestic United States Government! It's no news.

It's no news because it came out wrong. The newspapers—their owners, that is—were panting to have the shipowners win the beef. Their reporters, rewrite men, editors and copyboys sensed their bosses' feelings and acted accordingly. They filled the papers with spy scares and snakes fighting spiders.

It all goes to show that the newspapers are on the side of the greedy at the expense of the needy. They are on the side of the greedy for the simple and understandable reason that they are owned by the greedy.

Our whole union's congratulations should go to our longshoremen and clerks and other dock workers. They came through as we in the International setup knew they would. We are a united union. We don't kid each other. We don't have a setup that permits a handful of top officers to endorse phonies for public office or dictate to the ranks.

The boycott of the NLRB poll on the shipowners' final offer proves what the reactionaries refuse to believe—that the orders in our union flow from the rinks up, not from the top down.

As I write this column the final score on settlement or strike is unknown. One thing I'm sure of—we are going to come out of this fight with greater unity, and certain knowledge the Taft-Hartley law is all we said it was, and that it can be licked.

We are a united union.  
Let's stay that way.

## Filipino Praises Hawaii ILWU for Democracy

**HONOLULU, T. H.**—Emiliano Morabe, an assistant to the Philippine Minister of Labor, during a visit with ILWU regional office leaders and officers of the Territorial locals, praised the democracy of the ILWU and the leadership of the union.

"The workers in Hawaii are fortunate in being members of such a democratic union as the ILWU. They are lucky too in having good leaders," Morabe said, during his visit August 13.

Queried about wages in the Philippines, the young labor official said that the longshoremen are presently the highest paid, among the unskilled workers. They receive about six pesos (\$3.00) per day.

### UNABLE TO ANSWER

He was non-committal on the current administration's attitude towards labor and unions in the Philippines today, saying that his long absence from home prevented his making comments with accuracy.

Asked about the Congress of

Labor Organizations (CLO) with its 60,000 members, mostly industrial, Morabe said that it has done the most for the workers in the Philippines. He added that the CLO and its leaders are continuously red-baited.

Morabe said that Manuel Joven, national executive secretary of the CLO who was kidnapped and murdered in February of this year was a respected leader despite the fact that he was called a communist, a radical and other names.

(The ILWU in Hawaii recently sent 2,500 pesos (\$1,250) to the widow and family of Manuel Joven, part of the proceeds of an ILWU sponsored series of concerts by Paul Robeson, Lawrence Brown and Earl Robinson.)

Morabe likened the CLO to the ILWU. He commented that the CLO is not a rich union, that "these unions that are not open to do banking business are usually the ones that do the most good for the workers."

## Return to Violence Marks First Taft-Hartley Year

SAN FRANCISCO — The Taft-Hartley Law's first year has fulfilled the direst predictions of labor. The record is one of police violence, labor spies, raiding, strike-breaking and injunctions, with the Government lined up alongside employers in the name of peaceful relations.

In fact, "if the first year of the Taft-Hartley Act was reduced to a single picture, it would be the picture of a policeman clubbing a union picket." This is the summation of the California CIO Council in a new booklet just issued here.

The Taft-Hartley Plot Unfolds contains just one happy note, the fact that unions can fight back and a number of them have learned how. The CIO's Research Department, through the experiences of unions, complying and non-complying, points the way to progress in spite of the law.

### LEADS TO FASCISM

And it warns that "at the end of the Taft-Hartley trail lies the labor front and fascism."

The Taft-Hartley plotters, says the council, began their power drive with a campaign to convince union members that the NLRB and the law it administers are not so bad after all, that they should qualify for board "services" by filing affidavits, by "obeying the law."

The CIO points out that it's also the law you have to be buried three days after death, that this doesn't mean you have to kill yourself in order to obey the law.

One union flatly challenged the Taft-Hartley plotters' threats, bribes and fear campaigns. The packinghouse workers struck the giant meat packers. They lost the strike, but they reminded all labor that it still had a powerful weapon, that all was not lost. Other unions that chose to fight came through with wage increases far above what their employers originally offered.

### DON'T NEED TO BARGAIN

Under the Taft-Hartley law employers do not have to bargain with unions as they did under the Wagner Act. They only have to meet with unions, and they can send the lowest flunkie in the business with no authority whatsoever to bargain. Only the union's strength, not the law, can force bargaining.

The main line has been that non-filing unions do not have bargaining rights, though that is

not what the law says, and the Department of Labor has declared it a lie.

John L. Lewis and his mine workers were the first to lick this part of the plot. As an employers' information service explained, "The union's economic position is so strong that no legal procedure could seriously hurt it."

Strike-breaking has flourished in the last year as never under the Wagner Act. The Council recounts the experiences of the CIO shipbuilding union, a complying union, in its Bethlehem strike. Scabs were run in in such quantities that production ran as high as 70 per cent of normal.

### CALL UNIONS "UNFAIR"

Another new privilege for employers is the right to charge unfair labor practices against unions. These are all processed before any union charges against employers get a hearing, and a union must have as good as a signed confession from its employer to prove its case.

Free speech for the boss, meaning his right to tell workers to vote against a union in so many words, has been exercised all over the country under the law.

The Council researchers found that under the Taft-Hartley Law organizing the unorganized has been replaced by raiding, mainly of filing unions on non-filing unions.

The only significant record of real organizing is that of the CIO United Electrical Workers, a non-filing union.

### FREE UNIONS OUTLAWED

The pamphlet says the Council, "doesn't tell all the bad things which have happened under Taft-Hartley. There's too much that's bad." But it effectively shows that the law is all bad, that no good comes of getting involved in it, that it is a part of the general plot of big business to lead America to fascism and war to make more money for monopoly.

"A free trade union movement and the T-H Act don't mix. One or the other must go." Strong unions and a mighty vote against Taft-Hartley congressmen are the answer.

The Taft-Hartley Plot Unfolds at 10 cents a copy (or 1,000 for \$60) may be ordered from the California CIO Council Research Department at 150 Golden Gate Avenue.

## Robeson to ILWU—"I'm Proud of You"

SAN FRANCISCO — Paul Robeson, honorary member of the ILWU, sang Joe Hill for the delegates to the Longshore and Shipclerks' caucus August 21. Before he sang he made this speech:

The struggle never seems to stop. It gets sharper and sharper. I pick up the papers today and find that we and our Union have a real job to do.

I have been to Hawaii and have been in close touch with union matters. I cannot tell you how proud I am to be a member of this Union.

I cannot tell you how proud I am to be with you. I have watched your struggle, watched the consistent stand you have taken, and I know you are going to continue to do that.

Taft-Hartley means death to the trade union movement. The two parties have been playing around, and at every moment we see that Truman steps in and uses every provision he can to do his part of the job. You have a real problem, I understand. It means that you are going to tell them, as you have told them before, that you want no part whatsoever of this kind of legislation, which not only would break the back of the labor movement but would set back the whole struggle of the American people for generations. And I understand that you are going to tell them that you want no part of voting on what the employers have offered to you, that you will set the terms yourselves. That I am very proud to see.

### STRUGGLE IS POLITICAL

In traveling about the country it is quite clear that the struggle for economic rights, the struggle for higher wages, the struggle for bread, the struggle for housing, has become a part of a wider political struggle. They have moved in to high places in government, and today the enemies of labor control the working apparatus of the state. They have to be removed. There has to be a basic change. I feel that this can only be done by seeing that we put into power those who represent a political party which has the deep interests of the people at heart. I am sure you understand that this cannot be separated, that we must understand politically that Truman is in office through one party, the Republicans are in through one party and are responsible for Taft-Hartley, and that somewhere you

have to see another group in there that fights for the rights of labor and for the rights of the American people.

And so I travel about today not only as a member of the Union, not only as an artist (I do concerts now and then), not only as a representative of the Negro people, but I travel as one of the Progressive Party, fighting to put Wallace in the presidential chair. Wallace is the man who might be there had he not in 1944 said "Jim Crow must go," had he not

realize the depth of that struggle, that you will not separate them, that they cannot be separated, that they go hand in hand, that the one way that this can be beaten is to give your energy, to give your time, to give your money, to see that we can put representatives in Congress and a President in the White House and a Vice-President who will represent our interests.

It has been my great privilege since I have seen you last to have been able to go to Hawaii for the Union to have seen there working a real democratic way of life in the Union; workers from all over the world who have become a part of the American way of life, building a decent home and a decent way of life for their children and for themselves in the Islands of Hawaii.

I managed to learn some of the songs of the people from the Philippines, of the Japanese-Americans. I saw many Negroes there who have remained.

I want to thank the Union for what it is doing there. I hope pretty soon to be down in the West Indies; I hope to drop by Cuba to see some of our fellows there.

### FROM DEPTHS OF HEART

And I want to repeat that I come today mainly as one in the Union, fighting its struggle. I shall be in the area for just two or three days. I shall be back, I hope, soon again.

I am so proud to see the leadership that you have given to the whole labor movement. I want to thank your courageous leader, Harry Bridges, for his consistent stand.

The final word is that as a member of the ILWU, we have a tremendous responsibility. I cannot tell you how the labor movement throughout the country looks to you as an example. And so there is added responsibility for you to carry on the fight in the next few days, in the next few weeks, in the next few months. What you do here in this Union can very well determine the future of the whole labor movement in these United States. It can mean victory for the American people in these times. And I, as one who comes from an oppressed people, one who has identified himself with the whole progressive struggle, know that you will carry on.

I want to thank you from the depths of my heart!



PAUL ROBESON AT CAUCUS

fought so hard for the rights of labor. He is the one public leader who has come out at once to say that the hiring hall must remain and that these men must be fought to the teeth; the people who are trying to break our backs.

And so I trust that you will

## Shipowners Fleece American Taxpayers in Smoothest Financial Deal Yet

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The announcement by President Truman on August 19 of a new shipbuilding program pointedly referred to the willingness of private ship operators to match their capital with Federal funds for the building of ships. In view of the strong testimony a few months ago, by spokesmen for the shipping interests before Congressional committees, that without new legislation no new ships could be constructed, the decision to go ahead without the new legislation was greeted in Washington with some surprise.

The press statements that the U. S. post-war shipbuilding program has finally gotten underway conceals one of the smoothest financial deals pulled in Washington in many years.

### HUGE SUBSIDY

Already agreed to are contracts for the construction of two passenger vessels for the Mediterranean run of the American Export Lines. The American President Lines have contracted to take

three combination passenger-cargo vessels for their round-the-world service. And the Maritime Commission is calling for bids for the construction of a 960 foot, \$65,000,000 super liner.

The contract with the American Export Lines was one of the biggest passenger ship contracts ever negotiated in this country. The Bethlehem Steel Corporation will construct two fast 20,000 ton vessels to cost at least \$46,830,000. The liners will be second in size only to the America.

American Export Lines will receive a 45 percent construction subsidy. Thus, almost half of the cost of the vessel will be paid for by the American taxpayers. Once the vessels are put into operation in 1950 the operators will receive an additional subsidy from the government, an operating subsidy, to equalize American and foreign operating costs.

When the ship-operator associations were lobbying in Washington for the Weichel bill during the last session of Congress, they

insisted that the existing construction subsidy law did not pay off enough to get ships built. Under the law the U. S. operator is paid a differential by the government based on the difference in cost between constructing a ship in a U. S. and a foreign yard.

In the past this subsidy has never been greater than 30 to 35 percent. The Weichel bill proposed to drop any comparison between U. S. and foreign construction costs and instead to pay the U. S. operators a flat 50 percent subsidy. The bill was never passed.

American Export Lines then suddenly comes up with a 45 percent construction subsidy; just a little less than the bill they pushed unsuccessfully would have given them.

### "DEFENSE" PROFITS

Beyond that, Export will be further reimbursed by the government under the new contract for building certain "defense

features" into the vessels. For example, if the Navy should decide that the ships should have a larger power plant than Export Lines planned upon, the government pays the difference to meet the Navy's defense needs.

In the present instance it is claimed that the Navy demanded that the vessels include more third class cabins than the company asked for. In view of the fact that these are the most sought after accommodations on this run, this "defense feature" was gladly welcomed by the company. Of course, in the event of a national emergency, were the Navy to take these vessels over, all the cabins would be ripped out in order to carry more troops. This gimmick pays off as well as an outright subsidy.

These financial features are as profitable to the ship operators as the Weichel bill they wanted so badly a few months ago. They

are getting what they want without bothering to have a law passed.

The American President Lines, whose controlling stock is actually owned by the United States government, signed a contract to take three vessels at a cost of \$32 million. Like Export Lines, APL will also enjoy the benefits of a 45 percent construction subsidy, plus whatever they pick up in "defense features." Whatever reluctance APL might have had to go into this deal was removed when the Maritime Commission threatened not to renew the operating subsidies they now enjoy unless they went into the new contract. When APL agreed to purchase the three vessels the Maritime Commission indicated that the operating subsidy on the round-the-world route would be renewed until September 30, 1950.



**Explained** A big, as well as helpful feature of the August 20-21-22 Longshore and Shipclerks' caucus in San Francisco was an expository talk on the wage-hour law and the recent Supreme Court decision regarding it. Here John Dille, regional director of the Wage-Hour Administration, is shown with coat off at the blackboard. In the background, learning a little something, is Michael Johnson, who was chairman of the caucus.

## ILWU Charges Reinecke Case Used to Split Union

HONOLULU, T. H. — Warning against efforts by anti-labor elements to use the School Board hearing of the Reineckes to destroy the ILWU was issued to all Local 142 members August 24 by their president, Antonio Rania Dr. and Mrs. John E. Reinecke, accused of being Communists and "not possessed of the ideals of democracy," have been suspended from their jobs in the public school system.

During the hearing on their case, witness Ichiro Izuca has

been redbaiting ILWU leaders, though admitting he was "plenty confused" after cross-examination by the Reinecke's lawyer, Richard Gladstein.

### TRY TO ISOLATE LABOR

Rania told the sugar workers that this attack on the union was twofold, intended to smear and discredit the leadership and to isolate the labor movement from all liberals in the community through fear.

The Reineckes in the past have "performed outstanding work for both the AFL and the CIO here in Hawaii," said Rania, charging that government and business want to frighten people from helping labor.

If a teacher can be fired for his political beliefs, it will be "only a matter of time before employers will again be telling us how to vote."

### IZUCA EXPOSED

Izuca was thoroughly exposed and discredited before ILWU members at the union's unity conference in Hilo last January where all of his lies and slanders about ILWU leaders in a red baiting booklet called *The Truth About Communism in Hawaii* were rejected unanimously by the delegates.

"We will take the present redbaiting campaign in our stride," said Rania.

### Corporations Hit Jackpot 1948 Tax Survey Shows

WASHINGTON — Corporations enjoyed such profitable business during the fiscal year 1948 that they paid around 65 percent more taxes than in the year before, the Treasury Dept. said July 19.

In a preliminary estimate of collections by the Bureau of Internal Revenue, the taxmen said that corporation taxes rose \$6 billion in fiscal 1947 to \$9.9 billion in 1948.

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Labor Day is the only official holiday dedicated to the American worker. And although Congress legalized this holiday in 1894, it did so only after the workers themselves had been celebrating Labor Day for twelve years. The story goes back to 1882 and a meeting of the New York Central Labor Council.

It was Peter J. McGuire, pioneer trade unionist and a founder of the Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners who first suggested the idea of setting one day of the year aside as a holiday for the workingman. In the spring of 1882 McGuire, a delegate to the New York Central Labor Union, proposed that the central body organize a festival and parade on the first Monday of September that year. This suggestion was agreed to and plans were laid for a workers' celebration.

It was McGuire's idea that the day should be celebrated first by a street parade which, in his words, "would publicly show the strength and esprit de corps of the trade and labor organizations." This was to be followed by a picnic or festival in some grove.

Tuesday, September 5, 1882, was a day with "a fair sky, a gentle breeze and not too warm a sun." More than ten thousand working men marched proudly through the streets of New York City to celebrate the first Labor Day. Every major union was represented and also included among the marchers were the delegates to the convention of the Knights of Labor, then meeting in New York.

The New York Herald described the parade entering Union Square in these words:

"The air was resonant with cheers and the music of many bands. A small squad of mounted police, commanded by Roundsman Garmon, rode at the head of the column.

"Then followed Grand Marshal McCabe on horseback, Marshal Burke on foot and a small detachment from Bricklayers Union No. 4 wearing white aprons and carrying no clubs, although they had been chosen by the Central Labor Union to act as special police. They may have had bricks in their pockets. Anyhow, he would have been a bold man who undertook to disturb their peace."

Banners carrying inscriptions giving the demands of the workers featured the parade.

The first banner read: "Who Stole the Tenement House Reform Bill?" Other banners said: "All men are born equal," "Labor Creates All Wealth" and "Agitate, Educate, Organize."



THE organized workers of New York City were as concerned about political action in 1882 as they are today. The Cloth Cutters Association carried a banner reading "Vote the Labor Ticket." While the New York Friendly

# How Labor Day

By WILLIAM ILWU Washington

Society of Masons carried a streamer reading "Indications are That November 7th Will Be a Cold Day for the Politicians."

Peter McGuire, later to become secretary of the American Federation of Labor, was a member of the Advance Labor Club. When this organization marched by the reviewing stand they carried two banners: "Abolish the Money Monopoly" and "Pay No Rent."

According to the New York World: "To allay the apprehensions of many spectators, some of whom might be landlords, Mr. McGuire remarked that the rent motto was not intended for immediate application."

The Journeymen Printers' Union came next, with the motto that no man could make land and therefore no man should own it.

Everyone who marched had taken the day off and lost a day's pay. It was reported that the strongest contingent came from the Bricklayers' Union. Few bricks were laid in New York that day. Perhaps the solid turnout by the bricklayers was accounted for by the notice all had received: "All members not reporting on Tuesday at eight a. m. will be fined \$4.00."

The first Labor Day was a complete success.

In 1883 and 1884 the New York Central Labor Council repeated this demonstration and celebration

while inviting other central labor bodies to do likewise. The idea spread rapidly. The Knights of Labor endorsed Labor Day soon after. And in 1884 the Federation of Organized Trades and Labor Unions, immediate predecessor of the AFL passed a resolution setting the first Monday in September aside as "Laborer's National Holiday." By 1885 Labor Day was celebrated in many industrial centers of the country.



THE AFL, from its foundation, had pushed for the recognition of Labor Day as a legal holiday. Municipal ordinances passed in 1885 and 1886 were the first legal recog-

inition of this holiday. In 1887 the first state to pass a law legalizing Labor Day was Oregon. In the same year Colorado, Massachusetts, New Jersey and New York created the Labor Day holiday by legislative enactment.

At the convention of the AFL in 1890 President Compers recommended that every effort be made to obtain more state laws and proclamations such as that just issued by the Governor of Kansas. The Governor had requested that all businesses and manufacturing concerns be closed down on Labor Day. By 1893 some 33 states had laws on their books establishing the Labor Day holiday. And finally, on June 28, 1894, Congress passed, without discussion, an act making the first Monday in September of each year a legal holiday. By 1900 most of the states had recognized Labor



First Labor Day parade, New York

Day officially.

The form that the observance and celebration of Labor Day should take were first outlined by old Peter McGuire and followed thereafter, a street parade to exhibit the strength of the workers' organizations, followed by a festival for the recreation and amusement of the workers and their families.

In the early years of the twentieth century Labor Day became increasingly accepted as a general holiday. It wasn't very much later before politicians saw these workers' gatherings as a good place for political speech making. What had originally been a defiant workers' holiday, and in ex-

# Day Came About

**WILLIAM GLAZIER**  
Washington Representative

... 1887... a law... s Ore... Colo... w Jer... ed the legisla-... of the... omp-... every... more... ations... y the... Gov-... at all... uring... n on... 33... books... Day... June... ased... Sep-... legal... of the Labor...  
... ession of workers' pride in... their organizations in some... s soon changed to a good... e with free beer supplied... e the local political boss... It was this change in the na-... re of the holiday and the... careful attitude of the AFL... eaders which led the new In-... dustrial Workers of the World... at their first convention in... 1905 to denounce Labor Day... as a "bosses holiday." The... W.W. decided that May 1st... ould be celebrated as the... workers' holiday; and it... ould be celebrated by every... rker putting down his tools... ad quitting his job... As one far-seeing delegate... lone minority, pointed out... the I.W.W. convention, this... sion was like so many... ders made there. While a... w militants decided on May... at as the workers' holiday... e workers themselves were... aching in the streets on the

"Labor Day is not a time for mere merrymaking and personal enjoyment, but a time for pledging anew our faith to our cause and to each other... We cannot, as an organiza-... tion, afford not to use labor's special day, Labor Day as a time to set forth to the best advantage our needs, demands, etc."  
But the formerly high level of Labor Day celebrations continued to give way. In 1914 the executive council of the AFL was forced to ask, "Shall Labor Day lose its distinctive character and become a mere holiday for general meaningless purposes and for the exploitation of private profit?" The old way, of demonstrations, parades and meetings was reiterated because "those outside the labor movement test its strength and virility by the way in which Labor Day is observed."

employers could hire men only for an emergency and rates of pay were double and triple time. Some of their agreements even required that wages earned under these circumstances should be donated to the union treasury. This was truly labor's day.  
This year, when the American workers march on Labor Day, they might well be reminded of what old Peter McGuire said in 1897. The "Father of Labor Day," writing in the American Federationist told his fellow American work-

"With hands and hearts together, with united funds and united interests, to stand for one another, day after day, year in and year out, in good times and in bad, who dare say what the trade unions can not accomplish.

"In the workshop and on forum, at the ballot box and in every field of endeavor, they can right every wrong, and eradicate every evil oppressive to the working people."

## Big Business Fetes T-H on 1st Birthday

WASHINGTON (FP) NLRB general counsel Robt. N. Denham came to his office from his sick bed August 23 to greet the press with a "Happy Birthday" on the anniversary of one year's operation of the Taft Hartley act.

Denham has been away from his desk for two months. He still looked ill but cheerful as he told reporters that "all I can say is Happy New Year."

The Taft-Hartley act has been fought more bitterly by labor than any other law enacted by the 80th Congress. Each month of its operation has given more ammunition to those who called it a slave labor law and a first step toward fascism. Denham was chosen for the key administration post of general counsel by the National Association of Manufacturers spokesmen who drafted the bill.

### NLRB COUNSEL PLEASED

Against a background of the outlawing of the closed shop and crippling curbs on hiring halls, picketing and many established union practices, Denham said:

"This has been a most satisfactory year in the administration of the law so many people called inquisitous." He added, "I make no bones about saying this has been a most successful year."

The NLRB counsel made perhaps his frankest statement when he said that he gave greatest credit to what he called holdover employes of the board—those who formerly administered the Wagner act. He said:

### UNIONS OFFENSE

"They had to change their methods of thinking."  
Businessmen have also noted and approved the change referred to by Denham. He said, "Businessmen have told me that the change in atmosphere in the field offices is almost miraculous."  
Union men could probably have told Denham the same thing, though they most likely would have used different language.



**Sergeants-at-Arms** Frank M. Andrews of Olympia, Wash. (Local 42), and Dave Keefe of San Francisco (Local 10) were sergeants-at-arms at the August 20-21-22 Longshore and Shipclerks' caucus in San Francisco.

## Europe Reports Nos. 5, 6

(Continued from Page 1)  
and for that reason it will not be possible to complete the tour in the allotted sixty days and do a good, worthwhile job.  
**Herman Stuyvelaar**  
**Julian Napawnoo**  
**Joe Zuber**  
**Don Brown**  
Moscow, August 23, 1948.

Dear Harry:  
Our last report was from Warsaw. Before we left for here we visited the ports of Gdynia and Danzig. There again we had the opportunity to witness the work of reconstruction in a non-Marshall country and compare it with devastated areas in the pro-Marshall countries of France and Italy. In both the Polish ports the Germans had done their usual thorough work of destruction, but today they are better than 90 percent rebuilt, solely with and by the efforts of the workers and the Polish government. They have in these places a wonderful set of heavy lift cranes and mechanical equipment for handling coal which is one of the main articles of export. We told you in previous reports that in the French and Italian ports the work was chiefly done by hand. In Naples the stvedores handled the discharging of coal exactly as it was done in Port Said, thirty years ago, namely each man carrying the stuff in baskets.  
Our reception in the Baltic ports was just marvelous, we were treated in royal fashion. Our last night in Warsaw was a touching farewell from trade union officials and ordinary workers. Most of the people we met in Poland had gone through the terrible ordeal of the Warsaw insurrection in 1944 when 300,000 were slaughtered by the German beast. Others had been in the concentration camps at Beisen and other horror spots. Some had had their entire families wiped out and we actually saw women with the numbers tattooed on their arms.  
Here was the final message from the Polish workers: "For heavens sake tell the American people we want no more war, we want to rebuild our country and live in peace with every country."  
We suggest you have this appeal for peace printed in our paper in as big headlines as possible so that at least our own members will read and bear this call.

**GREETED BY UNIONISTS**  
Wednesday the 18th, we flew to Moscow; the USSR consul in Warsaw saw us off at the airport. Upon our arrival we were met by people from the trade unions.  
Today is our last day in Moscow; we leave for Leningrad by train tonight. We will have spent five days here, busy from early morning till late at night. These Russians are anxious and proud to show us what they have accomplished in spite of a terrible war, and what they hope to accomplish provided the war mongers in America and Europe will be curbed.  
We have met Kuznetsov and Aratoff both known to you. They are strikingly intelligent people. We visited plants, factories, hospitals, vacation resorts, centers of culture, etc., etc. We have talked with the workers; they asked us some very embarrassing questions. They wanted to know why the American press and radio is slandering and vilifying the Soviet Union. One of them said with deep conviction: "We are your friends. We want no war with the American people. For five years we stood together in a terrible war, we met your soldiers on the battlefields. They showed no enmity towards us." A woman worker wanted to know if it was true that in America they discriminated against Negroes. Still another asked how workers and their families were taken care of during illness. All these questions we answered truthfully and frankly.

There is a tremendous work of building and construction going on. In the plants they have the most up to date equipment and machinery. The management are very intelligent and the workers very skillful. There is also complete camaraderie between workers and managers, in fact the managers belong to the same union as their workers.  
**NONE WANT WAR**  
We have heard of no one that wants to go to war. The whole economy of the country is geared to peace so that they can build their country and improve the standard of living.

When meeting people and seeing places we often feel ashamed at the disgusting slander and lies that are daily peddled over the radio and in the press in America. It is completely contrary to the facts. The people here have an almost childlike faith in the belief that the American people will never allow their ruling class to wage war against their country. We assured them that upon our return we will report the truth, in the hope that it will change the attitude of so many misguided people.  
The social security structure in the USSR is of course very advanced like in the other countries behind the "Iron curtain."  
And of course you know how

(Continued on Page 7)



Parade, New York City, 1882

... serv-... labor... out-... re... of... or-... fes-... and... the... Day... ted... sn't... lith-... at-... po-... hat... iant... ex...  
... st Monday in September... hat he asked, do we want, a... decision on holy principle or... decision to go where the... workers are?  
... ★ ★ ★  
... LIKE any other holiday, La-... bor Day was soon celebrat-... ed by many workers as simply... a day off from the job, and the... serious purposes for which it... had been originally founded... were rapidly forgotten. In... 1910 President Gompers of the... AFL protested against the ex-... tent to which the traditional... Labor Day parade was falling... to disuse and the real signifi-... cance of the day was being lost... sight of in "jollification." Two... years later he said again:

American workers have long felt that this was their day, and that therefore employers should shut down. In the 1935 convention of the AFL the United Textile Workers proposed a one-day general strike on Labor Day 1936 and on every succeeding Labor Day in every community where employers refused to grant the holiday. But in 1935 the AFL was already old and stiff in the joints; the spirit and the slogans of the Labor Days of forty years ago were buried in the dust. This was a call to the spirit of Peter Mc-

Guire and the I.W.W. The resolution was promptly and overwhelmingly voted down.

### ★ ★ ★

**CELEBRATING** Labor Day always meant losing a day's pay. And for years unions have demanded a paid holiday on the first Monday in September. As holidays were recognized in contracts they were rarely if ever paid; the strong needle trades unions were among the first to obtain a paid holiday. Labor Day was the first holiday ever paid for in their contracts.  
Early contracts in the building trades put stringent penalties on Labor Day work. Em-

# DOCKS & TERMINALS



## Scalers' Settlement

Scalers Local 2 signed up with the Shippers Contractors Association in San Francisco for another year August 23, keeping the hiring hall, improving wages and vacations and incorporating health and safety provisions in the contract.

Hiring hall practices will not change unless the Supreme Court rules they are illegal. In that case the hiring clause will be renegotiated.

The classification system was overhauled with the majority of jobs raised from \$1.41 to \$1.57 per hour.

### MORE VACATIONS

The eight companies in the Contractors Association agreed to pay statutory overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act as decided by the Supreme Court. They agreed to furnish air-supplied hoods in working fire-rides of boilers.

Wage reviews every six months with provision for arbitration stayed in the contract over employer objections.

The qualifying hours for vacations were reduced from 1,400 to 1,300 per year.

Health and safety provisions written into the contract continue the medical service plan financed by the employers at 2 cents per hour under which scalers use Permanent facilities.

## Alaska Dockers

Alaska dockers won a settlement with their employers last week in a two-year contract covering seven ports and three steamship lines. Effective August 23, ILWU members in the Territory will receive a total of \$2.12 per hour straight time and \$3.18 per hour overtime.

The three companies that alone service Alaska ports from Seattle, Alaska Steamship, Alaska Transportation, and Northland Transportation, though their contract with the union is separate from the WEA contract for the Pacific Coast, were enjoined this summer along with the rest of the coast.

However, negotiations were carried on during the injunction period, arriving at a 16 1/2 cent wage increase and agreement to continue the present union hiring system.

### WAGES UP

If the Supreme Court rules that this union hiring is illegal then



## New Hiring Hall

Local 10 dockers, finally out of their black hole of a hiring hall on Clay street, are now sent to jobs on the San Francisco docks from a brand new, clean and modern building at Pier 18. Years of pressure paid off in the \$75,000 hall after health authorities declared the old premises unsanitary and unsafe. In the top picture members are gathered during the dispatching period. Below, the dispatchers are at work, with the board where the dockers plug in at the left. The aim in planning of the new hall was maximum comfort for the workers.

either the union or the employers can open the whole contract for renegotiation.

Alaska longshore wages under the last contract were 15 percent above Coast wages, since the cost of living is higher in the Territory. The Alaska members received the 8 and 2 cent raises granted Coast longshoremen at the beginning of the year, but the employers did not add the 15 percent differential.

The present settlement reestablishes this differential and raises straight time rates a further 15 cents, bringing wages from \$1.90 1/2 to \$2.07.

### VACATION PAY

Another 5 cents is paid in lieu of vacations since work is too irregular for an ordinary vacation schedule in Alaska.

When the Pacific Coast contract is settled Alaska wages will be adjusted to maintain the 15 percent differential. A wage review is provided semi-annually, the first one December 15, 1948. If Pacific Coast wage review dates are set at different times the

Alaska dates will automatically conform.

Any revision in the Coast agreement in connection with overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act will mean an opening of the Alaska contract for negotiations on the subject. The same applies to any changes or additions in penalty rates and any recommendations of the longshore safety commission incorporated in the Coast agreement.

### Overtime Suit

By unanimous vote of the longshore and shipclerks caucus in San Francisco August 22, ILWU attorneys will file suit for back overtime due shipclerks under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

The suit arises out of the recent Supreme Court decision on overtime for East Coast longshoremen. For overtime since 1944, ILWU shipclerks have some \$500,000 coming.

Fifteen hundred members of Local 34 in San Francisco, Local 40 in Portland, Local 48 in Port Hueneme, Cal., and Local 63 in

Wilmington, Cal., will participate in the suit against their employers.

### PNAB Overruled

Judge Edward Murphy overruled Pacific Naval Air Base's objections to trying Local 34 shipclerks' suits for back vacation pay in San Francisco court August 16, denying PNAB's motion to dismiss the suit.

The clerks are demanding pay due in the period October, 1944 to December, 1945.

In Oakland, the Naval Supply Depot has agreed to hire union clerks, supervisors and supercargoes, instead of more civil service workers.

### Local 10 Hall

Local 10's new hiring hall went into operation August 23 after a grand opening celebration. The San Francisco dockers had fought for an adequate and sanitary hall for years, but received no cooperation from the shipowners until

### Rolando Beef

AFL and CIO lumber workers closed down the Lyons Lumber mill in Coos Bay, Ore., August 30 in support of maritime workers picketing when the owner tried to load and run his motorship Rolando with Lundeberg scabs.

Back in April Lyons, the Rolando's owner, agreed that it should be manned by the Marine Cooks in the stewards' department, the Marine Firemen in the engine department and Lundeberg's sailors in the deck department.

He then proceeded to run the ship with sailors in all departments, and tried to load and unload with sailors instead of longshoremen. The Rolando loaded at Coos Bay, unloaded at San Francisco and reloaded at Coos Bay with the help of AFL crane operators.

Scab engineers took over in San Francisco after the three CIO engineers who sailed down from Coos Bay left the ship in support of cooks and firemen.

The ILWU, Marine Cooks, Marine Firemen and Marine Engineers threw a picket line around the Rolando as soon as it hit Coos Bay last week.

San Francisco saw mill workers have pledged not to work behind picket lines in case the Rolando comes back there.

### Local 209 Sends Members To Progressive Confab

CLEVELAND, O.—ILWU Warehouse Local 209 sent four members to the Ohio Progressive Party one-day convention in August. They were Lloyd Yamamoto, Dan Grant, Josephine Hansen and John Hurley.

### Oakland Warehousemen Elect Ed Newman

OAKLAND, Cal.—Ed Newman, steward at Paraffine Companies, has been elected ILWU Warehouse Local 6 East Bay business agent to replace Ray Heide who died in June.

Only 5 per cent of the American people own corporation stock.



### Negotiator

The longshore and shipclerks' caucus in San Francisco elected Clyde Munger to the Coast Negotiating Committee to replace Matt Meahan, who resigned to become Oregon International representative for the union. Munger, president of Local 411 in Rainier, Ore., has long been a leader in the ILWU.

the city Board of Health condemned the old hall.

The new hall at Pier 18 is designed for quick dispatching and comfort for men waiting for jobs. The latest in sanitary facilities and lighting have been installed, and the place is decorated with ship paintings.

The members unanimously voted a \$5 fine for anyone spitting on the deck or marring the walls.

### Local 92

The ILWU last week granted a charter to longshoremen in Craig in Southeastern Alaska. The new local will be No. 92. It is the eighth longshore local in Alaska.

### Hawaii ILWU Sponsors Entertainment for Lepers

HONOLULU, T. H.—The Hawaii ILWU is sponsoring a trip to the leper settlement on Mokolai by Harry Hansoka, professional musician, to entertain the patients there. The union sponsored a similar trip by singer Paul Robeson in March.

# WAREHOUSE & DISTRIBUTION

## Strike Vote

Newly-organized Local 26 members at the Bethlehem Supply Company in Los Angeles voted three to one to strike for recognition of the union.

All 20 of the warehouse workers in this subsidiary of giant Bethlehem Steel are members of the union. Bethlehem granted wage increases of 10 to 12½ cents when its workers organized, but refused to recognize Local 26.

## New Contract

With 100 percent backing from the whole local, Wilmington, Cal., Local 26 members have negotiated a contract with California Hydraulic Metals bringing wages up to the scale paid at National Metals.

Most of the 32 members received a 10 cent increase. Wages now range from \$1.20 to \$1.60 per hour. The company was organized in June and at first offered 5 cents less than the National Metals scale.

At the Harper Reynolds Hardware Company in Los Angeles Local 26 renewed its contract for one year with a 2½ cent wage increase on top of a 4 cent increase last spring.

## Redwood City Raise

Although their contract does not open until November 1, 50 Local 6 members at Johns-Manville in Redwood City, Cal., last week won a 10 cent increase retroactive to August 16. The new minimum is \$1.35 per hour.

The checkoff remained in the contract and vacations were changed from one week for two years' service and two weeks for five years to one week for two

years, two weeks for three years and three weeks for 25 years. Seven members have 25 years seniority already.

Since Christmas and New Years fall on weekends during the contract period, Washington's Birthday and Admission Day were substituted as paid holidays.

## Safeway Still Tough

Safeway workers are demanding the 10 cent increase won by all Local 6 members in San Francisco in the June master contract strike. Safeway, the plant that tried to sign up with the AFL Teamsters during the strike, has refused the raise and rejected all Local 6 nominations for an arbitrator on the beef.

Both the union and the company are drawing up second panels of arbitrators under the contract, and if no agreement is reached will go back to Judge Edward Murphy, who enjoined Safeway from discharging Local 6 members and ordered it to deal with Local 6, for instructions.

## Solid Strike

Pickets are marching around Globe Mills in Sacramento, Cal., and Astoria, Ore., from early in the morning until late at night while company officials sit tight in Los Angeles refusing to negotiate on ILWU demands for security language on discrimination and for a 20 cents per hour wage increase.

Locals 17 and 18 hit the bricks August 2 after months of negotiations.

Latest developments in Astoria is a letter to the members from Globe's Pacific Coast General Manager Ben Greer on the line

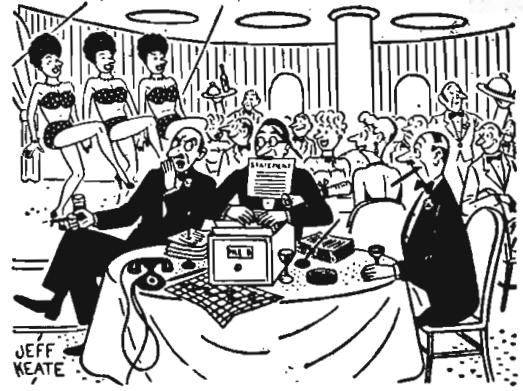
that it is futile to strike, that the ILWU is a no-good union, and that the company will be happy to grant a union shop if the union will comply with the filing sections of the Taft-Hartley Law.

## UNION DEMANDS

The ILWU is not asking for any Taft-Hartley union shop, but for non-discrimination language, hiring within the industry, and the processing of all disputes on discrimination under contract grievance procedure with arbitration as a final step. The union is also asking the irrevocable check-off.

Globe has filed Taft-Hartley unfair labor practice charges against the Sacramento local, alleging refusal to bargain, though the company won't even send a negotiator to Sacramento.

Only wage offer so far is 5½ cents, the same as Globe granted raiding Teamsters who moved in on its Los Angeles plants with company and police connivance.



Jeff Keate

## Local 6 Organizing

Church World Service is the latest house to sign a contract with Local 6 in San Francisco. Twenty-two workers there were

initiated into the union August 25. Wages were raised to master contract rates with the \$1.37½ per hour minimum.

# SUGAR & PINEAPPLE

## Sugar Agreement

The sugar industry of Hawaii and United Sugar Workers Local 142 reached agreement on a contract for the next two years August 20.

The new contract went into effect September 1, with membership meetings for ratification scheduled on all plantations before that date.

The union report on negotiations stressed the maintenance of unity of the sugar workers as the central point in the ILWU bargaining position. The union won this point, in spite of the efforts of disrupters to split the union and the efforts of the employers to break up industry-wide bargaining.

## UNITY MAINTAINED

The employers wanted to split off a number of plantations and cut wages. They wanted a classification system on a plantation-by-plantation basis, they propagated layoffs and short work weeks to scare the workers.

The union kept industry-wide negotiations intact except for the plantation of Oahu which withdrew from the talks. The union position on all issues remains the same here as elsewhere in the industry with negotiations scheduled for last week.

Negotiations were held in Hilo so that members on the Big Island plantations could attend sessions. ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt assisted local union officials in reaching the settlement.

## PROPAGANDA SMOKED OUT

On job security, a major union demand, the plantations finally agreed to a program that will mean few or no layoffs. Any shrinkage in the work force will result from the usual quits.

The union did not win what it wanted on job security, contract guarantees that the plantations would not contract out work that could be done by regular workers, or hire new workers if the regular work force was on short time, but it did succeed in smoking out employer propaganda on layoffs and forced the employers to submit figures on employment prospects.

A contract guarantee protecting seniority rights in case of mergers is another gain.

## CHECKOFF PROVIDED

Seniority on a company-wide basis provides for any layoffs on the principle of length of service

if other factors are "relatively equal."

Union security is guaranteed in the settlement by an exchange of letters in which each plantation will recognize the Local 142 negotiating committee as its workers' bargaining representative for the life of the contract. Efforts of the employers to snipe at certain plantations and destroy industry-wide bargaining will thus be stopped.

Checkoff of union dues under new authorizations required under the Taft-Hartley Law is also provided in the new contract.

wide bargaining. Some workers will receive increases, a few may be classified in lower labor grades but none will have his wages cut.

## GOOD FOR TWO YEARS

The review procedure on classifications gives the union the opportunity to examine all job descriptions and placements and to get industry uniformity.

Wages are open for review every eight months, except at Hilo Sugar, Pepeekeo, Onomea and Pioneer Mill, the plantations that demanded wage cuts.

The contract terminates at the same time on these plantations, August 31, 1950, as the union demanded, but there will be one wage opening for either the union or the company on August 31, 1949 and another at any time on 60 days' notice for the company alone.

## RENDS IN CONTRACT

Under the new contract the union will have a chance to straighten out rent problems, now subject to contract machinery.

The medical plan will continue as is until union and industry agree to a new one.

The negotiating committee's statement on negotiations gave credit to union picketing up in the past few months for the fact that employer plans to split the union and push it backwards failed.

## IGNACIO TRIES AGAIN



## Returned Louis Goldblatt, ILWU secretary-treasurer, is back on the mainland after helping Hawaiian sugar workers in their successful negotiations for a new contract. Negotiations were concluded in Hilo on August 23.

Wages remain the same except at Onomea where the union agreed on the basis of special and short-term conditions to a 5 cent per hour cut to 73½ cents per hour for the basic wage.

Several companies had originally demanded an 8 cent cut, but refused to open their books to prove to the union that it was necessary for the survival of the companies.

The union holds the new classification system a long way from a sound one, but it does have guarantees that the system will not be used to destroy industry.

The AFL and its stooges are still sniping on the flanks of the sugar workers. The infamous Ichiro Inuka, alleged author of a red-baiting pamphlet, and Amos Ignacio, who tried to break up the ILWU and lead its members into an independent union last December, started fresh attacks as negotiations opened. Ignacio has just received an AFL charter to implement his raiding.

With such help the sugar industry moved to hold separate negotiations on each plantation and went so far as insisting on meeting with unit officers alone to poke around for holes in the ranks.

The ranks held their ground to win through with their union in fact and improvements in their contract.

Total net income of 3,102 typical corporations was 37 per cent higher than the total for the previous year, the National City Bank of New York found.

# Europe Reports Nos. 5, 6

(Continued from Page 5)  
the AFL hierarchy never tires of saying that in Russia the trade unions are not free. Well, it is in the AFL, and we are sorry to say that a good many CIO unions, they are one tenth the democracy that

## Labor Faces Momentous Decision

(Continued from Page 1)  
World" peace policies of Roosevelt and Willkie Through their Truman-Vandenberg doctrine, their huge war expenditures, their draft and their discriminatory foreign relief policies, they have launched a drive for Wall Street world domination, which threatens to provoke another world war.

Against these disastrous bipartisan policies of repression, depression and war, the plain people of America are rising in revolt. From the grass roots up, they are building a new kind of party, a party of, by and for the rank and file of working and common people.

Because this party is labor's own party, it is fighting for repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act and a strong Wagner Act, for higher wages out of huge profits, for controlling and lowering costs, for low cost homes, \$1 minimum wage, \$100 minimum pensions, more social security, for the best of us prosperity and world peace.

A vote for the old parties is a vote thrown away to labor's enemies. The vote that counts for labor's interests is the vote cast for the Progressive Party.

prevails here, the Greens, the Tobins, the Hutchinsons, the Jim Caneys and all the other barons in American Labor would have to look around for honest labor.

The trade union set up here is even more democratic than in our own ILWU, every one in official position is chosen by secret referendum. As far as the unions are concerned under the dictatorship of the government is concerned, well it is just the other way around. No laws affecting the workers are enacted without the approval of the trade unions. In other words there is no possibility for a Taft and a Hartley and their fellow travellers.

The other day the Commissars for mining and industry were called before the Presidium (Executive Board) of the central body and severely criticized for having failed to bring about in the mining industry certain much needed improvements. We like that kind of dictatorship.

Today we inquired about religious freedom. It was demonstrated that every citizen can pick the church of his own choosing but no one religion can have a monopoly.

These are some of the highlights of this very interesting visit. Our warmest regards to all in the International office.

Fraternally,  
Herman Stuyvelaar  
Julian Nupuunua  
Joe Zuber  
Donald Brown

There has not been a nationwide strike in the pottery industry since the National Brotherhood of Operative Potters (AFL) began signing agreements in the industry in 1903.

## Lawrence Resigns Democrat Post for Wallace Work

LOS ANGELES—William S. Lawrence, ILWU regional director in Southern California, on August 27 resigned from the Los Angeles County Central Democratic Committee to work for Henry Wallace's election to the presidency because he cannot support President Truman "without betraying all that I fought for under Roosevelt and betraying every worker in the country."

In his letter of resignation to the chairman of the committee, Glenn Anderson, Lawrence said he is "going to fight like hell for Henry Wallace"—the only man running for president "who today is fighting for the common man."

"Every vote for Henry Wallace is going to be a vote against Government strike-breaking, it's going to be a vote against high prices and super profits, it's going to be a vote for the United States Government to stop trying to boss the peoples of the rest of the world."

### TRUMAN'S WORDS PHONEY

"The Democratic Party will either learn its lesson and become again a pro-labor, anti-monopoly party, or it will die. I doubt if the Forrestals will permit it even to start learning the first chapter."

Lawrence also pointed out that

he cannot "stomach the group of Wall Street investment bankers and power-hungry military brass hats who are today running the affairs of the nation, who are the Truman Administration."

"Truman has made himself the No 1 strike-breaker in the nation. No Republican has ever served the employers more faithfully.... Truman's words of friendship for labor are as phoney and empty as his proclamation for civil liberties."

## CIO Unions' Labor Day Plans Told

SAN FRANCISCO—Plans for Labor Day ceremonies September 6 in the San Francisco bay area now call for the traditional line of march of all CIO unions from the waterfront up Market street to the Civic Center.

A short rally will culminate the day's celebration. Prominent labor leaders in the Bay Area will address the rally before the City Hall.

In addition to the CIO units, three outside organizations have been authorized by the San Francisco CIO Parade Committee to join the line of march. They are Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, Histadrut and the Citizens Call to Peace.

All ILWU locals will march in the parade, with Locals 6 and 10 voting compulsory attendance in the ceremonies.

In San Pedro, the CIO Labor Day services open with a march to the waterfront at 10:30 a.m. This will be followed by a barbecue at Point Firmin Park in San Pedro at which Leo Krzycki, prominent member of the Wallace Trade Union Committee, will speak.



**Action** Here's part of the first row and some of the speakers as Local 10 held a big stop-work meeting in conjunction with San Francisco's Joint Action Committee August 25 at Civic Auditorium. Lower left is Local 10 member J. H. Graves. The member superimposed at the top is Dave Keefe. Right inset shows ILWU President Harry Bridges saying: "If we don't get a satisfactory contract, we're ready to roll!"

## Ships Down as Front Employers Renege on Hiring Hall Promises

(Continued from Page 1)  
put up to the membership in a National Labor Relations Board poll on August 30 in the small ports and on August 30 and 31 in the major ports.

Not one member showed up to vote.

### SOLIDARITY PROVED

Boycott of the ballot had been recommended by the Longshore and Shipclerks Caucus held in San Francisco August 20, 21 and 22.

The 100 per cent effectiveness of the boycott was called at international headquarters the greatest demonstration of solidarity in the history of trade unionism.

Newspapers brushed off the significance of the action by pretending that since negotiations had resumed the vote would be academic.

On the hiring hall issue the employers reached agreement obviously to better their public position. They reneged on it by demanding that the union agree to a clause by which a court could set that part of the agreement aside. The very fact that they were at the same time prosecuting the union before the NLRB on the hiring hall issue, seeking to have their own offer declared illegal, proved their bad faith.

In attempt to reach agreement without strike the union parrowed its demands down to 15 cents an hour without retroactivity or a wage review next December with contract to run until June, 1950, with wage reviews in June and December next year.

### STAND PAT ON DEMANDS

The shipowners stood pat on three of their own demands and refused to budge. These were on the thousand hours deal to get around the law and the Supreme Court decision on overtime, no dispatching to non-members of the association without the association's consent, and no business agents to be allowed on docks without employer permission.

The shipowners refused to deal for Northern California bosses or to renew agreement for the San Francisco watchmen's union unless it got out of the ILWU.

The clerks' issue was finally narrowed to one point, that of ten and twenty per cent differ-

ential for supercargoes and supervisors.

Throughout the negotiations the shipowners played to the press gallery and tried to stampede the union's rank and file by mailing matter directly to the members over the heads of the elected committee.

The press played along in the confusion game and the public was led up to the last minute to believe there would be no strike.

### FULL SUPPORT

The 12:01 stoppage Thursday morning was to prepare for Thursday morning stopwork meetings which would have been held regardless of the strike.

Local 10 in San Francisco, in an overflow meeting at Coliseum Bowl, voted unanimously to accept the report of the negotiating committee and to support the national leadership.

ILWU President Harry Bridges told the meeting that in the last days of the negotiations the employers based their actions upon the feeling that the union could not stand a strike, and that the membership would stampede to accept their phony offers.

"The former FBI agents in the shipowners' publicity setup have

their stooges in the union and will seek to use them at the right time to split us," he said. "I don't think they can do it."

He said the leadership was prepared to have everything thrown at it, but added that the leadership could take it.

Four hundred rank and filers standing by the teletype in Seattle Wednesday night when the negotiations broke sent back this message:

"We're ready to roll. Give 'em hell!"

The only ships to be worked in the strike, under present decision, are those bearing war dead.

### GERMANY

BERLIN—Special food rations for former concentration camp inmates have been cancelled in the Anglo-American zone. The Nazi victims had been receiving the extra rations to supplement their regular issue. Military government officials issuing the order said the victims "do not need them."

**Answer to Who Said It**  
National Association of Manufacturers, August 7, 1948.

### Employer Groups Seek To Intimidate Members

CHICAGO — Intimidation charges took on a new look here, with employers, who often complain that unions coerce their members, displaying no scruples about coercing and intimidating a member of their own boss association.

Alleging violation of a closed shop agreement among the companies in the Chicago Foundrymen's Association and consequent weakening of their bargaining position, the association has filed suit for \$301,000 damages against Delta Star Electric Company.

The beef is that Delta settled with striking AFL molders for a 13-cent raise, while the other 40 members of the association hung tough on a dime. The employer group objected to this cracking of their united front.



**Miners' Friend** At Permanente Hospital in Oakland ILWU Local 6 member Loretta Dobe interviews United Mine Workers member Elwood "Tiny" Curkendall who is receiving treatment under his union's welfare plan. More than 60 miners are in Permanente and about 40 in Vallejo. They are victims of mine accidents in various parts of the country, the most serious cases being sent for treatment, therapy and surgery first. Local 6 warehousemen have bought 19 radios for the miners while they are in the hospital, one for every room occupied by a UMW member. Groups of warehousemen are being organized to visit the miners. Standing at the right is UMW member Raymond Barker.