



The

DISPATCHER

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

October 29, 1948

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Vol. 6, No. 22

Murray Denounces Shipowners Congress Strikebreakers Turn Tail

Picket Line Flushes Out Smearmen

SAN FRANCISCO — To the loud buzzahs of the Hearst press and the blaring of publicity trumpets, Representative Charles Kersten's House smear subcommittee blew into town October 21 bent on breaking the maritime strike.

After one day of the scheduled two-day investigation into "subversive activities in labor unions," the committee tucked its tail between its legs and quietly crept out of San Francisco. The committee is part of the House Committee on Education and Labor headed by Representative Hartley.

Unheard were a bevy of witnesses Kirsten had subpoenaed, but left in the lurch, when they indicated they would be present at the second day's session.

TIP THEIR HAND

Among those subpoenaed but who were left without opportunity to testify were ILWU President Harry Bridges, Secretary Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, CLRC member Editor Morris Watson, Vice President Germain Bulcke, also subpoenaed, was in Portland.

Radio Officer Oliver Treadway tipped the hand of the committee which the shipowners had called to the West Coast to assist them in busting the maritime strike. The chairman announced the hearing was adjourned because there were no more witnesses. Treadway jumped up at the hearing and said he had not been called. Chairman Kirsten asked if he had accepted a subpoena. Treadway replied no, but that he was in the courtroom in answer to the summons.

The chairman, in his hurry to get out of town before more horns were stirred up, said "well, we'll adjourn the hearing now."
THE GAVEL POUNDED

One fact was uncovered in the tumultuous one-day hearing in Federal Court building here namely, that Frank "Finkhall" Foisie is not a Communist.

Remainder of the Kirsten Committee on Back Page.



Fiasco A thousand maritime strikers picketed the Kersten hearings in San Francisco, October 22. After abruptly adjourning the hearings, Kersten said he'd never seen a demonstration like it, and he has had plenty of experience in stepping in at an employer's call to bust a strike. Strikers jammed the halls outside the hearing room in the post office and both sides of the streets outside. Kersten failed to discover anything except that Finkhall Foisie is not a Communist. He said he'd be back in six weeks.

Europe Interim Report

Holland, Belgium, England

Report No. 9

London, England,
October 2, 1948

Dear Harry:
Report No. 8 was airmailed September 19. Today two of us (Napuunaa and Zuber) are flying back to the U. S., while Stuyvebaert and Brown are following

October 7. This report will probably arrive about the same time as this delegation.

This will be our final report from Europe and deals with our experiences in Holland, Belgium and England.

Upon our arrival at the Amsterdam airport we were met by officials from the "Unity Trades Union (central)," one of the four Dutch Labor Federations. They were a grand bunch of people who had made all possible preparations to make our visit interesting and constructive. As we told you in our previous report Holland is not a good place from the trade union angle. It is in striking contrast to the other

(Continued on Page 6)

CIO's Full Weight Thrown Behind Maritime Strike

SAN FRANCISCO — CIO President Philip Murray threw the whole weight of the CIO behind maritime strikers last week with an appeal for all-out support and financial contributions to the west coast maritime unions sent to all CIO unions and state and city CIO councils.

Murray said the direct challenge by the shipowners of the right of workers to select negotiating committees of their own choosing is a threat to every labor union in the country.

"I feel certain that with the full support of organized labor this strike can be won," he said. (Full text of Murray's statement is on page 3.)

Local 6 in Heavy Vote Elects Heide

SAN FRANCISCO — ILWU Warehouse Local 6's president for 1949 will be Paul Heide. Heide, now Oakland vice president, was elected by 5,281 to 3,249 for Frank Maxey in the heaviest vote in the local's history.

Incumbent President Eugene Paton withdrew from the race on his physician's advice.

Secretary Treasurer Richard Lynden was reelected by a three to one vote over Fred Ornellas, and Vice President Joseph Lynch was reelected over Dominic Gallo by a two to one vote. Vice presidencies have been reduced to one.

RUNOFF DUE

In the San Francisco business agents' race, Joe Muzio, Tony Koslosky, Ace De Losada and Charles Ciolino were all returned to office. For the position of business agent "C," vacated by Gallo, there will be a runoff between Sam Barren and Joe Di Maggio.

Chili Duarte, though unopposed as Oakland business agent "A," received a large vote. Ed Newman and Louis Gonick will runoff for business agent "B" and Bob Moore was elected business agent "C" two to one over John Muxey.

NAME BOARD OF 45

In all the other divisions incumbent business agents will stay in office in 1949. E. B. Balata in Stockton, E. L. Conwell in Redwood City, James Pinkham in San Jose, Ira Vall in Petaluma and August Hemenex in Crockett.

The warehousemen also elected a general executive board of 45 members, a board of trustees of 11 and delegates to the international convention next year.

The United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers led the parade of CIO unions with a donation of \$5,000 to the ILWU. UE Secretary-Treasurer Julius Emspak wrote all his locals that "Members of the ILWU are making a most heroic fight for the preservation of the labor movement just as they championed the fight in 1945."

UE LOCALS DONATE

His urging of "strongest possible moral and financial support to the wonderful fight the ILWU is making brought further contributions of \$200 from the UE's Cleveland District, \$100 from the Chicago District and \$50 from Chicago Local 1150.

Eight Ohio UE locals have wired President Truman protesting subsidies to union-busting shipowners and the Philadelphia District has set up machinery for maritime speakers at local meetings and food collections at shop gates.

The Finnish Transport Workers Union has followed Dutch, French, New Zealand and Latin American pledges that no scab cargo will be worked aboard.

FINN DOCKERS WILL AID

The Finnish union wrote the ILWU that "being true to the international solidarity of the working class (it) is pledging its wholehearted support to your struggle. Our organization as a whole will see to it that not a single kilogram of scab cargo be unloaded at any of the Finnish ports."

"We believe that your organization will win the strike and will come out with added strength."

The New Zealand Waterside Workers Federation called the strike the "struggle for free and independent trade unionists and a better way of life for the workers in America."

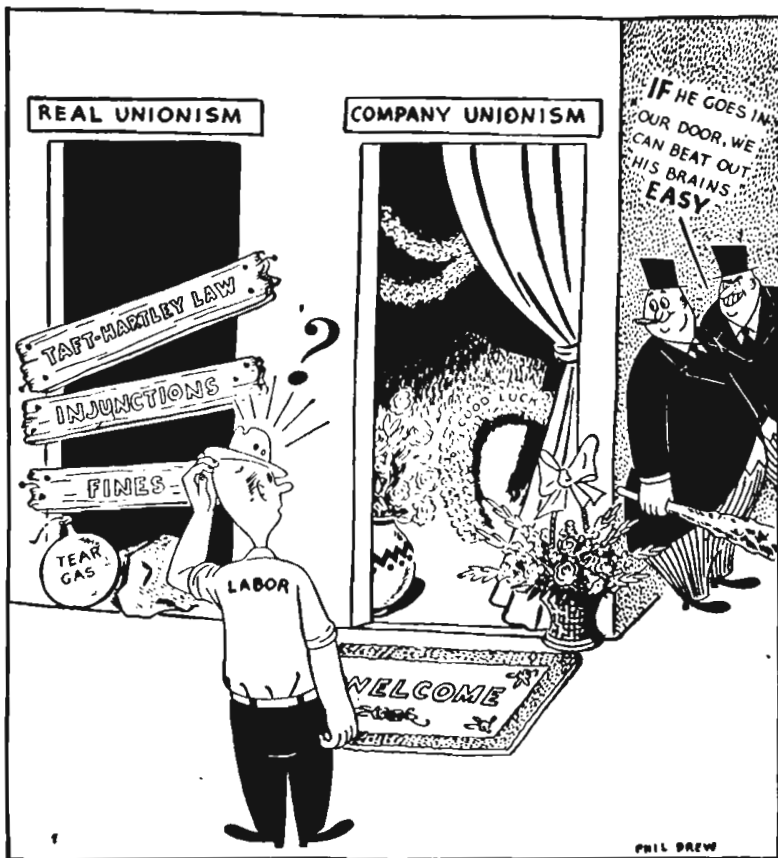
The ILWU's own Chicago warehouse Local 206 came through last week with a check for \$500.

Who Said It?

"We do not propose . . . to trade further with these lawless and radical groups. These radical groups in organized labor are enemies of organized labor, enemies of the employer, enemies of society and the enemies of our government itself."

(Turn to Back Page for Name of Author)

Just What We Said



BIG BUSINESS' board—which goes under the title of National Labor Relations Board—has just handed down two decisions which cause us to reprint Phil Drew's cartoon above which first appeared in the issue of September 19, 1947.

The two decisions, one against our union and one against the Machinists' union, but applying to all labor, prove conclusively—if we didn't know it before—that the decision of our union to stay as far as possible away from the Taft-Hartley affidavit trap was on the beam. It also proves that the waterfront members of our union correctly sensed the character of the Truman appointed National Labor Relations Board when they voted better than 20 to 1 against walking into the affidavit trap.

Decision No. 1 against the Machinists' union protects scabs. It is a ruling that the dirtiest and meanest kind of thief, namely the man who will steal another man's job is entitled to keep the job. The board ruled that a striker has no further claim to the job that has been stolen from him if the employer declares the thief permanent.

Decision No. 2 against our union, in the Local 6 beef at Sunset Line & Twine Company, Petaluma, seeks to take away from labor its only economic weapon—the effective picket line. The board ruled mass picketing illegal, and overturning a brilliant and well-documented decision of one of its own trial examiners, finds us guilty of unfair labor practices. The ruling does not define a mass picket line. Presumably it is anything that makes an employer nervous, or anything that would effectively advertise to potential scabs that a strike was in progress.

★
THE MACHINISTS' union might well be contemplating its relationship to the fly that walked into the spider's parlor. It was the very first union proudly to proclaim that it had nothing to fear as it rushed to sign all the optional affidavits. It even hailed the Taft-Hartley law as a good one. It regarded its own contracts with such sanctity that it insisted upon crashing picket lines over the

objections of its own local officers and membership.

Now it finds itself on the receiving end of a decision which means that scabs can move in and take over all the fruits of years of organization, struggle and collective bargaining.

Now, where are those "benefits" some people screamed they would get by complying with Taft-Hartley?

★
THE ADMINISTRATION of the Taft-Hartley Act by the Truman-appointed NLRB, we see for sure now, is as poisonous as the act itself. The board has put the labor movement back to before 1932.

Fortunately, our union was built without the so-called benefits of the NLRB. And we will continue in strength to the degree that we realize and understand the dangers of the Taft-Hartley law and its administration and proceed to rally support from labor and other sections of the people.

The Taft-Hartley law can be licked as other repressive laws have been licked. Our strike can be won despite the outrageous rulings of the NLRB.

We have to close our ranks and develop that solidarity which has always been labor's impregnable defense.

We have the kind of union that can do it!

The DISPATCH

MORRIS WATSON, EDITOR

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Dredline for next issue, Nov. 8, 1948

World Labor Roundup

By Allied Labor News

AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY—Just as everywhere else where controls have been lifted, prices here soared sky-high when the government decontrolled 30,000 items. Shrimp which had sold at a ceiling of 16 cents per pound jumped to 76 cents per pound. Used cars rose 20 per cent. Real estate prices practically doubled in many areas.

TRIESTE

TRIESTE—Civil service workers went on a 24-hour general strike in the American-British zone here after Allied Military Government officials refused to consider their demands for wage boosts. All government offices, including the post office, were closed tight. Telephone and telegraph services also were cut off. The strikers want an immediate 10,000 lire (\$17) monthly pay increase. All sections of the labor movement—right and left—backed the walkout.

HUNGARY

BUDAPEST—Children here are hoping that a current public opinion poll will never end. It is a poll conducted by the government to find out what sort of candy kids prefer. Paper bags containing samples of various kinds are distributed at playgrounds and schools. The kind the kids like will go into production at government-owned candy factories shortly.

POLAND

WARSAW—Silesian unions have sent an open letter to the Polish education and cultural minister protesting against the indiscriminate showing of American films which "demoralize the young and frustrate education efforts." The writers, artists, miners and factory workers signing the letter charged that the Polish film import agency "does not side with democrats fighting for freedom of conscience and social justice in the U. S. when it presents in Poland worthless films for profit's sake." The protest implied that current Hollywood films are being influenced by the House unAmerican activities committee purge of progressive film workers.

BRITAIN

LONDON—Britain's first threat to overthrow the elected government by force and violence has come not from the reds but from a right wing Conservative spokesman of big business. Chairman J. Gibson Jarvie of the United Dominions Trust said here October 4 that the time will come, if the Socialists continue in power, when the country will rise against them. "The fascist minded Jarvie claimed he believed in constitutional methods but immediately added, 'I also believe, and I make

this statement quite deliberately . . . that there may come a time when the only possible course is to rebel if the country is to be saved."

INDONESIA

JOGJAKARTA—The Indonesian republican government, now entirely dominated by right-wing Moslem landlords, has arrested many leaders of the Indonesia Labor Federation. Unions here have been supporting a revolt against what they regard as the suicidal government policy of capitulation to the Dutch. The revolt is led by Communists and by Socialist followers of ex-premier Sjarifuddin, who headed the government before the Moslem rightists took over.

CANADA

VANCOUVER, B. C.—The United Church of Canada, at its national conference here, went on record against shipping arms to foreign nations engaged in civil war. The church action is in line with recent refusals by Canadian seamen to carry weapons to China.

Use Nazis to Defend U.S., Says Kersten

By STETSON KENNEDY

This man Charles J. Kersten, who heads up the House subcommittee "investigating" unions, has some funny ideas.

At the private German-American Steuben Society banquet into which I slipped in September I heard Kersten in his speech suggest that the U. S. ought to import boatloads of Nazi Germans and settle them in Alaska as a "northwestern bastion of defense."

Representative Kersten also opined that Peron, the fascist dictator of Argentina, could "well use some of them."

KERSTEN, KLAN SEE ALIKE

Kersten probably thought he had a bright, original idea. But, as a matter of fact, I heard J. B. Stoner, Klan Kleagle for Tennessee and "Archleader" of the Stoner Anti-Jewish party, say much the same thing over two years ago.

"No person who is anti-Jewish should have to go hungry," Stoner said to me, in arguing that Marshall plan aid should be limited to fascists only.

Stoner wants to take over America the same way Hitler took over Germany and proceed to exterminate all Jews, using "more modern methods than Hitler." Unions, needless to say, would be limited by Stoner to "white Protestant Gentiles" only.

British Unionists Have Devil Of A Time Finding Cop In 'Police State'

PRAGUE (ALN)—"Be careful, you are now in a police state," a high official of the British Embassy here warned British labor union delegates now visiting Czechoslovakia.

Next day the unionists drove out of town to visit the Czech union school at Jevany. Speeding back to Prague for a dinner appointment, they had just stopped for a red light when a 16-year-old boy on a motorcycle bumped into their bus.

No one was hurt but the driver refused to go on. He said he had to get a policeman so that the facts of the accident, and responsibility for his slightly

denied fender, could be properly established.

HARD TO FIND

No policeman was visible. The British unionists ran up and down neighboring streets trying to help their driver locate one, so they could make their date. After a long time one was found. He recorded both the denied fender and the uninjured condition of passengers, boy and motorbike.

Late to their dinner, the unionists met the Embassy official again. "You know why we are late," they kidded him. "We had a devil of a time finding a policeman in this 'police state.'"

Murray: Shipowner Company Unionism Attempts Are Threat To All Labor

Full text of the letter sent October 21 to all CIO affiliated state and local councils by President Philip Murray of the CIO follows: "I am writing you this letter to urge that all CIO affiliates extend

every possible moral and financial aid to the west coast maritime unions whose strike is now in its second month.

"The unions involved, the International Longshoremen's & Warehousemen's Union, the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards, the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, the American Radio Operators Association, of the CIO, and the Marine Firemen, Oilers, Wipers and Watertenders, independent, can win their just demands with the aid of their brother trade unionists throughout the country.

DIRECT CHALLENGE

"Since the beginning of the strike on September 2 the unions have repeatedly offered to resume negotiations or accept the good offices of a neutral third party as mediator or conciliator. The employers associations have adamantly rejected every such offer. The shipowners have announced instead that they will not deal with the elected negotiating committees of the unions, which include the national officers of the respective unions.

"The direct challenge by these employers of the right of the workers to select negotiating committees of their own choosing is a threat to every labor union in the country; it represents an attempt to establish a new pattern of company unionism. Had the union negotiating committees been willing to accept an employers' contract, contrary to the instructions of the union membership, the employers were willing to deal. Only after the committees acted according to membership instructions did the employers announce that they no longer would bargain with non-complying unions.

"At the present time the key demand of all unions is that negotiations be resumed. Acting for

the National CIO, I am extending every possible help to the unions to achieve this objective. It is my firm belief, confirmed by Director of Organization, Allan Haywood, recently on the west coast at the request of the striking unions, that the differences over specific issues in dispute can be speedily negotiated away once collective bargaining is resumed.

"I have urged the U. S. Maritime Commission and other appropriate agencies of the government to lend their good offices in order to bring about the resumption of negotiations. You and your local unions may likewise desire to petition the U. S. Maritime Commission and the Director of the U. S. Conciliation Service to take similar action.

WEA Lobbies Against Dock Back Pay

(From ILWU Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. Publication of the latest reports on lobbying activities reveal that the ship operators and the stevedoring companies have been carrying on an extensive and well-heeled operation in Washington.

The National Federation of American Shipping, in registering as a lobbying organization in February of this year, stated that it would spend \$45,000 for legislative purposes during 1948. About \$15,000 of this, according to the sworn statement of the Federation, would come from the Waterfront Employers' Association, the National Association of Stevedores, and the National Shipping Association. This money was earmarked to pass legislation which would deprive longshoremen of back pay granted them by a recent decision of the United States Supreme Court.

Apart from its contribution to the work of the Federation the Waterfront Employers' Association itself spent \$57,504 between January 1 and October 8 of this year on lobbying activities. Although the Association describes itself as not being a lobbying outfit, during the first nine months of 1948, it was spending about \$1,500 a week in Washington to influence legislation.

NAM Denies High Profits Bring High Cost of Living

PHILADELPHIA — What's the "greatest internal danger now facing America?" According to President Morris Sayre of the National Association of Manufacturers, it is the belief that the high cost of living is caused "by a fundamental weakness in the American enterprise system."

Sayre sounded upset as he told a dinner meeting of industrialists here October 12 that "the people are being told today's prices are the result of the insatiable greed of business for profits."

Anyone who says anything to create this impression, Sayre calls an "imported provocateur, homegrown collectivist and screwball politician," who is trying to confuse the American people.

Sayre's reasons for zooming prices include the "three rounds of wage increases since V-J day, shortages of goods and materials," and something he terms "tremendously increased consumer purchasing power." All workers with bills to pay should get in touch with Sayre and ask him what happened to their "increased purchasing power."

Big Business Profits From ECA Bared

By WILLIAM GLAZIER

ILWU Washington Representative — WASHINGTON, D. C. — The Economic Cooperation Administration, in charge of administering the Marshall Plan, has released the names of some 350 corporations which have already received contracts under the program. Leading all the rest is the cotton firm of Anderson, Clayton and Co.

During the month of August alone this cotton broker concern, with headquarters in Houston, Texas, sold more than 28 million dollars worth of cotton to China and France. These transactions were paid for by money appropriated by the U. S. Congress.

William L. Clayton is the former board chairman of this company, which is one of the largest in the world. Clayton resigned his position as chairman of the firm, then he was appointed Under-Secretary of State in August, 1940. Among other things, Clayton was one of the chief architects of the Marshall Plan, and conducted all the negotiations with the European countries that are in the program. CLAYTON REAPS DOUGH

After the Marshall Plan was set up Clayton continued as a special advisor to Secretary of State Marshall.

The Clayton family owns more than 40 per cent of the stock of Anderson, Clayton (Clayton describes himself as only a stockholder). He is resigning from the State Department in a few days to go back to the company. His job seems to be finished. There can be no question that Anderson, Clayton profited well during William Clayton's tour of duty with the Department of State.



Union Counselling Course to Start

SAN FRANCISCO The Community Services Department of the San Francisco CIO Council will start its third union counselling course November 8 at 7:30 p.m. at ILWU Local 6, 255 Ninth Street. The courses will be held every Monday for six weeks.

It will train union members to secure the services available for workers under San Francisco social agencies, both tax supported and voluntary.

Social security benefits, old age assistance, health services, vocational rehabilitation, legal aid, unemployment compensation and housing will be covered.

Local 6 graduates of earlier courses are active in the union's welfare committee informing members where they can receive aid.

Support ILWU First Vice President J. R. (Bob) Robertson was due in San Francisco this week after visits to the nation's top labor leaders to inform them of the issues in the maritime strike and win their all-out moral and financial support to the strike.

Already the CIO United Electrical, Radio & Machine Workers have sent the ILWU \$5,000. Robertson hit the cities of New York, Washington, D. C., Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago, Philadelphia, Baltimore, St. Paul and St. Louis, and talked to all major labor leaders. He reported solid sympathy and support.

Action Hits Police Court Prejudice

SAN FRANCISCO—Corruption and discrimination in city police courts will be challenged in the appeal of ILWU Local 6 warehouseman Sandy Moore against a five-day sentence for vagrancy.

Moore, a Negro veteran regularly employed at Coffman Drug, was arrested on vagrancy charges when he asked a stranger in the Hall of Justice what right he had to question Moore's wife, Annie, in the building on another case.

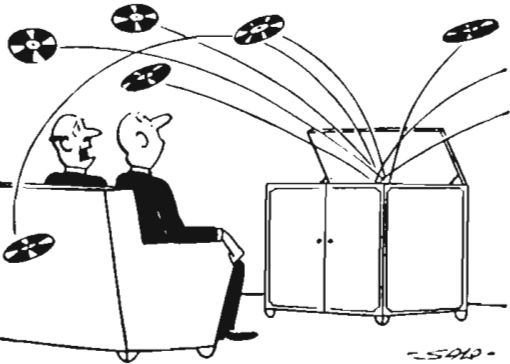
"I asked him who he was and what right he had to talk to her," said Moore. The stranger said: "You keep your mouth shut." Moore didn't keep his mouth shut, and the stranger then identified himself as Plainclothesman Zimmerman and arrested Moore.

Municipal Judge Clarence W. Morris, without asking questions or telling Moore he had the right to legal advice, sentenced Moore to five days in jail for vagrancy.

Moore reported that in his private chambers the judge called him a "nigger."

McKesson Warehousemen Give Food To Dock Strike

SAN FRANCISCO ILWU Local 6 warehousemen at McKesson Robbins here have turned over 160 cans of food to the striking maritime unions, as "token of our wholehearted support for the magnificent fight you brothers are putting up."



"It plays continuously for two hours, and also makes its own selections"

Hartley Proposes Further Drastic Restrictions on American Labor Unions

BERKELEY, Cal.—Fred Hartley put on a sideshow here last week before his Congressional colleague, Charles Kersten, went into the main act in the San Francisco Post Office.

Hartley (R., N. J.), co-author of the Taft-Hartley Act and chairman of the House Committee on Education and Labor, was "right there with all the answers" to the labor problems of the 500 attending the Pacific Coast management conference when he told them the next Congress will take fresh action against labor, though "maybe not as far as I want to go."

Hartley challenged the managers to "try and find something which harms labor" in the Taft-Hartley law, said "his baby" isn't perfect but "it was the best law

that could possibly have been written under the circumstances," and expressed resentment over "labor bosses'" attacks on "his baby."

DEMANDS HARSHER LAW

"The actions Hartley expects the next Congress to take to strengthen his law include making it a federal offense to interfere with the civil rights of any worker who wants to go to work. This, he said, is not for the purpose of strikebreaking or interfering with the fundamental right to strike, but solely to protect the right to work."

Other suggestions drawing applause from the managers were limiting pickets to those employed in a plant, giving non-strikers the right to sue for wages lost during a strike, having man-

agement sign non-Communist affidavits and making the Sherman anti-trust act applicable to labor disputes where the national health and safety is involved.

Some of the managers thought his sentiments were "great," others "grand," others "fine" and "marvelous." Only one said he wasn't sure he agreed with everything Hartley said.

PICKET KERSTEN

The thousand maritime workers picketing Kersten's hearing on the "infiltration of Communists into maritime unions" in San Francisco a couple of days later felt differently about Hartley. Kersten is chairman of a subcommittee of Hartley's committee.

Kersten was "plenty steamed

up" about that picket line. "I never saw anything like that demonstration in the 20 or 30 hearings I have conducted elsewhere," he said.

The maritime pickets expressed disagreement with Hartley's statements that the subcommittee is not conducting "just any witch-hunt," that it is doing a favor to the workers as well as the nation at large in "enabling the workers to change their leadership."

LEAVE US ALONE

Local 10 Longshoreman Al Siewierski said, "They're not doing any favor for us—why don't they leave us alone?" Hartley said, "I want to see respect for law and order reinstated in these United States."

Siewierski mentioned that pro-

fessional strikebreakers and goons have been recruited from all over to break the oil strike, that he had heard a Richmond cop tell pickets to "get out of the way or we'll run over you."

Another Local 10 member, Bill Sullivan, pointed out that longshore picket lines have always done their own policing and maintained order.

Sullivan had an answer to Hartley's challenges to find something that harms labor in "his baby." "The whole thing harms labor," said Sullivan.

Hartley said "Taft-Hartley is on the books to stay." Sullivan said, "It's just his opinion it's here to stay. In the end the masses will tell the politicians where to go off."

Europe Interim Report

Holland, Belgium and England

(Continued from Page 1)

countries we had visited. Barely twenty-five per cent of the Holland wage earners belong to trade unions. The largest is the NVV which calls itself semi-socialist, next comes the EVC the more left wing group which is organized along industrial lines, then the Catholics and last the Protestants. We called on all groups except the Catholics. Their office informed us over the telephone that they were not interested in meeting us and therefore we were unable to obtain first hand information.

HURTS WORKERS

This four way split in the labor movement shows its effect upon the conditions of the worker. The three groups other than the EVC have entered into an agreement with the employers and the government to establish a so-called "wage freeze" which is preventing the workers from asking for higher wages. The EVC is opposing this policy on the grounds that a "wage freeze" must of necessity go hand in hand with a limit on profits and ceiling on prices. And although, on paper, there is a limit on profits and prices, even the people who entered into the agreement admit that this part of the bargain is not lived up to.

The cost of living is very high and although commodities are rationed and prices controlled there is a most flourishing black market operating which gives the guy with the dough practically all his heart desires. The officials heading the "wage freeze" unions did admit to us that there is quite a lot of grumbling from the workers for the simple reason that only they, the workers, are observing the agreement. The NVV and Christian leaders told us the wage freeze was necessary in order to aid in the re-building and reconstructing of the country which suffered terribly during the five war years.

As in the other European countries we made a special study of conditions in the longshore and transportation industry. We visited the ports of Amsterdam and Rotterdam. From the standpoint of modern, mechanical and technological equipment and efficiency these ports rank among the best. But conditions for the workers are much the same as they were on our Pacific Coast prior to 1934. The shape up prevails, wages and overtime pay are low and there is no such thing as preferential union hiring.

JOB ACTION HELPED

The harbor workers are more militant in Amsterdam and belong mostly to the left wing EVC. Conditions in Amsterdam are better than in Rotterdam and these improvements, small as they are, have been secured mostly through job action. This the other groups consistently oppose. They seem to have the upper hand in Rotterdam and because of their passive attitude the worker is the loser. We have assembled a mass of detail and will, of course, report these in our final report.

A novel feature of Dutch trade union central is that except for the EVC, the top officials are appointed for life and do not have to come from the trade union membership. If and when a man dies or an office becomes vacant for other reasons, they advertise for applicants in the daily press, that is labor as well as the commercial press. Under those conditions even a Taft-Hartley follower could become president or secretary of the Federation. Needless to say this did not at all appeal to us.

In Holland as in all other European countries the eight hour day

and half holiday on Saturdays has been established by law, and also the social security system is way way ahead of the U. S. Old age, unemployment, sick benefits, compulsory health insurance have all been enacted into law during the months immediately following the ending of the war. Without a doubt these are all excellent things in that the worker is protected in old age, unemployment, sickness and so on. Also the modern up to date housing for the workers are things deserving of praise. There is of course a terrific housing shortage like everywhere else.

HYSTERIA PROMOTED

"Our greatest disappointment in Holland was the wide prevalence of anti-Russian war psychology. And no wonder' press and radio is as venomous as anything in the United States and possibly more so. In our country we can read and hear "some of the time" a little of the other side. In Holland the voices of decency and sanity are very weak.

We believe that the Indonesian situation has something to do with it. They can see the colonies slipping away from them and they blame it all on those terrible Russians. This country, we believe, is rapidly being organized into one of the main fortresses for international fascism. American methods and influence is tremendously strong and the Marshall Plan is very popular.

We talked to people in the streets, trains boats and other places. Only very few of the intelligent can see that the current attitude and policies can only lead to the next war to the destruction of just such countries as Holland Belgium France etc. etc. Talk about an iron curtain practically no voice or word for peace or sanity can penetrate this solid wall of concrete that is the press and radio of The Netherlands.

"DOLLAR CURTAIN"

The speeches of Marshall Bevin Spaak etc. are printed and quoted over the air in full. The delegates to the UN conference in Paris from the Eastern countries receive practically no mention. If they do receive a paragraph of publicity it is generally distorted. How can we judge? We buy the Paris edition of the N. Y. Herald Tribune which gives fairly complete and factual coverage of UN doings. One of the members on our delegation reads and understands Dutch which has given him the opportunity to make a special study of affairs in this country.

Just recently the constitution of The Netherlands was amended to the effect of giving the government in office dictatorial powers whenever they deem it necessary to suspend the rights of free speech, free assembly, free press. Before only actual war could suspend these rights.

Next on our schedule was Belgium. In Brussels we called on officials of the Social Democratic Labor Federation. Our reception there was quite cool. The fact that we were just rank and filers did not impress them. However, we succeeded in contacting the officials of the Dockers' Union in Antwerp where we received a friendly and warm welcome.

ANTWERP WELCOMES GROUP

The port has a registration list of about 16,000 dockers, but a daily average of 6,000 don't go to work. Great volumes of cargo that prior to the war came through Antwerp are now being shipped through German North Sea ports. Hence the serious unemployment in the harbor. The dockers have good conditions; guaranteed wage of 60 per cent of normal wage. The worker, in

ILWU Delegation Kept Eyes Open In Covering 13 European Nations

SAN FRANCISCO--Four rank and file ILWU delegates who spent three months during the past summer in Europe studying political, labor and economic conditions, have returned to their respective homes and are preparing for extensive talks before union and community organizations to bring their findings to the people in their communities.

During their recent trip the

four men, Don Brown, Julian Napuunua, Jovan Zuber and Herman Stuyvelaar, covered 13 countries talking to political and labor leaders wherever they went and received a representative cross-section of what people are thinking and doing both in Marshall Plan and non-Marshall Plan countries. They left for France on July 9 and returned to San Francisco October 9.

These men, a cross-section of the membership of the ILWU itself, were convinced after their visit to many lands, that the press and radio of their own country are not telling the truth on the so-called "benefits" of the Marshall Plan to the peoples of these countries.

GOOD AND BAD

The delegates also found both good and bad wherever they went. Their observations were not made with closed eyes, for they found much to be praised in English and Scandinavian social welfare systems. They also found shortages and difficult times in many of the nations behind the non-existent "iron curtain." But they chiefly found hope in those countries which are struggling to rebuild after the devastation of war and to develop their economic and social structures into free and democratic societies.

Julian Napuunua is a longshoreman from Local 135 in Honolulu; Jovan Zuber a warehouseman from Local 6 in Oakland, Don Brown a longshoreman from Local 12 in Coos Bay, Oregon, and Herman Stuyvelaar a shipclerk from Local 34 in San Francisco. These men were elected by referendum in all of the locals of the ILWU. From the large list of rank and filers the Executive Board of the union then selected the four to make the trip at the expense of the International Office. They were picked on the basis of both geographical and industrial background, to make the delegation as representative as

(Continued on Page 6)



Naples Dockers The temporary hiring hall of the Naples, Italy, longshoremen's union, bears posters welcoming the rank and file ILWU delegation which visited Europe last summer. Under Mussolini the unions had to work underground but with liberation labor organizations blossomed out and have to use any available building in the bomb wrecked cities.

order to benefit from this provision must make himself available until 2 p. m. The hiring hall is owned by the Municipality. The docks are 100 per cent organized, 12,000 belong to the Social Democratic Union, 3,000 in the Catholic and the rest in some sort of a liberal or non-partisan group.

In addition to his regular pay the docker gets ten francs for walking to the job, ten francs for showing up at the hall and four francs for compensation. Special safety men tour the docks with power to suspend operations. Business agents police the jobs. While we were there an operation shut down because the employer had hired two men short. The dockers quit work for two hours until the additional men showed up. Mr. Employer had to pay wages for all the men needed and for all the time that the job lay idle.

Antwerp is one of the largest ports in the world fully mechanized and electrified and divided into sections. Two men are assigned to each section to check on safety, load limits, cargo rates, etc. An injured worker gets compensation on the basis of his earnings. There are 50 first aid stations each with two attendants.

ALL TRANSPORT UNIES

The Belgian dockers are a unit of the Belgian Transport Association. Other units are the seamen, inland dockers, teamsters, fisher men, inland water transportation and aviators. There are 38 local branches throughout the country. The union owns its building which is a very impressive one. The structure of this union proved to us the great need of similar amalgamation in America because of their tremendous fighting strength.

The Belgian Labor Federation favors the Marshall Plan as do the major political parties. The workers we talked to did not have a very high opinion of the Marshall Plan. They expressed strong suspicion that the people who are busy trying to destroy the

American trade union movement through Taft-Hartley can have little affection and concern for the European worker.

The cost of living is very high and it takes the worker all his time and wits to make ends meet. Black marketeers are very much in evidence. Press and radio are as vile as can be read and heard anywhere. But happily the people we met do not fall so easily for the warmongering propaganda. We believe it is much harder to sell that sort of poison to the Belgian than it is to the Hollanders and Englishmen. The Belgian still remembers World Wars I and II and is not keen about having his land devastated again and so soon.

Social security is on a very high level, all of it enacted immediately after liberation when the forces of progress were strong and united.

GET COLD SHOULDER

And now a few words about England. The TUC (Trade Union Congress) are housed in a very imposing building in the West End of London in the vicinity of Buckingham Palace. Westminster Abbey. When we presented ourselves with our credentials from the WFTU we did not receive what one would call a warm reception. A man named Carthy, some sort of a functionary in the Foreign Department, told us the TUC could not receive us because we were not direct CIO representatives as we lacked proper credentials from Phil Murray.

In no other country, had this question ever been raised, in fact as you all know we have met everywhere with the greatest friendship, hospitality and fraternity. To them the mere fact that we were bona fide rank and file American workers representatives made our position so much stronger. But here in this citadel of democracy, where there are no Iron Curtains, other than that one raised by that great friend of the working class, Winston Churchill, at Fulton, Missouri),

here in this England four ordinary American workers were not considered Kosher.

Well, the next day we sought contact with the London Dockers' Union. And dockers seem to be the same the world over, friendly, good hearted guys willing and ready to be of help. They took us down the London docks, gave us a chance to go aboard the ships and talk to the boys. London is tremendous as ports go. There are two unions, both affiliated with the TUC, and as a whole they work together. Conditions are fairly good compared to other industries, but there is room for lots of improvements. We will report more in detail later.

The Transport Workers' Union is the most powerful in England and embodies practically everything in the transportation field.

In England the cost of living is the highest in Europe and we often wonder just what they are doing with all the billions of Marshall dollars. The war spirit is being built up here at a tremendous pace, but there is also determined opposition to this policy. Big crowds attend the meetings in Hyde Park every night where able speakers are denouncing the Labor government and the warmongers. They get splendid response from the listeners. And although the Marshall Plan seems to have reluctant support of many people the opposition is intelligent and forceful. Even the average Englishman can see that no manna ever came from heaven and none will ever come by way of Wall Street.

We made an extensive study of the new social security structure which has just come into operation. It is excellent. It affords real security to the British citizen from birth 'til death. We will report on that also more fully as it will be worth the while of the American people to learn more about it. So much for now and until we are back home.

Stockholders Cry 'Swindle' At Matson

SAN FRANCISCO—Minority stockholders of the Matson Steamship Line have brought suit in Superior Court here for recovery of more than \$40 million of stockholders funds squandered negligently in reconversion operations.

The action filed October 19 came at a peculiar time. It coincides with the refusal of the shipowners—including Matson—to bargain with the maritime unions because of "irresponsibility."

Stockholders led by Walter E. Buck who asked the court for recovery of money swindled by the company own some 37,000 shares of stock. According to the suit they filed Matson farmed out reconversion contracts to United Engineering Co. of San Francisco—a wholly Matson-owned subsidiary. This, the suit charges, was done in disregard of the fact that said subsidiary had neither the personnel, facilities nor experience to carry out an undertaking of that magnitude.

UNNECESSARY EXPENSE

The operation referred to was the reconversion of the vessels returned after the war by the Government; the Lurline, Monterey and Mariposa.

Only one of the ships actually has been converted for the passenger trade. The other two lie idle and are not even in marketable condition. The Lurline, which was completed, the suit said, cost \$10 million more than necessary in "excessive and unnecessary" expense and lost \$525 million in operating profits because of the delay in completion of reconversion.

The Mariposa and Monterey, on which reconversion was suspended, cost the stockholders another \$29 million in depreciation from leaving the ships in unmarketable condition, liability from cancellation of contracts and loss of use of the ships.

New Premium Pay Regulations Effective

WASHINGTON—The Labor Department wage-hour division will begin enforcement October 18 of new interpretations of the wage-hour law in respect to premium pay for Sunday, holiday and night work. Wage-hour Administrator William R. McComb announced October 11 the enforcement was brought on by the refusal of the U. S. Supreme Court to rehear the longshoremen's back pay cases.

VOTE YES #14 HOUSING

Story of 'One Vote' Points Lesson for Voters in 1948 Elections

By RICHARD SASULY

This is a story which has been making the rounds for more than a hundred years. In other forms it was probably told around camp fires in front of the gates of Troy. But it still ought to be dusted off and told again every election year.

Back in 1844 there was a tight election race in Switzerland county, Indiana. In the fight for the state senatorial seat from the county an attorney named David Kelso was the Democratic candidate. His opponent was a Whig, David Haney.

Some time earlier Kelso had defended a man in a shooting case. Kelso won the case. The acquitted client was eternally grateful but he was also poor. Kelso didn't need hardwood or corn or potatoes. He said the client could repay him another time, another way.

The payoff came election day. Kelso's client was sick in bed with a high fever. Then as now political machines tried to turn out the vote. The sick man couldn't stand up and he lived ten miles from the polls. But he said he wanted to vote anyway.

The sick man was put in a wagon and driven to the polls.

Too feeble to sit up, he still dropped in his ballot for Kelso. They took him home, and the story has it he died soon after.

Kelso won the election—by a margin of one vote.

Now began a chain of political events, touched off by the sick man's vote in the Kelso-

ocrats. Kelso's party, had a slight edge in the state senate. In fact—they had a one vote margin, Kelso's vote.

By this time Kelso had a keen appreciation of the importance of the last vote. He thought the machine candidate was a phoney. He backed another

Kelso could not be moved by the Democratic regulars. Instead, he finally announced that if he had to break the tie, he would swing to the Whigs. Rather than give the election to a Whig, the Democratic machine switched to Kelso's man, Hannigan.

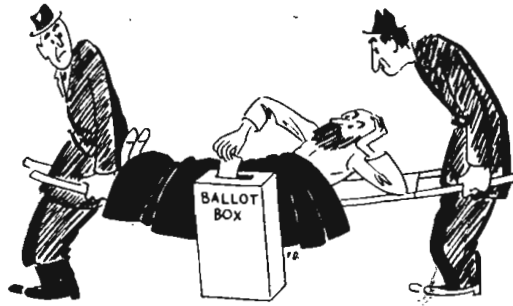
And so Hannigan went to Washington, elected by the margin of Kelso's vote.

The next year in the Senate the hot issue was the admission of Texas into the United States. The Democratic regular whom Hannigan had beaten, because of Kelso's vote, was against admission of Texas. Hannigan was for admission.

It is obvious now that Texas was admitted and that a war with Mexico resulted from the act. But the fight over admission was a close one too. The margin for admitting Texas at that time was—one vote, cast by Hannigan.

It could well be argued that Texas became a state by the virtue of one vote cast by a dying man in a local election in what was then a backwoods county of Indiana. David Kelso's sick client had at least as much to do with the Mexican war as most diplomats.

The story is more than a century old. Yet the last vote of one man can still be crucial today.



Haney race in those days the state legislatures elected U. S. Senators. Kelso, who had gotten into the state senate by one vote, found himself in the key spot in the election of a U. S. Senator.

Again the fight was between Democrats and Whigs. The Dem-

young lawyer, Edward A. Hannigan.

Because Kelso's support went to the third candidate, Hannigan, there was a tie vote between the two regular party candidates for the U. S. Senate seat. For several weeks the deadlock continued.

Portland Hears Bulcke on How Public Can Help Win the Maritime Strike

By KATHLEEN CRONIN

PORTLAND, Ore.—Mr. & Mrs. John Q. Portland got a chance to hear why 5000 maritime workers are on the bricks in Oregon at a public mass meeting sponsored by the Joint Maritime Strike Committee in Benson Tech October 14. "A recognition by the public of the real facts in the tie-up could end this strike," Germain Bulcke, ILWU vice president, main speaker at the meeting, declared.

Explaining the unions' long effort to reach an agreement with the shipowners, an effort which was met by the ship owners walking out on negotiations at 10:30 p.m. September 2, Bulcke said **THROUGH THE WORKS**

"Everyone on the union negotiating committee could not only talk the language of labor; they had been through the works. They honestly tried to reach an agreement.

"But it was impossible; we had no chance. The shipowners had one stock phrase. Nothing doing."

Hugh Bryson, president of the Marine Cooks, described the waterfront as "the union front to day," and warned that if the ship-owners have their way the democra-

tic trade union movement of this country would become "a fascist labor front."

"That is why our membership is working for the election of Wallace and Taylor," he said.

MULES WERE DIFFERENT

Another speaker who brought down the house was S. P. Stevens, top official for the AFL firefights union in this area and a member of the Portland Central Labor Council. Stevens pointed out "all labor has a stake in your strike" and said he had "learned the waterfront story the hard way" by working in his youth on the docks, in "the days when you sometimes had to work all day, all night, and into the next day, carrying 300-pound sacks of peanuts down into the hold."

"The only difference between a longshoreman and a mule in those days," the AFL leader said, was "that if you overloaded a mule, he would lay down on the job."

Other speakers included Marshall Dana, editor of the Oregon Journal. Tom Mahoney, past commander of the American Legion here, who revealed the legion had turned down an invitation to lead a vigilante move on the 1934 mar-

itime strike when it was learned "there was a strike side to the story." William Jordan, Marine Fireman, "We'll never go back to the way we were before 1934," and Irvin Goodman, attorney for the Portland area Joint Maritime Strike Committee, who declared: "All those who believe in the preservation and extension of democracy owe a debt of gratitude to the maritime unions. Not only have you fought often in the face of clubs and guns for the betterment of the conditions of working men and women everywhere, but against shipment of scrap iron to Japan; and you have spoken out against the Taft-Hartley law, the Mundt-Nixon bill, and the Thomas Rankin committee."

Co-chairmen of the meeting were R. T. Baker, ILWU Local 8, and Stanley Earl, CIO state secretary. R. E. Ferguson, manager of the Waterfront Employers of Oregon, who had been invited to present the shipowners' "side" to the public, did not show up. During the time allotted for the employers on the program, the ILWU official recorder played instead:

"Waiting for a ship that never comes in"

Greek Gov't Labor Terror Hit by ILWU

SAN FRANCISCO—"Our union is greatly disturbed by the news the Greek government is going ahead with courtmartial against 97 Greek trade unionists," ILWU President Harry Bridges and Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt wired Secretary of State George Marshall and Greek Ambassador Vasilias Dendramis October 19.

American attorney William L. Standard and British attorney Simmons have been denied visas to Athens to participate in the defense. If condemned to death, the 97 will be executed after three days in which no appeal is possible.

"This wholesale trial and slaughter of Greek trade unionists by the fascist Greek government must stop," said Bridges and Goldblatt. "The persecution and destruction of the unions of Greece is a terrible travesty of the cause for which World War II was fought and represents the resumption of the same pattern of support to reactionary governments which inevitably leads to war."

Bridges to Shipowners: You Have Hard Road Ahead to Company Unionism

SAN FRANCISCO—President Harry Bridges of the ILWU in a letter replying to the rejection of a rank and file negotiating committee by the shipowners, accused them of attempting to bring back company unionism.

"You have a long way to go, and a hard road ahead to that kind of a job," Bridges said.

Bridges' letter to the Waterfront Employers' Association of the Pacific Coast continued **CLEARLY UNCONCERNED**

"This will acknowledge your letter of October 18 in which you flatly reject the union's offer to negotiate a settlement of the strike through a rank and file committee elected directly from the picket line.

"Your letter makes it abundantly clear that you are not con-

cerned with arriving at a contract that you are not concerned with settlement of the strike and that you are not concerned with responsibility.

"You are instead concerned solely with the establishment of a company union, owned, dominated and operated by the shipowners, such as you had for fourteen years and until 1934 in the Blue Book union.

WORKERS ARE AWARE

"The longshoremen and all maritime workers are keenly aware of the kind of responsibility you had during the company union. It was a period of waterfront slavery, of long hours, low pay, gangsterism and racketeering.

"Our membership and the national CIO as well, is now aware that you are determined to make

the West Coast waterfront the battleground for the greatest industrial showdown in recent years, regardless of the cost to workers and business men and others who are dependent upon waterborne commerce.

"In notifying us of your intent to reestablish waterfront company unionism, you must surely know that you will have to destroy all vestiges of unionism as it exists today to obtain such an objective.

OFFER REPEATED

An earlier letter of President Bridges to the WEA on October 16 said:

"On September 30, in a radio address, I, as President of the

ILWU, offered to have the union establish a negotiating committee composed only of striking workers, exclusive of any national or local officers, such committee to be elected by secret ballot.

"This offer was repeated in newspaper advertisements on October 12 and in another radio address on October 14.

WEA MISLEADING PUBLIC

"It is clear from your own public pronouncements that you have heard and read about this offer, yet newspapers have told us you have taken the position you cannot consider this offer because of not receiving formal notification of it.

"Please regard this letter as formal notification of my willingness as President of the national union immediately to advise the

striking workers to establish a negotiating committee composed of striking rank and file members only, exclusive of national and local officers, such committee to be elected from the picket-lines by secret ballot.

"Your Association is attempting to mislead the public as to the reasons the strike is being prolonged by saying that you will not deal with any committee of which I am a member. The truth of the matter, as you well know, is that your Association wishes to dictate the composition of the union negotiating committee. If this is not so, there is no reason that you should not agree, and agree now, to meet and negotiate with the type of committee herein proposed."

DOCKS & TERMINALS



Striker's Family Ed Mackie, striking member of ILWU Local 10, shown in front of his house with his wife and nine children. On the picket line since September 2, the going is pretty rough, so the local's welfare committee is helping out with food.

Castle and Cooke

A solid picketline of Marine Cooks and Stewards demonstrated before Castle & Cooke in Honolulu for two hours October 14, demanding that Matson, in which C & C. owns thousand of shares, and other shipowners negotiate with striking West Coast maritime unions.

Union members distributed leaflets in downtown Honolulu pointing out that the Hawaii Big Five industrialists own more than 50 percent of Matson and are responsible for the actions of that shipping firm.

NLRB Charges

ILWU attorneys have petitioned the National Labor Relations Board to dismiss an unfair labor practices complaint brought against the union by the Waterfront Employers Association.

The petition points out the obvious contradictions of the WEA accusing the union of refusing to bargain collectively, while the union is asking for collective bargaining and the WEA is refusing.

Hearings on the complaint, re-

cessed since September 30, resumed October 25.

The NLRB's amended complaint, alleging the ILWU refuses to bargain by insisting on contract sections on registration and dispatching, lists five reasons why the longshore hiring hall is supposed to be discriminatory and therefore illegal.

Among these are the fact that the hall is operated jointly by union and employers, that men on the registered list receive preference, and that every longshoreman "who is not a member of the ILWU must contribute to the support of the hiring hall an amount equivalent to that paid by each member of the ILWU."

Shipowner Dictates

A resolution adopted October 19 by the strike committee of San Francisco Local 10 stated the union would not accept the dictates of the shipowners on their elected union officials.

The resolution which the strike committee adopted said:

"The strike committee goes on record and recommends to the membership that this union will

pay no attention to the Waterfront Employers Association and the Pacific American Shipowners Association demand that the union depose certain elected officials in order to secure a contract from the employers. The employers' strategy is recognized by every member of this union as a pressure move designed to disrupt, divide and disintegrate the ranks of this and other maritime unions.

"To accept the employers' proposal would eventually result in company unions being established on the waterfronts of the Pacific Coast and forcing the maritime union workers to accept wages and working conditions as dictated by the shipowners. Working conditions and wages imposed by employer dictates will not be accepted by this union."

ILA, Employers' Plea Turned Down

WASHINGTON—The U. S. Supreme Court split 5 to 3 October 11 in turning down a joint appeal by stevedoring companies and the International Longshoremen's Association (ILA) for rehearing of the longshoremen's back pay suit cases.

The denial means the court ruling of last spring still stands. That holds that longshoremen working beyond 40 hours weekly at the Sunday, holiday or night rate should be given time-and-a-half for the overtime. Rank and file workers originally brought the suits to court when the ILA, employers and the U. S. Labor Department agreed that no overtime pay was required because of the premium rate paid for the work.

General Electric and Westinghouse respectively made profits after taxes of \$95 million and \$57 million in 1948, both setting all-time records.

ILWU Delegates Kept Eyes Open on Europe Tour

(Continued from Page 4) possible.

EXTENSIVE NOTES

Included on their itinerary they left New York were France, Italy, Yugoslavia, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Russia, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland, Belgium and England.

Each member of the group took extensive notes on their observations, and upon these were based their first interim reports filed en route and printed in The Dispatcher. On the basis of their completed diaries and their considered study of these notes upon their return the men have compiled a full and lengthy report of their conclusions.

In Paris, the delegation noticed a death of war talk and tension. "Nowhere did we hear talk of war. Only wonder and bewilderment. Workers would ask us: Why isn't there a workers' party in America that can stop your big industrialists and their war talk?"

DELEGATION SURPRISED

What surprised the rank and filers in Italy was to find U. S. spaghetti being shipped into the country under Marshall Plan arrangements. This meant unemployment for many workers in Italy's spaghetti factories. What the Italians need, said the ILWUers, is wheat with which to process their own flour and spaghetti—not U. S. finished goods.

Strangely enough they also saw cases and cases of olive oil, labelled "Made in U. S.," in Italian shop windows.

Even worse, in France they were told by the nationally owned Renault auto plant manager that he had to fill an order for 15,000 cars to be shipped to the U. S.

PEOPLE ASKED QUESTIONS

"Thus, while France so desperately needs heavy machinery and goods for itself, its labor and materials are being shipped overseas to compete in the American market," said the men.

In Yugoslavia the men visited the famous Youth Railway where young people from all over Europe are contributing their services to hasten the tasks of reconstruction.

Napua's aloha shirt attracted considerable interest in the streets of cities they visited. But in Moscow as soon as the people heard that the delegation was

ILWU Library Sends Out Call for Three Rare Books

SAN FRANCISCO—The ILWU Research Library has sent out a call for three hard-to-get books. If any member has Sailors' Union of the Pacific by Paul Taylor, Marine Labor Union Leadership, by Walter J. Peterson or ILWU Convention Proceedings I and II for 1937 and 1938, he is requested to write the library at the International office.

composed of American trade unionists, they were bombarded with questions.

WELCOME FROM MAYOR

The Russians wanted most of all to know what American unions were doing to fight the Taft-Hartley Act. In fact, the Russian workers showed more knowledge about some of the law's provisions than many American workers.

In Stockholm, Sweden, a journalist confronted the delegation with a copy of The Dispatcher which carried one of their interim reports to their union. Asked to confirm what was in it, the members of the delegation said they "saw everything we described with our own eyes."

On the last leg of the journey, the delegation was received in Amsterdam, Holland, by the mayor of the city, Dr. D'Alley, who extended them greetings on behalf of the citizens.

Labor Book Club Launched in N. Y.

NEW YORK—A book club for labor has been launched here, with plans to commission writers for books on labor themes to be distributed at half the regular trade price.

With low prices and wide union distribution, Our Book Club intends to fill the gap in current fiction and non-fiction publishing on labor and civil rights.

The first selection will be Our Lives, a collection of short stories about labor by famous authors, edited by Joseph Gaer, president of the club.

Standards' Scabbers Get Their Wires Crossed

RICHMOND, Calif.—Scabbing foremen of the Standard Oil Co., personnel workers—and even their wives—are conducting a back-to-work campaign among striking members of the Oil Workers International Union (CIO), Local 561 Secretary Walter Ritchel charged here.

Using the telephone, Ritchel said, the company stooges are telling strikers that "the strike is lost," urging them to return to work before their jobs are filled by others.

"This is John Smith who works in distillation," one striker was told by a telephone scabber. "I have 15 years with the company and you have 10. We don't want to lose that seniority. I think we should go back to work."

But the scabs had their wires crossed on that one. The real John Smith happened to be visiting the striker, who said pleasantly: "Hold the wire. I'll let you talk to John Smith and hear what he has to say."

The line went dead at once.

Shipowners Renege in Proof Of Smear Charges Against Bridges

SAN FRANCISCO The Pacific American Shipowners Association and the Waterfront Employers Association of the Pacific have filed a demurrer in the Harry Bridges libel suit in which they back away from their publicly repeated communist charges, denying they ever intended to imply that Bridges was a communist.

Said Bridges October 19: "This is what I have been saying. The shipowners can't back up their phoney charges. They back away. They said I would be afraid to go ahead with this suit. Now they are crawling."

"The same is true of their whole position in this strike. They can only resort to half truths, like the printing of the Molotov picture in which we caught them red handed. That is why they had to reject mediation by Mayor Robinson and others. They can't face the truth."

The demurrer was filed in Superior Court, where Bridges is asking \$750,000 for libel and slander. In a memorandum in support of the demurrer the shipowners plead special privilege in their statements because they occurred during a labor dispute.



Maritime Speakers Leaders from striking maritime unions spoke at a mass meeting under the auspices of the Portland, Ore., Joint Maritime Strike Committee, at Benson High October 14. Left to right: Hugh Bryson, president of the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union, Bill Hall and Earl Miller, ILWU Local 8 members, Cole Jackman, head of the ILWU Checkers Coast Negotiating Committee, and Germain Bulcke, ILWU vice-president.



Play-Time Many of the children at the Canon Kip Nursery School in San Francisco are affected by the maritime strike. The little girl on the left is four-year-old Magdalena Figueroa whose grandfather, Marine Engineer Serafin Rodriguez, brings her to school while her mother is working. The kids spend the day playing outdoors, finger-painting, clay modeling and napping. Money raised in the current Community Chest drive will go to support Canon Kip.

CLO President Tells ILWU of Workers' and Peasants' Struggle for Rights in the Philippines

SAN FRANCISCO—Amado V. Hernandez, president of the Philippine Congress of Labor Organizations and an opposition member of the Manila city council, stopped off enroute to Europe for conferences with ILWU and California CIO leaders here last week.

Hernandez besides being a prominent labor leader is one of four official delegates from the CIO to the 2nd Congress of the World Federation of Trade Unions in Brussels during the first part of December of 1948.

The CIO head spent a few days in Hawaii before reaching San Francisco. In addition to talking to ILWU regional officials in Honolulu, he visited the Olaa sugar plantation where ILWU sugar workers are now locked out by the Big Five owners of the property. He spoke on the local Olaa radio station in Filipino to Philippine workers, members of sugar workers Local 142. He left Hawaii for the mainland October 10. **PARTISANS SUPPRESSED**

In the course of an interview with The Dispatcher, Hernandez traced the history and development of organized labor in the Philippines. He said the CIO is the major labor organization in his country. It is composed of some 100,000 workers and includes a number of national unions in its structure. Within the framework of the CIO are to be found workers of many industries: printers, railroad workers, cigarette makers, sawmill workers, Manila city employees, oil, copra, newspaper and editorial workers, textile workers, longshoremen and others.

During the Japanese occupation, Hernandez became an outstanding partisan leader, refusing to have any relationship with the collaborationist forces of former president Manuel Roxas who headed up a Japanese puppet regime.

Answer to Who Said It?
"Waterfront Employers Union" or the employers association, in a paid ad in a San Francisco newspaper during the 1919 maritime strike.

Following the liberation, civil government was reestablished in Manila and many of the active puppets under Japanese rule were taken into high government positions. With the support of General MacArthur these forces were encouraged and the partisan and resistance forces suppressed. While Roxas was president no efforts were spared to exterminate the guerrilla (Hukbalahap) and peasant leaders.

UNPOPULAR CAMPAIGNER

The National Peasants Union (PKM) and the Huks were outlawed this year. Shortly before his death, Roxas sought to brand the CLO as fellow travellers with the Huks. But the Huks in Central Luzon province and the CLO are not so easily suppressed as the fascist leaders in the present U. S. controlled Philippine Republic would have you believe, Hernandez said.

During his campaign for election Roxas was so unpopular in the Luzon area—the granary of the country—that he did not dare to show his face. His election was made possible only by the direct intervention of General MacArthur and the then U. S. Ambassador Paul McNutt.

Roxas' opponent Osmena conducted a weak campaign in which he failed to make a single speech in his own behalf. Despite the lack of any vigor to his campaign, Osmena only lost to Roxas by 200,000 out of a total of two million votes cast. The victor claimed he had 85 percent of the Army behind him.

POLICE TERRORIZE

After his election Roxas tried a campaign of suppression but he failed in this. He gave an order to the head of the National Police to shoot on sight Luis Taruc, leader of the Hukbalahap. The Huks and peasant leaders went underground to defend themselves from the savage onslaughts of police terror.

Epidio Quirino, who succeeded Roxas, as one of his first acts in office pushed through the Philippine legislature a law authorizing the payment of salaries for three years back to all government employees, regardless of whether or not they had been collaborators. In essence, this law proposed to

Congress Strikebreakers Turn Tail, Learn Only That Foisie's No Red

(Continued from Page 1)

mitter's abbreviated session, was spent by the two or three witnesses who managed to reach the stand, in making themselves heard over the chairman's gavel pounding and his angry arguments with attorneys for the witnesses.

Typical of the low level of intelligence shown by committee members was Representative O. C. Fisher's query put to Hugh Bryson, Marine Coks Union president: "Have you all seen ol' Harry Bridges lately?"

AROUND THE WORLD

"I don't know who you mean by ol' Harry Bridges," Bryson mimicked Fisher's Texas drawl.

If the Texas Congressman meant Harry Bridges, president of the ILWU, Bryson explained, he had not seen him for several days.

The Committee wrangled with the MCS president on such questions as Franco Spain, Indonesia, Greece, China and other countries. But Bryson said "I'm not going around the world with you."

On the Marshall Plan, the witness branded it the "biggest fraud ever put over on the Amer-

ican people." "I'm against the policy. Not against the ships. I hope they get more ships. You don't seem to understand our union policy, Congressman. We sail ships where we are told. But we sail under contract."

LAWYERS THROWN OUT

Following Bryson's testimony, Kersten called David Jenkins, Labor School director, to the stand.

When Alan Brotsky and Norman Leonard, counsel for Jenkins and Bryson, sought to establish a basis for protecting the constitutional rights of their clients, they were thrown out of the hearing by order of the chairman.

Leonard asked the record of the hearing to show "that I am being forcibly removed because I represent this man."

Said Jenkins: "What's my relationship to this? I don't own a ship. I'm no strike leader."

During the remainder of the questioning of Jenkins, the Committee sought to discover his political ideas and to discredit him as an educator.

When asked what he taught at the Labor School Jenkins replied: "We teach many things, I'll send

you a catalogue for 10 cents."

"You regard Marx as important," said Kersten. "Certainly," Jenkins answered, "the Soviet Union covers one-sixth of the world and there are many movements calling themselves Marxist in operation. I think it's important that we give our students some knowledge of the world we live in."

Asked if he believes in the "dictatorship of the proletariat," the Labor School leader said "Asking that is like asking me do I believe in rain. I didn't invent the dictatorship of the proletariat. I never lived under it. I don't believe in it for America, if that's what you mean. I don't believe in dictatorship by big business either."

"How much education have you had," Kersten then shot at Jenkins. His reply was that he had only finished eighth grade but since then he had studied a great deal. "And you are not going to get me in a position where you can make headlines that say 'Sparsely Educated Man Is Head of Labor School,' if that is your object."

THE \$64 QUESTION

In an attempt to reply to the question "Is Communism good or bad," Jenkins was pounded into silence with the chairman's gavel. "Let's equalize things around here," Jenkins proposed, "give me one of those things so I can bang you down when you interrupt."

Kersten then shot the \$64-dollar question: "Are you a Communist?"

"I am trying to answer you," Jenkins said. "First tell me what you mean by Communist? You arrest 12 men in New York. You arrest five men in Denver. What is Communism? A matter of geography. I will answer your question but I'd like to know..."

At this point three expelled flunks from the Marine Cooks and Stewards Union interrupted and they were brought to the stand by Kersten.

The men William Brandhove, William Handelman and Alex Harris were escorted to and from the hearing with police protection, after one of them had threatened to "shoot his way out" after the session was completed unless he got the protection.

KERSTEN STEAMED UP

A San Francisco superior court has refused to hear their charges against the union several days prior to the Kersten junket opened.

The chairman remarked the day after he had abruptly adjourned the hearings that he was "plenty steamed up" about the treatment he and his committee had gotten from the crowd which jammed the hearing and the picket line of a thousand maritime workers around the U. S. Post Office building where the sessions were held.

"I never saw anything like that demonstration in the 20 or 30 hearings I have conducted elsewhere."

tributed to the peasants; an increase in the wages of the workers.

Wages have increased from 1.25 pesos a day before the war to 4 pesos at present, but at the same time living costs in Manila alone, have increased between five and six times.

In conclusion Hernandez asserted that "the hope for more democracy and social justice in the Philippines depends upon the Philippine people changing their relations with the United States." They must set up a free Republic dedicated to the interests of all, not the privileged few.

reward those who served under the Japanese and big business—the very people who had already been well taken care of by the Japanese.

As the law now works some 400,000 collaborators out of a population of 18 million benefit at the expense of all the taxpayers.

Another move started by Quirino last May was a peace overture to Taruc, the Huk leader. On the surface the President offered an amnesty to the Huk leader and his followers. But Taruc does not consider the amnesty important for he and his followers were not outlaws or enemies of the Philippine people.

Taruc said the Huks would accept the amnesty under conditions that would ensure to the common man genuine economic and social justice. They offered to register their arms if they were given guarantees that they would not be arrested for complying with the amnesty.

DOLLAR A DAY

The plan of the government and big business is to destroy the labor and peasant organizations and their tool is the Philippine Congress, now dominated by bus-

ness and landholding interests.

At the present time many industries exploit labor for 10 to 12 hours a day, with no overtime, at about two pesos a day, or less than \$1.

Many of the leading Philippine industries in addition are feeling the cutthroat competition of Marshall Plan dumping. The CLO president cited as an example that of cigar making. The U. S. is now dumping American or Cuban cigars at such cheap rates, free from customs duties, as to force a cut in native production. As a consequence the Philippine tobacco workers today are employed only two or three days a week.

Hernandez pointed also to the case of shoes. The U. S. is dumping American shoes in the Islands and forcing unemployment on the native workers. The same holds true of the shirt industry and many others, he added.

The program of the Huks, one which is also supported by the CLO, is relief to the peasants, workers and widows of those killed during the occupation and the liberation; housing to replace the huts and tenements now existing; the big estates to be redi-



Filipino Leader Amado V. Hernandez, President of the Philippine Congress of Labor Organizations chats with ILWU President Harry Bridges during a stopover in San Francisco October 21. Hernandez is an opposition member of the Manila City Council as well as being a prominent labor leader. He is enroute to Brussels for the December meeting of the World Federation of Trade Unions, of which he is an executive board member.