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DRIVE FOR FINK HALL OPENS

Warehouse Local 6 Maps Fighting 1948 Program

SAN FRANCISCO.—Local 6, the union's biggest warehouse local, with 18,000 members, set a program for all-out political action to fight back attacks on living standards, democratic liberties and the peace of the world in its third annual constitutional convention and wage conference, February 14 and 15.

More than 120 delegates from every unit of the local throughout the bay area unanimously agreed on the need for a wage increase and set forth the facts on the industry's phenomenal profits and obvious ability to pay a wage in line with the cost of living.

They reaffirmed the union's stand against compliance with the Taft-Hartley Law in any way and pledged to continue support to the third party, backing up ILWU President Harry Bridges' fighting position at the recent meeting of the CIO National Executive Board.

MARSHALL PLAN SCORED

The Marshall Plan was described by the convention as an "imperialist scheme to short-circuit the United Nations and interfere in the internal affairs of European countries."

Preparation for June 1, 1948, contract opening date, and November 2, 1948, election day, with economic and political action keyed the proceedings.

"What we've won on the picket line we have lost at the ballot box," said a banner streaming across the front of the meeting hall at the CIO Building. The warehousemen's remedy for this situation was a pledge to mobilize the membership for political activity on the job and in the neighborhoods. They set a goal of 1,000 precinct/workers.

REGISTER VOTERS

The local will register and get out the vote of every single member. It will establish political action committees in all units, co-operate with other unions and progressive groups for victory in 1948, and it will raise the necessary funds to bring its program to the people.

The convention set five main issues around which to mobilize a fighting political program:

1. Price controls and rent controls to stop inflation and super-profits.
2. Repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law.
3. Return to the Roosevelt program of social security; decent housing; aid to veterans, the aged and the sick; federal projects to provide jobs for all.
4. END WITCH HUNTS
5. The end of witch-hunts and loyalty burges and attacks on minority groups, the end of the atmosphere of fear.
6. A foreign policy of friend-

ship and mutual respect and world unity through the United Nations.

The warehousemen pledged to help build an independent political movement of labor and other progressives and wholeheartedly supported Bridges in his proposal to the National CIO that the question of a third party should be put to a rank and file referendum.

They affirmed that the mandates of the membership on political matters will be followed and hit the National CIO attempts, as reported in the commercial press and not denied by the CIO, to crack down on councils and officials who do not go along with the national policy as

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Dockers Get Another 2 1/2 In Wage Hike

SAN FRANCISCO.—An additional 2 cents an hour was added to the 8-cent wage increase awarded Pacific Coast longshoremen, clerks, gatemen and watchmen, following an agreement reached by the Coast Labor Relations Committee on February 4.

This agreement was based upon impartial Chairman Arthur C. Miller's December 15, 1947, award in the wage review under the longshore contract. He said there should be an additional increase effective February 10, 1948, calculated upon the basis of U. S. Bureau of Labor Statistics price index for December 15, 1947.

CLERKS UP 50 PER CENT

Under the CLRC agreement the basic wage rates are now \$1.67 per hour straight time and \$2.50 1/2 per hour overtime for longshoremen; \$1.72 straight time and \$2.58 overtime for clerks, and \$1.42 straight time and \$2.13 overtime for watchmen.

The new rate for clerks compared with the base rate in 1945, shows a 50 per cent jump. In 1945, the clerks' overtime rate was only \$1.72.

ILWU members of the CLRC notified all local unions on February 4 which have contracts with port Waterfront Employers or other local employers for car work, dock work, etc., they "are advised to immediately contact their respective employers and demand that these local contracts be modified so as to effectuate this increase on the same date as the Coast Longshore contract."



It Is Legal to Chant "Pot-bellied Old Scab"

DETROIT (FP)—If just one picket calls General Manager Otto Hofman a pot-bellied old scab that might be serious, but if the whole picket line chants the endearment that's not so bad, Judge W. McKay Skillman tended to indicate February 6, when he dismissed a police charge against Picket Mildred Mullins in the General Magnetic Corp. strike of the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers (CIO). The strike began last November.

Truman Arrests Ferdinand Smith

NEW YORK.—Continuing its drive against all people who oppose the Marshall Plan and/or the third party, the Truman Administration February 18, arrested Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary of the National Maritime Union.

FBI agents took him to Ellis Island and held him without bail on a deportation warrant.

Significantly, Smith was arrested as he left his home to attend a specially called meeting of the NNU National Council to consider merger with the ILWU and other maritime unions, which has been opposed by NNU President Joseph Curran.

Smith, who has been in the country since 1918, was accused of the crime of leaving the country for a trip to Mexico in 1945.

His militant union record in the fight for better wages, hours and conditions for seamen has convinced the FBI that his intention is to overthrow the government.

Pineapple Increase is Accepted

HONOLULU, T. H.—Pineapple workers throughout the Territory voted 4,783 to 930 to accept an industry offer of a 7 cent per hour wage increase effective February 1.

The ILWU Local 152 members negotiated the raise under a wage reopening clause in their contract which runs to February, 1949.

This is the third raise pineapple workers have won since their first contract with the eight big companies in 1946, bringing the total across-the-board increases to 27 cents. The base rate for men is now 97 cents and for women 87 cents per hour.

The pineapple negotiating committee had asked for a "substantial increase" on the basis of the increase in the cost of living since the last raise and higher productivity through mechanization.

The committee recommended that members accept the 7 cent offer and pitch in to strengthen the consolidated local and make every worker in the industry a member.

Packhouse Workers Demand 29c Wage Hike

CHICAGO (FP)—The United Packinghouse Workers (CIO) is demanding a 29 cents hourly wage increase from the big meat packers as a down payment to help its members reach official family budget standards set by the government.

Foisie Gives Notice For Early Talks

SAN FRANCISCO.—A billet doux from the Waterfront Employers Association of the Pacific Coast to the ILWU on St. Valentine's Day announced the shipowners' intent to destroy the hiring hall.

The letter called for immediate discussions on modification of the Coast Longshore agreement with respect to the hiring hall so as to conform to the Taft-Hartley slave labor law.

The giving of formal notice of desire to modify the contract may be deferred to the deadline of April 15, said the letter from the Waterfront Employers. They suggested, however, that meetings with the union begin this week. The contract expires June 15.

WANT "FREE CHOICE"

The WEA letter, signed by WEA President Frank P. Foisie, said:

"Although the giving of formal notice of desire to modify our collective bargaining agreements may be deferred until April 15, 1948, we nevertheless feel it would be highly desirable to give early attention to the problem of conforming our agreements, when renewed, to the Labor-Management Relations Act of 1947."

"As you know, the law describes as an unfair labor practice any discrimination, in respect to hiring, tenure or terms or conditions of employment encouraging or discouraging membership in a labor organization, and also prescribes any contractual provision or practice interfering with an employee's free choice in respect to membership in such an organization."

"Our present Coast longshore agreement contains provisions relating to preference of employment and to control of registration and of the hiring halls which, in the opinion of our counsel, will be in violation of the law after June 15, 1948, the expiration date of our agreement. The port working and dispatching rules as well as various port labor agreements also contain provisions which should be changed to conform to the law."

"So that we may adopt promptly the changes necessary in bringing our agreements into harmony with the law, we request an early meeting and suggest one at your convenience in the coming week."

WANT FINK HALL

It has been conceded by ILWU President Harry Bridges that some alteration in the hiring hall setup will be necessary to conform with the slave labor act. But

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Liberty's New Look



LIBERTY was written into the constitution. That is, after the people rose up and demanded and got the Bill of Rights. Ever since that document was adopted Americans have had to fight to preserve it because the same kind of people who tried to block the Bill of Rights have ever since been trying to destroy it. They are the rich, the privileged, the overfed and overplush.

It is rapidly becoming clear that you can have liberty in America if you choose to conform to Wall Street's program, that is, the Marshall plan and a return to power in 1948 of the Democratic-Republican coalition devoted to increased profits, etc. Otherwise, you may, like Secretary Ferdinand Smith of the National Maritime Union, find yourself picked up by FBI agents as you emerge from your home some morning to attend a union meeting.

★
AT THE same time that Harry S. Truman, the President of the United States, asks the Congress for a law to protect civil rights, he condones and directs a reign of terror against labor leaders, government workers and others who do not agree with his program of U. S. dollars dictating how people in other lands shall live, vote and associate with each other.

So-called liberals are going along with his program. Some fake labor leaders are making deals with phony politicians. And, curiously enough, the tune being played is exactly the same one that was being heard in Germany along about 1933.

Some people ought to remember that similarity and take heed. Hitler got certain people to go along with him—promised them a dime wage increase here and there if they worked with him—and then turned around and destroyed them when he didn't need them anymore.

OUR UNION isn't going to depend upon any employer or employers' stooge or employers' pal, like a John Foster Dulles, to look out for our liberties. We are going to look out for them ourselves. We know what the employers want for us. They want open shop, fink halls or shapeup, and above all they are anxious to return to us the freedom we once enjoyed of working for a miserably low wage—in competition with other earners of miserably low wages.

One thing we have to keep in mind is the fact that freedom is not a thing that can be enjoyed by ourselves while it is denied to others. If Greek trade unionists are being shot for striking, we will not be far behind. It is the very people who haven't dared come out yet openly to shoot us who are dictating that Greek trade unionists be shot—we mean the United States Department of State.

Liberty lives as we desire it. Let us not sit as the German people did and let fascism engulf us.

THE DISPATCH
MORRIS WATSON, EDITOR

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On the Beam

BY HARRY BRIDGES

THE REAL PURPOSES and use of the Taft-Hartley Law to wreck unions and to rob workers of established and hard-won conditions are soon going to be revealed in a way that will be unmistakable. The time is going to be between now and June 15. The place is going to be West Coast waterfronts. And the issue is going to be the attempt of American shipowners to destroy the longshore hiring halls that were won by West Coast maritime workers in the San Francisco general strike of 1934.

On June 15, 1948, ILWU longshore and waterfront contracts are due to terminate unless both parties to the contracts refrain from serving notice to open them. June, 1948, will also be one year after passage of Taft-Hartley.

In the months since last June millions of dollars in propaganda have been put out by organized employers and big business of the United States. These were the ones who were responsible for the act in the first place. They drafted its provisions and knew exactly what they were doing when they did so.

The employers' propaganda hammered mostly on one phase of the law: compliance with that part of the law requiring the filing of anti-Communist affidavits. And for any labor union member or officer to kid himself that the millions of dollars worth of slick employer propaganda has not had some effect is foolish.

For the West Coast longshoremen the end of the propaganda period is approaching, or it would be more correct to say it is here. From here on in the true purposes of the Taft-Hartley Law are going to come to the front and the employers' program of action that the Taft-Hartley law was meant to advance and protect is going to be put into effect. The main principles and lines of the employer propaganda will be followed. Just as they have been saying that the Taft-Hartley Law is a law to protect labor and bring harmony and peace in industrial relations, at the same time and under cover, they have been whittling away at unions and union gains.

THE ATTACK on the West Coast longshore unions will be one of attacking the fundamental base upon which the union is built, namely, the hiring hall. At the same time the shipowners proclaim to the world that they have not the slightest intention of taking the hiring hall away from the longshoremen.

Mr. Roger Lapham, shipowner and former mayor of San Francisco, once said: "The shipowners are not trying and do not want to control the hiring halls, they only want to control hiring."

Mr. Frank P. Foiese, now heading West Coast shipping employers and longshore employers is saying the same thing today and is further saying that the Taft-Hartley Law forbids control of hiring through the hiring hall and requires that hiring of longshoremen be mainly put into the hands of the shipowners—and that's the whole issue.

In the months between now and June 15 the public press and radio, government agencies and various individuals are going to be propagandized on Foiese's program. All the time they will claim that the shipowners are not trying to take away the longshore hiring hall that has been in existence for nearly 14 years, but they just wish to make a few changes in order to comply with the Taft-Hartley Law.

The other part of their program is to attempt in every way to force the union to strike to resist what the employers call "a few changes" in order to comply with the law when in reality such changes will mean the complete emasculation of the hiring hall as such. If they are successful in forcing the longshoremen on the bricks then the propaganda machine will swing into action with the cry that the strike is being conducted by Bridges and the Communist leadership under direct order of Joe Stalin and for political purposes such as sabotaging the Marshall Plan. And along these lines they hope to line up a great deal of support not only from leaders and some members of our own union and other ILWU unions but some top leaders of the AFL and CIO as well.

ALREADY THE publicity drive has started in the press in an attempt to direct the mind and attention of the public towards the idea that ILWU longshoremen are eager for a strike June 15 in defiance of the Taft-Hartley Law and for reasons other than retention of the main principles of the hiring hall.

Unless our union, particularly our West Coast waterfront division, understands the plans of the employer; understands how they are going to hide behind and use the Taft-Hartley Act; understands that one of the main purposes of the act is to create confusion and division in the ranks; and understands that another of the main purposes of the Taft-Hartley Law is to divide them from their elected leadership, and to create circumstances leading to distrust and lack of confidence in their leadership, the shipowners plans to rob West Coast longshoremen of their most highly prized possession and the life of the union, the hiring hall, is going to be successful.

If the shipowners are successful with the longshoremen, knocking off the seamen will be comparatively easy. The ILWU has a real responsibility in view of this situation. A responsibility first to its own rank-and-file and to labor generally to close ranks, exposing conscious disrupters in the ranks and to make clear to all that we are wise to the shipowners' ploy and their double talk. Far from seeking a showdown by striking in defiance of the Taft-Hartley Law June 15, we are seeking only to hold on to our union and security established and maintained over the past 14 years.

British Columbia ILWU Tightens Up In All Ports

VANCOUVER, B. C.—ILWU locals throughout British Columbia are tying up loose ends in the solid organization of every port, with an eye to what happens in the U. S. maritime industry, June 15.

According to International Representative John Berry, the feeling on the Canadian waterfront is that if U. S. longshoremen weaken in the coming battle against employers and the Taft-Hartley Law to keep their hiring halls, the northern dockers' turn will be next.

B. C. unions do not have as stringent an anti-labor law to fight as the Taft-Hartley Law at the moment. Co-operative pressure from the CIO and AFL has forced a new Labor Relations Board appointed by the Provincial Governor with one member from each labor body, two representing employers and an impartial chairman.

GOVERNMENT RETREATS

With the appointment of this board, the government withdrew its little Taft-Hartley Bill, known as Bill 39, and dropped all court action against CIO unionists who had struck in defiance of its provisions.

Thoroughly organized for political action, the unions will fight against any new anti-labor measures introduced in the current session of Parliament by the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, Canada's NAM.

The labor party in B. C., the Canadian Commonwealth Federation, hopes to win in the provincial elections which will be held this year if the present big business coalition of Liberals and Conservatives splits up in the effort to get the most plums out of the basket.

ORGANIZING STARTS

The ILWU is going ahead with its tightening up program economically as well as politically. Local 501 in this city is organizing every unorganized worker on and around the waterfront.

In New Westminster Local 502 has almost completed organization of the port and is surveying work possibilities at new docks now being built.

Local 503 in Port Alberni and Local 508 in Chemainus on Vancouver Island are settling down to organizing, having just completed agreements with their employers uniform with those on the mainland.

EXPANSION EXPECTED

Prospects of expansion are good in Prince Rupert. Local 505 there is now a coastwise local, but Berry reports a contract has been signed with the Pacific Stevedoring Company to cover deepsea and checking work as well.

A large cellulose plant to be built in nearby Port Edwards is expected to increase the local's membership from 50 to 300 or 400.

Berry reports that Prince Rupert is a real working man's town — it elected C.C.F. men to both provincial and federal governments this year.

Goldblatt Urges Action On Rents

SAN FRANCISCO—Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt last week asked all ILWU locals to wire U. S. Senator Charles W. Tobey to demand that the Cain rent control bill be rejected by the Senate Banking Committee.

The present rent-control act expires February 29, and it is essential, Goldblatt said, to bring every pressure to bear to get the Senate to pass a good rent control bill before that date.

He urged that all locals press for the adoption of the Wagner-Murray Bill, S-2014. He asked the locals, in addition, to wire their own U. S. senators on this vital rent control issue.

Columbia River Elects Officers

ASTORIA, Ore.—Claude Everdel was chosen president, Clyde Davis, vice-president, and Lawrence Fertig, secretary-treasurer, of the ILWU Columbia River District Council on February 8.

New members of the board of trustees are Ray Keenan, C. A. Keller and Melvin West.

Huge Demonstrations for Murdered Sugar Leader Don't Halt Terror

SAN FRANCISCO — ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt received a letter February 13 expressing the heartfelt thanks of the Cuban Sugar Workers and the Cuban Federation of Labor for the protests sent by the ILWU against the murder of Jesus Menendez, head of the sugar workers.

Condolences over the shooting and protests at the reign of terror launched by Cuban President Grau San Martin against



Hard Workers This is the ILWU British Columbia District Council, which is going all-out to build the union and organize every unorganized waterfront worker in every port. Standing left to right in front of the Vancouver ILWU hall are International Representative John Berry; C. J. Graham of Vancouver Local 507; Chemainus Local 508 President R. Rae and D. Davidson of the same local; Irene Ohlson, secretary in the ILWU Regional Office; S. A. McMorran of Vancouver Local 506 and W. Wright, president of that local. In the middle is Northwest Regional Director Bill Gettings. Then K. G. Hennigar of Local 507; P. Hughes, Vancouver Local 501 business agent; J. Boyce, Local 501 president; S. R. McKenzie, Local 501 vice president and newly elected international executive board member; Cal Cook; Port Alberni Local 503 secretary and business agent and A. LaBlanc, Local 503 president. Not present for the picture were New Westminster Local 502 members W. Oakes and J. Adie. Oakes is vice president of the Council.

Justice Dept. Retracts Charges on Harriman

LINCOLN, Neb.—Secretary of Commerce W. Averell Harriman last week was a "co-conspirator" in the Justice Department's 4-year-old anti-trust suit against 47 western railroads and two Wall Street firms for only 24 hours. The day after Government Prosecutor Joseph McDowell asked for permission to add Harriman's name as a co-conspirator in the railroad trust, he backtracked.

The Justice Department had decided not to name Harriman, he said, adding however, that his argument in which he termed the commerce secretary "a leading figure in the conspiracy" still stood.

ILWU Egg Workers Ask AFL to Join in Talks

SANTA ROSA, Calif.—Egg workers of ILWU Local 6 here have suggested to the AFL Poultry and Egg Workers Union of Petaluma that the unions conduct joint negotiations with the Poultry Producers.

The Local 6 contract terminates March 1.

CIO Condemns UMT For Wasting Taxpayers' Money

WASHINGTON—The program of universal military training advocated by the Truman Administration and supported by American jingoists and ultranationalists would be an ineffective waste of the taxpayers' money, the January CIO Economic Outlook says. The issue is devoted to a detailed breakdown of UMT costs, and is available at the CIO, 718 Jackson Place, Washington 6, D. C.

"Today there is a concerted drive by the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, and other veterans' organizations, the Army and other military minded organizations to have Congress establish UMT," the Outlook says. "The CIO and other labor organizations, religious groups and educational leaders are opposed."

TOPS 1938 SPENDING

The booklet shows that a group of 40 nations are spending \$27.4 billion a year on arms, or \$10 billion more than was spent in 1938, the year before World War II.

The bulletin says that although government military authorities estimate the cost of peacetime conscription running about \$1 billion, \$750 million for the first six months, the true cost would run higher, between \$3 billion and \$5 billion a year. Such indirect costs as increased venereal disease, mental-emotional illness and loss of production would have to be added to strictly military outlays, it says.

"If the Fort Knox experiment could be taken as an example of what UMT would cost," the Outlook continues, "the total would reach nearly \$8 billion, or about \$8,000 each for a million men. This is over 12 times the annual cost of educating a man in college."

The number of farms having central-station electric service has increased from 750,000 to 3,500,000 in the 12 years of the Rural Electrification Administration, leaving 39% of U. S. Farms still without such service.

Huge Demonstrations for Murdered Sugar Leader Don't Halt Terror

Cuban workers were expressed to both Cuban government officials and the U. S. State Department, along with U. S. sugar monopoly, instigator of the terror.

Felix D. Perez Gil, secretary of the Cuban Sugar Workers Union, wrote to Goldblatt describing the plans of the Menendez Memorial Committee to raise money to provide a home for his widow and an education for his children. Already, without including contributions from unions and workers, \$7,900 has been raised.

In his letter, Gil described the funeral procession for the martyred sugar leader: "Personally, I feel that some 300 thousand persons attended the funeral procession. There never was anything like this in the country. As the procession reached street crossings, more people joined and when the procession reached the cemetery, it was a big serpent of persons packed together all along the way, on the sidewalk — from sidewalk to sidewalk—plus the people standing all along the way on the sidewalks, on the balconies and terraces. The cemetery was completely full with persons waiting. The body lay in state in the National Capitol from January 24 to Sunday morning, January 27."

He reported that despite this testimony of labor's unity, the government terror continued unabated.

Contrary to falsehoods carried about him in the American press, Gil wrote, Menendez was not enroute to a big rally at Manzanillo, the town where he was assassinated on January 22 by a Cuban army captain. Gil recounted the events surrounding the cold-blooded killing of Menendez.

MENENDEZ SHOT IN BACK

"Menendez was en route to Manzanillo on invitation of Representative Francisco Rosales, member of the same party as Menendez and former mayor of the town.

"There was no large or small rally to be held in Manzanillo. Menendez took a train to spend the night at Manzanillo, as Rosales had invited him to come. He was scheduled to leave by train the next morning.

"According to Rosales' statements, as Menendez started to walk into the depot after alighting from his train, Captain Casillas, already with drawn pistol, crouched, half-leaning on the railway car, shot at Menendez several times, while Menendez had his back to the assassin.

"The autopsy revealed that Menendez' wounds were all from the back through to the front of his body. According to my son, who is just about to become a doctor, Menendez was hit first with the bullet which pierced his left lung; this caused him to double over, a position he was in when he was hit by the second shot, which pierced his ear; as he was about to fall he received the third bullet. All shots were fired in succession."



Elected S. R. McKenzie is the new ILWU executive board member for Canada. He replaces John Berry who resigned to take the job of international representative in the Canadian area. McKenzie is also vice president of Vancouver Local 501.

Australian Union Leader Protests AFL's Labor-Splitting Propaganda

SYDNEY, Australia (ALN)—A protest against distribution here of the AFL publication, International Free Trade Union News, has been issued by President Tom Wright of the Sheetmetal Workers Union. Distribution of the "AFL propaganda paper," Wright charged, is "designed to split the Australian labor movement."

Wright described the AFL publication as "viciously opposed to the World Federation of Trade Unions, to progressive unionism and to labor unity everywhere," adding: "Apparently part of the Marshall plan is to split trade unions, to subsidize breakaways and to form a rival 'trade union international' in an effort to weaken and destroy the WFTU."

Slave Law Roundup

How Taft-Hartley and State Anti-Union Acts are Working

Test heads for Supreme Court

INDIANAPOLIS—The struggle of the International Typographical Union (AFL) with the Taft-Hartley Act, the NLRB and the embattled publishers is headed for the U. S. Supreme Court.

This was increasingly evident in every phase of the court action the NLRB is bringing here for an anti-strike injunction against the ITU. Arguments continued for a second day on February 10 while representatives of the United Mine Workers, International Association of Machinists (both unaffiliated), the AFL and CIO sat on the sidelines with their attorneys taking reams of notes on this precedent-setting case.

Federal Judge Luther M. Swygert denied petitions of the labor groups and three publisher associations to intervene officially, but said they might file briefs as "friends of the court" if they desire.

Attorneys for the ITU and for the NLRB indicated frequently in court that whichever way the decision goes, the Taft-Hartley injunction portions are going to the U. S. Supreme Court.

T-H Act boomerangs: Union gets injunction

GREENSBORO, N. C. — The Taft-Hartley law boomeranged here as the federal district court enjoined the Amazon Cotton Mill of Thomasville from committing unfair labor practices against the Textile Workers Union (CIO).

In upholding the union's case, Federal Judge Johnson J. Hayes, in effect, ordered the company to bargain collectively with TWUA Local 633, whose 600 members have been striking since March 3, 1947. The decision also slapped down NLRB general counsel Robert N. Denham, who had intervened to ask dismissal of the union's charges.

After finding the company guilty of wrongfully refusing to recognize the union and depriving workers of their rights, the judge said: "If a labor union is unable to protect its membership in the courts, then its very existence is at stake. Its power is utterly dissipated."

TWUA Attorney David Joffe said: "We are not anxious to set legal precedents. We are much more interested in signing contracts. But obviously the NLRB has become a moribund organization so far as protecting the rights of workers is concerned... so we turned to the courts."

(ILWU Local 6 has a similar suit pending against Sunset Line and Twine Co. in Petaluma.)

Governor assures profits for utility company

EVERETT, Mass. — The state Slichter law has been invoked by Governor Robert F. Bradford (R.) to seize the Everett gas plant of the Eastern Gas & Fuel Associates, even though no strike had been threatened.

Local 283, United Gas, Coke & Chemical Workers (CIO) rejected a company offer of a 10-cent hourly pay raise, holding out for a 15-cent increase and three weeks vacation after 15 years.

But because its 1,000 members

refused to give the company a second extension of the contract which expired January 1, Bradford seized the plant and had Attorney General Clarence A. Barnes get a court injunction forbidding cessation of work.

Jail terms for contempt of court and conspiracy would be the penalty for "concerted" cessation of work, the injunction implied, although the Slichter act upholds the right of "an individual" to strike.

Meanwhile the company, which reportedly made an \$18 million profit in 1947, pays the same old wages and still gets its 1948 profits while the plant is under state seizure. The union and private owners are still negotiating, but the company won't budge while the state continues to fork over the profits.

Arizona court upholds ban on union shop

PHOENIX, Ariz. — A so-called right-to-work amendment to the state constitution banning the closed shop was upheld as constitutional by the Arizona supreme court here in a 2-to-1 decision.

Attorneys for the Arizona Federation of Labor and AFL unions, which initiated a test case of the amendment February 12, 1947, said they would carry their fight to the U. S. Supreme

Court.

The disputed amendment provides that "no person shall be denied the opportunity to obtain or retain employment because of non-membership in a labor organization."

T-H knocks union out of radio station

CINCINNATI—Thanks to the Taft-Hartley law, the American Federation of Radio Artists (AFL) lost a suit to compel station WCKY to abide by a contract signed June 13, 1946. Refusing to order the station to rehire AFRA members fired during a strike last year, U. S. District Judge John H. Druffel held that the union had no case because the 1946 contract violated the Taft-Hartley law.

The union had further alleged that WCKY refused to abide by a compulsory arbitration clause in the contract. This, the judge declared, was also not enforceable.

Public Workers reaffirm non-compliance stand

NEW YORK — The United Public Workers (CIO) executive board on February 9 unanimously reaffirmed its refusal to sign Taft-Hartley non-Communist affidavits and announced it had retained Lee Pressman, former CIO general counsel, as its legal representative.

CIO Indicted to Test T-H Law Political Ban

WASHINGTON (FP)—A court test of constitutionality of a key section of the Taft-Hartley law moved forward February 11 as a federal grand jury here indicted the CIO and President Philip Murray on charges of violating the slave law's ban on expenditures in federal elections. Charges were brought by the Justice Department.

The indictment came two days after CIO officials and staff men of the weekly paper, the CIO News, were questioned before the jury on their part in backing Representative Edward A. Garmatz (D., Md.), in a special congressional election last July.

The CIO News had run a special election edition, which was circulated free of charge in Baltimore, the front page featuring an appeal by Murray to voters, asking support of Garmatz. Murray made it clear at the time that he was inviting a court test of the law. The CIO regards Section 304, curbing election activity by labor, as an unconstitutional limitation on political activity and will fight the case along that line.

PRESSMAN TO AID

Former General Counsel Lee Pressman, who resigned his CIO job February 8, is being retained by the CIO to handle the case.

Arraignment is expected about the last week in February. First move of the defendant CIO will be a motion to quash the indictment on grounds of unconstitutionality. Whatever happens, the Department of Justice and the CIO are prepared to take the case to the U. S. supreme court. Maximum penalty for the offense, if the Justice Department wins the case, is a \$5,000 fine for the CIO and \$1,000 fines for CIO officers "who consent to the expenditure," plus a year's imprisonment, or both.

Commenting on the indictment,



"I figure we're too near the same height and weight for either of us to be to blame."

Forrestal's Move to Censor Poses Threat to Freedom

NEW YORK—An administrative move to re-impose "voluntary" censorship over the press, radio and films is quietly under way in Washington, according to Variety, weekly trade paper of the entertainment world.

The move, Variety said, is spearheaded by Defense Secretary James V. Forrestal, "who has already called in a few of the nation's leading newspaper publishers for preliminary sounding-out." Among those present at the initial meeting, Variety reported, were Arthur Hays Sulzberger of the New York Times and Roy Howard of the Scripps-Howard chain.

Forrestal has called another meeting with top representatives of the three mass media to sell them the idea that national security requires the restoration of war-time censorship, the trade paper said.

OPPOSITION EXPECTED

The plan for imposing the first peacetime censorship in the nation's history is reportedly meeting considerable opposition. Both Sulzberger and Howard are disturbed at the proposal, according to Variety, and opposition is expected to come from other industry representatives.

"Reaction of network and film executives, for the most part," said Variety, "is that they're will-

ing to hear what's to be said, 'for nobody wants to jeopardize national security.' However, there's unrest and anxiety in some quarters that the suggestion for a peacetime voluntary censorship might just be a front for a deeper motive.

"It's feared that any such acquiescence toward a voluntary censorship would be merely the prelude to 'involuntary censorship' with its attendant propagandizing and control."

Robeson Sings On February 22

SAN FRANCISCO—Paul Robeson will appear in his only concert of this season on the Pacific Coast February 22 at the Scottish Rite Auditorium at 8:30 p.m.

The great singer, an honorary member of the ILWU, has retired from full-time concert work to devote his time to fighting reaction throughout the country.

He is appearing under auspices of the CIO United Public Workers to help in the fight of government workers against loyalty purges and terrorization by the government and its UnAmerican Committee.

Aunt Minnie ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ By ARAM



California CIO Sets 1948 Program And Rejects Attack on Third Party

LOS ANGELES—A three-day session of the California CIO Executive Board ended here February 15 with the adoption of a 1947 program to take care of the needs of its members.

Part of the time was spent in debate of an insistent minority demand that the Third Party be openly condemned and the Marshall Plan approved by the Council.

The final count on the bypassing of National CIO's rap at the Third Party and endorsement of the Marshall-Truman foreign policy came on Saturday, February 14. The Board passed, 63,388 to 39,717, a resolution calling for concentration of all the Council's energies upon State and Congressional elections and other issues on which agreement can be found.

The State CIO reaffirmed its endorsement of reapportionment of the State Senate and the Townsend Plan initiative for needy pensioners. It also called for the abolition of the Tenney Committee and pledged support of the CIO News Vendors' union officials who have been subpoenaed.

In denouncing the assassination of Jesus Menendez, Cuban sugar workers' leader, the Council said it was asking CIO President Murray to call upon the World Federation of Trade Unions to send an investigating committee to Cuba.

A five-man committee, taking in all major viewpoints in the State CIO was chosen to call upon Governor Warren to assure consideration of the CIO program by the special session of the State Legislature, should the Governor call one. The CIO had already demanded that he call a special session.

ISSUES LISTED

Major issues on the CIO Legislative platform are:

1—Enactment of a rent control program by the State regardless of whether Federal controls are lifted.

2—A \$5 million appropriation for child care.

3—Immediate enlargement of schools in districts swollen by wartime population growth.

4—Legislation to provide a program to build at least 100,000 low-rental units for city dwellers and a special program for migratory workers.

5—State bonus of \$10 for every month of domestic service and \$15 for foreign service rendered by World War II veterans.

6—Restore corporation taxes and taxes on incomes above \$5000 to the 1942 levels, in order to reduce the burden on lower income groups.

7—Central Valley Project should be aimed at developing low-cost public power.

State CIO president Morris Zuckman, of the Clothing Workers,

resigned his position in a disagreement over the carrying out of the National CIO actions on the Third Party and the Marshall Plan.

Virgil Coragliotti, of the Oil Workers International, was picked as temporary chairman in the absence of Zuckman.

A disruptive movement led by John Despol, of the Steel Workers, sought to get CIO unions members of the State Council to demand President Harry Bridges' resignation as CIO Regional Director.

A statement issued February 15 by William Lawrence, ILWU Southern California Regional Director, and Richard Lynden, ILWU Local 6 secretary, denounced Despol's current activities and his claim to speak for the State and National CIO.

"John Despol, in fact, speaks for no one but himself. The State CIO Council issued its own official statement on the Third Party question as far back as the Santa Cruz convention last November. Mr. Philip Murray has made it clear in public statements that no punitive expeditions will be launched against those who, like Harry Bridges, voted with the minority at the recent National Executive Board meeting."

Despol was leader in the abortive anti-Bridges, anti-California CIO Council "policy committee" which the CIO State Convention of 1945 ordered abolished on pain of trial and expulsion if persisted in.

Joint Action Committee Asks Merger Conference

SAN FRANCISCO—The Joint Action committee set up by the San Francisco branches of three CIO maritime unions, ILWU Local 10, NMU and MCS, recommended to their unions that a national conference to consider merger of the three national unions be held not later than March 20.

The NMU port branch has already approved the action and it will be considered by the memberships of the other two unions at an early date. Scott Estrella, of the NMU, is chairman of the unity committee. Eight members of Local 10 meet regularly with representatives of the NMU and the MCS.

Action on the merger was pressed last December by the San Pedro branches of the ILWU, NMU, MCS, when they set up a Joint Action body. As soon as the committee was established it set out to achieve a simple two-point program:

PROGRAM SET

1. Holding of a delegated merger conference by March 20.

2. Decisions of this meeting to be submitted at once for approval or rejection by referendum vote of the memberships of the participating unions.

The San Pedro committee has held a series of meetings on the docks and on ships at which demands were made upon their national unions to carry out the mandate of their memberships to implement unity and a fighting program for June 15.

At the same time the Committee is circulating a petition calling for amalgamation of CIO maritime unions "into one solid, departmentalized industrial union."

UNITY PAYS

A letter received by The Dispatcher from the crew of the NMU ship SS Magnolia State, of the States Marine Lines, January 29, said the crew unanimously

supported the movement for maritime unity.

"In 1946 when the CMU was in operation the CIO maritime workers were able to achieve a 25 per cent wage increase. The following year when negotiations were made without the former unity our wage gains were negligible.

"At the present time, another movement for maritime unity is under way. The merging of the ILWU, MCS, with the NMU, with the two former unions submerging themselves in favor of the NMU, with the above sacrifice in autonomy and identity being made by these unions, it is only natural that the rank and file of the NMU accept their offer in the face of the coming June 15 negotiations and the shadow of the Taft-Hartley Law over the heads of all unions, especially the maritime unions."

Miller Rules on Vacation Pay Case

SAN FRANCISCO—Coast Imperial Chairman Arthur C. Miller ruled against the ILWU in a decision handed down February 4 on vacation pay for Andrew Aasen, a longshoreman who transferred from Seattle Local 19 to San Francisco Local 10 last year.

Miller found that, although the longshoreman was eligible to receive vacation pay in 1947, his rights to it were waived by agreement between the union and the Waterfront Employers' Association in negotiations last May.

In order to speed payment of vacation allowances to all members both parties had agreed to exclude visitors who had not transferred. Aasen's transfer did not go through till June.



Suits Her This strapless one-piece white satin lastex suit with the shirred top is designed to keep men interested at the beaches this summer. Pat Engstrom of Miami Beach goes well with it.

Dockers Take Island Strike Vote

HONOLULU, T. H. — ILWU longshoremen on all the islands of the Territory are taking a strike vote to back up their demands for an adequate wage increase and the right to be represented by their new consolidated local.

The Local 136 dockers have voted down 1,755 to 75 an offer from the Hawaii Employers' Council to disrupt the new local by negotiating only with old, now non-existent locals in return for a raise of 7½ cents an hour.

The employers answered only with a proposal that the union reconsider.

They refused a union offer to have President Dwight Steele of the HEC or any other person conduct a secret referendum on whether the members want to be represented by Local 136 or not. Hawaii longshoremen receive \$130 an hour now, 37 cents less than Pacific Coast longshoremen.

Of 23,577,000 American families surveyed, only 18 per cent had incomes of \$5,000 or more in 1946.

Canadians Refusal to Load Chiang Munitions Praised

HONGKONG, China—Canadian seamen have been congratulated for their heroic action in refusing to load munitions and firearms for Chiang Kai-shek.

This expression of gratitude was made in a letter from the Hongkong Seamen's union, January 3 to the National Canadian Seamen's Union. It was signed by Li Fat, chairman; Chen Tung Chuen and Lau Noi, vice-chairmen.

Their message further stated: "Chinese people have already suffered a lot of destruction and distress in the anti-fascist war. Now they are again leading a bitter life in the present civil war supported by foreign firearms. The transportation of Canadian airplanes and ammunition to China will no doubt, intensify the woes of war, destroy many more farms and worsen the suffering of the Chinese people.

"We fully understand the peoples of Canada and China love peace dearly and oppose war, and the peace-loving peoples of the

world will surely stand up and fight against this bargain of blood. You have now lit up the torch of right and we sincerely hope all the brothers of the working class will take the same stand and oppose this criminal action by effective means, so as to render the Chinese people great assistance in achieving independence, peace, and democracy."

T. H. Bosses Don't Like Bargaining

HILO, T. H.—The current line of the employers of Hawaii is to de-emphasize and decentralize collective bargaining, in other words try to ignore and split the ILWU.

Dwight Steele, president of the Hawaii Employers Council which is the biggest employer union in the Territory, told the Hilo Chamber of Commerce recently that the long-range future program of the Council involves:

SPLIT THE UNION

1. The de-emphasizing of collective bargaining.

2. The decentralizing of bargaining so that it can be done by individual companies and managers with local units of the union.

3. Emphasis on personnel administration work rather than contract negotiations.

Bridges Raps Washington State Witch Hunters On Anti-Union Smear

SAN FRANCISCO—Testimony given to a Washington state legislative committee February 5 by his ex-wife drew sharp comment from Harry Bridges.

According to press reports the former Mrs. Bridges told the committee that she had known Bridges to be a Communist and that he kept a party book under the linoleum of the bathroom and in a slit in a door.

"That very same statement was handed to Judge Thomas Foley in the form of an affidavit when I was granted citizenship, and it was thrown out by the judge on the ground that 'Hell hath no fury like a woman scorned,'" said Bridges.

"It is significant that she did not offer the statement in the trial in which I won a divorce. If she had, she would have been subject to cross-examination as she is not now, and we would have had an opportunity to present refuting witnesses and evidence."

SHOCKED AT TACTICS

"It is shocking to ordinary common decency that a legislative committee should stoop to utilizing for a political and anti-union smear a frustrated and mentally ill woman. Her credibility would be attacked by any competent doctor. In fact, the court which awarded me the divorce felt it necessary to order

payments for medical treatment and rehabilitation for her, which I have been providing.

"I only have pity for the woman. For myself, I can no longer be indignant. I can only wonder just how low witch hunters can go in their smear drive."

Bridges' reply to two other witnesses before the committee—Louis Budenz and Nat Honig—were printed in the last issue of The Dispatcher.

Budenz, he said, had never met, and Honig's slanders were thrown out of court in the Bridges' deportation case.

The Washington committee was ostensibly investigating the

old-age pension system in the state, but it turned all of its fire on Bridges and the ILWU, patently in a move to help the shipowners prepare for a showdown fight when the Coast longshoremen's agreement expires next June 15.

In Seattle ILWU Local 9 bitterly condemned the Canwell witch hunt in a public statement which said the committee was attempting to smear ILWU leaders, "by rooting out of cesspools long discredited shipowner stool-pigeons."

The resolution, adopted at a regular meeting of the local February 14, said:

"Local 9 feels the sole purpose

of the hearings is to mislead and smear by the use of hearsay, innuendo and outright lies. The testimony came mainly from stool-pigeons, renegade Communists and other people of equal ill repute who make a profession of slander and vilification. When the so-called committee refused to allow those who were slandered to answer, they bypassed all standards of American justice, fair play and plain common decency."

Another resolution supported the Washington Pension union and its officers, who have also been a smear target of the legislative committee.

DOCKS & TERMINALS

Straight Answers Meet Waterfront Questions About Taft-Hartley and June Fifteenth

SAN FRANCISCO — Twenty answers to twenty questions which have been bobbing up on the waterfront were published last week by the international officers and distributed to Local 10 members at their February 15 stop-work meeting at the Civic Auditorium.

Titled "Taft-Hartley and June 15," the document is expected to be sent to other longshore locals for study and discussion.

The Q. and A. was:

Q. 1.—Can we keep the hiring hall in its present form after June 15? A.—No. One of the purposes of the Taft-Hartley law is to destroy hiring halls like ours.

Q. 2.—Can we keep the hall if ILWU complies with the Taft-Hartley law by filing the non-communist affidavits, the financial statements and all the other crap? A.—No.

COMPLIANCE UNNECESSARY

Q. 3.—If we comply with the Act, won't this help us to negotiate a contract which will keep what we've got in the way of wages and working conditions? A.—No. Compliance with the Act is optional. Compliance is not necessary in order to bargain to get an agreement.

Q. 4.—Isn't it necessary to comply before the shipowners can recognize the ILWU and bargain with its officers? A.—No. If the shipowners raise the question whether the ILWU represents the longshoremen, we'll tell them to count us on the picket line. That's how we got recognition in the first place. We never had an election.

Q. 5.—Doesn't the law provide that unions get benefits if they comply? A.—No. Unless it's a benefit to have the employer-dominated and employer-controlled NLRB conduct an election to find whether the longshoremen want to be represented by ILWU. We know that, don't we? Or maybe it's a benefit to have the NLRB find out whether the longshoremen favor a union shop? We don't need an election to find that out, either. Besides, such elections just play into the shipowners' hands because negotiations for a new agreement are held up pending the outcome. It might take a couple of years.

NECKS IN A NOOSE

Q. 6.—If all this is true, why have so many AFL and even some CIO unions complied with the Act? A.—We'll be damned if we know and we don't know whether they know themselves. But just because they're willing to stick their necks in a noose is no reason why we should. We should have more sense.

Q. 7.—How have complying unions fared under the Act? A.—Lousy. Not as well as we have. Most of them are just going after their third round of wage increases. They won't get anything for a couple of months and, if they get anything at all, won't get more than 10 cents. The longshoremen have already had their fourth round and that was 10 cents. Moreover, compliance hasn't stopped the Government or employers from getting injunctions or suing for damages.

Q. 8.—Aren't the international and some local officers of ILWU afraid to comply because of the

anti-communist provisions? A.—No. Any time the membership votes to go along with the Act the officers will sign any and all statements. Any time the officers can find any benefits to be gotten out of compliance they will recommend that we comply. As things stand now compliance is just another scheme of some officers to protect their pie while they run the membership through the meat grinder.

A STOOGE DECIDES

Q. 9.—Suppose the union did comply by having the officers send in the necessary statements, who decides whether the statements are in accord with the law? A.—The chief counsel for the employer dominated NLRB—Denham. And if you don't think he's an employer's stooge, you're nuts!

Q. 10.—If all this is true, that damn near makes a union which complies a company union, does it not? Makes it a union which must elect officers who will get an okay with the shipowners and the chief counsel of the NLRB? A.—You ain't kidding, brother, you ain't kidding.

Q. 11.—Does this mean we can't keep our hiring hall after June 15? A.—It means we can't keep it in its present form, but if we work out a proper program and fight for it, if we organize and unite behind it, we can hang onto the hiring hall. We can force the shipowners to sign a contract with only minor changes in the hiring hall, and maintain and possibly even improve our wages and working conditions.

UNION HAS PROGRAM

Q. 12.—Does the Taft-Hartley law forbid strikes? A.—It forbids many kinds of strikes. It forbids strikes for the closed shop or preference of employment. So we cannot strike to keep the preference of employment clause which is now in our contract. In general, it is tougher to strike than before the Wagner Act was passed. But it is still possible to strike if the union is solidly organized, knows where it's going and has a correct program.

Q. 13.—Does the ILWU have such a program? A.—You're darned tootin' it does. You'll hear about it at this meeting today and at other union meetings. But you won't read about it in the local Bulletin or in the Dispatcher because we aren't going to publish it where Foisie and

the shipowners can read about it, too.

Q. 14.—What about those guys in the union who think we ought to comply? A.—Just ask them to name one union which has rank and file democracy like the longshoremen, and wages, hours and working conditions as good as ours, that has gotten anywhere or bettered its conditions by complying. Ask them to name one, Brother, just one.

ABOUT POLITICAL ACTION

Q. 15.—Has the ILWU got a program that provides for working with and helping other maritime unions on June 15? A.—You bet we have, and it has already been discussed and approved by the longshoremen at the coastwide caucus last November.

Q. 16.—What about political action? Is the present program of the International of supporting a third party and of some of our locals of supporting Wallace, going to help us or hurt us June 15? Won't this tend to lead the Truman Administration to move in on us June 15 if we're forced to strike to maintain the hiring hall? A.—No, we don't think the Truman Administration will move in on us any more than they moved in on the railroad workers in 1946, or on the coal miners last year, or on the maritime workers when CMU threatened a strike in June, 1946. As a matter of fact the chances are that our policy on a third party and on Wallace will help us June 15. We're sure of it.

Q. 17.—What do you mean, you're sure of it? Haven't we always supported the Democratic Party? Haven't we always been Democrats? A.—Yes, and we still are, and so is Wallace. But

Truman isn't. And this being election year, he'll probably lay off us if we've got some political bargaining power in addition to our economic bargaining power. SCABS WILL HOLLER

Q. 18.—How about the Marshall plan? How will that affect us if we have to strike June 15? A.—Plenty. Even if we only strike to keep what we've already got, and even though the strike is called by a secret ballot. Not only will the Government and the shipowners holler bloody murder about our engaging in a political strike under orders from Moscow to sabotage the Marshall plan, but plenty of characters in the union movement who have been looking for an excuse to cross picket lines, will holler the same things as an excuse to scab.

Q. 19.—Will this line about the Marshall plan be used by the Government or the shipowners to invoke the Taft-Hartley law to prevent us from striking or to break the strike? A.—Sure, they'll try it. That's just what the law was written for. And they'll succeed if we don't stick together as we did in '34, '36 and '37.

Q. 20.—Gee, she looks plenty tough for June 15, doesn't she? A.—She sure does. But not too tough for us if we stick together, if we know what we're doing and if we don't let any phonies in or out of the union confuse issues and split us up. After all, we're far better off than we were in 1934. We've got a union, and a damn strong one, we've established conditions, and we've got the experience of past battles. And the only way we can call a strike on or off is by secret ballot of the rank and file.

Lunchbox Lundberg Moves Uptown In Jurisdiction of Brother AFLers

SAN FRANCISCO — Harry (Lunchbox) Lundberg is seeking to move uptown in his organizing drive—and he's not perturbed over jurisdictional raiding even when it hits AFL union brothers.

According to the February 6 West Coast Sailor, he asked the San Francisco Labor Council (AFL) for strike sanction against Hale Brothers stores in San Francisco.

Lundberg asked for strike sanction when his Guards and Watchmen failed to get a contract with the Hale Brothers department stores for guards and watchmen at the company's three outlets.

The AFL Building Service Employees Union (AFL) has jurisdiction.

U. S. Protective Denied License

SAN FRANCISCO — Roy I. Mandery, owner of U. S. Protective Agency, who tried recently in collaboration with Lundberg's Seafarers Guards and Watchmen Union to drive ILWU guards off Permanente Company ships, has been denied a license to operate a contract guard agency by the State of California.

Mandery did not pass an examination given by the State Department of Professional and Vocational Standards January 23.

Mandery, operating illegally without a license, and Katz, chief organizer for the Seafarers, went to the Permanente Company and threatened to fold them up if they didn't get CIO watchmen off their two ships.

Permanente hires ILWU members from the Pinkerton Guard Agency.

Sales by the nation's retail stores increased by \$18 billion in 1947, reaching a total of \$118 billion.



Cold Idea Even Miami suffered from the cold wave that swept the nation, so Patsy Simmons decided to dress for it. Wearing this fur bathing suit, she's ready to swim and keep warm at the same time.

Fink Guard Says ILWU Is Unfair

SAN FRANCISCO — The National Labor Relations Board informed the ILWU that the union has been charged with "engaging in unfair labor practices" by a watchman now an official in a company union called the International Association of Guards and Watchmen.

In filing his complaint with the NLRB, Thomas W. Stenhouse, treasurer of the fink guard's outfit, swore that the Pinkerton National Detective Agency discharged him on or about January 29, 1948, at the instigation of the ILWU.

COMPANY DIDN'T FIRE HIM Pinkerton, when asked about this, told Michael Johnson, international representative, that Stenhouse had not been fired and that he still retains his uniform and other gear furnished by the company.

The ILWU contract watchmen suspended Stenhouse, then a member, for non-payment of dues but he was never expelled. He has not been around the watchmen's union since to put himself back in good standing.

Besides being delinquent in his dues, the watchmen's organizing committee reports that Stenhouse has been charged with un-unionlike activity consisting of his association with and his position as an officer of a dual union.

Longview Dispatcher Fred Hoggatt Dies

LONGVIEW, Wash. — Fred Hoggatt, dispatcher for ILWU, Local 21, died unexpectedly here February 4.

Work recessed on the afternoon of February 7 to permit members of the local to attend the funeral. Visiting gangs observed a period of 5 minutes silence in memory of Hoggatt. D. Keisala was selected the new dispatcher.

Luckenbach Grasps Straw To Hold Down Wages

SAN FRANCISCO — Luckenbach Steamship Co. notified members of ILWU Local 90 employed in its offices on February 9 that they will grant no wage review in 1948.

Company's contention is that the office workers' contract makes no provision for a wage review.

On January 29 the union demanded a wage review. When the contract with the union was renewed last September it carried all of the old terms, including a provision for a wage review on April 1.

Luckenbach maintains that the 1946 agreement states there shall be a review on April 1, 1947. The agreement was not rewritten and 1948 substituted when the contract was automatically renewed. The company is relying on this technicality to prevent the union from opening.

The union asked for the appointment of an arbitrator immediately. It said Arthur Miller, Coast impartial chairman of the longshore industry, would be acceptable.