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# The DISPATCHER

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

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Vol. 6, No. 3

## 'DON'T TELL US HOW TO VOTE!'—Bridges Shipowners Open Slander Attack on ILWU

### ILWU Officer Clears Air On 3rd Party

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU President Harry Bridges February 2 made clear to a press conference here the ILWU position with respect to the 33 to 13 rejection of a third party and approval of the Marshall plan by the CIO national executive board.

At the same time that Bridges was telling the press that the ILWU would stand by its determination to give all-out support to the third party movement, the organizing committee of the Independent Progressive Party of California — key state in the Henry A. Wallace presidential boom—announced it had obtained 335,000 petition signatures to place the party on the ballot and was extending its drive for two weeks to obtain at least 90,000 more.

#### A NEWSPAPER DREAMS

To qualify the new party, 275,000 valid signatures are needed, and it is estimated that some 40 per cent of the total signatures obtained will be invalid, due to changes of address, mistakes in style of signature, etc.

At least one wishdreaming newspaper shifted emphasis on Bridges' remarks so as to make it appear that he predicted failure of the third-party drive in California. In response to a question the ILWU president expressed a natural fear that the Republicans and Democrats would gang up to steal away the petition drive victory. The newspaper chose to interpret that remark as meaning that Bridges felt the third party didn't have a chance, which only goes to show that no matter what you say the capitalist press has its own meanings for words.

#### UNIONS ARE FREE

Bridges told the press: "At the recent CIO Board meeting there were only two main points.

"1. The attitude of the CIO taken on the candidacy of Henry Wallace and the Third Party. The policy of our union was that the CIO Board had no right to take such a position. It infringed upon the guaranteed autonomy and rights of the affiliated unions.

"It was understood by the Board that with the passage of the resolution the unions were

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### STATE DEPT. RAPPED In MENENDEZ MURDER

SAN FRANCISCO.—Louis Goldblatt secretary-treasurer of the ILWU, charged at a press conference here January 27, that the assassination of Jesus Menendez, head of the Cuban Sugar Workers Union was the logical outcome of U. S. State Department policies in Cuba.

Goldblatt was speaking as chairman of the recently organized International Sugar Workers Committee, of which Menendez was a vice chairman. The committee was recently formed at a conference held in Havana.

In the name of the ISWC, and his own union, he called upon the State Department to intervene "in the present reign of terror" being conducted against Cuban unions by the Grau San Martin government.

#### ORGANIZING WAGE FIGHT

At the same time, ILWU President Harry Bridges appealed to the CIO to ask the World Federation of Trade Unions to send at once an investigating committee to probe the shooting of Menendez by an army captain at Manzanillo, in southwestern Cuba.

The Cuban sugar workers leader was on an inspection tour of mills with whom his union held contracts. He was trying to organize the fight for a 1948 wage scale when he was killed on January 22.

Sugar workers in Cuba adopted a program last November or December, Goldblatt told the press, in which they decided to refuse to harvest the sugar crop in 1948 unless they were guaranteed at least the wages paid them in 1947 and back wages under last year's agreement.

#### PISTOL EMPLOYED

Information received from Havana, Cuba, the ILWU leader reported, shows that shortly after Menendez boarded a train for Manzanillo an army captain in charge of a small band of soldiers sought to arrest him. Menendez showed his credentials as a member of the Cuban lower house of Congress which entitled him to immunity from arrest.

The attempt to arrest failed but just as the Sugar Workers' leader started to get off his train at Manzanillo, he was shot in the back by Captain Joaquin Casillas. As he fell the army assassin emptied his pistol into the wounded man. Chief of Staff of the Cuban Army, General Genevevo Perez, alibied later in justification: "The Army is proud of Captain Casillas' correct, gentle-

manly, dignified and exemplary conduct." He hoped that other army officers would act in a similar manner.

#### STATE DEPT. POLICY

If the State Department does not take action on this outrage, Goldblatt said, "we will have no choice but to believe that it condones, approves and supports it."

"Cuba is entirely dependent on the United States and the planned murder of the sugar leader was the logical outcome of the policies of American sugar companies and their subservient State Department."

Telegrams were sent by the ILWU and many of its locals to both Secretary of State Marshall and President San Martin of Cuba, which urged them to apprehend, try and execute those responsible for the crime.

So far, however, the International Sugar Committee has received no word of action taken by either the Cuban President or the U. S. State Department. Labor leaders in Havana say San Martin is reluctant to take any action because he is relying upon support of the Army as the only bulwark of his unpopular regime.

Goldblatt explained that the

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### ILWU Strike at Sears Broken By Taft-Hartley

SAN FRANCISCO.—The strike of ILWU Local 6 members against Sears Roebuck Company ended January 24, after four and one-half months of picketing.

The Taft-Hartley Law caused the strike and broke the strike.

"Our physical picket line is gone from in front of the Sears Roebuck Army Street store. But the ghost of unfair labor relations will pace there in our stead," said a statement of the 56 former warehouse workers.

"Because of their cruel restrictive provisions of the Taft-Hartley law the company elected to bring to an abrupt end eleven years of peaceful, satisfactory collective bargaining and to rid itself of the only union shop agreement anywhere in its vast multimillion dollar chain.

#### WON'T GO BACKWARD

"The issue of the strike was the company's demand that we go backward, give up our union shop, our grievance machinery and conditions."

"We felt it a duty to ourselves



Victim Jesus Menendez leader of the 350,000-strong Cuban sugar workers

was foully assassinated in Cuba Jan. 22 in the anti-union reign of terror instituted there by the Grau San Martin government. ILWU Secretary-Treasurer Louis Goldblatt, who is chairman of the International Sugar Workers Committee, said the killing was the logical outcome of the United States Department of State policies in Cuba and other Latin American countries.

and all labor to risk our jobs rather than accept the backward road."

The strikers laid their defeat to the Taft-Hartley NLRA which gave active aid to the company's union busting, Superior Judge George Schofield, who virtually enjoined their picket line out of existence, and to a number of AFL officials who used the Taft-Hartley law to their own purposes.

#### SUP SUPPLIED SCARS

Dan Tobin and Dave Beck of the AFL Teamsters and their local agents, Harold Lopez, business agent of Teamsters Local 55, and Ted White, secretary of AFL Warehouse Local 880, ordered AFL workers at Sears to return to their jobs.

Some leaders of the AFL Retail Clerks bucked under Tobin and Beck pressure to urge their members, though themselves mistreated by the company, to go through the picket line and work.

Harry Lundberg and other

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### Old Bridges' Witnesses Dusted Off

SEATTLE—Another little Thomas-Rankin un-American committee, bobbed up here last week with all the earmarks of stooging for the shipowners.

Ostensibly formed by the Washington State legislature to investigate subversive activities, the committee plunged immediately into a smear of the ILWU and its leadership, using witnesses long discredited.

The committee's show apparently was the opening gun from the shipowners in preparation for next June 15 when the maritime unions are facing a fight for their lives around their principal instrument of union security—the hiring hall.

#### OLD CLICHE BACK

Star witness for the committee before its hearings ended for the week was Nat Honig, who whetted the committee's appetite January 30 with the now old and hoary cliché: "I saw (ILWU President) Bridges at Communist meetings!"

From San Francisco, the ILWU issued a statement calling his testimony "thrice discredited slander."

Honig gave substantially the same testimony in the second Harry Bridges deportation trial. It was rejected by the presiding inspector, Judge Charles B. Sears. It was likewise rejected by the Immigration Board of Appeals, and finally by the Supreme Court of the United States which tossed the whole case out.

#### COULDN'T TELL TRUTH

Bridges has since become a naturalized citizen of the United States.

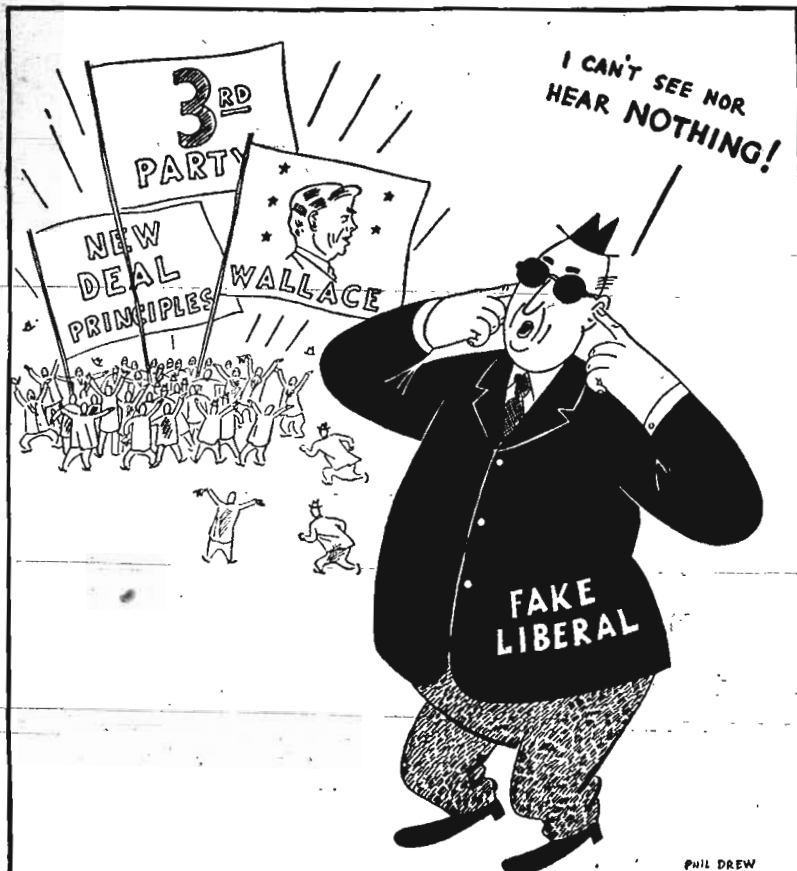
Pointing out that Judge Sears called Honig's testimony "inconclusive, unreliable and contradictory," and that the Board of Appeals said "the rejection was more than justified," Attorney Richard Gladstein, who represented Bridges in the deportation hearings, said:

"Since the testimony now repeated in Washington State could not possibly serve any legislative purpose, it can only make sense if the legislative committee there is being used to attack the ILWU by attempting to sow doubt and distrust about its leadership.

"We proved in the Bridges case that Honig's reputation for

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# The Fake Liberals



# On the Beam

BY HARRY BRIDGES

THE NATIONAL CIO Executive Board has just met and adopted a statement of policy which says that the CIO is against a third political party and against CIO support for Henry Wallace. At the same meeting the Board pledged full support to the Marshall Plan and also adopted resolutions calling for wage increases, repeal of the Taft-Hartley law, etc.

As a national CIO Board member representing ILWU, I not only voted against the position taken by the officers and vice-presidents of the CIO but vigorously opposed the action in every way during the nine hour discussion that took place before the vote was taken.

It was, and still is, my position that the National CIO Board by this action has not only rendered a real disservice to the rank and file of American labor but also that the methods used by the CIO officers and Board majority to put their position across in the name of all unions and workers affiliated with the CIO were undemocratic and reflected a high degree of political opportunism. So I opposed and voted against the action; first because of the way the action was taken; and second on the merits of the issues involved, particularly with respect to the Third Party and Wallace campaign.

The Board's position opposing a Third Party and Henry Wallace was based on the fact that in 1944 the CIO National Convention went on record against establishment of a third party and the Board's position was that then as now the third party was politically unwise.

It is my opinion and position that labor union officials are elected and paid to take note of what is going on, including current changes in both the economic and political aspects of our country. It certainly is a stupid attitude for anyone to take to say that the political situation today is the same as 1944. Just to mention a few political items: Franklin D. Roosevelt died; the Taft-Hartley law was passed; the war has ended; the United Nations is being strained; the War Labor Board and OPA have been abolished. Every last single New Dealer and half-way progressive has been deliberately cleaned out of government and their places filled by admirals, generals or bankers. Herbert Hoover has been brought back to help determine American policy, and above all, a political accident with a dictator complex occupies the White House. In 1944 for reasons that we all understand, the CIO and our union, too, opposed the establishment of a third party. Roosevelt was alive; the New Deal was still here and so was the Wagner Act. Creation of a third party under such circumstances would truly have meant creating a situation where the New Deal and Roosevelt policies could have been attacked and undermined.

THERE used to be an old song that went something like this:

One step forward,  
Two steps back,  
That's the nature  
Of the liberal attack.

Our precise memory of the song may be fuzzy, but the meaning is clear, and it was never clearer than at this moment when fake liberals are vying with each other to be No. 1 Lockinvar for Big Business.

Long ago big business learned that it could not talk directly and convincingly to working people. At about the same time it learned it didn't need to. There had come into being a polyglot class of double talkers who used working class slogans to cover anti-working class actions.

There may be one or two or three or more sincere liberals in the country who aren't going any place in particular, but who don't do anybody any harm. The overwhelming number of persons who label themselves "liberal" are pure fakes.

Liberals are people who say they want a better standard of living for the American people. But as soon as anybody tries to do something about a better standard of living, it is these same fake liberals who are in the forefront of the enemy's counter-attack, the enemy being the big business profiteers.

It is the role of the fake liberals to convince the working class that it can gain more by sitting tight and letting miracles come to pass.

The first cry of the liberal when action starts is: "Now is not the time!" They are in favor of action only when it is projected for the comfortable, unforeseeable future.

for the presidency on an independent ticket will help reaction.

It is precisely because the fake liberals want reaction to retain its power that they try to stop Wallace. They pretend that Wallace's candidacy will defeat Truman, as if that would be any disaster. The fact is that Truman is already defeated, no matter who runs against him. Nor is Truman any less reactionary with Wall Street guiding him than would be any Republican with Wall Street guiding him.

Wallace may not be elected, but every vote he gets will be a brake on reaction. Moreover, every vote he gets will go also to a progressive congressman, whether he be labeled Democrat, Republican or by some other party name. Without Wallace on the ballot only the most reactionary partisans would bother to go to the polls, and that would assure return of the worst congress the United States ever suffered.

But then, that is precisely what the fake liberals want, hence their screams at Wallace.

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MORRIS WATSON, EDITOR

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IN THE DISCUSSION of the CIO Executive Board it was understood by all Board members that the CIO would not endorse a Republican presidential candidate. It was well understood that there would be only one Democratic nominee, and that would be Truman, and by taking the position of opposing a third party and the candidacy of Henry Wallace, what the CIO Board did, despite the Board statements to the contrary, was to go on record at this time in support of the reelection of Truman. This type of action, in my opinion and that of other board members constituted a low level of political double talk. I stated on behalf of the ILWU that it might be true that the rank and file of the ILWU, as well as other CIO unions, might well be opposed to a third party and Henry Wallace and for Truman even despite his lousy record but they should have a voice and a vote in this matter before attempts were made to speak for them and bind them by a decision of the National CIO Executive Board. In addition to proposing a national CIO referendum on both the third party issue and the Marshall plan, I proposed that the Board table the resolutions for 30 days while each national union and council could have a meeting to discuss and act on the issue and forward the results of their votes to the national CIO. The Board refused.

What the National Board was really guilty of was not so much expressing opposition to a third party and Henry Wallace and getting its national forces and finances lined up to implement such opposition, as it was guilty of action at this time that can result in blocking the rank and file of labor and possibly millions of others from having a chance to vote for Henry Wallace if they so desire by allowing the various Wallace groups to get a place on the ballot for President. I personally and officially do not believe there is any chance of electing Henry Wallace President through either of the major parties or a third party, but I do believe, and I am sure that most of our members agree with me, that those people who want to use their vote for Henry Wallace should have a chance to do so. Neither the national CIO nor the ILWU has the right to deprive our rank and file voters or any American voter of this right in any way.

THE SAME THING goes for the CIO Board's endorsement of the Marshall Plan. Newspaper reports have attempted to distort the whole affair even to the extent of forecasting withdrawal of the ILWU and other unions from national CIO. Such accounts merely reflect the evil wishes of American big business and a lot of appointed hangers-on of the CIO who have a healthy fear of any form of democratic trade unionism and rank and file referendums. If the CIO can't stand for democratic differences of opinion and policy and cannot afford to let matters be determined by democratic votes of the working rank and file who after all pay the freight and make the CIO the organization that it is, it is time we found it out. In the process of finding out the CIO will become stronger and the occasion need not arise where any union must need make a choice as to whether it must remain within the CIO or pull out. No such action is even thought of by the ILWU nor is it going to be. The position is clear: just let the rank and file have a voice and vote on some of these important policy matters before a national body broadcasts to the country and the world as to what the position of the rank and file is.

★  
CURRENTLY the liberals—the same who gave lip service to the New Deal—are screaming bitter invective at Henry A. Wallace and pretending that Wallace's campaign

## Unions Protest Efforts To Weaken Wage-Hour Law

CLEVELAND, Ohio—ILWU members along with 100,000 other CIO workers here have assured the House Committee on Education and Labor that their employers misrepresented the facts when they told the Committee that workers would welcome the end of the 40 hour week and a chance to work a sixth day at straight time "to earn more money."

Nineteen Cleveland employers, including the Great Lakes Box Company, which is under union shop contract with ILWU Local 209, appeared before the House Committee to demand weakening of the Wage and Hour Act.

They want to substitute a 48-hour week at straight time for the present 40-hour week in any plant where a majority of the workers vote approval, remove hundreds of thousands of so-called fringe employees from coverage of the Wage and Hour Act, and train new workers on the job without pay.

### SPEARHEAD DRIVE

Spearheading this employer group is the notorious Thompson Products Company with a long record of anti-union actions against the CIO-United Auto Workers.

The present law, the employers say, "chokes off the nation's productive capacity... denies work-

men a chance to earn more money." The longer week will "curb inflation, reduce prices..." according to the bosses.

The Cleveland CIO Industrial Union Council, of which the ILWU is a member, wrote the House Committee and Congressmen that "The economic theories of these gentlemen are as false as their claim to speak for the workers of the city."

### FOUGHT LONG BATTLE

"Workers throughout the country have fought a long and costly battle to achieve a 40 hour week. Stability will be achieved only with a more equitable distribution of national income. This means higher wages and lower profits."

"These 19 Cleveland companies went to Washington and testified not in the interests of their workers or the economy of our country but in the interests of even more exorbitant profits."

The CIO members demanded that instead of weakening the Wage Hour Act it be amended to increase the minimum wage from 40 cents an hour to 75 cents and extended to include more workers.



**For Better Leaflets** To make mimeographed union leaflets that much more attractive, the N. Y. City CIO Council is conducting courses guaranteed to turn out artistic designers in a few lessons. Here instructor Ruth Neuer of the United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers shows some novices how it's done.

## Marshall Plan Is Intended to Keep European Countries On the U. S. Dole

By WILLIAM GLAZIER  
(ILWU Washington Representative)

The Marshall Plan, called the European Recovery Program around Washington these days, has been getting a royal send-off in the hearings that are being held before the Foreign Affairs Committees of both the Senate and the House.

Each day still another big political or industrial spokesman comes out in favor of this particular version of aid to Europe. Incidentally, many are the same men who helped kill the UNRRA program of relief through the United Nations and who have rarely been known to give anything away for nothing. They all seem to agree now that Congress must pass legislation exactly in the form and in the amounts recommended by the State Department.

These spokesmen usually start out by describing the program as one which will bring about the economic recovery of the European countries and which will raise the standard of living of the people of these countries; and then they invariably end up talking about the menace of the Left, and the fact that this is the only way to prevent the countries of Europe from moving "out of the orbit of the United States."

### RECOVERY NOT THE AIM

Recent State Department studies, now available to the public, make it possible to examine this claim of the friends of the Marshall Plan that it will result in the industrial recovery of the countries participating in the program. The steel industry and the shipping industry are good examples.

As is well known, before the State Department drew up its program of aid the European countries met and determined how much of each particular commodity would be required to get their own industries back on their feet. These estimates were drawn up by all of the European countries that decided to go along with the Marshall Plan in a Committee for European Economic Cooperation. It was these estimates that the State Department examined, altered, and changed before presenting a program to Congress.

The changes made in the steel

demands are extremely revealing.

The European countries asked for the greater part of their steel in the form of scrap, crude, and semi-finished steel. It is important to these countries that they receive their steel in this unfinished form so that it can be used to rebuild their own industries and in order that they can decide exactly how the steel will be used in their own recovery programs; they want to be able to decide whether the steel should go into machinery, factories, ships, railroads, tin plate, or whatever other purpose their own economic plans call for.

The State Department recommendations are to ship no scrap to the European countries; as for crude and semi-finished steel, it was decided to ship the Europeans about one-fifth of what they asked for.

### DON'T GET WHAT'S NEEDED

On the other hand; the request of these countries that they receive less steel sheets and less finished steel was denied. In fact the State Department proposed sending them two and a half times the amount they requested. And for each successive year of the Marshall Plan program the European countries will receive finished steel far in excess of the amounts that they requested.

All of this may sound pretty technical and unimportant, but in fact it is exactly this kind of a decision by the United States in respect to the goods to be sent to the European countries that reveals the manner in which these countries will not be permitted to develop their economies as they plan.

During 1947, before the Marshall Plan was underway, the European countries were forced to take the higher priced finished steel or get nothing at all. When they drew up their program in Europe they requested a shift from steel in this form to crude and unfinished steel which is not only vastly cheaper in dollars, but which can be machined and fabricated exactly as the receiving countries wish. The State Department denied this request.

### SHIPPING SAME STORY

A similar situation has developed around the demands of these countries for shipping.

As is well known many of the

European countries have always earned a substantial part of their incomes by selling shipping services. The recovery of their shipping and maritime industries are important to any plans for general economical recovery. They have therefore asked for a certain number of dry cargo vessels from the United States to be used to carry the aid from this country, and also for a substantial amount of steel to be used for the construction of new vessels.

The State Department decided to sell or charter about 500 vessels to these countries. This is far in excess of any request made by them. But at the same time the Department has insisted that the entire new ship construction program be reduced as a condition for receiving the old Liberties that would be transferred.

### WAS IT SEES THE TRUTH

It is simple. By sending old vessels and reducing new construction the future competitive position of the U. S. ship operators would be protected. And at the same time the recovery of the shipping industries of these countries would be delayed and obstructed.

Examination of the State Department proposals throughout show this pattern over and over.

It is because of this that Henry Wallace and others have been pointing out that the Marshall Plan is not a plan to bring about the economic recovery of the countries of Europe. And that in fact if the program gets into operation as it is now conceived it will actually prevent the receiving countries from getting back on their own feet; and it will keep them perpetually on the dole of the United States.

### BLS Doesn't Need to Tell Us Prices Still Rising

WASHINGTON—For people who didn't already find it out the hard way, the Bureau of Labor Statistics January '23 told the country that consumer prices rose "more than 1 per cent" from mid-November to mid-December 1947. That left average shoppers' prices 23 per cent above the June 1946 mark; the month Congress stuck the knife into price control.

## CIO Protests Vicious Greek Labor Law

WASHINGTON—A letter to United States Secretary of State George C. Marshall asking him to lodge a "strong protest with the Greek government concerning the vicious anti-labor law passed by the Greek parliament on December 8, 1947," was made public January 30 by CIO President Philip Murray.

Murray said his letter was written by the unanimous request of the 51-man CIO executive board which met here January 22-23. The resolution, calling for the action, was moved by ILWU President Harry Bridges, and seconded by Secretary-Treasurer Ferdinand Smith of the National Maritime Union (CIO).

Under terms of the Greek statute, penalties for those participating in "illegal" strikes range from six months to life imprisonment. Strike leaders are subject to penalties up to the death sentence.

### SANCTIONED BY U. S.

After the action aroused strong resentment in America, the Greek government announced it would use the new powers only in "emergencies," and there were later advices, received unofficially, that the law had been "suspended."

Murray wrote Marshall that United States union members regard the law as "completely inimical" to democratic development. He said "there is no force in the argument that this law will aid the Greek government in its fight against the guerrilla rebels."

The CIO chief said that "rightly or wrongly" American unionists believe the Greek monarchist government could not have passed the law against Greek workers "without at least the tolerance of the American mission to that country."

## IPP Petition Drive Pushed In Local 6

SAN FRANCISCO—Warehousemen of ILWU Local 6 in this city report 6,000 signatures collected on petitions to put the Independent Progressive Party on the ballot this year.

The membership is going all out to put the petition drive over the top with rank and filers, stewards and executive officers circulating petitions in the warehouses, on street corners and in the precincts.

The Oakland division of Local 6 has registered 90 per cent of its members to vote and signed up 90 per cent on IPP petitions.

Units of the warehousemen in other bay area cities report similar progress, with 300 signed in Stockton and 500 in San Jose.

## Rap New Rules On Jobless Pay

SAN FRANCISCO—Protest against delay in receiving unemployment insurance checks and the resulting hardships for members out of work was made by ILWU Local 6 at a general membership meeting January 21.

The warehousemen took action following change in the California Department of Employment procedure of issuing checks. The department is now mailing them from Sacramento instead of from local offices.

Local 6 adopted a resolution demanding immediate cash payments to members out of work.

## U. S. Seamen Blast Ship Transfers

WASHINGTON (FP)—There should be no further transfers of American vessels to foreign flags, and relief cargoes under the Marshall plan should be carried chiefly in American ships, Representative Willis Bradley (R., Cal.) told the House January 20.

He spoke of the unanimity on this topic among both AFL and CIO maritime unions, saying that careful reading of letters in the union papers "shows that the most burning question today among American seamen is the proposed foreign-flag transfer of American vessels, and the threat of unemployment and want that such transfer holds for them and their families."

### WOULD HURT THOUSANDS

Bradley, a member of the House merchant marine committee, said that the proposal to transfer 500 vessels to foreign flags in order to lower Marshall-plan costs, as proposed by President Truman, would seriously affect the livelihood of thousands of United States seamen and shore-side workers. The \$200 million which the administration hopes to save by having foreign crews man relief ships would be more than made up by increasing unemployment compensation for men left on the beach, he said.

He pointed out that the loss of 372 vessels from the active United States fleet during the last six months of 1947 has already thrown 16,000 American seamen out of work. Transferring 500 ships to other flags under the Marshall plan, he estimated, would cost an additional 30,330 jobs in the seagoing branch of the maritime industry.

He predicted also that "the bottom would drop out" of ship repair work in the United States if the plan goes through, claiming that close to 70 per cent of all shipyard work today is repair work.

The U. S. Department of Labor records show that approximately 20-million workers are covered by the Federal Wage and Hour Law.



## Einstein, Other Leaders Warn of Militarization

WASHINGTON (FP) — The grave concern of a group of 17 prominent citizens over the road America has taken in allowing military men to infiltrate into top positions of government was expressed January 19 in a 32-page booklet entitled "The Militarization of America."

Dr. Albert Einstein, President James Patton, of the National Farmers Union, and writers, educators and leaders of national groups joined in sponsoring the report, which was published by the National Council Against Conscription, 1015 18th St., Washington 6, D. C.

"Because of our deep conviction that America cannot remain democratic if the present trend toward military control of our institutions continues," the group wrote in a joint introduction to the peppy, illustrated booklet.

### AFL Predicts Nation's Biggest Strike Wave

MIAMI (FP) — "Government prosecution of the legitimate activities of unions now threatens to break out into a rash all over the nation," the AFL executive council declared here January 29, warning that the worst strike wave in U. S. history may be expected in the coming spring and summer.

The Taft-Hartley act, the council asserted, is the root of the impending trouble. "How anyone can expect unions to function and industrial production to proceed smoothly when labor-management relations are tied up with legal red tape is beyond reason and common sense," the council said.

### March of Dimes to Get \$1 Apiece from Dockers

SAN FRANCISCO.—Dr. J. C. Geiger, director of the San Francisco Department of Health, spoke at ILWU Local 10, January 28 urging union members to contribute to the March of Dimes.

After Geiger's appeal was made the local voted an assessment of \$1 per member to support the fund.

In the New York area, 4,611 disabled veterans are seeking employment.

"we join in issuing this report and recommending it for most serious study by our fellow-citizens."

### FASCISM SHOWED WAY

It points out that as in prewar Japan, where the military bypassed civilian government, "the same pattern already exists in large measure in our own land. It was this same trend in Germany, together with the apathy of the people and the failure of the church, labor and educational groups to speak out, which permitted the rise of the militarized fascist state."

Declaring that "one of the most important safeguards of American democracy, civilian control, is rapidly disappearing," the booklet discusses the effects of militarism in the following fields: the United States budget, American foreign policy, the United Nations, science, education, industry, public relations and the draft. It also outlines plans now under way for lining up reserve labor force units behind the armed forces.

Copies of the booklet can be ordered from the National Council Against Conscription at 12 for \$1.

## Longshoremen Continue Support to Sidney Roger

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU Local 10 will continue its \$600 monthly contribution to Sidney Roger's CIO news commentary on radio station KGO, Monday through Thursday nights and on Sunday mornings.

ILWU Vice President Germain Bulcke told the membership meeting January 28 that in view of the coming all-out fight to protect the hiring hall next June 15 longshoremen will need the only voice on the air which Roger's broadcasts afford.

### WILL NOT FOLD

Officers of the local arguing in favor of a Board of Trustees recommendation to discontinue the contribution cited the fact that Warehouse Local 6 had discontinued financial support, and said this would cause the program to fold.

Bulcke explained that Local 6



### Apple Appeal

Lila Lee Hatley has been picked as queen of the Washington state apple blossom festival in April.

### In Portland Nobody Wants to Be a Cop

PORTLAND, Ore.—So few applicants showed up to take a police exam here that it had to be postponed. With a monthly salary minimum of \$240, it's more profitable to be a ditch-digger than to wear a policeman's badge in Portland. Furthermore the department's lavish use of lead and teargas against strikers in the past has made its record so unsavory that even the six-year-olds no longer "wanna grow up and be a cop."

## Group Vows: End Thomas Committee

WASHINGTON (FP) — Planning a nationwide educational program to blast the House un-American committee from public life, the Committee of One Thousand was announced as organized January 19, at the initiative of Dr. Harlow Shapley, world famous Harvard University astronomer.

About 30 nationally known persons in the academic, scientific and religious worlds lent their names to the opening declaration of the new group, which will be devoted solely to putting an end to the committee now headed by Representative J. Parnell Thomas (R., N. J.).

### PULLS NO PUNCHES

Pulling no punches, the statement calls the committee "betrayers of American ideals, those who use terror, innuendo, hearsay and smears, ignoring the common rules of evidence and all precepts of fair play. We call upon the American people to disavow such subversions of our basic freedoms as lie in the proceedings of the House committee on un-American activities."

Among the signers, with Shapley, are: Dr. Albert Einstein, Frederic March, Archibald MacLeish, Rexford Tugwell, Olin Downes, Mrs. Marshall Field, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Helen Keller, Norman Corwin and Frank Aydelotte.

## Arbitrator Rules Out ILWU Claim

SAN FRANCISCO—Deep tank loading operations at the Alameda Naval Supply Depot are not unsafe, Coast Impartial Chairman Arthur C. Milley ruled here January 15.

Two ILWU gangs had refused to work at two different hatches on the USS Andromeda last August on the grounds that it was unsafe. The gangs were discharged. The ILWU claimed that this was unjust and demanded a full day's pay from the Waterfront Employers Association.

Miller denied the union claims.

### East Bay ILWU Leaders Back Cross for Congress

OAKLAND, Calif.—East Bay officials of more than 50 CIO, AFL, Railroad and independent unions have formed a trade union committee to work for the election of Dr. Lawrence L. Cross, mayor of Berkeley, to Congress.

Among those on the committee are ILWU Local 6 Vice President Paul Heide and Business Agent Charles Duarte.

The consumer price index rose from 153 to 168 in 1947.

## Pillsbury Tells Workers They Mustn't Speculate

ASTORIA, Ore.—ILWU members employed at the Pillsbury Flour Mills here recently got a curt reminder in the form of a note from the company with their pay check informing them they are forbidden to speculate in the commodity market.

The note puzzled the members considerably. After all, when living expenses are taken out of weekly pay there's nothing left, not even for a movie or an extra knick-knack for the kiddies.

The riddle is: Why did the company remind its employees that company policy forbids gambling in the market?

The latest profit figure for Pillsbury for 1947 shows the

### Free Profiteering Boomerangs on GOP

WASHINGTON—The exercise of the right of free American profiteers to charge what the traffic will bear ironically enough brought grumbles of anger from members of the Republican National Committee meeting here January 20.

What the GOP chieftains were complaining about was a report that Philadelphia hotel men had found their party's national convention in June a real windfall and were already jacking up hotel rates 50 to 100 per cent in anticipation of a well-heeled crowd. Not only that, but the hotels had lowered their promised number of rooms from 6,000 to 4,500.

## Conciliation Unit Flouts NLRB Orders

SAN FRANCISCO—In spite of the fact that the National NLRB ordered American Patrol Service and Young Patrol Service to withdraw all recognition of Harry Lundeborg's Seafarers' Guards' and Watchmen's Union, another government agency, U.S. Conciliation, flouted the orders and arranges a series of contract meetings between Lundeborg's outfit and the employers.

ILWU International Representative Michael Johnson sent a strong protest to the regional and national offices of the Conciliation Service against the action of Conciliator Omar Hoskins in violating the decisions of the NLRB.

### CEASE AND DESIST

"This situation represents one of the evils of the Taft-Hartley law and the result of setting the Conciliation Service up as a separate agency," said Johnson.

The patrol companies were ordered by the NLRB to stop doing business with Lundeborg and reinstate ILWU guards who were discharged for union activity.

Young Patrol agreed to comply in full with the NLRB order, but American refused to pay back wages to the discharged men as ordered and to mail out notices of compliance to its employees on top of signing a back door agreement with Lundeborg.

### Local 6 Exec. Board Calls for UMT Defeat

SAN FRANCISCO.—The executive board of ILWU Local 6 went on record against universal military training January 28. The board will recommend to the entire membership "strong action against UMT."

## Aunt Minnie ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ By ARAM





"If there are any important messages while I'm out, Miss Suggs, just jot them down on odd scraps of paper and lose them, as usual."

## Henry Wallace Tosses Red Herring Back Into Teeth of Red Baiters

COLUMBUS, O. — Independent presidential candidate Henry A. Wallace on February 1 flung the red herring back into the teeth of the red baiters.

He challenged President Truman and other presidential aspirants to repudiate any individual advocating limitation of democratic action for any other individual or group.

He further called upon his rivals "not to accept the support of any individual or group which would restrict the civil liberties of others for reason of race, color or creed."

Finally, he renounced—and asked other candidates to follow him in so doing—"the support of any individual or group advocating the overthrow of the government of the United States."

### FORESEES RED BAITING

Predicting that the campaign against his third party movement would "see the most intensive use of redbaiting in all history," Wallace said there was no evidence that Communists advocate violent overthrow of the U. S. government and added:

"Any Communists who support the independent ticket will be supporting our program, not the Communist program. I am not a Communist or Socialist or Marxist

of any description, but I find nothing criminal in the advocacy of differing economic and social ideas, however much I may differ with them."

### T-H BACKERS RENOUNCED

Excluded by this pledge would be the supporters of the Taft-Hartley Law, those believing in "white supremacy" and those who want to limit the free flow of ideas in the United States.

On January 17 Wallace had already announced repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law would be one of his major labor planks. At the same time, he backed American labor's demand for "wage increases on the ground they are needed to meet increases in living costs and are a national necessity."

The former New Deal aid of FDR made his remarks to the national convention of the Progressive Citizens of America following its unanimous endorsement of him for president in 1948. (PCA, however, left it up to its state chapters to merge, or affiliate with new state party organizations for Wallace.)

### NAT'L OFFICERS PICKED

Top officers elected by the convention were: Robert W. Kenny, former attorney general of California, national chairman; Thomas E. Emerson, Yale law professor and former chief OPA counsel, secretary; and Abraham Pomerantz, United States prosecutor at the Nuremberg war crimes trials, treasurer. Among the vice-chairmen elected to the 200-man national board were C. B. Baldwin, Norman Corwin, Clark Foreman, Mrs. Elinor Gimbel, James McGill, Dr. Harlow Shapley, Ira Hirschman, Bishop R. R. Wright Jr., Gregory Peck, Leo Kryszecki, Quentin Burdick, Paul Robeson and W. E. B. DuBois.

A national Wallace campaign headquarters was set up in New

York and a committee selected to handle his bid for the presidency. Former Governor of Minnesota Elmer A. Benson, a key leader in the Democratic-Farmer Labor Party of that state, was selected as chairman. C. B. Baldwin, from the PCA, was picked as campaign manager.

Others serving on the committee will be: Rexford Guy Tugwell, former undersecretary of agriculture, now a professor at the University of Chicago; sculptor Jo Davidson and Paul Robeson, and Angus Cameron, editor-in-chief of Little, Brown & Co., publishers, is to serve as treasurer.

One of the interesting recent developments in the 1948 campaign was the break between Truman and Governor James E. Folsom of Alabama. He threw his own hat into the presidential ring by announcing that he would challenge the present occupant of the White House in the Democratic primaries in Alabama.

Said the Governor: "Once the monopolists, the brass hats, the grain speculators and the Wall Street lawyers got hold of him (Truman) they are decided to keep him. They are trying to force his nomination on the party, but they are afraid to let you and me debate the issue." Folsom was elected last year with CIO support.

As he spoke here in Ohio, Wallace witnessed the actual launching of the machinery of a third party in the state. A similar move is planned in Pennsylvania.

PENNSYLVANIA MAKES There a statewide convention was called for March 7. The name of the organization is to be Pennsylvania Progressives for Wallace. Its first task will be to initiate a statewide petition drive to get the needed 7,974 signatures of qualified electors by April 7.

Wallace charged that "multitudes of Americans" are being coerced into remaining silent on political issues. He was sure, however, they would speak out their real sentiments at the polls. "The people are so scared that they won't talk out. They are afraid they will lose their jobs if they speak out between now and election time."

## Lynden Talks for Spanish Refugees

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU Warehouse Local 6 Secretary Treasurer Richard Lynden will speak at an Emergency Work Conference of the Spanish Refugee Appeal February 8 at noon called to mobilize progressive forces to save Spanish Republican exiles and fight world fascism.

Spanish loyalists are in their eighth winter of exile. Lynden will speak on "Trade Unions versus Fascism." Dr. Thomas Addis of Stanford; Harold M. Sawyer of the CIO law firm of Gladstein, Andersen, Resner & Sawyer; and Robert Colodny, a veteran of the International Brigade, are scheduled to speak also.

## Steamship Association's New Head Is Gatov

SAN FRANCISCO—Albert W. Gatov, former executive director of the Pacific American Steamship Association, was elected president of that organization last week.

Gatov succeeds E. Russell Lutz, executive vice president of the American President Lines.

PASA comprises the 18 major American flag steamship companies operating on the Pacific Coast.

## Hawaii Sugar Bosses Offer Grading Scheme Aimed At Splitting Union

HONOLULU, T. H.—Sugar industry proposals on changes in the industry classification system will be discussed at meetings scheduled by the ILWU Local 142 negotiating committee on every plantation starting January 28.

The employer proposals, though described by the industry as "relatively insignificant," would reverse the present approach of setting up common jobs in the entire industry and substitute individual company by company systems in line with present tactics of trying to split the union.

Negotiations on a general wage increase will begin after all classification adjustments have been disposed of. Increased costs of living and increased efficiency and productivity brought about by merger of companies and mechanization back up the union's stand for higher wages.

On classifications, the ILWU position calls for the junking of

the old system, demonstrated to be full of inequities since the sugar strike of 1946.

The union wants an industry-wide system which would establish a floor below which no plantation could rate a job and provide for grading of jobs above the industry minimum with a simple and practical job description.

Under the industry proposal it would be possible for jobs with the same title to be in different labor grades at different rates of

pay on different plantations.

On the question of an annual guarantee for sugar workers, the industry at first said this could not be raised "legitimately" under the hours opening provision of the contract though it was so raised in the sugar strike. The employers will give their official position later.

Seniority problems arising from merger of companies will be discussed later also.

## Local 208 Signs 50 New Members At Walgreens in Face of T-H Law

CHICAGO—Members of ILWU Local 208 at Walgreen Drug warehouse here have signed up an additional 50 members of the union in the last 15 days.

The new members joined the union after the company circulated a letter to all employees at the warehouse in which it asked whether the union would be willing to abide "with the law of the

land." This is part of Walgreen's Taft-Hartley attack upon the ILWU.

Local 208 announced January 28 that a real job of reorganization is being conducted presently in the shop which will guarantee a strong contract for 1948.

## Workers' Unity Nips Teamo Raid

OAKLAND, Calif.—Unity between Automotive Machinists of the IAM and ILWU Local 6 here gave Teamster raiding a setback at International Harvester last week.

In an informal conference at the NLRB with all three unions January 27, the Teamsters agreed to withdraw their petition for an election and ask postponement of a formal hearing.

The AFL union also agreed to respect the jurisdiction of the ILWU in the shipping and receiving department and the IAM in the parts department.

The fight started when the company moved from San Francisco to a new building in Oakland shortly before Local 6 negotiated master contract terms with the Distributors Association of Northern California last June. Though International Harvester had been under master contract through the DANC, it refused to sign again.

Then the Teamsters filed with the Taft-Hartley NLRB for representation of the whole plant.

## Warehouse Locals Plan Conferences

CLEVELAND, Ohio—Representatives of ILWU Warehouse Locals 208 and 209 met here January 30 to plan regular monthly conferences between the two locals on a common approach to negotiations with the end in view of joint negotiations in some industries.

A second conference will be held in Chicago February 14, with plans made to involve the local executive boards and plant leadership as well as local officials.

At the Cleveland meeting, called by International Representative James Moore, were Bernard Lucas and Aaron Bindman from Local 208 and Leroy Feagler and Dan Grant from Local 209.

## Waialua Workers Win Dusting Beef

WAIALUA, T. H.—The Waialua Agricultural Company was shut down 100 per cent the morning of January 22 after the company sent home ILWU Local 142 members who refused to use a dusting method for fertilizing.

The workers tried the new method over a period of time instead of the usual spraying system and reported it obnoxious and hazardous.

All members were back on their jobs in the afternoon with the fertilizer workers using sprays.

## Pineapple Workers Vote On Employers' 7c Offer

HONOLULU, T. H.—The pineapple negotiating committee of ILWU Local 152 recommended to members that they accept the industry's final offer of a 7 cent per hour increase though it is "paltry" and "the standard of living of thousands of workers is in serious jeopardy."

The pineapple workers were scheduled to complete a referendum on acceptance January 30.

The union committee based its recommendation on "considered judgment . . . as to the balance of economic strength between the companies and the union at this time."

Strengthening the union from the bottom with everybody pitching in to make every single worker in the industry a member is the way to obtain adequate wages and security, a union statement said.

The employers' first offer was a 6 cent increase. The ILWU then asked for a substantial increase, at least 8 cents effective last September 1 and 12 cents effective February 1, on the basis of increases in the cost of living. Mechanization and declining work opportunities, annual earnings and standards of living back up the union's case.

The union estimated that living costs rose 28 per cent by February from June 1946 when OPA price ceilings went off while pineapple wages went up 12½ per cent. Government figures are not available up to February yet, but the rise in the cost of living was more than 22 per cent by September.

The employers then raised their offer 1 cent to 7 cents. They refused to open wages again before February, 1948.

# DOCKS & TERMINALS

## ILWU Spurns Disruptive Wage Offer

HONOLULU, T. H.—According to last minute information received from longshore Local 136 in the Territory, members have rejected an employer offer of a 7½ cent an hour wage increase.

ILWU longshoremen throughout the Territory balloted on a proposal from the Hawaii Employers Council to disband their consolidated Local 136 and split up into separate units in different ports in return for a wage offer of 7½ cents per hour.

Unanimous recommendation for a "No" vote came from the Local 136 negotiating committee.

The issue at stake is the recognition of the union as bargaining agent for dockers in the islands.

Though the longshoremen have already taken a Territory-wide referendum on consolidation, elected officers and ratified a new constitution, the employers insist that they will make no wage offer except under separate contracts for separate locals.

The union demand is for parity with West Coast longshore wages, or an increase of 35 cents from \$1.30 to \$1.65 straight time per hour.

The local publicity committee reminded members that earlier strikes in longshore had been smashed through separate locals and conditions.

## Puget Sound Unity Urged

SEATTLE, Wash.—At the January meeting of the ILWU Puget Sound Sub District Council held here last week, all ILWU locals were warned to start preparation against the efforts of the shipowners to take away longshore hiring halls after June 15 when contracts expire.

The ILWU Council urged the amalgamation of several of the smaller locals in order to assist in carrying out the Washington State CIO program and getting better wages, hours and working conditions.

## Bellingham Dockers for Executive Board Program

BELLINGHAM, Wash.—The program set forth by the ILWU International Executive Board in its last meeting got unanimous approval from Local 7 longshoremen here in a January meeting.

The dockers endorsed the third party movement and condemned the Marshall plan.



**Promoting Unity** Typical of dockside meetings held regularly in San Pedro, Calif., is picture above showing ILWU, NMU, MCS and ACA members gathered on wharf to hear speakers from Committee for Joint Action. Rank and file leaders set up committee to work for merger of all CIO maritime unions as part of the important fight of these unions to resist the shipowners plans to destroy their hiring halls and maritime organizations next June 15.

## Local 10 Discusses Merger of All CIO Maritime Unions for June 15

SAN FRANCISCO.—ILWU Local 10 membership meeting, January 21, heard delegates from the National Maritime Union discuss the setting up of machinery for a merger of all CIO maritime unions.

Three rank and file delegates from the NMU, including one former Local 10 bookholder, John Monticello, said that in this age of big corporations, labor unions must organize in large, industry-wide organizations, with lower administrative costs and wider employment opportunities, combined with militant leadership and co-operation in other lands.

Local 10's Executive Committee chose a sub-committee to study the merger proposal and submit recommendations to the membership at a later meeting.

At the same time, the appointment of a joint "June 15 Committee" by the NMU and the National Union of Marine Cooks and Stewards, CIO, was announced. Scott Estrella of the NMU and Chet Baker of MCS, were named co-chairmen.

The committee asked for joint membership meetings "for discussion and exploration of the details of consolidation, so that

we may present to the shipowners and the forces that seek to destroy us on June 15 an organization of 170,000 maritime workers, larger and more powerful than ever before."

To speed up these actions, the Committee also urged the holding of a rank and file convention not later than March of this year to "place before the membership" the merger of maritime unions.

### PEDRO WANTS CONFERENCE

In San Pedro, California, NMU, ILWU, MCS and the American Communications Association have been holding dockside meetings for more than a month on the subject of merger and shipowners plans to wreck the CIO maritime unions after June 15, Estrella said.

## ILWU Guards Charge Vets Patrol Owner Organized Company Union

SAN FRANCISCO.—Individual members of the ILWU filed charges with the NLRB January 20 that the Independent Guards' and Watchmen's Union was organized in the office of Veterans Patrol Agency with the aid of the owner.

The ILWU members have been on strike against Veterans since

last June for a contract and a wage increase.

In the middle of the strike the NLRB held an election without notifying the ILWU and certified the so-called independent union.

The ILWU members are asking the NLRB to throw out the certification so that they can end their strike and win a contract.

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## Arbitrator Rules on Bones Rate

SAN FRANCISCO—Coast Impartial Chairman Arthur C. Miller ruled January 14 that though dust and odor place all bones in a class apart from other shovelling operations all are not offensive enough to warrant the higher rate.

The ILWU contention was that even though bones have been treated they are unpleasant enough so that longshoremen handling them should receive the \$2.37 straight time penalty rate for untreated and offensive bones.

Miller found that even treated bones have a "distinctive odor which is quite strong and is definitely offensive to most people."

He said he did not "doubt that a claim for some measure of additional compensation for handling all bulk bones is a meritorious collective bargaining proposal," but the record does not support the union claim that the penalty clause in the present contract should apply to all.

The case arose on the SS Clearwater Victory last October. Union and Waterfront Employers Association witnesses disagreed as to just how offensive the cargo of bones was, and Miller found that the facts of the case lay somewhere between the two extremes of opinion.

## Local 19 Builds Strike Fund

SEATTLE, Wash.—Each member of ILWU Longshore Local 19 will be assessed \$20 for the June 15 strike fund.

The local voted this levy at a stop work meeting January 15 and set the date on which the assessment is due as May 1, in \$1 weekly contributions.

Local 19 also set up an active political committee. Collection of funds with which to carry on the political activities of the local are now going on.

Bud Brown was elected to be the nominee of the local to make the rank and file study trip to European countries. He was chosen in a vote taken from the floor at the last meeting.

## Local 12 Votes Support To Henry Wallace

NORTH BEND, Ore.—Full support for Henry Wallace and the Third Party was voted by ILWU Local 12.

A resolution passed by the local reviewed the steps in the betrayal of F.D.R.'s program and the principles of the Four Freedoms by President Truman and the Democratic Party.

## Award Upholds ILWU; Sailors Must Stay In One Hatch On Schooners

SAN FRANCISCO—Coast Impartial Chairman of the longshore industry, Arthur Miller in an award of January 21 nullified the Tull award on steam schooners and upheld the contention of the ILWU that sailors must be confined to one hatch when they are used to do longshore work on such vessels.

The dispute arose during the unloading of salt from the steam schooner SS Howard Olson at Portland, Ore. In discharging salt from the vessel the ship's gear and clam shells were used by sailors in two hatches simultaneously.

The union protested to the Port Agent that the employer should use sailors at only one hatch and he so ruled. When the Waterfront Employers Association of Portland appealed this ruling the case went finally to the Impartial Chairman.

### TULL AWARD OUT

Miller in his decision pointed out that the ILWU "contends that the Tull Award never became effective but was nullified by informal agreement and mutual acceptance of the port practice that sailors must be confined to a single hatch in loading or discharging cargo on steam

schooners.

"The Arbitrator finds that this issue regarding the status of the Tull Award must be resolved in favor of the union's contention," Miller said that added weight must be given his decision by two earlier awards by Coast Arbitrator Wayne L. Morse in March, 1941, involving the loading of piling on the steam schooner A. M. Baxter at Seattle.

Miller went on to find the employers' argument for their failure to exercise rights conferred on them by the Tull Award during the 10 years since its was rendered as unconvincing.

The Arbitrator said he "has not

found convincing the argument that their failure . . . should not be viewed as an abandonment of those rights because it can be explained entirely on the ground that as to general cargo and lumber operations it has been expedient for them to work sailors in separate gangs and confine them to a single hatch."

### PRECEDENT SET

In 1937 the Tull Award granted great leeway to employers in the use of sailors "in any and all hatches simultaneously or successively, separately or in mixed gangs with longshoremen."

Specifically, in regard to the Olson beef, Miller ruled:

"For the foregoing reasons, the Arbitrator has found that the motion made by the employers in the local port committee in this case is not in practice in Portland. Accordingly, it is determined and awarded in this case that in unloading bulk salt from the SS Howard Olson at Portland by means of ship's gear and clam shells sailors may be used in only one hatch."

Coast Labor Relations Committee member Howard Bodine commented that the language of the present award applies not only to the one ship concerned in this beef but is precedent for all steam schooners.



# WAREHOUSE & DISTRIBUTION

## Hazzard Builds Negro White Unity in Oakland

OAKLAND, Calif. — Horace Hazzard, new ILWU International representative assigned to the East Bay Division of Local 6, went to work January 15, to build stronger unity between Negro and white members of the union and to strengthen the friendly relations between the ILWU and the Negro community.

The International appointed Hazzard, formerly a steward at McGuire Barrel Company, after the membership voted in December to ask for a full-time Negro official. More than one quarter of the Oakland members are Negroes.

Seeing splitting along racial lines as the employers' first opening for disruption in a union, Hazzard says that now more than ever it is vital for union members to forget their petty beefs and prejudices and band together

to win decent jobs at decent wages.

### TEAMWORK COUNTS

He is working on political as well as economic issues and reports that Negroes and whites working together in teams are doing an excellent job of collecting signatures on petitions to put the Independent Progressive Party on the ballot this year.

Hazzard is active in the United Negro Labor Committee composed of representatives of all unions, CIO, AFL, Railroad and independent, which together with other progressive forces won an upset victory in Oakland's elections last year.

The Oakland Division has announced that it will pay the tuition of any members who wish to take the course on Negro History and Culture at the California Labor School.



**Unifier** Horace Hazzard has been appointed by the ILWU to build stronger racial unity in the union. He is working in the East Bay Division of Local 6 on economic and political action.

## Local 6 Proposes Joint Dried Fruit Parleys

SAN JOSE, Calif.—A proposal for joint negotiations and joint pledges of support against the Taft-Hartley law came from

ILWU Local 6 dried fruit workers here to the membership of the AFL Dried Fruit Workers Union.

### ILWU Wins Raise At Continental

CHICAGO—A new contract was signed by ILWU Local 208 and Continental Products, the union announced here January 28, giving the workers a 10 cent an hour increase.

After the agreement was signed the union was able to get close to 100 per cent of the employees to sign up on a voluntary check-off. The new contract expires January 27, 1949.

Agreements of both unions terminate April 15.

ILWU members distributed copies of a letter signed by Vice President Joseph Lynch warning against a sellout by AFL top leadership to dried fruit workers all over the state.

The letter reminded rank and file that cannery operators recently signed a sellout agreement with the AFL providing only a five cent per hour wage increase and no improvements in the contract. This agreement ends in the industry's off season when the cannery workers' bargaining strength is at its lowest.

### CANNERY WORKERS BALK

It was voted down by Santa Clara County cannery workers 701 to 98, but the AFL leaders signed anyway.

Back in 1945 the AFL signed for a 10-cent raise at the same time Local 6 members won 15 cents.

The ILWU workers asked that a committee be set up in both unions to explore the possibilities of joint or parallel negotiations and work out means to defend both unions against the Taft-Hartley Law.

### T-H Law Breaks Sears Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

leaders of the Sailors Union of the Pacific supplied Sears with seals.

### PLACED ON UNFAIR LIST

Sears has been placed on the CIO's permanent "unfair" list. The strikers took ads in San Francisco newspapers to explain their action to the people of the city "whose patience and sympathy bolstered" their morale.

They pledged that "the fight is not over. We have been assured by our union that it will not go down in any other plant or warehouse without an economic fight just as hard fought as the one by and for us."

They also said: "We have learned the hard way that the fight on the political front has to be doubly and trebly intensified to remove a law that gives the advantages to employers."

## Local 6 Set For Annual Convention

SAN FRANCISCO—More than 100 rank and file delegates and officials of all units of ILWU Local 6 will meet in annual constitutional convention here February 14 and 15 to map a fighting program for 1948.

The convention will determine policy to be followed in coming wage negotiations with the Distributors Association of Northern California and independent warehouse employers.

Delegates will set a political program for the year and decide the part Local 6 will play in congressional elections and the third party movement.

### CONSIDER CHANGES

They will also consider changes in the local constitution proposed by members and draft a budget for union financing in 1948.

The convention will meet in the auditorium of the California Labor School at 240 Golden Gate Avenue.

The local has set machinery in motion to get immediate wage increases.

### CONTRACT OPENS IN MAY

Though their contracts do not open on wages until May 31, the warehousemen, squeezed by the rising cost of living, called meetings in all industries last week to adopt a program for immediate wage relief and to discuss the problems of reclassification, upgrading and mechanization.

Warehouse profits are higher now than they have ever been before. Stewards from all houses report that all members need a cost of living raise. Their last raise was in June, 1947.

Last year at this time the local won a 12½ cent increase from the Distributors Association in the middle of the master contract term.

## Royal Drug Signs For Wage Boost

CHICAGO—A long and bitter period of negotiations between ILWU Local 208 and the management of the Consolidated Royal Drug Company here ended in a 7½ cent an hour wage increase for all workers.

Negotiations, which started last November, were concluded January 28. All the conditions of the old agreement were retained except for the union shop. In its place was substituted a voluntary check-off.

### Local 6 Credit Union Does Thriving Business

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU Local 6's Credit Union has finished its first six months of operation with 321 members and close to \$15,000 in the till.

More than 150 members have borrowed money at low cost from the Credit Union.

### Open Continental Can Pact

OAKLAND, Calif.—Continental Can Company members of ILWU Local 6 have opened their contract negotiations with a demand for a 25-cent per hour wage increase and other improvements in the contract.

### Millard Picked

NORFOLK, Va.—ILWU Local 978 coal trimmers have re-elected Louis Millard president for 1948. New secretary of the union will be Earnest Holmes.

## Profits Spiral Up in Local 6 Contract Houses

SAN FRANCISCO.—Profits for the American Chain & Cable Company went from \$700,000 in the first six months of 1946 to \$1,800,000 in the first six months of 1947.

Profits for S & W Fine Foods went up 127 per cent from April, 1946 to April, 1947.

Profits for Paraffine Company went up 222 per cent in 1947.

Wages of ILWU Local 6 members in these and other master contract firms that make similar profits, went up 16½ cents per hour in 1947.

Still the National Association of Manufacturers would like the working man to believe that wage increases drive up prices.

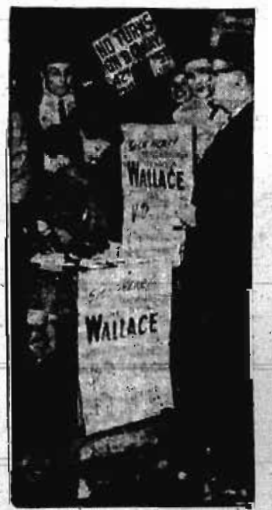
## Local 208 Starts Box Negotiations

CHICAGO, Ill.—Negotiations have started in the wooden box industry on ILWU Local 208 wage opening demands for a 20 cents per hour increase at Rathborne, Hair & Ridgeway; Maxwell Brothers, and Chicago Mill & Lumber Company.

The local reports that "Big Mike" Swiatkowski has appeared on the scene in the box shops to disrupt as he has done whenever negotiations or strikes were going on in the past. During a strike at Chicago Mill in 1946 "Big Mike" tried to organize a back-to-work movement.

Now several Local 208 members have received beautiful Christmas cards from him, along with nicely printed leaflets attacking the leadership of the ILWU along the line that the employers "have no respect whatsoever" for that leadership.

Retail food prices in mid-November were 39% higher than in June, 1946, when OPA expired.



## Wallace Pledges

New York City Councilman Eugene Connolly (American Labor Party) stands in Times Square seeking signatures on pledge cards supporting the third party candidacy of Henry A. Wallace. Goal of the drive is 250,000 signers.

## Heller Says Working Girls' Costs Doubled

BERKELEY, Calif.—Heaven protect the poor working girl from high prices! The Heller Committee has just announced that her living costs have doubled since 1941.

A single working woman needs at least \$180.40 a month to provide the food and services generally acknowledged as necessary to health and efficiency, the University of California research committee reported.

The same items that cost a working girl \$2,164 a year now, would have cost \$1,127 in March, 1941, the committee said, pointing out that its sample budget was extremely modest.

## ILWU Asks Community Support in Petaluma

PETALUMA, Calif. — Sunset Line & Twine Company strikers, vindicated of all charges brought by the company and the Association of California Employers, has asked the community to help settle the strike, dragging on since last August 25.

In full page ads in Petaluma's two newspapers, in leaflets mailed to the 4,000 farmers of Sonoma County and distributed to workers, small businessmen, housewives and all other members of the community, the ILWU

Local 6 strikers nailed the lies of Sunset Line & Twine with quotes from the official findings of an impartial NLRB trial examiner.

The union told the public the facts about why \$5,000 in wages is being kept out of the Petaluma market, about the shabby plot to use Petaluma as a testing ground for union-busting.

### LEAFLET GIVES TRUTH

Who started the strike? Did the strikers coerce anybody, place tacks in a driveway, engage in unfair labor practices? Trial Examiner C. W. Whittemore "upon the entire record in the case . . . recommends that the complaint against the respondent unions be dismissed in its entirety."

He found that the strike was precipitated by company action, that the company is refusing to negotiate a contract and settle the strike.

Local 6 urged all members of the community to write or telephone the company and insist that Sunset sit down at the bargaining table without interference by the Employers' Association and negotiate a settlement now.

The pickets are still marching 24 hours a day. No goods are moving. What the strikers are holding out for is a wage rate in line with that in other warehouses in the area; an increase of 16½ cents.

## Compress Wages Go Up 10 Cents

WILMINGTON, Calif. — Western Compress Company here has granted a 10-cent across the board hourly wage increase in all classifications, according to Wilmington business agent for Warehouse Local 28, Lloyd Seeliger.

The new wage rate went into effect January 15, following a month of negotiations on wage review. It brought the basic rate up to \$1.35 per hour.

This new rate represents the highest basic wage scale in the entire cotton compress industry in the United States.



"I can't help it—I just don't like the idea of being raised in jungles that are filled with wild animals!"

## Shipowners Open Slander Attack Against the ILWU

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telling the truth was bad. We proved that the FBI had approached him several times and was told by him that he had no evidence whatsoever against Bridges. Then we proved that after being caught taking books from the Fredrick & Nelson department store in Seattle without paying for them, the FBI again approached him, and this time, with a larceny charge hanging over his head, he decided he did have some evidence against Bridges.

"On cross-examination, Honig's whole story fell apart. He was never able to give even one address where he allegedly met Bridges in Communist meetings. He was never able to give the name of even one person at whose home such meetings took place. Moreover, he testified before Judge Sears, as he did last week, that he attended the alleged meetings in his capacity as labor editor of The Western Worker. We proved in the hearing that he had ceased to be labor editor of The Western Worker long before the time he said the meetings occurred.

"The only reason he could give for changing his mind about having so-called evidence against

Bridges was that some newspaper clipping had convinced him the FBI was not anti-union.

"Honig was never prosecuted for the book incident and we proved at the hearing that the FBI was responsible for quashing charges against him.

"According to press reports of his recent testimony, Honig apparently has embroidered his story a little more by claiming that a Communist Party book was issued to Bridges. Of course, now, before a legislative witch-hunting committee, he is safe from cross-examination. It is strange that in 1941, when his memory was seven years fresher, he made no mention of any party book, though the government asked him for all his evidence and he said he was giving it. The story is on its face a fabrication."

Bridges, himself, called Louis Budenz, former editor of the Daily Worker, who testified January 29 that Bridges was a "pet" of reds, is just "a plain professional liar."

Budenz never met or knew me, nor any other officer of the ILWU," he said. "He is now being used all over the country to spread upon legislative hearing records anything desired by the union-wreckers."

## Goldblatt Raps U. S. State Dept. In Menendez Killing

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shooting is "part and parcel of the whole Grau San Martin government, American sugar interests who dominate the country and the U. S. State Department plan to destroy the unions of the workers and destroy the last vestige of democracy in Cuba."

Grau is scheduled to go out of office in the fall of 1948. The Cuban Constitution forbids a president succeeding himself and he cannot even be a candidate again for another four years. With the support of the Army, however, San Martin can declare a state of emergency, violate the Constitution, and maintain a military dictatorship in Cuba.

The ISWC in San Francisco was informed that a powerful storm of protest resulted in Cuba from the murder of Menendez. Close to 350,000 people swarmed into Havana's streets to pay last respects to the martyred labor leader.

At the time of his death Menendez was serving his second four-year term in the Cuban Congress as a Communist. Congressional protests signed by leaders of all political parties pointed out that the Army in shooting him had violated every fundamental right of a Cuban citizen.

They demanded that those responsible be brought to justice. Even the most conservative, semi-official government paper, *El Mundo* branded the crime "reprehensible assassination."

Menendez because of his immunity was one of the few Cuban sugar union leaders who escaped arrest in the recent wave of terror conducted by the Grau San Martin government as it sought to take over labor unions from their democratically-elected officials.

The Sugar Workers Union has 350,000 members, the bulk of whom are employed by American firms which produce 70 per cent of Cuba's total sugar output. And Cuba, it is recalled, is a one-crop country. Biggest of the U. S. sugar mills in Cuba are owned by American Sugar Refining Co., Atlantic and Gulf Sugar Co., United Fruit and Cuban-American Sugar Co., all of which have refused to sign contracts with the union and have posted military guards around their mills.

Ever since 1941 when the Sugar Workers Union won important gains for the depressed workers, the union has grown steadily stronger. The killing of Menendez is another step in the high-powered drive to smash the union.

## Bridges Says: 'Don't Tell Us How To Vote;' Clears Air On Third Party

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free to do as they pleased. No punitive measures or compulsion are supposed to be attempted.

"I frankly have doubts as to the good intentions of a lot of people in that regard in the leadership of the CIO in the coming period. I think there will be punitive measures attempted and forms of compulsion resorted to that will be resisted by our union."

### GIVE PEOPLE VOICE

"The stand of our union was that although we had not taken formal action as yet on a specific endorsement of Henry Wallace—that is, the union nationally, although the majority of our locals have acted as locals—our last Board meeting did take a position on the Third Party. That was before the Wallace announcement.

"Separate and apart from the merits of the issue, I believed the working people of the CIO should have a voice in the decision. At the Board meeting I pointed out the danger of an executive board some two or three thousand miles away trying to tell the people in the various states who they should vote for and how they should vote. I think it is dangerous. No labor group in Washington should attempt to tell people in California, for example, in labor, or outside of it, the type of political organization they should belong to, who they should vote for or against.

"Our union within its structure has never attempted to tell the people how to vote. And of course although there has been no national formal action taken by the ILWU National Executive Board, at its last December meeting it did recommend to the locals that they give all possible support to third party movements. We took notice of the movement behind Henry Wallace as well as support of progressive candidates in the other parties, and we will continue to do that.

### REFERENDUM PROPOSED

"We did propose, and now I am speaking again for the union I was representing, that one of two courses be followed.

"1. That inasmuch as there was an attempt to bind the unions even morally, that could be strengthened by taking a vote of the entire membership of the CIO, and no matter how that vote turned out, I pledged to do all I could in the ILWU to have the union abide by such a vote. If it was against Wallace or a third party, it was my job to abide by the vote.

"2. I also proposed that the matter be tabled for thirty days in order to get an expression of opinion from each union's membership. Then we would have another CIO Board meeting or political action meeting thirty days hence and see what the situation was then and make a decision accordingly, which could be binding on all unions whether they agreed to it or not. That was rejected."

### OPPOSED ON MERIT

"I gave two reasons for not supporting the Marshall Plan. One was on its merits. The other was the fact that trickery was being used to have the CIO endorse the Marshall Plan. In the National Convention in Boston it was made clear we were not supporting the Marshall Plan."

He quoted CIO President Philip Murray's remarks at the convention defining the resolution.

"The group that voted against the adoption of the Marshall Plan in the CIO Board meeting," Bridges went on, "felt that it is

a war plan; that it conflicts with the National CIO resolution and, worst of all, it's a plan that will inevitably destroy the United Nations. It is intended to bypass not only the United Nations but the international agreements that were reached between the various powers prior to the establishment of the United Nations and conferences that followed after, particularly Yalta and Potsdam.

"It departs completely from the foreign policies that we had endorsed at prior CIO conventions, and particularly the foreign policies formulated and agreed to by Roosevelt and the policies upon which the United Nations were founded. We are pledged to a policy of supporting the intent and principles of the United Nations. They are clear enough. The Marshall Plan departs entirely from the principles of the United Nations and inevitably leads to war, as well as, although we do not put it on this basis, having direct effect upon our union—particularly the endorsement. Work has been falling off and the Marshall Plan is a boycott of half the world.

"The ILWU is first and always for aid to needy people—without interference in their own particular economic, social and political way of life such as they determine it to be. We approved that and stuck by it over the opposition of a lot of CIO people when we were preparing for our CMU strike in 1946. There was disagreement in the CMU when we said that even if a strike took place the food ships would go through. There was disagreement and opposition to that position by some of the very forces that are plugging so hard for the Marshall Plan, including CIO and AFL forces.

### THE MORE THE BETTER

"There is no issue so far as the ILWU is concerned about feeding the needy people of every nation. The more the better for us. It means work for our people, particularly longshore and warehouse people. It means more work, steady work and constructive work for almost every section of our national union. That does not only include the longshore and warehouse workers, but includes those groups we have in Hawaii which are mostly employed in a food industry.

"It is also true that the Marshall Plan inherently calls for the wrecking of the World Federation of Trade Unions. It doesn't spell it out, but the present structure of the WFTU cannot endure unless it agrees to accept the Marshall Plan with all its inherent weaknesses and the things that will inevitably lead to division of the working people between the various nations. Of course that is disastrous for certain sections of our union—in certain phases of possible future struggles.

"We believe we face a struggle on the West Coast to maintain the hiring halls next June and our members will fight until hell freezes to keep the hiring halls. They won't be backward about securing the help of the workers throughout the world to seek their assistance.

### EXPLAINS DELEGATION

"We have instituted a movement to send a delegation to tour Europe, composed exclusively of workers off the job—all officers are barred. It is to get first-hand facts—to bring back a fair and honest report, whatever the facts are. The delegation will be selected in the next four or five weeks. We have little hope, however, that as things stack up, Sec-

retary Marshall will permit the group to go and get some first-hand truth and facts.

"Of course, under such circumstances we will conclude that somebody is trying to hide something. Such inquiries we have made already have indicated that the position will be taken that they fear for the safety of our delegation."

A Hearst reporter asked: "Can they run around in Russia?"

"If they can't, we will holler our heads off," said Bridges. "The conclusion will be that they have something to hide. That goes for any country. The delegation will go, to bring the facts back to the membership. Of course, as to military installations, that will be exempted. There is no reason why they can't visit any country. We will believe what is said about those countries who do not allow our delegation to enter."

### WON'T WASTE TIME

"They (the ILWU delegation) won't go by what they are told. We will tell them not to waste time as to making comparisons. They won't seek to find out the difference in the living standards. We don't need any information on that. The living standards do not begin to compare with the United States. There will be certain other obvious things such as the degree of devastation in those countries. In Russia to take one example: They will go to look for those slave camps. They will see how people are treated on the job. They will see how collective bargaining is carried on; how the government is elected and how it operates."

Returning to the Marshall Plan, Bridges said:

"The Marshall Plan is set to stop communism. We have suspicions of that. I recall back in 1933 I was up in the AFL Labor Council hollering for a boycott against Germany. The arguments were used that all Germany was doing was trying to stop communist aggression. There were arguments on Japan when we were sending scrap metal to them. Same arguments on Italian ships during the Ethiopian campaign.

### SUSPICIOUS

"We are wary of programs that have as their main purpose the stopping of so-called communist expansion, doctrines and philosophy, and when we break these down and we find they mean nationalization of industries, the breaking up of the large estates in Europe, the owners of which have usually been at the bottom of the recent wars, and many, many other reforms that are of a reformist character, not communist in character. As a trade union we are suspicious."

In response to other questions the ILWU president made it clear that there was no question or even any thinking of organizational splitting within the CIO because of political difference.

He also cleared away confusion relating to the operation of a third party at the congressional level, saying it was the ILWU understanding that the third party would support progressive candidates for congress regardless of party labels.

As to his possible resignation or ouster as CIO regional director for Northern California, Bridges replied:

"If I have the choice between what the CIO wants and what my union wants, I have to stick with my union."

He told the conference he expected neither to resign nor be ousted from the CIO post, for which he draws no salary.