

# Local 6 Convention Plans for 1970 Bargaining

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walls around our colleges. "I say to them, why stop with walls? Why not moats and draw bridges and then how about the hot oil?"

Business agent Bill Burke reported on a recent conference in Kansas City of four unions representing Colgate-Palmolive workers across the country, where he represented Local 6. The purpose was to prepare the way for joint collective bargaining. (See separate story, this page.)

McClain moved that committees be set up by the executive board of the local during the next six months to consider the contract proposals and prepare for next year's negotiations. This was adopted without opposition.

The convention adopted a resolution submitted by the East Bay Pensioners Club of Local 6: "Resolved that we urgently request both the Senate and the House to consider the needs of us retired workers: We need a substantial increase in social security, effective January 1, 1969."

Another resolution adopted without opposition was titled "Labor —



working people in general, and of black and brown workers in particular."

Resolutions for peace in Vietnam and to abolish the police tactical squad in San Francisco were referred to the Local 6 executive board for action at its next meeting, because they had not reached the floor at adjournment time.

### VALTER REPORTS

In his report as acting president, George Valter opened with a tribute to "Chili" Duarte and recommendation for a memorial plaque. (See text in box, right.)

He reviewed the contract gains of the past year, principally increments from the three-year agreements of 1967, and urged the members to continue to submit their proposals for next year's negotiations.

"On the political front," Valter said, "the struggle against the Vietnam war should be intensified . . . the killing of American boys in what is basically a civil war in Vietnam should stop."

Turning to the strike of teachers at San Francisco State College, Valter said "Local 6 took the leadership in having a supporting picket line at the college. We are glad to see that the teachers' strike has been ended with a satisfactory agreement . . . Teachers, like all other people that have to work for a living should have the right to organize and bargain and strike if necessary."

Valter predicted "hard days ahead" for working people, with the Nixon administration in Washington and Reagan in Sacramento.

On the much-discussed subject of a shorter work week, the acting president spoke of "the scramble for overtime." "In some cases," he said, "working overtime becomes a way of life. One reason that is given, and it is an honest one, is that our members need the overtime in many cases just to make ends meet . . . We should start thinking now: is the membership ready to fight for shorter hours with no overtime?"

The resolution concluded: "Clearly a higher education that was originally designed to serve the needs of a well-to-do elite cannot serve the needs of the children of



Local 6 acting president George Valter delivers his report to convention.

Education—Students." It urged that "We support the struggles of students:"

- To make higher education a right, in fact as well as in theory.
- To make higher education more relevant to them.

- To make higher education more responsive to the special needs of special groups, such as the black, brown and other minorities.
- To make higher education more democratic by removing it from the absolute control of the millionaires and politicians, and giving students, faculty and the communities a decisive voice in its content and conduct.

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man, president of shipclerks Local 34 here; William Chester, regional director; George Lee, president, and Joe Ibarra, vice president, of warehouse Local 26, Los Angeles; Francis Fink, secretary-treasurer and other fraternal delegates from warehouse Local 11, San Jose; International executive board member Saburo Fujisaki of Local 142, Hawaii; Frank Thompson, secretary, warehouse Local 17, Broderick, Calif.; Peggy Banks, business agent, office and allied workers Local 67 here.

George Pedrin, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters' Local 12 was introduced as a fraternal delegate.



Convention stands for a minute of silence in memory of Chili Duarte.



TOP: Some of the guests on speakers' platform. From left: Odell Franklin, Local 10; Saburo Fujisaki, Local 142, Hawaii; Billy Lufrano, Curtis McClain and Paul Heide of Local 6; Int'l secretary-treasurer Louis Goldblatt; Joseph Blasquez, Local 6; Peggy Banks, Local 67. CENTER: Joe Ibarra, Local 26, Los Angeles; regional director William Chester; George Lee, Local 26; James Kearney, Local 10. LOWER: International president Harry Bridges addresses the convention.

The union has always been for shorter hours; maybe next year we will have a chance to prove it."

### LIVING PENSION

Speaking of pensions, Valter recommended that "At the next convention we should draw up demands to bring pensions where they should be, so that a person can live and not exist on the amount of money we get."

The problem of "equal opportunity for every man and woman regardless of creed or color . . . is still with us even though we have made substantial progress . . . My feeling is not to give lip service but to get in and do it."

Valter closed with a reference to the many young people who are coming into the union.

"We have to accept and work with the younger members," he urged, "to make sure we don't put them down and let them know that this union belongs to them as well as everybody else."

Representatives of many other ILWU locals were present and brought greetings as they were introduced by Valter. These included James Kearney, president, and Odell Franklin, secretary-treasurer of

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### Local 6 Helps Civil Rights Groups, Strikers

SAN FRANCISCO — The general executive board of warehouse Local 6 voted last month to take a \$200 sustaining membership in the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and a \$50 membership in the American Civil Liberties Union.

The board voted to give all financial and moral support to the sugar strike of Local 142 in Hawaii and to support the United Farm Workers' boycott of Safeway stores until they