

the "crucial test facing the ILWU in the days following the convention."

The first day was concluded with secretary Goldblatt reading sections of the Officers' Report, including the section on "Perspectives" (See page 2).

The job of chairing the convention was divided between Bridges, and vice presidents William Chester and George Martin.

### ILA PLEDGE GIVEN

Other convention highlights, either covered in this issue of **The Dispatcher**, or scheduled to be covered in subsequent issues, included:

- Seating of a fraternal delegation of top officers of the International Longshoremen's Association and an address by ILA president Thomas Gleason, who described the workings of his East and Gulf Coast and Great Lakes union, and brought a pledge of solidarity and mutual aid between the two longshore unions. (See page 3.)

Bridges, after Gleason spoke, reminded delegates that there is something else the ILWU and ILA agree on:

**"We're not going to rest until a political prisoner is out of jail — Jimmy Hoffa. Both unions' are pledged to get Hoffa out."**

Concerning often-heard talk about affiliation, Bridges said:

## Caucus Gets Set for Fight

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ILWU locals to assess themselves \$3 per month per member, such money to be used only after a strike has gone on for 60 days.

—Agreed that any ships diverted to Canadian ports would be worked, subject to change when the strategy committee deems it necessary. (Canadian area president Don Garcia pledged full support.)

The caucus was told that the ILA in Atlantic, Gulf and Great Lakes ports will give full backing, and that the ILWU is sure of AFL-CIO support in a fight.

### PREPARE NOW

President Bridges warned delegates that waterfront strikes are usually lengthy and that the ranks should be warned not to wait until June 30, but get prepared right away.

In its closing action, the caucus nominated four Coast Committee members, one to be elected from each area. They are, for Northwest area: William Forrester, Local 51, Port Gamble, and Fred Huntsinger, Local 8, Portland. For California: William Ward and Arthur A. Almeida, both of Local 13, Wilmington.

"We can have close cooperation without affiliation. The rank and file members of this union will decide what to do."

- The delegates heard Walter Kapau, president of the Hawaii State Federation of Labor, who told of the "Aloha" that had developed between his organization and the ILWU.

He pointed with pride to the peace resolution recently signed by the organizations and about the progressive pro-labor legislation passed under the prodding of the two unions "including the finest collective bargaining laws for government employees anywhere in the nation."

### DEFINES HIS CREED

He spoke of the close cooperation given by the AFL-CIO to the recent ILWU hotel strike on the Outer Islands, and about his pride in Hawaii.

**"I am an Hawaiian,"** he said. **"I mean that means I belong to the family of man, and you are my brother be you black, white, yellow, red. . . ."**

- Another high point was the statement by Chinn Ho, Honolulu business executive, calling for a new look at Asia, and congratulating the ILWU for its policy on China trade. (See page 5).

Officers of convention committee included: L. L. (Chick) Loveridge and Yoshitaka Maeda, **credentials**; Dave Littleton, Ed Anderson, Carl Damaso and James Herman, **resolutions**; Bob Peebles and Lelan Nishek, **officers' report**; Curtis McClain, Thomas Yagi and Wes Johnson, **constitution**; Paul Perlin, George Ginnis and Fred Paulino, **publicity and education**.

A large sergeant-at-arms team, led by Tony Garcia, did a remarkable job of keeping material flowing to delegates, and keeping good order

## Coast Pact Backed For Hawaii Docks

HONOLULU — The long struggle of Hawaiian longshoremen to be covered by the Pacific Coast Longshore Agreement was voted full support by the ILWU's Nineteenth Biennial Convention.

The resolution observed that **"the only changes that occur when a ship sails to Hawaii from the Pacific Coast is the weather, the scenery and longshore wages and working conditions. . . . There is no acceptable reason why the Hawaiian longshoremen should be denied equal treatment."**

The same resolution pledged "the full support of the entire union to the Longshore Division of the ILWU in its struggle to improve wages and conditions on all ILWU waterfronts."