

Official Organ of the Seafarers International Union of North America

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#### No. 32

# Ponce Co. **Signs Terms** With SIU

PHILADELPHIA — A few months ago the longshoremen down in Porto Rico went on strike, and the crew of the SS Ponce, Ponce Steamship Corporation, refused to cross the picketlines, even when ordered to do so by the company officials and the ships' officers.

Following this, the company, which had a full Alcoa-Bull agreement with the Union, wrote a letter to the SIU stating flatly that since the contract would expire on September 30, 1947, the company was serving notice that on such date the agreement would be terminated.

The Union ignored the letter and bided its time, waiting for a more opportune moment.

#### TIME TO ACT

Last week in this port, the time came to take action. The SS Ponce steamed in to discharge and load cargo, and the entire crew walked off. Since the company had made known its intention of ending the contract, members of the crew, true to the SIU traditional policy of "No Contract, No Work," refused to sign on until they were protected by an extended agreement.

For two days the ship stayed at the dock, and then the company started to move - but

# What's Happening In The NMU?

Ever since the beginning of the year, an internal struggle has been going on in the National Maritime Union, CIO. This battle was touched off by President Joe Curran's resignation from the commie-dominated Committee for Maritime Unity.

Further fuel was added to the already burning issues when Curran placed charges against Vice-President Joe Stack, and these charges resulted in Stack's being removed from office.

On pages 8 and 9, the Editors of the LOG have presented a factual history of-events in the NMU from the start of the struggle to date. All members of the SIU should make certain to read the article and then pass it along. It is a good picture of how communists work to rule an organization, and failing that, move to wreck it.



WASHINGTON-Alien seamen. It took a great deal of preswho responded to this country's sure from all seamen's organineed for merchant seamen dur- zations to force the change in the ing the war, only to be repaid law to give recognition to our with loss of jobs at the war's end, Brothers who fought and bled Bull Insular Lines, Eastern recently got a break when President Truman signed a waiver, now known as Public Law 293.

for alien seamen on all non-coasteffect until April 1, 1948.

Signing of the bill gives the Coast Guard the green light to grant waivers to alien seamen who sailed between December 7, 1941, and September 7, 1945, on vessels operated by the War Shipping Administration, the United States Maritime Commission, or the Army Transport Service.

#### GOOD CHANGE

in the service of the American merchant marine even though they were citizens of some other The new law permits waivers country. They came forward to volunteer their services when wise ships, both subsidized and the chips were down, and they non-subsidized. It is to remain in are at last gaining some slight bit of recognition.



# **Seven More Operators** Sign New 5% Contract; **Other Talks Continue**

NEW YORK—The ranks of the companies holding out against the new SIU contract, signed last week by eight operators, grew thinner this week when seven companies okayed the same agreement. The seven were the Arnold Bernstein Steamship Corporation, the Arnold Bernstein Shipping Company, Incorporated, Overlakes Freight Corporation,

Illinois Atlantic Corpora-\* tion, Ponce Cement Corpo- companies last week directly af-fected approximately 20,000 SIU ration, Kearney Steamship seamen on the Atlantic and Gulf Company, Incorporated, and coasts. Ultimately, as more com-Waterman Steamship Co.

These seven joined Alcoa Steamship Company, American Liberty Lines, A. H. Bull and Company, Steamship Company, South Atlantic Steamship Company, Seas Shipping Company, and Smith and Johnson.

The new agreement calls for a straight 5 per cent increase, nine paid holidays at sea, and paid vacations after a year of service.

At the same time that the above-mentioned operators came to terms with the Union, negotiations were underway in Mobile and New Orleans with representatives of the Mississippi Steamship Company. These meetings should end shortly, with both companies agreeing to terms.

In the passenger ship field,

panies sign, between 40,000 and 50,000 more will benefit.

As in the case of the original signers, the increase in wages and overtime is retroactive to June 16, 1947, while other provisions date from July 31.

Representing the SIU during negotiations were J. P. Shuler, Paul Hall, Joe Algina, and Bob Matthews.

# Reemployment **Rights Ended** Congress

#### By MATTHEW DUSHANE

WASHINGTON-Seamen who were employed in permanent jobs ashore during the war, and and Occidental. The same ad- under Public Law 87, which was passed Public Law 239, which ended certain emergency and war powers. As of July 25, therefore, the substantially continuous service is eliminated entirely for all seaactive capacity, but all seamen who ended their service prior to that date must have had twelve months' substantially continuous service in order to be eligible for a certificate which will entitle him to reemployment. Applications for such certificates should be submitted promptly to the United States Maritime Commission, Washington, D. C., not later than three months after July 25, 1947, except where a seaman is on a voyage which commenced prior to that date, and continues past the three month period. Other exceptions are made when a seaman is under medical care, interned, or being repatriated.

fast. Officials appealed to the Union to release the ship, and promised to sign the same contract which had just been agreed to by Alcoa, Bull, etc.

Robert Matthews, Headquarters representative, was dispatched from New York, and with Eddie Higdon, Philly Port Agent, he met with company officials and the standard freight ship contract was signed.

### **Simmons Delegate To AFL Convention**

SAN FRANCISCO - W. H. Simmons, Agent for the Seafarers Internation Union in this port, has been attending the Convention of the California State Federation of Labor in Sacramento this week.

As a member of the AFL Labor Council in San Francisco, Brother Simmons was elected to attend as a delegate from the SIU. The labor group convened on Aug. 4 and is scheduled to wind-up its business by this weekend.

Simmons will report the convention highlights in a later issue of the LOG.

Public Law 27, which is replaced by the new bill, prohibited alien seamen from sailing on any subsidized vessels, and allowed only a small portion of them to ship on non-subsidized ships.

Summed up, the Coast Guard will permit waivers up to 25 per cent of the unlicensed personnel on subsidized vessels subject to the following conditions:

When citizen seamen are not available with the appropriate ratings.

That they be not in excess of 25 per cent of the entire unlicensed personnel.

That they sailed during wartime and have evidence in the form of a certificate of discharge, or properly authenticated record of service.

The situation on coastwise vessels remains the same. Alien seamen are still allowed to sail up to 25 per cent of the unlicensed personnel, but such seamen must have visas, or evidence of legal entry.

Aliens who have no war service do not gain anything as a result of the passage of the new law. They are still confined to sailing coastwise vessels, nonsubsidized only.

NEW YORK, Aug. 7-All nitrate-bearing ships entering ports within the jurisdiction of the Third Coast Guard District have been classified as explosive carriers under terms of an order which became enforceable yesterday. Ships in the explosive cargo classification are not permitted to tie up at piers but must drop anchor at prescribed locations, where they may be loaded by lighter.

Affected by the Coast Guard's new safety regulation are the Port of New York and other ports from New Haven, Conn., to Edgemoor, Del. The order came on the heels of the action taken by the New York Fire Commissioner last Friday when he ordered two freighters carrying cargoes of ammonium nitrate to clear out of their Brooklyn piers. He said the presence of the ships consituted "a most serious fire and life hazard to the people of the City of New York."

#### MADAKET ORDERED OUT

One of the ships ordered out was the Madaket, a Waterman Steamship Company freighter, (Continued on Page 3)

talks are in progress between the who left them for service in the Union and Eastern Steamship merchant marine, were eligible Company, Alcoa, and Peninsular for reemployment in those jobs vances which are contained in passed by the 78th Congress. This the extended freight ship con- law was terminated on July 25, tract are being incorporated in 1947, when the 80th Congress the passenger ship agreement. Only a few companies still remain outside the fold.

Meetings have already taken place with most of them, and requirement of twelve months' from the way talks are progressing, signed and sealed contracts should be forthcoming men who are now serving in an very shortly.

The settlement with the eight

### **On Isthmian**

NEW YORK - Another meeting between the SIU Negotiating Committee and Isthmian Company officials took place on Thursday, August 7, at the company offices. No details are available since the LOG went to press before any report could be obtained from the Committee. As developments occur they will be reported in full in the pages of the LOG.

Page Two

#### THE SEAFARERS LOG

Friday, August 8, 1947

# SEAFARERS LOG

Published Weekly by the SEAFARERS INTERNATIONAL UNION OF NORTH AMERICA Atlantic and Gulf District Affiliated with the American Federation of Labor

At 51 Beaver Street, New York 4, N. Y. HAnover 2-2784

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Ship Unorganized

This is no time for any good SIU member to lean back on the laurels won by the Union during the past few years. True, the SIU has won many new benefits, brought under contract a number of companies, and won bargaining elections both on deep sea fleets and on the Great Lakes—but the fight isn't over.

Organizing goes on. Men are needed to go aboard unorganized ships, carrying the SIU message. It's a job for all, not just for a few men.

DO YOUR PART!

### Anti-Labor Commies

The communist party has always held itself up to be the friend of the workingman. In fact, they brag that they are the only friends workers have.





### **Men Now In The Marine Hospitals**

These are the Union Brothers currently in the marine hospitals, as reported by the Port Agents. These Brothers find time hanging heavily on their hands. Do what you can to cheer them up by writing to them.

NEW ORLEANS HOSPITAL I R A BLAKE

### **Hospital** Patients

When entering the hospital notify the delegates by postcard, giving your name and the number of your ward.

#### Staten Island Hospital

You can contact your Hospital delegate at the Staten Island Hospital at the following tiems:

- Tuesday 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. (on 5th and 6th floors)
- Thursday 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. (on 3rd and 4th floors.)
- Saturday 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. (on 1st and 2nd floors.)

Well, if that is true, then the working stiff has more to fear from his friends than from his enemies.

The record of the communist party is clear. In any given situation, when the aims and objectives of the labor movement came into conflict with the CP line, the commies scuttled the trade unions and danced to the tune piped in from Moscow.

Just a few instances will prove that point. Take the case of President Roosevelt's expressed desire to draft strikers during the war. All labor immediately howled that such an act would lead to fascism.

But when William Green and Philip Murray went to see the President to tell him that organized labor was overwhelmingly against the idea, FDR grinned and showed both labor leaders telegrams and letters from communist trade union officials supporting the Chief Executive's stand.

In the maritime industry, the situation existing in the National Maritime Union, CIO, is a perfect example of how the commies operate.

There are many unions which are today hollow shells because the commies weaselled their way into control, and then split the organization rather than give up their domination.

In this issue of the LOG, and in subsequent issues, the internal struggle between the commies and the anti-commies in the NMU will be discussed in great detail. There's a good lesson for all sincere trade unionists in the picture of a strong union being eaten away from within by the scavengers of the labor movement—the communists.

NEW ORLEANS HOSPITAL	R. A. B.
JOSEPH DENNIS	H. BELC
L. GROVER	J. T. ED
C. MACON	L. BALI
BOB WRIGHT	
JOHN MAGUIRE	STATEN
CHARLES BURNEY	JOHN R
J. J. O'NEAL	E. P. O'
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J. ZANADIL	E. E. CA
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L. COOPER	P. GELF
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R. LUFLIN	D. MILL
C. MIDDELTON	BRIGHT
J. SUPINSKI	and the state of the state
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E. JOHNSTON	EDDIE
R. MORRISON	MANUE
M. PERRONE	MAX FI
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SAN FRANCISCO HOSPITAL	WILLIA
JOHN B. KREWSON	S. Y. F.
J. HODO	ANTHO

ISLAND HOSPITAL ONALD RRIS LUSKY SEN 1 1 1 BILE HOSPITAL ENRY ARRIS E SANDY SMAN ROLL AITER LIER OSTER M FAWELEY EYERS EEL IORGAN VARNON \* \* \* MORE HOSPITAL BROWN ER COPPOCK Y PLYER MARKIN L SANTIAGE INGERHUT S WADSWORTH M ROSS OGELBERG NY ATKIEWING



#### By PAUL HALL

In the history of the struggles of the SIU to win better wages East Fourteenth Avenue. and improved conditions for American seamen it is generally not mentioned that many alien seamen in our ranks have contributed to our success on the waterfront. They have been in there pitching, sharing the tough, hard times when we were on the bricks and fighting to raise the living conditions of the entire membership.

That no particular mention has been made of their role in the Union has not been intentional. It is merely that no one group is ever singled out in the Seafarers, either for praise or criticism. The SIU is a trade union of maritime workers.

Every man entering our ranks comes in as an individual. His background or national origin has nothing to do with. He is a seaman, as we all are. That and the fact that he be a good union man is all we ask. And for the most part the alien seamen who are member of the SIU have met these qualifications in just the same way as those of us with American citizenship.

Lots of members of the Seafarers will agree to this and may wonder why it is even mentioned now. The reason is that a few of our Brothers, especially, some of the younger fellows who don't yet know the score, have at times resented alien shipmates, without any basis for their feelings.

#### Among The Best

As a matter of fact, every once in a while evidence of this resentment shows up at discussions during shipboard and shoreside meetings. How wrong this attitude is simple to prove. For these alien members are as a rule are among the best SIU Brothers we have. They have fought to build and protect this Union since its inception.

Possibly the largest of the alien group in the Seafarers are the Scandinavians. In fact, Harry Lundeberg, President of the SIU, is Norwegian born. The founder of the American seamen's tradeunion movement himself-Andrew Furuseth-was born in Norway. We could go on indefinitely mentioning names of foreign-born seamen who have contributed greatly to the American maritime trade union movement by becoming an essential part of it. The Poles, Italians, French, English, etc., are all represented.

See it for yourself. Next time there is a waterfront beef, take note of the guys on the picketlines or in the special squads. Right alongside of their American-born Brothers, you'll find a Dane, a Swede, Norwegian, Italian-guys who were born under every flag in the world. All of them seamen with a common purpose, joined together in this union, fighting side by side as if they were one.

#### Brotherhood of the Sea

That we are the Brotherhood of the Sea should be accepted proudly by the newer men coming into our ranks and sharing our traditions just as it has been by the older men who have laid the foundation for the most militant waterfront organization in the world.

These are facts to be remembered and brought up the next time you hear guys aboard ship or at shoreside meetings making The question of control of niunnecessary references to those Seafarers who were born on the trate cargoes was precipitated by other side of the big drink.

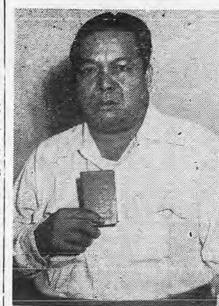
#### THE SEAFARERS LOG

# **Ashland Site Of Duluth-Area Council Meeting**

DULUTH-The next meeting of the AFL Maritime Trades Department Port Council for the Duluth-Superior-Ashland area is scheduled for Ashland, Wisconsin, on Sunday, August 10 over the Spot Tavern located at 120

Vice President E. L. Slaughter of the Longshoremen sent out the call to all AFL unions affiliated with the Maritime Trades Department.

Representatives from the ILA Dredgemen, Tugmen and other ILA affiliates, as well as from the Masters, Mates and Pilots, waterfront Teamsters, and Seafarers International Union are expected to be in attendance.



SIU Volunteer

Felimar Barlizo has been sailing Isthmian as a volunteer for a long time-two years, in fact. Although conditions and wages are inferior to those on SIU-contracted ships, and although Brother Barlizo is a full Book member and could sail on organized ships if he wanted to, he intends to stay with Isthmian until the contract is signed, sealed, and delivered.

# **Nitrates Called Explosives**, **Ships Barred From NY Piers**

(Continued from Page 1) which tied up at Pier 6, Bush Terminal, last Thursday with 3,-000 tons of ammonium nitrate for delivery to the United States Army forces in Germany. The Madaket left without picking up her additional cargo.

Explaining the specifications of the new safety order, Capt. Harold G. Bradbury, Chief of Staff for the Third Coast Guard District, said all ships coming into showed that excessive heat and the Port of New York carrying fire applied to the composition more than 500 pounds of ammonium nitrate cargo must now obtain permits.

In addition these vessels, as explosive carriers, must accept locations such as an anchorage in Gravesend Bay, where additional cargo will be transhipped to the vessels by lighter, or a berth at Leonardo, N. J., which was an ammunition depot during the war.

TEXAS CITY DISASTER

between the Fire Commissioner and interested parties to discuss further rules for handling and control of nitrate cargoes. Among those to attend the meeting are ILA officials, and representatives of steamship lines and the Maritime Commission.

Meanwhile, chemists have been tract. unable to discover what it is that causes ammonium nitrate to! explode. Tests made recently caused it to burn but not explode. In view of the recent voting SIU in the coming electhowever, the nitrate must be re- a hundred-fold. terial.

## **SIU Volunteers Needed To Ship Cities Service**

#### By AL KERR

Almost every man in the Cities Service Tanker fleet has already either signed a pledge or taken out a book in the Seafarers International Union.

A victory appears most certain on the basis of indications from the men of the choice they will make when the collective bargaining election is held for the company unlicensed personnel.

These men are not just making a gesture to get into the SIU. They are in absolute earness in their efforts to become part of a good trade-union.

/They want to be represented in bargaining sessions with the company by the waterfront union which, in black and white, proves the value of unionism to the men sailing the nation's ships.

But these men of Cities Service need some assistance. They have the enthusiasm that's needed to insure victory, but they also must have the benefit of an experienced hand at unionism. It is up to the SIU membership to lend them a hand.

When you get aboard you will be able to give these tankermen some of the essential facts union and unorganized men must always remember.

Among these, you can point out the difference in the way a job is obtained on an unorganized ship and one under SIU con-

You can explain further, the matter of hours, wages, and the many conditions that are so superior on SIU contracted ships. Tell them, too, how by just disasters at Texas City and Brest, ion, their conditions will improve

garded as of an explosive nature. All that remains now is for A consultant for a large chemical the National Labor Relations manufacturing concern has stat- Board to set the election date. ed that until more is known of But in the meantime, you must the properties in the nitrate, it help to make sure there is one would be unwise to treat it as less unorganized steamship comanything but an explosive ma- pany and one more SIU contracted outfit.

**Summer Is The Season For Polio:** 

These Precautions May Save You

Infantile paralysis, the crip-, direct infection by this means is

pling disease which affects lacking, research indicates that

Many of these men were the forerunners in the maritime in-disasters, where vessels carrying dustry in the struggles to win a decent standard of living for all the deadly cargo exploded causseamen. They have taken part in our struggles alongside of us ing heavy loss of life and propin the present day. And they'll undoubtedly be in there again erty. as good union Seafarers in our future beefs. Let's let them know

we're all Brothers. Let's keep the SIU the real Brotherhood of focused locally with the arrival the sea it has always been.

Remember-we are an International composed of lots of different types of guys-a seaman's home is where he hangs his hatwhether it be Sweden, Greece, America, or where have you.

#### New Alien Waivers

While on the subject of alien seamen it might be the proper time to discuss their present shipping status in regards to the law governing alien shipping. These men won't have to work under the hardship recently imposed on them by the legislation prohibiting them from sailing on American subsidized vessels.

The President has just signed a bill granting alien seamen with wartime service on American ships the right to sail subsidized ships in an amount up to 25 per cent of the crew. And that figure may vary depending on the need for alien seamen.

This right will be extended to those alien seamen who rode, Fire Commissioner and other de-American ships, and who can show proof in the form of discharges, partment officials made an inbetween the dates of Dec. 7, 1941 and Sept. 7, 1945. Those aliens spection of the ships and gave who did not sail during that period will be permitted to sail only the order for them to leave their on ships not subsidized by the government.

In the SIU; the largest group of alien members are in the Port mediately, but the Molda dropof New York. Any of these men who have doubts as to their rights ped anchor in Gravesend Bay to ship on any particular vessel are advised to report to the 5th and is still being loaded by floor of the New York Hall, where they may get complete informa- lighter. tion, details and advice on this type of beef.

the Texas City and Brest, France,

thousands of adults as well as the virus causing polio is often Attention to the question was children every year, is most epi- found in sewage. in New York last week of the demic between the months of Madaket and the second nitrate carrier, the Norwegian freighter Molda, which carried 2,643 tons of the fertilizer slated for delivery to a French port.

piers. The Madaket sailed im-

fication.

Members of the International Longshoremen's Association, of contracting the disease. AFL, refused to load deck cargo

on the ship. The ILA men follows: classified the nitrate cargoes as

"explosives" and demanded the double pay usually received for work aboard ships in that classi-It was then that the New York drinks or objects carried to the during the seasonal polio months.

6. Last polio health hint: mouth. 2. Keep food well covered. The Avoid sudden chilling. Experiblue bottle fly, particularly, is ments show that twice as many suspected as a possible factor in animals, when suddenly chilled, transmitting the virus. All fresh developed acute and paralyzing fruit and vegetables should be attacks of the disease at did a washed before use. control group which had been

3. Polluted waters may harbor protected from sudden tempera-A meeting has been scheduled virus of polio. While proof of ture change:

4. Over-fatigue invites polio June and September. To ac- in summer months, Tests on laquaint people with means to boratory animals carried out in combat the infection, the Na- experiments, showed that where tional Foundation for Infantile animals were strenuously exer-Paralysis has compiled a list of cised, twice as many of them exprecautions which, if followed, posed to the virus developed will lessen greatly the chances more severe forms of infantile paralysis than did those which The six rules of caution are as had rested quietly in their cages.

1. Wash hands before eating, son up to physician. Tests show Scientific studies indicate that that there may be more of a prethe hands may be a means of disposition to infantile paralysis spreading the virus infection infection as a result of tonsil and through contamination of food, adenoid operations performed

5. Tonsillectomies in polio sea-

#### Page Four

**BROTHER LUNDEBERG, AB** 

# LSU, Dominated By The Operators, **Greatest Enemy Of Lakes Seamen**

#### By PAUL WARREN

DETROIT-We've just received a copy of a motion by the Lake Sailors Union, unaffiliated, to intervene in the matter of the Kinsman Transit Company (Steinbrenner). As you'll recall, we petitioned some time ago for an election on the five Kinsman ships.

At the NLRB hearings held on the Kinsman case, no LSU ropresentatives showed up although they were well aware of the fact that the SIU had petitioned the NLRB. They had no proof of intervention in this case and, now at the last moment, they move to intervene!

There is no doubt in our minds that this phony, company-supported outfit, the Lake Sailor Union, is far more dangerous to the unorganized Lakes seamen than the NMU.

NMU organizing on the Lakes is completely under the domination of the hot-shot commies in that outfit. From their Director, Josh Lawrence, on down the line, every Lakes organizer for the NMU is a graduate of the commie school or a protege of the party-line boys in that outfit.

#### COMMIE PHONIES

These commies aren't dangerous provided the seamen they are attempting to organize know the score. But they can fool the younger seamen who are more susceptible to their "line" of super-militancy and of always "fighting for the rights of the poor underdog."

The line of smooth-oil that these phonies dish out looks nice on their slick propaganda, and it sounds nice, too, to anyone who doesn't recognize them for the all time scabs and sellers-out of the labor movement that they actually are.

Ask the older, more experienced seamen on the Lakes. He will give you the same lowdown on these characters.

For these reasons, the moves made by the Moscow line boys handed down from above. That's of their member fleets, they explicit in the commie party- would have nothing to worry complete and servile obedience. about. And that's why you can spot

them and their phony line at least a mile away. Finally, the NMU is no more of a union than the wobbly party. They're torn wide open with the battle going on between their top officials down to the of unorganized maritime labor newest rank and file member. in the United States?

As a result of that battle, they have no program, no represenlation, and no security.

#### LCA STOOGES

On the other hand, let's explain why the LSU, as a stooge outfit completely dominated by the LCA, is far more dangerous to the unorganized Lakes seamen than the commie followers in the NMU.

First off, the LSU has no commie line to follow. The only line that they know is the one dictated by their bosses in the Lakes Carriers Association.

That line can be changed, revised, adopted to the particular circumstances of the company under concentration, and otherwise dummied up to look like the real McCoy.

Here are a few basic and wellknown facts concerning the LSU just so you can make up your own mind concerning their control and domination by the LCA.

Look at the LSU literature or their name the next time you see them on an election ballot. That word "unaffiliated" follows their complete name.

That means that the LSU is a so-called independent organization in no way connected with either the AFL or the CIO.

LSU officials sail on the ships of the Cleveland-Cliffs Iron Company, completely under the control and dominance of that company, a member of the LCA. Check the last letter put out by the LSU for corroboration of this down by the ship's delegate. statement.

#### WHO PAYS?

Their only shoreside represen- ser Eye was short two crewmen. tative is one Meyer Cook, attor- Instead of shipping the two are not too important. Once you ney, with offices in the Guardian Americans, the Consul, acting in Building at Cleveland. Who pays close cooperation with the Alcoa agent and the ship's Skipper, Cook's salary and expenses? signed on two natives of Trini-We don't have any proof that dad to round out the crew. The this individual is paid by the two SIU men were signed on as LCA, and so we can't make that workaways. positive assertion-but we'd like to know, "Who pays Cook's sal-FAILS HIS DUTY ary and expenses?" This season, the LSU has car-This seems to be in smashing ried on an extensive mail camcontrast to what a Consul's obpaign seeking new recruits to their organization. The cost of is a practice that certainly could pleting a trip down from Depreparing these letters and their actual mailing cost must have in Trinidad. This so-called diplobeen considerable. Who pays the mat uses his judgement in very costs of printing and mailing peculiar ways. LSU organizational material? We have always assumed that Another significant fact to note the duty of a Consul in a foreign is that in a couple of letters country was to protect the inanonymously circulated around terests of American citizens. the Lakes the LSU was either However, as far as a few connot mentioned or only briefly suls are concerned, it appears referred to, that American seamen are not On the other hand, the major classified, with touring Ameri-

And don't forget this important fact: It would be worth many thousands of dollars for the LCA to keep the SIU off their ships ! Why wouldn't the LCA pay any amount of money to keep the Lakes as the last stronghold

Why wouldn't the LCA contribute handsomely to the upkeep of the LSU as a defense against the winning of all Great Lakes fleets under the banner of the SIU?

Just compare the monthly take home pay of the average SIU member to that of any seaman sailing on the open-shop LCA ships, and you can readily see why the shipowners would, and will continue to, pay large sums of money to keep SIU contracts with SIU wages and conditions off their vessels.

An SIU contract brings the highest wages on the Lakes, the highest overtime, the best working and living conditions, job security and competent union representation.

That's why the LCA and any other unorganized shipowners will go to any length and spend any sum of money to keep the SIU off their ships. Compare for yourself, then choose SIU !

1 1 1 Here are two shots taken of Harry Lundeberg, President of the SIU, on the Marine Jumper. Brother Lundeberg is shown above with other members of the crew, and on the left, painting the smokestack. Lundeberg shipped out on

the Marine Jumper earlier this summer, and made a trip to Europe and the Scandinavian countries. Nothing like getting the smell of salt water again, eh?



# **Consul Fails His Duty To Seamen**

#### By LOUIS GOFFIN

A story of consular misrepresentation, with American seamen again playing the role of underdog, came to light at the recent payoff of the Alcoa scow MV Hawser Eye.

The American Consul in Trinidad was the target of a bear laid

Substance of the beef was this: Two SIU members were on the beach in Trinidad when the Haw-

titled to all the rights and privileges that go with citizenship.

there to give us.

If American ships in foreign

around at will by anybody -- consuls are being pressured by phony career-men included. We the shipowners. Obviously, a real seamen are American citizens en- representative doesn't have to be pressured.

Since it is their job to handle If we are so unfortunate to be the problems of citizens in their on the beach in a foreign coun-particular jurisdiction, they try, we expect and demand the should be men enough to tell protection which consuls are pressuring shipowners and agents te clear out.

They have it within their ports need replacements we must power to force them to sign on be given first call. It is my per- American citizens first on Amer-

sonal belief that a few of these ican ships.

his NMU Organizer Never Loses:

have seen them in action and heard their "line" you'll remember them, and never be fooled the second time.

Being prisoners of the Moscow philosophy and the international line adopted by the party currently, they can't have any independant thoughts of their own.

They must follow the orders

### Bremen Shore Leave

The Military Government in Bremen, Germany, is now issuing passes for shore leave to personnel aboard merchant vessels calling at that port. All hands must carry these cards on their person when ashore in Bremen. Issued by the Captain of each ship, they bear the name of the crewmember and his ship.

When receiving your pass, make certain it has your name and ship correctly, otherwise you may be picked up and detained unnecessarily until you can be properly identified.

portion of these letters was given over to an outright attack on the SIU !

printing and circulating these letters?

Only the LCA benefits from the continued unorganized stateof the Great Lakes. If the LCA

cans. To the tune of three or four In their book, a seamen is an creamy shupers, which Brother

overpaid bum, who isn't entitled Who pays for the costs of to any representation or protecstranger began to spout a lot of tion. But these pompous char- wild-eyed dreams about "cap-

acters who imagine themselves tive time," "four-watch system," wise to the facts.

The days are past when Amer- but platinum plated gold bricks What a life!

#### At Least Gets Free Drinks BUFFALO - Here's a nifty Yep! You guessed it! The that happened recently in this

port, and we pass it along to you for what it's worth.

When the D & C passenger ligation are supposed to be, and here a few days ago after combe eliminated by the consulate troit, several of the boys dropped into a neighboring ginmill to quaff some of that foamy beverage which has a reputation for

satisfying your thirst on a sunny day.

Among the boys was Brother Carl Wenzel, Oiler, and much to his surprise he ran into an affable character who wanted to know about conditions, food, pay, etc., aboard the D & C ship.

Wenzel paid for, the talkative

smooth - tongued stranger was none other than an NMU organizer preying on unsuspecting seamen-cadging drinks for what ship, Greater Detroit, docked he was worth, and trying to organize an SIU member off an SIU ship into the NMU!

No wonder the NMU can't do any organizing on the Lakes if they waste their time in that manner.

But, wait a minute. You have not heard everything yet. After Brother Wenzel got through telling this Moscow-school-trainedguy the real facts about the SIU and the SIU ships, the NMUer began to realize how futile it was.

So, after saying good-bye to Wenzel, he put the bum on him for two bits!

Guess there must be something to that story about the NMU being bankrupt after all. Especially when their piecards super-diplomats had better get "25 percent wage increase," and have to go around begging quareverything else under the sun ters from SIU seamen. Ho hum!

could secure the LSU aboard all ican seamen can be pushed in every seaman's pay envelope. P.S. He got the quarter !



## **Holding Of Shipboard Meetings Vital To Union Democracy**

#### By FRED FARNEN

DETROIT - Last week, we board meetings every two weeks mentioned in our column the or so.

hold those shipboard meetings bership responsibility.

it's vital importance to the Union erous shipowners. membership.

union meetings. After fighting tions. so hard for that right, we don't intend to see it tossed away because some members are too damned lazy or irresponsible to hold shipboard meetings.

Membership meetings are the lifeblood of the Union. Don't forget that Number One fact of ditions under an SIU contract? Union life. How else do you expect to know what's going on in your Union? How can your Union know what's going on aboard your ship if you don't hold meetings?

Holding the meetings in themselves doesn't amount to a row of beans. But holding the meetings, taking care of your affairs ing your departmental Delegates are important.

#### ELECT DELEGATES

First thing to do after calling a Union meeting on your ship is to elect Delegates from all three departments. This is important because your departmental Delegate is the Brother who takes up your beef with the departmental head or the Skipper.

Aboard ship, the departmental Delegates are the official representatives of the Union, and it's very important that you elect sober, responsible Union Brothers to these positions of responsibility.

fact that the members of the Many young seamen are shio SIU on the Great Lakes should ping on the Lakes ships today. Some of these brothers think regularly as a matter of mem- that the many gains and top conditions that the Seafarers en-Now we're going to urge the joy on their ships were given to

same thing once more, and stress them on a platter by the gen-

They don't know that the One of the things that we've sweat and blood of many Seafought hard for years to win is farers went into the making of the right to hold shipboard today's SIU wages and condi-

> How are these younger brothers going to learn the score about the value of a union and union membership, if they don't find out through the medium of

> the shipboard meeting how SIU members control their own con-We repeat once again - hold those shipboard union meetings. That's the SIU way to settle your beefs, educate the younger brothers, and keep your vessel in typical SIU shipshape condition!

NO

Silence this week from the Branch Agents of the following ports:

NORFOLK SAN JUAN TAMPA NEW ORLEANS ASHTABULA CHICAGO MILWAUKEE JACKSONVILLE SAVANNAH TOLEDO GALVESTON MOBILE

The deadline for port reports, monies due, etc., is the Monday preceeding publication. While every effort will be made to use in the current issue material received after that date, space commitments generally do not permit us to do so.

# **Latest On The Housing Shortage: Philly Almost Got New Hall**

#### By EDDIE HIGDON

PHILADELPHIA - Well, it ume of foreign commerce. Sec-10th Street, just off Market had made, as follows:

that the market value as of July 24, 1947, is Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred Dollars made up in the following manner: Land, \$11,500; Building, \$3,900: totaling \$15,400. Description of the building: four story corner brick and sheet metal trim (specialty use) store and loft building, and I negotiated a new contract (used as turkish bathhouse), with Ponce Cement Corporation fired by coal; brick fire tower, wood platform stairs, iron platforms on exterior. Repairs suggested: exterior: rough casts North & South walls, pointing rear walls, interior - plumbing and painting."

The membership here, however, appointed a committee to investigate the property, and they didn't think as much of it as the appraiser, so we'll just have to keep on looking.

#### PHILLY SLIPS

Figures published by the Bureau of Census disclose that during the month of April, the local Port of Philadelphia remained in third position in the vol-

ooks like we almost got ond place, which Philadelphia a new Hall here. I have been held for many years, went to investigating a building at 44 N. Baltimore; New York was first. According to the report, Balti-Street, that was formerly a Turk- more handled 600,000 tons more ish bathhouse. I got a report on foreign freight than Philadelphia. an inspection and appraisal we From the standpoint of cargo values this city ranked fourth. "I have formed the opinion It was pointed out that the fig-

ures do not include coastwise nor intercoastal tonnage and did not reflect Philadelphia's large oil business.

Paid off five ships while 35 ships were in port here; this latter figure includes those paid off. visited, etc. Robert Matthews built-in tile pool, steam heat, for the SS Ponce and believe it or not, it only took 10 minutes o complete.

> Here is some advice to our dien brothers, most of whom tre of the opinion that they are llowed 30 days on the beach.



Well, this is not so, according to the Immigration's interpretation . . . if a man quits a ship at payoff time he is only allowed to stay ashore for a length of time that the ship he got off of remains in port.

Now, in the event the ship leaves port and he will be on the beach longer, let us say for a period of 29 days to be exact, the Colabee, American-Hawaiian, that no one was injured during he is required to contact the Immigration authorities in the port where he is on the beach to obtain an extention of time so as

> If this is not done and an alien seaman is picked up/he will be At the last membership meet- deported by the authorities. So ing in New York, one of the watch your step, boys, and compoliticals in the Union came up ply with the law.

# New York Shipping Still Holds Its Steady Pace, in typical SIU style, and elect-But Influx Of Men Swells Registered List

#### By JOE ALGINA

NEW YORK-This week finds the usual 40 to 60 ships in berths along the New York waterfront with a good sized stream of men going out to take the jobs, but from somewhere, all of a sudden, we find the New York Branch flooded with men registered for ships.

Where they came from I don't know; it's a safe bet, however, that the men on the beach now will be sufficient to handle the jobs that come up for a while to come.

transferred to the Skipper by the safe working conditions. Patrolmen and the Captain saw the light; the overtime sheets deck, he was sending men forwere then marked "approved."

had beefs against officers were and the Hibbing Victory, Robin the trip. Line. The Colabee had a 2nd Assistant possessed of a sadistic streak. He gave the Saloon Messhim and making his life unbear- the Union crew. Another smart able.

Patrolman Siekman, accompanied by an MEBA Patrolman, took the Assistant aside and made a civilized person out of him.

Naturally, the crew was hot un-|ignore the contract; especially der the collar, but the heat was those sections dealing with un-

While working the men on ward to the bow to secure gear A couple of other ships that while rough seas were breaking over the bow. It was astounding

To the Mate, I doubt if it would have made much difference if someone had been hurt, he can remain ashore for a longman a hard time, swearing at as he was very arrogant toward er period. guy was straightened out.

to me after the meeting and

charged me with blasting the

politicals. I made it clear to him

that blasting politicals in not a

Anytime that they attempt to

inject their philosophy into SIU

policies and programs they will

be blasted without any hesita-

taboo of the union .

Page Five

Under the Taft-Hartley Act, that's why you must have sober if you're looking for a ship. responsible delegates.

beef, some squawk about your the unorganized ships, to aid in quarters or the kind of food you the job of bringing them into the are being served, your depart- SIU; so, if you get tired of lookmental delegate is the man who ing at the big board, stop off on should see if your beef can be the fifth deck and have a word settled at the point of produc- with the organizers. tion.

If not, then it's up to him to them straighten it out.

gashound taking up your beef, offs smooth. and going off half-cocked when he's in no kind of condition to be discussing Union affairs. That way, you might lose your beef, and cause the Union all kinds of trouble.

#### MORE THAN EVER

There are many teeth in the Taft-Hartley "Slave Labor" Act why you must hold those ship-lauthorized" written across them.

With the large crop of Book unions are responsible for the members on hand here, it would actions of their representatives, be a wise idea to skip New York

Of course, the organizers are When you have an overtime always looking for men to man

Down on the waterfront, where beats the pulse of the Union, we pass it along to your shoreside hit a good number of ships this Union representatives, and let week. The Patrolmen came in with reports good and bad; the The delegate must be sober ships for the most part, however, because you don't want some were in fine shape and the pay-

#### BANNER SHIP

The Quinones, South Atlantic, and the John Jay, Waterman, came in with all in fine shape. The Quinones was exceptionally clean and at the payoff all hands were sober, making the job a real pleasure.

The John Jay was a clean which can cause you and your ship, but the Skipper had some Union plenty of trouble if you ideas of his own. When the overdon't know the union score. time sheets were submitted to That's another important reason him he returned them with "un-

These guys are always tough when they are cracking the whip over some guy trying to do a job, but when they are faced with a little opposition they crumble up fast.

#### SPECIALIST

tion on my part. The politicals The Mate aboard the Hibbing should know the position of the Victory was pulling a little dif- SIU by now, but this guy needferent act. His specialty was to ed a reminder.

**Gear-Grabbers Hurt** 

The membership of the Seafarers International Union has consistently reaffirmed its position that gear-grabbers can't be good Union men. Any individual who stoops to pilfering gear such as coffee percolators, linens, etc., which are placed aboard SIU-contracted ships for the convenience of all hands, is, above all, guilty of a malicious disregard of his shipmates' welfare.

Crew conveniences on most SIU ships today are not there by accident. They are there because of the Union's successfullyfought struggles to bring greater benefits and comforts and to provide decent conditions for the membership while out at sea.

These hard-won conveniences are for the benefit of ALL HANDS. They ARE NOT to be appropriated by any individual for his own personal use. Violators of the membership's wels fare will be dealt with in accordance with the firm stand taken repeatedly by Seafarers in all ports.

#### WRONG STEER

Brothers Moon Mullins and Bill Luth are back with us again. Both are on the list ready to go.

Some Brothers seem to have a slight misunderstanding. Most everyone is under that impression that if you have a friend, all you have to do is bring him into the Union Hall and he will get a letter to get his papers and be able to ship out. Well, this is a little off key.

There is a motion on the floor that before any permits are to be issued the Agent shall call the nearest port for men.

This motion's intention was if . one port is short of men and another port has men, the men in the other port should be given a chance to ship before a new man was put to work and at the same time this would keep the industry from being flooded.

For instance, if a small port had two payoffs and they needed 30 or 40 men and put all tripcarders aboard, this would deprive that many full Book and regular permitmen of jobs.

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### Boston Is Fast Becoming A Haven For Tankers, The Patrolmen Say .... Dry Cargo Men Going To Other Ports For Berths Warm-Up Visit **Believe It Or Not!**

By JOHN MOGAN

BOSTON-Shipping and business continued to be very good during the week just past; in fact, shipping was so good we until Friday and then the Navy ran fresh out of rated men and ordered her out of the Yard, as had to phone in a couple of doz- they didn't approve of the trafen jobs to New York.

It really looks as though Boston is becoming what the boys Marine-guarded gates. are already calling it, namely, a tanker port.

Day in and day out, the board shows tankers crewing up in this area, so that the boys who tributed a total of \$63.00 to our don't care particularly for tank- Union publications, to be dividers, and who want to ship in a ed equally between the LOG hurry, are buying tickets for and the WEST COAST SAILOR. New York or Baltimore.

and the SS Fort Hoskins (Paci- immediately to attend her fufic Tankers) paid off in Portland, neral at Prichard, Ala. His ship-Maine, and the SS Midway Hills mates collected \$25.00 for flow-(Ampac Tanker) paid off in Mel- ers and asked the Patrolman to ville, R. I.

tically full crews; and in the SIU Brothers. case of the Fort Hoskins, which This ship paid off in excellent had been out nine months, every- style with only two complaints

#### TWO VISITS

The Sunset was covered in a previous report, but she was just one of those ships which some-



times ends up in the stream for a few days, and as a result have plenty of crew turnover and a million beefs.

It was necessary to visit her twice during the week in order the same ship.

'Twould be lovely if these so long.

way.

#### MILITARY SEND-OFF

Anyway, payoff was postponed fic of seamen and Union Patrolmen passing through the

So she was tied up in Providence some hours later, where the perspiring Jimmie Sweeney finally paid her off.

The gang on the Midway con-

Brother Williams' mother pass-This past week the SS Sunset ed away and he left the ship wire them to Brother Williams' These tankers called for prac- home with the sympathy of his

body but the Skipper paid off. |left to be taken up: one, a beef about the poor mail service, and two, a beef about the situation wherein a seaman must spend all of his draw in a foreign port -if he winds up with \$50.00 foreign currency, he's stuck with

The SS Bessemer Victory is City Hospital.

where the tarriff was 60c each still undergoing repairs here; but is expected to be ready to crew up by mid-week.

#### OTHERWISE SMOOTH

Otherwise everything in the Branch is progressing smoothly, with routine business keeping all hands on the hop, including full coverage of the Isthmians, which arrive here at the rate of 1 or 2 a week.

With reference to the length of time a Permitman may stay up in last week's article, the Tripcards and Permits are entitled to a "minimum of 60 days."

Hence, a Permitman who is be allowed to sign on for another trip.

This shipping rule has been the subject of much misunderstanding in many ports, including this one; therefore it benefits everybody to have it clarified.

The following Brothers died this past week: Brother Harry Walsh, a 20-year old Pro Book member, who died in the Brighton Marine Hospital after a long illness; and Brother Martin Jensen, who died suddenly in the

PHILADELPHIA - The other day the James Turner of the Isthmian Line pulled into town so we went down to speak to the crew and see how the Seafarers stacked up on the old bucket.

We found a fine bunch of boys on the ship, all of them well officials did not dispute or pleased with the progress the scratch off one hour - in any SIU has made toward getting a Department. contract with the company.

Naturally, the boys being aboard an Isthmian ship had a with a vessel; a query we brought few beefs, but as they do not up for Ripley. Of course, to get have Union representation yet a true picture of the situation, Secretary Treasurer rules that the company gave them a fast you've got to go a little deeper. shuffle.

subsistence due them while gates and a damned good crew ashore in Singapore for the fumi- aboard the Hawser Eye. paying off a foreign voyage of gation of the ship, but they hit

off when Skippers will not be able to get away with a deal like this. When that day comes we won't be just callers at the ship -we'll be there to go to bat for the crew.

In addition to being a fine SIU crew on a not so fine ship, the beefs, proving that the Ship's boys made the generous donation of \$67 to fellow Seafarers in Marine Hospitals. That's really coming across, especially when it comes from wages that are not, too full of overtime.

E. B. Tilley

NEW YORK - Miracles can and will happen, as witnesses to the recent payoff of the MV Hawser Eye will testify. This wagon paid off after a four months shuttle trip around the Islands on the bauxite run. And, believe it or not, the company

This was such a rare occurrence that we had to congratulate the company for setting one And in the picture you'd see that

The boys were pressing for we had three very good Dele-

All the overtime and repair less than 60 days duration, may a stone wall when they asked for lists were in perfect shape. So payment. The day is not too far there are congratulations to the delegates and the crew for a job well done.

> As a matter of fact, almost all the payoffs we've handled recently have been very exceptional. Virtually all the ships are

> paying off with a minimum of Delegates are on the ball.

> Considering the fact that SIU members sail under the best contracts in the maritime field, we can foresee beefs being reduced to such a low that the piecards -as a result of the cooperation from the crews and their delegates-will have a few breathing spells.

> > Louis Goffin **Ray Gonzales** \* \* \*

#### Work Dodgers

On every ship there always seems to be a few characters who enjoy bad health and make a practice of using their privilege of going to see a doctor just to avoid the extra work that turns up when a ship is in port.

This cheap way of avoiding legitimate labor tends to cause As it was, a couple of fellows dissatisfaction among the rest of

By using this method of obdelay in the payoff of Domincan with seaman, that when a man comes along and really needs at-

**Rated Men Find No Job Trouble In San Francisco; Transportation Beef Nets Repatriated Men \$300** 

#### By W. H. SIMMONS

SAN FRANCISCO - Rated men, especially Oilers, Firemen and Watertenders are at a premium here this week as good shipping continued to draw heavily on our manpower. This port was kept busy getting men to go to Isthmian ships as replacements, which is definitely a must.

to get her straightened out, plus tercoastal ships: Cornell Victory an ILA beef in connection with of Waterman and the Maryman and Mastmar of Calmar.

A tough beef developed on the scows did not ride at anchor for Cornell Victory when two men were fired for being gassed up The SS Fort Hoskins crew was when they were supposed to be on articles nine months to the securing gear. Shore leave was day. It was a smooth payoff, up, as the ship was leaving Pedro considering the length of time for San Francisco. According the gang was out and the type to the law the men were fired illegally, so the Commissioner sign-All overtime disputes were ed them off under protest, but settled at the payoff with the our position was made very dif-

wages.

In transit here were three in-

men of the Temple Victory and consul's office. the Dominican Victory, neither of which fared as well as the group of the Lewiston.

APL troop ship. They were quartered in the hold, troop class. I contended this was a steerage accommodation.

#### ASKS \$300 EACH

I took the matter up with the Pacific Far East Company, which is acting as agent for the India Steamship Company. After sev-

over and above their regular, late and pay the \$300 difference. I arranged for the payoff to be This crew was followed by the held the next day at the British

At this point I want to explain to the membership that this was the best that could be gotten on The two crews were brought the transportation deal. If the

back on the SS Marine Adder, slightest possibility existed for getting more, I would have done SO.

Victory.

cn the Dominican Victory the men who have to do the work thought they should have re- of these phonies. ceived more transportation money. In fact one man got taining time off, these people are gassed up and caused a one-day getting the doctors so disgusted

of run they made.

exception of one beef concern- ficult by their conduct. ing the blowing down of evap- I will take this matter up with all hands.

payoff; but it was obvious that Fort on this case later. one or more performers had been active during the voyage, and one book was picked up and forwarded to New York's SUP hall.

payoff looking like an interna- in the near future. tional diamond merchant.

The SS Midway Hills was discharging at a place called Mel- SIU's Waterman agreement in ville, R. I., when we first got a April prior to delivery to the Incall on her. Brother Sweeney dia Steamship Company in Calfound the spot after a long cutta, India, three have been research on Thursday.

Melville is the site of a U.S. Navy Yard and a merchant ves- of the SS Lewiston Victory, back in full. sel was an unwelcome caller at from Bombay. In addition to

orators, which was turned over the Commissioner. The beef is to Morris Weisberger, New York made tougher by the fact that SUP Agent, with the consent of the Cornell Victory is still owned by the War Shipping Admin-The gang was perfect at the istration. I'll have more to re-

#### TUGBOAT ORGANIZATION

Organizational work continues all-out in this port. We are still plugging away at the Crowley tugboat outfit. I believe Brother Professor Leo Mitchell was on Hal Banks will have some good this scow and showed up at the news on developments to report

> Of the six crews aboard the Canadian ships which signed the

> turned to this port. First to arrive were the men

eral days of wrangling I called the APL passenger agent who



told me first class fare was \$600 steerage accommodations and were \$300. Immediately, I put in a claim for the \$300 difference. The long distance wires to the Northern Steamship Company in Vancouver, B. C., were kept hot

as the agents sought instructions on what to do. They offered as high as \$210 but I refused to accept it.

Meanwhile the cost of stalling was mounting since all men were still on articles and would re-

main so until they were paid off

this place. Also discovered near- first-class transportation, the pany called me the next day say- so we're wishing the crew of the by this place was a toll bridge men received a one month's bonus ing they were ready to capitu- Smiley smooth sailing.

As a result I had to write to the tention he gets the brush-off or Secretary-Treasurer of the ac- run-around from the Medical tions of this particular member Officers.

because he absolutely disregarded the SIU Agent in this port. I cannot understand why some they are travelling on a Permit guys can't leave the bottle alone or Tripcard. The Ships Delelong enough to attend to their business.

I believe this was as good a transportation settlement as we have ever won and, until this one use to a Union that prides itself particular member caused a beef, I was feeling pretty good over the whole deal.

In addition to the \$300 these ingly. men received, they got an extra month's bouns, and I should like to ask the Brothers what more they could have asked for.

In contrast we had a shipshape payoff here on Friday aboard the SS Albert K. Smiley, a Waterman ship in from Japan. It was a pleasure to payoff this crew. Also, there was a swell Captain by the name of Ryan on this tub, which called for a new crew yesterday.

Harold Teague, ex-Patrolman in Frisco, signed on as Bosun and the boys should have a swell trip with him aboard. The next pay-Finally realizing this, the com- off promises to be a pleasant one,

There is not a lot that can be done about these phonies unless gates should take into consideration that people who have to run

to see a doctor every time the ship hits port can never be of any on the ability of its membership to do a good job under any conditions, and should act accord-

Mike Quirke

### **Chief Stewards**

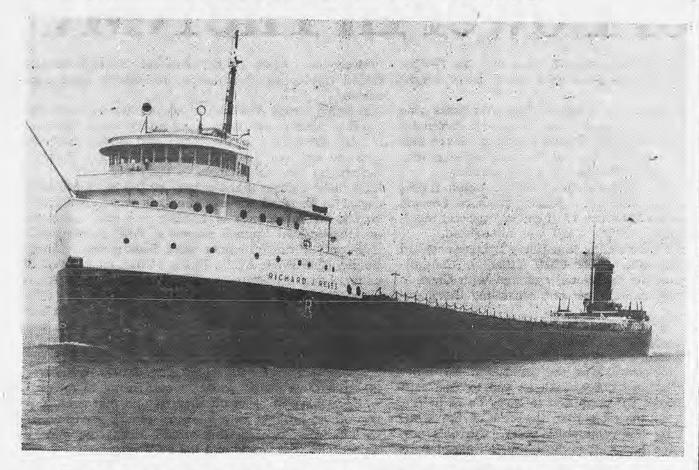
If your requisition is cut, or if the food is not up to par, notify all three Delegates at once so that the ship will not sail until the matter has been straightened out.

It is the responsibility of the Steward to check the stores before the ship sails, and any complaints made far at sea won't do the crew any good if they have to eat short rations or poor food.

#### THE SEAFARERS LOG

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#### NEEDS SIU CONTRACT



The SS Richard J. Reiss, Reiss Steamship Company, is a poor paying ship, with overtime practically unheard of. Conditions are a throwback to the days of the windjammers. That's why the Reiss is looking for SIU representation, as are most other Great Lakes ships. See story below.

## LCA Seamen Work All Hours, And Get No Overtime

#### By JAMES MARTIN

ship, the SS Richard J. Reiss, for more than a month, I really had a bellyful of the open shop the Deckhands and Watchmen practically all of the Lake Carships.

unorganized Lakes seaman and company considers this as part ship. compare SIU conditions to these of the regular day's work. open shop conditions, I'm not go- If you've ever been on an SIU

ing by hearsay or gossip. Iship, you know what I mean After you've lived through when I say "compare!" Nothing CLEVELAND - After sailing these lousy conditions, you real- like the slave-like conditions on about.

On this Reiss ship, they have conditions that are prevalent on painting, chipping sougeeing and scrubbing at all hours of the riers Association unorganized day and night, Saturdays and Sundays. And they don't get any

Now, when I start to talk to an overtime payment for it - the

on a Reiss Steamship Company ly know what you're talking the Reiss and other LCA ships could ever happen on an SIU vessel! While the SS Richard J. Reiss

was under way in the rivers, through the fog, day and night, men were busy painting in the cargo holds and the sealed tunnels which run lengthwise of the

Not only were the men in these holds and tunnels spray painting,

but they had not masks, respirators or protection of any kind! When some of the Deck Gang complained to the Mates (they but the men, having nothing to didn't dare squawk to the Skipper or they would have been fired on the spot), they were answered "Oh, that paint's good for your lungs. It'll make you stronger."

Coalpassers and Oilers had to put\_up with comparable conditions in their department. These men had no SIU union protection or job security. That's why wise, Reiss seamen!

# **C.G. Tries To Force Three To Make Phony Confession**

Memorial Day weekend, 1947, is chiefly remembered by most Americans as a weekend of taking life easy at the beach or at home under a tree, but to three Seafarers aboard an unorganized ship, it is remembered as the time they were victims of a frame up by the Skipper of the ship and the Coast Guard.

The ship, which crewed up in Baltimore in February, was in Shanghai over Memorial Day discharging cargo, so crewmembers Walter Bennett, OS; George Carpenter, AB; and Tony Lama, MM, decided to hit the beach for the weekend.

The three left Saturday morning and stayed ashore until Monday night, when, upon returning to the ship, they were immediately confronted by the Skipper who charged the trio with cracking his safe and stealing several thousands of dollars.

Amazed and bewildered, and in spite of their protests, the three men were seized and confined to separate rooms under armed guard. The Coast Guard, which had been summoned, questioned the men, and took their fingerprints, which, they claimed, were to be sent to Washington.

#### A JIMMY VALENTINE

At a loss as to what had taken place, the men tried to find out Since Bennett had been with exactly what the score was. They were told that someone had broken into the Captain's quarters late Saturday night or early Sunday morning and had rifled the safe, removing the ship's men had actually committed a cash.

Instead of questioning the men together, the CG kept them sepcrated and tried to cross them up and give conflicting stories, their whereabouts over the take them aboard stating that week end.

threatened by the guards, that safe cracking. When the Coast if they went near the rooms Guard told him that the men where the men were confined were not being detained and they would be fired upon. After a day of questioning



WALTER BENNETT

aboard the ship, the men were removed to a Chinese Police float and confined.

The Coast Guard went to work on them again, intimidating them by threatening to send them to a Chinese jail. The Coast Guard tried to play the men off against one another by claiming they had a confession from one of the members.

They went to work on Seafarer Walter Bennett by showing him a "confession" allegedly signed by George Carpenter. Carpenter throughout the whole weekend, he knew it was phony.

When the Coast Guard found that it was getting nowhere, and it had no evidence that the crime, they sent the men back to the ship the day she was to leave.

#### STILL DISTRUSTFUL

When they reached the ship, hide, told identical stories as to however, the Captain refused to the men were going to do a job The rest of the crew was on him for accusing them of the were clear, the Captain, still

(Continued on Page 15)

Sun Oil Drive Ends First Phase, **NLRB** Hearing Date Is Awaited

#### By BLACKIE CARDULLO

MARCUS HOOK-The situa- they afraid of an election? It tion with Sun Oil at the moment doesn't take much thinking to here is one of anxious waiting figure out the answer to that for word from the NLRB as to one. the date of our next hearing The minute that an election with the company.

This whole business of organ- the finish of the SOMEA's propizing Sun Oil has been a long, aganda campaign of insisting that they continue to suffer. Get hard grind, and it will be a real

we could never get an election. pleasure to put the cap on the Some one's face is going to be job.

Getting contracts and pledge cards in this company has really been rough. First of all the men were afraid of losing their jobs if they signed a pledge, and secondly there was a large percentage of company stiffs.

Another was the company's with the Union. '

This last took the cake as the all hands satisfied. biggest lie of the year. However, The main topic of conversation on Sun Oil ships.

BALLOT WILL SHOW When it comes to a vote with than this.

SIU in a big way.

The Sun Oil Marine Employees their side. union.

awfully red, very soon.

Shipping in this neck of the woods is still rather slow, but now that the shipyard strike is over the ships should start rolling in here once more.

date is announced it will mean

#### MESS CLEANED UP

We had the good ship J. policy of coming right out and Slocum payoff here last Monday telling the men that they had and take on a full crew. She an "in" with the SIU, and could was a messed-up wagon with find out who was signing up beefs from top to bottom, but she , was soon straightened out with

it all comes out in the wash: around here continues to be the You can't beat SIU wages and Taft-Hartley Act. We agree that conditions as compared to those it was rightly termed the Slave Labor Bill, but the SIU-SUP has overcome bigger obstacles

a secret ballot there will be. The SUP was organized long nothing to fear from the com- before there were any labor pany and the men will really laws, good or bad, and when show their preference for the things were tough with the shipowners having everything on

Association has been boasting If the SUP could survive and that they have 100 percent of continue to grow in numbers and the Company's personnel in their strength then, there is no reason why the SIU-SUP cannot do the

If this is the case, why are same now and in the future.

**Keep Sailing Cities Service** 

At long last the Seafarers has forced the hand of the anti-union Cities Service Company, and in a short while an election should be held to determine a bargaining agent for the unlicensed personnel in the fleet.

The SIU has a better than good chance to sweep the election, but victory can only be assured if volunteers get jobs on those ships and stay with them until the voting is over.

That's the way Isthmian was won; that's the way all our big companies were brought under the SIU flag.

Now is the time for action. Apply for jobs on Cities Service tankers, talk SIU while aboard the ships, and stay aboard until the votes are cast.

Then Cities Service will be SIU, too!

# **Baltimore Beach Is Well Stocked As Shipping Hits Short Lull**

#### By WM. (CURLY) RENTZ

BALTIMORE-The beach here be doing until we get that conis well stocked with men this tract.

week due to the slow tempo of swing into the upgrade very soon.

Among the payoffs were the Meredith Victory, South Atlantic Steamship Company; the Samuel Parker, Eastern Steamship Company; Emilia, Bull lines, and the Bethore and Marore, Ore Steamship Company.

crews this week. Three Waterman ships-the Haiti Victory, Madaket and Canton Victorycalled in transit, along with Eastern's Theodore Parker. All beefs existing on these scows were settled to the satisfaction of all parties.

The lull in shipping on SIUcontracted vessels has resulted in pick it up. About 45 days remainmany of the men shipping on Isthmian ships, something which dispose of this stuff due to practically all Seafarers should gradually diminishing space.

There has ben a noticeable shipping. We're looking - and drop lately in the number of gashoping - for the situation to hounds and foul-ups. It appears they are taking heed to the membership's demand for action up and down the coast against guys damaging the Union's prestige and opportunities. In this port the membership is cooperating 100 percent with the drive to straighten out these guys.

The Seafarers, as well as other AFL unions, is continuing to Of these the Bethore, Marore give support to the CIO shipand Meredith Victory signed on yard workers on strike in this port. It is hoped that this strike will end in an agreement soon. Signs are evident that it has affected shipping to some degree. I should like to remind all Brothers who own some of the gear which has been unclaimed in our baggage room from one to six years to get going and before steps will be taken to

#### THE SEAFARERS LOG

# The Struggle For Power In The NMU

#### By BURT BECK, Assistant Editor

IN THE FINAL ISSUE of the Pilot for 1946, Joseph Curran, President of the National Maritime Union, CIO, blew the lid off the communist situation in the NMU by resigning as co-chairman of the commiedominated Committee for Maritime Union.

He charged that the CMU was not really interested in furthering maritime unity; that on the West Coast the CMU had been involved in jurisdictional action between the SIU-SUP, the MFOWW, and the MCS; and that the CMU was really a stooge for an outside group, which he carefully refrained from naming.

All this was very strange in view of the fact that Curran, during the two weeks previous to his blast, had been out in San Francisco attending a CMU meeting and outlining plans for another conference to be held in New York beginning March 15.

In all the time before his out-of-the-blue resignation, Curran never printed one word of criticism against the CMU in his weekly column, "Passing The Word."

Yet since that date, he has stated over and over that he was aware of the CMU's deficiencies, knew that it was dominated by "outside forces," and was convinced that it would not and could not work for maritime unity.

Somewhere along the line Curran got smart, but even so he kept his membership toeing the commie-CMU line, and then, without preparation issued his now famous reversal of policy.

No sooner did Joe jump off the bandwagon then the communist Daily Worker, big brother to the Pilot, reversed its position on Curran and started to attack him as an enemy of labor, a red baiter, and a danger to the National Maritime Union.

From one day to the next, according to the DW, Joe changed from a progressive leader of the maritime unions to one who actively was plotting for the destruction of the NMU, and who had actually never been a real labor leader but had been made into a strong factor by the aid of the communists, their fellowtravellers, and the CP press.

All of this may be true. Let's look at the facts.

Rewriting history, and falsifying facts, is no new trick for communist hacks. From the time Stalin rewrote the history of the Russian Revolution to make him appear important, and other old-time Bolsheviks merely his errand boys, it is common practice for writers for communist papers to distort facts and figures, dates and speeches, aims and objectives-all so that the party is always correct and those who oppose the Stalinists always wrong.

Union and union officials who follow the party line are never blasted, and no matter what they do, as long as they carry out Soviet policy, no word of criticism is ever allowed to creep into print about them.

But woe to the man who crosses the party, or who, having followed the line, turns against the Moscow stooges.

Such a man is Joe Curran . . . and the CP machinery immediately whipped into action against him.

It is evident that Curran, in his original resignation, had no intention of tangling with the Communist party. Witness the fact that he didn't mention the comrats in his statement. But once the die was cast, and the CP attacks started, Curran came out with so-called

President Jack Lawrenson and Treasurer M. Hedley Stone, both former commies who threw their weight to Joe.

Against Curran were arrayed Vice-Presidents Joe Stack and Howard McKenzie and Secretary Ferdinand C. Smith, all Communists in good standing. Seven National Council members backed Curran, while seventeen lined up on the CP side of the iron curtain.

But even with the officialdom of the union trying to stymie membership participation, pressure became too strong, and on February 10, following a secret meeting, the dissolution of the CMU was announced.

So secret was the meeting that Harry Bridges sneaked into New York, called other CMU Executive Committee members on the telephone, and met with them to dissolve the organization without consulting the membership.

With the ending of the CMU the communists hoped to take the pressure off. From then on the cry became "Unity." Powered mainly by the commies, but taken up by some innocents, was the movement for unity in the NMU National office, with an end to "red-baiting," and with the CP permitted to carry on as before.

There was no question that the end of the CMU was dictated by the communist party. Curran's personal popularity had gained him much rank-and-file support, and although the NMU Pilot was, and is, dominated by the comrades, and although the majority of the NMU officials (107 out of 150) follow the party line, a mass movement to put the whole question to a referendum was rising.

#### **Neglected To Oil Machine**

So confident had been the CPers in the NMU that they had nothing to fear from Curran or anybody else that they had allowed their machine to become slightly rusty. So they dissolved the CMU, hoping to take the the pressure off so that they would have time to rebuild.

Curran, however, saw through their tactics, and was quick to follow up his advantage. On February 28, he announced in his column that he had brought charges against Joseph Stack, and that he intended "to press these charges fully so that the membership may at the conclusion one way or the other decide finally where their union is going."

A full dress inquiry into Stack's waterfront record was something that neither Stack nor the commies wanted or could stand at that time.

Stack's waterfront record is far from honorable. Except for the fact that he was a long-time member of the communist party and was marked by them for advancement within the ranks of the NMU, Joe Stack had nothing to recommend him as a fighter for seamen's rights.

Among the charges placed against him by Curran were that, as Patrolman in Jacksonville he left office \$100.00 short in his union funds and was subsequently forced to repay; actions unbecoming a member or official of the union is that he made unsubstantiated statements aimed at discrediting Curran before the membership; failing to carry out national office decisions on June 15, 1946, strike preparations, and mishandling and not properly accounting for union funds alloted to New York for the June 15 strike preparations; and finally, failing to make reports on organizational activity and permitting the misuse of organizers, and the misuse and waste of union funds alloted to the Organizing Department.

replace Stack-this as payment for Young's unquestioned loyalty as chairman of the Stack Trial Committee.

Ranging from the ridiculous to out-and-out lies, Smith's column has been a sounding board for communist mouthings in the NMU and allows comrades who are not able to read the Daily Worker regularly to keep up with the changes in the party-line.

To make certain that the trial of Joe Stack would be rigged in favor of the commie spokesman, but also to give it an appearance of legality, the communist-controlled National Council named a Trial Committee of five-only three of whom were communists. Chester Young, Charleston Agent, Philip Miller, member of the national port committee, and Jack Smith, Seattle Agent, were the "safe" members, while as a sop to the opposition, Charles Keith, member of the national port committee, and James Drury, San Francisco Agent, were elected.

But here, CP strategy backfired.

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It was thought by the smart wire pullers in the NMU that the three "safe" judges would bring in a verdict whitewashing Stack of all charges, and that even if the two others brought in a minority report, a packed and rigged New York meeting would accept the majority report, and that would end the matter.

That's exactly what happened, except for one thing -the minority report was not thrown out the way the commies expected.

The Trial Committee reported to the March 21 membership meeting in New York, and the well laid plans of the comrades ran like a rehearsed vaudeville act. Before the meeting convened, Paul Palazzi, New York Port Agent and an admitted communist, appointed a "trusted" group of Patrolmen, also communists or fellow-travellers, to take a count of any vote that came up. But that was only insurance. The comrades didn't really think it would come to that.

Frederick "Blackie" Myers, a member of the National Committee of the Communist party, and a former official of the NMU, was counted in as chairman of the meeting. Myers had been a frequent NMU official, but withdrew from the last election because his dues were not paid to date. It has been said by those who know the internal situation in the NMU that Myers declined to run because it was certain that his manipulations of union funds would come to light if he didmanipulations which involved expending thousands of dollars on the organization of the Isthmian Steamship Company, but actually using the money to organize for the communist party and its approved candidates in the 1945 election.

For Secretary of the meeting, the commies also took no chance. Dan Boano, another who has made no secret of his loyalty to the party-line, was put into that post by a vote, counted of course by the hand-picked tellers.

#### Stacked Committee Tries Whitewash

Then the stage was all set. The Trial Committee made a divided report. Young, Smith, and Miller, as expected, found Stack not guilty. The minority group, Keith, and Drury, stated that the finding of the majority was an attempt to whitewash Stack and recommended that he be removed from office, and prevented from holding office for a period of five years. They found him guilty of practically all charges.

information which readers of the LOG already knew.

In his column of January 3, 1947, the first one after his withdrawal from the CMU, and following a New York port meeting, Curran stated, "Vice-Presidents Mc Kenzie and Stack and Secretary Smith made no attempts . . . to discuss on a positive basis the reasons ... contained in the statement by the President, supporting his resignation.

"The simple reason they did not is because their loyalties and their motives have not been for their union first. They have openly made it clear on the floor that they spoke officially as members of the Communist Party and for the Communist Party."

The NMU meeting accepted Curran's resignation, but only after four and a half hours of discussion, during which the CP stooges tried their usual tactics of wandering far afield from the subject in hopes of muddling the issue beyond recall.

That same week the Pilot entered into the battle, on the side of the communists. In the letters pages much more space was given to letters attacking Curran that to communications supporting him. That this was done purposely, and not because there weren't enough pro-Curran letters, is proved by the fact that when the anti-commies got tough and demanded more space, they got it.

The next act in the drama occurred during the NMU National Council meeting. There, by a vote of 20-10 on strict party lines, Curran's resignation was disapproved, and an attempt to initiate a membership referendum vote on further CMU affiliation was defeated by the same tally.

By this time the battle lines were clearly drawn. Supporting Curran among the top officials were Vice-

#### Stack Was For Commies 1st, Seamen 2nd

Although Curran never said so in so many words. the underlying charge against Stack was that he used his positions of authority in the NMU to advance the communist cause, even when that cause was wholly opposed to the best interests of seamen in particular and the labor movement in general. At all times, in everything he did, Stack was a communist opportunist, and as such was willing to throw down labor to advance the Kremlin-Stalin line.

At the same time that Curran brought Stack up on charges, two other significant things took place in the NMU. First, the slogan under the masthead in the Pilot, which used to read "A National Paper For Maritime Workers," was changed and in its place appeared the slogan, "Keep The Union On A True Course." This motto was strictly out of the mouths of the commie hacks, and showed the line letters to the Editor were to take. They did; thousands of words were written by shoreside commie seamen all saying the same thing, and sometimes in almost the same words.

That change in slogan and party-line took place in the Pilot issue dated April 4, 1947.

Second, was the commencement on March 21 of a weekly column by red-tinged Ferdinand C. Smith, entitled "On The Beam." This weekly article has confined itself soley to whitewashing Joe Stack during the trial and the subsequent furore; commending the Daily Worker for its support of the NMU back in 1934-36; and working for the election of Chester Young to

The majority then moved that its recommendation be adopted, and there the script changed from what the comrades had planned.

A motion was made by the minority that the majority report be set aside and the minority report be approved in its stead. The commies were astonished by this maneuver, and chairman Blackie Myers attempted to ride roughshod over this properly made and seconded motion. However, membership protests made him change his tune, but by that time the commies had rallied their forces and were ready to do battle.

In the discussion on the minority motion, only those known to be communists or sympathizers were given the floor. Stooge after stooge took the floor in a vain attempt to becloud the issue.

But the membership, as completely confused by the many years of communist leadership as it was, nevertheless refused to swallow the undemocratic methods being used and when a show of hands was called on the motion, a sea of upthrust arms indicated that Stack had been voted out.

Myers, however, had not been schooled in CP tactics for nothing He refused to allow the vote to be counted, and instead encouraged the meeting to get out of hand. It did.

Order was later restored, and a vote finally taken, but not before Myers and Boano had relinquished their places of authority. By a narrow vote, the minority recommendation was sustained, but it was necessary to hold a further meeting to take an untampered-withvote, and for this purpose the Honest Ballot Association supervised the New York balloting in New York on April 5.

By a vote of 906 to 684 the minority report was up-

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# How It Started, And What It Means

held, and Stack was out. He had threatened that if the membership voted against him he would ship out, and he did. One trip as Lookout on a coastwise vessel and then back to New York where he could continue his disruptionist activities.

That left the post of Vice-President open, and the commies immediately nominated Chester Young, chairman of the Stack Trial Committee, for the post. They owed him at least that for the whitewash job he had done.

Curran nominated Bill McCarthy, but he declined and Charles Keith was nominated instead. Young was appointed by the national council by a large majority. Why McCarthy declined is a story in itself, and one that Curran may be hearing about for the first time in this story.

On Tuesday evening, April 22, the Harry Hines Branch of the Waterfront Section of the Communist party held a meeting at which charges were brought against one John Robinson by Albie Saltz and Albert Rothbard. A little background on Saltz and Rothbard is in order at this point.

Saltz is an oldtime communist-NMU stalwart. He is usually selected on committees, is a steady writer to the letters section of the Pilot, and is well known as a party liner in the NMU.

Although Saltz has remained a disruptionist within the NMU, Rothbard has gone up in communist circles. A onetime seaman, he has now become a so-called trade union expert, and is in charge of a new comnunist program of infiltration into the SIU and other AFL unions.

#### "He's Got A Tough Job"

In the August 1 issue of the Seafarers LOG, excerpts from a letter written by James Romanoff, former Marine Engineers Beneficial Association official and long time CP member, appeared. This letter said, in part, "Tell Rothbard that he's got a tough job—AFL concentration. May be years before he'll be able to observe noticeable results with the SIU."

The Executive Committee of the Harry Hines Branch constituted the Trial Committee of John Robinson. The committee consisted of Bill McCarthy, chairman; Pete Smith, an NMU appointed official; Herb Tank, CP poison-pen writer, author of Communists On The Waterfront and Inside Job, two phamplets designed to whitewash the role played by the comrades on the American waterfront; Clara Fish; and Maurice Dubrowsky.

Besides the charges by Saltz and Rothbard, statements to substantiate their charges were submitted by four others, among them Dan Boano, who has already been identified, and Rose Shovell, another CPer who has been instrumental in forcing the NMU to follow the party line.

It is significant that Curran nominated McCarthy to fill the post left vacant by Stack's ouster. It may be that he was not aware of McCarthy's CP affiliation, although even a casual reader of the Pilot corrld tell from McCarthy's letters that he is a loyal follower of Joe Stalin. The importance the communist party attaches to maritime and especially to domination of the maritime industry through control of the NMU is shown by the fact that present at the trial of Robinson were George Watt, representing the New York County organization, and John Gates, from the National organization. Gates has always been high in the councils of the CP, and is at the present time Editor of the Daily Worker.

To come back once more to the internal fight in the NMU, the appointment of Chester Young moved the union into its third internal struggle with a matter of months. A referendum vote to elect a new Vice-President was agreed to by the National Council, and final nominations for the post were Chester Young and Charles Keith.

The fight on CMU and Joe Stack were small potatoes compared to what took place during the months previous to, and during, the voting.

It became increasingly important for the communist party to elect Young, since in a by-elections, held on April 28, the CP lost some of the posts it held in the various ports. If the trend continued, and there was such a chance, the hold of the commiss might be broken.

So the hatchetmen went to work on Keith. Charles Keith was particularly vulnerable to commie attack. He had been a member of the CP, and as such had taken part in the character assassination of others.

His activities as part of the CP machine in the NMU were brought up to plague him, especially his support of the "no-strike" pledge. The commiss themselves raked this up when Keith blamed the party for the action.

Young was no whit better—in fact, worse. He had been a member of the NMU but had dropped out the same year he joined, 1938. He rejoined as a new member in 1943.

One letter, printed in the Pilot from Lew Ferrari, who had been shipmate of Young's on the Great Lakes, accused Young of having been anti-union during the time he sailed on the Henry Ford II, and only joined the NMU when he was forced to.

Although Young attempted to refute that charge and others, the overwhelming mass of evidence seems to indicate that Young in his 20 years of seatime was not a union man, and only joined when he started deep sea shipping and had no other choice.

His allegiance to the party line, however, is undisputed. During the Stalin-Hitler honeymoon, Young toured the United States lecturing that this country should stay out of the war. With the Nazi attack on Russia, the party lined changed, and Young went along without even blushing.

He became a staunch "second fronter," and howled about aid to the Soviet Union, even at the expense of American labor. Prior to the invasion of Russia he did not ship out, but in 1943, he joined the NMU in Baltimore and did sail for a while during the closing days of activity in the North Atlantic.

#### **Typical Commie Tactics**

Keith's record, while nothing to brag about, was

program within the NMU which did not allow for any backsliding Briefly their program was as follows: 1. Discredit Curran and his supporters by any possible means, fair or foul.

2. Operate in the ports in such a manner as to make it appear that commie-dominated ports run smoothly, while those not controlled were hot beds of mismanagement and chaos.

3. Becloud the real issue in the union by writing letters to the Pilot asking for an end to disruption in the national office and requesting Curran to work for unity by uniting with Smith, McKenzie, and Young.

4. Show the inefficiency of Curran and the anti-communists by sabotaging the June 15 negotiations so that the commie-led Marine Cooks and Stewards and Harry Bridges' longshoremen could appear to be the militant leaders of the maritime unions.

5. Organizing the party machinery ashore through the use of the Ladies Auxiliary, the NMU members who worked directly under Al Lannon, communist party waterfront boss, and by involving innocents who fell for the idea of unity at all costs.

6. Shipping out commiss so that they could be elected as delegates to the 6th Annual NMU Convention which opens in New York City on September 22.

On practically all scores the party machinery scored victories.

While they have been unable to discredit Curran, his supporters have been the targets of a vicious attack which the commies are more capable of than any other group.

Charges ranging from accepting money from members to immorality have been leveled at those Port Agents and Patrolmen who are trying to drive the commies into the open when the membership can deal with them.

#### Campaign To Sow Chaos

Commie-controlled ports run smoothly, but in ports where anti-CP forces control, beefs are the order of the day. Crews will sail out of CP ports without attempting to settle beefs and wait until they come into anti-CP ports to embarrass the Port Agent and Patrolmen.

If all beefs are not settled at once, and this is impossible, the letters column of the Pilot is filled with vicious letters, and Secretary Smith finds space in his weekly column to jump on the men who are fighting domination of their union by the communist party.

The fact that the Pilot is edited by party-liners makes the situation even worse. At the beginning of the struggle, Curran and Lawrenson had difficulty in having their statements printed. Lawrenson, by the way, is the official nominally in charge of publicity, and therefore responsible for the Pilot. But even he could not get anything into the Pilot and had to make sure that someone he trusted stayed at the printers on publication day to prevent sabotage of anti-communist articles.

As far as the June 15 negotiations are concerned, they are a matter of history. Days before the NMU started negotiations, the ILWU had concluded a deal with its contracted operators to extend the old contract. This left the NMU out on the limb, and made Curran appear spineless when he did not press for the NMU's stated aims.

On the other hand, Curran may have thought that McCarthy was more acceptable than Young. Sort of the lesser of two evils. If that is true, Curran shows a lack of good sense. He should know by now that it is impossible to work with communists since their allegiance is not to the labor movement, but to the CP line, and as such, they will always sabotage the trade union movement for their own ends.

Robinson, a longtime commie, was charged with not actively supporting the program of the communist party on the waterfront; with consorting with enemies of the party, namely Charles Keith, M. Hedley Stone, Tommy Ray, and Jack Lawrenson; with not aiding actively in strengthening and building the party after the expulsion of Earl Browder; with not giving support to the party during the CMU period; and with not supporting the party or Joe Stack during the time Stack was under fire.

#### **Robinson Gets The Gate**

Robinson was found guilty on all charges, and was summarily expelled.

One point in the trial proceedings, a secret copy of which is in the hands of the LOG Editors, points out that the CP may have made mistakes in program and policy during the war, but stands firmly behind its "no-strike" pledge.

This pledge handcuffed the labor movement but allowed the bosses to do anything they pleased. It cannot possibly be argued that this policy was good for American labor, it can, however, be proved that the "no-strike" pledge helped the bosses and the Soviet Union. much better than Young's. He had participated in all NMU strike actions, had held many elective offices in the union, and had been a member of many negotiating committees. His sailing record started prior to 1934, and included much seatime during the war.

Keith had also been in Spain, helping the Loyalists with the pro-commie Abraham Lincoln Brigade. Men who had served with him there, but who stayed in the CP after Keith was expelled, wrote letters to the Pilot calling him a coward, and stating that he had been thrown out of the Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade for cowardice and for allowing himself to be captured.

Official records of the Brigade prove that Keith had been wounded twice in action, and had been captured with many others when the Fascists broke through the Loyalists lines.

It is well to remember that Keith held many positions of responsibility in the Brigade veterans organization, and was not thrown out until he had been expelled from the CP.

This Keith-Young incident once again clearly shows just what depths the CP will stoop to in character assassination when disagreed with.

The election was attended by much mud-slinging, and the communists did most of it. They issued phamphlets, leaflets, etc., all designed to discredit Keith and build up Young. With their superior organization, and utilizing all their shoreside comrades and the vast wealth of the party treasury, the commies beat Keith by a plurality of 384 votes out of 20,981 cast.

During the entire period of the voting, however, the commies were not relaxing. They had embarked on a For the convention, the line-up is already being set. In the main, pro-commies are being delegated, and they should control the convention unless the Curran forces make a good showing in the shoreside port elections. It is expected that Stack will appeal the decision of the membership to unseat him, and this and other matters will show whether or not the NMU is to continue going stright down the communist path, or will take its place as an honest, militant union of rankand-file seamen.

One more point should be mentioned in connection with the internal fight in the NMU. The Daily Worker, which immediately called Curran's resignation from the CMU a "sellout," Stack's trial a "frame-up," and other clear logical attacks against CP-domination "redbaiting," finally seems to have gone too far in the filth it has printed about Curran. Joe Curran has advised the lawyers of the NMU to bring suit against the Daily Worker for libel.

In this article only a chronological picture of the developments within the NMU during the past eight months has been attempted. No try has been made in this installment to analyze communist aims for the future in the NMU, or Curran's sudden switch from an ardent party-line follower to the other side of the fence.

The next installment will discuss those two points plus recording the commie sellouts of merchant seamen previous to, during, and since the war.

The article will also discuss the question of SIU-NMU unity while the present condition exists in that union and point out how the SIU constitution and program prevents the communists or any other political party from dominating this Union. Page Ten

THE SEAFARERS LOG

Friday, August 8, 1947



# 

# Miller, Once Crack Leather-Pusher, **Now Is Enthusiastic SIU Member**



Seafarer Baby Miller, former top-notch figure in the boxing world, as she appeared recently aboard the SS August Belmont on a voyage to South Africa. Beard, which he grew for the "helluva it," was discarded shortly after trip ended.

Fistiana's loss was the SIU's gain when "Baby" Miller decided in 1939 to write finis to his 14 thrill-packed years in the ring. The genial leather-tosser's decision climaxed an amazing career that included 237 professional fights, in only 20 of which "Baby" came out the short-ender. Of

his wins, 150 were chalked up ast knockouts.

from the game the intelligent champ Pete Sarron likewise way-he chose not to wait until avoided a meeting with Miller. boxing's terrific physical demands left him scarred and bat- ler was a party to one of the tered. At first sign that the pace longest rounds in history. Rob- Cavalier Men Bid was beginning to tell he hung ert Ripley made the incident the up his battle-worn gloves.

fighters, feared "Baby's dyna-Brother Miller hade his exit mite-laden left. Featherweight Boxing records reveal that Mil-



This is how the crack southpaw looked when he invaded the professional ranks. Miller maintained himself in top physical condition throughout his 14 fighting years. Packing a powerful left which accounted for 150 KO's, Miller was avoided by the world featherweight and lightweight champs. Though heavier today, he bears no scars, a tribute to his defensive skill.

# p his battle-worn gloves. The signal came in Pittsburgh, Or Not" series. As a result of Speedy Recovery

### Crew Of MV Jim Brown 1st Of RTC Gulf Tugs To File Minutes - It Pays Off, Too

The crew of the MV Jim safety precaution, they said, the Brown broke the ice by being company should be willing to the first of the River Terminal comply.

Corporation's tugs to send in copies of their shipboard meet- on a motion urging the company ings. A report from the New to fulfill its contractual obliga-Orleans Branch of the SIU ac- tions by having linen aboard companying the minutes stated changed at least twice a trip. Of the tugs are being visited fre-late there has been a letdown quently by Union representatives in this service. and that crewmembers are mani-

their jobs and organization.

Sparked by Horace J. Orgeron, Ship's Delegate, who is "doing a bang-up job" in getting the Jim Brown in ship-shape condition, members of the crew are:

Mark Shoemaker, Herbert Alle- Orleans so that the crew may mond, Tillman Theriot, Jim Fred- be present to pass on the settleericks, Willie Ledet, N. J. Trox- ment. clair, R. C. Corlas and G. E. Wright.

shipboard meeting calling on the the hope that other gulf area tugs company "to put handrails on would follow them in sending both sides of the boat" after sev- copies of their meeting's proeral crewmen pointed out, dur- ceedings. ing discussion, that the improve-

ment would benefit the company tween New Orleans, Lake Charles as well as the men. This being a and Texas ports.

The crew also acted favorably

Action on the two beefs disfesting a noticeable interest in cussed at the meeting is expected shortly, as SIU representatives from the New Orleans Hall have already met with company officials to get the matter squared away. Another meeting is scheduled to be held when the Jim Brown returns to the New

The note from the New Orleans Hall spoke highly of the A motion was passed at the Jim Brown's crew and stressed

The Brown makes runs be-

# **Simmons Victory Men Spend Time With Bremen Mummies**



a day after "Baby's" 237th scrap in which he sent Lee Sheppard ing blows to Chino Alvarez in reto the canvas to stay in the first taliation for illegal rabbit punchround. Walking down the street es, it was 20 minutes before the Miller noticed a peculiar sensa- round was officially declared tion in the legs on which he had over. weathered every fistic onslaught since he was 14-years-old.

#### ENOUGH

"Bastante," Miller murmured to himself, thus ending his role in the tough, grinding pursuit.

It was shortly after that Miller turned to the sea, which he had been eyeing with interest from the days before he donned the leather mitts. In 1942 he joined the SIU and ever since he has been acquiring a trade-union record that bids fair to outshine his remarkable stint as a leatherpusher.

"Baby's" ring days were busy throughout his long career. He was at his peak in 1937, when he held the lightweight and welterweight championships of the South. It was in that year that the world's lightweight champ, Lou Ambers, refused a match with Miller on the pretext that the classy little Tampa fighter was a southpaw.

the ring's most murderous in- he did was hard to fathom, since without it.

Miller thrice delivering paralyz-

Since Baby's retaliatory smash es weren't exactly Marquis of Queensbury etiquette, the referee had to allow Alvarez five minutes on each occasion to recover. How Miller happened to don the gloves for a career came about accidentally. A solid hitter for his school baseball team Miller tried out the leather for the first time, when his diamond coach brought around a pair of mitts. Miller quickly dropped his opponent and someone suggested that boxing was his call ing. It didn't take long to prove

the guy was right. Though he sometimes looks back on those days of former glory with a sigh, Miller, whose mild disposition belies that record of 150 knockouts, finds life sailing under the SIU bannet much to his liking. He's one of the Union's most enthusiastic boosters.

Miller grew a bushy beard on the squared arena. At any rate, At that time it was believed his recent trip aboard the Robin he shaved it off and all hands that the 135-pound king, one of liner, SS August Belmont. Why agree he smiles much better

### **To SIU Booster**

All hands of the SS Alcoa Cavalier are wishing for the speedy recovery of Mrs. John B. Heitzenraeder, of 319 Richmond Avenue, Point Pleasant, N. J., wife of the Chief Baker aboard the vessel.

A communication dispatched to the LOG by Bill Higgs, the Cavalier's Second Steward, states that Mrs. Heitzenraeder has just undergone the first of a series of operations for the removal of cataracts from her eyes. It is hoped that these operations will completely restore her vision.

Mrs. Heitzenraeder has been LOG and several of her letters lauding the Union for its achievements have been published during the past year.

many, recently.

was under construction.

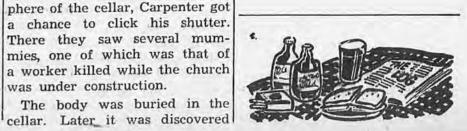
The LOG joins with the Cavalier crew in wishing speedy recovery to the wife of Seafarer Heitzenraeder.

he bears none of the tell-tale scars so common to veterans of

Simmons Victory crewmembers gathered around casket bearing remains of man buried in Bremen cathedral over 700 years ago. Alvin Carpenter, who took photo, reports that presence of radioactive rays from uranium deposit act as preservative on bodies buried there.

Seafarer Alvin Carpenter has that it hadn't disintegrated, so a nose for news and a stomach others were buried there from for centuries-old mummies. He time to time. Carpenter photoalso has a reflex flash camera. graphed several, including that an avid and steady reader of the He put all three of them to work of a British count killed in a when his ship, the SS Simmons duel in 1600. Victory, called at Bremen, Ger-

show a slight uranium deposit in With some of his shipmates, he the subterrarean passages of the visited an old Bremen cathedral cathedral and that the radio acbuilt in the latter part of the 12th tive rays have acted as a preservative. century. In the macabre atmos-



He explained that tests now

THE SEAFARERS LOG

# **SIU Ships' Minutes In Brief**

THOMAS NUTTALL, May 5-Chairman M. J. Danzey; Secretary P. Deady. Departmental delegates reported all okay. Motion carried to locate 25 lbs. of Oxalic Acid supposed to be aboard for cleaning decks. Entire unlicensed personnel went on record to cooperate in keeping anyone without business off the ship. One minute of silence for Brothers lost at sea.

1 1 1

JOSEPH N. TEAL, June 16-Chairman A. G. Van Devanter; Secretary Stanley Evans. Delegates reported no beefs. New Business: Steward suggested that all cups and silverware be kept off main deck. Motion carried that future meetings be held on Sundays at 2 p. m. Motion carried that better reading material be brought aboard in first port. Deck Delegate, William Graben-Evans.



\$ \$ TULANE VICTORY, July 6ard-Utility be placed aboard all second. victory type ships.

1 1 1 PONCE DeLEON, June 13-Chairman William Turner; Secretary Bob McCullough. Allen Gary, Deck Delegate reported 36 hours of disputed time. Engine Delegate Joe Pinder reported 45 hours of disputed overtime. Stewards Delegate James Hill total of 51 disputed hours. New Business: Repair list made up and accepted. Good and Welfare: Brother Pinder suggested that crewmembers leave all keys to foc'sles for the next crew.



CITY OF ALMA, July 4-Chairman Red Sully; Secretary W. Barth. New Business: Motion carried that all hands be sober on payoff day. Good and Walfare: Suggestion that medicine be on hand for Athlete's Foot so the infection won't spread. Suggestion that a screen of some kind be placed on stack so the soot won't go into quarters aft.

1 1 1 JANEWAY, June 8-Chairman duer; Engine Delegate, B. L. Ga. G. Brazzil; Secretary W. Simbor; Stewards Delegate, Stanley mons. New Business: Laundry room found to be dirty and coffee bag found to be the same. Arrangements made for cleaning laundry room by alternating beween departments. Coffee bag to be cleaned after every use.

\$ \$ \$ DESOTO, June 15-Chairman Chairman S. Korolia; Secretary R. L. Booker; Secretary Philip John Zimmer. Deck Delegate B. Reyes. Deck Delegate D. D. Ben-W. Jensen requested that he be nett reported everything smooth. replaced due to illness. Stewards D. McCullum, Steward Delegate, Delegate M. C. Basar reported reported no beefs and everything everything satisfactory. Engine in order. New Business: Motion Delegate B. A. Turner reported carried that crew draft a resoluseveral beefs, but no details of tion to be presented for referwhat they were. N. J. Murchie endum that members who are on roof put on the poop deck. Momoved that a new washboard, articles and quit the ship withironing board and scrub-board be out singing off and without ininstalled in crew laundry. Mo- forming the Delegates be fined for his cooperation. Deck Deletion by L. Fuselier that company not less than \$100 for the first gate, Oridio R. Rodriguez; Enbe contacted to have extra Stew- offense and suspension for the

### Let's Have 'Em

This is it Brothers! Right on these pages is a

good place to blow your top. If you've got a beef or some suggestions you think will be of benefit to your Union and your Brothers, why not have it printed in the LOG?

If you haven't any steam to blow off, there must be something you've found in-

BILLINGS, June 29 - Chairman Joseph W. James; Secretary Muchett. Jansson, Deck Delegate reported no beefs; Collins, Engine Delegate, no beefs; Mindez. Steward Delegate, reported all smooth. Good and Welfare: General discussion on Pantryman and Messman cooperating with each other in cleanliness of messroom. One minute of silence for Brothers lost at sea.

1 1 1 JOHN LaFARGE, July 20-Chairman Kase; Secretary Al Mosher. Departmental Delegates reported no beefs. New Business: Motion made to get an itemized statement on earnings on trip at the payoff. Motion carried to inform Captain of desire for payoff slips. Motion carried to collect all books two days before arrival in port.



man William Rhone; Secretary Charles Zinn. New Business: Charge read against Bosun. After discussion vote was taken and majority voted to throw them cut. Motion carried for all union members to call Bull Line office and request that things carried by the crew be free of charge. Motion carried that cooling system be repaired and a wooden tion carried to give the Purser, Chris Meyer, a vote of thanks gine Delegate, Lorenzo Vogain, Stewards Delegate, George L. Kaufman.

t t t WILLIAM PEPPER, May 11-Chairman Frank McGuire; Secretary J. E. Powell. Decision that each department rotate in taking care of recreation room. Delegates reported their departments as being in good shape. One minute of silence for lost Broth-





Page Eleven

#### By HANK

It shouldn't have happend but that's the way it is-even in this Seafaring life. Last week an SIU Bosun came in from a few months of volunteer Isthmian sailing. It was hard enough to work for Isthmian's \$205.00 monthly wage for Bosuns (while the SIU wage for Bosuns was always higher) and also to have his total overtime shot full of holes-with so many hours worked ridiculously lost forever down the well-used company's economy-hole. Well, the worst came when the Bosun went ashore the night of the payoff with all his gear and his well-earned dough-and sure enough. it happened. Two guys jumped him in the dark waterfront streets of Erie Basin in Brooklyn-took all his dough, papers, union bookand even beat him up in the bargain. Well, Brothers, where ever. you pay off-don't go ashore at night loaded down with your gear and all that tempting cabbage. Go ashore in the day with your dough or get traveler's checks. There's always the first time that it may happen to you to get rolled for your dough and have your face kicked while you're down-just as it happened to one of our swell SIU Bosuns-militantly doing his share of the hard and important work.

We may be rather late with this bit of news but it's still good. That oldtimer, Brother H. Greenlee, who was in Arizona for awhile, may still be in San Francisco now. Brother Greenlee has sent word to let all the boys on the East Coast know he's sending them his best regards . . . Brother Joe Pilutis smiled last week as he confessed that he's got a home now on the SS

J.

t.



\$ t 丁 LEBORE, June 29-Chairman Pete DePietro; Secretary H. Bronk. New Business: Suggestions taken for improvement of conditions aboard ship. Good and Welfare: All hands agree to cooperate in keeping messhalls, crew lounge, laundry and pantry clean.

\* \* \*

**ROBIN TUXFORD**, June 15-Chairman Thomas Paultney: Secretary Peter W. Drewes. Delegates reported all in order. Motion made to bounce Second Cook and present charges at payoff. Motion carried unanimously. Thanks given to Night Cook Willie B. Wingo and Chief Cook Joseph I. Dubuque for extra consideration in making trip more pleasant. Motion by Peter Gelpi to recommend permit-card man, Pietro Paulin for full book. Passed unanimously. New Business: Motion by Frank T. Young to call Union's attention to the inadequate slopchest.

teresting on your trip that you'd like to pass along for others to read about-characters you meet in the farflung corners of the earth, joints you've found worth seeing and those you feel it advisable for your Brothers to avoid. Why not let all hands profit by your experiences?

Maybe you're pretty good at turning out a poem-okay then, let's have it. Pen and ink sketches are welcome, too. If you've got some



photographs of your ship, or shipmates or any "shots" taken in the various ports o'call, send them along. We'll return them.

Just mail your material to the Editor, Seafarers Log, 51 Beaver Street, New York 4, N. Y. How about doing it NOWI

ままま CALEB STRONG, July 20-Chairman Gardner; Secretary Carmer. Motions carried; that cach department clean laundry

once a week; that Black Gang Delegate get library in Pedro if possible; that quiet be maintained while men are sleeping; that Stewards Delegate draw up list of items needed and submit same to Steward; that each man place his coffee cup in sink after using

1 1 1 ALCOA CUTTER, July 7-Chairman E. C. Anderson; Secretary H. Nichlos. Good and Welfare: Reported that Third Mate is giving the Steward a hard time by griping about the chow. Crew is 100 per cent satisfied with the Steward and food and will stand behind him in any beef. Bosun gave short talk on the SIU and the matter of cooperation.

\$ \$ \$ WILLIAM R. DAVIE, May 25 -Chairman Angelo Meglio; Secretary (not given) New Business: Steward notified that there was not enough matches and soap for trip. Good and Welfare: Repair list made up and approved by all hands. New Business: Officers to keep out of crew messhall. Evangeline and will drop us a letter from Nassau soon . . . Bosun Carl Lawson came in smiling last week after making a home on a ship for seven months . . . Brother John Santos just came in from a trip to Rotterdam, Holland. En route to Rotterdam the Old Man told the crew that they were getting too much wages anyway-so there wouldn't be any overtime. Coming home the Old Man changed his course of venom and said that the company was only allowing 76 hours overtime. Anyway, Brother Santos says that there was one place he stayed away from in Rotterdam-the section called Chinatown .

"Heavy" Mitchell Mileski, the cook, and his mustache, just sailed about a week ago for Boston, Baltimore, Hampton Roads and then to Antwerp. His shipmate, Clifton Wilson and his cigar, writing from Bordeau, France, says that he'll be sailing into town about the middle of August . . . Bosun Roderick Smith just sailed in smiling and feeling good. Brother Smith says he's still making a home out of the SS Yaka-and that her next trip will be to the Far East, for a change . . . Brother George Meaney said adios this week while he took off on the Tampa Victory with a bundle of the Latest LOGS, the new forms for these shipboard meetings, etc. The ship's going to Amsterdam and Rotterdam and George says that Brother Arthur Thompson, the old timer, is one of his shipmates aboard . . . We hear that Buddy Callahan is down in New Orleans until winter is over.

z.

t

Here's a letter from little Joe Ryan, the happy cook, writing from New Orleans: "You reasonable facsimile of Frank Sinatra, I was just reading the LOG of July 25, where you inserted a small piece to the crew of the SS Charles Hull, congratulating the crew on keeping her clean. Well, she's clean alright, she went back into the bone-yard sometime in July. She's in the boneyard and I'm in the hospital convalescing from an operation. I saw our patrolman on a hospital visit and he is indeed a good Joe. Insert a vote of thanks in the LOG because he surely cheers up a Brother when he comes. Won't be back in New York till late fall. Regards to all the boys."

Page Twelve

THE SEAFARERS LOG

Friday, August 8, 1947

### E MEMBERSHIP SPEAKS

### SOLID SEAFARERS ON ISTHMIAN'S HAROLD I. PRATT

and the second se

### Scores 'One-Trip' **Volunteers** Just **Seeking Books**

#### To the Editor:

I was skimming through some past editions of the LOG and came across several statements and articles of praise for the membership from Agents, Patrolman and Organizers on the fine job they did in the Isthmian flect. One of those complimentary statements was from me.

Now I'd like to add a postscript to my words of praise. Not praise this time, but rather a mild blast.

Almost all the men who rode Isthmian ships did so from a good Union man's viewpoint, there were still quite a few who sailed on them for a selfish reason. These are the men to whom I am directing this blast.

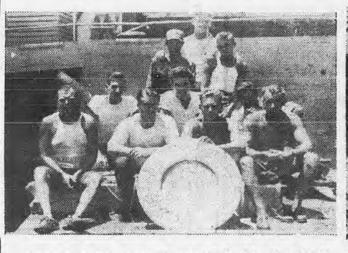
#### ONE TRIP BOYS

Some of the permits rode the ships for the sole purpose of getting their books. They made one round trip, got their books and then piled off. They never showed any more interest in the drive again. They're certainly not the ones who deserve praise. It is the guys who kept making trip after trip who deserve the praise for the fine job.

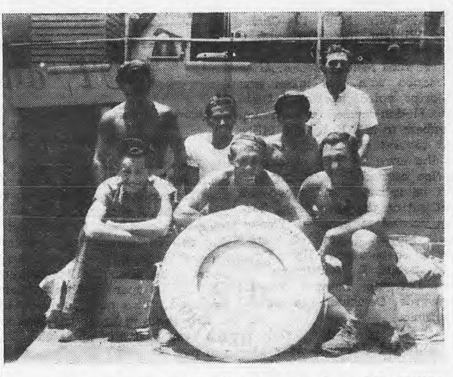
Also certainly not praiseworthy were the men who got jobs in Isthmian only because shipping from the Hall was slow, like the period last fall after our strike.

Those men who voluntarily rode unorganized even though jobs on the Union board were going begging are the men to congratulate.

Every member in this Union To the Editor: benefits when another fleet of ships is added to the companies under contract, so why should a



Ending a run that began Feb. 28, the Pratt is presently at Todd's Erie Basin, where she paid off July 17. The three departments worked smoothly, crewmembers reported. In photo at



Their faces wreathed in smiles, these members of the Pratt's Black Gang are probably anticipating the change in conditions which an SIU contract will bring to Isthmian crews. Photos by E. R. Crelan, AB.

# **Crewmen Put Nix On Bucko**

ed up by the one aboard the

phia, at which port we took on

a cargo of steel, beer and cater-

GET THIS!

He made two Ordinary Sea-

men stand to at three minutes

of five in port telling they

were not to leave their jobs un-

til it was finished even if it

When I asked him if we weren't

His use of profane language in

an Ordinary Seamen who made

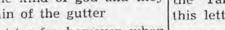
supposed to get overtime for

such work he replied "overtime,

meant missing their dinner.

dinaries around as though he On June 2 four members of the were some kind of god and they

deck gang aboard the Steel Ran- the vermin of the gutter



the Tampa Hall. Please print this letter in the LOG.

left are members of the Deck Department. Some

of the Stewards department are seen in photo

at right. The names of the individuals of this

**BROTHER CARTER** 

Quite naturally, when the LOG

single iota of its contents. Now

the reason for this letter is some-

July 4 edition of the LOG and,

Brother, it really got under my

skin. I noticed in a report of the

shell is this: Personally, I'd feel

with a meager donation for such

FARERS LOG. Shame, shame.

the LOG are purely voluntary

and are accepted gratefully, re-

STUMPS FOR LOG

smooth team, however, weren't enclosed.

To the Editor:

reading matter.

50-cent donations.

(Ed. note: Contributions to

Paul C. Carter



(Uncle Otto)

When I start out the icebox to plunder.

A cozy little night-snack in mind; On my way there I always will wonder,

Just exactly what I will find.

I'll open the door while I mutter, Or even let go with a scream, For I see those five dishes with

butter,

And five little pitchers with cream.

The ketchup and olives, they taunt me,

The lemons and pickles do, too,

I have been hospitalized for The cheese and baloney sure the past 30 days in the Staten haunts me,

Island Marine Hospital and as Just the same as it's doing to you.

a result of spending that much So I sigh as I look at this clutter, time in the "sack" I've had ample In my eye coming on the beam, opportunity to catch up on my Is the sight of five dishes of butter,

And five litle pitchers of cream. reaches the hospital I read every

> When near daybreak my watch is completed,

thing I happened to notice in the For an orange, apple or pear,

Then again my search is repeated, Though I know I shan't find any there.

LOG donations from a certain So I lay down to sleep with a ship that there were quite a few shudder,

'Cause I know ever deep in my Well, the whole thing in a nutdream

ashamed to face the Patrolman There'll be five little dishes of butter,

a fine publication as the SEA- And five little pitchers of cream.

#### I Got A Pal

P. S. Enclosed find a \$3.00 donation for the LOG. You may From a Florida boy to his seaman pal in the Philippines. send the receipt to me care of By OTTO PREUSSLER

few members and permits have to do all the work.

#### BOOK MEN NEEDED

Come on you book men, you tions and principles of this Union a few of the mad schemes dreambetter than the permit men. You should therefore be better quali- Ranger on our trip from Locust fied to do a good organizing job Point in Baltimore to Philadelthan a permit man aboard ship. Get in there and get jobs with the companies we are organiz- pillars bound for Ras Tanura, via ing. Stay on them for awhile and Saudi Arabia. show the non-union man what he is missing by not being a part of the SIU.

Are you going to depend only on permit men, who though they may be just as willing, don't have the experience you have. If you are, you're not only failing yourself as an individual but the union as well.

Come on up to the fifth floor hell!" of the New York Hall and find out what companies we're or- abusing the crewmembers was ganizing. Get a job with them. strictly unnecessary. He let Lend a hand in making them loose a long string of curses at SIU.

And you permit men. Don't a mistake while operating a just ride one trip so you'll be winch, even though he knew it eligible for a book. Stay on until was the Ordinary's first trip to that election or at least for sev- sea. He seemed to get a great

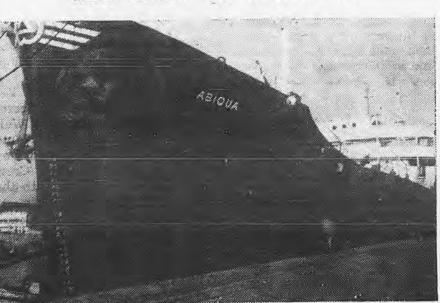
eral trips. Earn that book! Johnny Arabasz kick out of pushing the Or-

ger, myself included, signed off He went too far, however, when after being aboard only eight he told two of the seamen what a tough time he was going to give days.

This ship belongs to Isthmian, them once we signed foreign arand it seems that of late they al- ticles, so we put our heads toways find a Chief Mate who is gether and piled off the ship in know, or should know the opera- unbearable. The following are spite of the pleading of the Captain.

gardless of the amount. However, the LOG thanks Brother Carter for his donation and his sentiments. His receipt is already in the mail.) William Terry

HER CREW IS GOING SIU



The Cities Service tanker Abiqua as she appeared in Buenos Aires Argentina, recently. Sparked by William Knight, Chief Pumpman: Robert Allen, Machinst, and Tom Scanlon, FWT, the Abiqua crew is reported 75 per cent strongly in favor of the SIU, with the number of pro-union men increasing daily. Fred Wray, a crewmember, photographed the ship.

Over there, over there, I got a pal
Over there, where the sun goes down
Nine thousand miles from here, I got a pal.
Over there, where the sun goes down,
Every night, every night, I pray,
And every night I pray for my pal,
And I pray for my pal, for my pal,
Every night when the sun goes down.
And over there, where the sun goes down,
My pal is thinking of me, of me,
He is so far, so far away from me,
Over there, where the sun goes down.
And every night, when I am in bed,
I dream and dream of my pal,
I dream he is coming back.
He is coming back to me.
Over there, over there, where the sun goes down,
There will be a battle, a free for all,

And freedom for me, for me, for all;

Come back, pal-before the sun goes down.

### **Peeping Tom** Has Ears, Too

#### To the Editor:

Listening to the Brothers talk while waiting around the Hall often makes me laugh. I overhear little bits of conversation, like the one at the third floor "coke" machine:

"Whatcha like in the fifth at Jamaica?"

"Aah, I can't say-the pigs are all out for the exercise."

Or like down on the second deck:

"Too hell with Libertys. I want a C-2 or nothing."

"Yeah, all you want are sport models.'

Well, anyway she's going to France-ah, how well I remember France."

#### WELL-KNOWN GAB

Then this familiar type:

"So I told the Mate to go chase himself and the ol man tried to log me and I told him if he does he'll be sorry . . ."

". . . So I went into this ginmill and along came a gal over to me and we began talking just like you said. Well, everything went along fine but I was running out of cash but she said it was okay and not to worry . . ."

".... Boy that sure was some trip. I wonder if that wiper ever got married to that beetle in Capetown. . ."

Well, all this goes on day and night in most halls and I guess it will keep on until the end cf time. It's a swell thing to come up to the Hall and see your pals giving out with the lowdownbut don't talk too loud fellows. I may be taking down some of your gossip one of these days. "Listening Tom"



unteer organizing is George Mihalopoulos (above.) He recently got himself a job aboard the SS Cantigny, a Cities Service tanker, where he is telling the story to his shipmates of the advantages and gains to be had under an SIU contract.

#### Can't Keep Him Down On The Farm To the Editor:

I would like to have my address printed in the LOG as I desire to hear from some of my old shipmates. I'm stuck here in Tampa, Florida, on a chicken farm,, and I lost my wallet containing the addresses of friends.

I appreciate very much receiving the LOG as it enables me to read about what is going cn. I expect to start the long ride back to sea one of the days in the near future, but in the meantime, take it easy, fellows.

this democratic way of doing

W. E. Waddle, RR 1, Box 220 Limona, Fla.

### THE SEAFARERS LOG

# Militancy Of Canadian Seamen Fits SIU Pattern, Brother Says

To the Editor:

Let's look back to the SIU con-1944. At that time the Canadian Sullivan didn't wise up sooner. Seamens Union, better known today as the Commies Seamens Union, had two delegates present. Under the cloak of "patriotism," the representatives, President mistake, he has now found it Pat Sullivan and Acting President Dewar Furgeson sought jurisdiction of the Canadian seamen on the Pacific coast.

Guided by the constitution, the national executive of the SIU requested the CSU to live up to its SIU charter. Namely, that they stop operating with the NMU which is a dual organization, but most important to agree to fight the Communist party on the North American continent.

As the CSU would not agree to these requests, its application for jurisdiction on the Pacific coast was refused. Bear in mind that that there was already one AFL seamens union operating at the time. Sullivan and Furgeson both claimed that the commission had no control in the CSU.

#### TRUTH COMES OUT

In 1945, Dewar Furgeson ran for alderman in Toronto on the Communist ticket. Seems he couldn't find enough to do look-

from the AFL.

altered considerably. Pat Sulli- them with funds. In the mean- will be able to raise more funds van resigned his position as president of the CSU, with a blast out any representation. that the history of the organiza-

Now Sullivan has started a new seamens union on the Lakes known as the Canadian Lakes difficult to move into the rank and file of the CSU.

With proper leadership, the Canadian boys can run rings around any shipping company as no where in the world can one find militant scamen with CSU CONTRACTS ARE WEAK guts like Canadian boys. All they lack at the present time is the shipowners have thrown in leadership. They need leaders a \$10 raise to the crews for their who are seamen themselves and loyalty to the companies. The whose interests lay in the better- practice of the companies now is ment of wages and conditions for to fire the crew a couple of hours the Canadian seamen.

The tempo is picking up now the rival union for replacements. as these boys are beginning to realize that the SIU is what they tract, as the Captain has the exhave been waiting for. They are clusive right to hire, fire, etc. beginning to see the light in solid contracts, instead of a lot of protests to the government to make Sullivan will turn out. The CSU the shipping companies honor their contracts.

tives cannot board their own livan with part in an incident at contracted vessels unless they Port Colbourne, during the strike sign a statement that they do not last year in which one of their belong to the communist party, members was beaten and robbed. ing after the full time job, as the Being commies themselves, the Who should know better than the Canadian seamen were paying crews' representatives (?) have man who was CSU president at

voked the charter of the CSU fy the companies so it looks as if thugs were in the employ of the which was subsequently expelled there will be a strike on the CSU. Lakes if the CSU can persuade

time, the crews go about with- in the same manner.

tion in Canada has been one of selves with the number of libel interference and dictation by the suits being thrown into the pic-Communist party. Curran's tac- ture. That is not the only thing vention held in New Orleans in tics must be catchy. But too bad that is being thrown around as the goon squad from the CSU ran into Sullivan and his aide and cid a little messing up. The only people that benefitted were the Seamens Union. Realizing his newspapers for it made the headlines for a couple of days, and the way they made it one would think a revolution had started up here. Take it from me, Brothers, its just a lot of hot air without any contracts for Canadian seamen.

In the midst of this malarkey, before sailing and then call on

That is part of the CSU con-

It will be interesting to find out how the libel suit against president, Harry Davis, and the secretary, McManus, don't like At present, CSU representa- the idea of being charged by Sulagreed not to talk politics while the time? None other than Sul-In this same year the SIU re- on the ships. That does not satis- livan, and he knew then that

Maybe when the CSU has an-Today, in 1947, the picture has other organizations to supply other strike on the Lakes they

Bill Olynyk

Montreal, Que.

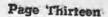
Lawyers are smiling to them-

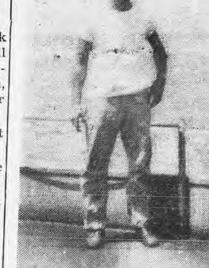
Former CSU Member Declares Seafarers Is 'Union Worth Fighting For'

#### To the Editor:

I'm writing a few lines to let it be known that I am more than pleased with conditions aboard the SIU ship, the MV Gadsden. And this goes for the accommodations in the galley, the work- saw the general good conduct of ing hours, and the comfort of

things very much. "WORTH FIGHTING FOR" I was very much surprised at our first meeting at sea when I





Ardent Unionist

the quarters.

One thing I like in particular about the SIU is that in it we are not slaves, like we were when we sailed on ships contracted to the Canadian Seamen's Union. A man can stand up and expose his grievances or complaints and be listened to. I like

### **Note For Writers**

Carl Cowl, Seafarer who has sold a number of stories for SIU men with writing ability, is still looking for good novels. He feels sure that among the Seafarers are some who can turn out a book the public will go for. Brother Cowl is taking a short trip but will resume his literary marketing when he returns.

Meanwhile, he asks that Brothers with book-length material submit their manuscripts to him care of the Seafarers Log, 51 Beaver Street, New York 4, N. Y. Enclose self-addressed, stamped envelope to insure safe return.

meeting was held. I said to myself, "Here is a Union worth fighting for and it must become the only seamen's union in Canada."

our Brothers and the way the

Having been a member of the Canadian Seamen's Union for a long while, I know its ways of doing things and of how it places agitators aboard Canadian ships. These agitators delude the young seamen by false promises of promotions and advancements, and then they use these men to their own advantage.

#### TOUGH FOR GOOD GUYS

These agitators are protected by the CSU members, who wish to become good union men and keep their hands clean. It is these good union men who are generally accused by false statements. This happens because they do not want to become partisans of the commies and use their underhand methods. Also, the CSU knows that there are certain Canadian ships that are temporarily flying the Canadian flag, such as the Furness-Canada Line, whose real owners are the



Some of the efficient crew aboard the locomotive-carrier MV Gadsden, which sails out of Montreal. Second from left is Peter Gonzales, Steward; in front of him is Jean Paul Vandreuil, AB. In center is Stewards Delegate Gene Woods. Frederick Kakkum, Carp., in white cap, stands at extreme right.

give the seamen very much pro-question personally. It was not can tell you a lot more when we tection, outside of anything that a legal question but just a matter return to Montreal. Prince Line, an English outfit. happens aboard their ships. These of making a few extra dollars on I am awfully proud to have The year 1948 will tell the story, lawyers helped to sell out a sea- the side, with the seaman being become an SIU mcmber. because then the Prince Line will man's home while he was in a taken for a ride.

take these ships over to England. hospital in a foreign port. These I must come to an end here for Also, the CSU lawyers do not lawyers know the seaman in writing space is lacking but I Albert Stanton Chief Cook

MV Gadsden

Page Fourteen

THE SEAFARERS LOG

# **Capers Of Performers Make Allies Of Union-Busters** Them

#### By A. JARGENSEN and EDWIN L. THOMPSON

The LOG story of June 27 headed "New York Branch Cracks Down On Gashounds And Performers," was an excellent example of the Union's awareness of the situation and the desire to curb the undesirables in our Union and pave the way for a program all Seafarers could axe finally fell and how they back up 100 percent.

with performers who louse up days they had performed exactly good ships. In fact, it seems that 412 hours work, and, of course, a nationwide campaign is in as a fitting climax the performorder to clean up the situation. For awhile it seemed that per-

formers and gashounds were getting scarce, but with the pickup in shipping it seem a lot of on the ships.

are facing a most gigantic strug- the Union of the men who con- struggle. gle. The bosses with hundreds of millions of dollars behind them are out to smash not only our Union but all unions.

#### BOSSES ARE UNITED

Drunk with power and greed, they have already succeeded in cases as high as 150 percent.

The bosses have their unionall large cities, is the Chamber night. of Commerce. You can bet your sweet potatoes that these boys blowing the foam off her beer. stand together and don't fink.

Taft and Hartley are merely doing their master's bidding, box and invests his nickel in a ably aided and abetted by such typical Texas ballad, "Home in performers as we had on our last trip.

We know what to expect from the bosses and honestly admitted will be the finks who claim to be our Union brothers, and who for a few dollars seem to think they have purchased the right to louse up decent ships,

To point up specifically what performers can do to a good

swarm into the messhall to de- Union a black eye. mand food.

As a result of such antics the sober and responsible members of the crew were forced to secure gear at sea, which could easily have been done before we cast off, had everyone turned to.

After pulling such tricks, the howled when they were fired. We have too long been lenient But it was no wonder. In 20 ers were left in a condition that 1920-21 - the glorious days of would shame a respectable pig.

HOPE FOR CLEANUP

come aboard lit to the gills and tribute nothing and give the

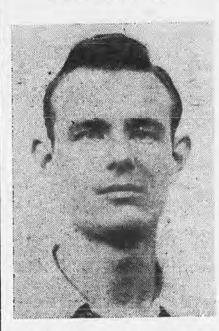
Doubly important today is a clean up campaign, for under the new Labor law our Union will be subject to suits and be held liable for losses of the companies.

How would you like to be on our Union negotiating committee and have the shipowner tell you a tale like this?

Let's wake up. More drastic action is needed against such characters in our Union or one these days we will find ourselves smack right back in the days of Palmer with mobs organized by the bosses raiding and burning Union halls.

So, it is with great interest The performers in our ranks fellows think that they are doing that we read of the clean up are supplying material for the the Union and the companies a campaign announced in the LOG. Westbrook Peglers and lesser great favor by taking a vacation We hope the campaign will con- lights of his color. So, lets clean tinue to crack down on the per- up. At least we will have our Let's not deceive ourselves. We formers and once and for all rid backs protected in the coming

#### Sails Tankers



"The only way to organize Cities Service is to get on those ships and stay on them until they vote," is the way Lee Arnett put it. So, suiting action to the words, Brother Arnett applied for a job on a Cities Service tanker, and has been sailing in the fleet for quite some time. He intends to continue sailing Cities Service because that's the only way to carry the SIU message.

### The Patrolmen Say-

#### **Carving** Job

NEW YORK - Covering the payoff of the Robin Goodfellow the other day, the crew handed me a beef that should have been an easy one to settle, but which finally was written off as a total loss and almost backfired on us.

The beef pertained to the practice of the Skipper making the Wheelsman and Lookout stand continuous watches with no time off to go below for coffee or a smoke. The men involved had a good beef and I went to the Captain intending to put the heat on him and get the matter straightened out.

When I told the Captain the story he didn't say a word, but told me to follow him up to the wheelhouse. There, he showed me where someone had taken a knife and cut 2/3 through three spokes of the wheel.

When I saw that my face dropped a foot. I tried to parry with him by saying that the damage could have been done by one of the Mates or the Captain, himself. He didn't fall for that line, however, but showed me where he had entered the matter into the Log book the day it occurred.

#### FAST TALKING

He didn't know who did it, but he threatened to make the watch responsible pay for it, the cost of which would have been around \$100. I talked him out of that, and then and there dropped any attempt to settle the beef given me.

I called the men together in the messroom and told them the score, pure and simple. How in hell did they expect a Patrolman to win their beefs if they pulled stunts like that? Most of the crew felt the same way about it, and it was tough that someone had to suffer due to the vandalism of one man, but that's what happens when some guy thinks he is getting back at the company by destroying property.

This should be a lesson to the men or man responsible and I hope it does some good to others who have the same mistaken idea.

The Patrolman will do all in his power to settle a beef aboard a ship, but pulling capers like this does no good. The crew was lucky to get off in this case as easy as it did. It could have

### Out Women Are Here To Stay Finds

#### By FELIX J. CURLS

I am sitting in a quiet, modest, abolishing price control and rais- little emporium in Galveston one ing the cost of living in some hot day sipping my time away amid peaceful surroundings. The only sound audible at the mothe powerful National Associa- ment is a soft swishing noise, tion of Manufacturers; their similar to that of the sea breakunion hall, which you'll find in ing over a small reef on a still

Alas, it is only my lady friend

Presently some prodigal scapegoat saunters over to the music

San Anton.'" Suddenly I detect a chorus of female voices in dispute somewhere in the rear of the estabfinks (if such animals exist) but lishment. A quarrel has arisen our greatest danger in the future between the waitresses and a customer, a female customer. The patrons at the bar turn to listen. In the center of the floor two girls stand toe to toe, boot to boot, their eyes blazing.

The one nearest me, a waitress, begins to unbraid the other with

for the moment, and the barkeep own drinks to her table. You will not budge from behind his can imagine their furor when I barricade, so I condescend to marched by with the same object fetch the drinks myself. She in mind.

deems this the height of gallantry However, I forgive them as as she loving pummels me to- the cause was a just one. In

Returning with the glasses, I am accosted by one of the lady warriors. She demands to know who the hell I am, and what the hell I am doing. I informed her of my intentions, and also of my dislike for misbehaving women.

Then she surprised me by grabbing my drinks and dashing them to the floor! These gals have a temper about as short as an Isthmian overtime sheet.

By the time they finished biting, kicking and scratching me, not to mention twisting my nose and pulling my hair, I wound up in the street, a very undignified heap of mangled mankind. Next day I discussed the reason

a fashion. It seems the girls



view of the fact that they depend largely upon tips to sup-

plement their meager weekly salaries, if any, their display of indignation is understandable, even at the cost of a new neckfor my being set upon in such tie and an Arrow shirt.

Woman suffrage! A marvel-

ward the bar.

ship, here is an example from a vehemence unbecoming a girl, our last trip. We have purposely even a girl from the cow country. omitted the name of the ship and the names of the officers as they were decent guys and leader, flapping their aprons and there is no need to jeopardize their positions with the company.

WORTHLESS MEMBERS

Aboard the ship we had a tripcarder, an ex-NMU man, who, during a four day stay in cured to render such nice girls Cuba was in his bunk the entire furious? Resuming my perch, I time paralyzed with drunkenness.

time he had during the war, then promote money for another bottle. He'd beat it to the dock and timely intervention. stand in the ginmill laughing at us when we had to shift the ship duracy of the single opponent. shorthanded.

Other performers got in their ticks, also, during the trip sleeping on watch, with all clothing off, refusing to get holds overtime for it.

Another common caper was to other to slake her thirst - an go ashore one hour before the unquenchable thirst it is, believe ship sailed thus holding up the me.

ship. then the gashounds would Well, the waitresses are busy

The other serving girls have rallied and gathered around their stamping their tiny feet to demonstrate extreme vexation-I fall

out of my chair-I have leaned too far and have learned nothing. What on earth could have ocam in time to perceive the bartender in the role of peacemaker.

He would wake up once a Ho! Ho! - He is slapped so hard day, tell everyone what a tough his bones rattle, and he is scratched with a dexterity only women can employ for his un-

> I can't help admiring the ob-Stubborness is a women's prero-

gative as well as a mule's and she is using it in the overmeasure.

While I am thus contemplating ready for cargo, never doing any the victor, if any, I receive a sanitary work, sneaking off while violent jab in my side! It is working overtime, and creeping only an affectionate reminder into the sack and putting in from my lady friend. Her glass is empty and she must have an-

were on strike. The cause of ous undertaking! Resist at your their resentment was the girl in own peril Brothers, for it's here cost them plenty. **Ray Gonzales** question who had carried her to stay.



Working alongside the big ship is the little tug, the Hillcone. Like all other tugs operating in Mobile harbor, this one is SIU-contracted.

#### THE SEAFARERS LOC

Page Fifteen





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# PERSONALS

#### FRANCIS L. MORGAN

Contact your wife at 34 Devens Street, Everett, Mass.

\* \* \* CLYDE L. POTTER

Get in touch with R. Dunn at 231 Park Avenue, Paterson, N.J.

t. t. t. CHRISTIAN M. JOHANSEN Contact Salvation Army, 52-54-56 Ellis Street N. E., Atlanta, Georgia. .

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Icie Belle Luckey, 740-1R, South 24th, Richmond, California, is anxious to hear from you.

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BERA SMYLEY

Get in touch with Ethyl Lewis, 404 Eslava Street, Mobile, Ala.

1 1 1 HENRY EDWARD HICKS

Get in touch with Thomas McKee at 1338 Camp Street, New the FBI was waiting for them.

#### むむむ WINSTON VICKERS

Please get in with Floyd Hillier at 110 Belmont Terrace, Staten Island, N. Y.

### **Isthmian Seamen**

On June 16, the wages of Isthmian seamen were increased 11 3/10 per cent effective that date with no retroactive pay. Men sailing Isthming did not receive the April six per cent increase with retroactive pay to January 1st won by the SIU from its operators.

Thus men sailing Isthmian

### Correction

In last week's LOG a story by Benny Gonzales, interpreting Shipping Rule 32, confained an error in the minimum time a replacement can be called for.

A replacement, when called for, is to be on the job for not less than four hours and not more then 72. Last week's LOG listed the minimum at 24 hours.

# **Seafarers Beat Phony Charge Of Coast Guard**

(Continued from Page 7) distrustful, had iron bars welded on the ports of the passengers' quarters aft.

The ship then left for the States and the accused trio figured that all was forgotten. But when the ship hit San Francisco,

The FBI agents took Bennett aside and tried to get him to tell them who pulled the job. intimating that if he talked they would see that he got off.

However, the FBI too, in short order, found that Bennett was really being given the business for something he knew nothing about, and so they released the three seamen for lack of evidence.

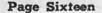
The big robbery is still unsolved, in spite of the railroad job attempted on the three SIU members aboard.

The men believed that the job was pulled by river pirates, for, as Brother Bennett said, "It must have been the pirates, because every seaman knows there is never any dough in this com-

Get in touch with your wife. 1 1 1 HARVEY C. HILL

Orleans, La.

atter how loud
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S
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enjoyment of
desire to have
hand at every
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THE SEAFARERS LOG

Friday, August 8, 1947



# AND ENJOY THE BEST CONDITIONS IN MARITIME!

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