



A Message

to Seamen

International longshoremen's and warehousemen's Union,
Stewards organizing committee

San Francisco, Calif., 1953

JUL 21 1953

HERE ARE SOME OF THE FACTS AND FIGURES FOR ALL MARITIME WORKERS TO THINK OVER

Especially Stewards' Department Members

These have been lost:

A \$25 increase plus 5 per cent as of June 16, 1952.

An increase in overtime rates from \$1.29 to \$1.63 as of January 1, 1952.

An additional increase in overtime rates to \$1.71 as of June 16, 1952.

Welfare payments.

Which adds up each month to:

\$26.25 in basic wages

\$31.68 in overtime

\$10.50 in welfare

or

\$68.43

a month

And this is what's gone in retroactivity:

\$441.33 in basic wages

\$613.36 in overtime

\$153.00 in welfare

or

\$1,207.69!

These figures show only how much a messman has lost.
Higher ratings are out that much more.

Dear Brothers: Have you stopped to figure out how many jobs and how much dough Lundeberg has cost you, and how much he will cost you?

He's cost you plenty and he'll cost you plenty more.

He'll not only lose you jobs, wages, retroactivity and welfare, but his phoney program will cost you hundreds of thousands of dollars in Taft-Hartley damage suits and unfair labor practice charges.

Eventually he'll wind up costing all of us our unions, and every last bit of union solidarity in the maritime industry.

All maritime unions working together, instead of fighting each other, built the West Coast maritime union structure and union conditions.

Political deals and phoney programs will wreck them for us all.

Lundeberg's Wrecking Program

1. Lundeberg boasts he can maneuver deals through the Taft-Hartley NLRB and stall elections. He claims that he has an in with such labor-hating Republican politicians as Taft, Knowland, and others.

2. His MCS-AFL outfit declares that they already have a majority of Stewards' Department members organized. They have announced that the books will be closed when they reach 4500. The threat is that those who don't join will lose their jobs.

3. They allege that the ILWU will do nothing to organize cooks and stewards and get a good contract for them. And the cooks and stewards are warned that they'll be screened, hounded by the FBI, and pushed around by goon squads, unless they fall in line with the Lundeberg program.

4. Lundeberg has promised Stewards' Department jobs to more than half of all the unemployed shore-side cooks, waiters, and bartenders in every port on the coast. Yet at the same time he claims that he is going to clean only the "Commies" out of their jobs on the ships.

But take a look see at the real facts and the real record.

Isn't It About Time We Got Wise

Lundeberg—along with Joe Ryan, Dave Beck, Joe Curran and a few other characters—has been burying the ILWU for years. The fact is that the Longshoremen are still around, stronger than ever, and still going places.

Lundeberg's raids have lost jobs for all the maritime unions. Cargoes have gone to the rails and to foreign ships. More jobs have gone to the non-union MSTs. At the same time, Lundeberg is promising to hand out jobs in the Stewards' Department to

members of shoreside culinary unions. That's in addition to the 7,000 men now registered at the C.R.O. hall for the 3,000 jobs available.

Sure the shoreside culinary workers need work, too. But the promises by Lundeberg to hand over the jobs of the men on the ships, and with years of seniority, are outright phoney.

MCS-AFL says when it organizes 4,500 Stewards' Department members it'll close the books and everyone else will be out of luck and out of jobs.

It's not that easy. How about Dan Rotan and his gang and the half million dollar damages they're trying to collect from MCS (Ind.)? Didn't he and his gang get a money judgment against MCS on the claim that the books had been closed against them? Every registered C.R.O. member could file similar damage suits against the AFL Stewards and collect.

Longshoremen Doing Okay

Lundeberg brags that only he can get a contract for Stewards' Department members. Bunk! When that time comes we'll see who can do a better job, the ILWU or Lundeberg.

Longshoremen are not doing so badly. They work all ships—foreign, East Coast and West Coast—plus dock, terminal and car work. But the ILWU figures seamen are seamen, whether they work on deck, down below, or in the galley. What hurts them, hurts us.

Not so long ago Lundeberg promised a bunch of goons some of our longshore jobs. He even pulled a strike last year to put over this program. On longshore jobs he wound up just where he started and where we are going to keep him: **Status Quo**.

The men shipping in the Stewards' Department need a new deal and a program to meet their needs. There is such a program, and it works for the longshoremen. It can work for seamen too. (Turn page)

ILWU PROGRAM FOR STEWARDS' DEPT.

1

To help the Stewards' Department workers get an honest chance to select the union they want, and to get a real contract between their union and the shipowners.

2

To help set up a new stewards' union which is autonomous, runs its own affairs and elects its new officers from its own ranks.

3

To fill the Stewards' Department jobs priority will be on the basis of:
Seniority and length of service.

Current employment in the Stewards' Department on a ship.

A legal and non-discriminatory Stewards' Department registered list to fill all vacancies.

4

To negotiate a long term contract covering wages, hours and conditions, plus vacations and a pension plan.

5

No merger or affiliation between the present MCS (Ind) and the ILWU.

The ILWU has established an official Stewards' Department Organizing Committee to organize and secure a contract for Stewards' Department personnel on West Coast ships. ILWU will sign up all Stewards' Department employees without regard to present union affiliation, race and national origin.

**ILWU organizers are now making the rounds of the ships.
Get your card. Sign up today.**



Issued by ILWU Stewards' Organizing Committee.

Litho U.S.A.