

**FROM THE SEVENTH CONVENTION OF THE ILWU,
April 7th to April 11th, San Francisco, 1947**

Resolution Number 52, Anti-Discrimination:

RESOLUTION ON ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

WHEREAS: The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union faces crucial decisions in the times ahead in which its leadership for the benefit of its members and for the salvation of the progressive labor movement of this country will be supremely tested by the June contract reopening and the grave economic crisis staring us in the face; and

WHEREAS: In this struggle, the ILWU must seek to build around itself every possible support so that the struggle of the ILWU becomes known as a struggle for all people, and

WHEREAS: The Negro people standing foremost among the allies to whom the ILWU must look—because of their historic suffering, because of the increase of lynch violence; because of the mass disillusionment with major political parties; and the trend toward a worse form of fascism than even they have yet known, are in ferment against the same forces of reaction that our union will be fighting; and

WHEREAS: The mobilization of these millions behind the struggle of the ILWU will be a powerful factor in the outcome; and

WHEREAS: the ILWU by its historic stand against discrimination has won a position of respect and confidence in the hearts of all Negro people who know of its accomplishments; and

WHEREAS: To mobilize fully this support, it is necessary for the International and local unions to design programs whereby leading Negro trade unionists may be pulled together for the purpose of rallying the whole of their people behind the economic and political struggle of the ILWU;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That the International and the local unions take steps necessary to bring together all of our leading Negro members to work out a common program of publicity, organization, etc., to bring the record of the ILWU to every Negro community and mobilize the whole of it behind the ILWU;

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED: That in our own self-interest we intensify our campaign against any and all forms of discrimination within our International and throughout the country; to further cement the relationship with the Negro people;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Convention go on record that our International Union give aid and support to these organizations of the Negro people fighting for the liberation and freedom of the oppressed minority they represent;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That this program also be applied by our union with respect to other minority groups.

Adopted unanimously.