

ITF NEWSLETTER

INFORMATIONS

INFORMATIONEN

INFORMATIONSBLAD

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RAILWAYMEN

ARGENTINA

Wage agreement for two railway unions

Following a series of strike actions, the Railwaymen's Union and the ITF-affiliated Locomotivemen's Union La Fraternidad reached agreement with the state railways on 14 February on pay increases to compensate for rises in the cost of living. With effect from 1 November 1964 pay goes up by 25%, with a further 17% from 1 July 1965 until 31 January 1966. The agreement is subject to the government agreeing to make funds available.

Examples of the monthly rates for La Fraternidad members as from 1 July are as follows:

Fireman,	3rd class	After 2 yrs.	18,040 pesos
Fireman,	2nd class	After 2 yrs.	18,695 "
Fireman,	1st class	After 1 yr.	19,770 "
Engineer,	3rd class	After 1 yr.	24,430 "
Engineer,	2nd class	After 1 yr.	25,550 "
Engineer,	1st class	Maximum	29,005 "

(There are approx. 390 pesos to £1 and 139.30 to US \$1).

In addition to the pay increases, it is agreed that a committee will start work at once to study the re-opening of closed branch lines, and the government will put into effect a decision to re-open some railway workshops.

CANADA

Evidence of fatigue on long runs

Railway unions are opposing proposals by the Canadian National Railways to cut out some terminals and make runs on those lines double their previous length. Evidence given to an inquiry by railway workers has revealed that the proposals may mean eight or nine-hour trips, and that where these long runs are undertaken the engineers suffer unduly from fatigue which could present a serious threat to safety; this was particularly true in the case of some routes in Northern Ontario, where 75% of the freight trains run without a fireman.

FRANCE

Pay increases regarded as unsatisfactory

The French government has approved an increase in the total wages bill for the French Railways this year of approximately 4.5%. The unions regard this as totally inadequate, since it is far from bringing their members into line with workers in outside industry whose pay increases have far outstripped those awarded to public service workers during the past two years.

SWEDEN

New structure for supervisory staff

A new pay and grading structure has been negotiated by the ITF-affiliated Swedish Railwaymen's Union on behalf of its members in supervisory grades. This has been worked out in conjunction with a reorganization plan prepared by the railways management.

UNITED STATES

Firemen's new agreement with Southern Railway

A new agreement reached between the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and the Southern Railway provides for wage increases for firemen (yard service) of 70 cents per day with effect from 7 May 1964, 72 cents from 15 January 1964 and 72 cents from 1 January 1965; in freight and passenger service firemen get the two latter increases. The agreement also provides for improved health and accident insurance; a fourth

week's annual leave after 20 years' service; better meal and lodging allowances. Those firemen hired since 16 June 1963 are to receive severance allowances of up to 90 days' pay.

Florida East Coast railway faces fines

A Florida District Court has ordered the Florida East Coast railway company to end its "deliberate and wilful" defiance of previous injunctions granted to the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen for violation of four contract provisions, mainly concerned with the use of non-union labour. The BRT, along with other operating unions, has been respecting non-op picket lines, and the company has been running its trains with scab labour. Unless it complies with the court order, the FEC is liable to fines of \$4,000 a day.

RLEA sees change of heart in railroad management

The Railway Labor Executives Association has given further consideration to its proposal to seek nationalization of the railway industry in the light of statements by railway management leaders which have indicated a desire to work cooperatively with labour in promoting the public interest which the railways serve. The RLEA describes this as a heartening development and agrees with the suggestion to meet with top level leaders of the railway industry in an effort to improve conditions "in an atmosphere of what we hope would prove to be one of common understanding that if the industry itself does not eliminate abuses to public good and welfare, Government will have to intervene."

ROAD AND PASSENGER TRANSPORT WORKERS

GREAT BRITAIN

Possibility of strike in private transport

Strike authority has been given to trade union officials negotiating on behalf of bus workers employed by private companies outside London by the three unions involved (which include the ITF-affiliated Transport and General Workers' Union and National Union of Railwaymen). They are seeking a pay increase at least as favourable as that obtained by the municipal busmen some time ago (15s. per week). No date has been fixed for the strike, and union and employers' representative have been invited to discuss the dispute with the chief conciliation officer of the Ministry of Labour.

PORT WORKERS

CHILE

A general port strike

A strike of port workers which began in Valparaiso on 19 February and later spread to all Chilean ports, ended on 25 February. The settlement is reported to include provision for an incentive bonus and a government donation to a union-run social welfare fund.

MALAYSIA

Port labour pool started in Singapore

Following its decision to set up a labour pool to provide a reserve of port workers, the Port of Singapore Authority has begun to recruit an initial number of 300 workers. Stevedores will be paid \$3.41 basic wage plus \$1.40 variable allowance and a housing compensation of \$0.43 totalling \$5.15 a day. Wharf workers will get respectively \$3.05 plus \$1.40 plus \$0.30 totalling \$4.75. "Fall back" of \$1.00 will be paid to those who report for work but for whom no work is available.
(There are \$8.55 to £1 and 3.05 to US\$ 1.)

PAKISTAN

Wage agreement for Karachi dockers

Under a recently-negotiated agreement a Karachi dock worker receives Rs. 9.72 per day shift and Rs. 11.31 per night shift. He also receives minimum overtime of two hours on the day shift and 3 hours on the night shift at double time. This means that minimum overtime for ordinary day and night shifts is Rs. 4.86 and Rs. 8.49 respectively. Work on Sundays and the seventeen Public Holidays qualifies for double wages, i.e. Rs. 19.44 for the day shift and Rs. 22.62 for the night shift, with minimum overtime of Rs. 9.72 and Rs. 16.98 respectively.

(There are 13.33 Rs. to £1 and 4.75 to US \$1.)

SEAFARERS

INTERNATIONAL

New flags of convenience

Gibraltar is reported to be adopting a law which will make the colony a flag of convenience refuge for British ships under 4000t.

except those which operate in and out of Gibraltar itself.

Four vessels have registered under the Haiti flag: the vessels are two Bulgarian, one Greek and one ex-Dutch.

FINLAND

Merchant navy officers' strike over

A strike of officers in the Finnish foreign trades which began on 20 February after the breakdown of negotiations for a new contract ended on 22 February with the appointment of a mediation committee to look into the issue in dispute, which is reported to be the question of seniority payments.

GREAT BRITAIN

Officers' pay under new MN agreement

In the last issue of the Newsletter (Supplement No. 2) we gave details of the new pay rates for British ratings. We now give examples of the new basic consolidated monthly starting rates for First Mate and Second Engineer:

501 t. to 1,000 t. -	£96 5s. 0d.)	
1,001 t. to 3,000 t. -	£99 15s. 0d.)	
3,001 t. to 5,000 t. -	£103 2s. 6d.)	Seniority increments of
5,001 t. to 7,000 t. -	£106 12s. 6d.)	£3 5s. per month after
7,001 t. to 9,000 t. -	£110 5s. 0d.)	3 and 6 years.
9,001 t. to 12,000 t. -	£113 15s. 0d.)	
12,000 and over	- £117 12s. 6d.)	

<u>Radio Officers</u>	Class III vessels			Class I vessels		
	Up to 3,000 t.	3,001 - 12,000 t.	Over 12,000 t.	Up to 8,000 t.	8,000 - 12,000 t.	12,000 - 16,000 t.
Grade 3, less than 6 months	£54 15 0	54 15 0	54 15 0	54 15 0	54 15 0	54 15 0
Grade 2, after 2 years	68 7 6	68 7 6	68 7 6	68 7 6	68 7 6	68 7 6
Grade 1, 3 years and over with 1st or 2nd Certif.	71 12 6	73 2 6	74 15 0	78 0 0	80 2 6	83 5 0
Grade 1, after 21 years' service	110 0 0	114 0 0	116 7 6	122 12 6	125 5 0	128 15 0

NORWAY

Engineer Officers' pay rates

The following are examples of pay and overtime rates for Norwegian engineer officers in the foreign trades, effective 19 January 1965.

Chief Engineer

First Engineer Officer

Engine Horse Power	Monthly pay
900 - 1,199	Kr. 1,671
3,000 - 3,999	1,834
5,000 - 6,499	1,918
11,000 - 12,499	2,093
14,000 - 15,999	2,185
20,000 - 21,999	2,318
22,000 and over	2,346

Monthly pay	Hourly Overtime	
	Weekdays	Holidays
1,477	8.90	17.80
1,510	9.15	18.30
1,564	9.50	19.00
1,685	10.40	20.80
1,745	10.90	21.80
1,832	11.50	23.00
1,861	11.70	23.40

Second Engineer Officer

Engine Horse Power	Monthly Pay	Hourly Overtime	
		Weekdays	Holidays
900 - 1,199	1,373	8.00	16.00
3,000 - 3,999	1,373	8.00	16.00
5,000 - 6,499	1,421	8.40	16.80
11,000 - 12,499	1,511	9.15	18.30
14,000 - 15,999	1,554	9.40	18.80
20,000 - 21,999	1,624	9.90	19.80
22,000 and over	1,648	10.05	20.10

(There are 20 kr. to £1 and 7.14 to US \$1.)

SWEDEN

Pay rates of engineer officers

The following are examples of monthly basic pay rates for Swedish engineer officers, effective 1 February 1965:

Chief Engineer

Tonnage	Starting rate	After 2 yrs.	After 5 yrs.	After 7 yrs	After 10 yrs.	After 18 years
500 -- 899	Kr.1,371	1,427	1,483	1,559	1,629	1,854
1,350 -- 1,799	1,518	1,574	1,629	1,706	1,777	1,998
4,500 - 6,749	2,013	2,068	2,123	2,201	2,271	2,500
9,000 - 12,999	2,271	2,324	2,381	2,459	2,528	2,757
18,000 - 23,999	2,459	2,513	2,571	2,648	2,715	2,947
30,000 - 41,999	2,639	2,695	2,751	2,828	2,897	3,127
60,000 - 79,999	2,855	2,916	2,978	3,059	3,134	3,382
80,000 and over	2,971	3,034	3,099	3,182	3,261	3,517

Engineer Officer

After 14 yrs

500 - 899	1,284	1,321	1,361	1,418	1,483	1,553
1,350 - 1,799	1,349	1,384	1,426	1,483	1,548	1,616
4,500 - 6,749	1,577	1,615	1,656	1,712	1,775	1,847
9,000 - 12,999	1,724	1,760	1,802	1,858	1,922	1,992
18,000 - 23,999	1,870	1,906	1,948	2,005	2,068	2,140
30,000 - 41,999	2,026	2,062	2,103	2,159	2,226	2,294
60,000 - 79,999	2,197	2,234	2,278	2,339	2,411	2,484
80,000 - and over	2,290	2,328	2,373	2,436	2,512	2,586

(There are approx. 14.53 kr. to £1 and 5.19 to US \$1.)

CIVIL AVIATION WORKERS

GREAT BRITAIN

Strike of independent airline workers

Supervisors and technicians employed by British United Airways - a private company - went on strike on 2 March, and were joined the following day by ground maintenance staff. (The unions involved are not affiliated to the ITF.)

The strike is in protest against the decision by BUA to transfer these workers on 22 March to the employ of a subsidiary, an engineering company which is not subject to the provisions of the Civil Air Transport Act; one of the latter's clauses lays down that employees of independent airlines shall be employed under the same conditions as those of employees of the state airline corporations BEA and BOAC. The unions involved in the dispute have been seeking wage increases to bring their pay into line with that of BEA and BOAC staff.

UNITED STATES

New agreement for North Western navigators

Airline navigators employed by North Western Airlines and organized in the Air Transport Division of the ITF-affiliated Transport Workers' Union have recently obtained a new 3-year contract providing for a four-stage wage increase with effect from 1 November 1964, which gives a final average monthly income of \$1,688 for 85 flight hours and a maximum of \$24,000 a year. Meal allowances are increased to \$9.80 per day, room allowances from \$8 to \$9.80 per day for a single room. Annual leave is 3 weeks after 10 years' service, and four weeks after 20 years' service. Severance pay has been converted from a lump sum of between \$18,000 and \$19,000 to a guaranteed \$25,000 at \$500 per month for up to 50 months of any period when the navigator is laid off.

TWA stewardesses give notice of strike

Airline stewardesses employed by Trans World Airlines, belonging to the Air Transport Division of the TWU, have given 30 days' notice of strike action which expires this month, following the breakdown of negotiation and mediation procedures on a new contract.

TRADE UNION RIGHTS

ANGOLA

Kidnapping of Angolan trade unionist

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions has protested against the kidnapping of a member of the Angolan Workers' Federation from the Congo, where he was living; he was taken by police back to Angola.

BERMUDA

Recognition dispute over

The ITF-affiliated Bermuda Industrial Union called off its strike

against an electrical company after the latter agreed to recognize any union which a majority of its hourly-paid workers wish to join.

SPAIN

Further demonstrations

Further demonstrations have been taking place in Madrid of workers calling for trade union freedom. In particular students have been calling for independent student unions.

THAILAND

Labour unions to be revived

It is reported that the Thai government is preparing to draft a new labour law and to revive trade unions. The Police and Public Welfare Departments have been given the task of formulating regulations to prevent unions from coming under political influence. The last labour law was revoked by the previous government.

PERSONALIA

R. B. Seabrook has been elected President of the British Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers in succession to Walter Padley who is now a member of the government.

P.L. Siemiller has been elected President of the US International Association of Machinists with effect from 1 July when Al Hayes retires. M. DeMore will become Secretary-Treasurer from the same date on the retirement of E.E. Walker. Both Siemiller and DeMore are at present Vice-Presidents of the IAM.

Donald U'ren, former President of the Railwaymen's Union of Malaya, has been awarded a gold medal for outstanding service to the Malayan trade union movement. U'ren is at present ITF Asian Representative.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Argentine seafarers staged further strikes on 16, 17 and 23 February in pursuit of their wage claims. The dockers' dispute is reported to be settled, but no details are yet available.

Danish trade union members have approved federal mediation proposals on general pay increases and hours reductions to be effective from 1 March. The proposals were reported in Newsletter No. 3, page 31.

France: The national minimum wage is to be increased by 2% with effect from 1 March. This increase has been described by the unions as insufficient.

Norwegian ships' officers have rejected proposals by employers for a new home trades contract; the main issue in dispute is overtime pay.

Peruvian civil aviation workers employed by Faucett Aviation have obtained a new agreement which includes improved meal and other allowances, and better health benefits.

United States dock workers in South Atlantic and Gulf Coast ports are still on strike, but a final settlement which will allow a return to work is expected shortly.

ESPERANTISTS

INTERNATIONAL

Railwaymen Esperantists' Congress in Norway

Each year, some time before the peak rail travel season starts, between 400 and 1,000 railwaymen who have learned Esperanto in their free time and who use the international language in their contacts with fellow-railwaymen from other countries, meet in Congress. The Congress is organized under the auspices of the International Federation of Railwaymen Esperantists (IFEF).

The main purpose of the Congress, in addition to its social side, is to bring together working groups to discuss organizational and administrative problems and to enable railwaymen Esperantists to listen to lectures by experts on professional and technical developments within their industry.

There is often also official representation at the IFEF Congresses by national and local authorities as well as by railway management. There have also been occasions when Ministers of Transport (including Esperanto-speaking Ministers) have participated in the proceedings. Representatives of both national railwaymen's unions and national trade union movements are also in attendance.

Up to the present, sixteen such Congresses have been held in 14 countries. This year's will be held in the Norwegian town Hamar, which is well-known in the railway world for its unique railway museum -- the oldest in Scandinavia. It is anticipated that some 500 railway workers from many countries will be attending this Congress -- which, needless to say, will not be using interpreters! The Congress lasts from 22 to 28 May and railwaymen wishing to take part in it should contact their

national Esperanto organization or the Congress organizers
at Poŝtkesto 61, Løten, Norway for further information,

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS

North Sea Ports	-	Bordeaux, 23 March 1965
Dockers' Section Conference	-	Bordeaux, 24-26 March, 1965
Executive Board	-	Frankfurt, 24-26 May, 1965
XXVIIIth Congress	-	Copenhagen, 28 July - 6 August.

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