

# Charge Lundberg Stole Union Funds

## Unionists' Suit Also Asserts Coast Labor Chief Hired Goons

By Vern Smith  
(Special to the Daily Worker)

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 1.—Harry Lundberg, secretary of the AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific, was this week accused of misappropriating union funds, using the funds to support "goons" now held on murder charges, and smothering democracy within the unions he heads so as to block the membership's efforts to cooperate with the rest of organized labor for an American victory in the war against the Axis.

These sensational accusations were made by three members of his own union in a suit filed today, seeking an accounting of funds.

The murder angle was brought into the suit when the plaintiffs alleged that slaying of Philip Carey, National Maritime Union official, in New Orleans, were on Lundberg's payroll at the time of the murder.

Charged also in the complaint was Norma Perry, described as "the private secretary and confidential assistant and agent of Lundberg."

### LUNDEBERG'S OFFICES

Harry Lundberg also has been for three years acting president of the Seafarers International Union of North America, to which post he was appointed for only one year by the AFL in October, 1938. He was supposed, said the plaintiffs, to call a convention within a year, and permit union members to establish a constitution and elect their own officers. Instead, they said, he continued himself in power dictatorially, and still refuses to permit a convention.

### PLAINTIFFS NAMED

Those suing are:

Thomas E. Hampson, SUP member.

Gertrude Houseman, executive board member of the Fish Cannery Workers of the Pacific, Monterey branch, an SIU local with 2,500 members.

Leila Noland, member of the San Francisco branch, Fish Cannery Workers of the Pacific.

mental agencies to accomplish the said purpose, all of which activity and program Lundberg, aided and abetted by Perry, has refused to participate in and has opposed hitherto and at the present time."

"Since the inception of the SIU in 1938," said the complaint, "in excess of \$150,000 has been paid into and received by the SIU and Harry Lundberg as acting president, from affiliated organizations of the SIU and their members and from the AFL."

Gertrude Houseman alleged that the Monterey local alone turned over to Lundberg "in excess of \$10,000."

There has never been an audit, said the complaint.

The complaint treated of the murder of Carey in these words:

"That on Sept. 17, 1939, a man named Philip Carey, then an official of the National Maritime Union, was murdered in cold blood when he was beaten with chains and shot to death by various persons.

"That within the past few weeks there have been arrested in San Francisco upon legal process issued out of New Orleans, La., three men named Finn Schefstad, Eugene Nobles, and Roland Dean, who are accused of the murder of Carey by New Orleans police authorities.

"This at the date hereof these latter three named men await extradition proceedings seeking their return to New Orleans to stand trial for the Carey murder.

"That these latter three men were present in New Orleans at the time Carey was murdered, and at that time were agents and representatives of the SIU in New Orleans, paid by and directly responsible to and under the directions and orders of the defendant Lundberg.

"That these men were on the SIU payroll and engaged in various activities in the Gulf without the authorization of the membership of the SIU.

"That plaintiffs are informed and believe and allege that Lundberg has retained counsel in the said extradition matter for Schefstad, Nobles and Dean and has paid and is paying for said counsel out of the funds of the SIU, without the authority of, and contrary to the interests of the SIU."

The complaint was filed by the law firm of Andersen and Resner.

One reason Lundberg refuses to permit a constitutional convention, the complaint declared, is that such a convention "would give the members of the SIU an opportunity to compel the SIU to participate with other labor organizations of the AFL, CIO, Railroad Brotherhoods and independent unions in unified labor activity to assist the war effort, obtain all-out war production and settle jurisdictional disputes and cooperate with the United States government and various national defense govern-