## ILWU's Lapa re-elected without opposition

ILWU President Eddie Lapa and Vice President Fred Paulino were re-elected yesterday without opposition in the final day of the union's 17th biennial convention.

But there will be a challenger for Acting Secretary-Treasurer Guy Fujimura, who is seeking a full three-year term.

Fujimura will face Howard Tanaka, active in the union's longshore division, during statewide ratification elections later this year.

Delegates to the week-long convention were sent home to their units with words of hope and caution about the future.

Regional Director Tommy Trask said if the union "plays its cards right," the number of union members in the hotel industry could soon rival that of sugar and pineapple combined.

But those who think hotels will be the salvation of the state if sugar dies don't realize the impact of the sugar industry on the economy, said Trask.

He said someone will have to pick up the tax load that will be unburdened by 6,800 sugar employees if the industry with its \$150 million payroll folds.

Although much has been written about the plight of the industry, Trask said no one can convey the anxiety of sugar workers who fear what will become of their jobs, plantation housing and kids' education.

"Your problems are nowhere

near what our guys in sugar are facing," he said.

Trask also said there will be hard times for some at the Iwilei Dole can plant — where 170 union members are employed.

A tentative layoff of 36 workers has been set for November as a result of the closing of the Hawaiian Tuna Packers cannery, said business agent Alfred Mattos.

There could be more layoffs later if the can plant is consolidated with the Dole pineapple cannery. Dole officials hope to move the cannery to Mililani.

As a cost-cutting move, the ILWU will hold its next convention in three years rather than in two.

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