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Prop 32 in the crosshairs: Labor Day marchers in Wilmington, CA displayed signs and banners opposing California’s Proposition 32. The anti-union initiative would effectively remove the voice of labor from the state and local political process while allowing employers and business interests free reign to buy elections.

United Against 32: ILWU International Vice President, Ray Familathe, (right) with Congresswoman Janice Hahn. Familathe told the Labor Day rally in Banning Park that Prop 32 was a part of a right-wing assault on workers and must be defeated.

Small van, big message: Opposition to Prop 32 came in all shapes and sizes at the Wilmington Labor Day march.

SoCal ILWU members celebrate Labor Day by mobilizing against anti-union Prop 32

Members from every Southern California ILWU local joined over 1,000 workers and their families to celebrate Labor Day on September 3, at the 33rd annual march and picnic in Wilmington, CA. The morning began at the Local 13 Dispatch Hall where the local sponsored a breakfast for the 12th year in a row. ILWU volunteers served eggs, pancakes, sausage and breakfast burritos to over 1,500 people and handed out balloons to the kids. The breakfast has grown considerably from its modest beginnings: The first breakfast served 20-30 people and consisted of tamales and bagels.

The parade of workers, families and area high school marching bands, led by a flat-bed truck of ILWU pensioners, walked up Avalon Blvd to M Street and concluded at Banning Park for a noon rally and picnic. Families were treated to a live blues band, hot dogs, chips and plenty of cold water and sodas to keep them cool on a hot day. Harbor-area elected officials were on hand to help workers celebrate, but as a rule, politicians are not allowed to speak at the event. Instead it was their turn to listen to labor’s message.

The march is organized by the Los Angeles-Long Beach Harbor Labor Coalition, which was founded in 1979 to resolve a jurisdictional dispute between the Inlandboatmen’s Union and the Seafarers International Union. The first Labor Day parade in 1979 was attended by an estimated 750 union members.

This year, the march focused on the assault on workers by corporate and anti-union interests. The fight to defeat California’s Proposition 32 was emphasized by every speaker. The proposition is a deceptively worded initiative that seeks to silence the voice of workers under the guise of “campaign finance reform.” (See the chart and articles on page 5 for a complete breakdown of this Proposition). “No on 32” posters and placards were seen in the hands of hundreds of marchers. ILWU members distributed “No on 32” lawn signs and buttons throughout the day and collected commitment forms from community members to vote against the anti-union initiative.

Prop 32’s ‘Big Lie’

Proposition 32 is not the first time employers in California have tried to limit the voice of workers in the political process. Proposition 226 in 1998 and Proposition 75 in 2005 would have made it very difficult for unions to use contributions from members to fight for workers’ rights.

Sec. Treas. Willie Adams sworn in as SF Port Commissioner: page 2

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Dear Editor,

I was unable to attend the ILWU's 35th Convention in San Diego this past June because I have been recovering from a mastectomy. Although it was my 5th surgery this year, my prognosis is good, but I still have some radiation therapy to undergo and will need to build up my strength again. I received the treatment I needed and had it all paid for because of this union. I received my copy of The Dispatcher today and saw that Convention delegates took a strong position in favor of Single Payer Health Care coverage.

I want to let ILWU members and officers know that I am so proud and pleased to be associated with the ILWU. Being a retired nurse and an advocate for health care at our state capital and in the District Council, I have been braging for years about how our union takes care of our membership. More importantly, we care about everyone and the plight of all working families.

Verna Porter,
Portland, OR

Dear Editor,

My name is Glenda Ross and I am the daughter of Richard "Red" Ross. My father was a longshoreman for over fifty years. My grandfather and uncle (Luther and Luther, Jr. Ross) were also longshoremen.

Many of you may remember my brother, Reggie Ross, who also worked on the waterfront, died tragically at work on September 24, 2007, when a two-ton container crushed him and took his life. It was during this time of personal tragedy for my family that the bonds of brotherhood and camaraderie that the longshoremen share really hit home for me. You all came together to offer support, encouragement and assistance to the family. Not just the Local 10 of which my father was a member, but members from ALL of the Bay Area ILWU locals. It really touched my heart and was very much appreciated.

My father suffered a stroke last year and currently resides at the University Mound assisted living facility. It is the same facility where recently-deceased Bill Ward was located, and I would like to offer my heartfelt condolences to the entire Ward family.

Send your letters to the editor to: The Dispatcher, 1188 Franklin St., San Francisco, CA 94109-6800 or email to editor@ilwu.org

CORRECTIONS:
The name of Rich Dines, Local 13 member and Long Beach Harbor Commissioner, was misspelled on page 5 of the July/August issue. We apologize for the error.

Willie Adams sworn-in as San Francisco Port Commissioner

ILWU International Secretary Treasurer Willie Adams was sworn-in as a Commissioner for the Port of San Francisco by Mayor Ed Lee on August 30th. Adams became the fourth ILWU Titled Officer to hold a position as San Francisco Port Commissioner. He follows in the footsteps of ILWU Presidents Harry Bridges, Jimmy Herman and Brian McWilliams. Former International President, Dave Arian, currently serves as a Los Angeles Port Commissioner.

A total of 10 ILWU members now serve as Commissioners at West Coast ports. Adams' appointment was made possible with support from ILWU International President Bob McElrath, Northern California locals and the San Francisco Labor Council.

Managing San Francisco's Port dates back to the city's Gold Rush days, but the current Commission was established in 1968. Today the Port is responsible for overseeing more than 1000 acres of land and 7 miles of shoreline with an eye toward expanding public access, boosting recreation, and creating more open space – as well as preserving maritime activities. The Commission oversees more than 550 leases, including Fisherman's Wharf, Pier 39 and the San Francisco Giants ballpark.

Projects now being managed by the Port include a new terminal for cruise ships, the America's Cup sailboat races, and a possible $700 million waterfront arena for the Golden State Warriors basketball team.

At his first meeting on September 11, Adams jumped into the discussion, asking questions and expressing his views. Adams says he's looking forward to working with the Commission to revitalize the San Francisco waterfront. "It's a new era for the Port of San Francisco, and I'm looking forward to participating in a process that includes a voice for working families," Adams previously served a four-year term on San Francisco's Film Commission.

God Bless You All,
Glenda LaDelle Ross
San Francisco, CA

Dear Editor,

There is a large snowball rolling down hill, picking up speed and size. It is named "Corporate Greed". This behemoth does not respect human rights, unionism or the middle class. Indeed, vulture capitalism is endangering democracy as we have known it for the last 200 years. In response, today I shall write a check to the ILWU Political Action Committee in the amount of my single highest paying day on the waterfront in the last 12 months. Can I afford to do this? The pertinent question is can I afford not to do this.

Please join me.

In solidarity,
Robin Doyino
Local 13, Los Angeles
ILWU celebrates successful first coastwise charity event after raising over $65,000 for cancer charities

Organizers hope all locals will join future ILWU Walk the Coast fundraisers

The first few moments of the ILWU Walk the Coast event on August 11 caused some apprehension for Local 13 longshoreman Dan Imbagliazzo. More than a year of preparation for the first annual coastwise charity event was about to unfold in the Berth 54/55 waterfront warehouse, donated for this purpose by Stevedoring Services of America (SSA).

“I was afraid no one would show up,” said Imbagliazzo.

But his doubts soon eased when the San Pedro High School band, dressed in ILWU Walk the Coast shirts, marched into the warehouse playing the Star Spangled Banner, kicking off a day of activities.

You could feel the energy in the room,” said Imbagliazzo. “That warehouse was energized. There was just amazing energy; you could feel it all day.”

Meanwhile, energy buzzed in Northern California and the Puget Sound, where hundreds of longshore workers, family and friends joined together at their own events to support a charitable giving, the result of a spring 2011 Longshore Caucus resolution calling on all locals to participate in coordinated fundraisers.

The Southern California event benefitted Alex’s Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF), a children’s cancer charity chosen for its good work. ALSF was formed in honor of Alex Scott, an 8-year-old girl who died of neuroblastoma, a childhood cancer, in 2004, and whose mother, Liz, spoke at the ILWU’s Southern California event.

Imbagliazzo was inspired by seeing the union and the community working together, said that event coordinator Robert Maynez, Local 63 Chief of Staff, and community member Judith Bahnik, both “worked tirelessly to get the whole affair organized.”

The 189 walkers, who logged 1.5 miles each, accumulated a total of 283.5 miles – enough to theoretically reach the Hearst Castle in San Simeon. Support from the community included a car show featuring 80 classic and specialty cars, a 7-plane flyover from the Tiger Squadron, an aerial water demonstration by Los Angeles Fire Department fireboats, and squid cars from Los Angeles Port represented by ILWU Local 65. Mark Reyes and six other Local 26 members provided security. Additionally, games and entertainment included three bands (local 13’s league, a magician, Japanese Taiko drummers, and juggling by Gabriel Familiahe, son of International Vice President Ray Familiahe. Master of Ceremonies Fritz Coleman from NBC4 in LA taped the day’s weather forecast while on site at the event.

The Puget Sound event, coordinated by Local 23 President Scott Mason, put the “fun” in fundraiser at the Wild Waves Theme Park. The 450 contributors enjoyed admission to the water park, a private BBQ lunch, and a silent auction that included many hand-crafted items made by ILWU members.

The northwest event benefitted PanCAN, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network, a cause that, for many, hit close to home.

“I had a friend who passed away from cancer,” Chrisie Salcido from Local 13—so I needed to step up,” said Eddie Flores, a Local 23 member for 34 years ago. In honor of Salcido, Flores arranged for a performance of the band Stay Grounded. The band donated much of their performance, and Flores paid the rest out of his own pocket.

Kristina Miller, a Local 23 casual, served on the volunteer committee in honor of her uncle, Jack Bredeson, an American from Local 23 who died of pancreatic cancer. And Meghan Mason, a Local 23 B-woman, served on volunteer committee in honor of her aunt, Linda Mason, who died of pancreatic cancer when Meghan was seven years old.

For Larry Faker, a Local 23 pensioner, the event symbolized unity. Faker bought 25 tickets to the Puget Sound event for his family, and said, “I think it’s important for families to do things together. It’s just like the ILWU—if you are tight, you never lose.”

Modern said that support from the Coast Committee made the event possible. “The support from Bob McElrath has been instrumental. Without President McElrath, we would not have gotten this thing going.” The Coast Committee donated $3,000 to the events.

Mason also acknowledged significant help and donations from Locals 8, 19, 23, 52, and 98. And, he said, “the stagehands union, IATSE Local 15, helped us out tremendously by volunteering to do sound and stage, allowing a substantial contribution to benefit PanCAN.”

Undeterred, the committee and union members— including Locals 10, 34, 75 and 91—hosted a family and friends BBQ and raffle that raised a respectable $1,500 to fight childhood cancer.

“We had a great event; it was a blast,” said Local 34 President Sean Farley. “The nice part is that the committee that was working on it learned a lot, and we can build on the event for next year. It was a huge learning curve. We just couldn’t jump through the hoops fast enough, but we learned a lot.”

Imbagliazzo said he hopes that this year’s success will inspire more and more locals to participate.

“One of my goals was to have ILWU and community working together,” said Imbagliazzo. “The events were very successful in that regard, and the feeling that we all got should be shared with all of the locals. My hope is that more and more locals will participate, and eventually, all locals will take part in Walks the Coast.”

For more information on how your local can host or participate in a Walk the Coast event for next year, contact Dan Imbagliazzo at danimbagl@cox.net.

Working together for a great cause:

The Puget Sound event benefited the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network. The Organizing Committee and volunteers for the event are pictured here.

DISPATCHER • September 2012
Southern California ILWU mobilizing against Prop 32

ILWU members in Southern California are taking the threat posed by the anti-union Prop 32 seriously. In addition to financial contributions made by Locals 13, 63 and 94, members are engaged in mobilization and educational efforts to make sure union members are aware of the threat that this legislation poses to workers and to get out to the vote on election day.

“In my 47 years as a union worker I have seen many tactics such as employer political lobbying, unfair bargaining and lock-outs that were intended to destroy the union, however, Prop 32 is by far the most destructive legislation that I have ever witnessed. If this Proposition passes in the November, it will not only reduce the political power of unions but it will open the door to allow corporations to seek a right to work state in California. This legislation, if passed, could possibly impact our Coastwise Agreement,” said ILWU Local 13 President Joe Cortez.

“If our agreements have no political backing and our collective bargaining becomes weakened, the Union can no longer exist. We will be an entity of the past only known in history books. We will be returned to minimum wage earners working in whatever conditions the employer designates.”

Local 13’s Prop 32 Mobilization Coordinator, Sunshine Garcia, has been working to educate members to make sure that doesn’t happen.

“After learning about Prop 32 we realized that the only way to defeat it is by educating our members. Our biggest priority is expressing to them how detrimental it is going to be to our jobs and the lives of all workers if this proposition passes,” Garcia said. “We are holding educational classes, producing literature, making buttons, hats and other swag. We be will be starting phone banking and precinct walks to help get out the vote. We need a minimum of 80% of union members to vote ‘no’ Prop 32 in order to defeat it.”

Cortez said that every ILWU member in California has a responsibility to get their friends and family out to the polls to vote down this initiative. “Prop 32 is up to you to bring your family and friends to the polls in November to oppose this discriminatory legislation against the working class,” he said.

If they pass Prop 32, it will silence the voice of workers and unions, making it easy to take away our rights, destroy our unions and hurt our families.

Please tell all your friends, family and co-workers to learn about Proposition 32 and protect themselves by voting “NO” this November.

Leading the charge against Prop 32: Local 13 member Sunshine Garcia is serving as the Prop 32 Mobilization Coordinator for Local 13.

Update on the Maritime Union of New Zealand dispute with the Ports of Auckland

The following statement on the ongoing struggle for a fair contract by Maritime Union of New Zealand (MUNZ) members at the Port of Auckland was issued by MUNZ Local 33 President Gary Parloe in a newsletter to the MUNZ membership on September 7.

I am aware that many of you are wondering what is happening with the dispute and are concerned about ongoing problems at the Port.

As you will be aware your collective agreement remains unsettled despite our desire and best efforts in negotiations in Facilitation.

The process of bargaining in facilitation is confidential to the parties which is why there hasn’t been much said publicly and why some people think the dispute is over. We have met in facilitation numerous times.

I know you have continued working professionally on the port against a backdrop of tension on the port and a strong sense that you as union members are being treated differently than non-union workers.

This newsletter is to let you know where we are with a number of elements of the campaign to settle your collective agreement.

Rest assured there is a lot happening and we will continue using all of the avenues available to get PDAL to settle a fair collective agreement that provides you with job security and enables the Port of Auckland to continue to operate successfully for the people of Auckland.

With your continued support the Executive and I will do whatever is necessary to achieve such a settlement. If you have any questions or comments do not hesitate to let us know in solidarity,

President Local 13, Maritime Union of New Zealand

Harry Bridges Span School dedication: A large contingent of the Bridges family, including Harry’s daughter Kathy, and grandson, Hunter, pose with Dr. Richard Vladovic, LAUSD Board member from District #7 at the dedication of the Harry Bridges Span School in Wilmington California. ILWU Vice President Ray Familathe spoke at the dedication about the pivotal role the labor movement played in establishing the mandatory public education system in the United States. This moved children out of the factories and into the classrooms. “It’s important we’re dedicating this school to Harry Bridges. Not because it’s good for the ILWU, but because it honors the entire working class in this community,” Familathe said.

Tough time for little Tori Galloway, Boron lockout star: When 560 families in Boron were fighting Rio Tinto’s lockout in 2010, five-year-old Tori Galloway captured the hearts of many – and more than a few TV cameras – when she appeared on stage at various events including the “Desert to the Docks” caravan that assembled at Dodger Stadium early on the morning of February 24 where 100 cars and trucks brought food and positive media coverage to the locked-out families that assembled at Dodger Stadium early on the morning of February 24 where 100 cars and trucks brought food and positive media coverage to the locked-out families fighting corporate greed in the high desert. Tori was recently diagnosed with a heart defect (bi-cuspid aorta) that requires a delicate surgical operation at Children’s Hospital in Los Angeles on October 11, followed by a week of recovery. The Los Angeles County Federation of Labor recently donated $500 to help the family with expenses. Messages of support can be sent to Tori at her home: 27704 Carmichael Street, Boron, CA 93516 or 760-559-4283.
Vote NO on Proposition 32: the anti-union attack with loopholes for big business & the “super-rich.”

This article by ILWU Southern California District Council President Cathy Familathe appeared in the September 6, 2012 edition of Random Lengths News, a community paper serving over 60,000 readers in San Pedro and the harbor area.

Nobody likes dealing with politics and politicians, but sometimes there’s an issue on the ballot that’s too dangerous to ignore.

A good example is Proposition 32. It was cleverly designed to sound reasonable – but actually aims to attack workers, unions and pensioners – while giving new protection to the super-rich and powerful corporations.

Backed by extremists

The funders behind Proposition 32 are a small band of super-rich tycoons and corporations who support anti-union and other extremist causes. The key sponsor behind Prop 32 is the “The Lincoln Club,” a group of corporate executives and millionaires from Orange County who backed the “Citizens United” Supreme Court decision that gutted federal campaign finance reforms – and allowed corporations and the super-rich to secretly fund political campaigns without limits.

Prop. 32 has a fatal flaw

The fatal flaw in Proposition 32 would give more power to business groups by allowing “LLC’s” or “limited liability corporations” to pour unlimited amount of money into political campaigns without any limits or restrictions. At the same time, Prop. 32 would prohibit any union member from voluntarily contributing money to their union to support candidates and issues that benefit working people.

Independent groups say “NO” on 32

After carefully looking at both sides, two highly-respected independent groups have concluded that Proposition 32 should be defeated. The League of Women Voters and the public-interest group, Common Cause, are both urging a “NO” vote on Proposition 32.

Proposition 32 pretends to be about “stopping special interests” but that’s a lie. It was designed by and for millionaires with an extreme agenda who oppose unions, Social Security, Medicare, minimum wages and other protections that we can’t afford to lose.

If they pass Prop. 32, it will silence the voice of workers and unions, making it easy to take away our rights, destroy our unions and hurt our families.

Two California ballot measures will impact ILWU members

California voters face two ballot measures this November that will make a big difference for union members, pensioners and their families.

- Proposition 32 is sponsored by anti-union business groups who want to weaken unions.
- Proposition 30 is sponsored by unions to make the rich start paying a fair share of taxes.

Polls show both measures are too close to call, so every ILWU member can make a difference by voting.

Here are the Facts about Propositions 30 & 32: Decide for yourself

**Prop. 30:** “The Schools and Local Public Safety Protection Act” to make millionaires pay more of their fair share

**Who’s supporting:**

**Who’s opposing:**
- Tobacco companies, via SBAC – The Small Business Action Committee.

**Best arguments for:**
- The rich should pay their fair share of taxes.
- CA schools face $6 billion in cuts this year.

**Best arguments against:**
- Stop picking on the rich.
- Don’t encourage “class war”

**Prop. 32:** The “Stop Special Interests” or “Special Exemptions Act”

**Who’s supporting:**
- The Lincoln Millionaires Club of Orange County & Anti-union corporate interests

**Who’s opposing:**
- ILWU and all unions, League of Women Voters, Common Cause, major newspapers.

**Best arguments for:**
- Unions members already have too much power.
- Unions need more controls; business less restrictions less restrictions on business

**Best arguments against:**
- We can’t afford to let business silence workers.
- First they silence our voice, then take our rights.

SoCal ILWU members celebrate Labor Day by mobilizing against anti-union Prop 32

In SACRAMENTO and in CITY HALL.

Both of those initiatives were defeated by popular vote. Because of their past failures, this time around, the authors of the initiative have resorted to deception. Proposition 32 claims that it would equally limit contributions from labor unions and business interests.

The restrictions on labor unions are real. But restrictions on business are largely illusions, the initiative contains enough loopholes and exemptions for employers that contributions from corporations, billionaires and millionaires would be left untouched.

Prop 32 is a serious threat to the democratic process in the state according to John Logan, San Francisco State University labor and employment studies professor. “Under Prop 32, neither the spending by business interests nor wealthy individuals would face meaning-ful limitations—and it would likely explode—while that of unions would be all but eliminated.”

ILWU International Vice President Ray Familathe spoke at the picnic about the importance of solidarity—particularly as unions across the globe are facing vicious assaults on their collective bargaining rights and their right to organize by corporations and their allies in government. He said that the ILWU was committed to defeating California’s Proposition 32. “We cannot allow workers to be silenced.” If Proposition 32 passes, employers will be able to donate an unlimited amount of money to buy elections and organized labor will be effectively shut out from the political process,” Familathe said.

The temperature rose steadily throughout the morning and afternoon as union members and their family enjoyed the Labor Day holiday and prepared to bring heat of their own to defeat Proposition 32.
ILWU refuses to stand down as rogue PMA-member
ICTSI continues to violate Longshore contract

In the June issue of the Dispatch, we reported that the ILWU and the Pacific Maritime Association (PMA) had taken the extraordinary step of jointly suing a PMA-member company, ICTSI, for its continued refusal to comply with the Pacific Coast Longshore and Clerks’ Agreement (PCL&C). The lawsuit, which was filed on June 13, 2012, seeks an order requiring ICTSI to comply with the PCL&C, which establishes jurisdiction between the ILWU and all PMA-member signatories, including carriers, terminal operators, stevedore companies and maintenance and repair companies.

After the ILWU and PMA sued ICTSI, the company filed counterclaims against both parties seeking to vacate portions of the PCL&C, asking for damages and claiming that the ILWU and PMA constitute some type of unlawful monopoly over cargo-handling on the West Coast. ICTSI voluntarily joined PMA as a member in 2010.

ICTSI’s position on application of the PCL&C became clear at a recent NLRB proceeding arising from charges filed by ICTSI and the Port of Portland against the ILWU. There, Elvis Gandara, the Chief Executive Officers of ICTSI, stated that the only terms and conditions set by the longshore contract are wages and that everything else is up to the company. “Well, the wages are established in the PCL&C, and so that’s what we would have to pay. As far as efficiencies, we have the right to look at efficiencies, and that was something we were – you know – we planned to do.” ICTSI’s position is that the company is only subject to the wages component of the longshore workers’ impact on poor people around the globe, showing that when food prices rise, grain giants profit and the poor are forced to rely on humanitarian aid.

“They are profiting from markets that ought not be profitable,” said Lezlie Watters, public adviser on trade and global governance at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, told the IBT. “They do not have the public interest at heart.”

Pacific Northwest longshoremen’s key gateway for grain

The grain that longshoremen export from Northwest ports accounts for between one-fourth to one-third of U.S. grain exports. For example, the Port of Vancouver USA handled 16% of all U.S. wheat exports on their docks in 2011, some 3.6 million tons. Other Northwest ports are banding grain of all kinds, including soybeans, corn and other commodities and they also showed impressive volumes in 2011.

The negotiating team that’s fighting for the union includes the Coast Committee (Pres. Bob McEllrath, Vice Pres. Ray Familathe, and Coast Committee-member Ray Ortiz, Jr. and Leaf Sundet) and four locals: Co-chair Rich Austin, Co-chair Debra Rodel, and after-tax profits of $735 million, an increase of almost $37 billion in 2011, up 91% over 2010. Profits are healthy too, reporting $961.4 million in 2011, up 91% over 2010.

Seattle: Louis Dreyfus

Local 19 members worked at Louis Dreyfus, which is based in the Netherlands. Columbus Grain, owned by Marubeni Corp., a huge Japanese trading company, and Temco (owned by CHS Inc. and Port of Portland) is based in the Netherlands.

Global giants’ hold on grain exports

The Northwest Elevators, despite having names like “Columbia Grain,” are anything but local operations. All six elevators covered by the Northwest Grains-handlers’ Agreement are owned by huge multinational corporations, many of them foreign-based. Nine of the 10 global giants on the exporter side: Vancouver: United Grain (Mitsui)

Local 4 members load grain at United Grain, which is owned by Mitsui & Co. Inc. Mitsui is a Japanese conglomerate that reported profits of $6.08 billion in 2012.

Portland: Columbia Grain (Marubeni), Temco (CHS/Cargill), Louis Dreyfus

Members of Locals 8, 40 and 92 loaded 4.74 million tons of grain last year at facilities owned by Columbia Grain (owned by Marubeni Corp., a huge Japanese trading company), Temco (owned by CHS Inc. and Port of Portland), and Louis Dreyfus, which is based in the Netherlands. Columbia Grain handled 36.8% of U.S. grain exports last year – and about 1/3 of all grain shipments in the Northwest.

Tacoma: Temco (CHS/Cargill)

23 members loaded grain at Temco, a joint venture between CHS Inc. and Cargill, two huge U.S. multinationals that operate around the world. CHS is Ranked #78 on Fortune 500 list, reported sales of almost $37 billion in 2011 – a 46% increase over 2010. Profits are healthy too, reporting $961.4 million in 2011, up 91% over 2010.

An Oxfam report exposed the huge global traders’ impact on poor people around the globe, showing that when food prices rise, grain giants profit and the poor are forced to rely on humanitarian aid.

“They are profiting from markets that ought not be profitable,” said Lezlie Watters, public adviser on trade and global governance at the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy, told the IBT. “They do not have the public interest at heart.”
A notable memorial service for John "Johnny" Evans filled the Local 8 hall in Portland on August 6 with hundreds of members, friends and family who came to celebrate the life of a good man and union member who died suddenly on July 29, 2012. Evans’ sudden passing caused a wave of shock and disbelief among ILWU members in the Columbia River region and beyond who came to honor him, including Local 13 President Joe Cottet who travelled from Los Angeles to attend the memorial.

“I only spoke to him one day and we lost him the next,” said long-time friend George O’Neil who officiated at the memorial, recalling how he and Evans joined Local 8 in 1980 along with 160 others who became known as the “killer bees” for their youthfulness. “Johnny and I travelled together from Coos Bay to LA in search of work so we could get enough hours in those early days.”

International President Bob McElrath praised Evans as a man who was admired and respected by so many longshoremen because of his good humor and positive attitude. McElrath added and paralled together on a champion Dragon Boat crew during the City of Portland’s annual Rose Festival in 1993. “The sudden passing of John was a shock to all of us. This is a great loss to his family, friends, and the ILWU.”

Evans was born in New Jersey but grew up in Portland, where he graduated from Benson High School in 1974. After joining Local 8 in 1980, he served in a variety of positions, including Trustee, Labor Relations Committee member and Dispatcher. He was also elected to the ILWU International Executive Board, serving briefly before becoming ineligible after joining Foreman’s Local 92 in November of 2003 where he served as Dispatcher/Treasurer at the time of his passing.

Evans’ peers elected him to Chair their ILWU Coast Longshore Division Budget Committee.

In 1984, Evans married Clare Beer. They had three daughters together: Stephanie, Rachel, and Ashley. He was devoted to his family and enjoyed coaching his girls who excelled at softball. He also enjoyed boating, fishing and playing golf at ILWU tournaments from Port Angeles, WA, to Palm Springs, CA.

Longtime Local 8 and International Executive Board member Jim Dow came into the ILWU at the same time as Evans in 1980. “John was always a dedicated team player whether it was for his family, his softball teams, ILWU Local 8 and 92, or the guys he was playing golf with – he always fought to help everyone win. I was lucky to have been one of John’s teammates and I consider myself fortunate for the experience. He will be missed.”

This notice applies to all ILWU-represented employees, ILWU members, nonmembers and new hires working in an ILWU bargaining unit, including members and individuals who have chosen not to be covered by any unit-wide financial core agreements by any means, including unit membership in any local or division affiliated with the ILWU, for the one year period following the date of this notice or until such time covered by a later notice of similar kind.

The information contained herein applies to ILWU International per capita and, for those working in the Longshore Division, the ILWU Coast Longshore Division Pro Rata fees or payments of any kind under a union security clause. This notice also applies to local dues and fees paid to any affiliated ILWU locals or divisions, except those affiliates who have chosen not to be covered by this notice and have issued their own separate notice under their own separate policies and procedures. (Accordingly, this notice shall be superseded by any notice issued by any affiliated ILWU local or division with respect to its dues and fees.)

Please be advised that individuals working under a union security clause contained in a collective bargaining agreement, notwithstanding the specific provisions of such clause, are subject to any dues or assessments as a condition of employment under such clause and any required initiation fees and by, writing to the Financial Core Committee at the ILWU International, as defined by the provisions of any such clause, and to their local ILWU secretary-treasurer, resign or decline union membership and choose to become a “financial core member” at any time. Such “financial core members” are deemed to be in compliance with any union security clause, regardless of any specific wording to the contrary, so long as they timely pay all regular and periodic financial core dues or fees properly charged by their bargaining representative as explained herein.

Please be advised, however, that financial core members deprive themselves of the valuable rights of union membership in the ILWU and their ILWU local or division. A financial core member does not have the right to vote, nominate for office, hold office, or be a candidate for office in the ILWU; nor may he/she participate in or attend ILWU meetings or any functions of the union that are limited to union members. In addition, a financial core member has no right to vote on dues increases or on contracts submitted to the membership for ratification. These rights and privileges of union membership are accorded only to union members in good standing.

Nevertheless, financial core members are still legally required under a valid union security clause to pay to their union for the costs related to collective bargaining, contract administration, grievance adjustment, and union organization of establishments within competitive markets of ILWU-unionized employers, and other activities reasonably related to the effectuation of the union’s representational duties (hereinafter called “chargeable activities”). However, union expenditures for non-representational activities such as political activities, lobbying (hereinafter called “nonchargeable activities”) - activities which most workers know help build a better climate for us all in bargaining with employers and in securing fundamental worker rights - may not be charged to financial core members who file timely objections.

For calendar year 2011 (which is the most recent audited year), the financial review has confirmed that no more than 5% of all ILWU International’s expenditures were for nonchargeable activities. While each ILWU local and division may have different percentages of nonchargeable expenditures, financial reviews and practical experience confirm that the nonchargeable percentage for ILWU local dues is significantly lower than that for the ILWU International. Nevertheless, those ILWU locals and divisions covered by this notice will not collect or seek to collect financial core fees greater than that based on the nonchargeable percentage of 5% stated above for the ILWU International for the applicable collection period herein or until such time as such local issues a separate notice.

For those individuals employed in the ILWU Longshore Division and work for PMA-member companies under the Pacific Coast Longshore and Clerks Agreement or other local agreements, they also have rights to object to expenditures for nonchargeable activities of their local as explained herein. They, too, have the right to vote, nominate for office, hold office, or be a candidate for office in their local ILWU meetings or any functions of the union that are limited to union members. In addition, a financial core member has no right to vote on dues increases or on contracts submitted to the membership for ratification. These rights and privileges of union membership are accorded only to union members in good standing.

Under the Procedures, an objection by a financial core member must be made in writing and post-marked within 30 days from the date of this notice or the date of becoming a new hire or financial core member under an ILWU security clause and receipt of this notice, whichever is later, and addressed to the ILWU International Secretary-Treasurer, 1188 Franklin Street, 4th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94109. To be valid, the written objection must specify the objector’s name, address, social security number, current wage rate, the name of his or her employer and the name of the local union or division which represents the objector’s interests. The written objection must be timely in order to be valid. Without waiving the 30-day filing period with respect to other notices of this type, please be advised that under this notice only, objections filed by current financial core members will be deemed timely if postmarked on or before November 1, 2012. Individuals who file an objection within 30 days of the date they become a new hire or financial core member or receive this notice, whichever is later. Without being advised, a new hire or financial core member and new hires who file timely objections will not be charged from the date they file a timely objection through November 1, 2013 for expenditures related to nonchargeable activities based on the applicable percentages noted above and also will be provided detailed, independent accounting of such expenditures. If objections concern expenditures for nonchargeable expenditures of the ILWU International, the ILWU Coast Longshore Division (if the objector works in the Longshore Division) and of their ILWU local (if covered by this notice as explained herein). Objectors will also be given an opportunity to file, within 30 days of receipt of such financial information, a challenge to the amount and calculation of any such nonchargeable expenditures and percentages, as well as an opportunity to present any evidence they may wish to have such a challenge reconsidered. The arbitrator or other decision-maker selected by the American Arbitration Association (AAA) in proceedings conducted under AAA Rules applicable to objections to agency fees. Please also note that the amount or portion of financial core fees pending the filing of any objection and challenge as well as the amount reasonably in dispute pursuant to any challenges will be kept in an interest bearing escrow account pending resolution of such challenges. Objectors who file challenges will receive any amount that may be determined to be owed them, plus accrued interest, pursuant to these Procedures.

It is important to know that the vast majority of ILWU represented workers believe that the little extra in dues for maintaining union membership and enjoying all the valuable full participation in the governing of the ILWU and remaining a union member makes the most sense. If you are not a union member already but are eligible for membership under your local’s constitution and rules, please consider joining the ILWU local in your area. This notice may be superseded or amended by later notices as issued by the ILWU, the Coast Pro Rata Committee or affiliated locals and divisions of the ILWU.
Labor Day Airport Agitation: ILWU members from locals 6 and 75 joined a noisy 4-hour picket line at the beginning of Labor Day weekend to help Oakland Airport workers who are fighting for respect and rights on the job at Burger King, See’s Candy, Jamba Juice and other airport concessionaires. Workers announced a boycott on August 31 of these Oakland Airport foodservice providers until rights are respected.

Members of ILWU Locals 6 and 34 kicked-off the day across the Bay with a Labor Day breakfast sponsored by the San Francisco Labor Council. Pictured above are (L-R): Local Members of ILWU Locals 6 and 34.

Newspaper advertisement for ILWU books and videos.

ILWU BOOKS & VIDEOS

Books and videos about the ILWU are available from the union’s library at discounted prices!

BOOKS

A Spark Is Struck: Jack Hall & the ILWU in Hawaii. By Sanford Zalberg. A high quality re-issue of the informative epic account of Jack Hall and the birth and growth of the ILWU in Hawaii $13.50 (paperback).

The Legacy of 1934: An historical exhibit by the ILWU. Produced as a catalogue to accompany the new traveling historical art exhibit about the origins of the ILWU in the 1934 maritime strike, this brief but vivid publication stands on its own as a pictorial history of the coastwise strike and an account of the extraordinary sacrifices and democratic principles of the founding members of the union. Two (2) for $5.00

Harry Bridges: The Rise and Fall of Radical Labor in the United States. By Charles Larrabee. A limited number of copies of this out-of-print and useful biography are now available through the book sale by special arrangement with Bolerium Books in San Francisco, which specializes in rare publications and documents about radical and labor history. $10.00

The ILWU Story. This book unrolls the history of the union from its origins to the present, complete with recollections from the men and women who built the union, in their own words, and dozens of rare photos of the union in action. $5.00

The Big Strike. By Mike Quin. The classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. $5.00

The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront. By David Wellman. The important new study of longshoring in the ILWU. $5.00

Harry Bridges

A Spark Is Struck

The Legacy of 1934

The March Inland: Origins of the ILWU Warehouse Division 1934-1938. By Harvey Schwartz. A new edition of the only comprehensive account of the union’s organizing campaign in the northern California warehouse and distribution industry. $9.00

VIDEOS
“Eye of the Storm: Our Fight for Justice and a Better Contract.” A 58-minute DVD featuring documentary film produced and directed by Amie Williams, Eye of the Storm tells the story of the 2002 longshore lockout on the West Coast. DVD Version $5.00

“We Are the ILWU.” A 30-minute color video introducing the principles and traditions of the ILWU. Features active and retired members talking about what the union meant in their lives and what it needs to survive and thrive, along with film clips, historical photos and an original musical score. DVD or VHS version $5.00

“Life on the Beam: A Memorial to Harry Bridges.” A 17-minute DVD of the original video production by California Working Group, Inc., memorializes Harry Bridges through still photographs, recorded interviews, and reminiscences. Originally produced for the 1990 memorial service in San Francisco. DVD $5.00

ILWU BOOK & VIDEO ORDER FORM

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___ copies of The Legacy of 1934 @ two for $5 = $___
___ copies of Harry Bridges @ $10 ea. = $___
___ copies of ILWU Story @ $5 ea. = $___
___ copies of The Big Strike @ $9.00 ea. = $___
___ copies of The Union Makes Us Strong @ $20 ea. = $___
___ copies of The March Inland @ $5 ea. = $___
___ copies of Eye of the Storm DVD @ $5 ea. = $___
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___ copies of A Life on the Beam DVD @ $5 ea. = $___

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We regret that U.S. Customs and postal regulations create too great a burden for our staff to maintain book sale service to our members and friends outside the United States.

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Make check or money order (U.S. Funds) payable to “ILWU” and send to:
ILWU Library, 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109
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TRANSITIONS

NEW PENSIONERS:
Local 4: Kenneth D. Karschner; Local 13: Joseph D. Wilson; John W. Grigoby; Robert C. Main; Robert G. Sandoval; James L. Palm; Gwen J. Simmons; George Bielma; Carmen T. Ochoa; John A. Maldinich; Local 19: Michael R. Rububashan; Harry Getz; Tom L. Guntle; Melvin Sallia; Local 23: Robert W. Pattin; Local 28: Luis Reyes; Local 34: Wayne A. Aito; Local 52: Robert Moran; Local 54: Henry J. Mahan; Local 63: John A. Mattera; Mynde A. Luera; Boris Antolos; Carole L. Hoffmann; Margaret A. Foss; Patricia H. Grable; Dominic E. Abbatiello; Local 92: Rodney L. Kadow; John W. Rapp; John S. Mosteller;

DECEASED PENSIONERS:
Local 4: Donald W. Hagen; William F. Watt; Donald J. Bamford; Local 10 Johnnie E. Bell (Evelyn); Edward F. Williams; Ananias Quinn; Local 12: Vernon Beebe (Doris); Local 13: Ronald Willis; Andro Maldonado;

Ernesto Rivera; Theodore Walters; Local 21: Gerald E. Miller; Local 23: Steve T. Manos; Local 24: William A. Kola (Betty); Local 26: Robert J. Hill (Shirley); Local 50: Ronald Biddle; Local 52: Frank D. Gradias (Violeta); Local 54: Jack H. Tinsley Jr. (Norma Jean); Local 63: Stanley D. Winter (Eileen); Local 91: Paul J. Vinson Jr.; Local 92: Albert E. Risman; Local 94: Ray H. Patricio; Local 98: John W. Trowbridge;

DECEASED SURVIVORS:
Local 8: Frances Gillis; Betty J. Watt; Local 10: Rose Marie Donlin; Gladys Freeman; Betty Johnson; Local 12: Lela M. Denton; Local 13: Constance L. Collins; Irma Weir; Jean M. Kolar; Local 19: Beverly L. Clark; Jane Garcia; Emilia M. Solvik; Ernestine Chatman; Local 23: Joyce B. Ehly; Local 24: Beverly L. Lytle; Local 40: Nadine C. Waisel; Local 47: Marjorie Briffett; Local 63: Betty J. Zecchev; Local 92: Dorothy M. Grohs; Local 98: Ora Lee Reese

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