Log Export Ban

**Hearings Set in SF, Portland**

WASHINGTON, DC — Congressional hearings on bills to place a total ban on the export of logs from federal, state or private lands are scheduled to take place in Portland on April 11 and San Francisco on April 12.

The Portland hearing will be held in the first floor auditorium of the Bonneville Power Administration Building, 1002 N.E. Holladay Street, beginning at 9 a.m. In San Francisco, the hearings will be held in the Ceremonial Hearing Room of the US Federal Building, 450 Golden Gate Ave., also at 9 a.m.

In other developments, ILWU vice president William Chester spent several days in Washington, DC last week rounding up support for an ILWU effort to head off the home builders' drive to cut off log exports. Among the unions extending support in this effort were the International Brotherhood of Teamsters and the International Longshoremen's Association.

ILWU members in particular would stand to lose considerable amounts of work opportunity should the embargo approach obviously have no case since there may possibly have any log shortage. This assures us that, as far as we can ascertain, no other American workers are losing employment because of log exports.

Those who take an environmentalist approach obviously have no case since there may be problems relative to forest management which is under Government control. Log exports under proper controls are not resulting in devastation to our forests.

Local 26 Holds First Convention

LOS ANGELES — Over 100 delegates from Local 26 shops throughout Southern California gathered here on March 30-31 for their union's first annual convention.

Among the major actions taken was a promise of all out local support for 600 members at Thrifty Drugs who face a contract expiration on June 30.

The delegates pointed out that “the success of our Thrifty negotiations will have a serious impact on the other members of Local 26 engaged in collective bargaining” with other employers. They also resolved to strengthen the local's ties with the Southern California Food and Drug Council “in order to benefit from the collective strength of all unions” in this industry.

The Council is composed of all unions — AFL-CIO and independent — which have some interest in the food and drug industries. It has, in the past, been particularly helpful to Local 26 members bargaining with Thrifty and elsewhere.

The delegates also promised support to 25,000 Northern California ILWU and Teamster warehousemen who will open negotiations for a new Master Agreement this month. A resolution pointed out that “a successful conclusion of the Bay Area negotiations will assist the
NEW MOVES ON PHASE III

By April 19, our representatives in Washington, DC are expected to come up with some sort of action on the Economic Stabilization Act— the legislation which gave President Nixon the right to impose Phases I, II and III of wage-price controls. The present law expires on April 30 and the legislators will have to act before April 19, when the Easter recess is supposed to begin, if they want to keep controls alive for another year.

There are a few possibilities:

1. First, there is really nothing legally anyway, which forces them to do anything. They could, in fact, let this unfortunate chapter in our economic history simply end. From where we sit, this is an optimal solution. The ILWU has argued that controls of any kind under our economic system are going to operate to the detriment of workers.

2. Our experience with Phase I and Phase II, for example, has shown us that the working class cannot live for too much in the way of "equity" when the fundamental propositions behind such controls are 1) profits are good for everyone; and 2) higher wages cause higher prices. The latest example of the failure of that sort of thinking is the incredible rise in the living cost, or as required by the local petition, called upon former International president Robert S. Lyon to look into the local's affairs and also local unions, where it is provided for, is one of the simplest and purest forms of democracy. No elaborate or expensive union machinery is needed to get it going. No union meeting, no permission of any union officer or body no matter how high or officially powerful—and the whole idea and principle of the petition bill is to empower the rank and file to move without fear of being blocked by union officials or being punished in any way for circulating the petition.

Hundreds of rank and file members of one ILWU local recently signed a petition asking the International union to step in and investigate the local's finances. The petition requires the International to step into local affairs, set aside its autonomy and temporarily to make changes in the local's structure. The petition must be signed by at least 20% of the membership.

The local is the San Francisco longshore local—the largest longshore local in the International. The rank and file petition was really a cry for help and it is in that sense that the International union agreed to it. The action by the rank and file was widely reported in the public press and if it had not been I would not be commenting on it here.

Not that our union has anything to hide, least of all in a case like this, but our union prefers that its internal affairs be handled as such and not be subject to distortions of the daily press.

That a local union can find itself in financial trouble is not too remarkable. The rank and file controls and its membership together and either raises its dues or cuts its overhead or does both. One of our local unions recently did just that and decided that for a while it could get along with only one full-time paid officer.

In the case of Local 10, San Francisco, the International, as required by the local petition, called upon former International vice president Bob Robertson to look into the local's affairs and make a report of his findings and his recommendations to the International. Bob agreed to come back out of retirement and do the job for pay.

Bob will be preparing his report next week. When he is finished then the International union will put into effect certain changes in the structure of the local that will get it back on an even keel financially and otherwise. It is the International's responsibility to make the changes effective for only three months. After three months the local, if it so desires, may vote by referendum to cancel out any or all changes made in the local setup by the International. Until such circumstances a referendum vote would void the rank and file petition.

The local in this case has had the assurance of the International union that the International will treat the petition as asking for a help and not being a cry for help. But, I would answer that it's because of its built-in democratic controls that our local union can bring it about. Rest assured it will give it the simple and purest forms of democracy. No elaborate or expensive union machinery is needed to get it going. No union meetings, no permission of any union officer or body no matter how high or officially powerful—and the whole idea and principle of the petition bill is to empower the rank and file to move without fear of being blocked by union officials or being punished in any way for circulating the petition.
Local 26 Wins Big Election at Furniture Plant

LOS ANGELES — A difficult four-month organizing campaign has resulted in the addition of nearly 200 members to ILWU Local 26.

Workers at Hiebert, Inc. — a manufacturer of executive office furniture — voted 96-57 on March 30 to name the ILWU as their collective bargaining agent.

The company’s top brass and hired labor relations “experts” failed to influence the workers with their daily barrage of leaflets and on-the-job speeches about illegal picketing, illegal executive dues, fines and assessments. Attempts to impose an “arbitration” on the workers to preclude proration were also unsuccessful, as were efforts to buy the election with sweetheart wage increases to individual workers.

International representative Chet Measke was assisted by Local 26 vice president Max Aragon in the organizing campaign, which was selected to serve on the union’s negotiating committee.

According to Measke, the plant is expanding and adding another shift so that before long it will employ between 230 and 240 workers.

Labor’s Brief To New BC Government

VANCOUVER — The 178,000 member BC Federation of Labor, in its first brief to the New Democratic Party provincial government, which it hopes to elect, has called for the removal of legislation which hampers unions in organizing the unorganized.

The ILWU is affiliated to the BCFL and represented on its executive board by Don Garcia, Canadian Area ILWU president.

The labor federation asked the government to remove Bill 33 (which imposed compulsory arbitration) and for increasing the fine for federal authorities who noted that “several months have now passed without further steps to alleviate some of the onerous withholding provisions in their organizational activities.”

The brief also called for:

• Support of the Land Commission Act which would allow the government to “buy out” areas where “inefficiency, government or courts,” guarantee of the right of peaceful picketing and ending information gathering, and the elimination of “negative and discriminatory provisions of the Labor Relations Act and the Trade Unions Act.”

It complained of the government for removing Bill 33 (which included compulsory arbitration) and for increasing the fine for federal authorities who noted that “several months have now passed without further steps to alleviate some of the onerous withholding provisions in their organizational activities.”

In other actions, the delegates:

• Pledged continued support to a campaign for a National Health Security Act;

• Passed a resolution that the local executive board should establish a permanent committee on equal rights to settle out all reported cases of racism within the union, and report back to the full board;

• Passed a resolution that the local executive board should establish a permanent committee on equal rights to settle out all reported cases of racism within the union, and report back to the full board;

• Supported the ILWU’s proposed program for checking out all reported cases of racism.

Southern California regional director William Piercy addresses First Annual Local 26 Convention. Seated on platform are, from left, International executive board member L. L. “Chick” Loveridge, Local 13; Local 26 president Harvey; secretary-treasurer Lou Strickland; international board member Al Perisho, Local 63; Local 26 business agent George Lee, and vice president Max Aragon.

Local 26 Convention

Continued from Page 1 — warehousemen in Southern California to make comparable gains.”

ORGANIZING

Noting that the vast population of unorganized workers in Southern California presents serious problems for unionists in achieving better wages, conditions and benefits, the delegates requested their officers to initiate a district-wide conference on “Organizing the Unorganized” in the near future.

The delegates also laid heavy stress on the need for the membership to take on responsibility as organizers, and regular meetings were established for the sole purpose of finding and discussing new leads.

Hawaii Auto Workers Hold Caucus

HONOLULU — Approximately 50 representatives of ILWU automotive units located in all Divisions met here for a two-day caucus last month to discuss demands for upcoming contract negotiations.

The agreements on Oahu will expire on May 31, while those on the neighbor islands will come up for renewal on June 30.

While the specific details of the demands drafted by the caucus are not being disclosed at this time, because the membership in each of the units are reviewing the recommendations, the following items will come up for discussion in the contract talks:

• A proper wage increase;

• Inclusion of all auto companies in the Hawaii Employers’ ILWU Open Pension Plan;

• Additional paid holidays;

• Improved language on classifications;

• Welfare plans fully paid by the employers;

• Boosting the maximum number of hours under the sick leave provision;

• Increase in night shift premium rates.

Other demands will be reported out later.

Canada Dock Workers Confer

MONTREAL — The leadership of the Canadian Area ILWU came here late in March to meet with their counterparts in the International Longshoremen’s Association of Machinists and the mid-west. Seventy union members were particularly irritated with the Council for acting on an agreement even before the membership had a chance to ratify it.

That strike came out of the closet pretty fast,” said one union official, “even faster than their own regulations allow.

Alaska Organizing

Juneau, Alaska — An NLRB election held here March 19 for employees in the Foos Container Yard resulted in a 100 percent victory for the ILWU. The six Foos workers will constitute a longshore division of Local 85, according to regional director G. John Park.

Northern California Labor Plans Action Against Phase III

SAN FRANCISCO — A trade union committee to organize some “demon- stration” actions against President Nixon’s economic program was organized last month by a broadly representative coalition of union and community officials—AFL-CIO and independent.

About 100 officials from all over the area gathered at ILWU Local 10 headquarters on March 27 to discuss ways of acting against Phase III wage controls, continuing inflation and the Nixon budget. The meeting was co-chaired by ILWU Local 10 president James Lynch and council secretary-treasurer Tom Lusher.

The ILWU representatives on the steering committee are Herman, Local 6 president Curtis McClain, Local 6 secretary-treasurer Odell Franklin, Northern California District Council president Robert Rohatke, Local 10 secretary-treasurer Odell Franklin, Northern California District Council president Jim Lynch and council secretary-treasurer Tom Lusher.

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Devaluation Is Windfall for US Multinationals

WASHINGTON — The AFL-CIO has charged that international monetary crises that forced devaluation of the dollar twice in 14 months had brought “unconceivable profits” to speculators, “vespering toms” who call themselves “Americans.”

The federation called on Congress to consider legislation which would permit the investiga- tion of manipulations of the money market and to identify the culprits publicly.

AFL-CIO Legislative Director Andrew J. Bemiller said the legislation would ask Rep. Henry S. Reuss (D-Wis.), chairman of the international economic sub-committee of the Joint Committee on Taxation, to investigate the extent to which currency devaluation has profited “the speculators” who call themselves “Americans.”

He pointed to the discovery that “the currency situation merits immediate attention by the Congress and, in particular, by the Subcommittee.

"The investigation should focus on the role US-owned multinational corpora- tions and banks have played in speculating against their country’s curren- cy,” Bemiller said.

"Devaluation itself cannot make a lasting contribution to a stable currency exchange unless the causes of monetary crises are eliminated."

Help East Bay Candidates

OAKLAND — The ILWU East Bay Joint legislative committee is asking all members to help get the union’s recom- mendations to the candidates to be used in the April 14, 9 a.m. after coffee and donuts, members will be given a supply of slate cards to pass out in their neighborhoods. It will only take an hour or two, and a modest lunch will be served to all campaign workers who return to the union hall.

About 100 officials from all over the area gathered at ILWU Local 10 headquarters on March 27 to discuss ways of acting against Phase III wage controls, continuing inflation and the Nixon budget. The meeting was co-chaired by ILWU Local 10 president James Lynch and council secretary-treasurer Tom Lusher.

The ILWU representatives on the steering committee are Herman, Local 6 president Curtis McClain, Local 6 secretary-treasurer Odell Franklin, Northern California District Council president Jim Lynch and council secretary-treasurer Tom Lusher.
Imagine a salesman coming to your door, trying to sell you an accident insurance policy in which:

- Benefit levels are often below the poverty line and vary according to which state you're injured in;
- You're not covered in numerous cases—no benefits for agricultural workers or employees of small firms;
- The insurance carrier was making an estimated profit of over a billion dollars over the period in question.

Before you say throw the burn out, remember—you probably already have a policy just like this one:

**Workmen's Compensation.**

The fact is, that the present body of state workmen's comp legislation is "poorly prepared, "rushed together," leaving the ledgers of insurance companies with money while returning less than 40 cents out of every dollar lost wages and lives to workers killed or injured on the job, according to one private industry expert.

Taking an only slightly more moderate position,前US President James O'Brien points out that most of today's workmen's compensation laws were written in 1910 and in the 1920s, and buggy era to suit the needs of that time and have only become outdated patchwork since then. They need to be completely reworked to suit the needs of the present, he says.

**What's Wrong with comp?**

- **Uneven coverage:** Workmen's compensation today is a crazy- quilt mishmash of state and federal laws with 40 states varying from state to state and jurisdiction to jurisdiction based not so much on the needs of workers but on the relative political muscle of trade unions and their allies. For example, if you break a leg in Louisiana, you'll get $5,000. The same injury occurring to a man, woman, and two children—ranges from $15,30 in Arkansas to $40,700 in Mississippi.
- **Too many loopholes:** Between 15 and 20 percent of the nation's workers—13 million—are not eligible for workmen's compensation at all by virtue of their occupation, hours of employment, or the firm they work for.

As O'Brien points out, "labor representatives, state administrators, the Department of Labor and the legal profession have not attempted to develop a system that is at all practicable . . . to explain to injured workers their rights." This is just as true of states that have worker's compensation as it is for those that do not.

**Benefit Structure Deteriorates**

Worse, the benefit structure has deteriorated as the dollar ceiling has kept the benefits far below the two-thirds figure. In 1940, for example, the maximum weekly work injury benefit was equal or exceeded 60 percent of the state average weekly wage in 45 states; in 1972 only 18 states had benefits at this level. Thirty-two of the states today are considered seriously substantially below the terms of the benefits which they provide.

For workers who have lost permanent use of some part of their body, it is difficult to make it up in money. Nonetheless comp laws affix specific limits to arms, legs, eyes, etc., in order to make at least partial compensation available to these workers.

In this case there's also a tremendous variety of benefit schedules which reallocate the basic income lost to the worker and may be working for the wrong employer at the wrong time or in the wrong place. For example, "the Federal Employees Compensation Act places a value on the life of a worker that is majestically eight to ten times greater than benefits provided for workers in private industry covered by state programs. The loss of an arm in Texas is valued at less than one-half the same loss in California." This disability, of course, often lasts a lifetime and maybe prevents the worker from ever supporting himself or his family ever again. But payments often run out within a specific period of time. Limitations are provided for in 10 state programs—often for example, for 400 weeks and $25,000.

"These unreasonable limits in personal injury cases can," says O'Brien, "not only result in adding seriously injured people to the public assistance rules of the community. This shifts an income on its own responsibility and imposes the burdens of worker's compensation as a social insurance program."

For a start, all of the benefits, unions have pointed out, not only penalizes the injured worker, but also is an invitation to a lack of safety on the job. In 1971, in testimony before the National Commission on State Workmen's Compensation, ILWU research director Barry Silverman pointed out that, "benefit levels, when kept as low as they have been do not in our opinion provide sufficient incentive to workers to eliminate job hazards in the work place." If we are to assume most observers do, that one of the purposes of worker's compensation is to improve safety, these statistics also are clear that the low rates of compensation provided reduce the impact of that arrangement.

- **Limits on rehabilitation:** One of the most tragic aspects of the work compensation system is the death of a breadwinner as a result of serious injury. Thus the widow and small children in dire circumstances if the family must depend only on the death benefits provided.

Under most state workmen's compensation programs the family will subtract benefits from their poverty level. In all but 15 states, benefits will be terminated when the time or dollar limit stated in the law are reached—no matter whether the surviving children are dependent on others, no matter whether the surviving spouse has been able to get work. In other state workmen's compensation programs, the family is cut off after 300 weeks—or less than six years.

- **Medical abuses:** In its testimony before the Commission the AFL-CIO also pointed out that roughly three-fourths of all workers must be diagnosed by a company doctor, or a doctor chosen by the insurance company. As O'Brien notes, "we have nowhere in this country the kind of public pressure that is exerted in our roads by the public and the hospitals." This is important to the wageearner because many of these doctors are in league with the insurance companies and have no interest in finding out how many injuries are going on. Even if they do, they can make a compensation determination and then perhaps the beginnings of some significant change. Without a public interest in everything, it's hard to think of any way to bring to light these abuses.

- **Weekly cash benefits would be paid out in 28 states if the damage is greater than 200 percent of the average weekly wage.**

- **No arbitrary limits to be imposed on the receipt of benefits.**

But that's only with two labor members on it—suggested that once its recommendations were adopted the program could be used as a laboritory for legislation to be administered by the states. In other words, "a model for federal supervision." The AFL-CIO has noted that when the time or dollar limit is reached, "the family is cut off from any kind of benefit controls on insurance carriers and the family is cut off from any kind of benefit arrangement."

**A Difficult Job**

No action, as yet, has been taken on the commission's report and it is likely that whatever recommendations are adopted, a similar program will be administered by the states. In other words, "a model for federal supervision." The AFL-CIO has noted that when the time or dollar limit is reached, "the family is cut off from any kind of benefit controls on insurance carriers and the family is cut off from any kind of benefit arrangement."

Advocates of reform in compensation statutes can point to several successes in recent years. The 1966 Federal Employees Compensation Act provided a model system for US employees. And the 1972 Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation Act is the most advanced comp law anywhere in the country.

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Meat Prices

Those who hate labor and prefer rum to fact should relish the January issue of Readers Digest. It features an article by E. Roper on the topic of food prices. Roper explains the recent escalation in the prices of what people buy in supermarkets as follows:

"Labor Unions involved in food distribution can charge that featherbedding, make-work and greed. Until they agree to provide a day's work for a day's pay—featherbedding, make-work, and lack of productivity will continue to find hidden costs at the till."

Not by one word in his entire article does Roper allow a finger of suspicion to point toward anything but such sins of labor. He assigns to them total guilt of the billion dollar corporations which control the food industry.

Instead Roper finds the only culprits among two million men and women who feed the nation, and that is government—government that casts a shadow against practices of labor productivity in dark secrecy. But government takes little of the blame. Roper assigns to them more guilt than ten -years their output has expanded from $35 or $40 worth of meat in an hour of work to more than $80 an hour. Workers "spent less than one-half their time doing skilled work." Roper explains the recent escalation in the prices of meat by the "middlemen"? instead of workers as thieves, he draws attention to the semi-monopoly price fixing such workers into continued poverty.

Some Charges

A look at some of them is interesting. As an explanation for rising meat prices it cites the following—

Charges: In St. Louis, meatcutters insist in using knives rather than bandsaws to cut up chickens. Why?

Comment: Meatcutters in St. Louis do not use bandsaws. They use knives. If they did, their production would decrease and the prices for meat would rise.

In the prices of what people buy in supermarkets, make-work and featherbedding, make-work and greed. Until they agree to provide a day's work for a day's pay—featherbedding, make-work, and lack of productivity will continue to find hidden costs at the till.

Sure, Amalgamated members have had wage increases. But they have paid for them by increased production. Overall figures show that the average packer in 1972 produced 320 pounds of red meat in every hour of his work. This is an increase of nearly 90 percent over the 64.2 pounds of meat produced per hour in 1956. Mr. N. A. Own Price Commission verified the accuracy of these figures. It found that the average packer now has increased his output at a rate of 4.7 percent compounded annually. Obviously, such packer work time could have been spent on featherbedding.

High Productivity

Food chains cover the facts on their labor productivity in dark secrecy. But one of their spokesmen recently had to admit that the only facts available to him showed a gain in meat department productivity of 5 percent in one year.

Retail meatcutters report that in less than ten years their output has expanded from $35 or 40 worth of meat in an hour of work to more than $80 an hour in 1973. All of this explains why recent meat industry wage increases could have been paid without adding as much as one penny to the retail price of a pound of meat.

Food Prices and Costs

No one could deny that food prices have been increasing. The whole time of "price and wage stabilization" which began on August 15, 1971, prices have been increasing. But in that span of time figures from the Department of Agriculture testify to a rise in the price of meat and poultry of 14.6 percent.

In terms of the average family's meat consumption over the course of one year, the 14.6 percent rise meant an additional payment of $99.67. (The meat increase alone accounted for 79 percent of the overall food price charged consumers.)

Where did all those dollars go?

The entire $60.67 snatched up by Congress would have taken three years of learning the skill of their craft do make more than $3.70 on the average. (They aver-
LONDON — As this issue of The Dis- patcher goes to press, dockworkers in London’s riverside will begin a series of sporadic strikes in order to win wage hikes higher than the US style wage-price controls scheduled to take effect here soon, the nation’s railroader shareholders, dockers at Liverpool, Hull and Southend have also voted to go on strike over wages within the permitted limit and are not striking.

Major Stoppage Planned May 1

LONDON — Labor’s struggle against the imposed wage-price control program will reach a new plateau when the existing contract for the 5,000 oil workers now in their third month of a strike against the Shell Oil Company is expected to be resolved by June, 1974—six weeks before the expiration of the contract. The new pact, first of all, calls for an additional one-third premium per hour in wage changes over the six months of 1971 when they were first submitted. A second, more significant change is a new procedure with the major companies which is expected to put an end to national strikes in the steel industry.

The companies have guaranteed a minimum three percent wage increase in each of the three years after the present contract expires, plus cost of living adjustments. The union may bargain for a one-time raise before the expiration of the contract.

The companies at present contract expires in August, 1974 will have to negotiate with the National Maritime Union. Negotiations were led by Abel and the AFL-CIO president R. Heath Larry.

Port of New York tugboat workers have voted by a 3-1 margin to accept a new contract which provides a $2.50 plus four percent for the 1973-74 working year. Recurrent international monetary problems, Cochran said, would make the Board tighten up.
SALEM — The McCull property tax reform set school-financing, levy on property owners, and establish a new Basque Education Fund to distribute state moneys to local school districts for the funding program. It does not close any loopholes, through which some big corporations and timber owners escape their just share of the tax load, but you probably will call it a first step in tax reform.”

Oblan: “The bill has been engrossed and is full of knots and holes. It does provide some tax relief for renters and for home owners in the lower income brackets.”

Baker: “It will be a lot of help to homeowners and the low wage earners, and some help to those whose income is under $10,000. Renters now get 40 percent of their rent back if they make application to the State Department of Revenue and have the amount of rent they pay verified by the department manager or landlord.”

“The property tax relief law passed in 1971 is still in effect. All three said they plan to vote YES on the measure May 1.”

Albany, NY — The right of strikers to receive public assistance when they may be otherwise eligible, the family has requested that their just share of the tax load, but you probably will call it a first step in tax reform.”

The case was brought against the Department of Community Services noted.

In upholding an appellate court ruling in favor of the defendants, the New York State Court of Appeals denied that the payment of benefits to needy boarders was the equivalent of subsidizing the workers on the picket line.”

The court also denied the Chamber of Commerce claim that granting public assistance benefits to the strikers and their families even though they are in need has been upheld by the New York State Court of Appeals in a decision which was a US Chamber of Commerce campaign to deny such rights.

“Time the action coincided with a concerted attack initiated by the US Chamber of Commerce against the use of public funds for the assistance of strikers and their families even though they are in need has been upheld by the New York State Court of Appeals in a decision which was a US Chamber of Commerce campaign to deny such rights.

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Illustrated Hotrod fishing lures. The offer is made to all members of the ILWU, the members of the family, and their married children. Among them, there is no deadline, and a few words as to what it’s all about, to:

Fred Goetz, Dept. TD
2833 S.E. 33rd Place
Portland, Oregon 97202.

From time to time, we’ve received letters from ILWU members extolling the merits of their particular “hotrod wheels” and thereby turning me out-green with envy. Realizing that one man’s cream may be another’s sour, and that the experience of each individual may be as much as possible, we’d be living “out” of our rig. I began to feel after, the second night in camp, where no water facilities were available, we used much too freely the water pump which draws its power from the truck battery. In the morning, we had a dead battery. Fortunately, the campground owner came to our aid with jump cables and a few words as to what it’s all about, to:

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**ILWU Exposes Log Shenanigans**

**Astoria Was**

**A Ghost Town Without Logs**

This is what downtown Astoria, Oregon looked like a decade ago—in the middle of a workday—before the log boom began. And with the current agitation for a ban on logs, exports, many local residents are asking: How will it look like in the near future? Before logs, says one long-time resident, Astoria was a ghost town, and the biggest payroll in town was the unemployment checks. Perhaps one ship every month would come into port—today, the waterfront generates a payroll in excess of $4 million per year, and about seventy percent of the work is dependent on the log trade.

The log boom began just under a decade ago—in the middle of a workday—before the log boom began. And with the current agitation for a ban on logs, exports, many local residents are asking: How will it look like in the near future? Before logs, says one long-time resident, Astoria was a ghost town, and the biggest payroll in town was the unemployment checks. Perhaps one ship every month would come into port—today, the waterfront generates a payroll in excess of $4 million per year, and about seventy percent of the work is dependent on the log trade.

A ban on logs exports, the two said, would "reck havoc in our ports, improve our exports and imports in other areas" and further upset the balance of payments. Log shipments, which were below the levels established by the Morse amendment, they pointed out.

Two other witnesses against the log memorial, Howard Hunt and Irv Laten of the Weyerhaeuser Timber Co., said the export ban would turn Japan "from a trading partner in logs to a trading competitor in lumber."

The ILWU regional director said that if I thought that a ban on the export of logs would create more jobs, create more economic stability, reduce the cost of homes to working people, reduce the national trade deficit, and stimulate foreign trade, I would join those who proposed the ban.

But a ban on logs would do none of those things. It might lower lumber prices to the mill operators, but it would not bring about lower lumber prices "because demand continues to exceed full lumber production by Northwest mills... our lumber imports from Canada are three times greater than our log imports to Japan."

In short, he concluded, a ban on the export of logs would:

- Hamper our trade relations with Japan;
- Damage our port communities;
- Rob the Northwest economy by cutting off the source of three times greater than our log imports to Japan.

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