Many More Hospitalized; ILWU Presses Inquiry

VANCOUVER, BC—On Friday morning, October 3, just before 10 o'clock a series of violent blasts tore through Burrard Terminal's No. 333, was on the job when the elevator became a blazing inferno.

One worker, Ed Hooper, apparently died in the blaze, while 16 other badly injured and burned workers were rushed to the hospital. One of them, John Sculley, died on October 9. Another man, M. V. Hoey, died October 13. 16 other badly injured and burned workmen were rushed to the hospital. One of them, John Sculley, died on October 9. Another man, M. V. Hoey, died October 13.

All the men are members of Grain Workers Local 333 of the ILWU.

The 43-year-old elevator, which has been damaged beyond repair, employed about 50 men.

Cause of the blast has been traced to a pulley that kept burning after a belt stopped, causing friction that turned to fire exploding the grain dust.

Barney Chapman, electrician, employed by Burrard Terminals for 15 years and president of Local 333, was on the job when the explosion occurred.

"Just before 10 a.m.," he told The Dispatcher, "I was told to go upstairs to investigate a motor that had stopped. On checking the switches, I found one that was low on oil.

"I went back down to get some oil. My helper and I found a pulley that kept burning after a belt stopped, causing friction that turned to fire exploding the grain dust.

"I told the Dispatcher, "I was told to go upstairs to investigate a motor that had stopped. On checking the switches, I found one that was low on oil.

"I went back down to get some oil. My helper and I found that the oil barrel was empty so we began to change the taps.

"Then we heard a loud rumbling sound. Then the blasts began. We ducked for cover. We looked out of the windows, the whole upper workhouse was engulfed in flames.

"Then we ran out to assist. We saw seven or eight men badly burned. One man who had no hair left was so blackened by burns that I could not recognize him. Ed Hooper was last seen on the top floor; he must have been trapped there.

---Continued on Page 4---
JUDGING BY RECENT statements from the White House and from the press, it appears that the eight million people of New York—who surely are not that much different from the eight million people of Los Angeles or the eight million people of San Francisco—cannot be held hostage because First National City is not making enough money. New York's fiscal crisis must not be solved at the expense of the most vulnerable.

Unfortunately, that appears to be the way things are going. Subway fares have been increased by 40 percent, tuition at the City University is up, teachers, sanitation workers, policemen, firemen and other essential workers have been cut back, and the Mayor has declared a wage freeze for all city employees.

Briefly, the crisis began last winter when the city had some difficulty obtaining the hundreds of millions of dollars it needs every month to meet its expenses. In effect, the bankers had come to feel that New York's $14 billion in debts, every one percent increase costs $140 million, or one year's pay and principal on past debts. With New York's $14 billion in debt, every one percent increase costs $14,000 million, or one year's pay for 14,000 new teachers.

Finally, New York has traditionally supported services which in other cities are supported by state or county governments—universities, hospitals, welfare, etc. If New Yorkers were paying for only those public services which are generally supported by taxpayers in other cities, expenditures wouldn't really be out of line.

NEw YORK'S FISCAL CRISIS occurred because the bankers got the entire city over a barrel. Remember the energy crisis? At that time the big oil companies' actions produced a panic-stricken demand for oil at any price. Now the companies are taking in 600 dollars a barrel. And it turns out there wasn't much of a crisis to begin with.

Today the New York banks are trying something similar.

AFTER a few more "Perils of Pauline" type rescue operations by the state or even the federal government, New Yorkers are expected to fall right in line, to be paying incredibly high interest rates while receiving sharply limited services.

How can we get off the merry-go-round? We don't presume to tell New York's working people what to do, but it seems clear that proper tax reform on a federal level, the plugging of big business loopholes and the sharp limitation of wasteful military spending, this nation is certainly capable of generating enough revenue to pay for necessary services in the big cities. A strategy whereby unions would fight successfully for economic recovery, while struggling on a local level to hold onto the gains they have won, seems realistic.

On the Beam

by Harry Bridges

IF AN EARLY BID FOR the 1976 presidential nomination, and, he hopes, a big Republican gain in the Congress, President Ford has really tossed out a political bombshell. And, that's what it sure appears to be—strictly political.

This is really the only sober way to look at and assess Ford's proposal to cut federal taxes by $28 billion. He hangs a tough proviso onto his proposal, a demand that Congress reduce federal spending by a like amount, namely, $28 billion.

Separate and apart from the fact that Mr. Ford's proposal sure puts the limits squarely on the tax-cutting maneuver, the maneuver is a shrewd move to direct public attention and pressures away from the key problems of the country: unemployment and inflation.

President Ford knows and the political leaders, both Republicans and Democrats, know that Congress is not going to cut spending, especially that part of the federal budget that could and should be cut—and that's the budget for so-called defense—but will add billions for offensive arms including nuclear weapons of all kinds. It includes the billions to be used to prop up corrupt military and fascist regimes, of which Chile and Spain are only two glaring examples.

Ford well knows that with elections coming up mighty few Democrats in Congress—there will be some—will want to face up to the pressures of trying to cut back so-called defense spending.

The House and Senate both have enough votes to override presidential vetoes, as the vote against his veto of the child nutrition bill shows. But it is Congress which is now challenging the use of the power it certainly has to cut back on government spending.

THE PROPOSAL TO CUT taxes might easily find a lot of support among working people struggling along trying to make ends meet and to get the kids through school while bucking today's high prices.

The temptation to the taxpayer in the lower-earning brackets—to work a little harder and cut back on spending—is going to be great. But the tax cut goes back to where it belongs—defense spending. Only one step is the better than $20 billion tax cut supported by our union and the AFL-CIO. This is a program of a straight tax reduction for working class and low-income groups — with no strings attached, aimed at increasing purchasing power and stimulating the economy. It's really only a small step but a mighty important one, and it's the proper answer to the tax reduction proposal advanced by President Ford.

Taking a Serious look at President Ford's proposal we can see what a cheap stunt he has pulled. The benefits of the tax reduction plan are angled toward middle-income and upper-income groups. Only the poorest families—those with several children and incomes of under $5,000 per year—would actually be worse off under the plan than they are now. This is because the President wants to drop the "earned income credit" that applies only to poor families where someone works and there are children.

And, as we might have expected, his tax program does nothing to plug the loopholes now enjoyed by upper income people and corporations.

As far as the reduction of federal spending goes, it's the old strategy of trying to save money for the federal government at the expense of the most vulnerable. I don't think that the Great Society programs would do a damn bit for the huge number of poverty in this country, not by a long shot. But they did provide at least some clue that the federal government might be interested in action projects, legal aid and other services to the poor. If Congress goes along with the strategy of chopping up what little is left of these social programs, I sure hope that US labor can exercise enough muscle in November, 1976, to show them that the American people won't fall for this kind of trickery.
We Want Our Fair Share
Desert Locals Unite To Switch Counties

TRONA, Calif. — "Taxation without representation" is the main issue here as several unions, including the ILWU, have expressed an interest in consolidating this high desert town out of San Bernardino County into Inyo County.

Spokesman for the campaign is ILWU Local 35 President Glenn "Pappy" Denman, who said, "This is about winning for the citizens in Trona and the surrounding Searles Valley area in the northwest section of the county. "We have not been generally forgotten." OUTFRONTED "The people of Trona," he continues, "really want to come into Inyo County. They feel closer to Inyo than to San Bernardino for a number of reasons. We would have some voting strength in Inyo and would get our fair share, but down here matter to us. We elect the supervisors, we're still up against the bulk of the population in San Bernardino."

The move to join Inyo County is spearheaded by the Searles Valley Labor Council, with representation from the ILWU, Chemical Workers, Machinists, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Railway Workers and several other unions. Many of their members are employed by the Kerr-McGee Corporation which run a huge potash refining facility here.

But the council's bid has also won support from the community, the local associations, veterans organizations and other civic groups in the Searles Valley area, Denman says.

INYO COUNTY ACTS

After a series of meetings including Denman, Local 35 trustee John Simeon, and former Trona City Council President Bill Hammon appeared before the Inyo County Board of Supervisors last month, the board authorized the district attorney to check out the correct procedures for the incorporation of Trona and the Searles Valley. Denman told the Inyo officials that the citizens of Trona are simply not receiving adequate services from San Bernardino County considering the more than $800,000 they kick into the county treasury every year. Major complaints are in the area of law enforcement, building inspection, animal control, tax rates and other services. "We have 1,100 construction workers that will be here for three years on a $175 million expansion of our present plant, and we asked the county sheriff for two additional deputies until the project is finished." But, at first, the Trona citizens were turned down just as they were when they asked for a building inspector, an ambulance or an animal control officer.

Denman points out, however, "since we have started this movement we have gotten two permanent sheriff's deputies stationed here, a $13,500 county grant for a bicycle path and a feasibility study for a water project approved."

SECEEDING? — Bill Hammon, Chemical Workers, joined Glenn "Pappy" Denman and John Simeon of ILWU Local 35 in an appearance before the Inyo County, California Board of Supervisors last month, requesting that Trona and the surrounding Searles Valley area be annexed by San Bernardino County. — photo courtesy Ridgecrest Daily Independent

Local 9 Wins Long Strike at Fisher Flouring

SEATTLE — Local 9 warehousemen and fishers have voted to accept a new three-year agreement with a 6½ cent wage increase voted at a special meeting late Wednesday, October 15, to ratify a three-year contract with A. M. Fisher Company. The agreement covers warehousemen and fishers employed by A. M. Fisher, an NRIB procedure challenging ILWU jurisdiction while the beef was still in progress, reports International Representative George Ginnis, who assisted the negotiators.

The ILWU won the NRIB decision, retaining bargaining rights on behalf of the 57 Warehousemen's Fishers. In Portland however, Regional Director G. Johnny Parks sharply condemned the procedure. The settlement ended a long and bitterly contested strike which began July 1, 1975. The local negotiating committee consisted of Grain Miller's, AFL-CIO, attempt to prevent any NRIB procedure challenging ILWU jurisdiction while the beef was still in progress, reports International Representative George Ginnis, who assisted the negotiators.

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WAGE PACKAGE

The agreement features a 6½ wage increase, 6½ cents an hour, for all Company employees with the exception of the 1% of employees in the Seattle area.

The company also agreed to pay $1.31 for warehousemen "supplying the ship" and $1.53 for men "working against the ship" into a special fund to be divided among all AFSCME members with seniority in the plant.

Fischer will contribute $2 per month for each 1% of employees in the Seattle area with the company contributing $15 per month for this coverage.

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Local 6 Unionism Classes Going Strong

SAN FRANCISCO — The Local 6 classes on Fundamentals of Trade Unionism, in its third week, with a good attendance and lively participation on both sides of the Bay, says instructor Bill Burke.

After two weeks on parliamentary procedure, the classes have moved into a four week unit on collective bargaining and grievance handling, which will include practice in handling mark sheet grievances.

The classes may still join the classes, by appearing at either session: Monday nights, 7-9 p.m. at San Francisco Local. Wednesday nights, 7-9 p.m. at East Bay headquarters, 96 Hegenberger Road, Oakland.

Dole Can Arbitration

Award Sets Limits on Waterfront Picketing

SAN FRANCISCO — A recent decision by Coast Arbitrator Sam Kagel has laid out some specific conditions when ILWU longshoremen may and may not respect picket lines established on the waterfront by other unions.

The case in question arose in the spring of 1974 when ILWU Local 142 was on a strike against Dole Can Company —a subsidiary of Castle and Cooke — in Honolulu.

The picketers were flown to the mainland to picket the Long Beach banana dock where the Nevis Clipper, chartered to Standard Fruit, another Castle and Cooke subsidiary, was loading.

The picket line was, of course, respected by members of Local 13 and the ship was shut down—plowing further pressure on Dole to negotiate. A local arbitrator upheld the legality of the picket line, pointing out that Castle and Cooke could be said “to have a voice and subsequently a decisive influence in the employment of the picketed involved.”

EMPLOYERS APPEAL

On October 9, however, Coast Arbitrator Kagel handed down a ruling on an appeal from this decision, finding in favor of the employers. While the ruling, obviously, has no effect on the out- come of the can strike, it does establish a precedent.

In his order, however, Kagel spelled out the situation under which such “off-site” picketing can be respected without violation of the Pacific Coast Longshore Agreement.

When ILWU Local 35 in Tsona struck the American Potash Co. in 1971, he recalled, Local 35 members picketed railroad cars on the Long Beach waterfront loaded with potash which had been mined and transported by strike breakers.

Local 13 members were entitled to respect this picket line, Kagel said, because “the railroad cars were owned by a company against whom the Trona ILWU had a strike; the cars were loaded with strikebreakers . . . . The Area Arbitrator concluded that the cars were a mobile facility of the company and when the cars were moved, the picketing was proper.”

OWNERSHIP NOT ENOUGH

But in the case of the SS Newcastle Clipper, “the fact that it was owned by Castle and Cooke was not enough to have them apply the same premises of the Employer where the strike was in progress. Nor was it an extension of such premises from Honolulu to Long Beach. The ship was not loaded by Dole Can strikebreakers.”

“In short, the fact of ownership by itself is not sufficient to claim an extension of a company’s premises. There must be shown an extension of the struck company’s strike activities to a location other than the primary situs of the strike to provide a clear and logical basis for holding that the company by its actions, extended or enlarged the situs of the strike.”

California’s Wheat

SACRAMENTO — California’s entry this year into the world grain trade has added a new dimension to the export market.

She grew more wheat than Oregon did, and the wheat stalk may replace the poppy as her state flower, according to vile rumor.

She is in charge of safety.

First Vice President Dave Lomas who is in charge of safety.

He will be appointing a one man commission to make the investigation, “in charge of homicide in the accidental discharge of a worker in a rubber plant.”

Kancs said this week that he hopes “any and all will be held back” by the commission appointed by the federal Labor Department to inquire into the explosion and fire.

How Guilty Is Management?

PARIS — A nationwide controversy has erupted over the case of an industrial plant director who was unexpectedly imprisoned before his trial on a charge of homicide in the accidental death of a worker in a rubber plant.

On Tuesday, October 4, provincial judges ordered the director, who was impeached for his role in the death of a worker in a rubber plant, to stand trial.

The director was charged with manslaughter in connection with the death of a worker in a rubber plant.

The trial is set for December 1, and the director faces a maximum sentence of three years in prison.

The decision has been widely condemned in France, and the case has sparked protests and demonstrations throughout the country.

The director was previously an employee at the same plant, and he had been fired just before the accident occurred.

The case has raised questions about the role of management in workplace safety and the responsibility of industrial plant directors.

The French government has been criticized for its lack of action in the wake of the accident, and there have been calls for changes in workplace safety regulations.

Improved protection for workers and employers has been promised, but many are skeptical about the adequacy of these measures.

In the meantime, the case remains under investigation, and the director awaits trial.

Unions Must

WASHINGTON, DC — Citing records showing average fines of about $25 and OSHA since its birth in 1971.

The Health Research Group has accused the government of neglecting American workers through “inadequate and apathetic” enforcement of Federal Health and Safety Rules.

The group, established by Ralph Nader, the consumer advocate, made the accusation against the US. Occupational Safety and Health Administration as it began distribution of its 18-page handbook designed to help workers obtain more effective safety protection.

SIMPLE EXPLANATION

The handbook is entitled “The Workers’ Handbook on Enforcing Health Standards.” It attempts to explain in common terms how a worker can go about preparing a case against an employer who does not take the required precautions to reduce the hazards of the workplace, and discusses the procedures in the Labor Department’s Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

In connection with the distribution of the handbook, the authors did a statistical analysis of the enforcement effort of OSHA since its birth in 1971.

Among the key findings were the following:

Since the beginning of enforcement in April 1971, OSHA has conducted “first-time” inspection at 186,000 worksites,

It Will Happen If Nothing is Done

Continued from Page 1—

“Ambulances quickly came and took the injured away. The staff at the Lincoln Hospital was prepared; they had everything ready for the injured men when they arrived.

The fire trucks were in the scene and the fireboat came across in about 45 minutes.

What caused the fire was that a belt had stopped on the top floor but the pulley kept going. Friction built up on the belt and the dust ignited.

We had an explosion in the same elevator two years ago. Fortunately no one was hurt although there was extensive damage.

Investigations are now going on, including one by the federal department of labor that will include all elevators on the coast to ascertain the danger.”

Henry Kancs, business representative of Local 32, outlined the problem of safety for The Dispatcher.

“Safety in all the elevators must be improved,” he said. All must be cleaned up.

“We investigated the grain elevators in Seattle which are union. ILWU jurisdiction, and there found them to be clean. There was a speck of dust. That was cleaner than my basement. We want to see the same thing here. If they can do it in Seattle, we can do it here.

Our dust collection system seems to be about as good as others find the lines.

The elevator dust, which we are required to work in, is not only dangerous because of exposure on fire but real health hazard. They breathe in this dust day after day. It gets into your lungs and is harmful. Very few of our men live past 65.

We want an alarm bell system installed which sounds the alarm when an elevator fire or explosion takes place so that everyone will be warned and can get out quick.

Our men have no training in fighting fires and have no knowledge of how dangerous dust really is.

“We are tackling this problem now in cooperation with the Canadian Area ILWU. Safety efforts are being coordinated through Canadian Area ILWU.”

Prior to this recent strike, the director was in charge of safety.

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Among the key findings were the following:

Since the beginning of enforcement in April 1971, OSHA has conducted “first-time” inspection at 186,000 worksites,
The Watergate revelations have sparked congressional action. In 1976, all longshore, clerical and
traffic workers who were employed by the ILWU-PMA and
who worked in the grain terminals are eligible for benefits under the new
ILWU-PMA agreement.

Dust Causes Heart, Lung Disease

VANCOUVER, BC—Grain dust not
only provided the fuel for the explo-
sions which took three lives in Van-
cover earlier this month, but has also
brought death or serious dis-
ability to grain workers in the form
of a lung disease. Local 333 Business Repre-
sentative, Don Kancs said. 'That's the only way
to control the potentially -explosive dust.

Kancs cited the experience of several
workmen's compensation board in
Oregon, or California and whose hus-
bands retired between 1952 and July
1974 — then it can afford to provide
premiums would have risen.

The Labor Department said the ma-
rage reason for the lag between the total
amount of money found due the work-
ers and what was actually recovered is
from his or her file. In either event, the
agency has the information write to the
Office of the Secretary, Labor Depart-
mant, 122 Maryland Avenue, NE, Wash-
ington, DC 20002 (202) 544-5380.

In an introduction to the handbook, the authors charged that because of the
necessity to keep the unions and the
Health Administration, individual work-
ers and their unions had to take the ini-
tiative in enforcing their right to a safe
and healthful place of work.

Single copies of the handbook, which
were distributed by the Technical and
Atomic Workers Union and the
United Auto Workers, may be obtained for
a nominal fee from the Employment
Service, Office of Health, Research
Group, 2000 P Street, NW, Washington, DC 20006.

Local 333 veterans have brought claims before the provincial Workmen's Compensation Board in
the last 10 years, claiming that heart and
lung ailments were directly attribu-
able to long exposure to the dust.

In a report on longshore widows not
covered by ILWU-PMA pension and wel-
fare plans—those who have not re-
signed, are living in Oregon, or California and whose hus-
bands retired between 1923 and July
1965.

WASHINGTON REPORT

How to Find Out If You're a Security Risk

by Patrick Tobin

ILWU-Washington Representative

The Watergate revelations have
sparked congressional action. In 1976, all longshore, clerical
and traffic workers who were employed by the ILWU-PMA and
who worked in the grain terminals are eligible for benefits under the new
ILWU-PMA agreement.

Dear Sir:

Your address
Your phone number
Date

To Agency or Department Involved

Study is a request under the Freedom of Information Act as amended (5 U.S.C. 552). I
write to request a copy of all files in the (Department or Agency involved)
indexed or maintained under my name and all documents returnable by a search
for documents containing my name. To assist you in your search, I have indicated my
social security number and date and place of birth below:

Name
Social Security Number
Date of Birth
Place of Birth

I, of course, reserve my right to appeal any such decisions.

As you know, the amendments will be important only if the public makes use of them. For
those members of our Union who wish to avail themselves of the provisions of the Freedom of
Information Act we believe the following will help.

If you want access to a record related to national security that the govern-
ment has not released, you should ask for it, preferably in writing.

The method is to write a letter to the official designated by the agency hav-
ing the records to receive such requests, and, if his identity is not known, to the
agency itself. If you are not sure which
agency has the information write to the
most likely one; your letter will be for-
warded, if necessary.

If a written request is received and you are not satisfied, or if no response
is received within 10 working days, an
appeal letter should be sent. If you
have a sample letter requesting your files, also a list of Departments and Agencies
where to write.

NOTE: Congress also recently passed the Privacy Act, those who write for their files may get letters back saying
they are covered under the Act, but not under the Freedom of Information Act. The
advantage of the Freedom of Information Act is that it sets a time limit of 10 days for
response and 30 days for action. The advantage of the Privacy Act is that, although it
excludes some agencies, it give the citizen the right to wind up and challenge
anonymous or undocumented charges from his or her file. In either event, the
intention of Congress was to make sure the citizen gets the advantage of both laws.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please telephone me at the
number below.

Sincerely yours,

(Write—'Attention: Freedom of Information Act Unit' on envelope.)
Legislation to Guarantee Employment Proposed

SAN FRANCISCO — Rep. Augustus Hawkins (D-Calif.) is seeking labor’s support for his “Equal Opportunity and Full Employment Act of 1976,” which would establish a comprehensive federal structure for dealing with chronic joblessness in the US.

Meeting here October 15 with the ILWU Northern California District Council, Hawkins charged that Americans have come to “accept recession as a normal and necessary evil that must be endured every few years as a price for a questionable kind of economic security.”

“...it is necessary to sustain full employment without inflation and without economic distortion,” he added.

INEFFECTIVE

The Employment Act of 1946, Hawkins said, was weak and vague from the beginning and has never been taken seriously by federal policy makers. His new legislation — HR 90 — seeks to establish a national economic policy that is “unmistakably clear, economically sound and morally imperative.”

HR 90 is co-sponsored by Rep. Henry Reuss (D-Wis.), and the support of at least 106 other Congressmen. Senator Hubert Humphrey has introduced a companion bill on the Senate side.

BASIC POINTS

Specifically the bill has eight major provisions:

• Full employment is re-defined as “a situation under which there are useful and rewarding employment opportunities for all adult Americans willing and able to work.”

• The opportunity to seek redress, by suing through the US District Court, is afforded to any person who feels deprived of his or her job rights.

• A National Commission for Full Employment Policy Studies is created to conduct studies of the many changes in governmental policies and programs which must be more closely geared to the maintenance of genuine full employment without inflation.

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Vancouver, B.C. — Gambling is a serious problem among many sections of the population, including longshoremen, says Russell Van Tassel, top side bear of the ILWU Local 500.

It would estimate that as high as 6% of our members are compulsive gamblers,” he said.

Van Tassel should know. He frankly admits to having been a gambler for most of his 47 years and is secretary of a branch of Gamblers Anonymous in Vancouver.

His branch holds weekly meetings, every Sunday night, at the ILWU Local 500 hall. It has about 20 members, with only four active.

Gamblers Anonymous is a self-help organization, without any dues paid structure and financed by contributions from its own members. It concentrates on personality changes and describes itself as a “fellowship of men and women who share the experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problems and help each other recover from a gambling obligation.”

The first step for recovery, says Gamblers Anonymous, “is to acknowledge fully to our innermost selves that we are compulsive gamblers.

“Compulsive gambling is a sickness,” Van Tassel emphasized. “It raises hell with a man’s life. It leads to the breaking up of homes and families, the loss of property, huge gambling debts, lying and subterfuge.

“I’m 47 now and have been gambling since I was 8 and I know what has done to my life. My wife bugged me for two years before I agreed to look into Gamblers Anonymous and it’s helped.”

“The first thing and the hardest thing is for the person to realize that compulsive gambling is a sickness. If he doesn’t, we can’t help him.

“I feel if a person is clean for a year, he gets a gold pin. We also help people to manage their finances so that they can pay off their gambling debts and still live.

Anyone desiring more information can phone Gamblers Anonymous at (604) 253-4216, Vancouver, BC.

Help for BC Waterfront Gamblers Available

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“I’m 47 now and have been gambling since I was 8 and I know what has done to my life. My wife bugged me for two years before I agreed to look into Gamblers Anonymous and it’s helped.”

“The first thing and the hardest thing is for the person to realize that compulsive gambling is a sickness. If he doesn’t, we can’t help him.

“I feel if a person is clean for a year, he gets a gold pin. We also help people to manage their finances so that they can pay off their gambling debts and still live.

Anyone desiring more information can phone Gamblers Anonymous at (604) 253-4216, Vancouver, BC.

Compensation Won in Touch-Football Injuries

VANCOUVER — San Francisco - The Worker’s Compensation Appeals Board recently ruled that two warehousemen who hurt themselves in a lunchtime game of football suffered injuries that were eligible for benefits.

The incident occurred last month when James Osby and Robert Rezak ran into each other during a game of touch football in front of the F. W. Woolworth warehouse where they were both employed.

Osby and Rezak are both lowly-paid workers, and the injuries were not work related.

When Longshore Local 6 took the case to the Worker’s Compensation Appeals Board which eventually ruled, on the basis of facts and citation of other cases, that only Osby’s injuries were “ocurred in the course of employment.”

Both members received the balance of the day’s pay, which is industry practice for on-the-job injuries. The company and their insurance carriers carried the company’s compensation that had been paid, and the injuries were not work related.

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Local 26, Los Angeles

Local 26, ILWU, Los Angeles, California, will hold its primary election December 1 to December 5, 1975, to fill the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, 4 Business Agents, 6 Trustees and 51 members of the Executive Board.

Nominations will be made between October 10 through October 31, 1975, by petitions signed by at least 10 members.

Voting will be conducted during normal working hours in the individual plants covered by Local 26 contracts.

Local 40, Portland

Local 40, ILWU, Portland, Oregon, will hold its primary election November 24, 1975, and final election on December 10, 1975, to fill the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer, bus agent, recording secretary, sergeant-at-arms, three trustees, four executive board members, two dispatchers, one relief dispatcher, four LBR members, five grievance committee members.

Nominations must be filed in the hall on or before November 12, 1975. Ballots will be mailed to the members.

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Thomas Trask, Int’l Rep.

"IT'S PART OF THE COMPANY'S INTEGRITY COMMUNITY"
Bridges: Politicos Must Deliver for Workers

PORTLAND—“From a working class point of view, the Republican Party looks pretty lousy,” ILWU President Harry Bridges said to full house of delegates to the Western States Republican Conference October 3.

The ILWU leader was one of three unionists featured on a conference panel, “Is there a Republican Party?”

The other panelists, L. B. Day, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 870, and Nellis Fox, newly elected executive director of legislation and political education for the Oregon AFL-CIO, joined Bridges in commenting for the first time on the administrative failure for its come-up with solutions for the massive unemployment problem.

Fox warned the GOP might destroy itself “because of selfish corporate gain.”

BETRAYED BY SYSTEM

Day and Fox both spoke of the system that “the system has betrayed them. . . . everyone is gearing up for the 1976 elections, but no one seems to be getting on with the problems of 1975.”

Day pointed out that the AFL-CIO had been labeled as “totally unacceptable” suggestions that “we be patient about the immediate $20 billion income tax cut; this country!”

It was time to “promote the problems of 1975.”

He also lashed out at the politicians to put members of minority races, women and young people to work at cheap wages. They lay the blame on union members making too much money . . . “they’d probably like to work for people for no wages at all—they did that once in this country!”

All three panelists expressed the view labor should not tie itself to either the Democratic or Republican parties, and that “it’s time for us to talk to ourselves,” said Bridges. “We think in terms of the working man and woman, and we see this is being cast aside . . . Unless the politicians come up with some substantial programs, they are going to lose the labor group, they will get any support . . . No program is being advanced where a program was being prepared to stimulate the economy and reduce unemployment.”

He added in this connection “where do we get the money? Any idea” on “duck dressing”; some may subscribe to this program.

The other panelists, L. B. Day, secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 670, Ralph Mitchell, Local 63, vice-president; and Paul Perlin, Local 26, secretary-treasurer, explained to the gathering the pensioners organization, were Past President Emil Bjarnason, ILWU pension consultant, explained to the gathering the policies of the pension plans.

The pensioners were welcomed by Local 26 Business Agent Bob Peebles.

Enjoying the festivities also, in addition to Red Foster, president of the pensioners organization, were Past Presidents Sam Engler and Charlie King.

Emil Bjarnason, ILWU pension consultant, explained to the gathering the problems involved with pension increases this year. He announced that this year the pension increase will take the form of a $100 bonus in a lump sum.

But the organizers were handicapped by a few bad apples. For those duck hunters who may be required to keep drowned birds in the field for a few days—without refrigeration— a few suggestions are offered. Leaving the feathers on provides excellent insulation, helping to retain the cold through the warm days. Hang the birds up at night if possible and leave hanging in the shade during the day.

In field dressing the internal organs can be removed. Make an incision in the neck to remove windpipe and crop. If crop contains food material, its removal is essential as spoilage in this area can taint the meat. Remove gizzard, heart and liver. USE NO WATER TO CLEAN OUT THE BIRDS! Wipe the body cavity with a clean rag after all the leasings are removed. As the body cavity dries, a glaze will form and set as an impenetrable film against flies and other insects.

If the days warm up, pack the cold birds in a shocking bag or wrap in canvas to help hold the cold. As the meat of waterfowl can be aged, like any other meat to give best quality, a few days in the field can actually be beneficial to the bird in the pan. Good luck!

Want to start the late bass season off with a good lure? We’d be happy to trade one of the illustrated WIG WAG JIGS for a snapshot of a fishing or hunting scene. The offer is open to all members of the ILWA, to members of the family and, of course, to retired members. Send your snapshot and a little information as to what it’s all about to:

Fred Goetz, Dept. TDWW
3203 S.E. Xrbd Place
Portland, Oregon 97202

Please mention your Local number.

If you’ve got a story to tell about the outdoors and don’t have a snapshot, that’s alright too. Send it along and we’ll fire back a Wig Wag jig, post-haste.

PC Pensioners Enjoy Annual Banquet

VANCOUVER, BC—Their hair may be a bit whiter and thinner and their walk a bit slower, but their spirits were as high and their voices as lusty as ever when over 200 ILWU pensioners gathered October 6 at the Legion Hall on Main Street in Vancouver at the annual banquet sponsored by ILWU Local 14.

Drinks flowed freely and free buffet was on offer before and after dinner as they recalled the old times and inquired about each other’s health. Noticeable, too, were the "youngsters," those who had retired in their early sixties.

The pensioners were welcomed by Local 14 Secretary Dan Cole and Business Agent Bob Peebles.

Amidst applause, Peebles introduced some of the real old-timers — Bert Dunn, 85; Harry Walters, 89; Andy McGuger, 87; Ed Long, 88; and George Quinno, 84, all of whom have a fondness for the waterfowl; Jack Cloch, 81; Jimmy Greer, 81, business agent during the 1933 strikes, and Bob Ray, 72, with 38 years on the beach.

Enjoying the festivities also, in addition to Red Foster, president of the pensioners organization, were Past Presidents Sam Engler and Charlie King.

Emil Bjarnason, ILWU pension consultant, explained to the gathering the problems involved with pension increases this year. He announced that this year the pension increase will take the form of a $100 bonus in a lump sum.

China Trade to Grow

SAN FRANCISCO — Trade between the US and People's Republic of China will gradually and steadily build up to the $1 billion mark by 1980, according to A. W. Clausen, President of the Bank of America.

Having dealt in a recent column with the technique of dressing big game, we hasten to pass along the following rundown for the "scattergun clan." Now that we're having our share of gray, one-chilling days, we're spotting out on "dressing technique for migratory waterfowl!"

Step No. 1—First thing is to pick feathers around the neck. On this particular bird it proved best to start at the head feathers and work down toward the feet. (Alert waterfowl hunters will note that we used a Canadian honker for illustration. It's a big bird and easy to work with. The same cleaning procedure can be applied to pretty much any species of waterfowl.) A proven good method of picking is to grasp small groups of feathers between thumb and forefinger and turn hand over in a movement akin to turning a key in a keyhole. You may tear the skin if you try to remove too many feathers at a time.

Step No. 2—At this point the oil gland in the tail may be removed. Cut the entire gland free and make sure you remove all whitish material in the two glands under the skin. (Leaving the feet and head on up to this point provides "handles" to work with.)

Step No. 3—Bird is "broken down" providing easy access for removal of internal organs after the lateral incision is made along the base of the rib cage. For large birds, such as used here, the edge of the table serves as a fulcrum.

Step No. 4—Remove the liver, heart and gizzard for giblets. Peel away the skin from gizzard sac. Wrap giblets in wax paper for storage in body cavity of bird to be frozen.

Step No. 5—Wash bird thoroughly and drain well. After draining, the bird can be packaged in freezer bag, aluminum foil or double-thickness locker paper. Package should be airtight! Mark species of bird and date of kill on the package for use in sequence.

Actually, this is but "one man's ideal" on "duck dressing"; some may have others, like skinning or scalding; etc. Anyway, we'd like to hear readers' opinion on this.

Southern California Council Re-elects Incumbents

WILMINGTON —Delegates to the October 15 meeting of the ILWU Southern California District Council unanimously elected the three officers to another term: Nate Di Biasi, president; L. B. Day, vice president; and Paul Perlin, Local 26, secretary-treasurer.

Di Biasi was also unanimously elected as legislative representative. Jan Greer, first vice-president, was also elected to the same position.

In other actions, the Council delegates voted to express their continued support of the Kennedy-Corman National Health Insurance Bill, while reaffirming opposition to Rep. Peter Rodino's (D-NJ) bill to "crack down" on illegal aliens in the US.
New Law Frees Containers from Local Taxes

SACRAMENTO — New legislation exempting imports and exports from taxes on cargoes to be unpacked for transshipment, tax-free, has been signed by Califor- nia Governor Jerry Brown. Both the Free Port Bill—which allows shippers to avoid the tax on cargoes to be unpacked for transshipment for foreign goods entering Califor- nia harbors and warehoused here on opening a marine cargo container to storage, repackaging or shipment will not render the goods taxable by local assessors.

COUNTY TAXES

In the past, some California county assessors had interpreted the opening of a container as the beginning of its original packaging. The new law permits the re-opening of the container for storage, repackaging or shipment.

California’s new Container Tax Immunity Bill asserts that the cartons themselves are the original package, and that bales inside the container are not taxable.

The US Customs Service prohibits the imposition of state taxes on imports, the letter of immunity being the preservation of the same.

Hawaii Chamber of Commerce Octo- ber 17, 1975

San Francisco Recommendations

Following are the recommendations of the San Francisco Joint ILWU Legislative Committee on the November 4 municipal elections.

BALLOT PROPOSITIONS

A—Seawage facilities  YES
B—Craft pay  NO
C—Control of budget  YES
D—Police, fire, civil service commissions' size  NO
E—Airport security  YES
F—Voting procedures  YES
G—Airport police  NO
H—Conflict of interest  NO
I—Veterans benefits  YES
J—Filing fees  YES
K—Taxing power  NO
L—Street artists repeal  YES
M—Street artists regulation  NO
N—Limitation on Mayors power in emergencies NO
O—Dismiss striking, firesmen  F
P—Police salaries  NO
Q—Fire Dept. work schedules  NO
R—Bargaining for the employees, firemen  NO
S—Police, firemen’s pay parity  YES

San Francisco—Proposition B is an attempt to place the blame for San Francisco’s current fiscal crisis on the backs of a small handful of the city workers, latterly demonstrated in his ability to take longs—on the Board of Supervisors.

That is the worst of a united group of unions—ILWU, AFL-CIO and Team- sters—which are working to defeat the ballot proposition in the November 4 election.

Proposition B would repeal Section 8.403 from the city charter—which provides that the city’s 3,000 crafts work- ers are to be paid in line with prevailing wages in private industry.

If it passes, and the section is repealed, the city will be required to nego- tiate wages and working conditions with 17 different unions—and failure to reach agreement with any one of them could bring on a strike by all 17.

Stan Smith, Secretary of the San Francisco Building and Construction Trades Council, charged that the proposi- tion was “dressed out of mothballs by our inept Board of Supervisors to make the over-taxed homemaker think that by penalizing the ‘overpaid’ craft workers, you could decrease his property tax. Yet the same Board of Supervisors have okayed assessments which in some cases lower ‘rate;” it is a com- mercial downtown property owner.”

When the truth is known, because of the way city employees must pay a per- centage of their own fringe benefits, many actually make less than less on the outside, Smith says. A city auditor, for example, makes some $2100 per year less than his counterpart in the private sector.

The ILWU is also urging a YES vote on Proposition D, which would enlarge the size of the police, fire and civil service commissions from three to five, in order to permit more diverse and democratic representation.

The Joint Committee is asking a NO vote on Proposition H, a charter propo- sal relating to conflict of interests, which would have the effect of making it impossible for any union official to serve on any Board or Commission in the City and County of San Francisco.

Tax Reform Initiative Backed in Washington

OLYMPIA—Washington State voters will have the opportunity November 4 to reshape their state’s tax structure.

Initiative No. 314, which will come be- fore the state’s voters on that day, would impose a 12 percent corporate profits tax on all firms doing business in the state. The proceeds would be used to help balance the state’s schools.

Those in favor of the initiative, in- cluding a wide section of the state’s labor movement, claim that it will re- sult in a decrease of 25 percent in the property taxes of small homeowners, who now bear the heaviest part of the burden of the school finance.

“The initiative is the best chance to make any kind of progres- sion, perhaps a bit slower, but a bit of a stride in the right direction.”

Ken Rohar, Local 29, lobbyist for the Seattle Sound District Committee, said that big business has already be- come aware of the initiative and are try- ing to frighten and intimidate the vot- ers by hinting broadly that the initia- tive will drive companies out of the state.

“Stay the course, and don’t let them frighten you,” Ken Rohar points out.

Local 21 Man In Race for Port Commission

LONGVIEW — Ed Scott, 31, a gang boss on the Longview waterfront for 20 years, has won the endorsement of long-shoremen for the office of Port Commissioner.

He is a former president of Local 21 and now serves as vice president. Scott has been very active over the years on union committees, including the frequent caucus and convention delegate.

A big voter turnout is expected on election day for November 4, which is well known in Longview that Scott is familiar with the waterfront and po- tential. The platform is a simple one—“more ships and more cargo.”

Dock Benefit Explained

To Local 21 Members

LONGVIEW—Almost 50 people turned out October 9 for an informational meeting on the various programs available under the ILWU-PMA benefit funds.

Wives, widows, pensioners, active members, resident clerks and warehouse workers were among those present at the two-hour rap session, the first of its kind in over three years, Local President Jere Rider, Jr.

Rider, who is the local’s welfare and pension officer, as well as its secretary-treasurer, gave a short resume on the fund’s history, followed by a “job- ecast-day programs.”

Arno Welfare Director Art Rome, Portland, complimented the local on its efficient, well organized welfare and pension office, its help in the benefit funds program and then took questions from the audience.

Many of them touched on the recent ILWU-PMA agreement to develop some plan for providing direct relief to widows of longshore industry pensioners, to the question was not covered by the ILWU-PMA pension and welfare programs.

Local 21, Goes All Out

For Kids’ Sports

LONGVIEW — Support of athletic teams and sports events for young-sters is a point of pride for the local ILWU-PMA. pension and welfare office, said Jere Cockran, Local 21 Joint Committee Delegate, Three Promo- tion and Traveling Secretary. It was also the ILWU-PMA joint local, at the last stop work meet- ing in Longview, that first brought the Youth Football Team, which is just one of the many athletic teams we spon- sored over the years, to the attention of the local ILWU-PMA. pension and welfare office, said Jere Cockran, Local 21 Joint Committee Delegate, Three Promotion and Traveling Secretary. It was also the ILWU-PMA joint local, at the last stop work meeting in Longview, that first brought the Youth Football Team, which is just one of the many athletic teams we spon- sored over the years, to the attention of the local ILWU-PMA. pension and welfare office, said Jere Cockran, Local 21 Joint Committee Delegate, Three Promotion and Traveling Secretary. It was also the ILWU-PMA joint local, at the last stop work meeting in Longview, that first brought the Youth Football Team, which is just one of the many athletic teams we spon- sored over the years, to the attention of the local ILWU-PMA. pension and welfare office, said Jere Cockran, Local 21 Joint Committee Delegate, Three Promotion and Traveling Secretary. It was also the ILWU-PMA joint local, at the last stop work meeting in Longview, that first brought the Youth Football Team, which is just one of the many athletic teams we spon- sored over the years, to the attention of the local ILWU-PMA. pension and welfare office, said Jere Cockran, Local 21 Joint Committee Delegate, Three Promotion and Traveling Secretary. It was also the ILWU-PMA joint local, at the last stop work meeting in Longview, that first brought the Youth Football Team, which is just one of the many athletic teams we spon- sored over the years, to the attention of the local ILWU-PMA. pension and welfare office, said Jere Cockran, Local 21 Joint Committee Delegate, Three Promotion and Traveling Secretary. It was also the ILWU-PMA joint local, at the last stop work meeting in Longview, that first brought the Youth Football Team, which is just one of the many athletic teams we spon- sored over the years, to the attention of the local ILWU-PMA. pension and welfare office, said Jere Cockran, Local 21 Joint Committee Delegate, Three Promotion and Traveling Secretary. It was also the ILWU-PMA joint local, at the last stop work meeting in Longview, that first brought the Youth Football Team, which is just one of the many athletic teams we spon-