Dock comp benefits attacked

WASHINGTON, DC — In 1972, the US Congress amended the Longshoremen’s and Harbor Workers’ Compensation Act to provide greatly improved benefits for injured dock workers and their families, and to adjust to the changing nature of the longshore industry by extending this federal coverage to maritime workers injured in container yards or other areas tributary to the docks.

The 1972 amendments were supported by all sections of the industry—shippers, stevedores, insurance companies and labor — and were widely seen as a model for improved state worker’s comp legislation. This wide support was made possible by an agreement whereby injured workers gave up their right to sue the shipping companies—so called third party suits—in exchange for improved benefits for all.

LOOKING TO 1981

Within a few years of its passage, however, the 1972 amendments came under attack from the employers, demanding cutbacks in the size and scope of benefits, and alleging widespread fraud. Each year, the employers’ lobby has grown larger and stronger. This year, legislation to cut back on benefits reached the Senate Labor Committee, and there is no doubt that a similar bill will be introduced early in 1981.

Anticipating a reintroduction of the bill, ILWU testifies

High-powered lobby

Insurance companies, stevedores and other maritime employer groups have put together an extremely high-powered coalition to introduce legislation to cripple the Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation Act early in 1981.

Leading members of this employer lobby, the so-called "Longshore Action Committee," include the multi-million dollar lobbying of the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce. But the list of the other 35 members of the group reads like a who’s who in the insurance field. It includes the Alliance of American Insurers, American Home Assurance Company, Associated General Contractors, the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce. But the list of the other 35 members of the group reads like a who’s who in the insurance field. It includes the Alliance of American Insurers, American Home Assurance Company, Associated General Contractors, the National Association of Manufacturers and the Chamber of Commerce. But the list of the other 35 members of the group reads like a who’s who in the insurance field. 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The negotiating committee consisted of Local 30 President/RA John Davenport, Vice-President Harold Bell, Walt Palmer, Bill F. Miller, Bill Pope, Joe Stock and Clarence Emerich. ILWU Southern California Regional Director Don Wright also assisted.

Congress acts on multi-employer pension funds

In 1976, Sunsweet, a processor and packer of dried fruit, discontinued its operations in Santa Clara County, California, without agreemen...
A community unites to save steel jobs

By Robert Vasquez

Robert Vasquez is chairman of the board of Steel Smelt, Inc., and president of Local 1339, United Steelworkers of America.

YOUNGSTOWN, Ohio — Nationalmente, unemployment in the basic steel industry is sky-high.

Locally, the industry's decline has had a devastating effect. Youngstown, whose economy was once synonymous with making, hardely makes steel anymore. Since 1977, US Steel and the companies that took over the men's steel mills here have closed four mammoth steel mills here. As a result, more than 10,000 steelworkers have lost their jobs and the area's unemployment rate has soared to 13.3. Thousands of others moved out of town and those who have stayed began losing hope even before the recession.

That's why community residents and steelworkers have set up Community Steel Inc. with the help of a Federar loan guarantee and a stock sale to the community, we hope to purchase two local steel mills that US Steel closed this year. We recognize that the 75-year-old open hearths are no longer competitive, but we will use them to replace the open hearts with modern equipment.

That's why we are asking to be able to sell the two masts successfully in Youngstown when US Steel announce the idea.

MORE PRODUCTIVE

First, we believe our workers will be more productive because each worker will own a part of the business and because management will listen to the workers more about making, as a steelworker, and we will be able to improve the efficiency of the plants. Third, we will maintain and modernize the plants, which is exactly what our plant purchase and the NLRC had in mind.

Container rules

ILA wins important court victory

NEW YORK -- An important victory on waterfront container rules has been scored by the ILA, or the International Longshoremen's Association and the New York Shipping Association with a federal court decision that the Board's regulations conflict with the US Labor Relations Act, and that the rules reached the same conclusion as the New York courts had. But this pattern was broken when, in September of last year, the US Court of Appeals in the Second Circuit of Columbia declared the rules were a legitimate form of "work preservation" and that the Board's regulations were unenforceable.

With a difference of opinion among the circuit courts to declare the rules invalid. On June 20 it gave its decision; the NLRC had used the wrong approach in its decisions, by considering the rules from the standpoint of their effect on labor outside the port, and not on the New York waterfront. The Second Circuit declared the board's position amounted to "sophistry," since the same issue was the same issue as the Supreme Court had reached in the NLRC.

Just what degree of confidence, if different application of the rules in New York and elsewhere, might result if the Twin Express-Consolidated Court mandate were allowed to stand, was the next question to be put to the court.

The ILA's chief counsel virtually assured an NLRC finding favorable to the rules.

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In any event, the ILA's statement involving Twin Express and Consolidated Express was not included in the package of instructions that the board's position amounted to "sophistry," since the same issue was the same issue as the Supreme Court had reached in the NLRC.

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Local 35 stewards sharpen their skills

TRONA, Calif. — “Our problem was that a lot of us just didn’t know what to do when a grievance came up,” said Ed Funkie, an ILWU Local 35 steward at Kerr-McGee’s chemical processing plant on the northern edge of the Mojave desert.

“This situation has improved dramatically as a result of a two-day stewards’ workshop held here September 17-18, put together by the ILWU Research Department.

MOCK GRIEVANCES

The grievance-handling end of the workshop was led by Paul Chown, former West Coast representative of the United Steelworkers. All of the participants had the chance to sharpen their skills at analyzing and writing up grievances, and either witness or actually participate in an actual grievance meeting with “management.”

ILWU Occupational Safety and Health specialist Russ Hulst joined the discussion on the effective use of contract language, federal law and Cal-OSHA. “We’ve always had a strong safety committee, led by George Avila,” said Funkie. “But we tended to put too much of a load on George. Now we can spread some of this burden around, with more people being knowledgeable about it.”

CONGRESS RESPONDS

With the flood of plant closings and relocations around the country, the pensions of hundreds of thousands of workers have been jeopardized. Congress has heard these concerns, and last month they gave final approval to a labor-supported bill to improve the protection for workers by multiemployer pension plans—plans just like those in the ILWU covering West Coast and Alaska longshoremen, California warehousemen, Hawaiian hotel workers, Alaska cold storage workers, and others covered by eight different multiemployer plans within ILWU jurisdiction.

LA sweatshops ‘bloody nightmares’

LOS ANGELES — A Labor Department task force uncovered widespread violations of the Labor Management Relations Act during a three-month investigation that spotlighted sweatshop conditions and exploitation in the notorious sector of this city’s garment industry.

The Department of Labor investigation, on 64 of the Los Angeles area’s 3,000 garment firms, on shops where women were found toiling long hours in hot, crowded overlighted sweatshop conditions and exploitative working conditions at substandard wages. According to the President’s Labor Committee back in 1979, “We estimate that every day sweatshops turn out hundreds of thousands if not millions of so-called ‘fashion’ garments in their dealings with the federal government which are worth less than they are, but (we) had no other realistic alternatives to contribute to the pension plan because of the liability that the withdrawn employer walked away from could have been better spent on either wages or fringes for our members who work for the remaining employers.”

Local 35 attorney Lloyd Robinson rounded off the program with a discussion of workers’ comp and OSHA issues. Among participating were ILWU Regional Director Don Wright and Research Director Barry Silverman. Two members of Local 36, Borton, and ILWU’s other Southern California desert local, also attended.

WELL RECEIVED

“The workshop was extremely well received,” Local 35 President Tom Garrison concluded. “We gained a lot of specific information and skills. A strong steward system will also indirectly encourage membership involvement, which is especially important with our current contract expiring October 15.”

The presentation now awaiting the President’s signature is the first attempt to give unions a legal right to retain control of the plans they have contributed to. It will impose an obligation based on each employer’s share of the plan’s unfunded vested liability to prevent a withdrawing employer from dumping its unfunded obligations on the remaining companies, and requiring them to pay what they owe, as well as to continue to share responsibility for the debts of the plan.

It is estimated that some eight million workers under 2,000 pension plans will be protected by the new legislation.

—ILWU Research Department

Mike Lewis named

ILWU Washington Rep

SAN FRANCISCO — The International titled officers have appointed Mike Lewis, an experienced political activist, to serve as the ILWU’s new representative in Washington, D.C.

BROAD BACKGROUND

Lewis, 28, is a graduate of Colgate University, and a former member of the United Electrical Workers in Los Angeles. Lewis has a broad background in federal and state politics, having worked for a number of political campaigns.

He has also published articles on federal programs and legislative issues in the areas of unemployment, community development, energy, environment law and transportation.

The International is now in the process of obtaining office space in Washington, D.C. Locals will be notified of the Washington address and telephone number as soon as arrangements are completed. Lewis is presently undergoing an intensive orientation at international headquarters, where he helped prepare the ILWU’s testimony on longshore compensation. (See page 1.) He is expected to take up residence in Washington around the middle of October.

EXPERIENCE, POTENTIAL

“We are very impressed with Mike’s qualifications, experience and potential,” said International President Jim Herman, “and we expect a great deal from him, both as an advocate of ILWU positions on legislative issues, and in assisting the locals in their dealings with the federal government.”

Oregon unemployment

SALEM—As of Labor Day, 10,000 Oregonians were on the state’s unemployment rolls. Not counting workers who have exhausted their benefits and now layoffs since that time at Tektronix, Oregon’s admitted unemployment rate is 5.9%, one of the highest in the nation.
**Local 26 members maintained a solid picket line at Bird and Son for 24 weeks.**

**Local 26 contract**

**Bird & Son strike won after 14 weeks**

WILMINGTON — After 14 weeks on strike, Local 26 members at Bird & Son, a manufacturer of reading materials, have voted nearly 2 to 1 in favor of a new three-year agreement providing a $2.55 increase in wages, a 15-cent an hour increase in pension contributions from 25¢ to 40¢, continued coverage under the Local 26 health & welfare plan, and a modest liberalization in qualifying for a fourth week of vacation.

The settlement, recommended unanimously by the negotiating committee, came on the heels of two all-night, marathon bargaining sessions in San Pedro where the committee was joined by ILWU Research Director Barry Silverman.

In the opinion of the plant committee, the concessions they won on the use working foremen, restrictions on foremen doing bargaining unit work, and the rights that workers now have to switch from the swing to day shift are nearly as important as the wage-fringe package.

The agreement was negotiated by BA Bill Hood, from San Francisco BA Al Lannon, Dr. Richard Valadez.

**Local 414 improves Reynolds contract**

HONOLULU — Wage reopening negotiations involving ILWU Local 414 members at Reynolds Metals in Oahu Division culminated in two incremental raises to be paid out on August 1, 1980-81. The agreement expires July 31, 1982.

Several other “economic issues” were also taken up in the talks. Agreement was reached September 10 providing an additional week of paid vacation on November 1, 1980; a 25¢ an hour cost of living increase to take effect July 1, 1980; and a one-year extension of the Agreement for all bargaining unit work, including arbitrations on the same language, agreed upon at the time of the settlement.

The Agreement was negotiated by Business Agent Luis Gratz. Assisting in various stages of the talks were Earlie Barnett and Business Agent Billy Hudgins.

**Local 26 ratifies Ducommun pact**

LOS ANGELES — A new five-year agreement has been ratified by members of ILWU warehouse Local 26 at Ducommun Metals.

The contract provides for substantial wage increases across the board, and first time ever, nonfarm holiday pay. In addition, there were several new classifications established with rate adjustments, an addition of a three-day holiday, and improvements in contract language.

Negotiating committee members were Chief Steward Bill Rochester, Leon Free, Jerry Rave, Business Agent Larry Gatz. Assisting in various stages of the negotiations were International Representative Earlie Barnett and Business Agent Billy Hudgins.
Carl Jones, 69, is president of the Congress of California Seniors. A retired steelworker, Jones works most of his life in the San Francisco Bay Area. He served 36 years in the Navy from 1944 until he joined the United Steelwork- ers international staff in 1953. He became a pen- sioner in 1977. He's been a second career representing senior citizens — or as he likes to call them — retired mature Americans. A resident of Sacramento, Jones was the featured guest speaker at the recent ILWU pension conference.

What exactly is the Congress of California Seniors?

It's an organization of senior citizens with more than 900 affiliated clubs throughout the state. The group was founded three years ago, in October, 1977, and its main purpose is to represent and educate senior citizens. We hold meetings in 15 areas, which are headed up by Seniors and executive board members who run the area offices. Because of our lobbying is done by the seniors at their home districts. It's a cluster of the legislative offices, which get better results than trying to work just through Sacramento.

At the state level, we have a number of offices, as well as other individuals and groups, such as churches, the mobile home owners association, and NARFE, the National Association of Retired Federal Employees. Practically all of the unions are with us in full or in the major clubs. We're also affiliated with the National Council of Senior Citizens.

How powerful must the elderly be in the state?

They are actually not wielding the power they should. There are more than three million seniors. They vote, but 60% of the groups vote about 40%, and some as low as 30%. They're the ones that make the most noise. But the legislatures have to re- peat them and listen to what they're doing, action. If the seniors are going to be an active part of the state, we could be the most powerful group in the state.

That's where our May meetings come in. This year it was a real success, particularly in passing the reso- lutions and starting the petitions which are going around the state. We joined forces with other parts of the state to pass legislation. We have some in Washington wanting to tax social security. The Congress of California Seniors, with the National Council of Senior Citizens at the regional level, are to do in getting that protest off the ground any more.

Another example of what concerted action can do is our big lobby in the Sonoma Mountains. The Shasta, 1927, introduced by State Senator John Foran (D-Daily City). It would have allowed banks and loan establish- ments to adjust the interest every few months, so that at the end of five years people could end up owing more than they would have paid if it was paid on a honor. Some of the ILWU people were quite active in San Francisco area in getting telephone calls to their assemblies and senators. As a result, there were insufficient votes to pass the bill.

What other issues are your group concerned with?

Number one is medical care. We are in support of a national health plan. But there is a delay in the legis- lative process and we need something in our lifetime. So we are negotiating for HMO (Health Maintenance Organizations). This will be in selective areas to begin with, nevertheless it's a step in the right direction. Joe Lynch and Marian Sills have been out of the active on our committee in recent action, so a general coverage for seniors. What HMO will do in this particular case is permit our members to belong to the health care plan by paying a monthly fee. They will then receive coverage that Medicare doesn't pay for.

Number two is pensions. The protection of pensions, regardless of the specific plan, is a must with us. We note that in some cases the workers have had a labor unions to increase pension payments to previously announced. They are coming under severe cost of living increases. We encourage this action on the part of the workers and their unions.

Housing is another very important item, particularly rental housing at a reasonable cost. Renters must be protected from exorbitant rents and conversion of apartment to owner occupied.

Number four crime. We intend to work with the att- orneys general's office with a program to hold area meetings to educate the seniors on the problems they face with the criminal element and how to cope with these problems in their communities. Senior citizens groups organize extensive mail and telephone campaigns, and we encourage regularly visit our legislators. Unions, too, are busy organizing retirees.

By sticking to bread-and-butter issues that com- mune to all workers, we can get a uniform vote. That's a better name.

IMPACT AT POLLS

By the time it comes to politics, older Americans are anything but retiring.

In every section of the nation, they are becoming more active to be heard, and that influence is clear as they grow as their numbers increase.

Already, older citizens are flexing their muscles on a variety of social and economic issues.

In California, they have taken a leading role in working for property-tax relief, renters' rights, a ban on forced retirement.

On the national level, lobbying by seniors quickly headed up proposals by the administration to reduce the size of Social Security benefit increases.

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That you are useless after 65. Some of our most pop- ularizations have managed to achieve solidarity. However, that senior citizens do not tend to vote for candidates in a bloc. Bloc voting, he says, is more likely on refer- endum questions when an issue is considered in iso- lation.

Looking ahead, analysts expect senior citizens to take more-active roles in public issues, with many running for office. Some older people view the candi- dates as the asking for support.

Regarding whether they are conservative or lib- eral, most older people today view inflation as their number one enemy because it badly erodes the buying power of those who depend on fixed incomes. They vigorously resist efforts to reduce benefits from federal programs that millions of older depend on. At the same time, concern about financial security makes many older Americans reluctant to support tax increases on programs for the elderly.

Would you agree with the social scientists who pre- dict the elderly could produce a generation gap in the next century? What other issues are your group concerned with?

If you will, we will be already developing to a certain extent. I don't think the seniors will be clashing with anyone to take over and run the government. But we will be clashing to protect our advances. We've got to keep and expand the benefits we've attained by working all our lives.

There are some who are beginning to say that we should be kicked off social security, that it's costing the taxpayers too much money. And a lot of things they've saddled on social security were not part of the original program. We would have been paid out of the general fund to begin with.

What's your agenda for the 1980's?

We'd probably keep working on the issues I men- tioned earlier, but the number one concern that affects seniors. We haven't set up a long-range pro- gram. We've got enough problems right now trying to keep what we have. I think seniors are going to be on the defensive for several years because there are more and more of us. Every year a higher percentage of our population is made up of retired persons — retired mar- times.

The main advantage of belonging to the Congress of California Seniors is that they can have a uniform vote. This has more power in support of benefits, if possible, through legislation or otherwise.

You know, a lot of the problems seniors have is not so much with the legislation but with the enforcement bodies, the agencies set up to enforce the laws and to deliver the benefits which are provided by law. Many times seniors get the short shaft from administrative people. Jointly approaching these people puts more heat on them because they're going to be held accountable.

At the state level, the California Congress of Seniors, 1107 Ninth Street, Room 313, Sacramento, California, 95814.

... but they're getting stronger as they grow

Is it true that people become more conservative as they grow older, or do they tend to remain politically what they have been all their lives?

I believe they generally follow the way they've been brought along, but there's a certain conservative, but only by necessity, to protect their pensions.

How do you agree with the social scientists who pre- dict the elderly could produce a generation gap in the next century? What other issues are your group concerned with?

I think we will be already developing to a certain extent. I don't think the seniors will be clashing with anyone to take over and run the government. But we will be clashing to protect our advances. We've got to keep and expand the benefits we've attained by working all our lives.

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ILWU defends US dock compensation benefits

(Continued from Page 1)

ILWU dock committee members Dick Wise and attorney Norman Leonard appeared Sept. 12 before a Senate Labor subcommittee of the Senate Labor Committee to lay some blame at the feet of employers for the difficulties and complexities of international dock work. They also witnessed the opening of the third round of talks between U.S. employers and the ILWU.

Wise told the committee that the ILWU dockers are willing to accept a temporary closure of the ILWU's wage-setting system in order to get rid of the uncertainty that surrounds the compensation issue. He called for a 'full and fair' federal benefit system that would provide for all employees, including those who work in the United States.

The ILWU has been fighting for the compensation of longshoremen who were injured or killed on the job for over a year. The union's main goal is to get a federal benefit system that will provide workers with the same level of protection as the federal workers' compensation system. The union is also asking for a system that will provide for workers who are not covered by the state workers' compensation system.

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Joint effort by fish locals

Contract rewritten, wages improved as new era begins in Dutch Harbor

DUTCH HARBOR, Alaska — "This is really a building thing for us," says Jeff Patnoe, chief ILWU steward aboard the MV Royal Venture, one of the two Pan-Alaska Co. fish-processing factory ships located in this tiny port on the edge of the Bering Sea.

"But we're now finding that the more organized we get ourselves, the more respect we're getting from the company. There's over 1,500 unorganized workers on these ships. They're watching us. They're looking for an example."

SETTING THE STAGE

The recently ratified two-year agreement between ILWU Local 3 and Pan-Alaska, covering approximately 220 fish processing, engineering, and office workers who live and work on the M/V Royal Venture and the M/V Royal Sea — is a start. It doesn't solve all our problems. It sure doesn't get wages up where they need to be," says Patnoe.

"But it's a way of setting the stage."

Ratification of the new agreement is the product of several months of "re-organization" of Local 3's operation in Dutch Harbor, which began last spring when Local 3 and local 27 jointly set up an ILWU office here under the direction of organizer Paul Fuhs. Stewards were elected, negotiating demands were formulated and initial contacts are being made with some of the unorganized fish workers.

Talks with Pan-Alaska moved slowly. It finally came down to where it was necessary to take a strike vote, and the report on the vote was held up because the company was busy reassuring the crew that for a month or so and maybe never come back up and voted with us to strike," says Patnoe. "They took a stand for our future."

(Aproximately 50-60% of the Pan-Alaska workforce is seasonal.)

Agreement with the company was finally achieved in late August and overwhelming market forces, the agreement is characterized by some improvement in wages, and hours, and benefits, and a significant tightening up in the area of grievance handling, health and safety and workmen's compensation. It was negotiated in Seattle by International Vice-President George Martin, ILWU Alaska Council President Larry Cotter, Local 3 President Ken Lane and Local 3 member Pat Jones. They reported regularly to a membership committee in Dutch Harbor.

The new agreement raises wages by an average of 30% over two years, and cuts nearly in half the length of time needed to reach the top rate.

Cal seniors vow fight on cutbacks

FRESNO, Ca. — The 4th Annual Convention of the California Congress of Seniors (CSS), representing over 300,000 California seniors, backed a National Health Service Act (HR 2969) and agreed to launch a statewide campaign for rent control.

They also vowed at its convention last month to fight any move by the government to tax social security checks.

The 400 delegates voted a statement of principles which noted that seniors in the US are facing the most serious attacks on their living standards since the Great Depression. New Social Security laws passed by Congress are costing each disabled recipient $90 a month and the federal right to refuse unsafe work.

"I think this contract should provide a real boost to the people in Dutch," said International Vice-President George Martin. "We want to show that the ILWU has a continuing and growing stake in the fishing and canning industry in Alaska. We're going to be around for some time, and we're going to make some real changes in Dutch Harbor."

Clark Greuning Endorsed

SEATTLE — The ILWU Alaska Council has endorsed Clark Greuning (D) in his race for the US Senate, The Council cites Greuning's outstanding pro-labor record while a member of the Alaska House of Representatives and his long-term interest in promotion of the state's fish industry. Engineers received the biggest increase, in some cases approaching 30%. Under the old agreement, engineers could be paid anywhere from $4,52 to $8 per hour. At the employer's discretion they could be put on a daily rate, with no overtime pay. The new arrangement provides for a guarantee of seven days per week, with over-time for all hours time worked in excess of eight hours.

"In the past," says engineer Mike Zempel, "we were paid on an hourly rate, when the work was slow. As soon as the work would start coming in, they'd switch us to a daily rate, with no overtime paid. With the new contract, we get the best of both worlds." Culinary workers also made significant gains. All wage improvements are retroactive to June 1, 1980.

The contract was entirely rewritten, and now contains excellent language providing decent working conditions, health and safety and job security. The health and welfare program was improved in the second year, providing improved language to provide coverage to spouses and dependents, and to extend coverage after layoff.

In addition, employees performing longshore work will be paid in accordance with the ILWU Alaska longshore agreement. In the past, they received only a slight premium.

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Sea-Alaska talks

SEATTLE — As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, ILWU negotiators are meeting with the Sea-Alaska Corporation, which employs some 300 members of Local 3 on its Dutch Harbor factory ships, in hopes of reaching a new agreement.

The last company offer, characterized by negotiating spokesman George Martin as "totally inadequate," was rejected by a 92% membership vote.

Dutch Harbor fish processors at work

Photo by Terry Donets

new safety guide

Workplace Health and Safety: A Guide to Collective Bargaining is a 68-page pocketbook handbook just released by the Labor Occupational Health Project at the University of California. Written by LOHP Labor Coordinating Committee, the handbook is designed to help union representatives and negotiating committee members draft contract provisions dealing with health and safety.

A checklist of health and safety issues for bargaining is included, and the handbook presents many sample clauses to demonstrate the language typically negotiated in union contracts. An extensive discussion of the ramifications of various approaches to contract language rounds out the book. As model contract language for about three dozen health and safety issues is suggested, ranging from the general duty of the employer to provide a safe workplace to lighting, ventilation, noise, protective clothing, first aid, workplace monitoring, hazardous materials, union access to information, and the right to refuse unsafe work.

In a brief review of the history of collective bargaining for health and safety, Chown noted that "historically most employers resisted negotiating health and safety issues with union representatives," because they considered health and safety a "management prerogative."

But a 1966 decision of the National Labor Relations Board that health and safety is a "collective bargaining subject" was summarily rejected in 1970, eliminated the "management prerogative" concept.

Copies of the handbook are available for $3.50 plus 7% postage and handling. Orders should be sent to: Labor Occupational Health Project, Institute of Industrial Relations, 2521 Channing Way, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.

Walkaround pay' dumped

Employers are not required to pay their employees for time spent accompanying OSHA personnel in inspections of the workplace, according to a July 10 decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

The decision, in US Chamber of Commerce vs. OSHA, overruled Assistant Secretary of Labor Eula Bingham's 1977 "interpretative rule" allowing "walkaround pay" and its friendly 1977 "interpretative rule" declaring that refusal to pay employees for walk-around violations Section 11(c) of the federal OSHA Act in that it discriminates against such employe.

Although the right to walkaround pay is expressly protected by the Act, Bingham held that such a right is in essential to the functioning of the Act.

A US Chamber of Commerce suit challenging the new rule was heard by a federal district court, which granted a Government motion for summary judgment against the Chamber. The suit alleged that OSHA had violated the federal Administrative Procedure Act in not giving prior notice of the regulation and allowing an opportunity for comment, but the court found that the rule was "inter" and therefore exempt from the Administrative Procedures Act. The Chamber then appealed.

In a majority decision signed by two of the three judges, the court of appeals found that the new rule was "legislative" rather than "interpretive" and therefore subject to the notice and comment provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act. The majority held that the OSHA contention that the federal Fair Labor Standards Act created a right to walk around pay in its definition of "hours worked."
**Gaga Retires**

Colotario, 62, has five grown daughters and a son, and 15 grandchildren.

"Gaga" retired from a lifetime of union service, first as a field solicitor and manager, and board member of the Hawaiian Homes Commission, and a son, and 15 grandchildren.

He is Joe "Hoppie" Angotti, a retired ILWU local 6 warehouseman who has been hitting curve balls, shaving flies and scooping up grounders for more than 60 years.

Hoppie has been playing, coaching, living, breathing and loving baseball ever since he was old enough to walk... or hop. A lot shorter than most, with good hands and flying feet, Joe became known as Hoppie way back when he was a kid who seemed to have a gift for shortstop.

**Semi-Pro Ball**

After starring on his high school team, Hoppie went to work for Union Oil and played semi-pro ball in the Refined Oil League. He met his wife, Marte, at this time, but marriage didn't keep him off the field. For the next several years he played year-round with a dozen other local teams, including the Cubbie Cub,.

The "Cubes" games were the biggest thing that happened in Cubbie those five years," recalled Hoppie. "The team traveled all over Northern California.

Later Hoppie played under the legendary manager/saloonkeeper Charlie Tye in the Oakland Ranch League, which served as a farm system for the Oakland Oaks. He was offered a try-out with the Sacramento Solons in the early 40's, but by that time he had begun working regularly for a dollar an hour.

Hoppie has another of his eight consecutive season coaching kids' baseball in Crockett. His Crockett Bombers haven't won the Pony League championship since 1977, but he can hardly wait for the next season to get started.

"All the old guys with the aches and pains ought to try it," Hoppie advises. "They've got to get off their duffs and get out here with the kids and have fun again.

There are plenty of good, old-time baseball players just lying around getting fat. If they would get out of the house and help with the kids' sport leagues in their neighborhood, they'd be surprised how much fun they would have. The old-timers need the exercise and, Lord knows, the kids need them.

Hoppie points out that with both parents working these days, it is tough for adults to spend the time and effort to keep kids' sports programs going.

"The kids want to belong to something. They want to play sports. There's more equipment available and parks to play in than we ever had when I was a kid," he emphasizes. But "the kids need guidance. We need to do more than come out occasionally and expect them to hit home run.

**Kids' League**

The lure of baseball got to him again in 1947 and Hoppie helped organize a league in Crockett. By 1958 there were 14 teams in the Del Monte pineapple plantation.

Colotario also organized Local 6's youth league. "Gaga" served many years as chair- man of Unit 333. His "pau-hana" time also comes on the heels of a superb job helping to establish the union and putting in place the labor movement.

"They would have fun they would have. The old-timers need them."

**Do Not Park on Ninth Street**

"The kids want to belong to something. They want to play sports. There's more equipment available and parks to play in than we ever had when I was a kid," he emphasizes. But "the kids need guidance. We need to do more than come out occasionally and expect them to hit home run.

**Crockett**

Crockett: 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., Union Hall, 263 Ninth Street.

**Stockton Division**

Stockton Division: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., Union Hall, 738 South Lincoln Street.

**Montgomery County Division**

Salinas: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Local 6 office, 42 Williams Road.

**Local 6 Votes on November 13**

**Recovery**

**Local 10 pensioner**

Hoppie figures coaching kid baseball is one of the greatest things that has happened to him since he hit retirement age in 1972.

**Do Not Park on Ninth Street**

"Keep your eye on the ball and swing level," instructs Coach Hoppie Angotti, an ILWU Local 6 pensioner.

**John Lee Dies**

Los Angeles—Local 38 Business Agent John M. Lee died on September 6. A member of the ILWU for over 26 years, John Lee served as liason officer, chief steward and negotiating committee member at Thiokol Drug, executive board member, local trustee, and on a large number of committees. He had been a full-time officer for the last 10 years.

He leaves his wife, Marianne, children Ronald, Paul and Mary, and a grandson, Ronald Jr.

"The loss is a great one for the local, and we all offer our deepest sympathy to John's family," said Local 26 President Joe Harra.

**DOCK SCHOLARSHIP**

The winner of the Jeff Bowen Memorial Scholarship this year is Local 63, 63 and 94, is Lorna Gregory, who will attend Long Beach City College.

The scholarship grants are aimed at low income students with high potential. The payments are made on an installment basis and are to be used for text books, supplies and other educational expenses.

**Mitch Peters, 66**

San Francisco — Retired Local 6 official Mitch Peters died of a fatal heart attack outside the union office here on October 3, 1980. Peters, 66, was a charter member of Local 6 (Book no. 329.)

He worked for many years at Hills Brothers Coffee and served the union in many capacities, including shop steward and business agent. He was in charge of the 1976 strike picketing committee. After retirement he often filled in as relief dispatcher in the Local 6 hiring hall.

Peters collapsed on his way to lunch and was discovered by Business Agent Don Ruth who administered emergency first aid. Local 6 switchboard operator Susan Hudak, a trained therapist, jumped in with cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, but Peters died in the emergency room.

At present arrangements had not yet been made for services.

**Dinner to Honor Art Ronne**

The Oregon Columbia River Union Area Labor Relations Committee is sponsoring a testimonial dinner at The Quay in Vancouver on November 16 for Art Ronne, area director for 11 years of the ILWU's Northwest. The benefit dinner starts at 5 p.m., dinner at 5:30 p.m. and the program at 7.

The dinner is being held recently from the welfare post to return to the waterfront. He is a 47-year veteran of the waterfront.
Local 17 softball tournament draws record 21 teams

'Pedro dockers walk away with 1st place trophy

SACRAMENTO—Mainly it's a nice day in the sun, but the Local 17 slow-pitch softball tournament also provides a yearly excuse for all the guys who still think they're going to be Stan Musial when they grow up to show their stuff.

The tournament started out six years ago as a relatively small local thing. But other ILWU teams, particularly from the San Francisco Bay Area, were soon attracted by the warm weather, the excellent facilities, and the camaraderie of the local United Grocers, the perennial champs.

This year's affair, held at Rusch Park September 20-21, was the biggest ever, with 31 teams—including two Local 13 teams from San Pedro—competing over two days.

THE WINNERS

First place went to the Local 13 "A" team, second place to Local 17's group from S. E. Rykoff, third place was taken by the Local 6 San Francisco team.

In all, nine of the teams were from outside the Sacramento area: Local 6 sent groups from Oakland, San Francisco, Crockett, Stockton and Haub ein; Longshore Local 13 sent a team from San Francisco for the first time; a "traveling team" of longshoremen and clerks from Stockton and Sacramento participated, along with Local 13's "A" and "B" teams who chartered a bus to get here from San Pedro.

The Local 17 teams included three from United Grocers, two from Safeway, Market Wholesale, Ralph's/Farber, Rykoff, Extra Board, Riverside Elevator, Mott Rubber, Rice Growers Association, and the Port of Sacramento.

The International failed to field a team, as it has in recent years, due to the fact that several key members had played out their options and signed with other squads.

SMOOTH OPERATION

The tournament committee—Obie Brandon, Lloyd Jones and Jim Faizi—ran things without a hitch, no easy job considering the turnout of teams and spectators.

and expressed its appreciation to the many fans and supporters who supplied food and drink. Most notable was the Local 6 spare rib barbecue, presided over by Bob Patterson.

The Most Valuable Player awards went to Swig Terraza and Bill Sharp, both of the Local 13 "A" team. The Rykoff nine won the annual sportsmanship trophy supplied by union Pete Garcia.

2ND BENEFIT TOURNAMENT

One week after the annual slow-pitch tournament, members of Local 17 put on a smaller picnic-tournament held to benefit two members, Keith Anderson, 48, and Charles Emmery, 58, who are afflicted with cancer. Both are employed at the Port of Sacramento.

A total of $1,000 was raised from the sale of raffle tickets and admission tickets to assist the two men and their families. Special thanks go to Lloyd Jones and Larry Faizi who put it all together.

Carrying off trophies from Local 17 annual slow-pitch softball tournament were, from left (first place), Local 13 "A" team; (second place), S. E. Rykoff, Local 17; and (third place), Local 6, San Francisco.

—Photos by Henry McKnight

Kids salmon derby whopping success

PORT ANGELES, Wa.—"Dad, I'm third . . . Dad, I'm tenth . . . Dad, I'm eighteenth . . ."

That's the way one little girl reported her downward slide on the prize ladder at the weigh-in of the 41st Annual Kids' Salmon Derby.

The derby, sponsored by the Port Angeles American Legion Post 29, has grown in popularity every year with the help of local groups and individuals, especially ILWU Longshore Local 27.

Many townpeople donated prizes and took their boats out to make sure that all of the 953 young anglers, ranging from age nine through fourteen, had a chance to fish.

Local 27 dockers—including A-men, B-men, canals and friends—donated $1,210 this year to buy eight of the 36 bicycles that were given as prizes.

"The longshoremen of Port Angeles have for years been the largest contributors to this wonderful derby, and I want to commend all our people who donated money," said Frank McCauley, a member of ILWU Local 27 and American Legion Post 29.

The winning fish, caught by 12-year-old Jeff Priest, tipped the scales at 17 pounds, 14 ounces. The boy also netted the grand prize of a $1,000 savings bond. Girls, however, took four of the first five and six of the top ten bikes.

China trade

SEATTLE—Twelve Scooptram load haul dump machines destined for the Dung province in China went aboard the Cape Ron September 10. The cargo, valued at $1 million, is to be used in gold mining, according to the Daily Shipping News.

Almost 1,000 young anglers turned out for the 41st Annual Kids' Salmon Derby in Port Angeles. Members of ILWU longshore Local 27 donated $1,210 to buy eight of the 36 bicycles that were given as prizes.

First place team in Local 6 bowling league consisted of, standing. Mike and Lottie Gonzales, Walter Silva and (kneeling), Robert Thornton and Manny Chavez.
ILWU voting recommendations for California

DOCKERS, widows on pension list

SAN FRANCISCO — Following the October 1980 listing of dockworkers re-
tired under various ILWU-PMA plans...

Status of ocean floor...The ocean floor...is covered with a variety of...growth forms...such as corals and sea anemones...

ILWU seeks re-election of Rep. John Burton

SAN FRANCISCO — Congressman John Burton, the ILWU-endorsed candidate for re-election from the 9th district, is faced with the...motion for...the right of the ILWU to continue supporting candidates who align with its...ILWU's continued support for John Burton is crucial to the...of the radical right...

Organize!

Do you know some workers who don't unionize? Who have no fringe benefits? Who have no security on the job?

In other words, do you know workers who want to be or-

Next Dispatcher

Deadline — October 31
Faltering economy hikes death rate

Recessions can be hazardous to your health. A severe economic downturn quietly extracts a toll in both death and illness, experts say. Unemployed workers run out of health insurance, put off visits to the doctor and eat poorly. At the same time, both unemployed and employed people who fear for their jobs or who are having a harder time making ends meet come under severe stress. Many turn to alcohol and drugs.

The result: Illnesses of all kinds increase, and the death rate goes up. Researchers find that, as the result of a recession, more people die from various kinds of heart diseases and liver problems. The reasoning is simple: To do the job, workers have to eat more junk food, be more stressed and watch their health as closely. In addition, the infant mortality rate shoots up, probably because pregnant women get less medical care and don’t eat as well as they should.

Statistics about mortality are but "the tip of the iceberg," Brenner says. "It is very likely that the vast majority of the costs occur to society in the illness area, not the deaths," he comments.

OTHER MALADIES

Thomas Cottle, a lecturer at Harvard Medical School who has spent 15 years studying unemployed people, has found that, besides the most serious health problems, joblessness results in maladies ranging from tooth decay caused by poor diet to ulcers and other stomach problems. Tension, joblessness and family difficulties are related, he says. "A person who is jobless..."

The CRDC adds that certain animals are also threatened by food and crop production, and must be controlled. These include beavers, coyotes, skunks, porcupines, bears, bobcats, badgers, weasels, opossums, raccoons, nuts, foxtails, marmots, moles and mice. "In 1979, there were 25,000 pelts taken over an average 150-day season (in 1978)."

There are three broad categories of trap devices, to reduce or eliminate damage to livestock, game and state health policy.

The CRDC urges a "no" vote on Oregon Ballot Measure No. 5, which bans most types of animal traps and trapping methods currently in use. According to literature put out by the Oregonians for Wildlife Conservation, a group endorsed by ILWU Local 4 Secretaries for its "promote permanent control programs" on the trap. The CRDC opposes it. The group "is opposed to trapping in Oregon and is not interested in "trapping programs." Other groups are interested in trapping for economic gains. The group "is opposed to trapping programs in Oregon and is not interested in "trapping programs." Rob "is interested in trapping programs." Wildlife officials, who have spent 15 years studying the effects of trapping, say that trapping program be crippled professional control effort by reducing field management, predator control, timber and agriculture conservation and state health policy.

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PORTLAND—The Columbia River Dis-
Retirees draw on rich past to improve their future

ANDERSON, CA — Proud of their past and concerned about their future, more than 200 ILWU retirees met last month at the 13th Annual Pacific Coast Pensioners' Association (PCPA) Convention to honor one of their own and try to improve the security they sought as active trade unionists.

The pensioners came together for three days, September 15, 16, and 17, and maintained a hefty schedule which combined both business and pleasure. Between picnics and banquets and various delegations hammering out a slate of serious resolutions.

The first of these was a proposal that ILWU International President Emeritus Harry Bridges be named the “Honored Guest” of the convention.

Bridges, who is now vice-president of the Congress of California Senior Citizens (CCS), spoke about the early days of the union, the "good times and bad." Between picketing and strikes and on rare occasions, Bridges would admit, they had "a little going we've made and protected." The Kensington Theater and the Grand Central Hotel are two examples he gave.

Sounding a similar chord was Carl Jones, board member of CCS (see Dispatch-er interview with Jones, page 5). He reported that his organization had worked hard to defeat Propositions 8 and 10, loan shark-busting and rent rebate bills, as well as measures designed to reduce Social Security benefits.

Jones insisted that when lawmakers do not back their promises, seniors must act aggressively and campaign and vote out of office, as their mistakes will cost working people and pensioners millions of dollars.

PRESIDENT’S REPORT

In his report to the convention, PCPA President Gordon Giblin looked to the upcoming long negotiations to help pensioners ease the loss of purchasing power due to inflation. He stressed the urgency of the Coast Committee’s efforts to investigate all alternative methods and formulas to help increase pensions.

Giblin also read a letter from Saburo Fujiyaki, coordinator of ILWU Local 142’s Pensioners Program in Hawaii. Fujiyaki extended greetings, pledged continued support to help increase pensions.

Other speakers included John Pandora, president of Longshore Local 10 in San Pedro; Ray Reinhardt, president of Longshore Local 19 in Seattle, and Willie Soto, president of Longshore Local 10 in San Francisco.

GOOD SHAPE

Also addressing the convention were ILWU International President James Herman, Vice President Rudy Rubio, Coast Committee Bill Ward, and Toby Jones, Assistant Executive Director of the ILWU-PMA Benefits Plan. They explained that the union and the pension plan is in good shape going into negotiations. Herman also assured the delegates that the bargaining committee will be entirely committed to giving vigorous representation in upcoming contract talks to the special needs of pensioners.

"Over the many years that there have been negotiations — and indeed it was the ILWU under the past leadership that pioneered pensions — we have been proactive and attentive to the special needs of pensioners."

China trade

PORTLAND — The Chinese flag ship Xiang Hai recently loaded 4,000 metric tons of Northwest soft winter wheat, bound for China — indicating renewal of interest by that country in Oregon/Washington wheat. The wheat was loaded at the Carroll Grain elevator at Terminal 4. The Xiang Hai sailed up the Columbia in ballast.

always been paid to the problems of pensioners," said Herman. "That is not any less true at this time. It would be conceivable that the rank and file of our great union would elect anyone who would fail to have a sensitivity and a commitment to address the needs of people on fixed income, who suffer in the most agonizing ways from the onslaught of inflation." Herman added that the Coast Committee has not yet formulated the broad contract demands it will recommend to the Caucus. Before doing so, local input will be sought through mini-caucuses in Southern California, Northern California, the Puget Sound and Columbia River districts.

"When the report then is put together," said Herman, "it will carry with it the attitudes and the aspirations of a real cross-section of the rank and file of the longshore division."

RESOLUTIONS

In resolutions passed by the convention, the PCPA agreed to support:

- the establishment of a single income maintenance program for the nation's elderly;

- the Humphrey-Hawkins Full Employment Act, with amendments to recognize the needs of middle-aged and older workers for continued employment.


- the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment and SALT II.

- all pro-labor legislation relating to trade unions, and all public utility district initiative ballot measures.

- the elimination of oil and natural gas price controls.

- the withdrawal of all US military personnel and equipment from El Salvador.

- the diverting of tax revenues from military spending to develop alternative energy sources.

- a state investigation into the actual cost of quality care in nursing homes.

- an amendment to the Social Security Act to allow homemakers/housewives to qualify for benefits in equal measure with other workers in our society.

- the union's political independence, and a demand for political action and participation.

- the authorization of a special five cent postage stamp to be used by citizens who are participating with their elected representatives.

- and the reinstatement of the dental program to ILWU pensioners in the 1981 budget negotiations.

The pensioners also voted to oppose the proliferation of nuclear weapons and the MX missile; all trade with fascist Chile; and all efforts to cut food stamps and welfare.

In further action, all PCPA officers were re-elected. They include: President, Gordon Giblin, Local 13, Wilmington; Vice-President, Frank Reithel, Local 21, Tacoma; and Secretary-Treasurer Bill Gobien, Local 34, Stockton.

Executive Board members are Lou Go-nick, Local 6, San Francisco; Rosco Craycraft, Local 19, Seattle; Ernie Baker, Local 4, Portland; Glenn Tins, Local 18, North Bend; Jim Rainey, Local 56, Astoria; Norman Matheson, Local 19, Abertaim; Peter Gruntz, Local 94, Wilmington; Melody Smith, Local 54, Stockton; and Bernice Bulcke, Local 59, San Francisco.

The delegates and their guests were welcomed to town by the Anderson High School marching band. Master Jim Logan, City Manager William Gurr, and Cathy Eustis, the president of the Chamber of Commerce, Vicar Charles Poole of St. Michael's Episcopal Church gave the invocation. Afterwards, a tapuashan mauli brought donations from the pensioners totaling $166.70 to help the band purchase new uniforms.

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PCPA Executive Board Member Rosco Craycraft addresses the pensioners, while Secretary-Treasurer Bill Gobien and board member Garry Bulcke stand by. Jean Gundlach records the minutes.

what they're saying about us

Slanted news coverage irks labor

Television networks devote little time to issues of most concern to union members and the "corporate position" on issues of the day are more often reported than the "labor position" by margins ranging from three-to-one to seven-to-one.

This was the conclusion of the second prime-time television monitoring study conducted by the International Association of Machinists. The first, made public in June, showed that network television entertainment was degrading to the image of the worker and labor unions.

"Labor position" by margins ranging from three-to-one to seven-to-one.

In this second study, 1,560 IAM members in 43 states spent the month of February monitoring news broadcasts of CBS, NBC and ABC. Specifically, they looked at the treatment given "top priority issues of concern" to the unions: inflation, energy, foreign trade, health and tax reform.

They were found to be on the "back burner" — less than one-eighth of broadcast topics dealt with them.

Where either a labor or corporate position was expressed — through interviews, "visuals" or reporter comments — it was usually the corporate position which came through.

Issues directly affecting retirees received little coverage, generally. Strikes received the most attention but the reasons for the strikes and the background of the disputes are often not given.

Stockton flourishes

STOCKTON — The Port of Stockton reported recently that for the first time in its 47 year history it realized profits exceeding $750,000 for three consecutive years.