WASHINGTON, DC — Many leading private economists say that the long-predicted recession has taken hold of the economy so strongly in the last month that they have begun to doubt whether President Reagan's recovery program will ever get off the ground.

Although some on Wall Street look to the recession to produce the long-awaited decline in short- and long-term interest rates, which has already begun, many economists argue that this phenomenon could be short-lived.

"FELL OFF A CLIFF"

"Just about every major economic indicator is now confirming that economic activity fell off a cliff in September," said Edward Yardeni, chief economist for E. F. Hutton & Company, the brokerage concern, "and the magnitude of the drop is much larger than anyone anticipated."

The steep dropoff, economists argued, is largely a result of the fact that high interest rates, which had already depressed the housing and automobile industries, began to sap the strength of consumer and business spending in the rest of the economy.

"People thought that the negative effect of high interest rates was quarantined to housing and cars, and that the rest of the economy was learning to live with it," remarked Walter Heller, who was chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers in the Kennedy Administration. "But in the last month the contagion has spread to small business, farming, financial institutions and to all suppliers."

BROAD WEAKNESS

The broad weakness of economic activity is quickly apparent from reports such as the following that have been issued from Washington in the last few weeks:

- Some 8.5 million Americans, representing 8% of the work force, were unemployed in October, the highest level since the 1974-75 recession.
- Domestic automobile sales in October were down 27.2% from the year earlier levels, the lowest October selling rate since 1958, despite rebates and other incentive programs.
- Major retailers in October reported the weakest sales gains of the year.
- Sales of existing single family homes fell in September to the lowest level in more than six years, while the median sales price of an existing home fell, on an inflation-adjusted basis, more than at any time since World War II.
- Machine tool orders in September dipped to their lowest level in five years. Most economists also agree that this is the second consecutive recession set off by the Government rather than by economic forces alone.

Despite widespread criticism of its tight monetary policy, the Federal Reserve... (Continued on Page 6)
Strikes and 'extortion'

Imagine yourself on a pickup line. A car full of scabs, escorted by the local police, rolls by. Emotions run a little high, a few choice words or gestures are exchanged. Maybe someone even throws a punch. While the overwhelming majority of strikes these days are pretty peaceful, such incidents do occur.

Although all workers are hard hit by the layoffs, men did, and that is still true today.

But under legislation now under consideration in Congress union members who are involved in such trivial affairs could be fined up to $250,000 and packed off to prison for up to 20 years. Employers and their agents who are convicted of the very same offense would be subject only to much milder penalties at the local level.

The prosecution of striking workers under federal extortion law has long been one of the most cherished goals of anti-labor conservatives. In 1973, the Supreme Court slapped down an effort to use the law to this end, ruling that it would not "put the federal government in the business of policing the ordinary conduct of strikes." Now in control of key Senate committees, and with increased muscle in the House, they're making their move to get around this restraint.

The $6 million media campaign proved that money cannot win a campaign, even in businesses that use job-evaluation techniques to pay male and female employees the same.

In the words of Business Week magazine, strike-related violence is "an occasional problem not an epidemic" requiring special legislation that had similar requirements.

The Thurmond bill is unnecessary. All labor and management personnel are subject to state and local assault and property damage laws. The NRLRB can also ask the courts to enjoin picketing when it is declared illegal. It routine restricts the number of pickets allowed in any one location. The problem is in fact so trivial that the majority of the NRLRB does not mention it, nor does the NRLRB keep track of it. In the words of Business Week magazine, strike-related violence is "an occasional problem not an epidemic" requiring special legislation that had similar requirements.

RIGHT TO STRIKE ATTACKED

The Thurmond bill can only be understood as a part of a much broader attempt to undermine workers' constitutional rights to strike and to engage in peaceful picketing. If these Hobbs Act amendments are adopted, the risk of a federal extortion indictment will have a chilling effect on the conduct of labor relations. Workers will be extremely hesitant to join a picketing line knowing that any re-mark they might make is subject to such severe penalties.

Hearing so far have been very much in victim.

The Thurmond bill will, in fact, increase the amount of violence by creating an incentive for management to provoke a confrontation as a way of breaking a strike. They, after all, go before a federal judge. We don't condone it and we never will. The Thurmond bill, we hope, will be defeated before a federal judge.

Women still face discrimination

WASHINGTON, DC—Women are concentrated in low-paying occupations, more likely to work for low-paying concerns than are men and are "systematically underpaid," according to a study prepared by the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission and released last month.

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KETUCHAN — An agreement consolidating all ILWU longshore locals in Alaska under one contract was inked November 16 by the ILWU and the Alaska Longshore Employers Association.

To dockers in the remote ports and inlets of Alaska, it was a dream come true. The agreement was ratified by 99% at IBU ports, and by 95% at ILWU ports. The 38,200 dockers included 85% in the negotiations, with the balance split between the two major maritime unions. The agreement is the result of a two-year campaign to outlaw certain organizations, "watch committees." The union also paid its Allegra, the Pacific.

All ILWU locals and their maritime division units were represented in the negotiations, including those in Juneau, Sitka, Haines, Cordova, Petersburg, Wrangel, Kodiak, Kenai, Valdez and Homer.

The agreement was reached after nine days of round-the-clock bargaining, according to the ILWU Northwest Regional Director G. Johnny Parks. The pact runs for three years, with all provisions retroactive to 1981.

Also on hand were ILWU Coast Committee Chairman Local 853 secretary, ace. The pact runs for three years, with all provisions retroactive to 1981.

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On July 1, 1981, the Task Force, the ILWU's response when one of its members, Roosevelt Pesky, was among those terrorized by the KKK last year, said Walker. "We want existing laws to be enforced, and we will continue to work with law enforcement agencies in a cooperative effort. We're giving a sincere effort to deal with the problem.

Walker, who also serves as legislative representative for the ILWU Northern California District Council, outlined for the Task Force the union's response when one of its members, Roosevelt Pesky, was among those terrorized by the KKK last year, said Walker. "We want existing laws to be enforced, and we will continue to work with law enforcement agencies in a cooperative effort. We're giving a sincere effort to deal with the problem.

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Reproductive hazards threaten workers

By RUSSELL BARGMANN
ILWU Safety Coordinator

Very little is known about the effects of exposure to modern chemicals on the reproductive systems of workers who are exposed to them. Few chemicals have been tested in a systematic way: What information we do have is often based on laboratory "test tube" experience — in 1977, for example, 24 workers at a California chemical plant were found sterile as a result of their exposure to the pesticide DBCP.

Reproductive hazards can be broken down into five categories depending on the method in which they do damage — reproductive system, genetic, embryotoxic, teratogenic and cancer causing.

Reproductive system effects can prevent conception. In females, the problems may include menstrual irregularities, damage to the ova (egg) and fallopian tubes, and hormonal changes. Benzene, carbon disulfide, lead, and PCB's are some of the chemicals known to cause adverse reproductive effects in females. But the effects may include reduced sex drive, abnormal sperm, or a reduction in sperm below the number necessary for conception. DBCP, ethylene dibromide, manganese, ionizing radiation and lead are a few of the hazards affecting the male's reproductive system.

Genetic effects are caused by substances which alter the genes and chromosomes. The genes and chromosomes determine the characteristics children will inherit from their parents. Genetic effects may result in birth defects, stillbirths, or mongolism, which may be caused by the mother or father and others may not show up for several generations. Many substances which cause mutations also cause cancer. Benzene, ionizing radiation and ethylene dibromide are three occupational hazards which have been shown to have genetic effects.

Embryotoxic effects are caused by substances which poison the developing embryo or fetus. During the first two weeks of development the damage may result in death to the embryo, or cell damage that is thought to repair itself with development proceeding normally after that. Damage later in the pregnancy may result in spontaneous abortions.

Teratogenic effects are caused by substances which result in abnormal development of the embryo or fetus. Occasionally, teratogens (Greek meaning monsters) were defined on the basis of pathological effects such as deformed limbs. The fetus is at greatest risk during the first 40 to 60 days of pregnancy because it is at that time that the major organs are forming.

Cancer-causing substances may damage the reproductive capabilities of workers in two ways. Adults may develop cancer of the reproductive system such as the testes or prostate which will prevent conception. Or the cancer-causing agent may reach the fetus causing cancer in the child. DES and ionizing radiation are two hazards which have caused cancer in children due to their mother's exposure during pregnancy.

Many occupational hazards may adversely affect the reproductive capabilities of workers in several ways. For example, ionizing radiation alters the genetic material, reduces sperm production, causes birth defects and childhood leukemia. Also many workplace hazards affect the male's as well as the female's reproductive system. For example, anesthetic gases used in operating rooms have caused an increase in miscarriages in female operating room personnel as well as in the wives of male operating room personnel.

Despite the problems of reproductive hazards in the work place been addressed, the next issue of The Dispatcher will look at how government and industry has dealt with this occupational health hazard.

Scrap workers in for long, tough fight

Cheap offer, takeaways are rejected

LOS ANGELES — Some 400 members of ILWU Local 26 are settling in for a battle which looks like a long and difficult struggle with ten employers in the scrap industry. As this issue goes to press, “we have had some movement from the company,” said Local 26 President Joe Ibarra. “But nothing we could take seriously.”

The strike began on October 27 after the membership overwhelmingly rejected a “final” employer offer of 10s the first year, plus 25s in each of the next two years. The employers also demanded takeaways on sick leave and lost time for workers. Local 26 immediately struck the Hugo Neu Proler yard in the Harbor area, and the other nine companies belonging to the Scrap Industry group immediately declared a lockout.

“There was just no way we could accept an offer like that,” said Hugo Neu steward Jose Gonzalez. “It was a humiliating and insulting proposal.” A Local 26 offer of a one-year contract with only a cost of living increase was brushed off.

MARKET DOWN

With the Japanese market for US scrap way down, “this could be a long one,” said Local 26 President Joe Ibarra. “But I think people are prepared to do what’s necessary.” The picket lines are solid. In the meantime, Local 13 has provided extra services for workers whose jobs have been lost as a result of the strike. The company has made all the difference in terms of the guys being able to tough it out.”

Other Local 26 scrap employers, aside from Hugo Neu, include Luria Brothers, Mid-City Metals, National Metals, Alpert and Alpert, Newman Iron, Purdy Co. and Clean Steel.
One of the cases neglected involved worn and corrugated sheaves passed by Bill - leveled against Billstein by the ILWU. were - a perfect illustration of an unsafe yet to be determined the DOL chose to the hook lies with the Department of La - case to come before the Department of Labor in the northwest, if not the US. continued pressure by the union, Billstein went before a Labor Department admin - over clearly unsafe gear. As a result of what was felt to be a tendency to pass of what was felt to be a tendency to pass over clearly unsafe gear. As a result of continued pressure by the union, Billstein was suspended last spring by OSHA while was making the same $3.50 per hour. "It started thinking."

At about the same time, Juan Custenada was about to wrap it up at Finkel. "It just wasn't a place where you could get anywhere. But a friend who was employed on the street at Grand, a member of Local 26, was talking to me and I said, "just long enough to see if we couldn't get the union in." There were enough people around with the same kinds of beefs that organizing went relatively easily. "There was no wage scale, no procedures, no rhyme or reason for anything," Hernandez remembers. "They just did what they wanted, depending on if they liked you. As far as benefits, we had a little company medical plan, but it was almost impossible to get anything out of it."

"We had no respect. If you complained, they said you could always work somewhere else." Finkel went through the usual efforts to stop the union drive - almost daily meetings where the company's side was presented to a captive audience, leaflets, and so on. Why pay union dues and risk a strike when you can come in and talk to us? Finkel asked. Give us a chance to improve things."

But they got nowhere. The vote, which took place in July, was overwhelming for union affiliation. Negotiations for a first agreement began in August. "It went very slowly. The company was offering only 90c - 25c - 25c for a three year agreement. We were getting ready to strike, and we had a solid vote behind us," says Hernandez. The company on the other hand, started speeding up and working a lot of overtime, to get in as much production as they could. "So in early November we began refusing to work any overtime at all, and that's what put it over." A contract was finally signed in early November.

The agreement, ratified by a vote of 99-8, provides a minimum of $1 per hour increase in the first year, up to a maximum of $1.75. Substantial wage increases are added in the second and third years. The Local 26 health and welfare plan was put into effect in the second year along with union security language, grievance procedures, seniority as well as holiday and vacation improvements. "It was one of those things that makes you remember what this labor movement is all about," says Local 26 President Joe Ibarra. "We had people in there getting the maximum wages. Now they've got some kind of future."

The negotiating committee included Salazar, Hernandez, and Betty Lizarraga and Ibarra.

Valuable lessons learned in gear inspection beef

A recent beef between a number of ILWU northwest locals and an area cargo gear surveyor, while resulting in an ad - verse decision for the union, contains some important lessons for safety committee activists and local officials.

Herbert Billstein, a surveyor retained by a number of ship classification societies, had been the source of great frustra - tion for the union over the years because of what was felt to be a tendency to pass over clearly unsafe gear. As a result of continued pressure by the union, Billstein was suspended last spring by OSHA while the charges of incompetence against him went before a Labor Department admin - istrative law judge. It was the first such case to come before the Department of Labor in the northwest, if not the US.

NO RESPECT

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LABOR DEPT. ERRORS

Part of the reason Billstein was let off the hook lies with the Department of Labor's handling of the case. For reasons yet to be determined the DOL chose to prosecute on only two of the four charges leveled against Billstein by the ILWU. (One of the cases neglected involved worn and corrugated sheaves passed by Bill -stein with no comment though the sheaves were a perfect illustration of an unsafe practice. Billstein had passed the sheaves with corrugations up to 1 millimeter deep, causing only those over one millimeter to be repaired. This criteria for safe sheaves flies in the face of the American Iron and Steel Institute's "OSHA Wire Rope Ex - ceps" which declares "Sheave grooves shall be smooth and free from surface de - fects." In short, Billstein set up an arbit - rary standard on a premise known only to himself, and one that can only be de - scribed as unsafe.)

SERIOUS CHARGES

The administrative law judge declared, "Certainly the charges against Herbert Billstein are serious and warranted sus - pension of his accreditation until a hearing on the merits." But, the hearing was a failure for the ILWU because Labor De - partment lawyers prosecuting the case failed to produce expert witnesses to "re - fute his (Billstein's) statement that the cargo gear was safe" and herein lies the heart of the matter. It was not Billstein who should have been charged, but the classification societies he represents, namely, Bureau Veritas, Nippon Kajii Ky - oka and the International Cargo Gear Bureau. They are the experts who should be summoned to appear before the judge to swear they approve the conduct of their hiring. Further, it is now recognized that the Department erred in charging the de - fendant with incompetence - the charge should have read negligence. There is not much competence entailed in judging rot - ten cargo gear, but there is culpable neg - ligence in not causing the gear to be re - noved out of respect for the life and limb of the men who labor "under the hook."

There was much that could have been brought out in cross-examination of Bill -stein that may have influenced the deci - sion of the judge, but the D.O.L. failed to exploit Billstein's testimony, basically, be - cause of a lack of familiarity with the gear itself.

LESSONS

But there's a positive side to all this. "We've all really learned a lot about the need to keep pressure on the Labor Depart - ment, and doing a better job with our own record-keeping," according to Lou Brock, chairman of the ILWU longshore Local 26 safety committee. "If the union is to win its war for safety it must docu - ment every case wherein it is believed a classification society may have influenced the deci - sion of the judge, but the D.O.L. failed to exploit Billstein's testimony, basically, be - cause of a lack of familiarity with the gear itself.

Dredge report

ASTORIA — The dredge which the Port of Astoria purchased from the Army Corps of Engineers as surplus is working quite well, Local 50 President Chuck McBride reports.

They are working on one of the slips to deepen a berth and will start work on the other slip soon. "By November 1, they ex - pect to have flow-lane disposal permits from the Corps so as to complete the dredging, and will have deep slips in the Port before long."
Small BC port feels the pinch

PORT ALBERNI, BC — This port city on Vancouver Island off the British Columbia coast has been hard hit by the depressed lumber market. Lay-offs have had a devastating effect on jobs and businesses. Longshore work has also declined greatly.

The sawmill in neighboring Tahsis was closed in November and will not produce until February. 450 employees are affected.

The ILWU's cedar mill will shut down on December 17 until next March, leaving 180 employees without jobs.

In Port Alberni itself 800 have been laid off indefinitely at the big sawmill operation.

The plywood mill has gone on a two-week lay-off last month and may shut down for a month or more, the union's negotiating schedule, as has the Somass mill. Over 400 employees are affected. This mill's production is down 66%.

Rest forest-related industries in Port Alberni state that their business is down 50%.

Forestry (lumber, pulp and paper) is BC's main industry. The decline is illustrated by the fact that approximately 12,000, one quarter of the IWA membership, have been out of work and is really in a bad way," said Willard Gallic, president of Local 500, who is 15 years' seniority in the forest industry are being laid off.

This month long lay-off, which has 124 members has being the effects of the recession for some time, the union said, having only 16-20 hours a week. We share the work and it's equally tough for all of us."

Trade agreement

OLYMPSA — Gov. John Spellman's office announced recently that the Governor has signed agreements with the International Longshore Men's Union in November, and with the Nipitoh and Co., a major Japanese trading firm, to work together for the development of British Columbia with opportunities in agriculture and forest products.

OTTAWA — In a demonstration de- scribed by the media as "one of the largest protest rallies in Canadian history," between 100,000 and 120,000 Canadian unionists massed on Parliament Hill November 21 to voice their anger at persistent high interest rates and the failure of the government to take any effective action to improve the state of the depressed Cana- dian economy.

The demonstration was organized by the two million-member Canadian Labor Con- gress and supported by an unprecedentedly broad coalition of farmers, teachers, stu- dents, pensioners and tenants. They came by bus, train, car, plane and on foot from all parts of Canada.

Ed Broadbent, National leader of the New Democratic Party, addressed the vast gathering, Dennis McCromptt, president of the Canadian La- bor Congress called on the government to reduce interest rates. “Let them march into the house of iniquity over there (the House of Commons) and set interest rates at the same 6% they set wages,” he de- clared. The reference was to the wage controls established in 1975 which lasted for five years. When he asked all those in favor signify by saying "aye" there was a mighty roar of approval.

"The protest rally was highly success- ful," said Canadian ILWU president Don Garcia. "I’ve never seen anything like it, in Canada at least. The weather was damp and chilly but the spirit of the demonstrators was high. There was one unending sea of banners and placards as far as the eye could see. It was a stirring sight."

"I’m sure the government got the mes- sage even though they may not be will- ing to admit it publicly. Canadians want action to reduce interest rates, control consumer price increases, and provide new opportunities and to de- velop more trade. Politicians who ignore this do so at their peril."

Local 142 signs bakery pacts

HONOLULU—One-year agreements covering workers at Love’s Bakery and Hol- sum Baking Inc. have been signed by the ILWU and members of the membership on September 9 and 15 respectively.

Both contracts will run from September 1 to August 30, 1982.

Workers at both bakeries will receive an 8% hike. An understanding reached in an open meeting plan will bring benefits in the future.

The Love’s agreement provides job secu- rity—no reductions in force—and temporary and permanent work force during the term of the contract.

Division Rep. Tony Kahawaiolaa was chief spokesman in both negotiations.

Reagan’s recession

(Continued from Page 1)

Board continued to keep tight rein on the money supply through much of this year. This course was reflected in short- term interest rates and particularly in the closely watched Federal funds rate that banks charge other banks for overnight loans, and that is viewed as a signal of Fed policy. This tight-money policy in the face of a hefty budget deficit, is generally viewed as the force that tipped the economy into recession sooner than might otherwise have occurred.

A similar pattern occurred just a year ago. Although the 1980 recession formally started in January that year, many be- lieve that it would not have amounted to more than a mild downturn had it not been for the Fed’s sudden imposition of credit controls. When Fed officials acknowledged later that while they had meant to slow the economy with the credit controls, they had not planned to slow it nearly so sharply.

ILWU delegation at Ottawa demonstration, from left, Gordon Ralph, Local 500; Canadian Area President Don Garcia; Charles McIntosh, Local 514; Canadian Area First-Vice President Dave Lomas; Paddy Neale, Vancouver and District Labour Council.

Economic policies blasted

Canadian labor, in massive rally, sends strong message to Parliament

COUNCIL: Kofu Toyofuji No. 7, called here on her maiden voyage in October, inaugurating a regular monthly service from Nagoya, Japan through the Port of Vancouver.

The ILWU's Toyofuji No. 7, called here on her maiden voyage in October, inaugurating a regular monthly service from Nagoya, Japan through the Port of Vancouver.
Local 6 members were on the seniority list. The work force was black, Palestro has hired his own tobacco distributing company five years after the strike started. The company has won all its court cases and has been sanctioned, but police ordered him from the picket lines. "This is not to say that the people inside are all racists," he explained, "but their attitude is that they are on a lark and are not concerned about the kind of "institutional racism" that exists."

In the beginning the strike was 100% effective. Most of the workers had never taken part in a strike, but they joined in eagerly. They seemed to be having fun. It was a holiday of sorts, a reprieve from hard work in fields and mills. To see them carry a surfboard or play a guitar and even arrange themselves in people in management: "Their general attitude was that they were on a lark and having a good time. Fishing parties went out; hunting parties stalked wild pigs and goats in the mountains. The men manned the picket lines, served on committees, kept the utilities going. As early as mid-summer Hall realized that in the union's preparation for a strike, most of the workers had never taken part in a strike, but they joined in eagerly. They seemed to be having fun. It was a holiday of sorts, a reprieve from hard work in fields and mills. To see them carry a surfboard or play a guitar and even arrange themselves in rows of workers, employers and the public. For the first time in Hawaii the employers were prepared for round-the-clock bargaining sessions. A settlement was finally reached in December. Hall called it "a tremendous victory." The employers hardly felt the union had made much of an effort, but admitted it was "a remarkable victory."

The sugar cane started to dry up. The planter arranged to buy and ship 4,487 pounds of brown rice. When it arrived and was opened, the men gagged, saying "Brown rice is for peasants." They were reluctant to go on strike for fear their brokers in Hawaii wouldn't sell them their brokers in Hawaii wouldn't sell rice directly to the ILWU. He charged that the growers, "starving the workers" in an attempt to break the strike. Strikers in various areas were soon reporting shortages of sugar.
HAIL AND FAREWELL — By way of saying thanks for assistance rendered over many years, Shipscalers Local 2 threw a surprise goodbye lunch on December 1 at Caesar's Restaurant in San Francisco to honor retiring Local 10 warehouseman John L. McCarthy.

The warehouseman, who had spent 36 years with the company, was treated to a special presentation by members of the ILWU Local 10 warehouse committee.

The presentation included a video highlighting McCarthy's career and his contributions to the union and the industry.

McCarthy was presented with a plaque and a bouquet of flowers as a token of appreciation for his years of service.

The reception was attended by fellow warehousemen, union officials, and friends and family of McCarthy.

Local 10 has a tradition of honoring retirees in this manner, and McCarthy's retirement was recognized as a significant milestone in the history of the ILWU Local 10.

In addition to the formal presentation, McCarthy and his wife enjoyed the festive atmosphere of the event, which included Music, dancing, and a delicious luncheon.

The occasion was a fitting finale to McCarthy's long career, and a fitting welcome to a new chapter in his life.
UNABLE TO SOLVE INFLATION DILEMMA, REAGAN DEFINES IT OUT OF EXISTENCE

by Barry Silverman

The Reagan Administration has cold-bloodedly and methodically squashed the meager living standards of millions of poor Americans while ensuring a treasure chest of tax concessions for corporations and the rich. Having thus made the most of its Administration's popular mandate, the Administration is now setting out to fine-tune its economic juggernaut.

In what it hoped would be a little-noticed and not very well understood act, the Administration is using the method by which the all-important Consumer Price Index is calculated—the so-called basket—tied to Congress.$1 in January,at which the Administration was named.

The indexing of benefits is, in fact, a technical change what its economic policies are incapable of producing in the real world. As my colleague Sheldon Friedman, Research Director of the UAW has noted, it is like trying to break the thermometer. It is a clear case of creative accounting.

The Consumer Price Index, or CPI as it is commonly called, is a statistical tool for determining what it cost to live. However, the CPI is used to govern countless numbers of financial transactions—Social Security and federal pension benefit adjustments, wage adjustments under collective bargaining agreements, and income tax adjustments, named.

We have to have is some reliable guide to inflation. The Administration is reduced to serving up a technical sleight of hand.

If the Administration is to be consistent in its approach, it should toss out new car prices and finance charges from the CPI and let Hertz' rental rates serve as the measure of automobile costs. Nonsense, they say, how valid is it to tinker around with something as sensitive as the housing component of the Consumer Price Index? Any statistical measure as complicated as the CPI is inevitably going to be the subject of controversy. What we have to have is some reliable guide to inflation. That is accurate and consistent, and that is not tampered with every time one element or another in society is unhappy with the results that emerge from the use of that measure. What must be avoided at all costs is politicization of the process.

We can't tinker around with the tools we have available to reach politically desirable conclusions. To do so is fundamentally dishonest. It is an open invitation to chaos to those what it can't accomplish in fact. As Rudy Oswald, Research Director of the AFL-CIO points out, "Labor prefers honesty, trickery, deceit, craft, overreaching, or other dishonest means" which are used to obstruct any government function. For example, inside the watchword of the Reagan Administration. It is estimated that a 1% reduction in the CPI can produce a B LS to B trillion in government expenditures.

SEIGNIORITY

The Administration has been stymied in its frontal assault on Social Security: it has been frustrated in its attempt to re-inflation. Having given a blank check to the Pentagon, it has all but given up its drive to balance the budget. Rather than dealing with real issues head-on and giving the public a chance to respond, the Administration is reduced to serving up a technical sleight of hand.

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THE EFFECTS

How are we directly affected by this technical sleight of hand?

First, the Administration has clamped, at breaks in its attempt to re-inflation. Having given a blank check to the Pentagon, it has all but given up its drive to balance the budget. Rather than dealing with real issues head-on and giving the public a chance to respond, the Administration is reduced to serving up a technical sleight of hand.

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ONE ANSWER to the devastating impact of layoffs in the northwest lumber and wood products industry has been put together by a coalition of communists. Union business and church groups have put together the North Coast Displaced Workers center, which has its grand opening recently, to provide job and other forms of counsel to the unemployed. Supporting groups include the Union Defense Committee, the First Congregational Church and the Redwood Community Action agency, ILWU longshore Local 14, in Eureka, is also a sponsor.

Criminal code bill trims civil rights

by Mike Lewis

As in the last several Congresses, a massive — and dangerous — omnibus bill to amend the Federal Criminal Code has begun to make its way through the Senate. This year's version, S. 1630, sponsored by Judiciary Committee Chairman Strom Thurmond (R-S.C.), Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), and others, would undo the 1970 law to end legal immunity for corporations and government officials who engage in crime. It is likely to be considered in the full Senate next year. In addition to retaining many repressive provisions now on the books, the bill contains several new unreviewed amendments: a technical change what its economic policies are incapable of producing in the real world. As my colleague Sheldon Friedman, Research Director of the UAW has noted, it is like trying to break the thermometer. It is a clear case of creative accounting.

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ILWU-PMA alcoholism programs come of age

SAN FRANCISCO — It's taken 25 years, but ILWU alcoholism programs have finally come into their own.

Back in 1956, when the membership first demanded that the longshore caucuses deal with the problems of alcoholism, the outlook was grim. Alcoholism was the fifth most common cause of death in the industry, and most people recognized it as a treatable illness. The Coast Committee studied the problem and concluded that the best course of action was to find and publicize alternatives to the legislative and legal, social and medical, and psychological approaches. The committee then voted to set up a program to help treat alcoholics.

It was a decision that would lead to the creation of the ILWU Alcoholism Programs, a network of programs designed to help workers who were struggling with alcohol addiction. The programs are staffed by union members who are trained as alcoholism counselors, and they provide services such as counseling, treatment, and support groups.

The programs have been successful, and in recent years they have seen an increase in the number of people seeking help. For example, in 1980, the ILWU had 165 deaths of active longshoremen during 1978, 1979 and 1980 were caused by cardiovascular disorders—heart attacks, strokes, etc. Of these deaths, nearly half were caused by alcohol-related problems. The ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Programs have been successful in helping these workers to overcome their addiction and return to work.

The programs are supported by the ILWU welfare and pension plan, and they are headed by full-time coordinator Hugh MacLean of Local 500. The union's approach to alcoholism among its longshore members is based on the belief that alcoholism is a treatable illness, and that the employer is responsible for helping workers who are affected by it.

In 1980, the ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Programs had actually been operating since 1979 and is still going strong. It's a benefit we worked hard to win. But it only works if you actually use it, says the president of the ILWU, Jesse Marquez, Local 20-A. He adds that the program has helped a lot of workers get their lives back on track.

The alcoholism programs in California, Oregon, and Washington, the ILWU also boasts a strong program in the Puget Sound/Washington area. "It's get-ting to where there's a lot of people around each port who have gotten sober and are doing well. So you're not a leper anymore," says Local 20-A President Ted Escoto.

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Quotations from Chairman David

Ronald Reagan's chief ax man, David Stockman, in the December issue of Atlantic Monthly, gave us all the skinny on how the Reagan administration's budget-making process works: 'From the inside. Stockman portrays himself as a renegade, an outsider being eaten alive by special interests. Here are a few choice excerpts.'

On Reaganomics: "The reason we did it wrong—no accident that over the last ten years ..."

On on defense spending: "The reason we did it wrong—no accident that over the last ten years we didn't think it all the way through. We didn't add up all the numbers." In another part of the article: "Employers are merely following the advice of Robert Lewis and William Krupman, 'the union busters's bible.'"

On tax cuts: "The hard part of the supply-side tax cut is dropping the top rate from 70 to 50%—the rest of it is a secondary matter. The original argument was that the top bracket was too high, and that's having the most devastating effect on the economy. However, to make this palatable as a political matter, you had to bring down all the brackets. But, I mean, Kemp-Bush was always the Trojan horse to bring down the top rate .... It's kind of hard to sell 'trickle-down,' so the supply-side formula was the only way to get a tax policy that really 'trickles down.' Supply-side is 'trickles-down' theory."

On the Administration's budget estimates and economic forecasts: 'None of it really understands what's going on with all these numbers. You've got so many different budgets out and so many different baselines and such complexity that people are getting lost from A to B and it's not clear how they're getting there. It's not clear how we got there. [One deficit reduction strategy was] reached 'by hook or by crook, mostly the latter.'"

CRPMA salutes Baker

PORTLAND — The November 11 meeting of the Columbia River Pensioners Memorial Association, which featured election of officers of the CRPMA, turned into a testimonial for outgoing Secretary Ernest Baker.

The veteran lobbyist refused to stand for reelection to the post he had held for eleven years. He did agree to be a delegate "one more time!" to the CRDC, which he helped organize in Longview in 1932. Baker also will be the guest of honor, at the pensioners Christmas dinner at the Quay in Vancouver December 13.

Before the meeting ended, he received a standing ovation.

In other actions, the CRPMA set up a committee of five to update the Constitution voted to support the ILWU Political Action Fund and the $1 voluntary contributions; and vowed to fight water user fee legislation and $1 a bill pending in the US Senate to gut the federal longshore and harvest program.

Bob Coffey and Jim Postor were re-elected President and Vice President.

Other officers for 1982 include Jan Schmidt, Secretary; Grant Fulmore, Pat Adrian and Lloyd Kennedy, Trustees. A 13-member executive board, elected by acclamation, includes Shadow Dunia, A. Hangeman, John Balear, Bud Hyden, J. K. Stranahan, Mike Fisch, Bud Tovey, Randy Razzolino, Lee Lind, Floyd Tovey and Grant Fulmore. The slate will be installed in January.

Local 27, Port Angeles

Local 27, ILWU, Port Angeles, Washington, held its annual meeting December 8, 1981, to fill the offices of president, vice president, secretary-treasurer and members of the executive board. Nominations were made at the December meeting.

Puget Sound/Washington Area

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Northern California
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Columbia River/Oregon Coast Area
Jim Coff, Local 8
7238 North East Glisan
Portland, OR 97217
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Local 7, Bellingham
Local 7, Bellingham, Washington, will hold its final election December 8, 1981, to fill the offices of president, vice president, secretary-treasurer and 2 members of the election committee. Nominations were made at the December meeting.

Puget Sound/Washington Area

TROJAN HORSE PLOY

On what was achieved by the Administration's spending reductions: "There was less there than met the eye .... Let's say that you and I walked outside and I waved a hankie and said, I've just lowered the temperature from 110 to 70. Would you believe me?"

On what was achieved by the Administration: "The pieces were moving on independent tracks—the defense program, which was just a bunch of swamp of $10 to $20 billion to $30 billion worth of waste that can be ferreted out if you really push hard. [But the Pentagon] got a blank check to get so damn greedy that they got themselves strung out on there a limb."
That’s how David Stockman, President Reagan’s number one hatchet man and budget cutter, frankly describes the process by which this year’s tax cut, with its bonanza of benefits for the wealthy, was hammered out. He might as well described the development of the administration’s entire program that way.

The first year of Reaganomics is not yet behind us, and already it’s coming unglued. More and more, those who voted for the President, giving him control of the Senate and considerable muscle in the House, are realizing that they’ve been taken for a ride.

The evidence is all around us. The budget, despite the brutal cuts made in social spending, refuses to balance. The unemployed -- all eight million of them, refuse to disappear. The tax breaks awarded to big business refuse to trickle down. Inflation refuses, as we demonstrate on page 9, to be conjured out of existence. High interest rates continue to paralyze economic activity, producing a steep slide into recession.

That’s why, if you needed any more reasons, there’s never been a better time to make a small contribution to the ILWU International Political Action Fund. It’s a solid investment in your own future, in your family’s future and your country’s future.

This voluntary contribution of $1 per year, authorized by the delegates to the union’s 24th Biennial Convention last April, will permit the ILWU to play a much stronger political role. While we’ll never match the resources of the corporate Political Action Committees, who pumped tens of millions of dollars into the Reagan campaign chest, we can make a difference. With a few dollars to spend in the right places, working together with other unions and community groups sharing our perspective, we can begin looking toward 1982 elections.

We can help put some people into office who will see things our way. We can help make sure that all our members are registered to vote. We can improve our own political education and that of those who represent us.

You can make your contribution, earmarked for the ILWU Political Action Fund, to the local of which you are a member, or from which you are retired. The assistance of every member is essential.