OLYMPIA — A labor rally, planned to top any other held in Washington State, is slated for noon, January 20 at the Temple of Justice in Olympia to protest legislative attempts to reduce jobs, working rights and social gains.

In keeping with its historic tradition of solidarity with workers all over the world, the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union condemns the imposition of martial law and the suspension of all civil and trade union rights in Poland. As part of the worldwide trade union movement we will work for the restoration of these rights and for the alleviation of the acute suffering and deprivation which is now endured by so many people in that country.

"GREAT PROGRESS"

Working people all over the world have observed with great enthusiasm the progress which Poland had made over the last 18 months. Certain economic and political reforms had put that country on the road to becoming a model of democratic workers' control. The impetus for these dramatic changes came primarily from the Polish workers, particularly the Solidarity trade union movement.

Now this promising movement has been crushed. Thousands of people, trade unionists in particular, have been arrested and imprisoned. The whereabouts of the President of Solidarity, Lech Walesa, are unknown. The army and police have moved in, workers have been shot down.

This repression is intolerable. We appreciate the complexity of this situation and the need to strive for total economic collapse. But we cannot excuse or rationalize the use of force against workers and the destruction of workers' organizations.

All parties must return to the bargaining table. Martial law must be ended and the right to strike restored. The leadership of Solidarity must be freed and the organization must be permitted to reconstitute itself. All countries must refrain from making the situations worse by any form of intervention. There can be no return to peaceful progress in Poland without the broadest assurance that the democratic process will be permitted to run its course.

Scrap strike hangs tough

As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, some 500 members of Local 26 on strike against employers in the Southern California Scrap Industry.

The strike began on October 27 after the membership overwhelmingly rejected a final company offer of 10c the first year plus 25c in each of the next two years. While there's been some movement in negotiations, Local 26 officials report that the two sides are still far apart.

Picket lines are solid. Many of the strikers, with the help of longshore Local 13, are picking up extra longshore work on a rotating basis. The International Executive Board has asked that all ILWU locals make a contribution to this difficult struggle. All contributions should be sent to the International, for forwarding to Local 26.

Decision to close Puna Sugar rocks big island

KEEAU, HI. — Announcement by the Amfac Corporation last week of its decision to close the Puna Sugar Company dealt a severe jolt to this quiet Big Island plantation community.

"While the possibility of Puna's liquidation was mentioned by Amfac last month, we didn't expect it to happen so soon," said Local 142 unit chairman Noboru Shimabuku. "We were promised that the union would get full advance notice."

Some 500 jobs are at stake—425 Local 142 bargaining unit positions and 75 supervisors. A stopwork meeting was held January 7 to inform the membership that unit officers were informed by Amfac management the previous day.

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As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, Local 142 officers and unit members, with the assistance of International President Jim Herman, were preparing to meet with Amfac management to discuss ways of protecting the interest of the affected workers.
Natural gas costs to triple with decontrol

You may be out $700 soon. That’s if President Reagan gets his way on his latest economic program. He is currently working with the oil companies to take all price controls off natural gas. If they succeed, the cost of natural gas will double over the next year or two, and then double again after that.

Not only would home fuel bills be affected, but consumer prices would rise and jobs would be lost. Natural gas is used not only to heat homes and cook food, it is a major fuel to California industries, and it’s used widely in the production of fertilizer for the state’s agriculture.

In addition, one-half of California’s electricity is generated from natural gas. Doubling gas prices, then, will only affect your family’s utility bill, but the cost of groceries, clothing, newspapers, automobiles and most consumer products. In total, the average California family will pay over $700 more next year for these combined costs.

OIL PROFITS
Where will all the money go? The oil companies own 75% of the country’s natural gas supply. How much of this are they going to profit on the profits of decontrolled oil prices?

They bought everything from Montgomery Ward and other Department Stores, to real estate in Hong Kong, to other energy corporations.

The oil companies can’t wait for Reagan to sign the bill off or they can adjust their prices. In fact they’re not waiting; they are busy pushing for Congress, where the legislation must be passed.

The AFL-CIO and the Citizen/Labor Coalition are pressing hard in Congress to stop Reagan and the oil companies.

The C/LEC, which is a national alliance of labor unions, senior citizen organizations, and citizen groups, and the APLC, have just launched the Campaign to Stop Decontrol of Natural Gas.

The AFL-CIO has done a study which shows that over three million American jobs would be lost over four years if decontrol is allowed to happen. The study is called “Pipeline to Disaster.” It was recently released at AFL-CIO Headquarters in Washington. In California, nearly 200,000 jobs will be lost in the same time period.

AFL-CIO Legislative director, Ray Denni, said that higher production costs from decontrol, “will undercut the competitive position of American industries. There is no argument, save greed, for decontrol.”

The APLC and C/LEC Campaign to Stop Decontrol is focused on Congress. They are calling on Congress to pledge opposition to any form of decontrol, with or without a profits tax.

Local unions and members are urged to contact their congressperson.

More information, including pamphlets in bulk for distribution, is available from the C/LEC office in California, at Machinists local 1414, 150 South Blvd., San Mateo, CA 94402.

How Big Oil has deindustrialized US

A decade of soaring energy costs has so damaged America’s basic industries that the economy now resembles that of “a lesser developed country,” a House subpanel report indicated recently.

The report, based on Fortune magazine data, said five hearings held by the oversight and investigation subpanel of the Energy and Commerce Committee showed that energy-driven inflation “made a large transfer of real investment resources to the oil and gas industry.”

An horrified Dr. Milton L. Lower that “this shift into energy made all of the other prices go with the costs of job turnover, absenteeism, and lost productivity, the study said.

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Consuming passion

Anti ERA activist Phyllis Schlafly has told the story of a young woman who told her that virtuous women need never worry about sexual harassment. If that is the case, why are there over 1,000 women in Washington who signed an open letter to the Senate condemning women who did not vote for the ERA?

The prime reason cited was that women must be able to vote for themselves. What is the chance that some woman will have no interest in women’s rights and ERA and yet vote for it anyway?

The manager of a Texas Petro Chemical Plant has resigned after being accused of sexual harassment.

“Still, he can’t be the only one,” wrote Phyllis, and there are thousands of women who are worried about harassment.

“It is a sign of the times,” she added, “that the ERA is losing its support today as fast as it was gaining it yesterday.”

The ERA was passed by the Senate, but it never received a House vote.

Human rights conference

A one day regional conference, Human Rights Symposium of the Southern Cone (Chile, Argentina and Uruguay) will be held at the University of Oregon on January 11. The purpose of the conference is to further the work of the Amnesty International. Rev. William Wipfler, the National Council of Churches Human Rights Director, and other nationally recognized experts on Latin American human rights will be featured. Fee is $7.50 for the public and $5 for students, senior citizens and the unemployed. Child care will be provided. For further information, contact ECHI, MLA 484-5887.

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Also during the period, Exxon displaced General Motors as the top industrial firm. Its sales soared from $60 billion in 1978 to $103 billion in 1980, making the oil giant the Fortune 500’s first 12-digit revenue leader.

"The data presented here leave little room for doubt that during the energy industry’s boom of 1979-80, it reduced the status of a lesser developed country," the report said.

Big money bought big votes in 1980

Heavy corporate spending in state and local ballot campaigns on business-related issues paid off in an impressive majority of victories for property owners, businesses, and one to every three initiatives to limit the use of nuclear power and to control nuclear waste disposal and/or to stop decontrol.

The AFL-CIO and C/LEC Campaign to Stop Decontrol, with or without a profits tax.

Local unions and members are urged to contact their congressperson.

More information, including pamphlets in bulk for distribution, is available from the C/L EC office in California, at Machinists local 1414, 150 South Blvd., San Mateo, CA 94402.

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Dock divisional meeting a success

PORTLAND — Friday the 13th, dreaded by many as the unluckiest day of the year, will long be remembered as a day of good fortune for some internal Local 6 members. The company that day in November by an 8-to-0 vote, fired 100 striking deckhands who were mobilizing for their successful ten-day walk-out against the Columbia River Towboat Association. Following their lead, the members quickly fashioned picket signs and initiated a full-scale strike. Discussions were wide-ranging, focusing on registration, legal issues, organizing against the attack on the Longshore and Harbor Workers Compensation Act, the development of coal export facilities on the Columbia River, and other issues relating to wage, benefits and pension issues. Delegates agreed that the meeting had provided an excellent forum for the exchange of experiences and ideas, and scheduled another divisional meeting in June, in Portland, Oregon.

Local 6 pacts in North Bay

CROCKETT—1892 bargaining is already in high gear for Local 6, with two contract settlements reported in the North Bay division.

A three-year contract was ratified at Estevan terminals (Property Standard Pipe Protection) which increased wages substantially, added a holiday, and wrote a severance clause. Assisting BA Ron Meledin were East Bay BA Abba Babb, Brother Michael and members Dan Torres, Charles Myers and Sal Griffin.

At IT Services in Martinez, a one-year contract was approved which increased wages, maintained health and welfare benefits and cleaned up several issues relating to working conditions and union rights. The negotiations were also used to secure reinstatement of a discharged member. With Medelin were West Bay Business Agent Al Lamon and Stewards Robert Preller and Steve Barry.

BC dockers ship aid to Nicaragua

VANCOUVER, BC — A ship bearing thousands of dollars worth of humanitarian aid for Nicaragua was loaded here last month. The aid, sent at the request of Vancouver longshoremen who convinced the ship's owner to carry the six tons of cargo without payment.

Despite the US government's claim that Nicaragua is set to become a "military base for the Soviet bloc" and a "superpower in Central American terms," members of ILWU Local 60 spent two weeks trying to secure free shipment for the freight destined for the Central American country.

Local president Louis Kaufmann said the owner of the ship, the Greek-registered Adventures Mentor, was initially reluctant to carry the cargo of food and equipment but finally relented under union pressure.

Agents for the vessel were not available for comment.

"We're not interested in getting into the politics of the situation down there but one of our local presidents had visited Nicaragua and assured us that the equipment would be needed and would be put to good use," said Kaufmann.

ILWU TRAVELER

That ILWU traveler was Larry Mannix, a Port Alberni longshoreman who visited Nicaragua last year accompanied by about 15 other trade unionists and officials from Oxfam-Canada.

Oxfam, the UK aid agency, set for February

The Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources has put off until February 11 a vote on a bill supported by Senators Nickles (R-Okl.), Sam Nunn (D-Ga.), and Gustafson (R-Fla.) to emasculate the Longshoremen's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

The vote, which had been scheduled for December, was postponed because Congress went into recess on December 17 and will not formally reconvene until January 25. Action is not likely to be delayed for long by that time.

The International has urged all ILWU longshores to attempt to visit or communicate directly with the Sen- ators on this issue during the January recess, since this may be the last chance to do so before the bill moves from the committee to the Senate floor. ILWU locals have also been urged to help mobilize other waterfront unions to take similar action.

All members who have not yet done so are also advised to write to their Senators and Congressmen to oppose the Nickles bill. Letters should also be sent to liberal and moderate Senate Committee members Edward Kennedy (D-Mass.), Edward Brooke (D-Mass.), Harrison Williams (D-NJ), Jen- nings Randolph (D-W.Va.), Howard Metzen- hoven (R-I1l.), John Tunney (D-Calif.), Thomas Eagleton (D-Mo.), and Robert Stafford (R-Vt.).
3,000 Hawaiians hit the streets to protest Reagan's economic policies

HONOLULU — Some 3,000 persons including a good turnout of Oahu ILWU members, their families and pensioners clubs in the city and rural areas marched under the banner: "Reagan must be stopped," "Hawaii has already lost over $70 million," "Save our Security," "We need safety & health on the job," and much more. The rally was addressed by speakers representing the participating coalition groups.

Sugar price support enacted

After nearly a year of legislative twists and turns, Congress has enacted a four-year farm bill which includes a price support loan program for the American sugar industry. The new program, which will benefit all ILWU sugar workers in Hawaii and California, will provide some minimal protection over the next four years for the slump ing industry.

The new sugar provision provides for a combination of government purchases and price supports over levels the next four years. If administered properly, the program should earn rather than lose money for the federal treasury. By providing some degree of stability for the industry in bad times, the program will also prevent consumer prices from skyrocketing on future occasions when world shortages occur, as they did in 1974 and 1980.

Monthly article, which embarrassed the Reagan Administration, was that even the Republican-controlled Senate Committee on Aging sent a letter to the President.

When the conference opened, however, the delegates refused to be herded. Leaders of the private pensioners' Citizens, the National Council on the Aging (NCA), the ILWU, and others already made a public issue of the Administration's wire-pulling, and continued to press their case, even to the White House.

And when the conference Committee on Social Security, which had been especially packed to support the President—approved an administration-backed resolution denying Social Security benefits from the government's general revenue, angry delegates took the bit in their teeth. After a well-attended caucus, Congressman Claude Pepper (D -Fla.), ILWU's best friend in Congress, initiated another Social Security resolution calling for full financial protection for the system through the committee. After some negotiation, a new resolution was reported out urging the government to "make every possible and fiscally responsible effort to maintain" present benefit levels for future beneficiaries.

EXPLICIT OPPOSITION Delays in the conference session, mean-while, were passing resolutions even more explicit in opposition to cuts in social services which Reagan had proposed. Among them was ILWU Regional Director Tommy Trask. He told the assemblage that the locals, establish their own methods of developing their own education and enforcement workers and the public.

The final outcome of the entire farm bill was uncertain right up to the moment of the House vote. The bill was opposed in its final form, not only by liberals, but by many members of Congress from farm districts who argued that it provided too little support for dairy and other commodity interests. It was the last important item taken up before the House adjourned late at night on December 16, and it squeaked through by the narrow margin of 285 to 203. It was the last important item to apply to the efforts of President Ronald Reagan (D-Calif.), ILWU's best friend in Congress.

The bill had already passed the Senate by a wider margin.

Members, friends of ILWU help win renewal of safety and health grant

SAN FRANCISCO — Federal funding for the ILWU's widely respected health and safety program was saved recently as locals up and down the coast, along with a number of the union's friends in political office, responded forcefully to an attempt by federal OSHA to eliminate it.

The ILWU health and safety program was initiated in 1978, as part of OSHA's New Directions Program, providing outright grants to a number of unions to develop their own education and enforcement efforts. The attempt by the OSHA program was part of a generalized undermining of OSHA initiated by the Reagan Administration. Refunding this year for most recipients was slashed drastically.

With the announcement in early Novem-ber of the total rejection of the ILWU's grant by OSHA, the ILWU immediately made a successful campaign to restore the OSHA grant to the union, in particular in helping them, the locals, establish their own methods of handling problems. The successful campaign to restore the OSHA grant was Washington Governor John Spellman (through his assistant, Ms. Paula Stewart, Sen. Mark Hatfield (D-Ore) and Rep. Phil Barten (D-SD). Locals who helped put the heat on OSHA included 12, Cosy Bay, 13, Wellington, 21, Longview; 24, at San Pedro; 40, Portland; 12, Hawaii, and the Islandboom's Union, Marine Division of the ILWU.

The ILWU's safety and health program has been of tremendous importance to the union, particularly in helping them, the locals, establish their own methods of handling problems, continued. It is also extremely well respected outside the union as a model of a well-run program New Directions program. The response to the administration's attempt to destroy it is a measure of its success. Along with other locals who oppose Reagan's inhumane budget slashing excursions, the campaign is led by Russ Bargmann. He operates under the direction of Vice-President Rudy Rubio, and under the administrative supervision of Research Director Barry Silverman.

Among them was ILWU Regional Di-

rection Tommy Trask. He told the assem-bled that he had doubts about Reagan's economic program and that the wealthy will gain in the way of tax relief.

Trask called on the assembly to keep the pressure on a Congressional delega-tion and to make it known to state legis-lators that funds needed to take care of Reagan's budget cuts.

Among those who assisted in the success-ful campaign to restore the OSHA grant were Washington Governor John Spellman (through his assistant, Ms. Paula Stewart, Sen. Mark Hatfield (D-Ore) and Rep. Phil Barten (D-SD). Locals who helped put the heat on OSHA included 12, Cosy Bay, 13, Wellington, 21, Longview; 24, at San Pedro; 40, Portland; 12, Hawaii, and the Islandboom's Union, Marine Division of the ILWU. Among them was ILWU Regional Di-

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ILWU backs conference

Fears for workers' safety push labor to head of anti-nuclear coalition

GARY, Ind. — Despite their “hard hat” pro-nuke image, trade unions are steadily becoming one of the most potent forces within the anti-nuclear movement.

Since 1979 and the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear facility in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, more and more labor unions have passed anti-nuke resolutions, joined anti-nuke organizations and participated in anti-nuke workshops, teach-ins and demonstrations.

In November, for example, over 300 unionists from 40 unions joined representatives from scores of environmental groups in Gary, Indiana, for the 2nd Annual Conference of the Building Trades for Safe Energy and Full Employment.

Their purpose was to develop ways to broaden the labor movement, cement relations between labor and anti-nuke groups, and expand their activities to counter the Reagan Administration’s stepped-up support of the nuclear industry.

“STRONG INFLUENCE”

The anti-nuke movement is fighting for safe energy and full employment which is needed now more than ever, said a resolution approved by nine affiliated unions.

“The president has made clear that his administration will try to salvage the nuclear industry. He plans huge new subsidies, relaxation of health and safety standards, and speed-up of the licensing process, even as he slashes coal mine safety requirements and cripples the nation’s solar and conservation programs.”

Unions endorsing the Labor Committee for Safe Energy and Full Employment are the ILWU, United Mine Workers, Auto Workers, Furniture Workers, Food and Commercial Workers, Machinists, Graphic Arts Union, International Chemical Workers, Woodworkers, Molders and Allied Workers, 1189 of the Hospital and Health Care Employees, and the National Football League Players Association.

“Potentially, we’ve got an incredible constituency out there,” said conference speaker, Anna Gyorgy, author of No Nukes! “People can understand the links between safe energy and full employment. They can see that the resources of this country are going into the arms race. We can use the money to take the money away from the military budget, put it into job programs and energy conservation, safely-mined, cleanly-burned coal, development of renewable energy. That’s our program.”

The handful of unions backing this program are admittedly the “safe energy wing of the labor movement,” and not representative of the bulk of organized labor. Yet, their purpose is “to increase the resolution of the problem. The President wants to continue with the nuclear program. It is important to mobilize the union movement to get involved.”

ILWU policy on nuclear energy

First drafted in 1979 after the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear power plant in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, and restated at last year’s convention, the ILWU’s policy statement on nuclear energy decries the “collusion between government and industry,” and calls for “increased public participation in decision-making on vital energy questions.”

The ILWU proposes that work on all nuclear reactors still under construction cease; that Congress reject all efforts to loosen current safety standards; that it appropriate funds for serious research on solar and other alternative forms of energy; and that permit issuance be conditioned upon safe waste storage. It would also end the “roots of waste disposal problem is tested and proven reliable.”

“The American people also need to know,” said the union’s resolution, “whether it is wise to leave the nation’s energy supply in the hands of a small number of vast corporations commandeering enormous financial and political power who have clearly put their own desire for quick and sure profits ahead of the public’s need for dependable, affordable and safe sources of energy.”

Even here there is growing concern about nuclear safety. The 1977 AEC-CID program, which encouraged waste disposal in underground storage, resulted in a major design error in the nuclear argument. The ILWU backs conference

DIABLO FOLLIES — Long opposed by environmental groups, the prospect of the opening of Pacific Gas and Electric’s Diablo Canyon nuclear reactor in San Luis Obispo, California, has once again prompted vigorous debate over the safety of nuclear energy. After mocking-loads of anti-nuke groups to force the issue, by early January, PG&E was forced last month to admit that one of its engineers had inadvertently discovered a major design error in Diablo’s earthquake bracing plans — an error that for four years had gone undetected by the company and by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission. An unprecedented investigation of the plant’s basic design flaws and problems is now in progress. To date, more than a dozen additional design flaws and problems in the $2.4 billion plant have been revealed.
Labor faces hard year of bargaining

SAN FRANCISCO—Organized labor is expected to face one of its most crucial tests at the bargaining table in 1982, as contracts covering 4.5 million workers in trucking, auto, rubber, electrical, petroleum, construction, and other key industries are scheduled to expire.

Due to the deepening recession and rising unemployment, management has already attained record wage and benefit reductions in many sectors. It's widely believed that workers will continue to be on the defensive, making moderate demands while fighting off takeaways.

"The economic breaks will clearly be on," said Audrey Freedman of the Conference Board, business-sponsored business research organization. "The coming year will be marked by wage freezes and reduced labor forces in many industries."

The Board predicted that first-year wage settlements would increase an average of 8.8% this year, compared with first-year rises of 11.5% from January through September of 1981.

"The key element in the bargaining area is the universal perception that business is flat and that this is not the time to press for extraordinary wage gains," said Conference Board member Robert Neylan.

For crippeling walkouts remain, especially among public employees who have long felt the squeeze of state and federal budget cuts.

MASTER PACTS
Master contracts, which contain provisions for workers on a nationwide basis, are especially vulnerable this year.

The trucking industry, for example, has been troubled not only by the weak economy, but by the onslaught of nonunion trucking operations since the deregulation of the industry. An estimated 117,000 Teamster jobs have been lost in the industry due to layoffs and shutdowns in the past few years. Many trucking firms are backing out of master contracts altogether, hoping to gain greater concessions on their own.

The fear of unemployment is likely to give management increased strength at the bargaining table in other industries as well. As many as 10 million Americans may be job hunting by next spring, the most since the Great Depression—and up 1.1 million since Ronald Reagan took office in January.

Reagan's dismissal of 12,000 striking air traffic controllers last summer is also expected to increase the determination of employers to resist unions at the bargaining table.

The traditional pattern-setting ability of master contracts in the automobile, steel and trucking industries is also being questioned this year. Some observers argue that any major agreement by the UAW, Steelworkers or Teamsters to stand still or take a step backward could trigger similar settlements throughout the nation.

SIGNIFICANCE
According to Business Week magazine, the upcoming bargaining round is the most significant since World War II, and "will change a system structured for fast growth and unlimited prosperity to bring
Ethylene Dihalomide (EDB) is a highly toxic fumigant which has been used on citrus fruits shipped into and out of California across the docks worked by ILWU longshoremen, clerk and warehouse workers who have reason to suspect a container has been exposed to EDB. EDB must be handled with great care. Any seafood placed in contact with EDB will not be received and that as to other cargo, the crew will not work in the area of EDB until an OSHA inspector has determined that EDB has left the area. Therefore, I am unable to grant your petition for an emergency temporary standard for EDB. Auchter rejected the California standards were not adequate in carrying out this profession-
al aim," said AFL-CIO Safety Director George Taylor. "Never before in its 11-
year history has OSHA issued such an un-
precedented and technical standard and
down to workers."

The guidelines are deficient in several respects: there is no review of the health
and medical surveillance; the range and duration of exposure are improper; there is no provision
for protective clothing; there is no suggestion
for exposure and medical monitoring; and
there is no suggestion that exposure areas
be posted to warn workers.

The guidelines and the advanced policy
of proposed rulemaking are insufficient ac-
tions on OSHA's part to protect workers
from the harmful effects of exposure to
EDB. OSHA should follow California's lead
and issue an emergency temporary stan-
dard for EDB.

On September 24, 1981, California's EDB
standard went into effect. The standard re-
quired the permissible exposure limit for
EDB to be 20,000 parts per billion to 130 ppb
in all industries excluding employers
sped on EDB at work. She stated, "Indus-
trial exposure to EDB is a grave danger.
At least in the minds of workers, EDB is a
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'Skipper' Dick Boyer honored

CROCKETT — A pre-holiday dinner turned into a surprise award ceremony for charter Local 6 member Richard Boyer. The 79-year-old former Trustee and Executive Board member received the George Mooney Award for Scouting. Boyer has served 59 years in scouting and is a Vice Commodore for Sea Explorers.

Helping in the ceremonies were several generations of unionists, including North Bay Business Agent Ron Moderna and retired BA August (Ham 'n Eggs) Hennes, along with Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Elbert Harr and a number of active and retired members.

Retired Local 6 Business Agent August Hennes, left, and current BA Ron Moderna (right) led program to honor Skipper Dick Boyer (center).

'Dick' noted that the location, the Bays Club, had been used as a base for anti-union vigilantes in the '30s, and for "smokers" for C & H Sugar executives.

This was "the first time in 4½ years" the retired union official had ever set foot in the waterfront dining room.

"Skipper" Boyer thanked his "family and friends in the union and in the community." ILWU Vice President George Martin was among those who successfully recommended Boyer for the award, only one of which can be given in each county each year.

WORLD CLASS RACER—Celeste Peterson, daughter of ILWU Local 18 member Duan Peterson, takes a jump with her wonder-dog, Zues, at the Cal-Expo Boat Show last year. At age 18, Celeste is a veteran on the professional jet-ski race circuit, and the only woman to race in the men's division. "They're pretty tough titles. There's a lot going against me. They're much stronger than I am, but then I'm lighter, so it evens out," she says.

AQ typifies what is best about the ILWU. "AQ" McElrath

During the same decade, she was a volunteer worker — assessing the damage incurred by union families in the April 1946 tidal wave on Maui and Hawaii. She was heavily involved in the 1946 sugar and 1949 longshore strikes as a volunteer — assisting in the setting up and training of welfare committees which helped members show eligibility for public assistance, school lunches, medical treatment, etc., and nutrition and sanitation of soup kitchens and food distribution.

CLAIMS STAFF

As a paid employee, on the union's medical claims staff in 1954, later as social worker in the membership service department, and most recently as administrative assistant, A.Q. represented the union on numerous public and private occasions.

AQ typifies what is best about the ILWU and about 142 in particular," said International President Jim Herman. "She cares about people and she spent her life helping them, and when she left it to work to make it better for the rest of us. Her loyalty, her commitment and abilities made a tremendous contribution to Local 142 and the entire union.

Don Wright remembered on behalf of the Executive Board and Membership of ILWU Local 588 in BC, Canada, we would like to express our deepest sympathy at the loss of Southern California Regional Director Don Wright.

A personal, condolentary message goes to his family and the whole of the ILWU.

P.S. What ever happened to the Libyan hit team anyway?

Polish workers

Will Ronald Reagan support the workers of America in the taking over of the means of production?

We have really gotten an education from this administration. They are telling us it is the right of the workers in Poland to take over.

I assume from this language we can do the same thing here. I think it's a great idea: one big Solidarity. After all, we have ten or twelve million unemployed people. I think this bill will be very pleased to get their jobs back.

I would never really have believed that this administration would be so pro-labor, but I guess they probably are feeling a little more powerful because of the war. It just goes to show these people really know. Robert (Skip) Melcher

LOCAL 19

P.S. What ever happened to the Libyan hit team anyway?

Navajo thanks

All the ILWU members who sent gifts to the 300 handicapped Navajo children at St. Michael's School in Arizona are thanked for making this a happy Christmas Season.

Also, thanks to Bruce Krieger, the welfare officer of Southern California Local 13 and Frank Longnecker of Local 13 in Wilmington.

Johnny Marks and his Navajos and the Navajo children send their good wishes and season's greetings for 1982 to everyone in the ILWU.

Johnny Marks

Local 13 (retired)

Keep those cards and letters coming

ROCHESTER, Wa.—Harvey Mott, a retired longshoreman from ILWU Local 24 in Federation, and Senator Henry Jackson to ask support in defense of the proposed legislative amendments to the Longshoremen and Harbor Workers' Acts. He received this reply:

"The sponsors of the legislation have stated that the principal purpose of the bill is to close loopholes in the law that have attracted organized crime to local unions and their members. . . . I intend to reserve judgment on this legislation until the Labor Committee has completed its consideration of the Nunn-Nickles bill and made its report to the Senate."

"It seems to me," writes Mott, "Senator Jackson is misinformed as to our Union and the Insurance Co., are now in the old field of Organized Crime as a red herring to gain their end in this vicious legislation against Organized Labor.

"Perhaps some letters from our Interna- torial Officers would help get some of Mr. Jackson's point of view headed in the right direction. Senator Jackson is up for re-election in '82 and is going to have all the help he can get from Labor and all concerned citizens if he is to retain his seat in the Senate."

Local 6 stewards council meeting set

SAN FRANCISCO — ILWU Warehouse Local 6 is starting up this important negotiating year of 1982 with a Stewart's Council meeting to be held Tuesday, January 12 at 7 p.m. in the Local 6 headquarters at 255 Ninth Street in San Francisco. All Local 6 houses are to be represented.
Pensioners toasted holidays, roasted Reaganomics

ILWU members and pensioners held Christmas parties up and down the coast last month and hurled holly-barbed shafts at Reaganomics. Harsh references to Reaganomics flew over the mike at the Columbia River Pensioners Memorial Association Christmas luncheon December 10—as they did at similar functions in Portland, Tacoma, Longview, Raymond, San Francisco and Oakland.

In Vancouver, the 150 old-timers and their wives and widows who showed up at the Quay Restaurant came not only to toast the holidays and roast Reagan, but to honor retiring CRMPA Secretary Ernest Baker and the surviving veterans of the founding 1934 strike, twenty-three of whom were present.

“We’ve got to do something about these politicians who are against poor people and the aged, and butting in all the time on strikes like PATCO’s—from the president on down,” said Baker.

RHINESTONE COWBOY

His sentiments were echoed by Martin Jugum, President of the Seattle Pensioners Club, who urged seniors to vote out “that Rhinestone Cowboy in the White House who wears $900 suits and tells us we have to have unemployment to bring inflation down.”

Typifying how the pensioners mixed politics with a sumptuous holiday meal, Jugum added that things weren’t all bad. “As a result of gains made in the last contract,” he said, “we were able to get our teeth fixed and enjoy the chow.”

CRMPA President Bob Coffey maintained order as Master of Ceremonies.

A festive buffet luncheon was also held for the pensioners in Tacoma on December 3, courtesy of ILWU Local 23. More than 100 people attended, and heard Local 23 pension club President Nick Engels roundly denounce Reagan’s administration and the low level of nursing home care in the area.

Good times also were had by some 80 old-timers in Longview, who enjoyed a holiday luncheon December 9. and by 40 retirees in Raymond, who got together for dinner December 16 and reminisced about the days when Raymond was a leading lumber port and theirs was the ILWU’s first chartered local. Roy Medros and Norman Mattson hosted the respective events.

ILWU Clerks’ Local 40’s 25th Annual Christmas dinner for its pensioners, wives and widows drew almost 90 people December 15. Following the food and speeches, the party-goers took time out to contribute to a fund for the widow and young children of the union’s Southern California Regional Director, Don Wright, who died suddenly of a heart attack December 1.

BAY AREA FESTIVITIES

San Francisco Local 6 Pensioner’s Club festivities were held at the Local 10 longshore hall view room on December 13. Club officers Joe Lynch, Charlie Kolb and John Gardner report a successful affair. Local 10 also threw a huge bash for the children of its members December 19. Santa George Kekai gave out candy to the hundreds of kids who attended, and Willie Zem and family coordinated the rib and hot dog lunch.

In Oakland, Local 6 pensioners celebrated the second revival of their annual holiday dinner at the union hall on December 15. Club officer Eugene Lasartemay chaired the gathering, which heard brief holiday comments from club officers Lou O’Connor, Bill Burke, Ted Kalouso, Bertha Schmidt, and Local 6 executive officers Keith Eckman and Leon Harris. Social Activities Committee chair Matt Vidmor conducted a raffle which gave winners a choice between wine, whiskey and Maalox.
Local 8, Portland

Members of this longshore locale have elected the following officials for 1982: president, Ray Lichtenwald; vice-president, Mike Young; secretary-treasurer, Frank Billeci; business agents, Eugene Ramirez and Glenn Birkett. Last month, the Executive Board elected Dave Kindred as the local's new director of Kelso operations.

The trustees are the following: Fred Matt, John Dorr, William T. Smith, Lyle McQuillen, and James Rainey of the PCPA executive board. The following officials, all elected last month, were PCPA vice president Frank Reichl and PCPA secretary-treasurer cement mixer, Bob Propel, who has no security on the job.

Local 26, Los Angeles

Williford Solomon was elected President of warehouse Local 26 last month, defeating incumbent Joie Baerha. He was re-elected secretary-treasurer. Incumbent Business Agents Luisa Guadalupe and Robert Hubbard were also re-elected. A run-off between incumbent BA Jesus Alvarez and challenger Charles Aragon will take place February 15.

Elected to the board of trustees were Harrison Washington, Robert L. Kasac, George J. Fajardo, Jeffrey J. Fiskon and Anastasias Margaronis. Members also elected a 29-member Executive Board.

Local 27, Port Angeles

Local 27 members last month re-elected Ron Lidster as president and Cliff Roche as vice-president. President/BA, Frank Cappelli; vice-president/assistant secretary-treasurer/warehouse local, John O'Brien; secretary-treasurer, Ron Lidster; business agents, Albert M. Ramos, Edward Sanchez, John Noceti; membership—Bruce Kuhn, John O'Brien, Dan Davis. Huff is also convention caucus delegates.

The following officers have been elected by members of ILWU Local 142 for 1982 and 1983: president, V. L. Toobey; secretary-treasurer/BA & dispatcher, Ray W. Erf; assistant secretary-treasurer/BA, Paul E. Talley. Frank Pratt is the sergeant at arms. Committee members are: Investigating—W. Puryear, C. Woods. Henry Reaves and W. L. Toobey; Labor—Hees Hysen, Nadine Martin, W. Puryear and John LePort. Caucus delegates are: V. L. Toobey and Gerald Huff are on the board of trustees. Joe Argento and Steve Gable will be convention caucus delegates.

San Francisco watchmen have elected the following officials for 1982 and 1983: president, William E. Kilgore; vice-president, V. L. Toobey; secretary-treasurer/BA & dispatcher, Ray W. Erf; assistant secretary-treasurer/BA, Paul E. Talley. Frank Pratt is the sergeant at arms. Committee members are: Investigating—W. Puryear, C. Woods. Henry Reaves and W. L. Toobey; Labor—Hees Hysen, Nadine Martin, W. Puryear and John LePort. Caucus delegates are: V. L. Toobey and Gerald Huff are on the board of trustees. Joe Argento and Steve Gable will be convention caucus delegates.

Local 91, San Francisco

This walking ball local elected their 1982 officials last month. President is Joseph Jimenez, vice-president, Joe Ames; secretary-treasurer, Eric Nelson; assistant secretary-treasurer, Ron Costilla; treasurer, Nelson Costilla is also the caucus delegate.

Joe Gottardi, Benny Hunter and Chet Huntington are the LRC management committee. All officials will be sworn-in January 13.

Local 142, Hawaii

The following officials have been elected by members of ILWU Local 142 for 1982 and 1983: president, V. L. Toobey; secretary-treasurer, Frank E. Reichl; dispatcher, Roy W. Erf; assistant secretary-treasurer/BA, Paul E. Talley. Frank Pratt is the sergeant at arms. Committee members are: Investigating—W. Puryear, C. Woods, Henry Reaves and W. L. Toobey; Labor—Hees Hysen, Nadine Martin, W. Puryear and John LePort. Caucus delegates are: V. L. Toobey and Gerald Huff are on the board of trustees. Joe Argento and Steve Gable will be convention caucus delegates.

Joe Gottardi, Benny Hunter and Chet Huntington are the LRC management committee. All officials will be sworn-in January 13.

Joe Ibarra is Southern California Regional Director

Do you know who workers don't make union wages? Who have no fringe benefits? Who have no security on the job? In other words, do you know who workers want to be organized into the ILWU? If so, please write or telephone information to one of the following. An ILWU staff member will be happy to help.

Northwest Regional Office

G. John Parks, Regional Director
405 N.W. 18th Ave.
Portland, Ore. 97209
Phone: (503) 223-1955

Seattle Area

John Bukovsky, International Representative
5501 - 4th Avenue, South.
Rm. 212
Seattle, Wash. 98108
Phone: (206) 726-6460

Southern CaliforniA Office

Joe Ibarra, Regional Director
25234 Framere P.O. Box 172
Port Harbor City, Calif. 90710
Phone: (213) 329-7774

Canadian Area Office

3681 E. Hastings St.
Vancouver, B. C.
Phone: (604) 354-8411

Northern Calif. Regional Office

1188 Franklin Street
San Francisco, Calif. 94109
Phone: (415) 775-0533
LeRoy King, Regional Director
Phone: Crockett Area: (415) 787-1717

Hawaii Office

Thomas Trask
Regional Director
511-11th Dr.
Honolulu, Hawaii 96814
Phone: (808) 494-4161

Portland coal facility wins labor support

The action was taken after Bill Frost, Port of Portland commission president and vice-chairman for the Marine Engineers Beneficial Association, approved the Local 142 council's executive board and said it is $2 a ton cheaper to bring coal from the Rocky Mountain area to Portland than to Astoria.

For a darker shade of green, you can support the ILWU's environmental initiatives through our many local halls and offices across the United States and Canada. We take pride in operating our facilities in an environmentally sustainable manner.

To learn more about the ILWU's commitment to the environment, visit our website or contact your local office. Let's work together to make a positive impact on our planet.
Oregon jobless called a calamity

SALEM—Unemployment lines are growing longer and longer as Oregonians turn to the state for help. Federal funding for unemployment of fice has been slashed. Eleven offices were closed or reduced last month, and four offices are to be closed in the near future. Office closures result in “slow checks” and long lines at the unemployment offices. People have to go further and further to get their checks. Thorne isn’t happy about it. The job picture in Oregon is “very bad,” he told The Disinpeater. “We’re paying out $7.4 million a week in benefits to now 70,000 people.” But many workers have exhausted their benefits. The total number of Oregon unemployed is 141,700.

Chest craft program for Labor Commission wins wide support

PORTLAND—Contributions to help fund the Plant Closures Project, 433 Jefferson Street, Oakland, CA 94607. 415-834-5656.

Plant closure conference draws labor, church, community delegates

LOS ANGELES — Over 350 people met here November 9-10 to attend the Western International Conference on Economic Dislocation. The conference brought together unions, religious groups, and community organizations for a three-day discussion of the problems facing displaced families and the epidemic of plant closings and layoffs now affecting California and the West Coast.

The conference was endorsed by the ILWU Southern California District Council, and Curtis Corkey and Earl Wagenman of the conference included the California and Oregon Federations of Labor, the International Woodworkers of America, the United Electrical Workers (UE), The Machinists, and the United Auto Workers. Trade unions from Mexico also participated.

According to California’s Employment Development Department (EDD), over 20,000 workers have lost their jobs in the past 36 months because of closings and layoffs. Workers in the auto, steel, lumber and rubber industries have been particularly hard hit. Mayor Shaw of Los Angeles included Forreston (1376) and Goodyear (1586). General Motors South Gate (3600). Southern Pacific River (3286) in the Los Angeles area. Mack Trucks in Hayward (2400). Goodyear (2000). Firestone in Salinas (1600) and Piper Aircraft in Santa Maria (1000).

The end is not in sight. General Elec- tric’s plant in Ontario, Ontario, Steel’s Fontana Works, and the Speckles Sugar Refinery in Salinas are scheduled to close within the next few months. And EDD officials recently told a legislative committee that “another wave of plant closings or major layoffs” is likely in the near future as the recession deepens.

Conferences delegates described the grim personal stories behind these statistics. Ralph Vargas, from the IWW Local 19 in Los Angeles, told of the shut down of the steel mill in North ern California. Twenty years ago, over 500 mills operated in the area. Today, only 20 mills remain. In many communities, unemployment is now over 50% and, in just two years, IWA has lost nearly oneско ИWA, has lost nearly one-

Dolores Howard, a member of UE Local 412 in Ontario, Ontario, reported on the turmoil the General Electric’s closure announcement caused. “We’re faced with workers over 50 with back injuries. Where are they going to find jobs?” What is going to hap- ten to our power to organize — every- one, he concludes.

The keynote speakers at the Conference re-emphasized the chaos caused by plant closures and argued the need for alterative policies. Barry Bluestone, of Boston College, stressed that plant closures are a “pervasive problem affecting all regions.” He said that this wave of plant closures is part of the general recession in certain industries (auto, steel and increas- ingly in micro-electronics), management’s strategy is to shift its capital to increase profits and put pressure on workers, Overstocking and lay fers.

COMMUNITY FREE

Bluestone noted that management now has the technology to be “community free.” The technology, based around the micro-process to threaten to eliminate jobs, degrade work- ing conditions, and further facilitate global production. A “technology hill of rights” is needed, Shasken argued, which will link the introduction of new technology to social and community concerns.

Other speakers from church groups and labor organizations of the need for a new economic social and legislative policies to deal with plant closures. Politici- ans for this fight came from state legislators Bill Greene and Maxine Waters and from the National Urban League.

After the main conference ended, a small group of about 100 workers met to develop plans for follow-up organization and action. The group decided to form a statewide steering committee composed of representatives from local action coalitions and California from the bor- der area. In six months, this group will develop proposals for a formal statewide organization.

The Western Conference on Economic Dislocation may be contacted, c/o Church and Social Justice, 3900 Alhura Street, Los An- geles, CA 90032. In the Bay Area, contact the Plant Closures Project, 413 Jefferson Street, Oakland, CA 94607, 415-643-6562.

Local 20-A names alcoholism reps

WILMINGTON—In an attempt to trans- form an inefficiencies into a major as- sistance plan into a viable labor-manage- ment alcoholism program, ILWU Chemical Workers Local 20-A President Raymond C. Stephens has appointed three specially trained members as alcoholism coordina- tors for the local.

The three are Jesse Marquez, Bob Mil- ler, and Joe Jalomo, Sr. All are trained to offer personal and family counseling, referral and other services—all on a confidential basis.

San Diego dockers load cotton cargo

SAN DIEGO—For the first time in 10 years, the Port of San Diego is moving a significant amount of cotton cargo.

Hohenberg Brokers of Fresno, is shipping a quarter of a million bales of Ari- zona long staple cotton through San Di- ego to the People’s Republic of China.

“Some ships are coming in every 15 days, others less frequently,” says Long Beach Community. “There’s a real breakthrough for the waterfront here.”

The cotton is being loaded at the port, and the first vessel of Kerr Steam- tug, owners, was canvas being, etc. arrived at San Diego early in January, William Garrett, marine operations manager of the port, said the hope is to unit- take a average of 25,000 to 30,000 bales of cotton per month.

The cotton making up these shipments was grown in the area of Gila Bend, Yuma, and Imperial Valley, California. Garrett added there is a possibility of some export business from other ports, which will be handled by marine terminals. That could extend the cotton shipping period in the port by several months, he said.

Marine Terminals Corp, is the San Diego stevedoring company responsible for loading the cotton for China aboard the Kerr vessels.

Social Security tax to edge up in 1982

Both the social security tax rate and the maximum earnings subject to the tax will go up in 1982. Workers will be affected only by the change in the tax rate, which will raise the amount of earnings subject to the tax from 65.6% of covered earnings to 4.7%. A worker earning $30,000 a year will pay only $10 a year more as a result of the rate—tax—of a total of $1,340 in increased tax payments.

On the other hand, workers who earn more than $25,000—which was the $480 ceiling on the tax in 1981—will be affected by the tax—tax—of the tax rate—a rate of 65.6% of covered earnings to 4.7%. A worker earning $30,000 a year will pay only $10 a year more as a result of the rate—tax—of a total of $1,340 in increased tax payments.

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He can’t do it with mirrors

No matter how many snappy one-liners the President comes up with, the US economy continues to come unglued. Last week’s announcement that unemployment has hit 8.9% with no relief in sight must surely be taken as conclusive evidence of the collapse of “Reaganomics.”

A year ago, the newly-installed Reagan administration told the American people that they could have it all, painlessly. Wholesale destruction of social programs, massive military spending, and a tax bonanza for the wealthy, we were told, would reduce inflation, enhance national security and promote the creation of new jobs. Let business do its thing and all would be well. There might be some temporary dislocation at the bottom of the heap, but the essential “safety net” would be secured.

Today, that program is in a shambles. Where the administration once predicted economic growth of 4.2% for 1981, the latest estimate is for zero growth. The recovery that was to blossom last month is now “put off” until next fall. The prediction of a 7.2% unemployment rate is laughable -- the chairman of the Bank of America predicts double-digit joblessness for 1982. The campaign promise of a balanced budget is now only a generalized “goal,” and the outlook now is for a federal deficit in the neighborhood of $100 billion for this fiscal year. The Reagan “supply-side” tax cut, lopsidedly partial to corporate interests and to the very wealthy, has failed to stimulate productive new investment. In other words, after less than a year’s trial, the President’s supposedly revolutionary economic program stands exposed as nothing more than an attempt to slow down inflation by laying on the economy the dead weight of recession and high unemployment. It didn’t work under Herbert Hoover, there’s no reason to think it will now.

That’s why it’s increasingly important for every member of the ILWU to make their contribution to the International Political Action Fund. This voluntary contribution, authorized by the delegates to the union’s 24th Biennial Convention last April, will permit the union to play a much stronger political role. With a few dollars to spend in the right places, working together with other unions and community groups we can begin looking towards the critical 1982 Congressional election and the return of common sense and compassion to the nation’s capital.