Social Security

Controversy on pension compromise

WASHINGTON — Under the 11th-hour compromise reached last month by President Reagan’s bipartisan Commission on Social Security Reform, workers, employers and retirees all will share the burden of “reforming” the nation’s retirement system.

Nearly everyone’s pocketbook will be touched by the proposed reforms. The nation’s 116 million workers, their bosses and nearly nine million self-employed will have to pay steeper payroll taxes. Cost-of-living boosts will be delayed for 36 million retirees, their survivors and the disabled.

About three million pensioners with “higher incomes” will have to pay taxes on one-half of their benefits. Newly hired federal employees will have to join the Social Security system along with workers for nonprofit organizations.

And, for the first time, billions of dollars from the general Treasury will be infused into the Social Security system, through income-tax credits and other measures.

MARATHON NEGOTIATIONS

The bipartisan commission arrived at their consensus by a 12-to-3 vote January 15, after a series of marathon negotiations which involved White House staff and Democratic congressional leaders. The commission had been deadlocked for almost the entire year of its existence.

Its recommendations would raise an estimated $168 billion in revenues over the next seven years, which should meet all foreseeable funding needs for the near future and erase most of a projected long-term deficit.

Commission members were unanimous in turning down proposals for such drastic changes as making social security participation voluntary, imposing a needs test for benefits, or linking the level of benefits more rigidly to payroll contributions made during a working career.

“Congress, in its deliberations on financing proposals, should not alter the fundamental structure of the social security program or undermine its fundamental principles,” the commission insisted.

Nevertheless, the changes that were proposed have already created a certain degree of backlash of opposition. Business, labor, and senior groups have pledged to fight aspects of the compromise which are particularly objectionable to their membership.

—Continued on Page 4

Tentative pacts in sugar, pine

HONOLULU—As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, Local 142 negotiators have reached tentative agreements covering workers in both the sugar and pineapple industries.

The agreements were reached February 1. The full negotiating committees in both industries will meet to discuss the packages during the week of February 7, and to set up schedules for rank-and-file ratification meetings. Details of the agreements will be released to the public after the vote.

Lou Goldblatt 1910-1983

“There are few members of the ILWU, few workers anywhere on the West Coast or in Hawaii, who have not benefitted in some measure from Lou Goldblatt’s total devotion to the cause of working people, and the abilities he brought to bear on their behalf.”

—statement by ILWU International officers

Please turn to pages 6-7
Lou Goldblatt's legacy

There's a lot of the ILWU wrapped up in Lou Goldblatt's life. For 40 years he played a leading role in virtually every move this union made. His unconquerable spirit for social and economic justice shaped the ILWU and gave it a unique place in the ranks of American labor. His death is a loss not only to those of us who were fortunate enough to enjoy his friendship, and to the labor movement as a whole.

Lou was basically a dreamer, a radical and a socialist. He understood rather well how the American economic and social system operated. He worked to change the system with considerable skill on behalf of the people he represented. But he never accepted its routine brutalities as part of the permanent order of things.

Lou had guts. He stood up to armored goons in Crockett in 1938. He stood up, almost alone, for Japanese-Americans who were unjustly confined after Pearl Harbor. He stood up against all forms of discrimination, particularly in the labor movement, in a time when racial assimilation were unquestioned by most Americans. He stood up in defense of civil liberties when they were under attack, fearlessly exposing himself to the smears of the red-bustiong Congressional committees.

CHANGED LABOR RELATIONS
Lou had imagination. The vision of the March Inland, which he shared with other Local 6 members in the mid-thirties, fundamentally altered the shape of labor relations on this coast.

He could see the potential in the organization of Hawaii's agricultural labor force. He could see the potential in the organization of Hawaii's agricultural labor force. He could see the potential in the organization of Hawaii's agricultural labor force. He could see the potential in the organization of Hawaii's agricultural labor force. He could see the potential in the organization of Hawaii's agricultural labor force. He could see the potential in the organization of Hawaii's agricultural labor force.
Ferry Workers need help in drive to win back rights

SEATTLE — Washington State Ferry system workers have reached a critical point in their struggle to win back collective bargaining rights, that will enable them to bargain for wages, hours and conditions.

The vote was 20-to-7 for the ILWU, the bargaining unit at the International office, no later than March 21. Resolutions should also arrive at the Convention body. Aside from making policy decisions on all International Executive Board positions.

In order to send delegates with voice and vote, locals must have their International per capita paid up one month prior to the Convention. Representation is on the basis of one vote for each local with a membership of 100, and one additional vote for each 100 paid-up members.

The credentials should arrive at International Headquarters no later than March 21. Resolutions should also arrive at the International office no later than March 21.

Local 6

Touch talks, solid pact at Pfizer Chemical

EMERYVILLE — ILWU Local 6 members at Pfizer Chemical ratified a three-year contract January 15 by a vote of 48-to-1. Reports Chief Steward Leroy McGill, key improvements are a $3.50 per hour increase over the life of the contract, wage escalator, and a continuous work-week schedule.

Also secured were full maintenance of health and welfare coverage, grievance procedure language and clarification of seniority protection.

Takeaways

"It was a very difficult set of negotiations in which we tried to position ourselves in a position that the economic climate would not allow it to be bordered by the significant wage demands and operational restraints that the union sought," said McGill. In fact, the major takeaways--deterioration of seniority protection, refusal to maintain full Health & Welfare, and a continuous work-week schedule plant-wide--remained on the table until the very last meeting, which finally concluded at 4:40 a.m. January 15 with the proposed settlement.

Also included in negotiations, pointed out McGill, were the four-month strike against the employer's refusal to accept the first proposal of the four months. The State Senate is considering legislation embodying the main features of the Blue Ribbon Commission's proposal. The bill also contains amendments which would incorporate hiring hall provisions, union security agreements and记住 these matters.

"We're reasonably optimistic about the Senate, but we'll have a tougher time in the House," said Hatch. "There are a few leavers who really have it in for the IBU and the other ferry unions and they'll use every parliamentary trick they can to frustrate the majority by a vote of 40-to-3. We'll need all the help we can get to pass this bill with a good vote, but not this thing behind us once and for all."
Impasse reached in Local 78 cotton oil bargaining

PRESNO — ILWU members in the central California cottonseed oil industry have run into a stone wall in their efforts to negotiate new contracts, and suspect employers of attempting to destroy their union altogether.

“The cotton industry is depressed,” says Local 78 Business Agent Deaton. “But they have not pleaded poverty. They are simply trying to take advantage of the current market conditions to get as much as they can out of our hands. They have put us in a set of absolutely unacceptable demands. They have ignored our efforts to compromise.”

Ranchers, which employs over 300 members of Local 78, and which has traditionally set the pace in the valley cottonseed oil bargaining, has placed on the table a series of terms including:

• classification “adjustments” which could cost some workers as much as $5 per hour;
• deletion of cost-of-living language from the contract;
• no retroactivity — the “current” contract expired January 15;
• a safety program which would impose discipline on the workers for not reporting it, but not on management personnel — despite agreement in 1980 that any safety program adopted would impose penalties and discipline impartially;
• 90 days probation for seasonal workers. It essentially eliminates poverty. They are simply trying to take advantage of the current market conditions to get as much as they can out of our hands. They have put us in a set of absolutely unacceptable demands. They have ignored our efforts to compromise.”

Ranchers last month declared that negotiations had reached an impasse and put its final offer into effect. Ranchers reached a tremendous test for the local,” said Deaton. “Our strategy is to keep united, keep the units intact and be ready to make a move at the appropriate time. The membership at Ranchers is fully behind the administration and has already rejected the company’s final offer and have demonstrated tremendous unity.”

COMPRESSES

The bargaining situation in the valley’s Fresno and Bakersfield cotton compresses is nowhere near as critical as that in Presno. Compresses have won wage increases of 9% over term, with improvements in sick leave, dental, pensions and other fringe benefits.

At Calico Compress, in Bakersfield, Local 26 negotiated a three-year contract. Wage adjustments are similar to those negotiated elsewhere, with an additional 7.5% increase in the third year.

The Local 26 negotiations were negotiated by Business Agent Jesus Alvarez, with Richard Salazar and Jesse Salazar at Calico, Ken Shemonski, David Kirkland, Rufus Biggs, Jr., and Robert Ruiz at Calico.

The Local 78 negotiating committees consisted of:

• Joe Martinez, chairman, and Alvarado and Rivas.
• Willie Midicot (Calict/Rainford); Armado Sanchez (Calcol/Pinedale); Joe Martinez (Anderson-Clayton); Manuel Galdio (Promex).

 Cooperation

Continued from Page 1

Spokesmen for the National Federation of Independent Businessmen, which represents nearly half-a-million small firms, say their members “can’t afford an exist-ence” and cannot afford additional payroll taxes.

The American Postal Workers Union and the American Federation of Government Employees, whose members will be forced to join Social Security instead of a group retirement plan, will spend millions fighting the compromise.

SELL-OUT

Senior groups in opposition include the American Association of Retired Persons, the National Council of Senior Citizens and the Grey Panthers. In addition, the ILWU Local 6 Pensioners Club unanimously opposed the compromise at a meeting January 27, and sent a letter to Speaker of the House Tip O’Neill calling him a “sell-out of the poor.”

“The Democrats have no business compromising anything before we get into a fight,” said Secretary Joe Lynch.

Neither Tip O’Neill nor President Reagan were overjoyed with the final compromise plan. The new members will be forced to join Social Security instead of a group retirement plan.

The commission’s difficult task since its creation in 1981 had been to develop a package of revenue increases and benefit reductions that would result in Social Security’s problems for the next 75 years,” he said, “and one that had the least adverse impact on Social Security’s fiscal burden because of avoiding a bitter and probably unproductive fight in Congress.

“We like Pepper. He’s done the best he can, but it’s not enough,” said Bob Rohack, president of the ILWU Local 6 Pensioners Club. AFL-CIO President Lane Kirkland, also a commission member, joined in the con-cerred report, but took exception to the recommendation that would bring future federal employees under social security.

The following is a closer look at the package’s components and how they will affect workers and retirees, if Congress goes along:

Payroll Taxes: Workers and their em-ployers will pay higher taxes than they would under current law in 1984, 1988 and 1989. For a $20,000-employee, taxes would rise an average of $5w a week through 1990. Employers will match em-ployees’ payroll-tax payments. In all, the additional taxes paid by Social Security coffers by $40 billion over seven years.

Technically, most of these tax increases are not new. Rather, they represent an acceleration of levy boosts already sched-dled under current law to soften the blow. Congress would give work- ers a “refundable” tax credit, for 1984 and 1985.

The estimated 15 percent of the 4.5 million workers who would be affected by the new tax would pay up to $150 billion and $300 billion, the amount needed by the retirement fund between now and 1989. The fund is running in the red because it is distributing more in benefits than it collects in taxes.

The consensus recommendations were supported by the commission members who most clearly aligned with the labor-supported campaign to stave off social security cut-backs sought by the Reagan Administra-

Labor acts on toxic waste

SAN JOSE—The Santa Clara County Cen-tral Labor Council, in cooperation with a coalition of environmental groups, is pushing hard for model legislation to control toxic waste dumping by high-tech com-panies in the valley.

“Everyone thinks high-tech — computer manufacturing, etc. — is the answer to our environmental problems,” said Labor Council Business Manager Peter Cervantes-Gutierrez.

A coalition of these companies here have caused 39 major chemical spills into the ground water, which create serious haz-ards for all workers who work in and around the area and the whole community. We’ve got to have some controls.

See February Dispatch for feature ar-ticle on toxic wastes.

Martin Luther King remembered

ILWU members were among thou-sands of people who joined in demonstrations in Oakland and Los Angeles January 15 in honor of the birth-day of the late civil rights leader, Rev Martin Luther King, Jr.

More than 5,000 demonstrators in Los Angeles heard a number of speakers em-phazize the connection between Rev King’s work for civil rights and the need for prompt action to end the nation’s unemployment crisis. When one speaker asked everyone out of work to raise a hand, nearly half the crowd shot theirs into the air.

The LA march also celebrated the re-naming of a long stretch of Santa Bar-bar Avenue in honor of Rev King.

OAKLAND MARCH

Some 7,000 people participated in Oakland, with the largest contingents representing organized labor. The Oakland rally was endorsed by the ILWU North- ern California District Council and area local. Speakers included AFL-CIO Labor Council Secretary Dick Gross, Rep. Ron Dellums and Wilson Rifles, Jr.
Longshoring Down Under: A study in contrasts

by PHIL LELLI
Local 23, Tacoma

In 1959, the ILWU membership voted to establish a permanent fund solely for sending rank and file delegates overseas or to places in the United States, or inviting delegations from abroad. Since then, ILWU rank-and-file ambassadors have traversed the globe to see for themselves how working people throughout the world are living. The delegates, chosen by the International Executive Board, also have a mandate to understand what the problems of labor are in various countries, and what trade unionists are thinking, demanding and fighting for. In accordance with this idea, I, Phil Lelli, Local 23 in Tacoma traveled to New Zealand and Australia last fall. The following is his report.

I left San Francisco October 14 and arrived in Auckland the next day. This is when the New Zealand hospital started, and did not stop until I left the country. I was met at the airport by Jim Hewitt, vice-president of the Auckland Waterside Workers Union. He drove me to his place and put me on a plane to Wellington. Joe Harkness, the union’s assistant general secretary, met me there. After checking in at a hotel, we toured the Wellington waterfront.

The first terminal I saw was mostly for passenger traffic; very little freight. But the longshoremen, or “wharfies,” as they are called, did all the necessary work. The operation was well manned.

The next port I visited was a container terminal. It was run quite differently than those here. The workers are known by their name not their number. They work about every 18 weeks. All are members of the Waterside Workers Union, except the crane drivers, who work for the waterfront commission and have their own union. The wharfies have very good working conditions and the finishing rule is, if you are 10 minutes late you could dream of, much better than ours. There is no arbitration on the subject; the employer just makes it safe or nobody works.

DIFFERENT WAGE SCALES

The wharfies’ wage scales are also much different than here. The basic wage in the New Zealand shoreside is $7.50. This seems to be easier to live with than our wide differences in wages for any worker in New Zealand. A waitress, for example, earns $5 per hour and plumber $23.00 per year for the average 23 hours per week. There are no arbitrators. The delegates were very courteous to one another and did not use foul language. No one raised their voices or got out of line. There were many social events, such as dinners, dances, andkeeping in contact about any work opportunity and friends and will keep in contact with them.

I arrived in Sydney on November 2 and missed the organizer that the Australian National Union had sent to meet me. Tas Bull is his name. He entertained me later at my hotel and we made arrangements to meet the following evening.

The next morning I took a boat tour of the waterfront. The Sydney Harbor is big, like San Francisco and Oakland, and has a great deal of waterfront activity. The most striking area is near the opera house, a breathtakingly beautifulSydney Harbor. The location of the port’s oldest docks and first container piers. The newer ones are located about eight miles south across town in an area called Botany Bay. There are 1,960 longshoremen working in the area and they handle about nine million tons of cargo. Tas Bull picked me up about 7 p.m. and took me to meet Charlie Fitzgibbons, general secretary of the union, and his national officers. I also met the head of the Sydney longshoremen and representatives of the ship clerks. I spent five hours talking to the group about these wages, safety, productivity and all areas are in voice and video contact, including the moving equipment. All containers are unloaded once, where longshoremen from all over the country are sent.

In order to keep the men happy and on the job when there is no work, the employer provides a complete recreational facility—tennis courts, TV room, cafeteria, pool and ping pong tables, gym, weight room, and photo dark room. A swimming pool is under construction. The atmosphere is refined than our longshore caucuses. The delegates were very courteous to one another and did not use foul language. No one raised their voices or got out of line. Many social events were held, such as dinners, dances, and there is no work, the employer provides a complete recreational facility—tennis courts, TV room, cafeteria, pool and ping pong tables, gym, weight room, and photo dark room. A swimming pool is under construction. The atmosphere is refined than our longshore caucuses. The delegates were very courteous to one another and did not use foul language. No one raised their voices or got out of line. Many social events were held, such as dinners, dances, and the employer borrows from other stevedores. There are no B-men or outsiders hired. If all the longshoremen are busy, the jobs wait. I wish our system were like this.

From here I went to a container dock called the Container Terminal of Australia. The terminal is over 100 years old and every man there except the superintendents are union members. The dock is completely equipped with computers, and all areas are in voice and video contact, including the moving equipment. All containers are unloaded once, and not taken off the docks. Safety rules are much stronger in Australia than in the US. There is a large training center in Melbourne where longshoremen from all over the country are sent.

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Speaking at San Francisco Civic Center rally during 1936 warehouse strike.

January, 1939, Goldblatt walked next to Tom Mooney (arm upraised) in parade honoring the labor martyr's release after 20 years in prison.

Lou Goldblatt's life

San Francisco longshore president Harry Bridges was appointed Pacific Coast Director of the CIO, and Goldblatt designated its Northern California Director. He brought to the job not just his considerable intellectual skills, but an immense physical courage. In 1938, for example, Goldblatt spearheaded a march of 750 ILWU and CIO men in Crockett, California, to re-take a picket line which had been violently smashed the night before by armed "goons" affiliated with the rival AFL.

WAR HYSTERIA

That same year, at the first California CIO convention, Goldblatt was elected state secretary and head of Labor's Non-partisan League, the CIO's political arm. Using this platform in 1942, just after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Goldblatt stood alone in denouncing before a Congressional committee the internment of all Japanese Americans on the West Coast.

We have lost a great and visionary leader

It's impossible to imagine the history of the ILWU, or of any other union on the coast or in Hawaii, without Lou's contributions.

Lou was first of all a visionary. He brought to the labor movement a concern with broad questions of social justice which stretched our imaginations and gave deeper meaning to our day-to-day operations.

He will be remembered in the ILWU as a superb organizer, tactician and negotiator. He was among the architects of the "March Island", the great CIO organizing drive which brought democratic, militant unionism to warehouses and distribution facilities throughout the San Francisco Bay Area, and in Los Angeles. He was among the leaders of the organization of agricultural and tourism workers in Hawaii, and in the whole process of breaking the racist and colonial mold of life on the islands.

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Indeed, there are few members of the ILWU, few workers anywhere on the West Coast or in Hawaii, who have not benefited in some measure from Lou Goldblatt's total devotion to the cause of working people, and the abilities he brought to bear on their behalf.

Of the many achievements in Goldblatt's career, three stand out: the "March Island" organizing drive of 1938, which saw thousands of California warehouse workers join forces with the newly organized longshoremen, the unionization of agricultural workers in Hawaii in the 1940s, which ended years of feudalistic subservience to the growers, and the "Big Five" plantation owners; and the forging of a warehouse alliance between the ILWU and the Teamsters in 1960, which ended years of disputes over union turf.

Goldblatt's brand of trade unionism was also distinguished by deep concern with the racial issues of the day. In 1936, he helped usher in the era of longshore unionism when he showed the way to organizing Japanese American and Filipino longshoremen. He was among the leaders of the organization of agricultural and tourism workers in Hawaii, and in the whole process of breaking the racist and colonial mold of life on the islands.

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In labor movement

"This entire episode of hysteria and mob-chant against the native-born Japa-
ese will form a dark page of American history," he testified. "It may well ap-
ppear as one of the great victories won by the Axis power."

Goldblatt's stance against this form of racism did not go unnoticed by the racial-
ly-diverse work force then beginning to organize. He worked closely with ILWU organizer Jack Hall, Goldblatt went on to devise an industry-wide, in-firm-wide strategy for breaking the economic stran-
glehold of the small knot of white land-
owners known as the Big Five.

When you started studying the econ-
omic structure, the one thing that became apparent was that when you are going
after shipping only, it was like trying to
throw a bull by grabbing hold of a pimple
on his tail," recalled Goldblatt. "We
reached the conclusion that we had to
tackle sugar, still the number one industry
as far as the Big Five were concerned."
He continued throughout his career to
serve as head negotiator for major ILWU
contracts in Hawaii, particularly those
covering sugar and pineapple workers.

In 1942, Goldblatt resigned his CIO posts
to become an international representative
of the ILWU. He was sent to Chicago to
organize paper and scrap metal workers,
and then on to New York and Washington, DC, where he helped author a report to
the War Shipping Administration on ex-
pediting military cargo.

He returned to San Francisco in 1943 to
fill in the term of ILWU Secretary-Treas-
urer Gene Paton, who had joined the army.
Later that year Goldblatt was elected out-
right, and continually re-elected until his
retirement in 1977.

RED-BAITED

Always a target for red-haters, Gold-
blatt and the ILWU came under heavy
fire during the post-war years. By 1950,
the ILWU and several other unions
were cast off from the CIO, charged with
being Communist dominated. Later on,
Goldblatt himself was hauled before the
House UnAmerican Activities Committee,
the Eastland Committee and others. He
battled with skill and wit against their
accusations and escaped indictment:

Prosecutor: "Mr. Goldblatt, can you tell
us how many Communists there are in
the ILWU?"

Goldblatt: "Let me explain, counsel, that
we have a constitution which prohibits dis-
crimination because of race, creed, color,
or political belief. We don't conduct a poli-
tical saliva test before a person becomes
a member. The employers hire people; we
only organize them.

TEAMSTERS ALLIANCE

The conclusion of years of rivalry be-
 tween the ILWU and the Teamsters in the
Northern California warehouse industry
remains as another monument to Gold-
blatt's achievements in the labor move-
movement. Rivalry between the two unions
had served as a brake on progress ever since
the late 30s. It had become particularly
serious in the early 50s, and Goldblatt be-
came one of the key figures in an effort
to end this destructive competition. These
efforts finally led to the creation of the ILWU-IBT Northern California Warehouse
Council, which brought the ILWU and
Teamsters together.

The ILWU and Teamsters agreed to
settle negotiations on behalf of some 20,000
warehouse workers in the region.

Gurley Goldblatt, the ILWU's former
chairman of the Council, along with Teamster Vice-Presi-
dent William E. Smith, hounded the
negotiations on behalf of some 20,000 ware-
house workers under the ILWU-IBT Northern California Warehouse
Council, which held its first meeting in
1956.

This led to the creation of the ILWU-
IBT Northern California Warehouse
Council, which brought the ILWU and
Teamsters together.

"We had certainly made some progress
in the '40s and '50s, remembers Curt Mc-
Clain, who succeeded Goldblatt both as
ILWU Secretary-Treasurer and Warehouse
Council co-chairman, but those gains were
swamped by what we were able to do when
we got together. The creation of the Ware-
house Council was the most lasting contributions."
**Grateful Ecuador seamen head home with victory**

**VICTORY PACKAGE**

Interests of the Ecuadorian company have been transformed — from strike to investment. The victory package included severance pay, back pay and a wage increase. The union says it will make one more trip to the United States before leaving the ship, Barbanist said: "but did not know if Longview would be a port of call."

A letter addressed to Banister and painfully spelled out in English—a language the seamen learned since the vessel docked here last August—read as follows:

"Dear Mel: We want to thank everyone for consideration and all your help, during our strike of five months. Ciudad de Mana, Your help was very helpful to support our right to this victory that we have now. We want to add to the chairman that the Ecuadorian authorities finally gave us what the justice were we asking for, a triumph, the victory we have obtained in behalf of our families and then the union.

"We all say again thanks, thanks and many thanks. We will remember all of you in ILWU Local 21.

The letter was signed by Fausto Recalde, the ship's delegate, and a crew member, Victor Chiluiza.

"It's hard to believe it's all over," said Banister, who admitted he was was embarrassed, with visions of seamen in their seaweas and warm in their hearts for ILWU members who fed and sustained them during a long struggle.

Local 21 President Mel Banister said word of the strike's end was in time to arrive on a celebration event.

We said our goodbyes here in the Hall the day before leaving.

"We will remember all of you!"

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**SHEET METAL WORKERS**

**Mortgage aid rushed to union members**

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Sheet Metal Workers Union, with thousands of its members facing foreclosures, losing their homes and in danger of being foreclosed, is organizing to provide mortgage aid to workers subjected to periods of unemployment. The program will be made through a trust fund that will be assisted by special payments.

"The economic policies of the Reagan administration have created tremendous suffering among working families," Carrough said.

"In our industry unemployment is 19 percent. Thousands of our members are facing economic ruin. Many are now facing foreclosures, losing their homes and cars. Something had to be done."

**SPECIAL TRUST**

Carrough said these special payments will be made through a trust fund that was set up by labor and management to stabilize the industry's earnings and employment through such means as supplemental jobless benefits.

"As far as we know, no other union is providing this benefit," Carrough said. "It is financed by a 3 percent employer contribution to the supplemental trust fund."

About 40,000 sheet metal workers are covered by the trust fund, and 15,000 are unemployed and potentially eligible for help. Carrough said the fund now has $1 million. The plan has been used primarily to provide basic unemployment benefits for workers awaiting new employment.

"I do not know how many workers are facing foreclosures — we expect to find out soon — and that the program will go into effect February 1.

The unemployed sheet metal worker receiving the benefit would not have to pay back the money, the union leader said. The funds would be replenished when the union member returns to the job and employer contributions begin again, or when new workers are hired, he added.

**DETROIT** — United Auto Workers members late last year overwhelmingly ratified the new six-month contracts providing some 50,000 U.S. Chrysler Corporation employees with their first wage raise in nearly two years, an initial increase averaging $7.56 per hour.

A five-week strike by about 9,600 Canadian UAW members against Chrysler ended with ratification of a new 13-month contract providing an initial increase of $3.35 an hour. Canadian workers received the more than U.S. workers because the rate of inflation in Canada is higher than in this country.

Some 6,000 production workers, 1,500 parts depot workers, 3,500 engineers, and 1,750 clerical workers are covered by the agreement.

The UAW-Chrysler negotiations 75c raise

**5 weeks on the bricks in Canada**

**UAW-Chrysler negotiate 75c raise**

**UNION SAYS UNFAIR TO CANADIAN UNION MEMBERS**

**SALE** — A cancer research center in Seattle is seeking compensation for losses from the settlement negotiations filed charges against its employer last week, threatening to cut back the hours of a union member on the bargaining team.

The Hutchinson Center Staff Association filed the unfair labor practice charge with the Seattle regional office of the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) on January 10, claiming that the proposed cutback in the hours of activity of one of its members by the university constituted an unfair labor practice.

In its union claims this is the third time the center has tried to oust Noble, and that the funding shortage is just the latest of several employer attempts to cut back the hours of an NLRB-appointed member of the university union.

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The center increased to as many as 300 per week. The Labor Council runs a counseling center, which is part of the Labor Council's Unemployment Assistance Program and which involved soliciting contributions, buying groceries, and lining up pickups to deliver them to the shipside.

**WATERFRONT CARRIED THE LOAD**

Other unions were sympathetic, but so many plants are doing this that it is difficult for the Labor Council to do much more than extend its services to everyone involved in organizing the unemployed."

"So George Brownson, the chairman of the Vancouver and District Labor Council Unemployed Committee, told the press at the Labor Council offices January 10, said the Labor Council in the near future will try to help everyone that calls, union members or not."

The Labor Council assists the unemployed into an active visible force to fight against layoffs, keep up the morale of the unemployed and to demand job creation by the Provincial and Federal Governments, as well as to provide assistance to unemployed workers in the short-term need of people out of work.

In New Westminster meanwhile, the Labor Council's unemployed committee has launched a foodbank, giving out free groceries to those in need. By early January the foodbank had given out 1,800 free bags of groceries.

**DONATIONS**

With an average value of $30 per bag, that's over $55,000 worth of food, which the Labor Council received through donations from a number of unions and their members, including the Pacific Telecommunications Workers, CUPE, and Carpenters. The Labor Council has also received a number of donations from stores and private individuals.

The Labor Council also runs a counseling center, which is part of the Labor Council's Unemployment Assistance Program and which involved soliciting contributions, buying groceries, and lining up pickups to deliver them to the shipside.

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Navajo children
Greetings from Navajo Land. The Navajo children at St. Michael’s School in Arizona for the Handicapped Navajo children send their thanks and blessings to all the members of ILWU and to Lou Lavarski, president, and Bruce Krieger, Welfare Director as well as Frank Long- necker of Local 13. They also thank all the other Navajo children that made this a Happy Christmas season for more than 400 Navajo children. We send our good wishes to all the ILWU for a Happy New Year.
Mr. and Mrs. John Marks (Retired)
Local 13

Reaganomics failure
Hopefully there are not too many of us feeling secure over the failure of "Reaganomics."
I believe the real goals of the Reagan administration have been realized. The dismantling of most of the worldwide social services; followed by massive unemployment, so that the unemployed have absolutely no "safety net" except for maybe "government cheese" (which is American foodstuffs).
Once again we see worker competing against worker for a job--any kind of job--for any kind of wage; added to this the competition is on an international scale.
The rights and dignity of labor were fought for as if it were a game of chuck-a-luck.

Local union elections
Local 2, San Francisco
Members of shipbuilders Local 2 elected Bob Edwards, president; business agent and Charlie Harmon, vice president. The executive board members are Raymond Lake, Annie Coleman, Lee Willis, Robin-ette Bridges, Cleveland Valrey, Charlie Brown, Nathaniel Stanford and Paul Ortis. Trustees are Louise Dus- makke, Raymond Lake, Robin Bridges, N. Starra and Lee Willis. The sergeants-at- arms are L. Garcia, Lee Willis and Ray- mond Lake. Edwards is also the conven- tion delegate. All persons are elected to 3-year terms.
All members are urged to attend the installation party on Monday, February 14 (Valentine’s Day) at the union hall, starting at 7 p.m. The menu will consist of homestyle fried chicken, potato salad, green beans and rolls.

Local 7, Bellingham
Longshoremen members here have elected the following officers for 1983: president, Kenneth Maneval; vice-president, Barry Frost; secretary-dispatcher/BA, Edward L. Jones; assistant dispatcher, Lance Brafkefeld; recording secretary, Walter Roode. Joseph Marshall Sr. was elected to the LRC. Leonard "Jumbo" Davis is the sergeant-at-arms. Richard "Mark" Lindquist.
The three trustees are Mason "Mick" Bailey, Robert "Cole" Koker and Barry Frost. Frank Newton is on the safety committee with Kenneth Maneval, Edward Jones and Jack Beaud. Puyet Sound Coun- cil delegate is Carl Kindlund who also will be caucus delegate.

Local 9, Seattle
Members of this warehouse local recent- ly elected the following 1983 officials: president, Randy Campbell; vice-president, A. J. Hutter, and sergeant-at-arms, Loren Wendell. Jerry Johnson is recording secre- tary and Randy Yacker is the treasurer. An 18-member executive board was also elected.

Local 12, North Bend
Longshoremen elected their 1983 officials recently: president, Danny Martin; vice-president, Philip Amato; secre- tary-treasurer, Gene Bailey. The two dispatchers are Steve Martizia and Albert Bunger (first six months of 1981). The labor relations committee for the whole year are Alvin Sutton and Stanley Todd. Ronald Freeman is LRC for the first six months and alternate LRC is Jim Arbourke.

Local 14, Eureka
Longshoremen and clerks in this North- ern California port elected their 1983 of- ficers: president, Fred Santedice; vice- president, Mike Mullens; secretary-dis- patcher, Barry Smith; relief dispatcher, Fred Santedice; LRC Charles Olliver, George Still, Joe Kabullah. Charles Olliver will represent the Northern California Dis- trict Council. William Christensen, Mike Mullens and Bob Tod are the safety com- mittee and Tim Jacobson and Robert Lan- ham will be the sergeants-at-arms.
Trustees are Richard Peters, C. F. An- derson, and Anthony Crapo. Charles Olli- vier is the caucus/convention delegate.

Local 40-A, Portland
ILWU Local 40-A Berth Agents elected their 1983 officers as follows: president, Bob Edwards; vice-president, Mike Mullens; secretary/dis- patcher, Harold Smith; relief dispatcher, Fred Santedice; LRC Charles Olliver, George Still, Joe Kabullah. Charles Olliver will represent the Northern California Dis- trict Council. William Christensen, Mike Mullens and Bob Tod are the safety com- mittee and Tim Jacobson and Robert Lan- ham will be the sergeants-at-arms.
Trustees are Richard Peters, C. F. An- derson, and Anthony Crapo. Charles Olli- vier is the caucus/convention delegate.

Local 21 pensioners
San Francisco pensioners
Oscil Nicholas was re-elected President of the Southwestern Oregon Pensioners Club. Others who will be serving the old- timers 1983 are: Vice-president, Don Brown, Secretary-treasurer and Norma Kaha, Assistant Sec- retary. Pat Taylor will serve again as Chil- dren’s advocate. Also elected were Louise Dis- muke, Lee Willis and Robin Bridges. Other officers are: President, Mike Mullens; Vice-president, Betty Smith; Secretary-dispatcher, Fred Santedice; LRC, Charles Olliver, George Still, Joe Kabullah. Charles Olliver represents the Northern California Dis- trict Council. William Christensen, Mike Mullens and Bob Tod will be the safety commit- tee and Tim Jacobson and Robert Lan- ham will be the sergeants-at-arms.
Trustees are Richard Peters, C. F. Anderson, and Anthony Crapo.

Relief work
Volunteering their time to help load cargo and supplies aboard the relief ship M/V Anastasia in Los Angeles Harbor last Christmas were some 30 members of ILWU Local 13. Through their efforts, the ship brought food, clothing and medical assistance to an estimated quarter-million homeless and malnourished Guatemalans, victims of that nation’s continuing guerrilla-government warfare. The ship is operated by Youth With a Mission, an interdenominational Christian group.

Pensioners urge use of US flag carriers
The primary objective of the Federa- tion of Retired Union Members (FORUM) in 1983 will be to encourage the organiza- tion of more local union retirees clubs throughout the state, James Patton, Di- vision Director for the U.S. Department of the California Labor Federation, AFL-CIO, said this week.
FORUM seeks new retiree clubs
Pensioned out retirees have a vital personal stake in helping to repel the massive attack on needed social services that has been launched in the past few years by forces whose only concern seems to be to slash taxes and eliminate public services to make the rich richer," Patton said.
Patton explained that local union retiree clubs select representatives to serve on the FORUM in their county and that these representatives then attend central labor council meetings to keep abreast of legislative, economic and political programs that affect them.
"This kind of contact, communication and action can play a vital role in helping to strengthen the social programs and other services senior citizens in this na- tion depend on," he said.
Retired trade unionists interested in get- ting involved should phone the nearest FORUM contact person listed below:

FORUM contact person listed below:

ALAMEDA COUNTY FORUM — William Keddie (510) 335-4351.

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY FORUM — Tony Canuta (916) 228-0541.

FRESNO-MADERA COUNTY FORUM — Ray Shilling (209) 532-1813.

HUMBOLDT — DEL NORTE COUNTIES FORUM — Carl Lang (707) 483-1885.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY FORUM — Bob Edwards (213) 643-9048.

NAPA-SOLANO COUNTIES FORUM — Charles Hubbard (707) 643-4001.

SAN DIEGO IMPERIAL COUNTIES — Joe Goldfist (619) 497-3847.

SAN FRANCISCO COUNTY FORUM — Joe Lynch (415) 534-3155.

SAN JOAQUIN — CALAVERAS COUNTIES TIES FORUM — Carl Lang (209) 642-8328.

SANTA CLARA COUNTY FORUM — John Blaisota (408) 256-3790.

SANTA MATEO COUNTY FORUM — Frank Gorrbeeck (415) 343-4569.

SANTA CRUZ FORUM — Ed Brown (408) 477-3205.

KERN, I NYO AND MONO COUNTIES — Dudley Thrower (805) 324-6451.

MONTEREY COUNTY — John Mathis (408) 472-1815.

ORANGE COUNTY — Mary Yunt (714) 625-8338.

SACRAMENTO COUNTY — Al Rasmus- sen (916) 648-3562.

SAN BERNARDINO AND RIVERSIDE COUNTIES — Mary Curtin (714) 652-8781.

Portland — The January 9 meeting of the Columbia River Pensioners Me- morial Association — one of the largest held here in some time—resolved to "work with and help out in every way possible" the ILWU convention, slated to convene in Portland in April.
In other actions the old-timers: • Lowered the boom on proposals to subject social security and unemployment benefits to income tax withholding. • Vowed any attempt to tax hospital and medical benefits. • Urged Congress to halt pullouts of government employees from the Social Se- curity system, and to support legislative changes extending the mandatory provi- sions of the system to all government bodies, federal, state and local, and to all local non-profit organization.
• Voted support for H.R. 6293, the Mar-itime Mugging bill. (See The Dispatcher, December 14.)
Urged passage of H.R. 6979, which pro- vides that 20% of the nation’s bulk car- riage be carried in US flag ships.
Out of the nation’s ship repair yards are threat- ened with extinction unless the bill passes, CRPM President Lloyd Kennedy said. He pointed out that of the 2,600 vessels visiting the Columbia River each year, only tankers and a few Matson and charter ships are US flag ships.
The maritime administration has already charged, recently approved plans by six lines to demobilize their fleet at a combined cost of more than $600 million while still qualifying for government op- eration.
The approval came just before expiration of a law making US flag carriers in- eligible to operate any ships built in foreign yards.
The shipyard industry is dead in the water if this bill does not pass.
Commemoration was voted to The Dis- patcher for its series of articles on Social Security.
Quality, access threatened

Medical costs soaring by 11% in 1982

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The cost of medical care increased 11% last year, or nearly three times as much as the consumer price index rose just 3.9% in 1982, the smallest increase in a decade.

...it is becoming more difficult to reclaim the health care costs for all varieties of medical service.

Reagan Health Policy: Don't Get Sick

As long-term layoffs increase and the jobless come to rely more on government for support, the cost of medical care is soaring.

Though union contracts sometimes provide for extended health care coverage for workers who lose their employer-paid health insurance, the relief has not been enough for many. Even when there is a health insurance plan, workers face a high deductible and are frequently denied coverage for dependents.

The Administration's latest premium

Since, in the president's words, "we're on our own," there is no reason why any harm in further penalizing the victim. Rather than provide treatment for the sick and disabled who now have nowhere else to turn, the White House thinks it would be a fine idea to raise the general level of federal deficit by taxing the health coverage of workers lucky enough to still be on the job.

Specifically, the president has proposed to treat all employer-paid health premiums for workers and their families as a "taxable fringe benefit," with a maximum of $175 a month (excluding $70 a month for single coverage) as taxable income. The cost to individuals would be $211 a year in federal, state, and Social Security taxes. The administration wants patients in both Medicare and Medicaid to pay a larger share of the bill.

Sen. Robert Dole (R-Kan), chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, has already endorsed the plan, and Rep. Barber Conable (R-N.Y.), ranking minority member of the House Ways and Means Committee, has also indicated that he will support it. These two are by no means the first legislators to look at the problem of health care in a way that clearly reduces federal revenue.

WHO, the United Nations' health agency, has found that industrialized countries have been winners. For example, the U.S. leads in longevity, with 76.6 years for females. In some countries, including Canada and France, the figures are even higher. Thus, the best government can do is see that the poor have access to medical care. In recent years, the Reagan administration has been working hard to secure that access, and the results have been impressive. The decline in the newborn death rate has been particularly striking, with a 90% reduction in the past 30 years. But in virtually all categories, the U.S. is on a par with the top 10 nations in the world. In 1981, for example, as against a rise of 11.9% in 1979, the poverty rate was down to 14.9% and the poor was down to 20.8%.

INFANT MORTALITY

Thus, in infant mortality, an extremely sensitive indicator of health-care services and general living conditions, federally subsidized efforts over the past decade have reduced the United States out of its grizzly backwardness. In 1965, infant deaths per 1,000 live births in Arkansas fell from 42.0 to 30.0, or 28.0%, which is about the same as the average in the United States. Since then, the death rate has continued to fall, with a 6.8% decrease in the number of deaths per 1,000 live births. In 1981, the death rate was 8.9 per 1,000 live births, down from 19.9 per 1,000 live births in 1970. In 1982, the death rate was 8.5 per 1,000 live births, down from 19.7 per 1,000 live births in 1971.

For infants and adults, the figures vary by sex and race, with women generally faring better than men, and whites better than blacks. But in virtually all categories, the numbers have been going in the right direction.

One reason may be the advent of Medicare for the elderly, Medicaid and food programs for the poor, plus pimpinoned programs, such as prenatal care for teen-age mothers.

Hence, the ratio of the number of persons without medical care to the number of persons without health insurance is a more accurate indicator of the extent of the problem. The ratio of the number of persons without medical care to the number of persons without health insurance is a more accurate indicator of the extent of the problem. The ratio of the number of persons without medical care to the number of persons without health insurance is a more accurate indicator of the extent of the problem. The ratio of the number of persons without medical care to the number of persons without health insurance is a more accurate indicator of the extent of the problem. The ratio of the number of persons without medical care to the number of persons without health insurance is a more accurate indicator of the extent of the problem.
**NEEDS RECRUITS** — The well-known Local 10 longshore team, directed by the direction of Captain Josh Williams, is regrouping, and will serve as the honor guard at Lou Goldenhill’s memorial service on Sunday, February 13, from 2 to 6 p.m., at Local 10 headquarters. Anyone who wishes to participate in this event, or future drive team events, should call ILWU Local 10 at 415 776-8104, or call Williams at 415 822-9234 — by Mario River

**'Clancy' Langman mourned by Local 8**

PORTLAND — Funeral services were held January 12 for Clarence "Clancy" Langman of Local 8. He was interred in Willamette National Cemetery. The terse item in The Oregonian revealed little of the man and nothing of his life and death.

Langman was murdered at the door of his home shortly after he got off work on the "night side." January 7. A spokesman for the Multnomah County Sheriff’s office told The Dispatcher that two arrests have been made, both involving teenagers, one 18 and one 16.

Langman left seven children, the young- est 17. He was born March 1, 1936, in She bogan, Wisconsin, and joined Local 8 soon after his return, in 1961, from the Korean War.

Installed as vice-president of the local in 1968, he became president after the death in April that year of Francis Bruneman. He spent five years on the local’s safety committee and also served on the grievance committee.

Details of Langman's life were revealed by his close friend, Jimmy Hubbard, who had worked with Langman and who is a former member of the ILWU, both on and off the line.

"When we were working together, Clancy was a hard worker and a good worker," said Hubbard. "He was due to re-marry soon. Hubbard said. Death stopped the wedding.

Survivors in addition to Langman's children, Patricia A, Ross D, Norma, Thomas, Douglas, John M. and Deta M, include his father, David Langman, one brother and two grandchildren.

"I was scared to death, but Clancy never lost his cool. We were rescued by the Coast Guard."

Another time, Hubbard recalled, Langman was the rescuer. "He took his boat and went in on rocky shoals to save four people, two adults and two kids. The whole low of their boat was under water, and that 15-year-old girl was down in there in an air pocket. Clancy peeked off his shoes and down he went."

"Langman's regard for life extended even to trees," said Hubbard, "When he was remodeling his house, he would not cut down a tree that was in the way and built the house around it."

Once, Hubbard had his friend and union brother as an "evergreen-eyed and a real craftsman. He was a golfer and a bowling enthusiast."

Along many interests, Langman was responsible for setting up the Sile winders Motorcycle Club.

He was due to re-marry soon. Hubbard said. Death stopped the wedding.

Survivors in addition to Langman's children, Patricia A. Ross D., Norma Thomas, Douglas, John M. and Detta M, include his father, David Langman, one brother and two grandchildren.

**Get it together!**

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

In other words, do you know workers who 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. Johnny Parks, Regional Director 2455 N.W. Front Ave. Portland, Ore. 97209 Phone: (503) 223-1955

**Seattle Area**
John Bukovsky, International Representative 3800 First Ave., Room 360 Seattle, Washington 98121 Phone: (206) 467-1977

**Southern Calif. Regional Office**
Joe Ibarra, Regional Director 3150 South Broadway Gardena, California 90248 (213) 227-7632 Los Angeles (213) 770-2179

**Canadian Area Office**
2661 E. Hastings St. Vancouver, B.C. Phone: (604) 254-8141

**Northern Calif. Regional Office**
1188 Franklin Street San Rafael, Calif. 94901 Phone: (415) 572-0523 LeRoy King, Regional Director Fred Visser, Intl Rep. Bill Fraites, Intl Rep. Phone: (415) 787-3711 Sacramento Area: (916) 371-5638

**Hawaii Office**

**GRIEVANCE MISHANDLED**

The Court found that the Postal Workers Union handled the "plaintiff's apparently meritorious complaint" for discharge in an arbitrary and perfunctory manner and that it caused serious and irreparable harm to the plaintiff. Thus, the plaintiff was entitled to a new hearing.

The Court found that the union had violated the law in this case by its failure to: (1) give the employee a full and fair hearing; and (2) give the employee the opportunity to be accompanied by counsel.

The Court further found that the union had violated the law by its failure to: (1) make a good faith effort to resolve the dispute; and (2) explain its actions to the employee.

The Court held that the union had also failed to comply with the provisions of the National Mail Policy, which requires that the union provide the employee with a copy of the grievance procedures.

The Court concluded that the union's actions were in violation of the National Mail Policy, and that the union was required to make the employee whole for any losses suffered as a result of the union's misconduct.
I control my own life

Lloyd Cook, a member of foreman's Local 94, and Al Bachelier, longshore Local 13, were among those recovering alcoholics honored in the Irvine Earlier this year, the ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Recovery Program dinner described on this page. We've asked the people who have taken their experiences with alcohol, and the way in which the ILWU-PMA programs have helped them get on the wagon and stay on it.

AL BACHELIER: I started drinking heavily at 16. When I became a registered member of Local 13 in 1966 the whole made an image of a longshoreman, which was a terrific excuse for drinking. I incurred an accident, never got fired. But by the time I quit a year ago the I sure wouldn't have wanted to work under any id. I had a point at years of drinking, and was up to a fifth of VO every day. But I was increasingly troubled, confused and depressed. I had become violent for the first time, and my wife and I had separated.

"A DARK PRESENCE"

On the morning of January 1, 1982, waking up after the usual drink, I had an experience I can barely describe. I literally saw my own alcoholism. I felt that there was a kind of dark presence right there in the room with me. I had been fighting it, denying it for 25 years. I know then that I had to surrender. There was a tremendous feeling of relief.

I called the ILWU-PMA alcoholism recovery program, which had read about in The Dispatcher. I must have hung up 4 or 5 times before I answered. It was the biggest phone call I had ever made in my life, and I was almost praying Ed wouldn't be there. But he was. I went in to see him that same day, and within the week I was on my way up to a San Francisco facility. Crucker's Serenity House, for 28 days, fully paid for by the ILWU-PMA health and welfare program. I spent 28 days there, and it really opened my eyes. I learned a tremendous amount about myself, my alcoholism. The people there made me aware that I could choose my own future, and gave me the tools and the understanding to make the right choice. But I'd soon learn that although Crucker's could dry me up and put me on the right road, we all need a lot of support and help. That's where Alcoholics Anonymous and the ILWU-PMA dinner meetings are so important.

I've been dry now for 13 months. I haven't even desired a drink in all that time. I've got my family back. We have our problems, we argue, but it's like normal people, without the threat of violence. I paid a tremendous price for my alcoholism, 25 years, but for the first time I can see a real future in front of me.

LLOYD COOK: It took me 46 years to decide I was an alcoholic. I had worked regularly. I had never lost time. But I had simply lost control of my alcohol. Drinking was the most important thing in my life. But mentally I was starting to lose it, I was seeing around corners. Alcohol became the most important thing in my life, starting soon as I got up in the morning. My relationship with my wife was in big trouble. I had been dry at home, but what treatment center would be right for me?

I knew about the ILWU-PMA program just through talk around the hall, and as I told Ed Torres. He wanted to see me and my wife, and we talked for a long time, trying to figure out what the problem was. My mind had been, was, what treatment center would be right for me?

I referred me to Duffy, with the local LA, which is a tough place. I felt it needed to do the hard way. They don't babysit you there.

I fell off the wagon once—that happens to a lot of us—and went to another treatment center, Anore Aces. But I'd been dry now for over 15 months. I take antabuse every morning. But it's essentially a program of alcoholism. Dinner meetings, things like A.A., have been a tremendous source of strength to both me and my wife. I've got my health back, I've got my family back, I've got control over my own life.

One of the most important things that happened as a result of this program is that there's much more understanding of the problem among the group at work, and in the halls. People are starting to take it seriously, not treat it as a joke, and are helpful in a real way.

There's not so much covering up any more.

Alcohol Problems?

If you are a longshoreman, clerk or boss with an alcohol problem, or know one, contact the ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Recovery Program representative in your area. They are trained to offer personal and family counseling, referral and other services—all on a confidential basis.

Southern California ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Recovery Program co-ordinator Ed Torres

Auxiliary takes on Oregon sales tax

PORTLAND — Auxiliary 5 may be the first labor group to file off a verbal broadside. The bill calls for a tax measure that passed last week at the Oregon Legislature. At a meeting January 19 the auxiliary directed Secretary Veva Phillips to write State Rep. Vera Katz and State Senator Jack Ripper, co-chairpersons of the Joint Ways & Means Committee expressing the group's opposition. ocean shipping channel.

South Cal ILWU-PMA alcohol program celebrates 2 years of mutual aid

San Pedro "Recognizing the problem and doing something about it can be a very wrenching, emotional experience, and you become very close with other people who have gone through the same thing. So we get together regularly to keep it in focus.

"The problem" is alcoholism, and the speaker was Ed Torres, Local 13. South ern California council of the ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Recovery Program. The occasion was the second anniversary of the program's monthly dinner meetings, held January 19 at Ante's Restaurant.

MILESTONES

The dinner meetings are extremely important for program participants, says Torres. We acknowledge the achievements of people who have come to some sort of milestone in their recovery from alcoholism, like a one-year anniversary, five years. We heard speakers today. And we can informally share our own experiences in a group setting.

"We start out with 12 people, but it's grown." Some 200 members of ILWU Southern California dock locals, from Port Hasenius to San Diego, along with wives and other family members, participated in the anni verary dinner. Among those honored for their achievements in keeping dry were: Al Bachelier and Frank Philip, Local 13; Wilmington; Lloyd Cook, Local 94, Wil mingston, Al Brown and Charlie Valdivia, Local 46; Port Hueneme. Speakers included ILWU Coast Com missioner Bill Ward, former PMA President Ed Flynn, PMA Southern California Re gional Director John MacEvoy and Gene Duffy, director of Myrtledale Treatment Center in Calistoga, Calif.

TOTAL COOPERATION

"Our program works," Ward said, because of the total cooperation we have between the union and the employer on this issue: "I had failed if it was operating just from the bip. But both Ed Flynn and his successor, Bill Coyle, have won for the program the support of all the companies, and the support of supervision all the way down the line. And the same is true within the union."

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"Our program works," Ward said, because of the total cooperation we have between the union and the employer on this issue: "I had failed if it was operating just from the bip. But both Ed Flynn and his successor, Bill Coyle, have won for the program the support of all the companies, and the support of supervision all the way down the line. And the same is true within the union."

Alcoholics, said Duffy, "are people who have simply lost control of their drinking. That's what it's all about. For the non-alcoholic to understand. And one of the toughest things for a recovering alcoholic is realizing that he absolutely cannot try to drink like a normal person. Once you are an alcoholic you remain that way.

"The bill of alcoholism in society is enormous. The 20s estimate that 10 million people in this country are alcoholics or close to it. You may find that by a factor of eight, to take into consideration all the family members, co-workers and other as sociates who are afflicted by alcoholism in one way or the other. And we've got a national epidemic, from the flu or the measles, they'd have the national guard out."

"Our alcoholism affects people in a massive way. But so does our sobriety. The potential, once you restore the alcohol to something approaching normal life and normal productivity is enormous."

Gene Duffy, director of Myrtledale Treatment Center, warned recovering alcoholics to beware of "the temptation to think we can drink like normal people."

Son of dock comp

WASHINGTON, DC—Senators Don Nickels (R-Oklahoma) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah) have reintroduced a bill to amend the Longshoreman's and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

The bill numbered S 38—s is identical to the bill passed by unanimous consent in the Senate last July. It bears little resemblance to the bill introduced by the Republican legislators two years ago, and is sponsored by pro-labor Sen. Edward Kennedy (D-Mass). As happened last year, S 38 is expected to become the subject of negotia tions in both the Senate and the House.

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Ed Flynn, PMA Southern California Regional Director John MacEvoy and Gene Duffy, director of Myrtledale Treatment Center in Calistoga, Calif.