Local 30 wins

Three year pact at US Borax

BORON, Ca. — Members of ILWU Local 30 have overwhelmingly approved a new three-year agreement with US Borax Co. providing major pension improvements, good-sized wage increases and other benefit improvements.

"We are convinced that this contract was the best we could get, under the circumstances," said Local 30 President John Davenport. "The pension increase is really a tremendous breakthrough for us, and the wage increase is also very solid, at a time when other unions are being hit with wage cuts." The agreement, unanimously recommended by the negotiating committee was ratified by a margin of 307-77.

The new contract takes effect officially on November 4, 1984 and runs for three years.

EARLY NEGOTIATIONS

But under an "early negotiations" procedure worked out by the union and the company, all improvements and benefits took effect September 1 once the agreement was ratified.

Retirement benefits will increase from the current level of $17 per month per year of service to $19 during the first year, and from $19 to $21 during the second year. "We've never won as much as $4 on pensions before," Davenport said.

Wages are increased by 5% during the first year, by 5% during the second year and by 5% during the third year, raising the average rate from the current $11.77 to $12.98 when the contract expires. Spot increases were also won for firemen and fuel tenders.

The Prudential hospital/medical surgical/major medical plan was modified to pay 80/10 of most bills, rather than a flat cash benefit. The major medical maximum lifetime benefit was increased from $300,000 to $500,000. The CDS dental plan was improved to pay 100% of all costs effective the fourth year of employment.

The company also agreed to buy out certain pay increases in nine separate classifications won as a result of recent arbitrations. This benefit, calculated on the basis of 38 months at the new rate, will result in one time lump sum payments ranging from $561 to $1,783 for the 105 members affected by the arbitration.

Committee members included Davenport, Bill Pope, Bob Whitman, Ray Painter, Larry Muncie, Walt Palmer and James Riley, with the assistance of Southern California Regional Director Joe Ibarra. "The assistance of the International was particularly critical," Davenport said.

Job retraining

see page 5
Forms for participation are available from SIDATCHEIP.

"what amounts to two more 'takeaways' to team (money orders, cash, or cashiers' checks). Beggars" went off course, over an area of the Soviet Union generally known to be particularly sensitive militarily? Experts tell us there are an estimated 269,000 miles of navigational misinformation features that had to be fed into the Boeing 747's computer to account for the error.

Was the Korean plane actually engaged in a spy mission? What do we know about the activities of the Korean crew? Was the Korean plane, with its distinctive shape, actually recognizable by the Soviets? In each of these areas we find large and disturbing disconnections between the US and Soviet versions of the story.

Ineffective limits

How corporate payoffs corrupt Congress

WASHINGTON--No member of Congress fought harder to save commodity traders from taxes on their trading profits than Rep. Martin Russo, D-N.J. Chicago traders returned the favor by paying the Democratic congressman $3,000 fees for a day's work. Some members report they use fees to support charity, and one House member and an MX booster who sits on the subcommittee overseeing the Pentagon's weapons budget.

And Rep. William Dickinson of Alabama, the top-ranking Republican on the Armed Services Committee and a tireless fighter for increased military spending, says he pocketed a $3,000 fee from two New York Credit Union officials and a House member who received triple the usual fee was Rep. Russo, but it wasn't because he had to care more. Mr. Youster says the extra-large fee was paid because Mr. Russo had done more. In particular, Rep. Russo cajoled in 1981 to preserve for traders a tax break that has simply done more in terms of the time and money spent on legislation than any other member of Congress.

Mr. Russo conceded he didn't expend much effort persuading his colleagues and senators involved in the bill, which required the federal government to increase limits on the number of futures market traders. He estimates he may have been able to get the support of three to five members of Congress in the past.
Discipline and unity win IBU ferry contract

SAN FRANCISCO—Members of the IBU-Marine Division of the ILWU, working as deckhands, ticket sellers and terminal attendants on the ferries operated by the Golden Gate Bridge District on San Francisco Bay, handily ratified a new two-year agreement with the District.

The new agreement came only after several intense and difficult negotiation meetings during which time the District refused to move off its "off-the-cuff" offer containing a reduction in sick leave and refusal to maintain health and welfare benefits for the term of the agreement. The District ultimately overwhelmingly rejected by the membership.

Following the rejection of the District's "final" proposal, the San Francisco Region of the IBU turned to the International Union for assistance. Ray Crute, the District's Research Director Barry Silverman was assigned to help out.

A multi-union coalition consisting of most of the 14 unions which have contracts with the District was enabled to present its counter-offer to the District to drop its "takeaways" proposals and agree to maintain the full range of health and welfare benefits without resort to employee contributions.

The tentative agreement, approved by the Directors of the Golden Gate Bridge District meeting in executive session on August 12 and ratified by the IBU members the next morning, provides a modest increase in wages in each year of the agreement, several constructive changes in contract language, and the preservation of existing fringe benefits.

IBU District 26 24 signs log yard pact

ABERDEEN—A new 3-year contract covering 11 Boise-Cascade log yard workers, members of Local 24, was signed August 3. Negotiations began July 11. The agreement, retroactive to that date, provides that all two employees will receive bracket increases of $2.50 per week, during the first year of the agreement, and to $2 per week during the second and third years.

Local 24 negotiators included Secretary Dan Peterson, President Glen Romkowski, Gerald Schwenk and Ken Jacobson.

Peggy Ohta

SAN FRANCISCO — Peggy Ohta, longtime classroom teacher and president of the ILWU Local 26, died September 8 after a long struggle with cancer. She was a member of the editorial board of the Potrero View, and was otherwise deeply involved in all aspects of her community. Her husband, Alan, a member of Local 10, by five children and two grandchildren will be deeply missed by the International staff, and by the many members of the union who came to know her.

Local 26 unrolls Ducommun problems

LOS ANGELES—Aggressive use of the Local 26 grievance procedure, with excellent support from members and stewards, has straightened out a number of complex issues at Ducommun Metals, paving the way for improved labor relations.

"Ducommun was non-union for many years. They are used to doing things their own way. They are not used to living with a contract," said Local 26 Business Agent Ron Thornberry.

We hope that settlement of these problems is an indication of better relations in the future."

The whole show was quarterbacked by the "West Coast Industrial Relations Associates," a California-based outfit specializing in union-busting.

The union countered with an offer for a wage freeze the first year and slight increases the second and third years. Nord officials have said the wage and benefits are needed to keep the plant competitive and in operation, but have refused to open company books.

"The company didn't want a settlement with the union, it wanted to force a strike so their hired guns could do a job on the ILWU," Local 32 Business Agent Ron Thornberry reported.

"The community is behind Local 32. The mood of the rally was one of militant solidarity. Few people expected the huge turnout, particularly at 6 a.m. on a Friday morning. Plans are being formulated to hold larger, more militant demonstrations."

"We aren't going to give up. We have a long battle ahead of us," Austin told the crowd. "We will fight on. We will fight."

Two additional demonstrations have been held, one at the courthouse to protest the court's bias in favor of the Nord Company, and another at the Nord Plant. Both rallies drew many supporters, including active and retired longshoremen from Everett, Seattle, Port Gamble, Bellingham and New Westminster.

"A major demonstration is being planned and as many as 10,000 supporters are expected," Thornberry said. "We haven't got all the details worked out yet, so I can't be specific. You can be sure that when we do our International will be the first to know."

Mary Williams, president of the Washington State Labor Council addressed the throng and drew a cheer when he praised their "guts and militancy to fight for a cause."

David Court, an Everett Community College teacher, referring to the court injunctions that severely limit the right of union members to picket, said: "You know and I know we'll never get a break from the courts."

"We are demonstrating to all those misguided people who would attempt union-busting that the price tag isastronomical," Austin told the crowd. "We have right on our side, and right is might. We will be back and back again until Nord returns to the bargaining table."

Marvin Gamble, Bellingham and New Westminster.

"A major demonstration is being planned and as many as 10,000 supporters are expected," Thornberry said. "We haven't got all the details worked out yet, so I can't be specific. You can be sure that when we do our International will be the first to know."

Gratz argued that any and all vacancies had to be open to all union members, posted for bid, and filled by seniority as well as qualification.

The company responded by creating yet another new job for the six, and rigged the job description—requesting demonstrated leadership skills—so that only the five people they had in mind in the first place would qualify. All other bids from the membership were rejected. One of the six had never even been in the bargaining unit, and was unlawfully given seniority.

PRIVILEGES

After close to a year, as the issue approached arbitration, the company had to abandon this effort to provide special privileges. It was agreed that the five supervisors had been improperly placed back in the bargaining unit and that the other bids were not properly considered. Back pay was awarded to five qualified bidders. The supervisors have been offered entry level warehouse positions. The three grievances were handled by Gratz with the diligent assistance of steward Paulette Cnaree, currently on layoff.

The Ducommun agreement with Local 26 would have expired in August, but was extended for a year with a 754 wage increase as a result of an agreement between Local 26 and Censtar Metals, the new owners of Ducommun.
Since the Supreme Court is the ultimate arbiter in labor law cases, it is important that we periodically review its decisions in this field to obtain a sense of the direction the law is likely to take in the future.

In a case which was regarded as a victory for the labor movement, the Court held 5-4, in certain circumstances, a Union could be liable for substantial back pay damages even if the union itself was not involved in the layoff. The discretion possessed by the employer in forming its own decision, the Court decided, was not present in the burden imposed by the union to theált the full back pay which resulted from the union's action, but nontheless that is just what the one person major- ity did. The effect of this decision will be to put a severe crimp in organized labor on the ground that the leafleting was not limited to plant gates. Nine people were arrested, in- cluding two teen age sons of an LPIW mem- ber.

A delay in the implementation of grain ele- vator safety standards has been strongly pro- tested by the ILWU International President Jim Herman in a letter to Senators and Congress -men from Washington State.

The standards, developed by OSHA, were forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget for final approval, more than two months ago. OSHA had worked hard at pre- paring an effective standard that was sup- ported by the available scientific evidence and which was economically feasible," Herman said.

INdUSTRY INFLUENCE

But O'NEILL stated reasons for delay "echoed the complaints of industry which has success- fully thwarted the passage of safety regulation covering the tragic hazards of grain dust expo- sure." The ILWU president said there had been "a long-term effort to reduce the costs of imple- menting a reasonable regulation to the lowest possible level, without regard to the inevitable consequences. This has included many attempts to come to terms with the government on the cost of the proposed regulation through the \"cost and benefits analysis\" of the last year's administration.\"

But this applies to pre-labor decisions by the board. Rogan's recent appointments to the Board do not give any assurances that we can expect such decisions in the future. The labor movement has turned to the court to bring about change, to bring about that change which is fundamental to human rights and freedom, to bring about that change which is fundamental to human rights and freedom.

In a case which was regarded as a victory for the labor movement, the Court held 5-4, in certain circumstances, a Union could be liable for substantial back pay damages even if the union itself was not involved in the layoff. The discretion possessed by the employer in forming its own decision, the Court decided, was not present in the burden imposed by the union to theált the full back pay which resulted from the union's action, but nontheless that is just what the one person major- ity did. The effect of this decision will be to put a severe crimp in organized labor on the ground that the leafleting was not limited to plant gates. Nine people were arrested, in- cluding two teen age sons of an LPIW mem- ber.

A delay in the implementation of grain ele- vator safety standards has been strongly pro- tested by the ILWU International President Jim Herman in a letter to Senators and Congress -men from Washington State.

The standards, developed by OSHA, were forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget for final approval, more than two months ago. OSHA had worked hard at pre- paring an effective standard that was sup- ported by the available scientific evidence and which was economically feasible," Herman said.

INdUSTRY INFLUENCE

But O'NEILL stated reasons for delay "echoed the complaints of industry which has success- fully thwarted the passage of safety regulation covering the tragic hazards of grain dust expo- sure." The ILWU president said there had been "a long-term effort to reduce the costs of imple- menting a reasonable regulation to the lowest possible level, without regard to the inevitable consequences. This has included many attempts to come to terms with the government on the cost of the proposed regulation through the \"cost and benefits analysis\" of the last year's administration.\"
JOINT UNION-PORT VENTURE

LOCAL 6 JOINS PORT OF OAKLAND IN SEEKING JOBS FOR CARNATION PLANT CLOSURE VICTIMS

By Vincent GiGliolomo

OAKLAND — Juan Ruano, 31, is the father of two children and was laid off from his job at the recently shuttered Carnation pet food plant. His unemployment insurance runs out in five months.

“I need work, any kind of work,” he said. “But that doesn’t mean another job, especially here. That’s why I want to get training. I’ll see what they have.”

Ruano, a member of ILWU Warehouse Local 6, is one of 65 laid-off Carnation employees who have signed up for a new joint union-port venture, a job retraining program run jointly by Local 6 and the Port of Oakland.

Funded by a one-year, $150,000 federal grant, the Partnership Act, the program is engaged in job development, and will offer job search workshops both on the job and classroom training. The training will be contracted out and is expected to focus on computer and mechanical skills. The program is headquartered at Local 6’s East Bay hall, and open to all former Carnation employees.

FRIDAY THE 13TH

The closure of the plant on Friday, May 13, three years after it began work, included 126 ILWU members. About half of the unionists recently shutdown Carnation pet food plant.

“It’s hard to get another job, especially for ILWU members. About half of the unionists recently shutdown Carnation pet food plant. and is expected to focus on computer and mechanical skills. The program is headquartered at Local 6’s East Bay hall, and open to all former Carnation employees.”

“I haven’t had any other job so I don’t have the time I need to look for work,” said Ruano.

Many have few skills, are middle-aged or older, and solved by Business Agent Jim Ryder.

“The right way to get a job is to not have anything particular in mind,” confirmed Ryder. “A key point that the Port of Oakland has made is that the number of one group of students graduating high schools is 10 years ago, which the rest are participating in the program.”

Many have few skills, are middle-aged or older, and solved by Business Agent Jim Ryder.

“Right now, we’re helping them focus on what they can do, and we’re helping them look for a new career,” said Ryder. “We’re helping them find a new career.”

Joint participation programs have just completed the first phase of the program—interviews with project staff to determine their aptitudes and ambitions.

“Right now, we’re helping them focus on what they can do, and we’re helping them look for a new career,” said Ryder. “We’re helping them find a new career.”

Many have few skills, are middle-aged or older, and solved by Business Agent Jim Ryder.

“We’re helping them find a new career.”

Project Director is Wellford “Buzz” Wilms, a professor of education at the University of California at Los Angeles. Wilms, a resident of nearby Emeryville, wrote the grant proposal in conjunction with Ryder and Higgins. It was one of nine programs funded out of 101 applicants.

“What EDD liked about our proposal,” said Wilms, “is that we thought it important to ask participants what they wanted and try to get them for jobs, then build in the training. Those are two unconventional ideas in this field.”

Wilms believes there is a lot of failure in training programs because they are not connected to the job market. He hopes to use his program as a model to find out how to train and place low-skilled, older workers—those traditionally hardest to find work.

Asked if he really expects to find jobs for 65 such workers, Wilms said: “We’re helping the community suffering from more than 12% unemployment, Wilms answered: ‘Yes I do. We’re finding people that are very different from each other, and we’re blessed with a small enough group that we can deal with the individual."

He also pointed out that Carnation workers have the advantage of their strong work background, which proves they are good employees. “They are a human capital resource in the East Bay,” Wilms emphasized.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

So far, only one participant has been placed in a job, said Wilms. He believes the key to further success is broad labor, business and community support. These sectors are represented in an advisory committee, said Wilms, which will act as a sounding board for our plans and help us gain access to the employment community.

The committee, which will be officially named by Oakland Mayor Lionel Wilson, includes ILWU International Representative John J. Higgins, as well as Millspaugh, were on the negotiations team.

The Port of Oakland’s involvement in the project grew out of its role in the shutdown. The union owned the Carnation plant which was built more than 60 years ago, but recently acquired it would not renew the company’s lease in 1987—one of many reasons Carnation cited for the shutdown.

The company gave three months’ notice.

Columbia grain pacts approved

PORTLAND — Grain negotiations for the upper Columbia, begun in June, have been successfully concluded, Local 8 Secretary Neal Milsap told The Dispatcher.

The upper Columbia talks, which are scheduled to July 1, covers all ILWU employees of Columbia Grain, and are expected to include 1,000 workers and other points in Eastern Washington. The talks were held in Portland.

Millspaugh told The Dispatcher that he is pleased with the agreement, which embodied some gains, “including wage and benefit improvements that were received by both parties in view of the present state of the economy.”

The Port of Oakland’s involvement in the project grew out of its role in the shutdown. The union owned the Carnation plant which was built more than 60 years ago, but recently acquired it would not renew the company’s lease in 1987—one of many reasons Carnation cited for the shutdown.

The company gave three months’ notice.

The upper Columbia talks, which are scheduled to July 1, covers all ILWU employees of Columbia Grain, and are expected to include 1,000 workers and other points in Eastern Washington. The talks were held in Portland.

Millspaugh told The Dispatcher that he is pleased with the agreement, which embodied some gains, “including wage and benefit improvements that were received by both parties in view of the present state of the economy.”

New attack on sugar bill

WASHINGTON, DC — The latest attack on the US sugar program, launched in July, has been held off at least until this month.

The new attack, which is designed to roll back the program’s price-support levels could not pass the House, because its supporters have been trying to attach it in the form of an amendment to another agricultural measure. The bill they chose, which would freeze support levels for other crops, is highly controversial in its own right. It ran into a filibuster in July and was pulled off the floor until the Senate returns from its August recess.

A bill to eliminate the import quotas that are imposed under the sugar program has also been introduced in the House by Representatives Tom Downey (D-NY) and Willis Gradison (R-Ohio).

If the quota bill is held up in the Senate as some people predicted during the August recess, its supporters would have to try to attach it in the form of an amendment to another agricultural measure.

Some people predicted during the August recess, its supporters would have to try to attach it in the form of an amendment to another agricultural measure.

Some people predicted during the August recess, its supporters would have to try to attach it in the form of an amendment to another agricultural measure.
PAHALA—Shades of the late Harold (Oldjob) Sakoia, Tommy Kono, Richard Tom, and Tommy Tomiyama.

Well, Russell Ogata, Pahala's pride and joy, is giving it the ol' college try, to follow in the footsteps of the former Hawaii Olympic Games immortals.

And, he seems to be on track, with hopes of making it to Los Angeles for the 1984 Games. Russell has the credentials to attain that goal. He has been working out for about two years at the US Olympic Training Center, to remain in contention for a spot on the US team.

The 5-foot-6, 133-pound hopeful ranked fourth in the 165-pound middleweight division in 1982. The competition is keen in this category because it is loaded with a host of outstanding athletes.

His proud father is Tagioo "Blakie" Ogata, a retired Kau Sugar garage journeyman mechanic, who played a prominent role in the development of the ILWU in this remote Big Island plantation community in the 1940s—serving as a steward organizer, and on various standing committees.

But, more on him later.

Suffering a bit of bad luck, young Ogata placed seventh at the recent US Federation Championships in Massachusetts. A damaged back muscle curtailed his chances to compete in the US Sports Festival in Los Angeles.

Russell got his start in competitive weightlifting via a helping hand extended by Pat Omori, a UH-Hilo registrar.

Russell, himself a Big Island weightlifter of note—a native of M. View—who is an ex-US amateur weightlifter, offered Russell the boost he needed.

Ogata displayed lots of promise once he got into the swing of things. Starting in 1976, he won the state middleweight crown with regularity. He finally made it big when UH-Hilo sent him to the collegiate championships at Michigan State in 1977. He placed third.

In 1976 he moved to Honolulu, matriculated at UH-Maioela, and landed a job at Nanao VMCA. It was an added arrangement because he was able to work out with Y regulars in the weight room.

His competitive spirit, hard work, and initiative began to improve even to pay off. He qualified for the 1980 Olympics trials, taking eighth place over a 15-man field. The US boycotted the Games held in Moscow that year.

Presently he resides in Colorado Springs, where he has a job at a training center. He plans to try everything new—offer exercise classes to local churches.

At age 27, Ogata says the LA Games trials to be held in Las Vegas next spring, will be his final Olympic fliy.

He plans to return to college to pursue a degree in physical education.

Local ILWU is 142 boasts Olympic hopeful

Dockers daughter wields a mean blade

SAN FRANCISCO—Kristen Krulick, daughter of Portland ILWU Local 8 member Jerry Krulick, and her wife Carol, placed 12th in the nation at the National Fencing Tournament held at the University of San Francisco June 10. At 16, she was the youngest participant in the event.

"She qualified at the regional held here in Portland, said her father, then she went on to the national meet in San Francisco, she's shooting for the Olympics Team in 1988."

A straight "A" student at Madison High School, Kristen took up fencing when she was in the 8th grade. Her coach was Yves Auriol, the last Olympic team coach. Kristen also plays the piano in a church group, Krulick said.

Local 504 tournament draws 140 golfers

VICTORIA, BC—Over 140 golfers Local 504, Vancouver, held its 18th annual golf tournament on Thursday, June 30 at the Gorge Vale Golf Course.

A total of 140 golfers, wives and friends—a many from Portland and elsewhere—enjoyed a sumptuous buffet, happy hour and prize presentations.

The four divisional champions were Low Gross, D. Woolford, Seattle; Low Net, John Bly, Tacoma; Low Calloway, S. Soren, Local 504, Vancouver; Senior Champion, K. Scherber, Local 500, Vancouver.

Bill Haddad headed up the Local 504 tournament arrangements committee.

"Working Coffee" is ILWU theme at SF fair

SAN FRANCISCO—Over 100,000 people attended the second San Francisco Urban Fair at Moscone Center July 28-31. A large number of exhibits were from the labor movement, with the ILWU providing one of the most attractive booths.

"Working Coffee" showed that "coffee is a union brew," being brought in, handled, roasted, ground, packaged and shipped out by ILWU members in the bay area—warehouses, longshore, clerks and inlandboatmen.

Helping out at the booth were Dee Roth, Roy Lee King, Keith Eckman, Joe Figueredo, Kelso Anderson, Richard Abrahams, Lew Chayan and Richard Moore, all from warehousel Local 6. Office employee Jane Lyman and her daughter Laurie also helped.

Also assisting were Annie Coleman, Raymond Luke, Robinette Brooks and Ed Edwards, shipscaler's Local 2; Charlie Clarke, Inlandboatmen's Union; Richard Meggett, Local 6, Frank Patton, clerks Local 34, and Leonard Malliet, Local, longshore Local 10.

The ILWU effort was coordinated by Local 6 Business Agent Henry Mcgirt, Regional Director LeRoy King and Dispatcheditor Danny Beagle. Robert Costa, Local 10, also assisted in setting up the exhibit.

Coffee companies under Local 6 contract providing technical, financial and other assistance were Hills Brothers, Superior, MJB, Folger, Safeway, United, 5 & W and Tenco.

Many visitors were able to grind beans and take home a fresh-ground sample.

The ILWU exhibit also featured a video, shot at Superior coffee and narrated by Local 6 member Dick Moore, showing the various aspects of coffee production; photos of ILWU-managed coffee operations; as well as 150-pound coffee sacks which a number of passers-by tried to muscle around the floor.

Mark Whitney mourned

LONG BEACH—Mark Whitney, 47, a 25-year member of the ILWU was killed instantly Monday afternoon, August 15, while driving witches aboard the Holy Express, when a boom fell on him.

Whitney was "one of our most generous, most sincere and most helpful union members," said an article in the Local 13 Bulletin. "He will always be remembered as someone who was always there, always ready to help in any way he could."

The funeral was held on Friday, August 19, with some 300-400 people on hand. Local 13, with the concurrence of clerks' Local 65 and foreman's Local 94, stopped work for two hours on that day to allow members to attend the services at Green Hills Mortuary.

Whitney is survived by his wife Marilyn, and a daughter, Melody.

In a statement to the local press, Local 13 labor director Bruce Krieger said that the accident occurred because the boom was not fastened to the bottom by a locking device. Local 13 officers have asked for a full investigation by federal OSHA.

Local 65, Petersburg

Longshoremen and Warehousemen members elected their new executive board members: M.K. Littleton; vice-president, Walter Dawson; treasurer, Marvin Jansen; and secretary, Alec Lyde.

New executive board members are Charles Narttcr, Bill Ohren and Neal Conkery.

Federated auxiliaries

Juan Font, Auxiliary 1, Seattle, was reelected president of the Federated Auxiliaries at their 21st Biennial Convention held here June 20-23.

Also reelected were Emina Phillips, Everett, Secretary; and Gladys Hoover, Hoquiam, Treasurer.

Other officers elected at the meeting included "Boots" Kadow, Local 6; N. W., vice-president; Lois Gray, Torrance, vice-president for Southern California; Clydessa Austin, San Francisco, vice-president for Northern California; Amy Gilbert, vice-president for Oregon-Washington; and Carol Curtis, Auxiliary 30, Vancouver, BC, vice-president for Canada.

China report

"The ILWU is the union we have the best relations with in the United States," according to Guo Mao An international liaison for the All China Federation of Trade Unions in Peking.

Mr. Guo made this comment to myself and my wife Maya during our visit to China in July. Guo spoke at some length of the work of the late Lou Goldblatt, former ILWU Secretary-Treasurer, who led several trade union delegations to China and who was a friend of China. Guo said that he and his colleagues were saddened to hear of Goldblatt's death because of the tremendous job he did in educating Americans about China and in educating the Chinese in turn about the United States.

Guo told us that he hopes that Goldblatt's successor Curt McClain, who visited China with Goldblatt in 1981 will continue, along with International President Jim Herman, the cooperation between China and the ILWU that Goldblatt began.

Guo told us that he particularly hopes that trade union friends of China will "encourage the United States and the AFL-CIO to allow Chinese trade unionists to visit the United States some day." Guo said that presently Chinese trade unionists are barred from entering the United States, and that the AFL-CIO forbids trade unionists from communicating with Chinese trade unionists.

State Margarinos

Local 25, Los Angeles

Dispatcher praised

Congratulations to the Dispatcher staff for producing such a fine newspaper. The rank and file orientation of the paper is a rarity in the American Labor Movement. I have seen the newspapers of other unions and what most of them amount to is a monthly campaign brochure for the incumbent officers.

The international scope of the paper is also great. There is no question that the world is coming together through economic interdependence.

Paul Fuh I BU, Alaska
Laid-off workers now garden in Del Monte’s fallow pine fields

KUALAPU’U — While once stood Del Monte’s Molokai pineapple experiment station, now sprout acres of assorted fruits and vegetables.

The huge garden is the result of Del Monte’s agreement to open up 28 acres of land, located in nearby Kualapuu village, to interested employees, supervisors, laid-off workers and their children.

The company cleared the land, and prepared it for farming when the plantation’s job cuts were announced early this year. Available are 100 lots of about one-quarter of an acre each. Close to 90 persons thus far are working the land at no charge.

The company’s offer also includes free water, available via the plumbing which handled the needs of the experiment station.

“When the levee broke last week, since the lease (via Molokai Ranch) will not expire until December 31, 1985, so why not put it to some useful purpose,” says George Tamura, chief of Del Monte’s personnel department.

Del Monte first announced in December that it would shut down its canning operations in Honolulu due to the world oversupply of pineapples. It meant mass layoffs—the first of which came January 2, both in the canning and field departments.

cedes workers were extended a reprieve when the company decided to harvest its crop—rather than let it rot away—and ship it to the Honolulu cannery so be produced into juice for shipment to its mainland operations.

This phase of the program ceased on August 31, when the cannery shut down for good. Del Monte, however, has indicated that it will continue harvesting Molokai pineapples under its fresh fruit operations, which means retaining about 100 workers, some regulars and non-regulars, who will be called to work, dependent on the needs of the fresh fruit market.

In the meantime, about 20 regulars and intermittent workers at the Honolulu cannery will stay on the payroll as well, to mothball the plant by year’s end, begins summer.

Work in San Diego

SAN DIEGO—Ocean cargo service between San Diego and Long Beach, San Francisco and Coos Bay, Oregon. South Pacific ports will include Tahiti, American Samoa and Western Samoa, with transshipment service to Fiji, New Guinea, New Caledonia and Tonga, company officials said.

A new multipurpose container ship, the Mounta, will inaugurate the monthly service. The freighter has a capacity of 570 20-foot containers.

The Mounta can carry canned tuna from American Samoa to the Van Camp Seafood facilities in San Diego and empty cans from the plant to Samoa on the return voyage.

Currently the only other scheduled freighter service to Western Samoa is aboard the Serigraph, operated by the Pacific Islands Transport Line.

People often wonder why employers so go to much trouble to force workers to work overtime, even though they have to pay time and a half for overtime hours. Wouldn’t it be more sensible to hire extra workers and install more machinery at straight time?

The fact is that the company makes more profit on overtime hours than on regular hours, in spite of time and a half. The main reason for this is that the boss has certain costs—wages, fringes, overhead—which are paid for by selling what the worker produces in the first few hours of the worker’s production. Anything the worker produces after that is clear profit; therefore, the longer the working day, the more the profits.

A “typical” factory of 1,000 workers, tells the story. In the last four hours of a 12-hour day, the company pays time and a half. But it doesn’t pay anything for fringes (pension, hospitalization, etc.). So if you count fringes in with wages for the first 8 hours, the company pays only one and one-fifth as much to the worker during the four overtime hours. And look what he saves in those last four hours: rent, real estate taxes, interest on debt; and much clerical and administrative work is no greater for the 12-hour day than the 8-hour day because the white collar staff only works 8 hours. So, essentially, the company has almost no “overhead” during the last four hours. This means that for the 8-hour day, it takes the first five hours’ production to cover costs, leaving change for profits. In a 12-hour day, it takes two hours—seven hours—costs to cover costs, leaving five hours of clear profit.

THANKS TO BILL WARD—the coordinators of the ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Recovery Program chipped in recently to say a big thanks to retiring Coast Com- missioner member Bill Ward, who was closely attached to the program during its initial years. “We wanted to let Bill know how much we appreciated what he had done to get this program off the ground,” said Northern California coordinator George Cobbs.

The program, which includes about 30 people close to the program, including the ILWU national officers turned up at Caesar’s Restaurant recently to say thanks, and allow Tor Jim Copp and Northern California coordinator George Cobbs.

ALCOHOLISM SPEAKER—Claudia Black, an internationally known authority on the problems of adult children of alcoholic parents, was the speaker at a recent monthly dinner meeting of the Southern California ILWU-PMA Alcoholism Recovery Program. Some 80 people regularly turn up at Antes’ restaurant in San Pedro for these meetings, to hear speakers on alcohol and drug-related issues, and to otherwise celebrate their sobriety. With Ms. Black are Southern California recovery program coordinator Ed Torres, Oregon-Columbia area coordinator Jim Copp and Northern California coordinator George Cobbs.

Why the boss likes overtime

More profit

Any way you measure it, the company makes more working the overtime than it would hiring additional workers and buying more machines at a normal straight time.

How else does this hurt the worker? In addition to getting shifted for the sole benefit of a few owners and managers, regular overtime means fatigue, lower muscle co-ordination, therefore illness and accidents. It means family life, less time for relaxation, further education and all the other benefits and pleasures every worker has a right to. Last but not least, it means more men and women on jobs. More unemployment, less cash for the working class to buy goods with; it contributes to recession.

Local 26 Bulletin

Local 26 wins first pact with Western Pacific Crating

LOS ANGELES—ILWU Warehouse Local 26 officials report contract settlements with three companies, including a first-time agreement with Western Pacific Crating, Inc.

After four months of negotiations with the firm’s attorneys, Western Pacific agreed to a three-year pact providing for an automatic guar- antee, dues checkoff, a seniority system, holidays, overtime pay and a substantial wage in-

crease.

The company manufactures packing crates for large and small machinery and other products.

The contract was negotiated by Local 26 Business Agent Jesus Alvarez.

Other agreements

Alvarez also Local 63, achieved favorable bar- gaining agreements at New York Merchandise and Sassoon-Scherman Company. The two-year pact at New York Merchandise calls for increased wages, overtime pay, sick benefits, funeral leave, and other contributions. Chief Steward Al Ponce participated in the negotiations.

The three-year contract with Sassoon-Scher- man provides improved wages in each year of the contract; plus gains in job classification and safety equipment provisions. Negotiations were headed by Chief Steward E. D. Roe.

Dockers, Widows On Pension List

SAN FRANCISCO—The Bay Area ILWU Pension Fund, following is the list of dockers retired under various ILWU-PMA plans:...
Local 29 enters politics

Massive protests continue against BC anti-labor program

Backs Mike Garrett for City Council

SAN DIEGO — Concerned about the "inability or unwillingness" of the San Diego Port Commission to develop maritime trade, ILWU Longshore Local 29 is looking to back candidates that can change all that.

The union thinks it has found one in former Heisman Trophy winner and NFL running back Mike Garrett. Garrett, 39, is a candidate from the Fourth District for City Council, the body which appoints port commissioners.

"We've never had anybody on the port commission that's been from labor," said Local 29 Past President Larry Cotter. "They are the business types, real estate and attorneys. We're trying now to involve ourselves in various city council races to see if we can get someone that...

MERRY-GO-ROUND

San Diego Port commissioners have one of two positions with regard to shipping, charged Vargas, "low priority and no priority." He claims they have preoccupied with developing the port for tourism. For example, where the city's waterfront was once called for the development of a marine terminal at the foot of K Street, it is now being used as a yacht harbor, complete with shops, restaurants and merry-go-round.

"It's a nice area. I go there myself," said Vargas. "The traffic there is about 38 feet —should be used for shipping. What tourists is going to care if a shopping mall is over 38 feet? The guys who are going to care are the ones hoping to get a ship in to work.

Port Commissioners frequently use the rationale that existing waterfront facilities are underutilized, said Vargas, "but we want to know why they are underutilized.

"Maybe we can't use the port, but the port says it doesn't want to compete for cargo. This is the second largest city in California, but they always say we're too close to Los Angeles to generate cargo. Port Hueneme is even closer to L.A., and they're handling citrus, cars and military cargo. Why? Their port authority is going to run the way, that's why. Hell, even the Navy stuff originating in San Diego is hauled to Port Hueneme for shipment out. Now that's ridiculous."

"Finally, it is the port commissioner's appointment system, which is not too transparent. We want more answerable to the interests that got them the job rather than the citizens. Many commissioners were simply using the port as a stepping stone, he charged, and policy was based on furthering their political careers, not the needs and realities of the port."

"It got so bad that some people were running on a platform that they'd serve a full term if elected," said Vargas. So far, the only person who has challenged San Diego's appointment system is Mike Garrett. He used the city a while back to step officials from appointing friends to serve out unexpired terms and then for office with the advantage of incumbency. Garrett lost the suit, but is now running his own grassroots campaign with some local support.

His opponent, however, is an unelected incumbent appointed by Supervisor Harold "Jake" Ehrlich.

AN INDEPENDENT

"Jones is a Williams protege," said Garrett. "Which means he is a lackey and the same kind of politician that Supervisor Williams is. If in 13 years, Williams couldn't deliver jobs, city services, and educational benefits to the people, then neither will Jones. Who we need is an independent candidate who is not beholden to any of the various power groups except his own people, the people that own the city."

Garrett is also interested in reforming the appointment system.

"Since port commissioners have the power to raise revenues and to spend," he said, "I think it would be more appropriate for this body to be made up of the elected officials from the port cities."

In the decade since he retired from football, Garrett ran a juvenile delinquency facility in San Diego, worked for the district attorney's office, did some broadcasting and public relations work, and managed real estate investments.

Local 29 secretary Sam Vargas, left, visits rundown San Diego pier with City Council campaigner Mike Garrett.

—photo by Bee Vargas

VANCOUVER, BC — The political protest movement of British Columbia citizens against the Social Credit government legislation of the provincial social credit government continues to gather steam. Many workers both in the private and public sectors took time off to attend the spirit-...