Election returns

‘Labor’s got a lot of fight left’

SAN FRANCISCO—As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, members of the ILWU International Executive Board are preparing to meet in Los Angeles November 14 to discuss, among other things, the results of labor’s efforts in the 1984 election campaign.

—While we have every reason for disappointment over the Reagan landslide,” said International President Jim Herman, “the fact is that we scored very well on local races, and in Congress. Things will certainly get tougher, but labor and its allies have a lot of fight left in them. We’ll look forward to the 1986 races.”

AREA SURVEY

A brief survey of political fallout in ILWU areas indicates that the President, while enormously popular, had short coat tails.

In California, for example, an essentially liberal Congressional delegation was turned in, with the exception of Jerry Patterson in Orange County. Equally important, California residents shot down a number of propositions which would have instituted cruel cuts in the state’s welfare programs, made it impossible for local government to raise needed revenues, and re-draw the state’s political map to guarantee Republican majorities in Congress and the state legislature.

In Oregon, three of the five congressional representatives endorsed by the ILWU were re-elected (the two losers were Congress as well.

In Washington, Democrats were pleased by the defeat of Republican Governor John Spellman, and the victory of Booth Gardner. Key congressional representatives from the Puget Sound area were re-elected, and the state legislature remains Democratic. In Hawaii, liberals Dan Akaka and Cec Heftel were easily returned to the House and Senate seats, while the GOP failed to win a single House seat, paying its non-union longshoremen substantially below scale.

In the process, the company has alienated many other unions, aside from the ILWU, who also failed to get the ILWU standards here in Alaska. Environmen
talists have objected to the company’s fast and loose approach to the tidelands in the Seward area. Other Seattle-Alaska shippers are also extremely disturbed by the rate war which SeaWay has initiated in what had been a stable and profitable trade.

UNPROFESSIONAL

SeaWay’s longshore operations have been less than professional and have been repeated grounds in Alaskan wa ter. And on October 15, one of its barges, the City of Seward, ran aground off Prince Rupert, BC, rupturing four wing tanks on its left side. Repairs are expected to last until late November. (See photo, page 6.)

The area standards picket line, manned by members of longshore Local 19 clerks’ Local 32, and foremen’s Local 98, will continue. Members of the battle committee who are coordinating the ILWU’s activities against SeaWay include: regional Director G. Johnny Parks (chairman); Ron Thornberry, Local 32; Everett; Jim Norton, Local 23, Tacoma; Ken Ginsburg and Russ Alexander, Local 19, Seattle; and Bob Vaux, clerks Local 52.

Non-union barges

ILWU keeps pressure on SeaWay Co.

SEATTLE—As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, Puget Sound locals continue to mount a solid area standards picket line, seeking implementation of west coast longshore labor standards at the mast er, anti-union SeaWay Express Co.

SeaWay began operations last spring, hauling its two triple-decker roll-on/roll-off barges between Seattle and Seward, Alaska. Since last spring, has run into serious difficulty because of its unprofessional, fly-by-night methods of operation. In photo above, R. Boskovitch, foreman’s local 98, W.P. Fisher and Gilbert Pacheco, Local 19.

Speaking out about deteriorating conditions at their plant, members of ILWU Local 6 at the Port Costa brickyard have joined with management in an innovative new plan to save their jobs. “We won’t let you mismanage our jobs down the drain,” said one.

Tough bargaining nets grain pact

PORTLAND—Five northwest ILWU locals reached tentative agreement on a new three year contract with the Pacific Northwest Grain Operators’ Association on October 19 at 3 a.m.

These negotiations, which began more than three months ago, “were the most diffic ut we’ve ever faced,” said coast commit tee member Dick Wise. He attributed this year’s problems to the strength of the US dollar caused by high interest rates, and increased competition.

The tentative agreement, however, contains the same wage and benefit increases negotiated in the 1984 Pacific Coast longshore agreement, with other adjustments peculiar to the grain industry.

Some 300 members of the five locals in volved will be covered, at one time or an other, by this agreement. It’s estimated that 1983 grain exports accounted for 35% of the tonnage on the Columbia.

Bill Luch, Local 8, was committee chair man. Other members included Jack Borst, Donald Lawley, Martin Probsthofer, Don Cole, Harley Firon, Paul Unrein, Larry Roberts (Local 8); Jack Bridger; Richard Barnsley, Ralph Vea (Local 4); Jim Herron, Paul Canfield (Local 21); Bill Bridges (vice chairman), George Ginnis (Local 23); Anthony Ziller, Vernon Strand and Ray Reinhardt (Local 19). Dick Wise and NW Regional Director G. Johnny Parks as sisted.

ILWU-IBT co-operation

Fighting back against a union-busting employer, members of Local 26 have just won an arbitration forcing Ekco Metals to fork over more than $30,000 in back pay.

See article at right
Closing down the Pentagon follies

The author of the following article was a member of the Professional Air Traffic Controllers' Organization. His name has been withheld at his request.

In 1980 I, a union member, voted for Ronald Reagan.

It was a vote based primarily on selfish motives. He had specifically promised, in words that improved my professional status and my union would endorse his candidacy. So I accepted the flow of air traffic control work that Jimmy Carter wasn't interested in helping us, gave the go-ahead to PATCO officials who endorsed Mr. Reagan and, finally, a written message went to Mr. Reagan and VA mortgage lenders that ex-controlled were fired for cause and should not be granted extensions.

Private sector employers were not the an-
swer either. Most were either caught up in the officially sponsored hatred, or believed that any move toward peace would be regarded as weakness. Though labor action against the Defense Department was accompanied by substantial economic and political costs, the intent was clear—economic capital punishment—total and complete.

The majority of PATCO members had re-
ceived their training in the military and were Vietnam veterans. Perhaps that's why the union that was particularly infuriating.

To the Pentagon's habit of "waste, fraud and folly" in the defense program. The military

President Ronald Reagan plans to spend $1.8 billion on defense over the years 1985-1989. More than ever in the years ahead, the Department of Defense is becoming the centenary of Truman's birth. There can be no better way to com-
examine the Truman Committee. The Truman Committee was established in March 1942. It was empowered to in-
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Local 29 pact at Freightheandlers

SAN DIEGO—Some 20 members of Longshore Local 29 have ratified a three-year agreement with Freightheandlers, Inc., which provides substantial wage increases and other improvements.

These members, part of Local 29's industrial unit, are employed bagging chemical fertilizer. The company is a subsidiary of Stevedoring Services of America.

Wages are increased by 70¢ in the first year, 75¢ in the second year and 75¢ in the third year. Other improvements include increased duration of health and welfare benefits after termination, an additional holiday, and an additional guaranteed holiday, regardless of hours worked.

Local 29 negotiators also won a four-hour guarantee after the mid-shift meal, 10 minutes wash-up time before lunch, and increased manning on bagging operations.

The negotiating committee consisted of Local 29 President Sam Vargas, Southern California Regional Director Jose Buitrara, Abraham Jimenez and Felix Cordova.

Local 29 is also in bargaining now with the Container Corporation of America, with a paper recycling operation, which employs another 15 members of the industrial unit. "Right now we're not even close," says Vargas. "There are nothing but takeaways on the table."

Delta Lines sold to US Lines

SAN FRANCISCO—Crewdale Maritime Corp. has reached a tentative agreement to sell its Delta Steamship Lines to US Lines by the end of the year.

The sale includes Delta ships and its shipping and trade routes, primarily to South America. New Jersey-based US Lines also agreed to lease for 15 years three new container ships that are being built for Delta in Denmark.

Crewdale, the privately owned San Francisco-based line and harbor operator with annual sales of about $750 million, bought Delta—and its 24 ships—from Holiday Inns Line Inc. for $86 million in cash.

Then Delta had nearly half of the booming Latin American market. Last year, the shipping line's revenues fell more than 50% to $200 million. In addition, it racked up a $20 million operating loss.

If the deal goes through, US Lines will consolidate its operations in South America.

Berkeley—For years, contract talks with Cutter Laboratories, Local 6's largest East Bay account, have been "as slow as you can come in the room," recalled Assistant Steward Gary McKenzie, a 21-year employee. "We would enter the room, slam their papers down" and then stone-wall with nothing but negotiations.

And when they weren't "ranting and raving about getting anywhere," added Chief Steward George Alles, they were listening to the year veteran of "numerous negotiating committees," they sat "for hours with nothing be-
ing said."

Bynum points to the committee members—six new ones, Miles Laboratories, bargained with a seven-member negotiating committee representing more than 18 departments "in a much more business-like way," Bynum said.

The talks produced a three-year contract providing solid economic gains, and extensive new language ensuring fairness and union-management cooperation in the handling of grievances and other issues.

"This time around, we talked and hashed out issues all day long," Bynum said. "We were also letting people from Miles know exactly what was going on around here."

"Bargaining was still hard. "Cutter came in with a two-tier wage proposal, no wage increase and only a lump-sum payment to the workforce," said committee spokesperson Curtis McClain, International Secretary-Treasurer. "The committee did an excellent job and walked away with a sig-
rificant contract and no two-tier program."

Cutter Labs, which take up eight blocks in south Berkeley, manufactures medical products and equipment such as blood plasma and intravenous units. Cutter employs 220 Local 6 members, and has been organized since the 1940s.

The contract improves wages by 40¢ for all classifications except machine builders and maintenance men, effective September 2, in the first year of the contract. Two lump-sum payments of $750 will be paid to these classifications in each of the remaining two years of the agreement.

Machine builders won wage increases of $2 per the first year, 50¢ and 50¢, providing parity with area Machinists' agreement. Maintenance mechanics won increases of 75¢, 50¢ and 50¢.

The committee also negotiated separate rate classification adjustments, from 4.5¢ to 25¢. The health benefits banner under the health and welfare program were maintained over the life of the agreement. An additional holiday raises the total to 13 in each year.

"It's not up to interpretation as much as communicating the new contract, and not the personal feel-
ing," McKenzie said. "I think it is going to be their bible—at least I hope it will be."

When employees' attendance dips, "we go talk to them instead of the company going in and writing them up," McKenzie said.

Both Bynum and McKenzie believe the new contract, and not the personal feelings of a supervisor, will set a good standard for employees in the past, will determine new working conditions at Cutter.

"But believe me, McKenzie cautioned, "we're working with Cutter to keep attend-
ance high."

"It helped to have veterans who ac-
tued the two organizations, said ILWU International President Jim Herman, "we enjoy excel-
lent working relations with the IIB. The purpose of this meeting was to improve our relations, to start at talking things out and laying the basis for further improvement."

FURTHER MEETINGS

Southern California Teamster leader Monte Ogden discusses ILWU-IBT cooperation around Los Angeles waterfront.

ILWU, IBT work to improve communications

SAN FRANCISCO—ILWU and Teamster Pacific Coast officials met at International headquarters November 1 to renew and strengthen lines of communication between the two organizations.

In general," said ILWU International President Jim Herman, "we enjoy excellent working relations with the IIB. The purpose of this meeting was to improve our relations, to start at talking things out and laying the basis for further improvement."

SAN FRANCISCO—The Joint Teamster-ILWU Northern California Warehouse Council held a workshop October 31 called "Stayin' Alive in '85" to discuss bargaining strategy for next year's expiring Master Warehouse Agreement.

The workshop was hosted by co-chairman Curtis McClain, International Secretary-Treasurer, and Al Costa, IBT Warehouse Local 853 Secretary-Treasurer.

Jack Looe, of the Western Benefit Plan Consultants, Inc., spoke about health and welfare benefits. ILWU Local 6 president Al Lanson discussed the "two-tier trap," Teamsters attorney Duane Beason discussed some recent damaging NLRB decisions.

Local union representatives gave reports on the number and types of exceptions to the 1982 contract, plant closings and long-term layoffs and contract language problems and important arbitration decisions.

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The new language in the contract establishes an orientation for new members of the bargaining unit, and clearly written grievance procedures, Bynum and McKenzie said.

The orientation includes union laws and bylaws and "general practices that go in this lab that have never in the past been written down," Bynum said.

Also, the stewards can communicate and assist new employees within the first 75 days, which was not allowed in the past. This practice brings Miles and the union together "to prevent some of these problems some of the new workers run into," Bynum said.

The validity of grievances is now easier to determine. "We don't flood that office with grievances," Bynum said. "If we don't feel you have a grievance we'll tell you."

"But believe me," McKenzie cautioned, "we have to respond within five days."

The Teamster delegation was led by International Vice-President Arnie Weinmester. Also participating were Chuck Mack, Joint Council 7; Vic Alice, Western Conference of Teamsters; Monte Ogden, Local 602; Ed Zimmerman, IBT Canadian Conference; Hobby Miller, Joint Council 38; Mike Riley, Joint Council 42; and others.

FURTHER MEETINGS

Further meeting on specific issues will be scheduled on a regional basis.

Joining Herman in representing the ILWU were Secretary-Treasurer Curt Mc-

Climate—President Rudy Rubbo; coast committee member Dick Wise and Robert Ovets, Rod Cluphf, Local 19; Tom Lupher and Larry Wing, Local 10; Pete Fuller, Local 54, Dave Arion, Local 19; Larry Chark, Local 40; Bob Vaux, Local 52; Tom Thomp-

son, Local 6; Richard Austin, Local 32; Sam Vargas, Local 29; Frank Billeci, Local 34; Richard Bancro, Local 4; Jeff Adams, Local 50; and Rick Marzano, Local 23. Also on hand were ILWU regional directors Le- Roy King, Local 1; Victor Ennis, Local 8; Local 29 negotiators also won a four-

SUGAR CAUCUS—Delegates from 13 plantations and other sugar units met in Honolulu October 16 to draft their demands for upcoming sugar negotiations. The current contract expires June 1, 1985. Shown above are Local 142 President Eddie Lapa, presiding, International President Jim Herman, and ILWU Washing-
ton Representative Mike Lewis, who described the legislative problems facing the sugar industry.

Members of ILWU-IBT Northern California Warehouse Council met October 30 to begin discussions of strategy for 1986 bargaining.

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EXPERIENCE

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SOLIDARITY PERSONIFIED—Workers at Olaa Sugar Co. (later re-named Puna Sugar) were among the first to join the ILWU when mass organizing of sugar workers in the Territory of Hawaii began in 1943. Pictured is the Olaa contingent, part of a parade of over 1,000 members, wives and children, who together with other Big Island ILWU unit groups marched through Hilo’s main street at the height of the historic 1946 sugar strike. The 77-day strike sent the Big Five to defeat for the first time ever, which eventually led to the birth of the “New Hawaii.”

ILWU pioneers
Most laid off Puna workers face tight job market

KEAAU, Hawaii—On September 19, the final truck load of sugar cane was delivered to the Puna Sugar Co. mill and the last processing shift completed work at the 85-year-old Amfac plantation.

About 100 workers—there were 500 on the payroll when closure was announced in 1982—were released. The remainder, composed of factory, garage, clerical and supervisory employees, will be gradually laid off as clean up, inventories, equipment sales and mothballing is completed by November 30. About 100 workers will be retained to run the plantation’s power plant, which supplies electricity to Hawaii Electric Light Co. under a contract which runs till 1991.

Parade honors ILWU 50th Anniversary

ANDERSON—A parade honoring the 50th Anniversary of the Big Strike and passage of a nuclear freeze resolution highlighted the 17th annual convention of the ILWU Pacific Coast Pensioners Association held September 23-26th.

The current officers, Robert Rohatch, president (Local 10), Jim Foster, secretary-treasurer (Local 8), and Frank Reich!, vice-president (Local 23), were re-elected. The book will be printed annually.

KEAAU—The commemorative parade, held the last day of the PCPA convention, focused on politics, peace and economic issues.

Election Held

The candidates for the 1985-86 ILWU presidency are: Frank Reich!, Local 23, Tacoma, vice-president; and Jim Foster, Local 8, Portland, secretary-treasurer.

The voting took place on the last day of the conference.

Freeze Resolution

The Nuclear Balance and Arms Freeze resolution was passed after a motion by Bert Donlin, Bay Area Pensioners Welfare Director. It was sponsored by the ILWU Washington Office, the ILWU Executive Board, and Pensioners Welfare Directors.

The resolution says: "Toward the goal of eliminating the nuclear threat—"nations... the United States of America and the USSR—to prevent world destruction by the advanced technological (atomic, long-range missile) nuclear weapons of these two countries.""

Among the guests on hand was Loc 6 President Al Lannon.

Pensioners support apology to internees

SAN FRANCISCO—The Bay Area ILWU Pensioners are supporting the two bills which would, in effect, apologize to those Japanese Americans who were wrongfully and unconstitutionally sent to concentration camps in WWII.

"We in the ILWU were one of the few organizations to forcefully and vigorously oppose the imposition of Executive Order 9066, which in the spring of 1942, resulted in the forcible eviction of over 120,000 Japanese Americans from their homes without the slightest presence of due process," pensioners president Robert Rohatch wrote recently to President Ronald Reagan and the Bay Area congressional delegation.

"We feel that our position has been vindicated by the report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Officials, and by the support of many diverse groups ranging from the AFL-CIO to the American Bar Association to the legislation before Congress."

"We urge the President and Congress once and for all close the books on this ugly chapter in our history by symbolically making whole victims of that outrage. Without forceful and direct repudiation of the policy of internment—the civil liberties of all Americans remain in jeopardy," Rohatch wrote.

ILWU to get copy of Bulcke oral history

SAN FRANCISCO—The newly-completed oral history of retired international vice-president Germaine Bulcke, produced by the Regional Oral History Project of the UC Berkeley Bancroft Library, will be presented to him and the ILWU Annandale Dry Goods Department, at the December 12 meeting of the Bay Area ILWU Pensioners, at Local 10, 400 North Point Street.

The book will be added to the histories of Lou Goldberg and Henry Schmidt, already published by the UC research group.

The Bay Area ILWU Pensioners Club, other ILWU locals and individuals, as well as the International have contributed to the printing of the book, and a listing of donors expresses appreciation for their support.

Willa Bauman, director of the oral history project, will make the presentation, and Estebal Waller, who interviewed Bulcke and edited the book, will make comments.

ILWU Pensioners and friends from the IWA prepare for ILWU 50th anniversary parade which opened PCPA Convention.

Local 6 archivist A. Hackett worked with the Oakland Museum on "California Dream" exhibit.

Museum exhibit features Local 6

OAKLAND DREAM—A prominent exhibit on California's labor history, one of the highlights of the major new "California Dream" exhibition at the Oakland Museum which opened November 9, features ILWU Local 6. The Local 6 section—showing hiring hall and strike activity—was put together by Local 6 Charter Member A. Hackett. Local 6 President Al Lannon spoke as part of an opening symposium on labor's role in the "California Dream."

The Oakland Museum is located at 10th and Oak streets and admission to the exhibit is free.
Local 6 fights to save Port Costa brickyard jobs

PORT COSTA, Ca.—A creative approach to halting a possible plant closure without concessions is being tried by Local 6 at a 78-year-old brick factory.

Port Costa Products, a Master Contract plant, sprawled over the hills of Contra Costa County overlooking the Carquinez Strait, makes bricks and aggregates and has lost a bundle of money last year. A succession of un采暖 owners and poor managers has left the 60 Local 6 members wondering if their jobs would be around very long. Some had stopped caring. New ownership from Germany brought in some innovations over the last year, but the plant has not yet turned around and relationships deteriorated. The workers point to poor and arrogant supervision as the main problem. "If you speak up," one worker said, "you're likely to get fired."

"Communications have broken down," Local 6 President Al Lannon told a packed stop-work meeting at the Union's Crockett Hall October 20. "We can't allow management to mismanage our jobs down the drain, not without a fight."

Local 6 Secretary-Treasurer Leon Harris added that "The boss has to listen to you if they want to make the plant run right. You have to know how to move to run right."

**EMPLOYER REPS**

After an hour's discussion, North Bay Business Agent Gerald Hemenez welcomed three visitors—Port Costa Chief Financial Officer Gene Thornton, a Supervisor, and Industrial Employers and Distributors Representative Austris Bunge—to the meeting. The bosses had been invited to hear the workers' concerns on the workers' home ground—their Union Hall. And the workers spoke up.

"They treat me right, and I'll treat them right," said veteran David Shellhorn. "We want to work together, like a football team."

Relative newcomer David Maybewh, Jr., told the company representative: "I'm not going to give up on this plant because it has been a part of my life. I don't think you can disrespect a man's pride."

Thornton responded by agreeing that there "bas to be mutual respect, and it's the bosses' job to earn that respect."

At the meeting's conclusion, management gave a favorable response to a Local 6 proposal to create a representative Labor Management Committee, separate from the Grievance Committee, which could meet regularly to review problems "to see what went wrong and what went right." Lannon said, "and to open a continuing dialogue which can open a continuing dialogue which can open a continuing dialogue."

The plan had drawn strong support from the membership earlier.

Hemenez said, "This is only a beginning, but it is a good beginning. We have to take the commitment from here and bring it to the job Monday morning. It is not business as usual." "

Hemenez pledged to attend the Labor Management meetings to assure continuation of employee representatives.

After the meeting, Chief Steward Don Vothermo remarked about working together to keep the plant going: "We can do it... if they'll let us!"

Deckhands sign Towboat pact

PORTLAND—Deckhands on the Columbia-Snake River System have voted 38-4 to ratify a new agreement with Knappion Towboat, according to IBU President Jack Newbold.

"We were able to hold the line in the face of company demands for massive concessions," Newbold said. "In addition, we gained a modest wage increase and company agreement to participate in the new IBU national health and welfare plan."

Welshing employer must fork over negotiated raise

LOS ANGELES—Local 26 members employed by Finkel Outdoor Products overwhelmingly ratified a new three-year contract guaranteeing them complete employer-paid health and welfare benefits, and a $1.15 raise in wages over three years.

**Outdoor furniture**

**Local 26 negotiations Finkel pact**

LOS ANGELES—Local 26 members employed by Finkel Outdoor Products overwhelmingly ratified a new three-year contract which calls for the company to pay 100% of the cost of health and welfare benefits for workers and their dependents over the life of the agreement, adding dental and prescription coverage in 1985.

Wage increases totaling $1.15 will paid; the first raise is retroactive to September, 1984. The second and third raises will take effect in September, 1985 and September, 1986.

In the last year of the contract, vacation benefits will be improved to three weeks after 10 years, instead of after 14 years.

The negotiating committee consisted of chief steward Joe Hernandez, Rogelio Deoglan, Local 26 secretary-treasurer Jesus Alvarez and business agent John McKinnie.

Local 26 victory

**Local 26 members at Finkel Outdoor Products recently ratified a contract guaranteeing them complete employer-paid health and welfare benefits, and a $1.15 raise in wages over three years.**

The arbitration on the issue of the 504 adjustment was reconsidered, and held on August 24. Arbitrator Louis Zigan ruled on October 29 that the issue of the company's ability to pay was irrelevant. "If there are conditions which create severe economic difficulties there is no prohibition against the parties sitting down at a table and making adjustments and or changes. It is not for the arbitrator to make these changes on his or her own."

Local 26 pact at Pacific Smelting

**TURBANCE—The 77 members of ILWU Local 26 employed at Pacific Smelting have voted overwhelmingly to ratify a new three-year contract with no concessions and major benefit and language improvements.**

The new pact provides for the long completion of the probationary period," Atkinson said, "you're likely to get fired."

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Deckhands sign Towboat pact

PORTLAND—Deckhands on the Columbia-Snake River System have voted 38-4 to ratify a new agreement with Knappion Towboat, according to IBU President Jack Newbold. It will be in effect until February 1, 1987.

"We were able to hold the line in the face of company demands for massive concessions," Newbold said. "In addition, we gained a modest wage increase and company agreement to participate in the new IBU national health and welfare plan."

Welshing employer must fork over negotiated raise

LOS ANGELES—A Local 26 employer who has been welshing on a negotiated 504 adjustment has been ordered by an arbitrator to pay Welshing employer must fork over negotiated raise

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Coal miners win wages, job security

WASHINGTON, DC—Negotiators for the United Mine Workers and the Bituminous Coal Operators Association agreed in September on a new, 40-month contract providing modest pay increases and new job security safeguards. The union said it provided for a 10 percent raise over the life of the contract.

It was the first settlement in soft coal without a strike in 20 years. UMW president Richard Trumka said that between the soft coal companies and the independent operators that had agreed to abide by the association’s contract, the new pact would cover about 75 percent of the union’s 160,000 members.

The joint association, whose 32 companies mine 27 percent of the nation’s coal, said it would have no comment on the agreement.

Top Daily Pay to Reach $124

According to a union summary distributed to members, the agreement reached will provide wage increases of $1.40 per hour, or about 10 percent, over the life of the contract. The top pay would increase to more than $124 a day from the present $113.

The new contract would also require operators who sublease mines from union companies to give first hiring rights to union members laid off at the mine by the parent company. Union officials said they hoped that provision, if properly enforced, would close a loophole that some companies have used to circumvent the contract. The top pay would increase to more than $124 a day from the present $113.

The modest wage-increase average reflects the fact that 20% of the 834,000 workers covered by the agreements didn’t receive pay increases, and 5% took pay cuts. The other 75% of the workers won wage increases averaging 4.6% in the first year of their agreements.

The last time these contracts were settled, the average first-year pay increase was 7.6%, with boosts of 6.6% a year over the life of the contracts.

Coal wages will increase an average 2.8% in the first year of collective-bargaining agreements reached during the first half of 1984, the Labor Department said.

Over the life of the labor agreements, wages will increase an average 2.8% a year.

SOLIDITY MARCH—Members of ILWU Locals 51 of Port Gamble, Washington, including president Robert Johnson and Labor Relations Committee member Jack Freitas, backed the association’s contract. The nearly 500 marchers protested against Haindel, the West German company which bought the Crown Zellerbach Mill in Port Townsend over a year ago. Haindel rehired some former workers but refused the APPW demands for a closed shop even though workers agreed to a cut in wages and benefits.

Union wages up by 2.6%

WASHINGTON—Wages rose an average of 2.6% in the first year of collective-bargaining agreements reached during the first half of 1984, the Labor Department said.

Over the life of the labor agreements, wages will increase an average 2.8% a year.

The modest wage-increase average reflects the fact that 20% of the 834,000 workers covered by the agreements didn’t receive pay increases, and 5% took pay cuts. The other 75% of the workers won wage increases averaging 4.6% in the first year of their agreements.

The last time these contracts were settled, the average first-year pay increase was 7.6%, with boosts of 6.6% a year over the life of the contracts.

Wage increases were negotiated in several industries, including petroleum refining, public utilities, airlines and building maintenance, the department said.

The smallest increases were in construction. Construction settlements, covering 250,000 workers, averaged less than 0.5% in the first year and 0.5% annually over the life of the contracts.

Local 78 and 26

Solid agreement in valley compresses

FRESNO—Contracts covering some 600 members of ILWU Locals 78 and 26 employed in the cotton compress industry were overwhelmingly ratified by the membership last month.

The contracts, covering five facilities here and in Bakersfield, provide important wage and benefit increases, and continue the ILWU’s tradition of setting the standard in the central valley cotton industry.

At Calcut facilities in Bakersfield, Hanford and Pinedale, employees won a three-year agreement providing 40c the first year, 40c the second year and 50c in the third year. Health and welfare benefits were improved, and a new dental plan was established. Pension fund contributions were increased by 10c per hour.

At Prodco Compress in Fresno, employees also won a three-year agreement, providing 40c and 40c plus a new classification. The health and welfare plan provisions are modified, along with a two-days out of state funeral leave.

At Anderson-Clayton, in Fresno, a two-year agreement provides 40c and 40c plus a new classification. The health and welfare plan provisions are modified, along with two days out of state funeral leave.

Committee members at Calcut included Armando Sanchez (Pinedale) and Manuel Soto (Hanford) Local 78; and Richard Sala (Bakersfield), Local 26. At Prodco, Manuel Galindo and James Taylor (Local 78); and at Anderson-Clayton, Eddie Gutierrez and Joe Martinez, (Local 78). Local 78 Business Agent Play Deaton, Local 26 Secretary Treasurer Jesus Alvarez and Northern California Regional Director Le Roy King assisted.

As this issue of The Dispatcher goes to press, Local 78 is wrapping up its negotiations at CalWest Compresses.

Members of Local 78 and 26 employed in the Fresno-Bakersfield cotton compress industry have won a new agreement featuring substantial wage and fringe benefits.

Double fault: L-P backs Davis Cup

PORTLAND—When Jack Jacobson of Local 12, a tennis player in his youth, attended the Davis Cup tennis tournament September 29, all he had in mind was watching matches between the US and Australia.

But when he got to the Memorial Coliseum he found it ringed with informational picket signs which read: “L-P GAME: UNION-BUSTING, TENNIS YES, L-P NO—L-P UNFAIR TO WORKERS, FAMILIES & COMMUNITIES.”

Louisiana Pacific, it turned out, the target of a year-long strike, was a sponsor of the Davis Cup tournament.

So he accepted a picket sign from Brad Witt, researcher for the LPWW, Western

RUNS AGROUND—Badly damaged after having run aground last month off Prince Rupert, BC, SeaWay Express Co’s “City of Seward” will be out of action for several more weeks. Since it began operating its non-union barge service between Seattle and Seward, the non-union company has developed a reputation for unprofessional operations, and alienated unionists, environmentalists, and industry leaders on both ends of its route.

See article on page 1
Many economic gains

UAW-GM pact pioneers on job security

DETROIT—UAW members at Ford plants throughout the US have ratified a new three-year agreement with General Motors. The agreement, featuring several innovations in the area of job security and a substantial economic package, was achieved after the UAW shut down 17 GM plants across the country for six days in a series of selective local strikes.

The UAW represents 380,000 active and laid-off workers in 149 GM bargaining units in the US. The vote was 138,410 in favor of the new agreement to 102,528 opposed.

The new contract, said UAW President Owen Bieber, "accomplishes our goals of achieving a comprehensive job security program and solid economic achievements for UAW members at GM."

Job security had indeed been among the most pressing items on the UAW agenda in the wake of massive layoffs during the 1980-82 recession. Many workers were facing the loss of their "right" to unemployment benefits, and the UAW members at GM were determined to stop the layoffs where possible and to protect laid-off workers' eligibility for unemployment benefits by union-recognized means.

UAW-GM Job Security Bank

A new job security program similar to GM's was a continued income for any worker with more than a year's seniority displaced by automation or transfer of production. The program is a Job Security Bank, under which workers with more than one year of seniority are dislocated by new technology, consolidation of parts plants, productivity gains or the transfer of work to other facilities, protected from layoff. Workers will be placed in the Job Opportunity Bank and, supervised by local, regional and national labor management committees. These workers will either training programs, transfer to other plants, perform "non-traditional" jobs or fill in for regular workers on leave—while retaining their full benefits. GM is committed to footing the bill up to a cap of $1 billion over the term of the agreement and the subsequent UAW-GM contract.

The UAW-Job Bank program will be complemented by a new joint business development program under which GM will spend up to $100 million to start new businesses in abandoned or underutilized GM plants, in new facilities if necessary. GM has also agreed to build a new subcompact car, the Saturn, in the US. Other job-security related provisions of the new contract include increased overtime penalties and agreement to reduce average weekly overtime by two hours, as well as strengthened funding for the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits program.

WAGE INCREASES

Wages are increased by 2% for the first year, and by lump sum payments equal to 2.25% in the second and third years. A one time $180 bonus was also paid out to all GM workers upon ratification. Cost of living allowances are continued with a 4% increase in the base year, plus 2c for the next two years. For the next two quarters, with this taken into consideration, assuming a 5% inflation rate, an assembly line worker earning $8.63 at the expiration of the old agreement will be making $9.42 when the current agreement expires on September 14, 1987.

An annual profit sharing payment—estimated $1,000 for 1984—will also be continued.

Pension benefits were substantially improved for current and future retirees. The UAW also achieved a victory in the area of pension fund investment. In the future, employees will receive a portion of their annual profit sharing payment in shares of GM stock, and the UAW also won a victory over GM's practice of using fluctuating interest rates in the computation of service pensions. UAW members also won the right to inspect the fund's investment records, and the UAW also worked out an agreement with GM to settle a series of lawsuits with workers over UAW pension plans.

Many more gains

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Local 34 delta unit annual retirement dinner

STOCKTON—On October 2 the Delta Unit of ILWU Local 34 held its annual retirement dinner for active and retired members and their wives at the Westlane Bowl in Stockton. Delta Unit Chairman Greg DeLucchi was Master of Ceremonies.

Retirees included Wheeler Hobbs, elected first Secretary-Treasurer of the unit on November 13, 1934 when it was ILA Local 38-93; Art Belcher, Wilbur Church, Ralph Horst, Frank Facchinii, Charles Ferguson Sr., Ellen Kimberling, Joe Mastor, Robert Schutte and Maynard Williams.

Also present were Mrs. Edna Batts and Mrs. Rose Thompson, widows of Local 34; and Charles Thompson.

Local 34 President Frank Billed, accompanied by his wife Joan, was the guest speaker. He paid special tribute to the pensioners, reminding everyone present of the pensioners' contributions to the strength and welfare of Local 34 and the ILWU.

Local 34 delta unit leader retires

Jack Price, 82, was International VP

George A. (Jack) Price, born 1902 in Ten-nessee, passed away October 3, 1984. Jack was an active member of the Raymond Local during the 1934 General strike. The Raymond Local, under the leadership of Price, received the first charter issued by the ILWU.

Elected Second Vice-President of the International in 1939, he served until 1941. He represented the ILWU as an Overseas representative at various times.

He helped organize the Maritime Federation of the Pacific and many times represented Local 19 at caucuses and conventions.

He represented the ILWU as an Overseas Delegate to South America in 1962, and went to Poland with Louis Goldblatt in 1965 representing the ILWU.

Jack retired in 1967 from the active work force and became a member of the Seattle Pensioners Club, continuing his work of improving conditions for the rank and file.

His great happiness was representing the ILWU.

Halloween Renewal—C.W. (Bill) Hansen, who retired from ILWU clerks Local 63 in Wilmington, and Esther Hansen, his wife of 60 years, re- renewed their vows Saturday, October 27 at Evangeline Free Church in Wilmington where they live. Both are 81 years old and celebrated their 60th year together on October 31. Bill Hansen started out as a longshoreman, was captain over Island terminal during the Big Strike, became a clerk and retired as a checker.

Dockers, Widows

Retired Coast Committeeman Bill Ward will be honored at a dinner hosted by members of the Southern California maritime community on Tuesday, De- cember 4 at the Long Beach Hyatt Regency Hotel.

Tickets are $25, or $250 for a table of ten. Please send all requests for tickets to George Love, Dinner Committee Chairman, 1676 West 7th Street, San Pe- dro, CA 90732. Make checks payable to Bill Ward Dinner Committee.

The late Jack Price, at right, his son John, and Harry Bridges, in 1952.

November 9, 1984

ILWU mural in the works

SAN FRANCISCO—A grant of $30,000 for the construction of a mural-sculpture on the history of the 1934 longshore and warehouse strikes has been awarded to the ILWU by the Mayor’s Office of Community Development. The grant came from the of- fice of OLD Director Jim Johnson who praised the project for its exceptional arts- and social-artistic merit.

The project will actually consist of three free-standing steel structures, painted front and back with images of pre-strike conditions, the 1934 strike itself, and the people which has been made over the last fifty years. It forsces particularly on the history of the three ILWU locals on the coast by the teamsters, sailors and other AFL unions.

The structure is being designed by a com- mittee of San Francisco artists headed by Bill Ward. Bill, and Raymond Patland and Horace Washington. The artists have done extensive research in ILWU history, which has included a series of meetings with Bay Area pensioners and local officials who have made many suggestions.

California Regional Director LeRoy King and Information Director Danny Beagle are coordinating the project for the ILWU.

The structure, when completed, will be raised at the intersection of Mission and Stuart Streets, where Howard Sperry and Nick Borselle were killed on July 5, 1934. Construction is expected sometime in the spring of 1985.

Astoria pensioners host dinner

ASTORIA—The Astoria ILWU pensioners hosted local guests at its final November 1 dinner November 1 at the Moose Lodge. The worst storm of the year failed to dampen the enthusiasm of the crowd.

Wives were Don Platt, president, and James Bailey, secretary-treasurer.

Out of town guests were Al Enslen and Donald and Swave Nyes of Bainer, Oregon. Jim and Vicky Foster, Lee and But Howton, Bud and Emma Hy- genson and Rachel Kennedy, of Raymond and Frank and Marj Richel, of Tacoma.

Local 20-A, Wilmington

The official installation of the following officers of this changeover process was held last month at the union's head- quarters. President, Nacho Flores, vice- president, Mike Diller; financial secretary, Glen Campbell; recording secretary, John Capes; and trustees are Lewis Rios, David Arian. Rayford Hamilton. John Pandora. Zeke Ruelas, David Arian. Jack Giron, Mose Diggins, Billy Erath, Gyerman. Paul Loveridge. Lou Loveridge, and Tony Salcido. The nine District Council delegates are Jack O'Sullivan, John Pandora, Zeke Ruelas. David Arian. Rayford Hamilton, John Pandora. Zeke Ruelas. David Arian. Myrna Bumanlag, Nemesio Domingo Sr.

Local 40, Portland

Clerks Local 40 holds its primary election November 20, 1984 and general election December 12, 1984. Both elections will be conducted by mail ballot. Officers to be elected are: President, vice president, secre- tary-treasurer, recording secretary and six members of the executive board.

Nominations will be made November 13 and December 11, 1984 at the Local 47 Union Hall at 101 North Washington Street.

Bill Ward honored

Getting Ready to Celebrate Life's Milestones in Marina, HI

SAN FRANCISCO—Following is the November 8, 1984 listing of dockworkers retired under various ILWU PPA plans.

Local 4, Vancouver: Lee W. Combo, Local 8, Portland: Jerry E. Cowan, Gerald Mayers, Cuppy Moody, Chester Parker.

Local 10, San Francisco: Duane Craig, Nose Kang, Billy Erath, Edward Nelson, Jack Yakovenko, Local 12, North Bend: William Kamr.

Local 13, Wilmington: John Burch, Louis W. Hee, Coatie Jackson, Carl Lund, Creed Trotter; Local 19, Seattle: Frank Armstrong, Local 21, Longview: Lawrence Jordan; Local 34, San Fran- cisco; Elwood Perry, John W. Reynolds. John P Taddlock, Shigeyuki Terrada, Local 54, Stockton: Victor Del Rio, Luther Harrell. Local 63, Wilmington: Freddie Fernandez.

Elections

Local 13, Wilmington

The results of last month's election held by the Wilmington ILWU pensioners' commit- tees, Darrel "Wayne" Robbins, welfare officer, Bruce James, personnel assistant, agent, George R. Mattox, trustee, George San- son, night dispatcher, David L. Ne- gres, the 5-month service credit will be Steve Beich. The following four nominees will be daily dispatchers: Chuck Henderson, Frank Franko, John Masoe and Vaundor Cornjo.

Local 17, Broderick

Members of ILWU warehouse Local 17 will hold nominations for union office at their regular meeting on the fourth Thurs- day of each month. Officers of president, secretary/treasurer, dispatcher and sergeant-at-arms are open. A mail ballot will be held in March, 1985.

Local 18, West Sacramento

Longshore Local 18, ILWU, West Sacra- mento, will hold its final election on De- cember 19, 1984 to fill the offices of pres- ident BA, vice president, secretary-trea- surer, nine delegates to the Local 18 pensioners club, nine delegates to the Local 18 pensioners club, and a five-member execu- tive board. Nominations open November 21, 1984. Polling will be at the longshore hall at the Port of Sacramento.

Local 20-A, Wilmington

The official installation of the following officers of this changeover process of Longshore Local 20-A, Wilmington was held last month at the union's head- quarters. President, Nacho Flores, vice- president, Mike Diller; financial secretary, Glen Campbell; recording secretary, Don Capes; and trustees are Lewis Rios, David Arian. Rayford Hamilton. John Pandora. Zeke Ruelas. David Arian. Myrna Bumanlag, Nemesio Domingo Sr.

Local 30, Boron

Newly installed officers of this local's chemical workers local are: president, Walter Newl- ing; vice-president, John Selleck; secre- tary-treasurer, D. J. Nelson; recording secre- tary, Ron Roquemore. Chief steward for the boric acid plant is Jim Riley. The other two chief stewards are: production, Don Starnes; maintenance, Walt Palmer.

The three trustees are Cliff Owens, Jr. All petitions must be filed by December 21, 1984. All elections are to be held in March, 1985.

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DOCK SAFETY COMMITTEE—Members of the ILWU coast safety committee convened in San Francisco November 5 to prepare to sit down with PMAs, rewrite and update the Pacific Coast Marine Safety Code. Committee members Dan Peterson, Local 24, Aberdeen; Joe Argento, Local 6; Ron Olivers, Local 13; William Bourbon, Local 12, Coos Bay; Russ Bargman, ILWU Health and Safety Coordinator; and Joe Lucas, Local 10, San Francisco. Also sitting in for the day, with some specific proposals from his membership, was Rod Cluph, Local 19, Seattle.

The tremendous expansion of the petro-chemical industry since World War II has provided many benefits to society. New pesticides and herbicides control insects and diseases and take away their homes. They can be counted on for advice and a good word when needed. We expect to have a barge or ship every ten days. -

The effects of toxic chemicals on workers and the public, we know that thousands upon thousands of workers suffer from exposure to vinyl chloride. Many industrial workers develop dermatitis from handling solvents and other organic chemicals. Pesticide workers have been made sterile due to their exposure to dibromochloroprene (DBCP).

The Government has estimated that nearly 100,000 workers die each year from occupational health hazards. Another 10,000 die from injuries suffered on the job. These work-related fatalities, on a yearly basis, are greater than the total number of US combat troops killed in Vietnam and Korea combined. In addition to the fatalities, nearly five million employees suffer a work-related injury or illness each year, according to government reports. We know, also, that a large number of these illnesses are never reported. Corporate and government investigators, it is estimated that nearly 10,000 current and retired asbestos workers have been assigned to asbestos since the 1940s under poorly con- structed codes. While a dollar figure cannot be put on the tremendous expansion of the petro-chemical industry since World War II has provided many benefits to society. New pesticides and herbicides control insects and diseases and take away their homes. They can be counted on for advice and a good word when needed. We expect to have a barge or ship every ten days. -

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Like alcoholics, cocaine users need group support

The following article is submitted by the staff of the ILWU-PMa Substance Abuse Program. It was originally printed in "Planning for Health," published by the Kaiser Foundation Health Plan, Inc.

Some people are drawn to cocaine by the drug's promises of elation, easy talk, and heightened sexual experiences. But other fear it and find the very word evokes images of the "dope fiend" or the drug addict with a big portion of their paychecks on a substance that can only do them harm. Actually, both fear and desire are correct.

"Some people seem to be able to use cocaine recreationally without suffering any apparent medical or psychological damage," says Joyce Erickson, MD, Co-Chief of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program at Kaiser’s Santa Teresa Community Medical Center. "But I would not recommend against it because it's illegal and extremely addictive psychologically. Many normal people with no history of drug abuse find themselves craving cocaine.

Laboratory mice consistently choose cocaine over food until they die of malnutrition. Among humans, cocaine is not only alluring—it has become a status symbol.

SEX, CHIC

Cocaine has been glamorized as a sex-chic, enjoyable drug used by Hollywood celebrities and other successful people. Indeed, it is the drug without which so many of the most prominent drug problems in our society are generated. Cocaine's price (more than $100 per gram which a serious user can finish in a day) prevents many people from using it.

"We don't usually see cocaine abusers until they run into financial problems," says Dr. Bruce G. Smith, Chief of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program at Kaiser's South San Francisco Medical Center.

"Quite often they want to continue using the drug despite the fact that it carries a maximum penalty of $10,000 under state law and conviction for possessing it from abusing cocaine.

"It is important to distinguish between the dose, the frequency, and the method of administering the drug, as well as the user's personality characteristics and genetic biochemical differences," says Earl Murray, Ph.D., Chief of the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Program at Valley Kaiser. Cocaine can be "snorted" (the most popular California method of the ILWU-PMa Alcoholism Recovery Program), has been appointed to the board of the "most prestigious" organization in the field of alcoholism treatment.

Cobbs was appointed October 1, for a two-year term to the association of Labor Management Administrators and Consultants on Alcoholism (ALMACA) by new president Jack Henneny, also a vice-president of the International Longshoremen's Association.

"ALMACA, based in Arlington, Virginia, has operated for 14 years, Cobbs, has been head of the ILWU-PMa program since 1980.

"ALMACA is probably the most prestigious in one country as far as organizations of workers in the field of alcoholism is concerned," Cobbs said.

Cobbs is chairman of ALMACA's Labor Management Administrators Committee for the 140 to 150 members of the organization who belong to labor unions, Cobbs said.

As part of his duties, Cobbs monitors ALMACA's inclusion of organized labor in its activities and contracting procedures.

George Cobbs

ILWU man leads alcoholism group

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Emergency: 685-0341
metro pager 2507

"It's easier for a drug addict to lie to an individual therapist about his or her recent drug use than to a 5-man crew or to his or her attempts to cover up.

There's also a lot to be said for support groups. A group of people share their problem and hearing the stories of others with similar problems can be a great source of strength.

New Olympia dock gets first shipment

OLYMPIA—The Port of Olympia's new cargo facility received its first cargo ship, only six weeks after Port and longshore leaders cut the ribbon on a project that some predicted might take as long as two years.

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EVERETT—Residents here voted 68% in the November 6 election to support the basing of a Navy nuclear carrier task force at the port in an advisory vote that culmi-
nated months of local debate about the fate of the 13-ship battle group.

The ships won’t be based immediately, however. The results of a government en-
vironmental impact study will be made public, and a plan to base the ships must be found environmentally
sound. Also, the Congress must still autho-
rize funds for the proposed base.

Before the election, the mayor of Ever-
ett, who courted the Navy, had claimed that city residents overwhelmingly sup-
ported the Navy.

"But this shows there is definitely a
lot of people still against the battle group," said Local 32 Assistant BA Don Hopkins.

The Navy picked Everett over Seattle for the aircraft carrier Nimitz, and 15 support-
ships. Current projections call for the first
ship to arrive in December 1988. By the
1990s the base would grow to 8,300 sailors,
7,800 dependents, 630 civil service person-
nel and a disputed number of civilian sup-
port workers.

Local politicians welcomed the Navy’s
preliminary decision in April to base here,
but the anti-Navy Port Gardner Informa-
tion Network had gathered 3,500 petition signa-
tures to force the inclusion of an advisory
vote. Local 32 is part of the Informa-
tion Network.

OPPOSITION

Local 32 president Rich Austin has con-
sistently said the Navy’s fleet would elimi-
nate many jobs, bring in less income and
jeopardize the environment. He believes the
basing decision to go unchallenged.

The Seattle-based Seattle Times has esti-
mated that base spending will generate
5,600 to 8,100 new civilian jobs and gener-
ate $300 million to $500 million for the
economy.

But the Seattle-based Nuclear X-Change
projects only 1,274 jobs and less than $420,
000 for the economy. The Navy’s own
estimates aren’t due until April 1986.

BC Employers

join ILWU in

Far East trip

VANCOUVER, BC—Participants in a
first-ever joint delegation of ILWU repre-
sentatives and BC shippers to Asia have re-
turned home after a successful one-week visit to Japan and South Korea in search of
more cargo for west coast Canadian ports.

The delegation, co-led by Dave Lo-
mas, president of the Canadian Area
ILWU, and Brian Sheather, president of the
BC Maritime Employers Association; and
Eric Tofsrud, president of the Vancouver
Port Corporation, spent the week of Octo-
ber 13-20 in Japan and South Korea.

In the past the delegations have dealt with
some of the members of the Japan 6 Lines, a consor-
tium of Japanese shipping companies. They have also participated in a seminar put on
by the Canadian government on Canadian
Transportation Policy. Presentations were
made by Canadian National Railways, Can-
adian Pacific Railway and the ports of Vancouver and Prince Rupert.

In Seoul, the capital of South Korea, they met with ten different Korean shipping companies and attended another Canadian
government seminar on transportation pol-
cy.

"The main purpose of the trip," said Lo-
mas, "was to talk to our potential custom-
ers about bringing more container traffic to
our ports.

"We were well received. For the first
time in history the employers and the
shippers crossed the table from the users in
Japan and Korea. We were able to answer
their queries and concerns about the state of
our ports and to respond to their per-
ceived concerns. In my view the trip was
highly successful on both counts. I was also
able to have some frank discussions with the
management companies here."

"Our trip should result in long term gains
for our West Coast ports."

Growing union strength beat speed-up

in Dole Co.'s Lanai pineapple fields

The Dispatcher’s “Coming of the Union” feature, celebrat-
ing the 50th anniversary of the ILWU, returns with recollections of the impact of unionization in Hawaii’s pine-
apple fields. Our storyteller is Catalino “Pete” Agliam, a long-
time Dole Co. truck driver who served for many years as unit
chairman of Local 142’s Lanai unit.

Lanai was organized immediately after the war, participating in the short, losing strike of 1947, and in the victorious seven-
month strike of 1951. The company has a unique role in
1951, hanging out on strike all alone for seven months while the rest of the industry settled for an inadequate contract. Under
the leadership of BA Pedro dela Cruz, the Lanai membership
refused to buckle, ultimately forcing Dole back to the bargain-
ing table with a decent contract for the entire industry.

The interview with Pete Agliam was conducted as part of the ILWU-University of California Oral History project, funded by
the National Endowment for the Humanities. Interviewers were
UC sociology professor David Wellman and Dispatcher editor
Danny Beagle.

This was one of the biggest issues we had
during the seven month strike. Not just the
driver’s, of course, but everyone was being speeded up in one way or the other.

That’s one of the things that made it possi-
ble for us to strike all by ourselves.

Of course, the other part of it was that
everyone else was working, and so they
could help us. We had bumping commit-
tees going all over the islands, and of course some people working on pineapple plantations
on the other islands were very generous with us, for obvious reasons.

When we finally won that strike, it made
tremendous difference for them. And then
we were also able to sit down and settle
some of these local grievances we had.

Now, after the strike, one of the things
we got, unique on Lanai, was a deal where
we had a stewards council, and where
these grievances would be dealt with. Then
our top guys, like Pete delaCruz and Shiro
Hokama, or some others, would meet in-
formally in a “Labor Relations Meeting”
with Dole’s top guys, and talk things over.
We didn’t want a formal, dragged out grievance procedure—we all live here to-
gerther on this little island, everyone knows
everyone else, we can get things worked out
fast.

So after the big seven month strike, that
was one of the first things they agreed to, they
knocked off this “little bit more” and agreed that if the supervisor is going to tell
the driver to pick up the speed, he can go
out to stand in the field and do it, where
everyone can see him. That way, they got to
be more reasonable.

Working it out

“The union asked for a definite un-
derstanding about the procedure that
Job Foremen are to follow in instruct-
ing drivers of trucks under the convey-
er system to speed the truck.

The company agreed to investigate
whether specific signals were being used
to tell drivers to speed up, and to make clear to Job Foremen that
trucks must not be delivered in a ‘sneaky’ manner.

The company also agreed to make changes in the trucking signals.

Now those are our friends out there, so I
got to slack off.

We didn’t like being in that position, and
speed-up was a big issue in the seven-
month strike.

"Our trip resulted in long term gains
for our West Coast ports."

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Controversy on ARCO modules

PORTLAND—Atlantic Richfield (Arco) has leased land from the Port of Portland, Port of Coos Bay, and Port of Astoria to build pre-fabricated modules for use in the North Slope oilfields in Alaska.

The announcement was made by Sen. Mark Hatfield in his Pioneer Courthouse office, with Arco and Port of Portland officials present.

The three projects will create about 1,100 jobs in the state, the Senator said.

Towing the barges in the Arctic will be crewed by members of the Inlandboatmen’s Union, marine division of the ILWU, but the work will create few if any jobs for longshoremen.

“Peanuts!” said Local 12 Secretary Gene Baity.

And it’s not clear if the construction work will be done by union labor. It is not so Coos Bay.

The work has already started in that port, and a Texas-based contractor has 80 people working for $5 and $6 an hour.

There was a lot of resentment over the wage cuts, but Arco had no trouble getting workers, Baity told The Dispatcher.

“There’s a lot of unemployment down here,” Weyerhaeuser shut down, the Coos Head sawmill was hauled away, a new outfit opened the Coos Head Plywood mill. They’re paying $5 and $6 an hour. We’re losing 600 jobs. The official unemployment figure is 12.14%.

The Port of Portland at a special meeting October 22 approved leasing 23 acres and other facilities of Swan Island to Arco.

The Port of Astoria leased all of Pier 3 and part of Pier 2 to Arco, and it will employ 150 to 200 people.

Construction of modules for North Slope is old hat in Anacortes and Tacoma.

In the Puget Sound area, modules were built last year for Arco by Stearns-Roger. The entire installation was union. longshoremen handled the lines on some of the barges, and the barges were crewed by ILWU.

Local 23 dispatcher Roger Skuffington, told The Dispatcher, “We’ve been building modules here for years; they’re almost all union. They were built by union labor, but they’re not done in 1986 and again to Korea.

He knew nothing about a report on a Portland newspaper that Arco “will be providing jobs for up to 3,750 people during peak load periods for work already let on its Usiborne and Kuparek fields during the next two years.”

Lawrence Chimerine of Chase Econometrica believes that the stimulative effect of the budget deficit is diminishing, even though the deficit is rising, because a larger fraction of the deficit is now the result of rising interest payments. These, he says, have a much smaller effect on consumer spending than do tax cuts or other Government transfers.

Inventory investment seems to be falling sharply. Consumer spending for durable goods is off. New orders to factories for manufactured goods are down.

The huge budget deficit threatens to paralyze fiscal policy after the election according to NY Times economist Leonard Silk. A recession could cause the deficit to soar to $300 billion to $400 billion; a deficit of such size would inhibit fiscal action to combat the recession by increasing spending or cutting taxes further. And fear of recession may prompt Congress to act less aggressively from acting decisively to cut the budget deficit.

A steep United States recession would have dangerous implications internationally. It would cause a slowdown or reversal in foreign investment in this country, due to the combination of falling profits here and a falling dollar. The shrinking of capital flows would mean a shortage of funds to finance the United States deficit, the trade deficit and private investment in new plant and equipment, resulting in erosions of saving from abroad would keep real interest rates high.

EXPORTS DROP

Though the falling dollar would ease the American trade deficit, now running at a record annual rate of $130 billion, it would cause a drop in foreign exports and aggravate the problems of debt-ridden developing countries—and hence the problems of American allies.

How likely is a recession next year? Some economists regard it as highly probable. Roger Williams, of William Street Indicators, says “At the rate at which the economy is decelerating, it’s rightful thinking that the slide will stop at a convenient point.”

He notes that profits from current production were up in the third quarter of this year for the first time since the last quarter of 1981, and says “This weakness will act as an important restraint on new orders, inventory accumulation, production and employment.

The Fed is now growth-oriented, he says stressing his belief that it will keep the economy moving upward through 1985. But he sees risks of recession and a widening in the deficits in 1986.

James P. O’Leary, economic consultant to the United States Trust Company, also thinks the recession will be stayed off in 1985, but warns that “inventor fear of a unified acceleration of inflation will continue to be a powerful force that will tend to keep medium- term interest rates high.”

He warns, however, that if little or nothing is done in 1985 to begin an effective effort to reduce the huge structural Federal deficit—as he does assume—the longer term fixed-income market will continue to be plagued with the fear that inflation will ultimately accelerate.

Like Mr. O’Leary, many economists, within the Administration as well as outside it, believe that the budget deficit must be reduced if the economy is to healthy growth and orderly financial markets.

In his view, serious anxieties about third world debt and the danger of insolvency of banks and thrift institutions. With its increasing dependence on foreign inflows of capital, the United States is in a more precarious position than it has known throughout the postwar period. A recession would exacerbate all these problems.

With fiscal policy immobilized, the job of Mr. Volcker and the Federal Reserve in checking both inflation and recession, has grown even more crucial. With so much attention focused on who the next President will be, Mr. Volcker and the Federal Reserve Board, under Paul A. Volcker’s leadership, would simply not allow it to happen.

He says: “You can’t do the expansion going. But will the Fed succeed?” Mr. Dederick thinks it will, even though it will have to risk exacerbating inflation to do so.

New joint magazine boosts Port of Portland

PORTLAND—An illustrated, good-looking docking deck book hit the waterfront recently. The book notes that it is “published by and for the people who make the Portland docks work.”

Two members of the 6-person editorial board, Ron Hanson and Dennis Stripe, belong to Local 8 and work with the Port of Portland.

The first issue carried a front page picture of Local 8’s public relations committee, formed to promote productivity on the docks and a letter from a stevedoring company commending longshoremen for their work in discharging 100 units of Honda automobiles resulting in zero damage frequency. The book notes that the longshore library is being put together by Locals 40, 42 and the CRPMA under the leadership of Jess Stranahan.

The second issue, dated September 15, featured a cartoon by longshore artist, Bob Nixon entitled “If we pull together, our ship will come in” and a story by Local 8 member, Ron Hanson, “We don’t want the port to close.”

A session of the subcommittee will be held prior to the start of negotiations.

Pine caucus drafts demands

HONOLULU—Over 70 delegates attended the Local 142 pineapple caucus held here September 24 and prepare for coming negotiations. The current contract expires November 30.

Local 142 represents 6,000 field and canner workers on Oahu, Maui, Lanai and Molokai.

President Eddie Lapa opened offering remarks as an introduction.

Regional Director Tommy Trask will serve as chief spokesman. He gave an overview of the industry’s situation in leading the discussion towards drawing up the proposed demands.

Saying the Union had “been over backwards” in the past to help the industry Trask indicated the Union was looking for a substantial increase as contrasted with the increase in the last agreement. “We’re looking for up front money,” Trask said.

Elected to serve as negotiating committee members present were a deputation from Longshore, chair, Robert Pagampao, vice-chairman, of Maui Unit 4306; Fred Pagampao, vice-chairman, of Oahu Unit 2303; and Ligorino Nono, secretary, of Oahu Unit 4301.

A session of the subcommittee will be held prior to the start of negotiations.

Gloomy economists warn of new recession in 1985

WASHINGTON

Lawrence Chimerine of Chase Econometrica believes that the stimulative effect of the budget deficit is diminishing, even though the deficit is rising, because a larger fraction of the deficit is now the result of rising interest payments. These, he says, have a much smaller effect on consumer spending than do tax cuts or other Government transfers.

Inventory investment seems to be falling sharply. Consumer spending for durable goods is off. New orders to factories for manufactured goods are down.

NOT UNAVOIDABLE

Still it is not clear that a recession is unavoidable. Geoffrey H. Moore, director of the United States Trust Company, also thinks the recession will be stayed off in 1985, but warns that “inventor fear of an ultimate acceleration of inflation will continue to be a powerful force that will tend to keep medium-term interest rates high.”

He warns, however, that if little or nothing is done in 1985 to begin an effective effort to reduce the huge structural Federal deficit—as he does assume—the longer term fixed-income market will continue to be plagued with the fear that inflation will usually ultimately accelerate.

Like Mr. O’Leary, many economists, within the Administration as well as outside it, believe that the budget deficit must be reduced if the economy is to healthy growth and orderly financial markets.

In his view, serious anxieties about third world debt and the danger of insolvency of banks and thrift institutions. With its increasing dependence on foreign inflows of capital, the United States is in a more precarious position than it has known throughout the postwar period. A recession would exacerbate all these problems.

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