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Shaun Maloney dedicated his life to the labor movement
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A working class hero is something to be.

—J. L.ew

One of the strengths of the labor movement, and the ILWU in particular, is the way the union gives ordinary people opportunities to do extraordinary things, to create, act, plan and make a difference. And when they step up to those challenges, grab adversity by the throat, and squeeze out victory for working people, heroes and legends are made.

In this issue we continue The Dispatcher's tradition of telling the stories of some of these people. Shaun Maloney did six terms as president of longshore Local 19 in Seattle, Washington, from the mid-1960s to the mid-1970s, and was a familiar face on the Coast in many jurisdictions. He was instrumental in organizing the ILWU's new West Coast longshore local at the Port of Oakland, Local 13, in 1979.

As an industrial organizer for the ILWU, rank-and-file local leaders have played a key role in building the union's strength. In the 1960s, the ILWU was a relatively small union with a membership of just over 20,000. Today, the union has over 250,000 members and is one of the largest and most respected unions in the country.

The ILWU has a long tradition of telling the stories of its members and their struggles. In each issue of The Dispatcher, we feature stories of some of the people who have made the union what it is today. Whether they are local leaders, community activists, or workers on the waterfront, their stories are an important part of the ILWU's history. And they serve as a reminder of the power of working people coming together to fight for a better future.
Local 5 and friends push-start Powell’s talks

by Marcy Rein  
Photos by Bette Lee

Cheerful chaos engulfed Powell’s City of Books in Portland for nearly six hours on the Saturday before Christmas. Close to 200 union and community supporters joined the three-ring cacophony Dec. 18 urging Michael Powell to bargain in good faith with ILWU Local 5. Two groups of singers and one performance troupe rotated among different rooms in the huge store, trailing audiences with them. Shoppers joined the singing and managers watched helplessly while trying to staff the information tables.

The Teamsters Local 206 semi-trundled around the block by the store blaring Christmas carols. At the end of the festivities, some 30 people holding their unions’ signs sneaked through the store, their chant so loud it reverberated through the building: “What do we want? Contract! When do we want it? NOW!”

“It was one of the more powerful and joyful actions I’ve seen,” said participant Jim Cook, a member of the National Assn. of Letter Carriers.

For Local 5 members, the impact was even stronger. “I had tears in my eyes and other people did too,” bargaining team member Carol Edwards said. “It was great to see how many people cared.”

Dec. 18 capped two months of agitation and actions that finally pushed the stalled contract talks between Powell’s Books and Local 5. But workers are still waiting warily to see if the momentum builds—and they’re ready to push more if necessary.

Bargaining began in mid-September, but two months into talks the corporate team had offered no economic proposals. It answered the union’s wage offer with an elaborate economic benefit for another or for one less equitable.

The company offered everyone a two percent annual cost-of-living raise plus annual step increases. Employees would do well in their first two years, moving up in five-percent steps. But then the annual increases would max out at three percent, and promotions into higher wage ranges would be strictly limited.

“A new hire, hired day one of the contract, who doesn’t go into management or get appointed (at management’s sole discretion) to a level 3 position, will never reach a living wage no matter how long they work at Powell’s,” team member Jim Cording said.

Veteran employees also get the shaft in the company’s plan. “We get stuck between $8 and $9 per hour and only move up in tiny increments,” Edwards said. “You can have tremendous experience, but it’s not rewarded.”

The company’s proposed health package favors people who need insurance least. It excludes up to $500 of “wellness expenses” from the deductible, but includes a co-pay for doctors’ visits, which people don’t have to pay now. By management’s own estimates, the co-pay will shift $80,000 per year in costs to the workers.

The Local 5 bargaining team decided to survey members on the health proposal, and has already offered a wage counter that increases annual steps to five percent for every one and provides for automatic promotion into the next level when workers reach the top of their wage range.

To prepare for the next stage of activities, which almost everyone thinks will be needed, the union is also educating members on their rights under labor law.

“My horse sense tells me that with their notoriously anti-union lawyer the company may just be digging in and hoping we burn out,” Hawthorne store worker Scott Ryan said. “I think we should really be ready to give them another little spike and wake-up call if we need to.”

Members of ILWU longshore Locals 4 and 8, clerks Local 40 and Columbia River Pensioners made up close to a third of the Dec. 18 crowd. “We came because they asked for our help,” Local 4 President Brad Clark said. “The Powell’s workers may be out on a limb on their own, but we think of them as brothers and sisters now.”
Prop. 21: Pete Wilson comes back to haunt the future

By Marcy Rein

California’s March 7 ballot will carry yet another piece of former Gov. Pete Wilson’s mischievous Proposition 21, the “Gang Violence and Juvenile Crime Prevention Initiative.” This costly, unnecessary overhaul of the juvenile justice system may be the body blow that at the next generation the labor movement needs to organize.

The LWU’s Northern California District Council, California Labor Federation, the California Federation of Teachers, the California Faculty Assn., the California Teachers Assn. and the SEIU State Council have voted to oppose it.

Prop. 21 represents a conscious decision not to make a commitment to our own future,” said LWU International President Brian McWilliams.

When Pete Wilson couldn’t get the legislature to pass his juvenile justice program in 1996, he re-packaged it as an initiative and raised close to $1 million to pay signature-gatherers.

Wealthy corporations ponied up big bucks to help: Unocal put in $50,000, Electric $25,000 each, Arco $20,000. A “fresh start” if they make mistakes; they’ve done nothing to deter juvenile crime,” said CFT President Mary Bergan. “Sending kids to prison is sending them to the wrong kind of school, one where they’re more likely to learn criminal strategies than workplace strategies.

But since 1984 California has built 21 prisons and just one universali-

campus. With its hefty price tag and no provision for raising money, Prop. 21 will only continue to siphon funds from services to prisons.

“This measure will result in major net costs to the state of at least hundreds of millions of dollars annually and one-time costs of at least several hundreds of millions of dollars,” reported the non-partisan Legislative Analyst’s Office. Local governments face annual costs in the tens of mil-

ions, according to the LAO.

ILWU VOTING RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CALIFORNIA

STATE BALLOT PROPOSITIONS
31 Insurance claims, civil remedies, amendments Yes
28 Repeal of Prop 10 tobacco surtax No
26 School facilities, bonds & local majority vote Yes
24 Reapportionment. Removed by State Supreme Court
20 State Lottery: Cardenas Textbook Act . . . . No
19 Peace officers Yes
18 Murder: Special circumstances No
17 Lotteries: Charitable raffles Yes
16 Bond: Veterans’ homes V Yes
15 Bond: Forensic laboratories Yes
14 Bond: Firearm laboratories Yes
13 Bond: Veterans’ homes . . . . . . . . . . . . . Yes
12 Lottery Cardenas Textbook Act . . . . . . . . . No
11 Bond issue for public schools No
10 State health programs No
9 Bond: mental health facilities Yes
8 Bond: health & education facilities Yes
7 Bond: community services Yes
6 Bond: special education facilities No
5 Bond: community services No
4 Bond: public schools No
3 Bond: water & sewer facilities No
2 Bond: hospitals & community services No
1 Bond: safe drinking water Yes

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 1
District 2 Virgil PARKS
District 3 Benjamin W RITSCHAFTER

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 2
District 2 Virgil PARKS
District 3 Benjamin W RITSCHAFTER

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 3
District 7  Tom TORLAKSON
District 8  Helen M. THOMSON
District 9  Darrell STEINBERG
District 10  Ellen TAUSCHER
District 11  Joe CANIZAL
District 12  Toby CANINI

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 4
District 11  Mike THOMPSON
District 12  Kevin SHELLEY
District 13  Carole MIGDEN

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 5
District 14  Tom LANTOS
District 15  Greg ROLEN
District 16  Zoe LOFGREN
District 17  Mike HONDA
District 18  Zoe LOFGREN
District 19  Dan ROSENBERG
District 20  No Endorsement

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 6
District 21  John VASCONCELLOS
District 22  Mike THOMPSON
District 23  Barbara(S) MILLER
District 24  Rebecca COHN
District 25  Barbara MATTHEWS
District 26  John A. DUTRA

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 7
District 27  Jerry MURDOCH
District 28  Simon SALINAS
District 29  Tom MONTES (dual)
District 30  Dean FLOREZ
District 31  Dean FLOREZ
District 32  Virginia G. GURGO

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 8
District 33  John BURTON
District 34  Kevin SHELLEY
District 35  Lori AKIN

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 9
District 36  Gary A. CONDIT
District 37  Byron SHER
District 38  Byron SHER
District 39  Joe SIMITTAN

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 10
District 40  Mike THOMPSON
District 41  Tom MONTES (dual)
District 42  Michael MACHADO

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 11
District 43  Ray BENDIX
District 44  Barbara(S) MILLER
District 45  John BURTON
District 46  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 12
District 47  Mike THOMPSON
District 48  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 49  Dianne Feinstein
District 50  Lynn WOOLSEY

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 13
District 51  Mike THOMPSON
District 52  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 53  Dianne Feinstein
District 54  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 14
District 55  Tom LANTOS
District 56  Anna G. ESHOO
District 57  Anna G. ESHOO
District 58  Anna G. ESHOO
District 59  Anna G. ESHOO

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 15
District 60  Greg ROLEN
District 61  Zoe LOFGREN
District 62  Mike HONDA
District 63  Mike HONDA
District 64  Mike HONDA

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 16
District 65  Zoe LOFGREN
District 66  Mike HONDA
District 67  Zoe LOFGREN
District 68  Zoe LOFGREN
District 69  Zoe LOFGREN

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 17
District 70  Mike HONDA
District 71  Zoe LOFGREN
District 72  Zoe LOFGREN
District 73  Zoe LOFGREN
District 74  Zoe LOFGREN

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 18
District 75  Mike THOMPSON
District 76  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 77  Dianne Feinstein
District 78  Dianne Feinstein
District 79  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 19
District 80  Mike THOMPSON
District 81  Dianne Feinstein
District 82  Dianne Feinstein
District 83  Dianne Feinstein
District 84  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 20
District 85  Mike THOMPSON
District 86  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 87  Dianne Feinstein
District 88  Dianne Feinstein
District 89  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 21
District 90  Mike THOMPSON
District 91  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 92  Dianne Feinstein
District 93  Dianne Feinstein
District 94  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 22
District 95  Mike THOMPSON
District 96  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 97  Dianne Feinstein
District 98  Dianne Feinstein
District 99  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 23
District 100  Mike THOMPSON
District 101  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 102  Dianne Feinstein
District 103  Dianne Feinstein
District 104  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 24
District 105  Mike THOMPSON
District 106  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 107  Dianne Feinstein
District 108  Dianne Feinstein
District 109  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 25
District 110  Mike THOMPSON
District 111  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 112  Dianne Feinstein
District 113  Dianne Feinstein
District 114  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 26
District 115  Mike THOMPSON
District 116  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 117  Dianne Feinstein
District 118  Dianne Feinstein
District 119  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 27
District 120  Mike THOMPSON
District 121  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 122  Dianne Feinstein
District 123  Dianne Feinstein
District 124  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 28
District 125  Mike THOMPSON
District 126  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 127  Dianne Feinstein
District 128  Dianne Feinstein
District 129  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 29
District 130  Mike THOMPSON
District 131  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 132  Dianne Feinstein
District 133  Dianne Feinstein
District 134  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 30
District 135  Mike THOMPSON
District 136  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 137  Dianne Feinstein
District 138  Dianne Feinstein
District 139  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 31
District 140  Mike THOMPSON
District 141  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 142  Dianne Feinstein
District 143  Dianne Feinstein
District 144  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 32
District 145  Mike THOMPSON
District 146  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 147  Dianne Feinstein
District 148  Dianne Feinstein
District 149  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 33
District 150  Mike THOMPSON
District 151  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 152  Dianne Feinstein
District 153  Dianne Feinstein
District 154  Dianne Feinstein

STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 34
District 155  Mike THOMPSON
District 156  Lynn WOOLSEY
District 157  Dianne Feinstein
District 158  Dianne Feinstein
District 159  Dianne Feinstein
ILWU endorses Al Gore for President

By Brian McWilliams
International Labor Observer

The ILWU Executive Board endorsed Vice-President Al Gore for President at its meeting in Seattle Dec. 1-2. The endorsement follows an AFL-CIO endorsement of Gore at its Los Angeles convention in mid-October. The Teamsters, UAW, ILWU, and a few other unions opposed the endorsement of the Vice-President in October. These unions opposed endorsement primarily to protect the interests of Labor that needed more time to influence the Vice-President on issues ranging from free trade to health care reform. The International officers presented the issue of an early presidential endorsement to the Board arguing that the primaries in Washington state and California were so close the last time the Board would meet before then. Hawaii Vice-President Leonard Hoshijo commented that Gore said he would vote anti-labor legislation. The Board considered the following issues before issuing their endorsement for Gore.

RIGHT TO ORGANIZE

Gore stated at the AFL-CIO Convention in Los Angeles Oct. 13, 1999: "I believe the right to organize is a right that should never be blocked, never be stopped, and never be taken away. Let me tell you, that right needs to be strengthened today." Gore also supports Administration efforts to create a new agreement of the International Labor Organization to work with developing countries to protect the interests of workers throughout the world.

MINIMUM WAGE

As a member of Congress, Gore supported the minimum wage in 1977, 1988 and 1989. As Vice-President, Gore pushed for the 1996 minimum wage increase. Gore was also called on Congress to pass a $1 an hour increase of the minimum wage this year.

JOB HEALTH AND SAFETY

Vice-President Gore supports increased funding for OSHA and supports efforts to protect workers. Gore also opposes efforts to weaken workplace safety laws, including proposals that would have eliminated certain mandatory minimum penalties for civil violations of the OSHA.

EQUAL PAY

Gore supports efforts to close the pay gap between men and women. Some employers continue to pay women less money than men for the same or similar work performed. The Vice-President has urged Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act to allow women to sue employers for unlawful sex discrimination. Gore supports efforts to contract out government jobs and so believes Al Gore was wrong to recommend such changes.

PENSION SECURITY

As a U.S. Senator, Gore co-sponsored the "Employee Pension Protection Act of 1989," which sought to provide protection and expand access to pension plans. Since 1994 the Clinton-Gore Administration has pushed reform bills to simplify the pension process for small businesses, expand pension portability and protect employee pension funds.

HEALTH CARE

Gore supports a 25 percent tax credit to small business and individuals that purchase health insurance. He also would allow people over 55 who need health care to buy into Medicare at a moderate rate. Gore supports a strong Patients Bill of Rights and supports tightening the eligibility rules for Medicare.

EDUCATION

Gore is proposing to devote $10 billion of the budget surplus to create the Clinton-Gore Trust Fund to fund new education investments, including universal preschool, small-er schools and smaller classes, high quality teachers and modernizing our schools. The Vice-President's education agenda also provides for large grants and tax cuts to make college and job training more accessible.

TRADE

Despite our union's endorsement of Al Gore, we must be frank that the Vice-President's steadfast support of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) is to its passage in Congress. This trade agreement has been a disaster for American workers and the other major Presidential candidates still support NAFTA. We must continue to educate the public on the adverse impact of NAFTA.

Since 1993, when NAFTA was passed by a close House vote, the U.S. has lost 250,000 American jobs to other countries to protect the interests of U.S.-based corporations. Gore supports efforts to close the gap between men and women. Some employers continue to pay women less money than men for the same or similar work performed. The Vice-President has urged Congress to pass the Paycheck Fairness Act to allow women to sue employers for unlawful sex discrimination. Gore supports efforts to contract out government jobs and so believes Al Gore was wrong to recommend such changes.

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During ILWU-Canada's contract negotiations last year the employers put on a lock-out to move the boundaries of traditional ILWU rail jurisdiction at Vancouver Wharves, a change that would hand over the work to railway unions at British Columbia Rail. For many years BC Rail workers had the job of moving trains to the fence but not onto the docks. They pushed rail cars onto the feeder lines at the rail yard and ILWU members position the cars for loading the ships. The ILWU work involves moving the cars to the ship from the feeder line and back. BC Rail workers then move the empties away and bring loaded cars in for the next round. The new scheme would have moved the cars further toward the docks and had the rail workers take over the switching.

The ILWU resisted that and other concessionary demands, and the employers responded with an eight-day lockout that shut down Canada's West Coast. The standoff ended Nov. 15 with an improved contract and ILWU jurisdiction at Vancouver Wharves intact. The rail unions, combined into a seven-member Joint Council of Trade Unions, issued strong support statements for the ILWU during the lockout.

"Through the coordination of the BC Federation of Labour we met with the ILWU, the local Labour Board and cleared understanding that we weren't seeking their work and that we would do what we could to help the ILWU maintain jurisdiction," said Bob Sharpe, Chair of the Joint Trades Union Council. "They're going to let managers pit one union against the other.

The agreement was already in tahoe's, as the provincial government owns both Vancouver Wharves and BC Rail.

During its fight with the ILWU the company kept up its pressure on its own workers. The company proposed a workforce reduction of 20 percent, two-tier wages and other takeaways. The Joint Council refused the givebacks, offered to commit to benefits, and got wage increases for the two years since the contract expired and two percent for the following year.

The 1,600 rail workers carried on negotiations for 15 months with BC Rail, Canada's third largest freight railway. The company cried poverty, even though it made $221 million in profits on revenues of $321 million. Rail workers took its strike vote and by an 84 percent margin decided to strike a passenger rail run over New Years, leaving out and forest products alone. But the company jumped the gun and shot the workers.

Joint Council spokesman Bill Tielman said the union offered to lift its strike vote if the company would end the lockout and come to the table, but BC Rail rejected the offer.

On the railway base coal to Westshore Terminals Ltd., the largest coal terminal on the West Coast of the Western Hemisphere at Roberts Bank, south of Vancouver. With a million tons of coal on the site the company had prepared for the lockout. However, when BC Rail employees picketed their employer Dec. 30, ILWU longshore workers refused to cross and those in the port left the site.

Tielman said ILWU support in recognition of the support they gave us during our troubled times with our employer," said Tom Dufresne, President of ILWU-Canada. "We let that be known to them and their employer.

Dan Miller, British Columbia's Premier, began hearing from such diverse groups as the BC Federation of Labour, the BC Chamber of Commerce and local governments asking for an end to the lockout.

"Miller should get McElligott (BC Rail's CEO) on the phone and tell him to stop fooling around," Tielman said.

West Coast unions sought legal intervention against the picketing. More pickets showed up at Vancouver Wharves and more longshore workers split as the owners ran to the courts for injunctions. Rail workers withdrew the pickets while provincial labour mediator Irene Holden shuttled between the offices of the two sides, trying to bring them together.

With pressure building BC Rail ended the lockout Jan. 5 and the workers rat a contract that stopped the concessions, though the exact details won't be released until final member ratification.

"We had strong support at Roberts Bank and at Vancouver Wharves and at all points from the ILWU," Sharpe said. "A picket line is a picket line, as we treat everyone's interests?"
Activists build anti-WTO coalition

January 2000

Protesters arrested at anti-WTO demonstration in Seattle.

will investigate all the allegations of governmental overreaction and police misconduct and take appropriate action to right those wrongs.

The City Council responded to more than 18 hours of public testimony by launching an investigation that may stretch into the summer. The council has a list of 129 questions raised by the public it wants answered, including how the WTO ended up in Seattle, how and what did the city plan for the event, what were police tactics and did local or federal officials order the crackdown on demonstrators, and were there civil rights violations?

The outcome of the investigation may seriously affect city politics, especially the political fortunes of Mayor Paul Schell. Already Police Chief Norm Stamper has fallen on his sword, resigning shortly after the WTO meeting.

In the meantime different groups of activists, inspired by the success of the anti-WTO coalition, have been gathering to try to keep the momentum going. The largest one has been meeting in the local Teamster hall. At its meeting Jan. 9 some 125 people attended. They broke down into their constituency groups—labor, environment, students, artists, farmers, fair trade advocates, neighborhood groups, homeless advocates, Direct Action Network activists—and elected representatives for a steering committee. With the ILWU's reputation as a leader in the movement, former ILWU Puget Sound patrolman Jeff Engels was selected as labor's representative on the steering committee. But with Engels shipping out other labor activists are stepping forward.

The King County Central Labor Council that played an important role in the WTO organizing in Seattle is working with the coalition, adding a strong labor component to it, and joining DAN in the legal defense efforts.

"We were doing same coalition work before the WTO, but now it's much broader and deeper," Ron Judd, secretary-treasurer of the Labor Council, said. "We want to figure out how we don't go back to where we were before, but how we come out at a heightened level to where we can move more stuff. We're all trying to figure out what's the most effective way to continue the work. We're getting into some real strategic planning."

Reviewed by Harvey Schwartz
Editor, ILWU Oral History Project

I magine that it is 1967 and you are Sidney Roger, the editor of The Dispatcher. You are in Washington, D.C., to help ILWU President Harry Bridges lobby against America’s military involvement in Vietnam. During one exciting 24-hour period you confer with Oregon Senator Mark Hatfield, a friend of the ILWU and a critic of the war; listen to your legendary boss try to convince generals at the Pentagon that their Southeast Asia policy is wrong; and then get to meet John L. Lewis, the famous long-time president of the United Mine Workers and founder of CIO.

Sid Roger’s life was full of exciting days like that. Over a long and sometimes tumultuous public career, he routinely met and worked with the greats, from Black leaders like Paul Robeson, W.E.B. DuBois and Rosa Parks to political figures like Norman Thomas and Henry A. Wallace.

Roger’s lengthy oral history abounds with stories about his dealings with these and other celebrated and accomplished people.

It was obvious to everyone who knew him that Roger himself was a person of many talents and interests. He was frequently thought of as a true Renaissance man. A versatile actor trained at the Regional Oral History Office, The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, 1994. Two Volumes, xxi, 1053 pp., hard bound, indexed, $215 plus $8 shipping.

Roger’s parents immigrated to the United States when he was still a child. They found their way to Los Angeles, where Roger grew up in Boyle Heights, a largely Jewish working-class district in the 1920s. He attended U.C. Berkeley from 1934 to 1938 and then embarked upon his career as a commentator. One of the first pieces Roger wrote for radio was a sarcastic commentary about Fritz Wiedemann, Nazi Germany’s Consul General in San Francisco who was courted by the city’s high society at the end of the 1930s.

In the early 1940s, after America entered World War II, Roger attained widespread prominence as the voice of America in the Pacific while broadcasting for the Office of War Information (OWI). He was especially well known and highly regarded in the Philippines. In 1943 he was re-spoken out on the radio against racism and segregation.

This was a theme he would emphasize throughout his life. In the late 1950s and early 1960s he often did volunteer programs for Berkeley’s radio station KPFA in support of the Civil Rights movement.

During 1945 and 1946, after America entered World War II, Roger covered the founding of the United Nations in San Francisco for the OWI. He initially had high hopes for the UN as the embodiment of much that the U.S. had fought for since 1941. He was disillusioned quickly when the Cold War began and the UN proved not to be a harbinger of peace, harmony and freedom from oppression.

Also in 1945, when he was still with the OWI and not yet directly associated with the ILWU, Roger experienced his first run-in with red-baiters.

He was accused of having been “prematurely anti-fascist” for the strong Nazi stance he had taken before the war. In those days, saying someone had been “prematurely anti-fascist” was like calling a person a Communist, a form of guilt by association. Accusers found handy for condemnation people who happened to be long-term anti-fascists. The charge was easy to make because the American Communist Party had criticized Nazi Germany in the several months between the mid-1930s and 1939.

It did not matter that Roger had been beaten up by Hitler youth members while on a visit to Germany in the late 1930s. He was considered a Communist even before the Nazis took power, and that his anti-fascism was perverted and felt as well as early. During 1945, Roger was investigated by the FBI and the OWI.

After the war northern California’s CIO unions, including the ILWU, funded a labor news program on KGO Radio featuring Roger as the broad- casts and commentator. The program achieved a great following in the latter 1940s, just before the era of TV’s dominance.

In a statement that reveals much about the man, Roger told Shearer: “I was so proud that labor unions would offer to sponsor me. I was the kind of guy to whom money was less important than these things I believe in so strongly, which included the labor movement. I didn’t want to work for commercial people. I think I considered the labor movement the organization most likely to change American life for the better for everyone.”

Unfortunately, the red scare of the late 1940s and early 1950s proved costly to Roger. In 1947 California state Senator Jack Tenney publicly read a list of Roger’s friends and colleagues and then labelled him a Communist by association. In response Roger asked to testify before Tenney’s notorious California state Senate Committee on Un-American Activities. When his request was granted he tried to condemn Tenney’s tactics while defending his own record.

Roger felt he argued well at Tenney’s Committee appearance, which he vividly described. Yet he pointed out that it was very difficult then to protect yourself from ongoing trouble once you had been labelled “a Communist” by one of the era’s anti-
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Dispatcher

Dispatcher collection - ILWU

radical political committees. Such committees, Roger argued, and the union had to grant "the accused" the right to a legal protection afforded by a court procedure. He convincingly criticized the abuse of power of censors by comparing it to a "tennis court".

"I think this goes against the rules but, as long as I have been editor out of [of a hearing], and you were not able to argue about much about it." Of course, the CIO purged its most militant trade union leaders, including the ILWU's alleged Communist infiltrators. In 1950, Roger was on the staff of the ILWU, which was under the leadership of Tenney's brother, Thomas Dewey, the heavily favored Republican standard-bearer. Wallace, Roger also describes the political transformation of Hawaii that the ILWU brought to the islands in the late 1940s and early 1950s. He observed that the ILWU's transformation process was directly linked to the development of the union's political action. As President J.R. Robertson, Roger's political transformation of Hawaii that the ILWU brought to the islands in the late 1940s and early 1950s. He observed that the ILWU's transformation process was directly linked to the development of the union's political action.

Roger argues that, unlike many pro-Wallace left-liberals, including some key leaders of the ILWU, Roger believed in the concept of unionism. He also emphasizes pointedly, was the only presidential candidate to walk an ILWU picket line during the 1948 presidential campaign. He recalls his experience as an editor of The Dispatcher. He also excels when describing the powerful sense of community among longshore gangs and the mechanics and mechanization in the late 1940s, and then demonstrating the development of the union's political action. As an insider, Roger also offers his assessment of the political transformation of Hawaii that the ILWU brought to the islands in the late 1940s and early 1950s. He observed that the ILWU's transformation process was directly linked to the development of the union's political action.

Roger has much to say about the personalities and actions of historic ILWU leaders, including Bridges, Louis Goldblatt, Bob Robertson, Henry Schmidt and Hawaii's Jack Hall. Like the other ROHO volumes on the ILWU, Roger's portrayal of the ILWU's Bridges-Robertson-Schmidt defense during "the BRS trial," as it was popularly known during 1950-53, provides a good example of the value of this interview and of oral histories or memoirs.

In another vein, Roger's portrayal of the ILWU's Bridges-Robertson-Schmidt defense during "the BRS trial," as it was popularly known during 1950-53, provides a good example of the value of this interview and of oral histories or memoirs. The volumes in ROHO's ILWU collection can be obtained by writing to the ROHO office in San Francisco, at the Bancroft Library, UC Berkeley, and at the Dept. of Special Collections, UCLA. For information on ordering volumes, write to the Regional Oral History Office, 488 Library, University of California, Berkeley CA 94720.

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**STATEMENT OF POLICY ON FRANK BILLECCI**

Frank Billecci, a member of Local 34, was elected to the International Executive Board in 1992 as a member of Local 34 Frank took an active role in the activities of the Longshore and Warehouse Union in the San Francisco Bay Area. Many committed trade unionists, Frank demonstrated that trade union members could have a positive impact on the national operations of the ILWU and the progressive cause.

Throughout his forty-plus year career with the ILWU, Frank has served in several key positions. He has held nearly every elected office in Local 34, including several as its president. Frank has also served on several longshore industry negotiating committees representing the clerks and the longshore division. Frank has also represented the Northern California locals as a member of the International Executive Board. On the IEB, he was a trustee whose function was to supervise the finances of the International; he served in a similar capacity for the Coasts Committee.

In the early 1990s the longshore division ran into a jurisdictional dispute with the steel division in Pittsburg, CA owned by US Steel and called the FBI's misconduct "a clear violation of our constitutional rights."

Frank is well respected for his thoroughness and thoughtful input to the policies and directions of the union. He has always put the interests of the Union as a whole ahead of any other group. In heated debates on significant issues, he would often cut through the periphery and focus on critical points. His honesty and integrity have earned him the respect and trust of his fellow workers.

During his time with the ILWU, Frank has been involved in numerous negotiations with companies, including the Steel of Korea, which has been a thorn in the side of USS Posco. After two years of negotiations, the company agreed to a settlement that included a significant increase for the ILWU's membership. Frank was instrumental in the negotiations and played a key role in securing the agreement. His commitment to the ILWU and his dedication to the principles and values of the union have earned him the respect and accolades of his fellow members.

The ILWU has, from its very first days, been a union open to people of all races, colors, nationalities, and creeds. The ILWU is a union that has always fought for the rights of all workers, regardless of their background or affiliations.

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LAX WIN WORTH THE WAIT

A gutsy group of guys exercising their right to organize foiled the plan to run the Los Angeles Export Terminal with non-union labor—and in doing so, plunged the biggest hole in the wall of LAXT's threat to Local 13, Peyton joined ILWU's all-out fight against LAXT's threat to union jobs at the Port of Los Angeles. This was far more than a battle for jurisdiction: LAXT stood for creeping privatization of the port.

The construction contract for LAXT went to a non-union contractor, something Local 13 had fought. In November 1995 the LAXT Corp. awarded the contract to run the terminal to a non-union Savage Industries. More than three dozen American and Japanese corporate investors own the rest of the port venture in ILWU territory outside a mix of public and private ownership.

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France, gave away free breakfast
checks in Seattle; this was in front of
the McDonald’s at 3rd and Pine. His
idea with the WTO was a result of the
punitive U.S. duties on European
products, including his embargosed
chicken, as a result of the U.S.’s ban
on hormone-fed meat. His point was lost
on the corporate media when some-
one smashed a few windows at the
restaurant.

In New Delhi, India 500 people from
the Maheshwari area protested the
construction of a dam in their region
and the destruction of farm-
lands. The protestors timed their
Nov. 30 action to coincide with other farm-
ers around the world, targeting multi-
national companies and seeking unity
with other dispossessed people. Joined
by hundreds of local activists, they held
a demonstration at Raj Ghat, the bur-
ial site of Mahatma Gandhi’s ashes.

Villagers and other speakers reaf-
phrmed their commitment to Gandhi’s
belief in self-reliance and community-
building production, contrasting that
with corporate globalization. They
also marched to the nearby German
Embassy, protesting neo-colonialism,
the World Bank and the WTO. The
U.S. Embassy in Manila became the unwillimg host to a
demonstration of 8,000 people who
chanted, "We would like to stop this
protest that organization’s destruc-
tion of local farming. Throughout the
country Nov. 30 tribal people and
workers alike celebrated the 136th
birthday of working-class hero
Andres Bonifacio with protests
against a new law allowing 100 per-
cent foreign ownership of companies
operating in the country.

The networks that built the
largest ever coalition of labor, human
rights and environmental activists
remain open as the next round in
the battle against corporate free trade
begins in Washington, D.C. April 16
and 17 when the World Bank and
Monetary Fund begin their conferences.

Already rumblings of discontent
can be heard at the World Bank. Outgoing
Chief Economist Joseph Stiglitz had an attack of candor
and told the American Economics Assn.
Jan. 8 that worker rights should be
central to any development program.

"In East Asia it was reckless lend-
ing by international banks and other
financial institutions, combined with
reckless borrowing by domestic finan-
cial institutions which may have pre-
cipitated the crisis," he said. "But the
costs, in terms of soaring unemploy-
ment and plummeting wages, were
borne by the workers.

Stiglitz should know. He was on
Clinton’s Council of Economic
1997 when he joined the WB. During
that time both NAFTA and WTO
were fast-tracked through Congress,
which didn’t bother to make the two
agreements public. A standard mes-
 sage (to develop-
ing nations) was to increase "labor
market flexibility," and the not-too-
subtle subtext was to lower wages
and lay off workers," he said. The
AEA gave him a standing ovation.

Tom Price

January 2000

The ILWU Legacy Fund

Statement of Policy on ILWU Legacy Fund

Over the years the ILWU has received tens of thousands of dollars in donations from members, active and retired—sometimes in the form of bequests—who want to give something back to the Union. Because many of our members and friends also wish to contribute directly to internal education and organizing, the Titled Officers suggest that we formally establish the ILWU Legacy Fund, and that an ongoing request for donations appear in The Dispatcher. Donors will receive a special pin in recognition of their contribution, which will also be acknowledged in our newspaper.

The Legacy Fund is a way to earmark general funds for education and organizing, and to receive voluntary donations to be used only for organizing and educational programs and publications. The Titled Officers suggest that donations to the Legacy Fund will require no additional legal and duplication of audio and video materials, including the ILWU oral history project interviews. Increased involvement in community outreach programs, including ILWU participation in labor history conferences and development of exhibits and other activities at high schools, colleges, museums and libraries.

Your contribution to the Legacy Fund, however large or small, will help to make these projects a reality. All contributions of $25.00 or more will receive a commemorative ILWU lapel pin.

The ILWU Legacy Fund

Name
Address
Local 
Workbook Number
Amount of Donation

Make checks payable to the ILWU and earmark them for the Legacy Fund

Attention International Convention Delegates

The Columbia River Host Committee for the ILWU’s 31st International Convention is trying to schedule entertain-
ment events. On Tuesday, May 2 delegates will have a
choice of two events, a casino trip or a riverboat dinner
ride. But the Host Committee needs to know in advance
the number of placements so it can make arrangements. The Committee sent forms to fill out to all locals, regions
and affiliates, but so far only 20 percent have responded.
If you are an elected delegate and your local officers have
not asked you which event you prefer to attend, then you
should contact those officers and make you request known.
Shaun Maloney (1911-1999)
A life of worker causes

Shaun Maloney worked as a merchant seaman, including sailing on the fabled "Convoy to Murmansk," trying to get supplies to the Soviet Union during World War II. Maloney was one of the last survivors of the heroic fig-ure of the Seattle water-borne strike that world-wide labor struggle.

In 1942, Maloney spent almost six months ashore at Archangel in the USSR before repairs could be made to the ship and he was able to return to the U.S., where family members had already mourned him as dead. By then Maloney had found work on the Seattle docks where he had joined the ILWU.

He continued his advocacy of workers' interests as an influential union officer and rank-and-file militant. He became one of the leading critics of the controversial "Mechanization and Modernization Agreement," which he believed it traded jobs and conditions for a buy-out resulting in the loss of thousands of jobs and union power. Because of his actions, a second vote was required in Seattle and San Francisco to narrowly ratify the agreement.

Shaun Maloney left no direct descendants. He is survived by his children, Doris Cross, Delphen, Burdette Hyden (Emma), Raymond Ysip-Crosby (Elvira), Torn-ey, Raymond Millard (Doroles), Bill Price (Dorothy), Earl Matthews (Jenny), Howard Tharaldson (Marvin), Ron Poston (L handguns), Evan Porter, Vivian St. John, Raymond McGinn (Shirley), Martha Bucchin, Charles Nason, James T. Desaix, Pierce, J. B. Hallett, Dale Kelly, Ronald Finley (Heskey), Henderson, David Dolan, Lester Savage, and performed other odd jobs that became avocations to those who were blacklisted. He sailed the Great Lakes in 1930 when he first got his Merchant Seaman's papers.

Shaun Maloney in 1971.

Shaun Maloney, one of the last survivors of the heroic figure of the Seattle water-borne strike that world-wide labor struggle. Maloney was one of the last survivors of the heroic figure.

One of Maloney's proudest moments came when "The Agreement," recognizing the union, was finally reached in August, 1943. Maloney took part in the negotiations that brought about the "The Agreement," recognizing the union, was finally reached in August, 1943. Maloney took part in the negotiations that brought about the agreement. Maloney served two years in federal prison for refusing to cross the picket line of the Canadian Seamen's Union which, like the ILWU, was targeted by shipowners, governments and right-wing union leaders. All were eventually back again with their seamen's documents in order of the U.S. Supreme Court, but once reinstated into the SUP, many were promptly expelled again.

By then Maloney had found work on the Seattle docks where he had joined the ILWU. He continued his advocacy of workers' interests as an influential union officer and rank-and-file militant. He became one of the leading critics of the controversial "Mechanization and Modernization Agreement," which he believed it traded jobs and conditions for a buy-out resulting in the loss of thousands of jobs and union power. Because of his actions, a second vote was required in Seattle and San Francisco to narrowly ratify the agreement.

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Shaun Maloney, one of the last survivors of the heroic figure of the Seattle water-borne strike that world-wide labor struggle. Maloney was one of the last survivors of the heroic figure.
Aubrey Grossman—passionate defender of civil liberties

By Tom Price

Aubrey Grossman ferried across the bay to join the pickets during the 1934 San Francisco General Strike when he heard that scab hordsmen had come to Berkeley to replace the unionized workers. He was then a student at the Campanile on the U.C. campus. They persuaded some of the players to join the picket line. A few years later the two got married.

Hazel worked on the boycott of war materials to Japan in the 1930s and became a life-long advocate for peace and social justice. Aubrey met many life-long friends and colleagues at that time.

Aubrey probably a senior when I was a freshman, ILWU General Counsel Emeritus Norman Leonard said. He was a resident at UCLA. "He organized something called the "Social Problems Club" and we discussed social problems.

These included unemployment, the need for Social Security, and anti-Reservation Officer Training, required military training for all male students until 1943. "It was pretty horrendous experience," Aubrey said. "Tongue in his cheek" due to his "pernicious radical activity." That probably a great way for them to prevent a life of activism, and in that sense it was on money.

Grossman avoided expulsion and passed the bar exam, but had to fight the McCarthy-Lemke Law to get his license. That group claimed in 1936 that he wouldn't be able to take his loyalty oath because he had "tongue in his cheek" due to his "pernicious radical activity." That probably a great way for them to prevent a life of activism, and in that sense it was on money.

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Aubrey Grossman (left) with the Local 6 President Curtis McClain at a press conference after striking Handymen Warehouse worker Norman Lewis was run over and killed on a picket line in August 1976.
Books and videos about the ILWU are available from the union's library at discounted prices!

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