BLACK HISTORY MONTH:
Martin Luther King Jr. and the Labor Movement

FTAA: NAFTA for the Western Hemisphere

John Pandora:
Local 13 Officer and Southern California Arbitrator

INSIDE
DAS workers win union, big contract  ........................................ 3
Washington Report: The great tax hoax ........................................ 4
Tacoma Black History month program draws crowds, raves ................ 10
NAFTA Labor agreement sacked at Duro Bag Mexican factory .......... 13
In this issue we’re ringing the alarm bells again against corporate free trade. This time the 34 heads of state from the Western Hemis-phere will meet April 18-22 in Quebec City, Canada. Their trade ministers have secretly negotiated a deal to bring the whole hemi-sphere under the disastrous NAFTA social engineering regime. They’re calling it the Free Trade Area of the Americas, FTAA for short. (See pp. 6–7).

Indeed, the 300 corpo-rate representatives spent the last five years privately crafting details, moving like shadows in a world of intrigue, and as unaccountable as ghosts. Their stealthy scheme is almost ready to surface, but even before it does President Bush is try-ing to get authority to fast track it through Congress, with no amend-ments and limited debate.

Billed as a trade agreement, the deal will actually allow corporations to write trade rules and adjudicate them in secret tribunals—and then enforce their decisions on formerly sovereign nations. Negotiators recently announced they are two years ahead of the 2005 deadline and are expecting an “early harvest” of agreements allowing corporations to rewrite laws covering logging, farming, mining, water and energy.

The sneakiest deals cover the social services the hemisphere’s people have created to protect themselves from the most rapa-cious of capital’s excesses, includ-ing social security, health care and education. This $5 trillion golden goose has the investors mesmer-ized—they’re hoping for a direct pipeline into essential services with potential profits ten times larger than the Pentagon budget. But first they have to privatize those services, a move solidly rejected by the voters whenever it rears its ugly head into the light of day. The free trade in services regime can over-turn the voters’ will.

But the opposition is growing, and actually has a few victories under its belt. The protestors won the November 1999 Battle of Seattle, and a year before activists helped defeat of fast track authori-ty Congress. In 1997 Ralph Nader’s Public Citizen exposed another secret agreement, the Multilateral Agreement on Invest-ments, by web-casting a purloined copy of the agreement on the Internet. MAI was supposed to guarantee investor rights in other people’s countries and eliminate local regu-lation. The ensuing public outcry embarrassed governments into withdrawing it, only to reintro-duce it as corporate rights prov-isioins in the WTO and new FTAA.

Since Seattle citizens’ groups have bird-dogged every corporate trade meeting, including the November 2001 WTO ministerial meeting to remote Qatar, an emirate in the Persian Gulf where demonstra-tions aren’t allowed. George W. Bush’s presidential legitimacy will be strained when he pushes his “Presidential Trade Promotion Authority,” the latest euphemism for fast track, into Congress this spring. Everywhere the public shines a light on these secret deals, the dealers recoil like vampires in the sun, and April’s meeting in Quebec City will be no exception.

By James Spinoso
ILWU International President

Ever since the end of the Civil War and slavery, Black his-tory has been intricately linked to the history of the American labor movement. The vast majority of African Americans went from chattel slavery to wage slavery, working for low pay and under harsh conditions. Their only hope was organizing and unionizing.

And that’s exactly what they did. Recently freed Black long-shore workers at the Port of Charleston struck for wages and won. They also started their own union, the Longshoremen’s Protective Union Association, the forerunner of ILA Local 1422, the Charleston longshore local now under attack. That victory by former slaves inspired similar struggles and victories by Black longshore workers at many other ports in the South in the early 1860s.

But the fledgling American labor movement still reflected the values of the society of that time, and it wasn’t ready for full inte-gration. Blacks usu-ally had to set up their own, separate unions. Many white workers feared they would now have to compete with the newly freed slaves as well as new European immi-grants, for scarce jobs during the post-Civil War depression. And their fears were self-fulfilling. Shut out of unions and job opportunities, Blacks and immigrants were often used by boss-es as strikebreakers.

But the anti-slavery movement that preceded the Civil War also raised consciousness among some of the white leadership. And their practical experience showed the power of that principle. Where white workers excluded Blacks, Blacks often did become strikebreakers and the white union would lose. Where white and Black unions supported each other, they usually won.

The same thing happened here at ports on the West Coast. During the 1919 longshore strike Blacks were mostly excluded from the union. So who could blame them for taking what few job opportunities they were offered, even during a strike? Who could blame them for not being sympathetic to white workers who excluded them based on just the color of their skin? So the white workers lost, their union was smashed and the bosses imposed lower wages, the corrupt shape-up system of getting work, and the fink company union.

So when the West Coast longshore workers began to organize again in 1944, what would eventually become the ILWU, Harry Bridges insisted that Blacks must be in the union from the beginning. He argued that it was not only the right thing to do, it was the only way they would ever win recognition of their union, the dispatch hall, higher wages, better con-ditions and dignity. Harry won that debate and together the workers won the strike. The rest, of course, is history—our his-tory—and we must not forget it.

The point of learning and knowing history is to recognize and understand when something historic is happening now. Right now, today, 2001, the struggle for African American rights, for civil rights, for workers’ rights, is happening in Charleston, South Carolina.

The longshore workers of Charleston were singled out not just because they dared to assert their union rights and defend their jobs by picketing a scab operation. That wasn’t the only reason the state sent in 600 riot cops with dogs, armored vehi-cles and helicopters to break their picket line and then charge five of them with felony rioting counts punishable by up to five years in prison. It was also because the week before the Black Charleston longshore workers led the march in the state capital against flying the Confederate flag, the symbol of slav-ery, brutality and racism.

It was also because the longshore workers, some of the best paid union workers in the state, were stepping up and assuming a political leadership role for the workers’ movement in South Carolina. They had helped elect a liberal Democrat as the new governor, and in turn the governor had nominated the local’s president, Ken Riley, to the state’s Port Authority, much like ILWU presidents have sat on Port Commissions on the West Coast. The local was becoming a center of political activ-ity and its hall was being used for meetings by groups like the state chapter of the NAACP, the Progressive Network of South Carolina, the Executive Committee of the state’s Democratic Party, and a couple of activist student groups. The Charleston longshore workers were attacked because they were organizing and winning.

If we recognize that the campaign in defense of the Charleston longshore workers is a pivotal moment in the histo-ry of both the struggle of against racism and the struggle of workers against employers, then we must respond with the kind of tenacity that can change history’s course. We’ve done it before, like the time back in 1984 when our boycott of South African ships kick-started the resurgence of the international anti-apartheid movement. We helped put an end to that evil system of oppression of Black workers and we can do it again now.

This is the lesson of our shared history. Labor solidarity is black and white—together.
Suddently the 63 workers at Distribution and Auto Service (DAS) in Port Wilhjem, Wash. got a union contract—and a real one at that.

Just nine months ago, the workers—most of them recent immigrants from Russia, Bosnia, Russia and Mexico—narrowly lost their bid to join the ILWU. But on Feb. 23, they approved their agreement by a narrow margin, 2-to-1, becoming members of the revived ILWU Local 4A. They credit their victory to the hard work of a team of attorneys led by the NLRB and the determined support of ILWU longshore Local 4 and its organizing committee.

We send a big, fat thank you to Local 4A,” negotiations team member Bart Hammond said.

Many Local 4 members work alongside the DAS employees who wash, check, pinstripe and accessorize new Subarus coming into the port—often from the same plants in the Port of Vancouver, Wash., that were the scene of a bitter battle for union recognition and a union contract in 1999.

The company responded by slamming them with a textbook anti-union campaign. Management was out to drive a hard bargain every step of the way, according to legal briefs. It threatened to fire workers for discussing their union activities, it made workers' work hours and displays of support for the union. It threatened to close the plant if they won a union election.

The ILWU immediately filed charges with the NLRB, charging that DAS' illegal activity blocked a fair election. The NLRB hearing officer recommended a bargaining order, but the company appealed.
By Lindsay McLaughlin
ILWU Legislative Director

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But how many of those wealthy families are on "the bottom 40 percent of households"? The Administration's family planning would leave just four percent of the tax cuts while the 12 million families pay payroll taxes to the federal treasury. For these families, Bush leaves out a crucial fact that his $1.6 trillion tax cut is a hoax on working families. These workers would like the federal government to spend more on port infrastructure, dredging and job-creating initiatives in the maritime industry. They're out of luck if this huge tax cut goes through. Another ILWU priority is health care coverage for all Americans. That's an expensive issue that's long overdue. We may have to wait another 50 years for a national health care program if the Bush cut is implemented in total.

In addition to the marginal rate reductions that primarily benefit the rich, Bush has proposed repeal of the estate tax and ending the marriage penalty. The estate tax affects only two percent of the estates of people who die each year. The debate about estate tax relief for family farms or businesses involves a question that arises only for six out of every 10,000 people who die. Most members of Congress, Republican and Democrat, believe estate tax relief is appropriate in some instances. Relief can be done without repealing the entire existing estate tax laws. Last year Rep. Charles Rangel (D-NY) proposed a plan that would give couples a $4 million exclusion.

We've got all different kinds of people at different levels doing this work and that's why the ergonomic law is so important," said Jeff Carter, the ILWU's legislative policy director.

Ergonomic rule repealed

By Brian Davidson
ILWU Legislative Assistant

The workmen and women of this country won a great victory when the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) issued its final ergonomic standards Nov. 14, 2000. Musculoskeletal disorders, or MSDs, caused by ergonomic hazards are the biggest safety and health problem in the workplace today, accounting for a third of all serious injuries. OSHA estimates that each year more than 2 million workers suffer from these injuries. The rule was a major step forward and would have brought about improvements in workplace standards. The rule took effect on Jan. 16, 2001. Enemies of workers had other ideas.

For the first time in OSHA's 30-year history, the Republican controlled Congress overturned a worker health and safety rule. Labor should take this as a major defeat and realize this is only the beginning of what is to come out of the 107th Congress. The measure, which was the culmination of a 10-year effort to establish protections for workers who suffer from chronic and disabling injuries, was wiped out within the course of two days with minimal debate. Republicans voted out all of the law in order to steamroll over work practices and develop a stronger health plan for the workers. The measure passed 56-44. No Republicans broke ranks and voted "aye" to this measure.

The repercussions of Bush's tax cut plan are enormous and could devastate the U.S. economy for decades. The labor movement needs to fight it now. Please express your opposition to it to your Senators and members of Congress and get in touch with your elected officials using the ILWU website, www.ilwu.org.

The only chance we have is if we get organized. Let all of our elected officials know what is acceptable and what is not.

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We've got all different kinds of people at different levels doing this work and that's why the ergonomic law is so important," said Jeff Carter, the ILWU's legislative policy director. The issue has the potential to affect the lives of every working person in the country. Consider the following examples of what can happen without worker safety standards.

ILWU Warehouse Local 17 members working at the Fleming grocery warehouse in West Sacramento have been fighting for safe ergonomic rules at their site for more than a year now. The productivity standards required by the new management are moving: bed only 400 and 500 cases that weigh between 40 and 120 pounds per shift, with lots of lifting, bending and lifting, has created a situation where most of the workers have had repetitive stress injuries. Some of these injuries have kept workers out for a week or two and others have caused long-term disabilities.
The Charleston 5 campaign builds momentum

February 2001

The campaign in defense of the Charleston longshore workers continues to gather support on the Coast, across the country and around the world, turning up the heat on the state of South Carolina to drop the charges against the Charleston 5.

Five longshore workers from International Longshoremen’s Association Locals 1422 and 1771 at the Port of Charleston, South Carolina have been charged with rioting, a charge punishable by up to five years in prison after 600 riot-equipped police attacked their picket line set up against a scab operation at their port Jan. 20, 2000. The ILWU has joined an international movement demanding the South Carolina state Attorney General drop the charges against the Charleston 5.

The next morning the Charleston brothers were the honored guests at a labor breakfast at the Crow's Nest Hotel co-sponsored by the ILWU, the California Labor Federation and the San Francisco Labor Council. Art Pulaski, executive secretary-treasurer of the California Fed, and Walter Johnson, secretary-treasurer of the SFLC, both pledged their organization’s support and resources to a struggle that characterized as essential to all workers. At that breakfast ILWU’s Stockton, California longshore Local 54 President Dennis Attorney General presented the Charleston brothers a check for $1,000 from his local for the defense fund. That evening Riley addressed another packed house of mostly ILWU members at Charleston local 10’s Harry Schmidt Room. The next night the Defense Committee put on a big fundraising dance party at the Local 10 hall. Along with the more than $800 raised by the sale of a “Help the Charleston 5” button designed and distributed by Local 10 Business Agent Richard, the Charleston Carolina defense committee raised more than $6,000 over the weekend’s events. The committee also arranged for an appearance on Southeast on the local African American TV station KSBT and an extended interview on Pacifica radio KPFA’s labor show with host Des Everson.

In Southern California Riley addressed ILWU longshore Local 13 and clerks Local 6, C&H Sugar Refinery workers donated $1,250 to the Menendez defense fund. The issue now goes to a referendum of the membership next month to become final. Student groups are getting involved in the campaign. Riley and one of the Charleston locals’ attorneys, Peter Welborn, spoke at a forum on workers rights and the longshore workers’ struggles at the College of Charleston Feb. 8. Riley will be touring several other campuses in the near future. The Atlanta Committee to Defend the Charleston 5 will be sponsoring events at Spelman College March 9 and 10. Riley will speak at Tulane University in New Orleans March 16 and at the City University of New York’s Queens College Labor Extension March 30.

The South Carolina Progressive Network, which has taken a leading role in the defense of the state, will honor Riley as "Agitator of the Year" and host the Charleston longshore workers with its annual "Thunder and Lightning Awards" March 13. The event takes its name from Frederick Douglass’ quote that “those who profess to favor freedom and deprecate agitation are people who...want rain without thunder and lightening.”

Riley attended a meeting of the International Dockers Council, a group composed of longshore unions around the world, in Barcelona, Spain at the beginning of February. "There the unions' representatives unanimously pledged to take part in an international day of action, shutting down ports and taking other actions, on the first day of the trial against the Charleston 5."
FTAA: another stealth treaty from NAFTA

By Tom Price

In the seven years since NAFTA was imposed its record is clear. With hundreds of thousands of jobs in the U.S. and Canada lost, massive trade deficits and well-documented employer threats to move south whenever workers dare organize, NAFTA's legacy is one of devastated lives and communities.

Now comes the next fight—the imposition of FTAA on the whole hemisphere through the Free Trade Area of the Americas agreement.

This stealth treaty, under secret negotiation by trade representatives since December 1994, will surface in the heads-of-state level in Quebec in September 2001. In order to join, Mexico had to repeal part of its 1992 free trade law and provide minimal sustainable farm programs, the WTO through Congress, a process that stifled discussion and ceded to the executive branch its authority, but it's the heads -of -state level in Quebec the world.

Terms of the agreement are secret even from the U.S. Congress, and Congress is being asked by the Bush regime to pass "fast track" legislation to allow the final FTAA agreement to pass into law with minimal debate. The Clinton administration fast-tracked both NAFTA and the WTO through Congress, a process that stifled discussion and ceded to the executive branch its Constitutional duty to pass treaties "with the advice and consent of the Senate." A massive public campaign the executive branch its promotion authority," but it's the heads -of -state level in Quebec the world.

The case being made for FTAA is the same made for NAFTA in 1994. More trade, more jobs, higher pay. For Mexico, there are four million more people living on less than two dollars a day than in 1994, totaling one-fifth of the population. According to the Inter-American Development Bank, 51 percent of Mexico's people live on less than three dollars a day, up from 47 percent in 1994. While the number of workers in maquiladora plants has more than doubled, Mexican government agencies report manufacturing wages fell from $2,20 to $1.90 in 1999.

Even with U.S. corn exports to Mexico increasing from $35 million in 1993 to $327 million in 1999, the price plummeted from $5 per bushel in 1995 to $1.80 in 2000. If thousands of U.S. farms have gone under, and the Census Bureau reports earnings rose 17 percent in the first half of 2000 to $346 million.

U.S.A.

FTAA promises U.S. workers more of what NAFTA already delivered. By September 2000 Mexico had spent $29.6 billion on a special retraining program for those who lost their jobs due to NAFTA. The NAFTA study's time period the same made for NAFTA in 1994. The study's time period the same made for NAFTA in 1994. The study's time period the same made for NAFTA in 1994.

MEXICO

Perhaps the most grotesque example of social engineering came at Mexico's expense early in the NAFTA process. In order to join, Mexico had to repeal part of its Constitution. Article 27 guaranteed communal ownership of land, preventing farmers from privatization and providing minimal sustainable farming to that nation's poor. That was "trade unfriendly" because it prevented U.S. agribusiness from taking over Mexico's cheap labor. At the same time Mexico had to remove barriers to U.S. grain imports. NAFTA and the WTO forced Mexico from both sides, off their land and into the urban slums maquiladora factories, or to the U.S. itself, where they provide low-cost labor.

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U.S.A.
the folks who brought you NAFTA

The more people find out about the FTAA, the less they like it. International protests against the April 21 FTAA heads of state summit in Quebec City are building up and down the Coast and throughout the hemisphere. ILWU heads in the U.S. and Canada will demonstrate with other unions and citizen groups on their mutual border.

Since the November 1999 WTO meeting in Seattle, workers and citizens all over the world have built informal networks across cultural and language barriers to form a people's globalization movement. They are demanding trade policies that put the planet's people and environment first, and ultimately replace corporate control of the world with democratic control, openness and transparency.

"Another world is possible," proclaimed a counter-group of citizens, environmentalists and workers in Porto Alegre, Brazil Jan. 25-30. They met while the corporate and political elite of the World Economic Summit met in Davos, Switzerland; ski and plan the next stages of world domination.

In Switzerland a police riot greeted protestors, while in Brazil the local government welcomed them with open arms. The Workers' Party won Porto Alegre's elections for the past 12 years, and it has become a model of participatory democracy, with local councils governing alongside elected government officials. The city was chosen because its universal health-care and local control contrast sharply with Davos, a party town for the rich and powerful.

The 10,000 participants brought together networks of activists and made plans to oppose corporate rule and to stage demonstrations against FTAA April 21 across the hemisphere. Meanwhile, 1,900 landless farmers took over an agribiz research station just outside of Port Alegre and destroyed five acres of genetically modified soybeans that Monsanto had planted in violation of state law. The farmers remained, planting their own crops and forming a cooperative.

Closer to home, large scale demonstrations are planned to coincide with the April 21 FTAA meeting in Quebec City at the borders between the U.S., Canada and Mexico. On the West Coast, peaceful and non-confrontational protests are planned for the San Diego-Tijuana and Washington State-British Columbia borders.

In Washington and British Columbia, local labor councils, the Washington State Labor Federation and the Canadian Labour Congress will join with the ILWU and ILUWU Canada for a March on the Arch April 21. Festivities will take place at Peace Arch Park at Blaine, Wash., across the border from White Rock, B.C. will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with music, commentary and cultural activities.

TO GET INVOLVED CONTACT:

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tad.ucsd.edu, web address http://libertad.ucsd.edu/ftaa/. phone: (626) 403-2530

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Seattle: Jeff Engels, IBU: (206) 284-
5040 ext. 27 or (800) IBU-LWU

Tacoma: Gail Rosé, Local 25: (253) 383-2468.

Vancouver, B.C.: ILWU Local 400
(604) 251-3714 or Jef Keighley, Canadian Auto
Workers, e-mail keighley@caw.ca

Useful web sites: Canadian Labour
Congress www.clc.org, ILWU www.clc.c
tca/labour/index.html, the Council of Canadians at www.ca-
a.org, the Economic Policy Institute at www.epinet.org.

—T.P.
By Kieran Taylor

Few people remember that Martin Luther King, Jr. died in the midst of a labor strike. He was assassinated in Memphis April 4, 1968, while working on behalf of the sanitation workers strike for a union contract and recognition of their AFSCME local. King’s support of the strikers indicated his efforts to expand into the area of economic justice through the Poor People’s Campaign, an ambitious project to join African Americans, Latinos, Native Americans and poor whites in a sustained protest movement to bring about change in federal welfare and employment policies.

But even among those who are aware of King’s late-1960s attempts to link civil rights activism with broader movements for social justice, few realize that his political views were largely set by the time he accepted his first pastorate in 1954. Furthermore, it is seldom recognized that many of the alliances he forged later in his career with trade unions, peace groups and anti-colonial movements had their roots in relationships he had established by the late 1950s. There is a growing concern among activists and scholars that King’s life has been sanitized for mass consumption during the national holiday each January, that he has been reduced to an idle dreamer of racial harmony, while his more challenging ideas about economic and global justice have been forgotten. At holiday celebrations across the country, King too often symbolizes our nation’s progress since the 1960s instead of reminding us that so much remains to be done. One pundit has even called for a ten-year moratorium on listening to or reading the “I Have a Dream” speech so that we might develop an appreciation of King’s work in Memphis, his battle against poverty in the North, and his support of the anti-war movement.

While these efforts to remember King’s totality are a positive development, any historical correction should reflect King’s early work and ideas. Forgetting his early ties to these progressive movements makes it appear as if the Poor People’s Campaign was an accidental project to join African Americans, challenging ideas about economic and global justice that so much remains to be done. One pundit has even called for a ten-year moratorium on listening to or reading the “I Have a Dream” speech so that we might develop an appreciation of King’s work in Memphis, his battle against poverty in the North, and his support of the anti-war movement.

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that I would make arrange-
ments to get my schedule
in place and do it as quick-
as I could."

By the end of the year
Lawson enrolled in Vandy,
"University of Divinity School and began con-
cerned with workshops on
civil disobedience. Attract-
in Nashville-area college
students, the Fellowship's teach-
ings helped bring about the
effects of the student protest
movement of the early 1960s,
leading to the integration of
restaurants and theaters.

In Memphis during the
spring of 1968 it was
Lawson, then serving as an
advisor to the strikers,
who convinced King to come
to the city to support the san-
tiation workers.

BEFORE VIETNAM: KING AND THE PEACE MOVEMENT

When King delivered his
"Beyond Vietnam" speech
April 4, 1967 at New
York's Riverside Church, it
marked his most extensive
critique of United States
policies in Southeast Asia.
The speech was part of his sub-
sequent participation in the
Springs Mobilization against
War that sparked a hail
storm of criticism from the
mainstream press and ele-
mements of the civil rights
coalition, who accused him of
separating civil rights
issues and the administration
and its liberal allies.

Like his econom-
ic justice work, his decision
to make anti-war work a
central issue in his campaigns
and conferences, was seen by
the administration and the li-
beral allies. But his fear of
violence against the war
since early 1965, decried
state and local leaders at the
South institution.

But King had been grappling with peace issues
well before Vietnam. Among his earliest outside
advisors during the war protest was Glenn Smiley
of the Fellowship of Reconciliation, who eventually
persuaded King to overcome his suspicions of paci-
fists and join FOR in 1965. During all the
same time,

King began endorsing the work of the Committee
for a Sane Nuclear Policy (SANE). Over the course
of the next few years as the war continued, he
and his colleagues, and expressed the long-held
enmities about the emerging nations cleverly exploit-
ate to make anti-war work a
major issue in his campaigns
and conferences.

In making these links King acknowledged a
genuine concern for the well being of Africans and
mentioned inhumane treatment of African Americans.

But King was already in the process of making these
critiques about America that we like, but we are making it
our business to disinguish the uncommitted peoples of
the world will have given their allegiance to a false
ideological struggle with
critics.

King employed similar strategies in his direct
relations with government officials. In February
1967, after failing to convince Vice President
Richard Nixon to meet with a group of Black lead-
ers and to visit the South to report to the President
on racial violence, King wrote Nixon suggesting
that he would "better be able to represent
America's defense of justice" to developing nations.

Nixon readily agreed. King had remarked an
goal of American foreign policy was to prevent the
world from being divided. King had remarked to him that "if America doesn't wake up, she will one day
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Several years later, in December 1968, it
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which King delivered his sharpest and most exten-
sive critique of apartheid.

In making these links King acknowledged a
genuine concern for the well being of Africans and
mentioned inhumane treatment of African Americans.

But King was already in the process of making these
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Looking toward a future of ever-increasing maritime trade, officers of Southern California ILWU locals presented a proposal Jan. 31 for dealing with the otherwise inevitable congestion and gridlock that is ahead for the nation's busiest port complex, the Port of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

Longshore Local 13 President Mike Mitre and former clerks Local 63 Vice President Peter Borden unveiled their "Seven Solutions for the New Millennium" to an overflow crowd of more than 500 people at California State University, Long Beach's Carpenter Performing Arts Center at the Third Annual ILWU State of the Trade and Transportation Town Hall Meeting.

"We are all stakeholders in today's transportation problems and responsible for their solutions," Peyton said, introducing the union proposal.

Mitre and Peyton began by laying out those problems. International trade is growing so rapidly a port complex even as big as L.A./Long Beach is running out of land to stage its operations. This has forced terminals to move from wheeled operations with containers on chassis for easy pickup by trucks, to grounded operations, with containers stacked three, four or five high, driving the handling costs from about $7.50 per container to around $50. More than 50 percent of the people present on the waterfront, empty, loads and chassis, are not needed there at the time, Mitre said. The result: a congestion causing productivity losses and increases safety risks.

The two officers invited leaders to listen to the ILWU, to learn from the longshore workers who have been working against each other, relieving congestion and increasing turnarounds.

"There is no one silver bullet, no one magic answer," Peyton said. The separation of the receipt and delivery of containers with container storage yards several miles from the waterfront. This would keep the ship and yard operations from working against each other, relieving congestion and increasing turnarounds.

Trucks could go to these extended terminals, they are a 24/7 basis, for pickups and deliveries. ILWU longshore workers would provide the drayage to the extended terminals, which would become cost-effective given the increased productivity and the lower costs of the inland terminals, in the range of $25,000 per acre per year as compared to the $250,000 cost of waterfront property that is quickly disappearing at any price. ILWU workers would be trained to do the shuttling work, creating a seamless operation. A just-in-time management of equipment would bring the loads, empty and chassis to the waterfront terminals as needed.

"Our plan calls for more gates at terminals, infrastructure improvements, a new Brown Terminal Island and Harbor Freeways and a centralized dispatch hall at the waterfront," Mitre said. "Our plan needs to be enacted so that we can get the job on time.

Mitre and Peyton warned that their plan did not need quick implementation before the commercial parcels needed for the extended terminals were approved by other interests. They also pointed out that everything they were proposing could be done under the current longshore contract—no new bargaining would be necessary.

A panel of industry representatives—Warren Howesman from the California Trucking Association, Keith Mackie, a maritime industry consultant, formerly with APL, Joe Maggiora, Marketing Manager for the Port of Los Angeles, Jack Hanley, transportation director for Boeing and Hector De La Torre, a South Gate city council member—then quizzed Mitre, Peyton and形成员的Local 91 President George Kuykas about the proposal. The union members also took questions from the audience.

Local 23's Willis Adams (center) presents an award to baseball legend Buck O'Neil (left) as Local 98 member Mike Chambers (right) looks on.

A Buffalo soldier, a Tuskegee airman, baseball legend Buck O'Neil and Frederick Douglass IV joined more than 300 ILWU members and Tacoma community folks for an exciting "Labor and Black History" program Feb. 21.

The gathering was the brainchild of Willis Adams, an International Executive Board member from Local 23, and Mike Chambers of forestry's Local 98. News of their ambitious event spread—the Tacoma News-Tribune put their photo and a front-page story two days before it happened—and the small hall at the Port of Tacoma's administration building went beyond standing room only, with union members, community people and gaggles of kids from the local boys and girls clubs spilling over the stairways and rafters. And they were not disappointed, staying for more than three hours, enthralled, enthused and entertained by the living embodiments of Black history.

ILWU International President Jim Spinosa opened the proceedings, pointing out how Black history, since the end of slavery, was closely linked to the history of the labor movement. He gave examples of how when workers allowed bosses to divide them along racial lines, their union efforts were defeated, but when Black and white workers acted together, they usually won their struggles.

Lt. Colonel LeRoy Roberts, a Tuskegee airman, told his tale of how Blacks fought discrimination in the 1940s to become fighter pilots in the U.S. Army Air Corps during World War II. The Black flyers were trained separately at the Tuskegee Army Field in Alabama. The Tuskegee Airmen broke another color barrier and went on to help the Allies win the war.

Arthur Garrett, a former Buffalo soldier, told the audience how Congress passed legislation in 1866 establishing two cavalry and infantry regiments made up of Blacks, most of whom had fought in the Civil War. They were nicknamed "Buffalo soldiers" by the Cheyenne and Comanche Indians because of the texture of their hair and the hard way they fought. Garrett also spoke of his own experiences in the latter day Buffalo soldiers in the 1940s where he worked as a machine gunner and broke horses.

Frederick Douglass IV, the great, great-grandson of the famous abolitionist and author, with his wife B.J., treated the crowd to an historic reenactment of Frederick Douglass and his wife Anna, his personal fight for freedom from slavery and their role in the underground railroad, helping other Black slaves escape the South. B.J. punctuated the tales with her beautiful a cappella singing.

Buck O'Neil wrapped up the program, bringing down the house with his humorous and poignant anecdotes about his times in the Negro League and his adventures with the likes of baseball pioneers Satchel Paige and Jackie Robinson and his experiences as the first Black coach in the Major Leagues with the Chicago Cubs starting in 1962. He told stories of how Robinson set a new tone for their Negro League Kansas City Monarchs team, not putting up with playing in any town that would not allow Blacks to stay or eat there. He called Robinson one of the leaders of the modern civil rights movement, pointing out that his breaking the color barrier of major league baseball preceded the Brown v. Board of Education Supreme Court ruling forcing school integration.

The inspirational presentations were interspersed with the blues/jazz stylings of Darren Motamedy and his band with special guest vocalist Josie, and readings from Black poet Agrippa. The overflow crowd was also served a free lunch—barbecue chicken and ribs with all the fixings, written by the Harry Bridges Institute.

Adams and Chambers personally funded the rest of the costs of the event to the tune of some $15,000.

"We felt like we should give something back to the community and our reward was seeing all the people turn out and appreciate the program," Adams said. "We are blessed to be able to have this celebration in the Northwest and we dedicated it to the Charleston longshore workers who are struggling for their jobs and their lives right now."

Domenick Mitre, Local 63 member and the ILWU-Port liaison, wrapped up the meeting, drawing out its importance:

"This evening's program is a milestone in labor-management relations and is unique and significant in many ways, he said. "This is the first time the ILWU has offered a solution to port congestion in a neutral and educational forum such as this, along with an industry panel and a government representative eager to critique their proposal."

"Each of us must form an opinion as to the viability of the ILWU proposal. There is one central issue, however, to which we can all agree. We cannot continue to do business as usual and expect to keep pace with the expanding future volumes of cargo destined for our shores."

--S. S.

**AROUND THE UNION**

A dangerous job gets more dangerous when the ground beneath you starts moving as it did in the Seattle/Tacoma area Feb. 28 when magnitude 6.8 earthquake hit.

The shaking started just before 11
February 2001

Tacoma immediately shut down.

the Burlington Northern Railroad also

sidering the magnitude and short, 30 -

damage reported was fairly light, con-

ment and made sure everything was

In Tacoma the port shut down immediately for inspection.

"As usual bargaining with grain elevator employers was a tough job," said ILWU International Vice President

Augustine Ramirez at (916) 606-4681.

Coalition wants a living wage ordi-

nance modeled on those already

passed in Oakland, San Jose, San

Francisco and other cities.

"A living wage ordinance would bring up wages for companies that do business with the city, and provides for card-check and neutrality agreements so that workers have the right to get representation," Burdan said.

A "living wage" covers the amalgamation of a family including housing, food, medical expenses plus modest savings. "The minimum wage is nothing, actually," said Lupe Martinez, retired secre-
tary-treasurer/business agent for ILWU Local 17 and now co-chair of Sacramento ACORN. "If you're pay-

ing rent, car insurance and have to pay medical, $8.25 is nothing.

Even the federal poverty-level wage is $8.20 per hour for a family with one wage earner, said Brian Kettenring, ACORN's head organizer in Sacramento. Californians for Family Self-Sufficiency, a coalition anchored by a San Francisco-based women's law center, calculates that a single parent with two, pre-school children in Sacramento County would have to make $19.41 per hour to cover childcare and all other family expenses.

The Living Wage Coalition has met with City Council members and is drafting lan-
guage for the ordinance. Councilors Lauren Grohsmall and Dave Jones have agreed to sponsor the bill, and will probably introduce it in April. The Coalition plans to hold a mass rally in support of the bill May 20.

For more information on Coalition activities, call ACORN at (916) 455-1795 or Agustin Ramirez at (916) 606-4681.

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Strong in the Struggle: My Life as a Black Labor Activist


Reviewed by Eugene Dennis Vrana, ILWU Librarian & Associate Director of Education

Through the life of Lee Brown, as told in this new autobiographical book with valuable assistance from Professor Robert S. Allen, we learn much about what it took to establish and maintain the ILWU in hostile territory—in this case New Orleans—and about the experience of African American workers inside and outside the union. What we learn is easy to understand because of the simplicity of the case with which Brown tells his story and the personal contact the author with which Allen provides context and chronology for this rich and moving tale of one Black man's journey through a life of progressive activism on behalf of racial justice and rank-and-file union democracy from Louisiana to Texas and California.

At the same time, however, it is also a challenging and at times provocative account that for some may be as difficult to accept as it is easy to understand—because what Brown's narrative reveals about his life also challenges the reader to figure out how far the labor movement, including the ILWU, may have been from exposing and eradicating racism in the workplace and the union. But this was a fight Brown had no hesitation about waging in the working world, and he was never disheartened about working tirelessly to improve the quality of life and opportunity for people of color whenever and whenever the opportunity arose. It meant being unapologetic and unapologetic. His life of activism was no doubt made easier because he never aspired to any major organization and so was loudly and proudly partisan wherever he happened to be.

Brown was born in 1921 in Louisiana and raised there by his grandfather on a farm. He left at age 15 to work for wages, starting with stints as a houseboy and then in the cotton fields. Through his network of extended family he found work through a segregated Black local of the ILWU and with which he participated in his first strike during the Depression at age 17. He took ground when white unionists respected their picket line and, from the strike's successful conclusion, he derived much hope for the importance of racial unity among workers. He wrote, "The union made me feel like I could do something for people like myself and my cousin. The union gave me a way to go forward—to help change things.

The experience of being a Black worker, in this book is how Brown tells his tale with visual and emotion-packed phrases—such as "that gives the boss and any other work- ers fighting each other." When he moved back to New Orleans in 1944 he began working on barges under the jurisdiction of the American Federation of Labor in coalition with employers and police agencies.

His politics and personality meshed quickly with those of his new union and he was soon elected shop steward and to the local's negotiating committee, executive board and board of trustees. He was active in the local's political programs in the community, especially for civil rights. At the time which at the focus on voter registration drives.

The 1940s were a difficult time for the ILWU and progressive politics in New Orleans. The union had lost a battle for jurisdiction, a battle over whether to shore work with the more conserva- tive International Longshoremen's Association—a battle in which the ILA, the AFL and the employers (often for different reasons but with the same target) successfully used police agencies and brutal goon squads to thwart the new union.

At the same time, there were unique traditions of racial coopera- tion along the levees. In 1975, for example, Black and white dockwork- ers agreed to share work equally. Both groups struck successfully in 1982. In 1980 the ILA was estab- lished in New Orleans and admitted Blacks to membership in separate locals (which was the general pattern of rank and file integration in the ILA) and some Blacks were elect- ed to union office at higher levels.

In 1959 Local 207 was the only local mainly of barge and warehouse workers while the ILA worked deep- water vessels. Into this mix arrived Brown in 1944, who, as was his style, quickly got involved with the various militant rank and files, including Communists and other left-wing activists, and helped galvanize a new organizing program that built the local back up to 850 white and African American members in 1946.

As he fought for integration in the workplace, he also fought for it in the union. In 1955, for example, he brought a resolution to the ILWU International Convention in Los Angeles pointing out for all locals to accept travel cards of members in good standing regardless of race, color or creed. This was adopted by the delegates.

Back in New Orleans Brown con- tinued to organize and build the union. By 1967 the membership num- bers were up to 1700—then came McCarthyism.

Brown had joined the Communist Party in 1946 because, "I was inter- ested in anything that would help me do something for Black folks," and because he believed it helped him become a better organizer. The very next year the Taft-Hartley law was enacted which it illegal for a Communist to hold union office. To protect the union, which was under general assault by anti-Communist state and Congressional committees, Brown and others resigned their party membership and signed the Taft-Hartley "non-Communist" affi- davit. Eleven years later, and just one year after being elected vice president of Local 207, Brown was indicted for allegedly lying on his Taft-Hartley affidavit and was soon convicted and sentenced to three years in prison.

The conviction was reversed on appeal after he had served two years. The indictment and trial and the general witch hunt against ILWU leaders in New Orleans—Andrew Steve Nelson, the local's Black presi- dent, had, been similarly indicted and convicted, but died before serving his sentence—it made difficult for Brown to find work. The situation was made worse by the fact that in 1958—while he was in prison—Local 207 had fol- lowed ILWU Local 208 of Chicago into the United Packinghouse Workers of America—a decision reached jointly by the affected locals and the International Union, and opposed by ILWU International Convention action—after reluctantly recognizing the West Coast union could not effec- tively protect its members' rights.

Elected officials of Local 207 in 1947. Seated at the right is Lee Brown, who then served on the trustee board. Other officials from left to right are: William Atchison, president; August Harris, first vice president; Walter Green, second vice president; Albert Taylor, recording secretary.

Strong in the Struggle: My Life as a Black Labor Activist

February 2001
Secret ballot denied in Mexican factory vote

By David Bacon

AFTA's advocates promised that free trade would bring a new era of respect for workers rights in all three countries—the U.S., Canada and Mexico. Especially south of the border, they said, the treaty's labor side agreement would ensure that workers could vote freely for the unions of their choice, in clean elections, by secret ballot.

But the vote at the huge Duro Bag plant in Tijuana, just across the river from Texas, is likely to become the symbol of how those promises have been fulfilled. And with more promises on the horizon, as the Bush administration pushes for fast track authority to extend NAFTA to include the whole hemisphere in the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA), Duro may even become the poster child for NAFTA's failure to protect workers rights.

The stage was set the day before the balloting, when workers and their supporters watched automatic weapons unloaded from a car and carried in through the plant gate. Then, as Friday morning approached and the swing and grave shifts ended, workers from those shifts were pressed into going home. Instead, they were held in an area of the plant behind doors blocked with metal sheets and huge rolls of paper used to feed machines on the line. A few observers from the independent union, the Union of Duro Bag Workers, reported later that they could hear cries of "Let us out!" until company managers began playing music on the plant speakers.

Then, observers report, groups of workers from the day shift were taken in small groups into the room where voting was taking place. A company-appointed election organizers, who handed them blue slips of paper on which the union's local number was printed. The voting table representatives of Mexico's national labor board asked each voter to doff their shirts in order to vote between the independent union and the CROB. Both company foremen and government-appointed union representatives wrote notes as the voting took place.

In the end only 502 workers voted out of a workforce the company says numbers over 1400. And of them, only four workers openly declared their support for the independent union, while 498 voted for the CROB.

"The Duro election is clearly a tragic defeat for the workers and their effort to make better working conditions," said Robin Alexander, director of international programs for the America's United Electrical Workers, which supported the independent union. "And it seems that we were here so blatant that they'll serve as a wake-up call.

"Unfortunately, Duro has a long history of agitation for better wages and conditions, which led to their effort to form the independent union," said Almaguer, a rank-and-file leader, says he saw people lose fingers in machines cutting and gluing chichi paper bags for the U.S. gift market, on the morning of last year, and the Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Community (CTM), a union affiliated to Mexico's former ruling party, with close ties to its government.

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Smolin-Melin Scholarship deadline for Local 10 members

Trustees of the Smolin-Melin Scholarship Fund are prepared to accept applications from longshore Local 10 members for the academic year 2001-2002. Now is the time to indicate your interest. June 1st is the application deadline.

Victor Smolin and Carlton Melin were long-term members of Local 10. They left a sum of money to establish the scholarship fund. They specified that scholarships were to be available to children of Local 10 members to further their collegiate education. Trustee of the Fund interpret "children of members" to include children of deceased members and children of retired members. They also interpret "collegiate" to apply to study at either a four-year college or an academic junior college.

Trustees are Norman Leonard, retired counsel for the ILWU and for the ILWU, Reino Erkilla, a retired member of Local 10 and a friend of Victor Smolin, and Eugene Vrana, Associate Director for Education and Librarian for the ILWU.

If you, a Local 10 member, have a son or daughter who is applying to enter college next fall, or is already a college student who is planning to continue, you may want to apply for one of these scholarships.

Please provide your name, address and ILWU registration number.

1. Your name and address of the college where he or she has been accepted.
2. If not yet accepted, where he or she expects to attend.
3. The name and address of the college which he or she plans to attend.

You may mail your letter to Norman Leonard, at 1188 Franklin Street, Suite 201, San Francisco, Calif. 94109 with the following information:

- Your name, address and ILWU registration number.
- The name and address of the college where he or she has been accepted.
- If not yet accepted, where he or she expects to attend.

Upon receipt of your letter, Norman Leonard will write your son or daughter giving him or her all the information needed to make a formal application.

A copy of the rules and the application form may be obtained by writing to Norman Leonard, at 1188 Franklin Street, Suite 201, San Francisco, Calif. 94109.

HARRY BRIDGES 2001 CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION MEMORIAL BOOK

The Harry Bridges Institute along with the International Longshore & Warehouse Union will be sponsoring a week-long celebration during the week of July 23, 2001, in honor of the life and accomplishments of Harry Bridges. Several activities are planned such as harbor boat tours, labor videos, arts and cultural exhibits, car and bike shows and much, much more, with the celebration culminating on Harry's birthday, Saturday, July 28th with a parade and street fair.

The Memorial Book will be a commemoration of the week-long celebration and will feature personalized tributes with written text and photos of individuals, families, organizations and involved in the labor movement. This is a chance for people to showcase their individual history in the labor movement.

To have your own black and white, 8 x 11 page including photos, simply reserve your page in the Memorial Book by filling out the form below and mailing by March 30th, 2001. Please include a check or money order in the amount of $250 (the cost of one page) to ensure your reservation.

Upon receipt of your reservation and payment, the Memorial Book committee will forward to you all information needed to assist with preparing your page for the Memorial Book.

For more information regarding the Memorial Book, please contact Shannon Day at (415) 775-6400.

Black Workers Remember

A book by Michael Honey, Professor of African American, Labor and Ethnic Studies and American History at the University of Washington and current Harry Bridges Chair.

For more than 15 years UW professor Michael Honey collected the oral histories of African American workers living under segregation in Memphis, Tennessee from the 1930s to the present time. These collective hand accounts, chronicling the struggle for dignity and "personhood" through the union movement among black workers have been elegantly woven together by Honey. His examination of this hidden history of African Americans has been selected to receive the Tacoma Public Library's 2000 Murray Morgan Prize.

Black Workers Remember can be ordered from the University of California Press, 1-800-999-1958. It is $29.95 in hardcover, but will be out in paperback in the fall or winter.

MAY IS MEDICAL, DENTAL CHOICE MONTH

Active and retired longshore families in the ports where members have a choice can change medical plans during the open enrollment period May 1 to May 31, 2001. The change will be effective July 1, 2001. San Francisco, Los Angeles and Portland/Vancouver (Wash) active and retired longshore workers may change dental plans in the month of May for coverage effective July 1, 2001. In addition to the May open enrollment period, members may change their health coverage once at any time during the Plan Year (July 1 -June 30).

MEDICAL CHOICE: The medical plan choice is between Kaiser Foundation Health Plan and the ILWU-PMA Indemnity Plan for Southern California locals 13, 28, 29, 63 and 94; Northern California locals 10, 18, 19, 34 (San Francisco), 34 (Stockton), 54, 75 and 91; and Oregon-Columbia River locals 4, 8, 40, and 92.

In the Washington State area, the choices for Locals 19, 23, 32, 47, 52 and 98 are Group Health Cooperative and the ILWU-PMA Indemnity Plan.

DENTAL PLANS: For Los Angeles locals, dental choice is between Delta Dental Plan and the Sakai, Simms, Simon and Sugiyama group plan. For San Francisco locals, dental choice is between Delta Dental Plan and Nasmith group plan. For Portland/Vancouver locals 98 is between Cross of Oregon Dentacare, Oregon Kaiser Dental Plan and Oregon/Washington Dental Service.

Information on the dental plans, and Kaiser and Group Health Cooperative medical plans, and forms to change plans can be obtained at the locals and the ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans office. The ILWU-PMA Indemnity Plan description booklet is under preparation and will be furnished as soon as it is available.

All enrollment cards must be completed and submitted to the Benefit Plans office by May 31 for the change to be effective July 1.
John Pandora, Local 13 officer and Southern California Arbitrator

By Tom Price

John Pandora, a longtime officer in Local 13 and the Southern California Arbitrator for the ILWU, died unexpectedly of a heart attack Feb. 10. Pandora's younger brother Jerry sent him back home for Anka, his wife, and their son John, who was born in 1934, the year of the Coastwise strike that gave birth to the ILWU.

He grew up in the Barton Hill district of San Pedro where he got into a few fights and brushes with authority, finally being asked to leave high school a little early. He joined the Coast Guard at the unlawfully early age of 17 and saw some of the world. But he was deeply attached to his hometown, and there was little doubt that "Johnny Pedro," as his mother called him, would return when he finished his hitch by the age of 19. He was remarried, set down roots in San Pedro, and he finished his high school studies and joined ILWU's longshore Local 13 in 1954.

Rebellion, however, seemed to be in his blood. His mother was working at the Star-Kist factory during the 1960 presidential campaign when Richard Nixon dropped by for a visit. He made the mistake of stopping next to Anka's station on the line. Pandora described what happened next in an interview published in the San Pedro News Pilot in 1988.

"She was a Roosevelt-Democrat and she started raising hell in her own broken-English way, telling him he ought to do something for the workingmen," he said. "Two Secret Service guys picked her up a foot off the ground, but she kept rattling on."

Activism replaced rebellion for Pandora soon after his 1954 signup with the union. By 1963 Pandora was serving the union as a trustee. He held various offices up to 1971 when he was first elected president of his local.

"The proudest moment of his life was when Harry was away and he handed him his gavel on his becoming president," his daughter Katherine Pandora said. "It was an incredibly moment for me because his dad was a union member and he had been there before the union was born, and before his son was born, and for grandpa to be there watching his son take a leadership position with Harry was a great moment in the lives of both father and son."

He was elected president again in 1973, 1980 and 1986. As a member of longshore retirees, deceased and survivors.

DECEASED:

Local 8—Vincent Kuzmich (Josephine), Marj Thompson (Annabelle), Merle O'Neill; Local 10—Walter Wilson (Faye), George Hopkins (Temple), William Madsen, Frank Hogan, James Miranda, Nickolai Gregorich, Mark Lovrin, Leroy Hall, Ekeel Wilson; Local 12—Donald Johnson (Dianne); Local 13—Roy Thael (Nancy Peterson, Rosario Morales (Alice), Paul Ybarra (Marie), Earl Johnson; Local 19—Burton

Danielson (Eileen); Local 23—Frank Birkland (Jennifer); Local 27—George Bolstrom; Local 34—David Davis (Velma); Local 52—Edward Turner (Pearl); Local 54—Anthony Jardim (Ruby); Local 94—Nick Bazeевич (Yvonne). (Survivors in parenthesis)

DECEASED: survivors:

Local 10—Louise Peno, Mary Sousa, Virginia Ficken, Virginia Ferreira, Yolanda Maraccini, Bessie Robertson, Theresa Waller, Viola Longs, Frances Olen, Rose Evangelista, Benita Rojas, Celia Frisla; Local 12—Frances Harlin; Local 13—Alice Knoll, Burls Providence; Local 14—Margaret Anderson; Local 19—Fay Johnson, Vaille Blomberg, Martha Baumann; Local 23—Flora Gannon, Elizabeth Retsan; Local 26—Betty Stone; Local 27—Lelia Conrad, Dolores Murphy; Local 34—Florence Treu; Local 38—Harvey Vinson; Local 40—Clare La Coste; Local 63—Ruby Bowers; Local 91—Virginia Vasquez; Local 94—Patricia Stewart; Local 200—Mary Cooper.

RECENT RETIREES:

ILWU Book & Video Sale

Books and videos about the ILWU are available from the union’s library at discounted prices!

**BOOKS:**

- **The ILWU Story:** unrolls the history of the union from its origins to the present, complete with recollections from the men and women who built the union, in their own words, and dozens of rare photos of the union in action. $7.00
- **The Big Strike** by Mike Quin: the classic partisan account of the 1934 strike. $6.50
- **Workers on the Waterfront: Seamen, Longshoremen, and Unionism in the 1930s** by Bruce Nelson: the most complete history of the origins, meaning, and impact of the 1934 strike. $13.00
- **Reds or Rackets: The Making of Radical and Conservative Unions on the Waterfront** by Howard Kimeldorf: a thoughtful and provocative comparison of the ILA and the ILWU. $11.00
- **The Union Makes Us Strong: Radical Unionism on the San Francisco Waterfront** by David Wellman: the important new study of longshoring in the ILWU. $15.00 (paperback)
- **A Terrible Anger: The 1934 Waterfront and General Strike in San Francisco** by David Selvin: the newest and best single narrative history about the San Francisco events of 1934. $16.50
- **The March Inland: Origins of the ILWU Warehouse Division 1934-1938** by Harvey Schwartz: new edition of the only comprehensive account of the union’s organizing campaign in the northern California warehouse and distribution industry. $9.00

**VIDEOS:**

- **We Are the ILWU** A 30-minute color video introducing the principles and traditions of the ILWU. Features active and retired members talking about what the union meant in their lives and what it needs to survive and thrive, along with film clips, historical photos and an original musical score. $7.00
- **Life on the Beam: A Memorial to Harry Bridges** A 17-minute VHS video production by California Working Group, Inc., memorializes Harry Bridges through still photographs, recorded interviews, and reminiscences. Originally produced for the 1990 memorial service in San Francisco. $28.00

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Make check or money order (U.S. Funds) payable to “ILWU” and send to:
ILWU Library, 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109

Prices include shipping and handling. Please allow at least four weeks for delivery.

Bound Dispatchers for sale

Beautiful, hardcover collections of The Dispatcher for 1997, 1998, 1999 and 2000 are now available. These are a must for Locals and individuals keeping a record of the union’s activities. Get your supply of the ILWU’s award-winning newspaper while the limited supply lasts. Send a check for $50.00 for each volume (year) to The Dispatcher at:

Bound Dispatchers
c/o The Dispatcher
1188 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94109

A Helping Hand...

...when you need it most. That’s what we’re all about. We are the representatives of the ILWU-sponsored recovery programs. We provide professional and confidential assistance to you and your family for alcoholism, drug abuse and other problems—and we’re just a phone call away.

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