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A battle lost, the war goes on

By James Spinosa
ILWU International President

November 3 was a hard day to face. For nearly a year-and-a-half the ILWU and most of the rest of the American labor movement poured its heart, soul and resources into the effort to defeat Bush and his radical anti-worker agenda. We had great hopes we could get off the defensive and start moving an agenda to improve the lives of American workers. But that did not work out.

Still, it is not cause for despair. Much was accomplished in the effort, and that will be important as we move on in our mission to protect and advance the interests of ILWU members and all workers.

But before I review those accomplishments, I want to acknowledge the hard work, the dedication and the solidarity of all of our members who stepped up, answered the call to action and did an incredible job. To those who left their homes and traveled to other states to help get out the union vote, to those who walked precincts or phone banked in their home towns, to those who wrote checks so the work could keep going, to all of you I want to extend my personal thanks and appreciation.

You continue to impress me and renew my faith in the rank and file of this great union.

We face a monumental task. I do not mean to minimize it in any way. Still, the situation is not all doom and gloom. John Kerry may have lost, but that doesn’t mean the ILWU has lost. We can and will still fight, survive and thrive. We know that even if Kerry had won we would not be on easy street. We would still have to face determined employers bent on making even more profits at the expense of our members. We would still have to face the ravages of free trade agreements and corporate globalization. We would still be fighting for a real solution to the healthcare crisis.

The point is we have to put the election in a long-term perspective. This defeat certainly puts up a major hurdle for us to overcome. But we have to keep in mind that the ILWU has been tacking against the wind for 70 years—even since its birth in 1934 when our predecessors took a casualized work force with no respect for a union voice and connection to a collective bargaining process and turned it into one of the toughest, most powerful unions in this country. We have overcome and connected activists are positioned to take our cause a step further.

While we face these difficult times, we have to always recall that although we may have lost this election, only the hard work of the labor movement made it close. And that work wasn’t wasted.

We now have many more members trained in political organizing skills, inspired by the organizing work they took part in and better connected with union brothers and sisters in their own communi ties and around the country. We have learned a lot through this experience and, hopefully, we will continue to learn more.

Although we have good programs in place, we have to re-evaluate them in light of today’s circumstances. We have to keep asking ourselves, “How do we best communicate our message to our members, politicians and the general public? How do we continue to position ourselves for the next round of collective bargaining?”

Whatever the vote count, the ILWU is still here and we will be here tomorrow. We have a solid foundation and we’re forever building for the future. We just need to stay focused and keep working.

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Repressive new screening rules invade privacy, take jobs
by Tom Price

I magine having to tell the government about your in-laws' political views on a routine visit to your credit history and medical records, just to keep your job. This, and more, is what ILWU Canada longshore workers have to do early next year if the Ministry of Transport Canada's new security program kicks in. And Canada's Transport Security Clearance process (TSC) could become a model for the maritime world.

Transport Canada wants to replace dockers who provide information on parents, spouses, relatives and associates. They would have to report criminal, immigration, health and welfare problems, and personal characteristics that might affect the worker's suitability for a security clearance. 

According to the ministry, dockers would also have to supply "any and all" personal information that will facilitate an assessment by the CSIS. The Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS) was created in 1984, is part of the CIA. Information against dockers could also be provided by "well disposed" people with a score to settle.

"You don't have to be a conspira- cy theorist to worry that govern- ments can go too far when they're given too much power. We have seen it time and again," Dufresne said.

A worker's failure to provide the information would mean no clearance, and the workers say the government has the information, a worker could be subject to more investigations. In a reversal of the basic "innocent until proven guilty" principle, a TSC worker would be assumed guilty and have a lifelong career could be ended without notice. The U.S. doesn't do this.

The passage of the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2001, Canada's Patriot Act, and many other new laws, are actually attempts to make up for failed past government policies, things like union bashing and taking customs off the docks, Dufresne said.

"To make up for those failures they're trying to scewage longshore workers in Canada, trying to hang the hook on workers."

In their opinion Transport Canada is attempting to make up for failed past government policies, things like union bashing and taking customs off the docks, Dufresne said.

"To make up for those failures they're trying to scewage longshore workers in Canada, trying to hang the hook on our members."

Dufresne outlined what ILWU Canada found most offensive to the rights, freedoms and privacy of its members in written testimony sub- mitted to the Transport Ministry Oct. 21. These include the unlimited scope of information collected, the fact that a lifelong career could be ended with- out notice, the reversal of the burden of proof, where the worker would be assumed guilty and have to prove innocence.

It gets worse when it comes to pro- cessing the workers' info. The clear- ance would be approved, or not, based on highly subjective criteria. Did the docker associate with those who, in the ministry's words, might have "a propensity to aid and abet those likely to be involved in terrorism?" Is the worker "at risk to be proven or induced to commit an act or assist to commit an act of terrorism?" Does the person have "a propensity to be blackmailed"? (emphasis added) Only knowing certain politicians could put a person's job in danger.

The ministry could deny security clearances for any of the above reasons, or any other reasons the Ministry might decide upon, with or without notice.

"The ministry said if they came across something interesting, then they would share it with whoever the decision was made by," Chedore said.

"They could share it with Syria or the US. That puts our members in jeop- ary, because when you're traveling in other countries and the security service sees your name pop up as a 'person of interest' in your own country—they're going to pay special attention to you even though it's something like the minor things in this regulation."

So much of the information collection relies on "guilt by association" that profiling workers almost naturally occur. Union political activity, or just old fashioned militancy, could be grounds for suspicion. "If you share it with whoever the decision was made by, it's all the ministry needs to pull some- one into the web."

TSC rules would be imposed by the Minister and not brought before elected Members of Parliament for public debate, a move so anti-demo- cratic even the Bush administration didn't dare try it.

"In this regard, it must be noted that in 2002, the government of the United States (the main target of national terrorism and taking customs off the docks), Dufresne said. "In our opinion Transport Canada is attempting to make up for failed past government policies, things like union bashing and taking customs off the docks, Dufresne said."

"In our opinion Transport Canada is attempting to make up for failed past government policies, things like union bashing and taking customs off the docks, Dufresne said."

At the October 26 press conference left to right, Steve Buckle, Vice President, ILWU 502; Bob Ashton, President, Local 500; Tom Dufresne, President, ILWU Canada; Frank Morena, Secretary-Treasurer, ILWU 514 and Peter Lahay, ITF Local 500; Georgetti, the union presented a legal submission to the House Committee.

It gets worse when it comes to pro- The ILWU and the CLC continue to press the ministry. Meetings with members of parliament and ministers have been planned, and the govern- ment promises no regulations will be posted without further consultation, But the union is far from satisfied. Members of the BTC went to the Federal Courts procedure built into this thing, it's patently unfair, unrea- sonable and discriminatory," Dufresne said.

"You're only allowed to appeal whether or not they followed the process, you're not allowed to appeal whether the decision they made was wrong. That is left to their discretion. They would be entitled to be wrong as long as they followed the process. That's a very scary."
A ll Americans could have health insurance while actually spending less than we do now, if the nation reforms the pharmaceutical industry and switches to a single-payer insurance system similar to Medicare, a new report says.

“Waste Not, Want Not,” published Oct. 7 by Boston-based Jobs With Justice, is the latest report backing efforts by groups such as the Universal Health Care Action Network (UHCAN), PACE, the Steel Workers, the Machinists and the ILWU, all of which seek a single-payer insurance system.

“We could cover everybody who has no health insurance, and still save more money,” said John Schwarz, of UHCAN’s Minnesota affiliate, during a news conference in the Twin Cities.

Among nations, the U.S. spends the most money per person on health care. Nevertheless, 45 million Americans lacked health insurance for all of 2003, the report notes. Nearly twice as many, estimated 81 million, were without health insurance for at least part of the year.

“The United States is already spending far more money than is necessary to provide adequate health insurance for all its people,” JWJ’s report states. “It is only necessary to redirect some of the money from powerful corporate interests—like the insurance and pharmaceutical industries—to provide the high-quality, secure health care that everyone should have.”

Health costs, which are expected to continue rising at double-digit rates, already wreak economic havoc on families. Other people lose health coverage when they change or lose jobs.

Those who retain health coverage at work are paying more out of pocket, seeing the quality of their coverage decrease and seeing higher health care costs eliminate pay raises. Health care is the number-one cause of personal bankruptcy, JWJ notes.

Notable strikes over health care include the Southern California grocery lockout and strike involving 70,000 United Food and Commercial Workers, and a two-day January 2003 strike by IUE/CWA members against the world’s most-profitable corporation, GE. In that struggle, one striking single mother in Kentucky was run over and killed by a police car.

JWJ’s report says the U.S. health care system is filled with waste. It proposes attacking three of the largest areas: administrative costs, pharmaceutical monopolies and government subsidies for private Medicare insurers.

That approach is in contrast to the Medicare prescription drugs law that GOP White House occupant George W. Bush pushed through the GOP-run Congress late last year.

Bush’s bill strips the government of negotiating power against the drug companies, while giving them $46 billion—mostly in subsidies—to provide drugs to the elderly. JWJ estimates current subsidies at $83.6 billion.

Switching from “a fragmented and inefficient private health insurance system” to a single-payer “Medicare for All” plan could directly save $94 billion a year, JWJ’s report says. Savings would come from eliminating administrative duplication and unnecessary paperwork, and eliminating the profits and excessive executive salaries built into the private system.

Studies show administrative costs are only two percent of spending in Medicare. Most HMOs and other private insurers use 15 percent or more of revenue for administrative costs. The savings on administrative costs alone could insure 5 million Americans, the report says.

JWJ’s report also attacks a few other proposed health-care reforms, including “health savings accounts” and other proposed health-care reforms, including “health savings accounts” and increase the number of uninsured.

JWJ’s report also attacks a few other proposed health-care reforms, including “health savings accounts” and increase the number of uninsured.

Health savings accounts “provide little or no benefit” to many workers, it adds.

JWJ said health savings accounts are a bigger benefit to healthy people than to people who actually need health care, and could increase costs and increase the number of uninsured citizens by “pulling relatively healthy people out of the standard insurance pool.”

Bush touted the health savings accounts in the third presidential debate. The GOP-run Congress wrote those accounts into law after lobbying by a big-giver: Golden Rule Insurance Co.
LONGSHORE LOCALS EXPAND TO MOVE THE CANS

As free trade and outsourcing have sent jobs and manufacturing overseas, imports are flooding West Coast ports and emptying longshore dispatch halls. The backlog of ships has been especially severe at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach.

"The employer had no clear way how to resolve this problem," longshore Local 13 president Dave Ariain said. "They could see day after day the ships just lining up with no relief in sight, and that has finally motivat ed them to see our position.

Through on-going negotiations the employer, the Pacific Maritime Assn., finally agreed to hire more than 5,000 new casuals and agreed to elevate some current casuals to B registration.

"This month we will have 250 new class A people at the next mem bership meeting, and we'll probably elevate more each quarter," Ariain said. "We brought over 1,250 current casuals into the local as Bs over the last six weeks, and we have proposed another 1,000 that the employer has not yet agreed to.

Longshore Local 10's workers in the San Francisco Bay Area have some new workmates, according to Local 10 Secretary-Treasurer John Castanho. So far in 2004 the local has registered 252 more B workers and promoted 144 workers to A status. An additional 300 casuals have been hired, with more coming at the end of the year.

In Portland, longshore Local 8 reports 60 B workers will be elevated to A status, 25 casuals will be promoted to B status, and 12 new workers will be added to their casual list.

Longshore Local 23 at the Port of Tacoma will advance 29 workers to A status and 75 current casuals to B status. As many as 60 new casuals will be hired.

Cargo expansion at the Port of Seattle grew so fast the union, longshore Local 19, couldn't turn out the members fast enough. The PMA, instead of agreeing to new hires, went through the grievance process instead.

"PMA hit us with an illegal work stoppage for not filling all the jobs," Local 19 President Hordi Ugles said. "We had an arbitration and we won."

And so, Ugles said, the local hadn't supplied enough people. To resolve the arbitration, the union agreed to a new plan by Nov. 19 to address the staffing shortage. The employers were dragging their feet.

"We've drawn up a plan," Ugles said. "Our overall registration now is about 568 members. We're trying to bring our registration up to 700, probably by summertime. Our con tainer loads are up about 20 percent, cruise ships about 47 percent and grain is also up."

PCPA 37TH CONVENTION WORKS AND PARTIES IN CANADA


The Canadian pensioners hosted the gathering of nearly 250 members and guests and treated them to boat cruises of the Vancouver Harbor area, a banquet and dance and a hospitality room stocked with snacks and refreshments when the convention was not in session. Longshore Local 508 also sponsored a performance for the pensioners of John Mukin's play "From Wharf Rats to Lords of the Docks" about Harry Bridges and the history of the ILWU.

But the convention was not all fun, food and games—the attendees also heard from union officials, discussed serious issues facing workers and retirees, made policy decisions and planned future actions.

ILWU International President Jim Sminson and the coast Committee (International Vice President Bob McElrath and Coast Committee members Ray Ortiz, Jr. and Joe Wenzl) explained the problems faced by the longshore Negotiating Committee in the 2002 contract bargaining. When the government threatened intervention, the union had to turn to its friends in the political arena and to other unions for support. With it allies in Congress, the AFL-CIO, the Teamsters and a promise of solidarity from unions around the world, they successfully negotiated a good contract.

Coast Benefits Specialist George Romero and the four area Benefit Plan Directors all spoke and stressed the need for retirees to be aware of how fortunate they are to have their benefits and to realize the union has an uphill fight to maintain them.

The annual award given to a politician was presented to Allen Davies, a member of the Canadian Parliament. Davies led the struggle to defend the contract of the poor and indigent and has also been a politi cian labor could turn to when an ally is needed in the legislature.

The first Jesse and Lois Strahanah Award was presented to Hank Kennedy, Secretary of the Vancouver, B.C. Pension Club. The award will be presented annually to recognize a pensioner who has served the union and the pensioners move ment. Kennedy is well known on both sides of the border for his dedication to the ILWU and pensioner issues.

Building on a new international relationship, the PCPA invited two delegates from Australia to attend the convention—Bill Bodenham from New Castle, New South Wales—came representing the Maritime Union of Australia Veterans. The year before two MUA Veterans, the group’s president Harry Black and the Secretary of its Newcastle branch had attended. And last March PCPA President Arne Auvinien and PCPA member John Johnson and their spouses visited the Veterans at their conference in Sydney, Australia. Bill and Daphne were made honorary members of the PCPA. In Australia, the MUA Veterans accept spouses and widows as members the same as the PCPA does.

The convention passed two resolutions and two policy statements. One resolution opposes proposals to tax credit unions and another commits the PCPA to work with the MUA Veterans and the Canadian Labor Congress to organize a conference of worldwide retired maritime workers to oppose free trade agreements and to defend trade unions.

One of the policy state ments calls for universal health care and opposition to all programs aimed at cutting or reducing access to quality affordable health care. The other committed the PCPA to work to end the trend.

The new Titled Officers of the PCPA for the coming year are: President, Arne Auvinien from the Longview Pension Group; Vice President, Joe Lucas from the San Francisco Bay Area Pensioners; Treasurer, Barbara Lewis from the Portland-Columbia River Pensioners; and Recording Secretary, Bill Duncan from the Van-Isle Pensioners.

The new Executive Board members are: Paul McCabe, Seattle; Darryl Hodman, Tacoma and small ports of the Puget Sound Area; Ken Swicker, Longview and small ports of the Columbia River Area; George Gorrick, Portland; James Davison, North Bend, Southwest Oregon Coast; Cleophas Williams, San Francisco; and Lou Loveridge, Southern California Pensioners.

Rich Austin was elected to represent pensioners in the Coast Benefits Committee and Art Almeida was elected the pensioners representative on the Coast Education Committee. President Spinosa administered the oath of office to all officers and com mitteemen.

The next PCPA Convention and pre-Convention Executive Board meeting will be held Sept. 11-14, 2005 at the Cathedral Hill Hotel in San Francisco, Calif.
THE Dispatcher wins top awards

The International Labor Communications Association, the organization of AFL-CIO editors and communicators, has announced the winners in its Media Contest for 2003 and again The Dispatcher won several awards, including the organization’s most prestigious one.

The Max Steinbeck Award recognizes an outstanding communications piece that explores an issue of concern to workers with a particular sensitivity and insight into the human spirit. It was given to The Dispatcher for David Bacon’s story and photos “No Justice and No Peace: Iraqi workers under occupation” that ran in the October 2003 issue. The story chronicles Iraqi workers’ struggles to survive in a bombed out landscape and organize under the U.S. occupation that cut out the food, housing and healthcare subsidies they had under Saddam, but continues to enforce Saddam’s old laws banning unions and strikes.

The Dispatcher also won first place for best Oregon colophon for Steve Stallone’s “It’s the economy, Stupid” that ran in the September issue, a first place for best labor history story for Harvey Schwartz’s oral history of former ILWU International Vice President “Golden Turkey” that ran in the February issue, and another first place for best original cartoon for Jim Swenson’s “Bloody Bill Chester at the Port of Oakland” about the April 7 police riot that injured anti-war demonstrators and longshore workers that ran in the April issue.

RELIGIOUS RIGHT MUST BE ACCOUNTABLE

Reports from everywhere are coming to the conclusion that George Bush put George Bush back in office. Therefore, I believe:

#1 Everyone who has lost a job since George Bush took should have their unemployment check paid by the Religious Right churches.

#2 Religious Right churches should run a lottery of which church personally the families of our brave Democratic soldiers should go to funerals or contact

#3 Since George Bush has refused to go to funerals or contact personally the families of our brave fallen servicemen and women, Religious Right church families should do this and watch the unbearable heartache.

#4 Any monies stolen from the American people by Haliburton should be paid back by the Religious Right churches.

#5 Any funerals and hospital costs caused by the lack of stem cell research should be paid by the Religious Right churches.

#6 We Democrats are also religious, so why do we allow any Democrats that fall in the Religious Right. The difference is we can reason with any ordinary person for our beliefs.

Sad, worried and bewildered,
Myrt Perine,
Wife of a retired Local 63 member

REPUBLICANS ARE PEOPLE TOO

Well, it finally happened to me! My utter disbelief over the journal- ize of The Dispatcher for something now. The crowning glory, or should I say, the final straw, is in the September 2004 issue (Vol. 62 No. 9). On the front page you show a size 15 boot kicking President Bush into a taillight and on page four he’s shunted into an ashcan.

Need I, or someone, remind you that you are displaying such disrespect with a guy who is the President of the United States and a member of a party that controls both houses of Congress? Sooner or later, we will be dealing with these people. They are not going away and could be in power for many future contracts to be nego- tiated. This type of editing was fine during the days of white caps and “Frisco” jeans, but it’s all pass now. On page eight you state 132 endorsements were hard for me to believe that not one Republican can- didate could have served us better in his seat, your particular category. How many studs went into these endorsements? Remember that approximately 30 percent of organized labor votes Republican.

In closing I would like to point out that you and your paper are the written word of my union and I will make two suggestions: 1.Straighten up your act and get into the modern age, or 2.As so well stated by Abraham Lincoln, “it is better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt.”

Walter Parke,
Locals 23, retired

Advanced LEAD Institute

International Secretary Treasurer William Adams is announcing the first ILWU Advanced Leadership Education and Development Institute (LEAD III) to be held in Palm Springs, Calif., Jan. 31-Feb. 4, 2000.

The curriculum will focus on collective bargaining, from the nuts and bolts of developing contract proposals and hammering out an agreement at the table, to ILWU principles of rank-and-file control of the process and member- ship mobilization in defense of the union. Presentations will include labor law affecting collective bargaining and an examination of how today’s economic and political environment affects ILWU negotiations.

Instructors will be drawn from the ranks of active and retired members as well as staff from the international, the AFL-CIO, and the Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service.

Application will be made to the Titled Officers, who may seek input from the applicant’s local union. In addition, the local union may nominate participants, who may also be participating in a union-organized LEAD-UK, or other education efforts. The purpose of the LEAD-UK program is to introduce a level of understanding, diversity, and unity, we anticipate having to limit each affiliate to two participants, but we will create a waiting list in case of cancellations or non-participation by any local union. Selection and registration forms have been sent to each Local and IBU Region by fax and mail, and are available on the ILWU website (www.ilwu.org).

Participation will be limited to a maximum of 75 members of the ILWU and the IBU who have also been active in their local union as delegates, commit- tee members, stewards, trustees, executive board members, officers, or caucus and convention delegates. Priority consideration will be given to members who have participated in either of the previous LEAD programs (1998 and 2000), and served (or are about to serve) on an ILWU contract negotiating committee.

Completed applications must be returned by fax or mail by Dec. 10, 2004 to: LEAD Applications, c/o William Adams, ILWU Secretary-Treasurer, 1888 Franklin Street, San Francisco, CA 94109 (Fax: 415-775-1302).

2002 on video

The ILWU Longshore Division is producing a film about its 2002 contract struggle. Any and all video footage or still photos members or their friends may have from that time that can add to documenting and portraying the many facets of that nearly year-long conflict would be helpful in the produc- ting. Please send them to the following address and let us know if you need them returned.

ILWU International, Attn: Steve Stallone
1188 Franklin Street Fourth Floor / San Francisco, CA 94109

A Primer on American Labor Law

By William B. Gould IV
National Labor Relations Board chair, 1994-1998

“A Primer on American Labor Law” is an accessible guide written for non- specialists—labor and management representatives, students, general prac- tice lawyers, trade unionists, government officials and academics from other countries. It covers such topics as the National Labor Relations Act, unfair labor practices, the collective bargaining relationship, dispute resolution, the public sector and public-interest labor law.

This thoroughly updated fourth edition contains extensive new material, covering developments in the 11 years since the third edition, including the continuing decline of union membership, job security rights, wrongful dis- charge litigation and dispute resolution procedures, ADA (Americans with Disability Act) litigation, cases involving sexual harassment and sexual orien- tation, the most recent collective bargaining agreements in professional sports, and the debate surrounding globalization.—on international labor stan- dards.

Also by the author from the MIT Press:

Labored Relations: Law, Politics, and the NLRB—a Memoir


William B. Gould IV is Charles A. Beardsworth Professor of Law, Emeritus, at Stanford University and William M. Ramsey Distinguished Professor of Law at Willamette University College of Law. He is the author of “Agenda for Reform” (The MIT Press, 1988), recipient of five honorary law degrees, he has been an arbitrator since 1965 and a member of the National Academy of Arbitrators since 1970.

To order online: http://mitpress.mit.edu or call (800) 405-1619.

ShopUnionMade.org

By now the holiday shopping frenzy has reached maddening levels. The stores are jammed with cheap imports if you can even get there. You might even end up on Wal-Mart’s site and avoid all that and find the Union Label in cyberspace at www.ShopUnionMade.org

What to get for that right-wing brother-in-law? How about some union cof- fee? From the site you can order 100 percent union coffee from Hawaii. How about a union-made computer? Same site. How about a sea cruise? You can book a trip to Hawaii on a union ship with a real American flag at the mast! And there are ILWU hotels in Hawaii and union airlines to take you to the nearest embarkation port.

Orders can be sent via UPS, a Teamster outfit, directly to whoever you want to surprise.

The AFL-CIO’s Union Label and Service Trades Dept. launched the site Sept. 7. Its secretary treasurer, Matt Bates, explained why the site is needed. “Shoppers spent $56 billion in Internet sales last year,” Bates said in a press release. “The web site will reach millions of people, 24-hours a day, with a quick and convenient way to shop union. The public is ready for this, people have

9

10
Dirty-tricks squad shot Shelvy Daffron in the back. Goulet sat in the lead truck with other members of Gung 34 in the funeral entourage to Lakeview Cemetery.

On Nov. 18, 1986, Hector Goulet returned, leading his union brothers to Shelvy Daffron’s seldom-visited grave. For the first time anyone there could recall, Brother Goulet spoke about the past. He recalled the bitter period of the eighties, the eight lost lives, the families and the final victory. He saw the real meaning of the Big Strike as “A New Unionism” and a brotherhood among working people. In the 1930s and 1940s longshoremen were there to help lumberjacks, woodworkers, seamen and host of others succeed in getting decent pay and safety enforcement. “All we ever wanted,” Goulet said, “was a fair shake.”

In his later retirement years Hector Goulet was surprised that of the 1,182 Seattle longshore workers who fought in the Big Strike he would be the last one to answer the dispatch call. When Goulet came to the Seattle pensioners’ annual meeting in May 2004, he received a standing ovation. Brother Goulet had a broad smile on his face as he remarked to those near him that if was proud the union had not forgotten its old timers.

Goulet, who was born Sept. 22, 1909, died July 25. —Bob Magden

Longshore retired, declassified and survivors

RECENT RETIREES:

Longshore veteran honored

Local 6—Joe Wenzl

In 1989 Puget Sound veterans of the 1934 Strike gathered at the Garfield Bridge where the police had tear gassed strikers. From left to right: John Mahoney, Dewey Duggan, Kurt Nelson, Gordon Fox, Hector Goulet, Ivan Stevens, Orie Sehwarts, Early Douglas and Richard Haverty.

Gene Vrana receives award

In celebrating its 12th anniversary, the Harry Bridges Center singed out Vrana for his service on the Visiting Committee, his contributions to the strategic planning committee, and his work as a contributing member of the “Union Democracy Reexamined” research team. Particular note was made of the assistance Vrana has given young students and seasoned faculty researching labor issues, where his talents and skills as a librarian and archivist are of the highest professional caliber.

In making the award, the Harry Bridges Labor Center cited Vrana for “All your expertise, your assistance, counsel, and advice, and your unfailing support of labor education.”

David Olson
Harry Bridges Chair Emeritus

Cook, Mary Carson, Eliza Lister, Roberta Watkins; Local 12—Dorothy Nance; Local 13—Ann Marie Purcell, Maria Pinto, Teresa Guadalupe, Josephine Scienza, Ruth Sedoto, Frances Gonzales, Flora Higginson, Consuelo Sanchez, Kerstin Koski; Local 19—Glorioe Wilbert; Local 21—Ella Sepp; Local 23—Kathleen Bowen; Local 24—Delores Medak, Betty Arnold; Local 34—Gladyce Shirley, Kathleen Mahoney, Verbia Albright, Edith Williams, Nathalie Von Ronne, Iurce Raggio; Local 47—Beatrice Lawrence; Local 52—Aleece Otto; Local 53—Patricia Walls, Local 54—Louis Harrison, Winnie Essig; Local 59—Mildred Targos, Carmela Scogramma, Local 75—Bessie Reaves; Local 91—Helena Huff, Neena Clausen, May Cuneo, Edith Fardig; Local 92—Katherine Girt, Local 94—Geraldine Murphy, Myrtle Pekich; Local 98—Doris Vekich.
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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