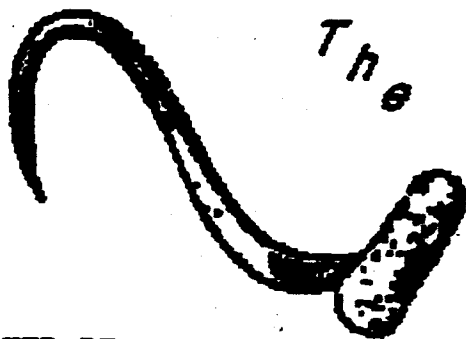


AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL



The RUSTY HOOK

Seattle ILWU



PACIFIC COAST PENSIONER'S ASSOCIATION

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

There can be no denying the fact that the passage of NAFTA was a world-class defeat for the working people in Canada, the United States and Mexico. It was not only a political defeat, but it was the smashing of a lot of ideals held by the American working class i.e; That the American worker could continue to assume that his/her descendants would continue to be better off, economically, socially and intellectually than their mothers and fathers. or; That the Democrats are the party of the common man — the worker's friend. However, this is not written to point out the negatives of the NAFTA campaign. Those are too numerous and too easy to point out. Now that the NAFTA battle is behind us and we are licking our wounds, I think it is wise to list the positive points in the our struggle with our erstwhile "friends".

One of the most positive things to arise from the NAFTA battle is the unprecedented coalition of forces that found a way to work together instead of being at one another's throats. Environmentalists, labor, farmers and consumer groups, representing the vast majority of the population, worked together, found common ground and concentrated on the defense of our society. By itself, this fact is historic and should not be left to wither on the vine. Until recently (NAFTA) many of these groups would not even speak to each other. The opportunity to further enforce these coalitions is at hand and the labor movement should not let the opportunity die on the vine.

As for the labor movement, Professor David Olson put it best during a radio interview when he said, "labor will be at that table arguing about the conditions of work and the rights of workers, not just in the United States, but in Mexico." This is the

only answer to their precious global economy and it is nothing new. After WWII, the ILWU forged links with workers the world over so that when we were forced into confrontation with the employer and when the government took the employer's side, neither the boss, with the threat of scabs, nor the government with the threat of using the military, could do either. They got the word that, if ILWU members did not load the ships, no one in these countries was going to discharge them. The message was effective. Corporations, today, can move their operations by pressing buttons. With international labor solidarity and a upward leveling of wages, hours and working conditions, corporations will find it unprofitable to be so cavalier with the lives of those who produce the goods that swell their coffers.

Also, as David Olson said, during the prolonged NAFTA debate, labor put some very important issues on the table, not the least of which were the environmental issues and the performance of the Mexican government toward the Mexican worker. These issues will be in the forefront of the people's minds.

Remember, we also have computers and friends with whom we can network, An international coalition of organized labor, environmentalists, consumers, et al, would be unbeatable. If forces are going to drag us into a global economy, it is better to go prepared and with allies than to be drug alone, "kicking and screaming."

Another positive of the anti-NAFTA fight is the illustration of the fallacy of hooking one's star to one political party when both of the accepted "major" parties happen to represent the same people — the corporations. It is surely time for labor to seriously consider the formation of a party that represents them.

Dick Moork

The Good Old Days

The following rules were posted in 1872 to regulate daily activities of the employees of a carriage maker. They present a startling contrast between existing conditions in the "Good Old Days" and those of today.

1. Office employees will daily sweep the floors, dust the furniture, shelves and showcase.

2. Each day fill the lamps, clean chimneys and trim wicks and wash the windows once a week.

3. Each clerk will bring in a bucket of water and scuttle of coal for the day's business.

4. Make your pens carefully, you may whittle nibs to your individual taste.

5. This office will open at 7 A.M. and close at 8 P.M. except on the Sabbath, on which day it will remain closed. Each employee is expected to spend the Sabbath attending church and contributing liberally to the cause of God.

6. Men employees will be given an evening off each week for courting purposes or two evenings a week if they attend church regularly.

7. After an employee has spent his 13 hours of labor in the office he shall spend the remaining time reading the Bible, or other good works.

8. Every good employee should lay aside from each pay a goodly sum of his earnings for his benefit during his declining years, so that he will not become a burden on society or his betters.

9. Any employee who smokes Spanish cigars, uses liquor in any form, or frequents pool or public halls, or gets shaved in a barber shop, will give me a good reason to suspect his worth, intentions, integrity, and honesty.

10. After an employee has performed his labors faithfully and without fault for five years he will be given an increase of 5 cents a day in his pay, providing the profits from the business permit it.—

Editorial Staff

Fred Berg -- Del Castle
Art Mink --- Dick Moork

FINAL DISPATCH

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| HAROLD BOOMER | Local 19 |
| JOE DUPEA | LOCAL 19 |
| CLARENCE DENNISON | Local 52 |
| GEORGE WOLCOFF | Local 19 |
| KELLY BYWATER | Local 9 |
| JOHN TENNANT | Local 52 |

SECRETARY-TREASURER

The Pension Club has been fortunate in that we have finally solved the problem of having the office open from 9 AM to 1PM, Mon - Fri.

Two new pensioner's, Bill Sample and John Johnson and one grizzled and scarred veteran, Russ Alexander, have volunteered to rotate in that capacity. Bill Sample volunteered to serve as the official Secretary-Treasurer.

These brothers deserve a standing ovation for their loyalty to the union and the club.

WHY WE NEED UNIONS

by Dick Moork

The accompanying copy of an article is not an exaggeration. It was clipped out of some periodical years ago and given to the staff of the "Rusty Hook" recently by a member. The "good ol' days" are a figment of some one's imagination and meant all things to all people. To the employer, conditions described in the copy meant that he could exploit his employees with impunity. To today's worker, like most people, it means that he/she could go to the movie for a nickel, buy a three course steak dinner for 35¢, not remembering that 35¢ might have been over an hours wages.

Actually, the true "good ol' days", if any period qualifies, were the days after unions were organized, the spirit of 'brotherhood' was present everywhere, the worker had some control of his destiny (on and off the job), there were no high-priced hired guns, out preying on the honest worker by busting his/her union and the government, at least, kept a relatively neutral position in labor disputes--only interfering when unfair labor practices surfaced. These were the days when a worker had dignity and did not have to go, hat-in-hand and on bended knee and supplicate him/herself before the employer in order to get a fair shake. They had the power of their union to do that for them and their solidarity kept the union powerful.

Today, the worker has lost a great deal of this solidarity and dignity (and consequently, the union is less powerful) and is in danger of completely losing the rest. We hear rumors (enough to lend credence to them) of individuals actually negotiating the terms of their individual employment outside the framework of the union. If anyone is anxious to return to the conditions set forth in the featured article, one can hardly think of a more efficient way to do it. In my youth, I first heard a fellow longshoreman tell a boss, "We negotiate around here when the contract is due to be renewed." With that motto, we maintained a strong union and a spirit of solidarity that does not exist today — but should! ! !

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

January 3 — February 7

Donation of Harry Bridges Bust — January 28

Conference, "Harry Bridges and the tradition of dissent", Kane Hall, 10AM-3PM — Jan. 29

At the 1992 PCPA Convention, a resolution was passed to acquire funds for a bust of Harry, identical to that in the headquarters lobby, and it be donated to the UofW to be placed in an appropriate location. The bust is ready and it will be donated in a ceremony at the UofW on January 28. In addition, the following day (Jan. 29), there will be a conference 10AM to 3PM, in the Walker-Ames Rm in Kane Hall on the UofW campus. The subject will be "Harry Bridges and the tradition of dissent". Nikki Bridges will participate. The conference is open to the public.

GRAY IS GREAT! By Del Castle

A new research group, AGE WAVE INSTITUTE- has been studying our senior population. They have learned there "are profits in helping old ladies cross the street". They report, for instance, that "two-thirds of all men and women who have ever lived beyond the age of 65 in the entire history of the world are alive today." In addition, they point out that "The 60 million Americans over 50 (one-fourth of the total U.S. population) is turning out to be both powerful and affluent.

Those of us "over 50 have a combined personal income of more than \$800 billion." We "hold 77% of the nations financial assets. [This conveniently overlooks the \$12 trillion owned by the upper ten percent in the financial world!] We buy 43% of all new cars and 80% of luxury travel."

Further on the report points out "that a tenth of America's 30 million senior citizens have **children who are now senior citizens.** Kids who are now 65 or over." And, that "the average middle-aged adult today **has more parents than children!**"

While the study may cause some to wonder if seniors are living pretty high on the hog, they can't say we were given it out of someone's good will. We fought for and earned every penny of it through all the struggles of our generation for trade union wages, Social Security and all the programs that give those of us who built the movement a modest share of the wealth of our country.

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE

Since health care will be the next great national debate, we feel it is about time we devoted some space to this subject.

Single-payer is certainly our plan of choice. However, with the awesome corporate forces aligned against single-payer and an administration that is definitely inclined against it, we must look at alternatives. We most certainly cannot support "managed competition" unless it is the only alternative to the present medical care morass.

Several states, including Washington, have so-called comprehensive health care programs. One of the more successful, with fewer serious illnesses, shorter stays in the hospital, low cost and public review, is Hawaii's.

In the interest of space and with the promise to cover it in future issues, we would like to end this by pointing out that, in a recent interview John Lewin, MD, Director of Hawaii's Department of Health, in response to the statement, "When we look at your plan, it seems that somebody out there did some long-range thinking" said, "You'd better believe

There is a concerted bipartisan move on at the present to do away with Social Security. Recently, "60 Minutes" had a segment wherein some billionaire was starting a movement to eliminate Social Security for those elders who "didn't need it" and a couple of "Young Americans for Freedom" types who said that they were carrying the seniors through taxes. Don't take these people lightly. There are plenty around to carry their message.

The first, the billionaire, was singing the corporate tune of "I've got plenty, so take me off the rolls and there will be more for you." Don't swallow that hogwash. What they are trying to do is start an unraveling process so that we all lose Social Security.

The second pair were crying and moaning about something they either know nothing about (Social Security), or are consciously trying to sabotage. I can assure you that the latter is the case. Before there was Social Security, old people went to the "poorhouse" and were meagerly provided for by the general population.

In the first place, the Social Security Fund would be solvent if it weren't for the fact that Congress has routinely "borrowed" from it in lieu of creating any other sources of revenue — taxes — even the mention of which is poison to a politician. All of the talk we heard in the past thirty years about the Social Security Fund being close to bankrupt is a politically based lie. If left alone, the Social Security Fund will take care of itself.



it. Some people, led by two members who represented the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, had the guts to do this and they did it".

Brothers and sisters, we can be proud of that statement. Although the two ILWU members were not named in the quote, the statement is proof positive that Clinton's "managed competition" is not the only game in town and that brains are not the sole property of the corporate boardroom.

Oink Oink

Beyond all the windy talk about progress and the future, the vote on NAFTA last month came down to old-fashioned bribery. It's estimated that the deals President Clinton made to buy votes in Congress for his side of the issue could cost taxpayers as much as \$50 billion, an amount considered unthinkable last year when many sound economists proposed it as the bottom-line investment needed to stimulate the economy. Most of these deals, however, involve more pork than pump-priming.

The list below, compiled with the help of Public Citizen, is the most complete accounting to date, but any final cost of NAFTA lies in the distance. Washington buzzes with rumors of deals still unconfirmed. It is said, for instance, that Congress people from tobacco states received a promise that a proposed tax increase on cigarettes to help underwrite health care reform will be reduced by as much as \$4 billion a year. Other alleged inducements include an aircraft carrier (price: \$3.6 billion) to be built in a recalcitrant lawmaker's district, ambassadorships, judicial appointments, university grants and special subsidies for producers of bed frames and headboards.

A few in Congress turned down the bribes. Representative Gene Green, a Democrat from Texas, declined Transportation Secretary Federico Peña's offer to help him raise \$10 million for a bridge in his district. Representative Helen Delich Bentley, a Republican of Maryland, resisted the overtures of corporate lobbyists who said that fundraising for her next campaign would be "enhanced" if she voted with the President.

Perhaps the deepest cost of the NAFTA vote-buying spree cannot be calculated in dollars. The President has reinvigorated a style of politicking that plays to cynics. From now on, only suckers can be expected to take a stand without first naming their price.

Rep. E.B. Johnson (D-Tex.) Two additional C-17 military cargo planes (cost: \$1.4 billion) to be built in her district. The C-17 has a history of technical failure, including doors opening during test flights and wings buckling.

Rep. J.I. Pickle (D-Tex.) A promise to site the \$10 million Center for the Study of Trade in the Western Hemisphere in his district.

Rep. Glenn English (D-Okla.), Rep. Bill Brewster (D-Okla.), Rep. Bill Sarpalius (D-Tex.), Rep. Larry Combest (R-Tex.) Limits on Canadian shipments of durum wheat, used to make pasta, unless Canada cuts back on its own wheat subsidies.

Rep. E. Clay Shaw (R-Fla.) Administration pressure on Mexico to extradite a man suspected of raping Shaw's assistant's niece.

Rep. Esteban Torres (D-Calif.), Rep. Xavier Becerra (D-Calif.), Rep. Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), Rep. Lucille Roybal-Allard (D-Calif.), Rep. Ed Pastor (D-Ariz.), Rep. John Bryant (D-Tex.) \$250 million in funding for the North American Development Bank intended for infrastructure projects. No money was allocated for toxic cleanup, as originally claimed.

Rep. David Price (D-N.C.), Rep. Tim Valentine (D-N.C.), Rep. Bob Clement (D-Tenn.) Two international air routes to London awarded to American Airlines, which serves major cities in their states.

Rep. Bob Smith (R-Ore.), Rep. Joel Hefley (R-Colo.), Rep. Wayne Allard (R-Colo.), Rep. Bob Stump (R-Ariz.) Administration cave-in on a plan to raise grazing fees on federal lands, the result being a loss of millions of dollars for the federal treasury.

Rep. Lewis Payne (D-Va.) Clinton's written promise to consider Payne's district as the site for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (federal contribution: \$500,000-\$3 million).

Rep. Fred Grandy (R-Ia.), Rep. Neal Smith (D-Ia.) Administration pressure on Mexico to hasten tariff reduction on appliances, a move that would benefit Iowa-based firms such as Amana and Maytag.

Rep. Porter Goss (R-Fla.), Rep. Dan Miller (R-Fla.), Rep. Tom Lewis (R-Fla.), Rep. Harry Johnston (D-Fla.), Rep. Jim Bacchus (D-Fla.), Rep. Carrie Meek (D-Fla.), Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-Fla.), Rep. Earl Hutto (D-Fla.), Rep. Tillie Fowler (R-Fla.), Rep. William Jefferson (D-La.), Rep. James Hayes (D-La.), Rep. Jim McCrery (R-La.) \$16 million to complete an agricultural research center in Ft. Pierce, Florida. Special protection for Louisiana and Florida citrus, sugar and vegetable producers. According to the G.A.O., the sugar deal alone will cost consumers \$1.4 billion annually.

Rep. Thomas Ewing (R-Ill.), Rep. Jennifer Dunn (R-Wash.), Rep. Ron Packard (R-Calif.), Rep. Sam Johnson (R-Tex.), Rep. Dennis Hastert (R-Ill.), Rep. Wayne Allard (R-Colo.) Reduction of Clinton's proposed new taxes on airline and cruise ship passenger fares that were to fund retraining for workers displaced by NAFTA. Ewing suggested cutting food stamps instead to pay for retraining.

Rep. J. Roy Rowland (D-Ga.) Administration agreement to negotiate limits on peanut butter imports from Canada.

Rep. John Spratt (D-S.C.), Rep. W.G. Hefner (D-N.C.), Rep. Nathan Deal (D-Ga.) Additional funding of \$15 million for U.S. Customs to enforce laws on textile imports. Administration pledge to push for five additional years of protection for U.S. textiles at the GATT talks.

Rep. Bill Sarpalius (D-Tex.) Reversal of Clinton's earlier recommendation to cut \$47 million in helium subsidies.

Rep. Norman Mineta (D-Calif.) Administration promise to protect cut-flower industry.

Rep. Martin Frost (D-Tex.) Government pledge to protect glass producers.

Rep. Peter Hoekstra (R-Mich.) Administration promise to protect Michigan asparagus growers.

Rep. Benjamin L. Cardin (D-Md.) Administration pressure on Canadian government to diminish subsidies for a Quebec chemical plant.

Rep. David Hobson (R-Oh.) Special protection for flat glass and bromocorn, produced in his district.

SARAH ANDERSON AND KEN SILVERSTEIN

Sarah Anderson is a trade specialist at the Institute for Policy Studies. Ken Silverstein is the editor of "Counterpunch," a new Washington-based political newsletter sponsored by I.P.S.

Notwithstanding the inference that we, by the act of threatening to withhold our votes from pro-NAFTA legislators (a very American thing to do), were, in some way, less than loyal Americans, brothers and sisters, after the crass and quasi-legal performance of President Clinton, with our tax dollars, I assure you that we can hold our heads high.

IMPOSTOR? ? ?

We have received some photostats from the Shenandoah, Iowa H.S. yearbook dated 1929. One of the pages has a photo of a young man of the all-American persuasion. He is clean, neat and has a well groomed look. His hair is impeccably combed and HE IS WEARING A TIE!

By coincidence, this young fella's name is Jerry Tyler, and our confidant is trying to palm the story and photos off as our Jerry Tyler. **FAT CHANCE!**

This Jerry Tyler is not only presentable, he has an excellent scholastic record. He was apparently a leader in his school and was selected by the faculty as representative male student of 1929.

This Jerry Tyler was a scholastic dynamo. He was on the debate team for 4 yrs (Pres.-2 yrs), Class Pres.-2 yrs, Editor-in Chief of the school paper, VP of the Glee Club, Dramatic Club, football, baseball and track teams, Boy's Club, 2 yrs in the class play, Dramatic Club play, and something called the G.R. Play **This** Jerry Tyler was one industrious dude. Considering all the contradictions, why would anyone try to palm this whirlwind off as our Jerry Tyler?

It is a phenomenal coincidence that our Jerry Tyler is also from Iowa. However, the writer seems to recall that it was something like Pumpkin Center, Iowa. It is also true that the age is approximately right, but the rest of the discrepancies blow the attempt of our correspondent out of the water. Can anyone imagine our Jerry Tyler singing in a glee club? Maybe that's when Major Bowes invented his gong. Or Tyler performing in the class

1994 DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW! ! !

A PAIR OF SMASHING IDEAS! ! !

Although the shouting is over and labor took yet another licking from its "friends", we believe that the following is interesting in that it reveals what a true friend of labor would do in such a 'gun-to-the-head' situation.

(Reprinted from Labor Notes)

"Congressman Bernie Sanders (Ind-Vt) has introduced legislation that would cut salaries of members of Congress to Mexican levels if NAFTA passes. It would reduce a Representative's \$133,644 salary to the \$35,410 that members of the Mexican Congress earn. The proposal, Sanders explains, is based on the same reasoning NAFTA supporters use when they argue that American workers must become more competitive."

"Teamsters President Ron Carey proposes that Sanders amend his bill to provide retraining programs for members of Congress who lose their jobs as a result of voting for NAFTA. "NAFTA supporters tell us it's not so

JERRY TYLER

Debate 1-2-3-4
Scientific Course
Pres. Debate Club 3-4
Class Pres. 2-4
Editor-in-Chief Shen-Hi
Can 4
Glee Club 3-4
Vice Pres. Glee Club 3
Dramatic Club 3-4
Football 1-2-3
Track 3-4
Boys' Club 1-2-3-4
Class Play 3-4
Dramatic Club Play 4
G. R. Play 4
Representative Boy



play? -- "GET THE HOOK!"

It is this writer's recollection that our Tyler's premier accomplishment in school was to be appointed blackboard monitor. He was responsible to clean the blackboard, keep it supplied with chalk and to clean the erasers.

If the biographical outrages don't convince us that this is a fraud, the photos will put the finito on any more discussion as to the validity of this outrageous claim. No one who looked so spiffy when young could possibly grow up to be our foul-mouthed, beer-swilling, dyspeptic, womanizing and disreputable Jerry Tyler.

It's a sad commentary, indeed, that someone with no understandable reason would try to pull such a subterfuge on a bunch of trusting and innocent individuals such as us.

THERE OUGHTA BE A LAW! ! !

1994 DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW! ! !

terrible to lose a good-paying job because you can always be retrained," Carey said "Many members of Congress may have a chance to test that out if NAFTA is approved."

Sanders is our kind of legislator!

PSCDC LOBBYIST

The Puget Sound Council is strongly considering returning to a rank-and-file lobbyist system. A dedicated and able pensioner would be ideal for this job. It's for sure the PSCDC cannot pay PCLCD wages for this job, but a dedicated and capable pensioner could do the union a helluva lot of good and, at the same, time augment his pension.

It is a probability that, if the Council decides to return to the rank-and-file lobbyist, they will put out application forms for all ILWU members in the Puget Sound District, including pensioners.

If you are interested, keep your eyes and ears open for a future announcement.

ANOTHER REASON TO JOIN A GOOD UNION

Joe had worked his way up to the post of office manager in this non-union office and he felt that his job was pretty secure.

Since his childhood, Joe had felt this woman inside him screaming to get out, so Joe took a leave of absence to have a sex change operation.

Upon his return to work, as Josephine, one of his long time fellow workers was curious about the operation. Wasn't it painful when they cut off your p___s?", asked his long time friend. "No", said the former Joe, "not really". Didn't it hurt when they cut off your g___ds?" continued the friend. "Nah, I was under a local anesthetic and I hardly felt a thing." replied the erstwhile Joe.

"Well," said the friend, "didn't anything hurt?" "Well, yes", said Josephine, "it hurt like hell when I returned to work and had to take a 40% pay cut".

Brothers and Sisters:

This is the first of the year and it would be a great time to come down, attend the Jan. meeting and join the Pension Club. You will not only get to participate in a democratic organization, you will see old friends and renew old acquaintances (maybe even some new ones). Dues are only \$1.00 per month. You'll find it to be the bargain of your life. The union needs you and you need the union.

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Arthur Mink
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