

The RUSTY HOOK

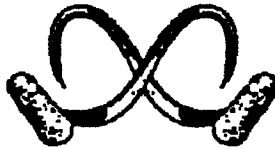
Seattle ILWU

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PACIFIC COAST PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

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MEETINGS:

SEPTEMBER **August 31**
PCPA Convention: **September 14, 15, 16,**
OCTOBER 5
NOVEMBER 2
DECEMBER 7

From our intrepid artist in residence, JAKE ARNAUTOFF, we have received the following book review:

Recommended Reading

Confessions of A Union Buster
by Martin Jay Levitt

Crown Publishers, New York, 1993

From 1969 to 1988 Mr. Levitt directed over 200 anti union campaigns and lost only 5. The billing was from one thousand to five thousand dollars per day per consultant and three to seven hundred an hour for attorneys. How he managed so successfully is spelled out clearly as the author takes the reader step by step through the process of "union prevention" through disinformation and personal assaults.

In late 1988 Mr. Levitt began to face the realities of his actions and offered his "confession" at the western conference of the Brotherhood of Carpenters. Since then he worked as a consultants for various union and non union organizations. He has shared his experiences as a lecturer and has been interviewed on radio and by various newspapers.

I highly recommend this book to anyone who is concerned with the future of 'this mans union' and all unions. In the contract negotiations coming up we need to prepare to counter whatever tricks the employers think up. Forewarned is forearmed. Read it!

If you are interested in learning something about how many employers and their hirelings work to frustrate organizing drives, then this is the book for you.
JAKE



"We'll keep your resume in our files... just in case Affirmative Action becomes fashionable again."

Vote No on I-200

From the minutes of the regular meeting,
June 1st, 1998:
M/S/C: To oppose Initiative 200, the anti affirmative action initiative.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL



If you repeat a lie often enough, it becomes the truth... A. Hitler



**Social Security is in Trouble
Social Security is in Trouble
Social Security is in Trouble
Social Security is in Trouble
Social Security is in Trouble**

The big lie about Social Security

BY ART MINK

We are constantly being bombarded with claims that Social Security is in crisis. Younger workers are being told that they will not receive the benefits to which they are entitled "because Social Security is going broke!"

All of this is a bale of crap dished up by the Wall Street profiteers, their bought and paid for politicians and the newspapers they control. They quite openly say that they want to "manage" the Billions that workers have paid and are paying into Social security. "Manage" means they get 8 to 20 percent right off the top. The present Social Security Administration spend only about 1.5% to manage our money.

The real secret, being determinedly kept off the front pages is that Social Security is NOT in crisis. The projection that SS will run out of money (Originally they said in 2028, now they say in 2032) is based on one of those projections so beloved of futurist statisticians. The process is to decide what results they want, and then to adjust the projection to suit. In the current case, they assumed a rate of future economic growth for the next 60 years that is only half the rate of growth in the past 60 years, and even then couldn't find a problem for 30 years.

It is interesting that the same Futurists, when advising the Republicans that the rich should receive another huge tax cut, have decided that the economy will grow at the maximum rate for the same period of time.

Of course, SS is not perfect, but the changes needed go in the opposite direction. The exclusion of earnings over 68 thousand+ from taxation is already an unfair benefit for those highest paid, and the fact that unearned income is not taxed at all is another undeserved

Simplified and Paraphrased. What Hitler actually said in Mein Kampf was, "By means of shrewd lies, unremittingly repeated, it is possible to make people believe that heaven is hell -- and hell heaven. The greater the lie, the more readily it will be believed."

benefit for the rich. Social Security should be extended to cover everyone. All should pay and all should benefit .

GREED MOTIVATES MISINFORMATION

But despite all the evidence that the system is not going bankrupt and all that is needed is a slight course correction to put the program back in balance, the critics of the program—led by Wall Street stock brokers and the insurance industry—continue to fuel the misinformation campaign. Why? Because they hated Social Security in 1935 and they hate it in 1998.

According to former Budget Director David Stockman, a major goal of the Reagan Administration was to use the massive public debt—which its policies created—to panic the public so that it could eventually dismantle both Social Security and Medicare.

WHAT You CAN Do TO HELP PRESERVE SOCIAL SECURITY

Communicating with your elected representatives is an essential part of the democratic process. If your legislators do not hear from you, they will assume that you do not care about protecting Social Security as a government-backed entitlement program guaranteeing a monthly income for retirees, workers' survivors and the disabled. We can't let that happen. Following are several ways to convey your message to the Congress:

Telephone: It only costs a dime a minute to call your two U.S. Senators and your U.S. Representative in Washington, D.C. at 202-224-3121 or at their District Office (the telephone number will be listed in your local phone book). FDR's face is right on the dime. Drop a dime to call Congress and defend FDR's most important legacy—Social Security!

Write: Members of Congress want to know how their constituents feel about issues pending before them. Careful and concerned letters show that you care. Mail your letters to them in care of The U.S. Capitol, Washington, D.C. 20010.

In addition to communicating with your Congressional representatives, seniors also need to ensure that the public hears our side in the debate over the privatization of Social Security since the news media often distorts important issues. One way to do this:

Letters to the Editor: A letter in the local newspapers is one of the best ways to get the true facts out about the so-called "crisis" in Social Security.

Remember: The more people we involve in the battle, the better chance we have of preserving Social Security intact for our children and grandchildren.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

FROM THE INTERNET: JOHN CORBELL'S THE WEEKLY REPORT

DOWNLOADED FROM WWW.ILWU.COM, 8-6-98.

SHIPS MOVING NORTH

Last August, as Panasonic Logistics Co. of America began gearing up for the peak import season, its primary ports of entry in Southern California nearly ground to a halt. Ships were anchored six deep offshore, while trucks moved at a crawl through congested terminals or were turned away at the gates. Shipping delays stretched to two weeks, recalls Gene McClellan, Panasonic's West Region Administrative Manager. Panasonic scrambled to divert its cargo of VCRs, camcorders, microwave ovens and other consumer electronics to other West Coast ports, including the Port of Seattle, to restore its shipping schedule. "We were able to turn to the Port of Seattle and it had the available capacity and resources," McClellan says. "With the busy season approaching, we're looking forward to taking advantage of similar opportunities again this year."

Panasonic is not the only one looking north as the peak import season approaches. A major department store chain, Kohl's of Milwaukee, recently decided to divert a portion of its import business through Seattle on a permanent basis and three other major U.S. retailers are considering a similar move. Since the first quarter of 1997, average production for all loading and unloading shifts in Seattle climbed 18 percent to 26 container moves per hour, according to the Pacific Maritime Association. That means the Port ranks among the highest on the West Coast.

Imports through the Port of Seattle rose 37 percent during the first quarter of 1998, the biggest jump in inbound cargo movement of any West Coast port. And, the New World Alliance of APL, Hyundai Merchant Marine and Mitsui OSK Line announced last month it will shift its express rotation servicing Hong Kong, Taiwan and Southeast Asia from Southern California to Seattle.

During the first three months of 1998, the Port of Seattle's market share of Asian container imports with the West Coast rose nearly one percentage point to 11.4 percent. By contrast, Southern California ports' market share of Asian imports fell 1.6 percentage points during the period.

I.L.W.U. LOCAL REACHES NEW CONTRACTS

Clerical personnel at more than 12 shipping companies and terminals in southern California have approved a three-year contract earlier this month that will increase wages 25 percent so that at the end of the contract, wages will be \$60,000 per year.

GLEANINGS FROM HISTORY

From William Jennings Bryan who was a populist candidate for President on the Democratic ticket in 1888:

"There are two ideas of government. There are those who believe that if you will only legislate to make the well-to-do prosperous their prosperity will leak through to those below. The Democratic idea, however, has been that if you legislate to make the masses prosperous, their prosperity will find its way up through every class which rests upon them."

"LABOR IS PRIOR TO, and independent of, capital. Capital is only the fruit of labor, and could never have existed if labor had not first existed. Labor is the supporter of capital, and deserves the Higher consideration"

**From ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S
Presidential Message to Congress, 1861**

Final Dispatch

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AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The resolution on pension parity we published in the Summer RUSTY HOOK was not the same as the resolution adopted by the Longshore Caucus.

Please note that this is only a resolution for guidance in negotiations with the PMA. It is not passed, does not mean we will get it as written. The outcome will depend on negotiations. Do not call the union office, the Welfare office or the Pension Club thinking it is already in the bag.

As finally passed, the resolution is as follows:

ON PENSION PARITY

WHEREAS: The gap between the lowest pension for retired longshore workers and survivors is an obvious unfair and discriminatory treatment of those who sacrificed the most for the cause of the ILWU, and

WHEREAS: If there is a need for the highest level of longshore pension now provided, there surely is a need for all retirees and survivors for same level of income, and

WHEREAS: According to the last annual financial report of the ILWU-PMA Pension Fund, there is now a surplus of \$1,631,563,977 on hand; and

WHEREAS: It is obvious that an upward adjustment to full parity for all ILWU pensioners and survivors would not seriously deplete the ILWU-PMA Pension Fund, now therefore be it

RESOLVED: The present tier type of pension compensation be eliminated giving all ILWU-PMA pension plan retirees the same retirement benefits. Be it further,

RESOLVED: There shall be no increases For newly retired members until these results are achieved. Be it further,

RESOLVED: That a COLA program be established for



BY KFFFF

all ILWU-PMA pension plan retirees. Copies of this resolution to be distributed to ILWU Officers, Executive Board Members, Negotiating Committees and any others concerned.

Submitted by ILWU Seattle Pensioners club Seattle, Washington

MESSAGE FROM OUR COMRADES IN AUSTRALIA, AND AN OVERVIEW OF THE SETTLEMENT

DOWNLOADED FROM THE ILWU WEB SITE; www.ilwu.com

“Needless to say we are very impressed - even overwhelmed - at what has been done in defence of the MUA and our union movement. Even some of the mixups showed that the MUA was certainly not involved in orchestrating anything - who can stop the workers of the world from organising?! We want to thank you and hope you can all get some well earned sleep as all the international boycotts and protests can now be called off as we are on the verge of settling the dispute in our favour. MUA members voted unanimously to support the way the negotiations are going yesterday and will vote on the final settlement next week.

There will be an end to the labour hire arrangement and no non-union labour on the docks. This has already started with PCS (the Farmers company) closing down a few days ago. The employees from the company were

<CONTINUED ON PAGE 5>

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sacked. This is VERY important as we needed to defeat the whole labour hire/contract labour arrangement. There has been all these upset scabs on the TV taking legal action against the Farmers and saying Reith (industrial relations minister) said they would be looked after and now they have been dumped. We all think this is a good lesson to everyone in Australia to be reminded again what happens to SCABS. This makes it harder for big companies to find willing SCABS in the future - it has always been a bit of a problem here - there were a lot of people flown in (as you know) to do the dirty work.

As for the 400 redundancies, the MUA had already agreed to 250 (some wharfies are ready to retire!) before the dispute. 160 maintenance people will be "outsourced" but those made redundant will get preference of employment as MUA members and they will be fully unionised.

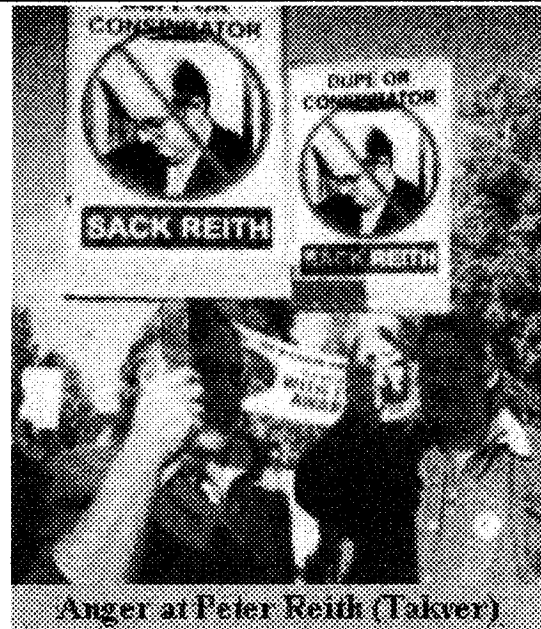
Patrick's is to pay all MUA legal fees and all legal action to be dropped on both sides. The legal costs were certainly a drain on the union and the MUA wants to maintain their strong financial position for future fights, so this is very good.

As far as I can see the bosses have got pretty much fuck all after so much pain and money. The MUA maintains its position, gets money back, defeats the labour hire arrangement and makes the government look incompetent.

The truth is that the real victory for us - one that cannot be taken away by ANY deal is:

- 1) the unity and solidarity created within the union movement here and overseas
- 2) we have shown we can fight and win
- 3) capital and the government have been burnt very badly and will have to think very hard before trying this again
- 4) the issue of job security is high on the public agenda

I guess all us union people are relieved that a settlement has been reached, as this seemed almost impossible the day they were locked out. In the news, the gov-



Anger at Peter Reith (Takver)

ernment and Corrigan (head of Patrick's) are desperately trying to put a good spin on it.

For Corrigan it is more than a matter of reputation, as he has to satisfy the banks and everyone who

bankrolled him that there has been some benefits. He certainly sounds hollow though. The papers are also all acknowledging that the ACTU/MUA handling of the dispute was "tactically brilliant" (!!!) and "masterfully orchestrated". So even though this is a bit of a laugh for those of us who know our weaknesses, in the public mind it makes the movement look like a force to be reckoned with.

We all celebrated when the MUA members went back to work - that was the real victory day for us. People feel very strongly that there can be no real victory until this government is brought down. So we are now readying for an election campaign....

If Howard gets reelected they will, of course, try again - with all of us. So no one can feel it's over for sure and we have won until they are defeated. Corrigan and his mates will think the same - they are waiting to see what happens in the election."

TERESA CONROW BOX 8901-153 MARINA DEL REY, CA 90295



From The ILWU Story

The Everlasting Bridges Case



For twenty-one years Harry Bridges, who emerged as the leader of the new longshoremen's union in the strike of 1934 and remained as its president until his retirement in 1977, was a defendant before the courts. He was the subject of a congressional investigation and of two pieces of federal legislation, one of which was enacted into law. He underwent two deportation hearings and a denaturalization proceeding and twice was vindicated in other actions before the Supreme Court. All four prosecutions were based on the same false charge: his alleged Communist affiliation. He was wrongfully convicted, illegally imprisoned, fraudulently stripped of his citizenship, and his attorneys sent to jail for defending him. Not without reason did Supreme Court Justice Murphy declare at the time of Bridges' first vindication before the highest court that, "The record in this case will stand forever as a monument to man's intolerance of man."

From 1935 to 1956 Bridges was under the constant surveillance of police, the FBI, and a swarm of private operative. For all that time he lived with the knowledge that every telephone call he made was illegally tapped; that his personal correspondence was monitored; that the rooms in which he lived and worked – even hotel rooms when he traveled – were unlawfully wired. Throughout, the ILWU rallied to Bridges' defense, fully aware the attacks on him were part of a concerted effort to weaken and destroy the union.

When Bridges died in 1990 the West Coast shut down from noon on March 30 to 8 a.m. March 31. Then, simultaneous with the departure of the San Francisco Bay for burial at sea, all West Coast, Alaskan, and Hawaiian ports shut down for two hours.

Lifetime Memberships

A single payment according to the following schedule:

Age 55—60	115.00
Age 60—70	95.00
Age 70—90	85.00



Loading Logs for export in Seattle, 1948

Photo from The ILWU Story

The complete 88 page illustrated history of the ILWU is available from the Dispatcher for \$7.00.

CORRESPONDENCE

From Pearl Arnold with a thank you note and a \$25.00 donation.

Thank you, too, Pearl!

From Howard L. Fry, Olympia with a \$100.00 contribution - no message. Message enough, we say. Thanks, Howard!

From our correspondent, Jessie Hraska:

"Thank you for using my article - 'The Centralia Massacre and Nathan Wesley Everest.'" And enclosing a twenty dollar bill. Thanks a load, Jessie. And keep the good articles coming.

From Ralph A. Souza, Palm Springs, CA.: "I am requesting a change of address so that there will not be any interruption in receiving the RUSTY HOOK." Will do, Ralph and glad to hear you do not want to miss any of our rank and file RUSTY HOOK.

Note from President Martinez: Please acknowledge R.E. Anderson's \$100.00 contribution to our club. Thanks Rudy for letting us know, and special thanks to R.E.

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

Harry Bridges Chair in Labor Studies Annual Party

15 October, 1998

in the Walker Ames Room
of Kane Hall

on the University of Washington Campus
4-6 pm.

Celebrating:

80th anniversary of the Seattle General
Strike in 1919.

65th anniversary of the successful end of
the 1934 Longshore strike and founding of
the ILWU, October 15, 1934

Awarding of prizes and scholarships.

Fish Story

Henry Art Gallery, University of Washington
February 11 through May 16., 1999

Exhibition Summary

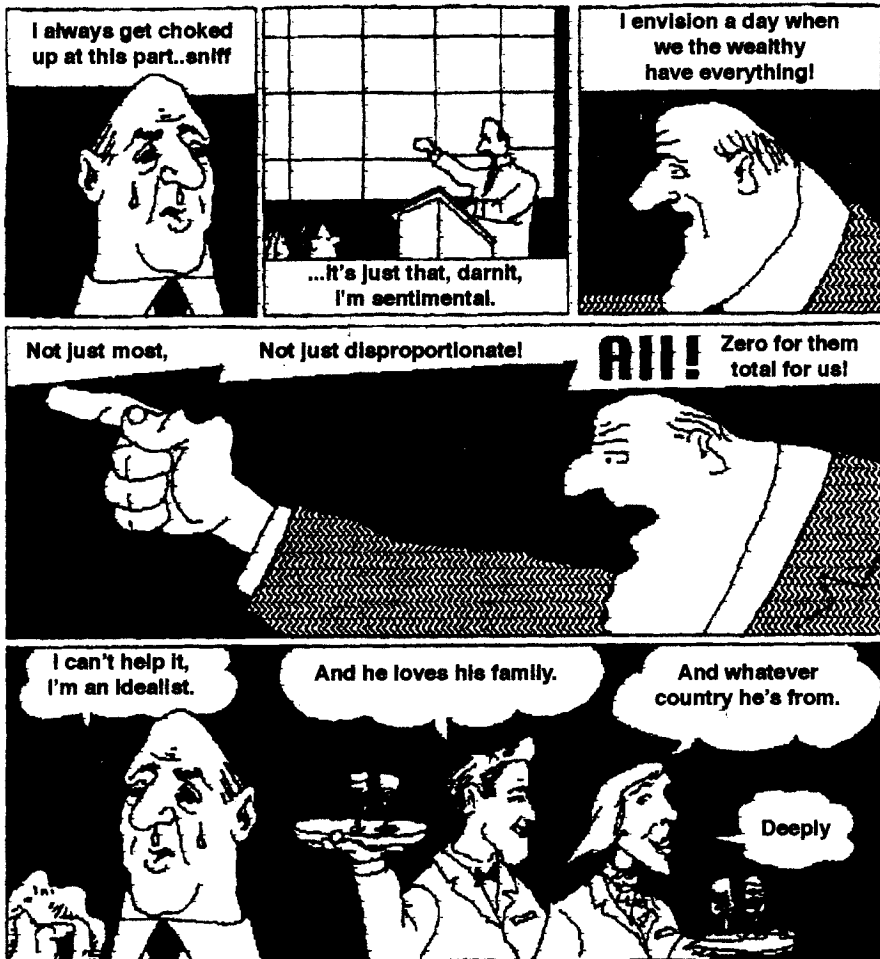
Fish Story is a complex documentary photographic project that investigates the changing appearance as well as the social and political complexities of labor and life in nine major international port cities. Focusing on the effects of containerization on the physical and economic transformation of the waterfront and on the changing culture of longshore workers, this exhibition is a photographic essay that was created over many years by artist Allan Sekula. Sekula researched historical accounts, conducted extensive interviews with leaders and laborers and photographed port cities around the world for this project. The exhibition presents the artist's view of global maritime issues through photographs from the nine port cities, text installations and accompanying slide projection works in the galleries. Fish Story has toured to Rotterdam, Stockholm, Glasgow and Calais.

In conjunction with the exhibition the artist is interested in continuing this photographic project with the ports of Puget Sound. While the work resulting from this would not be completed until after the exhibition, Sekula hopes to use his visits in conjunction with museum programs to further his documentation of this subject. He also will participate in a symposium and classes at the University of Washington through the University's Center for Labor Studies.

Those who profess to favor freedom, and yet deprecate agitation, are men who want crops without plowing up the ground. They want rain without thunder and lightning. ...Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will. ...Find out just what people will submit to, and you have found the exact amount of injustice and wrong which will be imposed upon them; and these will continue until they are resisted with either words or blows, or with both. The limits of tyrants are prescribed by the endurance of those whom they oppress.

Thousand Dollars a Plate

copyright 1998 Tom Ferguson



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**Harry Bridges
Chair in
Labor
Studies**

Room 101 Smith Hall

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