

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

The RUSTY HOOK

Seattle ILWU



PACIFIC COAST PENSIONERS ASSOCIATION

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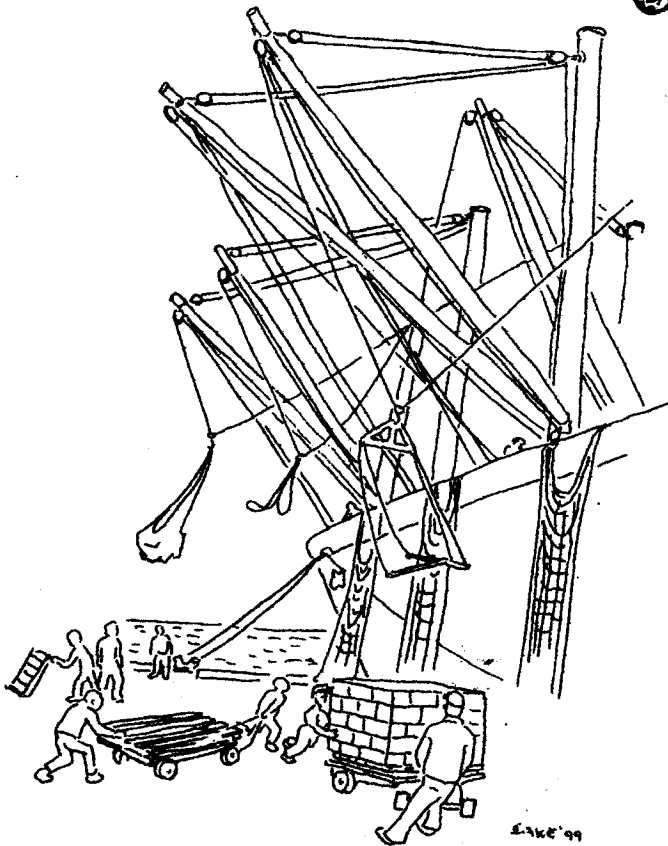
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FRED BERG
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MEETINGS:

September	August 30th
October	4
November	1
December	6 Election



THE FIRST OF MAY!

It used to be that May first was celebrated as International Labor Day, also as May Day later on, but the international shipping conglomerates and the U.S. Government have added a new wrinkle. On May first, 1999 the shipping industry will be deregulated. That means that each shipping line will be allowed to set its own shipping rates. The industry is making the greatest change in its tradition-bound history.

Formerly, exempt from antitrust laws, the lines have been able to come to collective agreement on rates which ranged from \$1100 to \$1400 per container. They can still raise or cut rates collectively, but now under deregulation, each line is free to cut rates with individual shippers. But in order to do this they will have to cut costs. And guess where they will try to cut - the cost of labor. In fact, Mr. Miniace, PMA President and CEO, has told some union representatives that he will cut the west coast workforce by 35% in ten years.

We are well aware of what happened to trucking and union teamsters when it was deregulated. Competition ran amuck, independent non-union owner-drivers crowded the freeways and added to congestion and accidents. Of course, shipping is not likely to crowd the sea lanes, but

New Pension Rates
Page 4

Join The Old Timers
Seattle ILWU Pension
Club
3440 E. Marginal Way S.

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competition has a way of getting out of hand. Of course, Ashley Craig, shipping consultant says it won't be like the airlines, rail or trucks. But it will be cuts in the workforce. So we had be prepared to face that problem with a strong union.

John P. Clancy, chief executive of Sealand says deregulation will bring higher profits to major shipping lines which would be able to develop closer ties with major customers. Sealand and APL, for instance will be able to offer global contracts rather than ocean to ocean. Infra structure changes have been made by APL in Los Angeles so that that 200 trucks come and go each hour picking up and dropping off containers.

Regarding the sale of APL to Neptune Orient Lines of Singapore, that left Sealand Service as the only American shipping line among the ten largest global carriers serving the United States.

Among the other threats to the future of longshore workers, conglomerate globalization is swallowing more U.S. jobs. It looks like they are not only destroying the environment, but the working class as well. Something has got to be done.

One view of the problem is offered by Chris Townsend, Political Action Director of United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers of America:

"The bosses want their new and more destructive schemes pushed even faster. Faster!

Fortune magazine just named General Electric its number one 'Most Admired Company,' partly because it moves so fast. In recent years, GE has made a science out of downsizing its U.S. workforce and increasing its profit margin. Quickly!

GE CEO Jack Welch isn't shy about this. He recently told a group of business people assembled for a session on 'World Lessons in Leadership' that if he could start his career over, he would do everything faster. Welch then gave his best advice to the admiring bosses: "Ideally, you'd have every plant you own on a barge. That way, you could throw your workers overboard and head for cheaper waters at a minutes notice'.

Fellow workers, you know what's going on. Republicans and Democrats are passing laws to make it easier and faster to put all our jobs onto barges, headed for the 'port du jour', with the cheapest and most desperate workforce. If you want to make money, take GE's advice and invest in barges. If you want to do what's right, buckle down and build the Labor Party.



"The greatest thing about a free market is the slave labor."

Z MAGAZINE MAY 1998

CORRESPONDENCE

From JOHN UGLES who sends us a copy of "The Catholic Worker" of June, 1941. It contains many interesting comments on Harry Bridges and labor unions. For instance:

"BRIDGES ON STAND (in deportation hearing) - WAS BAPTIZED CATHOLIC. ... We call attention to this fact because we wish to interest Catholics so they will pray for him as a leader of workers ...

We know that every active labor leader who accomplishes organization and betterment of conditions, is going to be accused of being a Red, and we state moreover that if Catholics refuse their support to the labor movement, workers will take what support they can get, Communist or otherwise."

As long as the Communist groups think in terms of the dignity of labor, the dignity of the worker, the brotherhood of the white, Negro, Filipino, Mexican and Chinese workers throughout the country, they are taking positions that the Catholic should be taking, and they are bound to win support on these positions."

Further on they quote Bridges on the nature of the capitalist system. For instance, when asked the question: 'Do you believe in a capitalist form of government', he replied:

"If you mean the capitalist form of society which to me means

the exploitation of a lot of people for a profit, and complete disregard to their interest for that profit, I haven't

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much use for it. ... The evils I have run into and all the misery that I have run into have generally sprung from that group and the things they have attempted to put over. When I say employers, I mean the industrial corporate interests."

Finally "The Catholic Worker" states that:

The late Father O'Kelly stated Harry Bridges did more for the worker than any other labor man on the west coast.

May these words of the "Catholic Worker" live a long and successful life.

Brother JAKE ARNAUTOFF who has adorned our pages with original cartoons has been doing some research on the air head of presidential candidates, Dan Quayle. We can't quote all of them but here are some:

"If we can't succeed, we run the risk of failure."

"Republicans understand the importance bondage between a mother and child."

"What a waste it is to lose one's mind. Or not to have a mind that is being very wasteful. How true that is."

"I was recently on a tour of Latin America, and the only regret I have is that I didn't study Latin harder in school so I could converse with those people."

"I stand by all the misstatements I've made."

If our country should ever fall into the hands of such a numskull, we wouldn't succeed and "run the risk of failure." "On the other hand we seem to be in the hands of numskulls of another sort.

On financial contributions we have been asked to leave out the amount of your contribution since it is felt it might embarrass those unable to make contributions, or in only small amounts

Letter from VLADIMIR DUTSOFF, Raymond, WA, including check:

"To the Pensioners Club

Just received my Spring edition of the HOOK which I look forward to reading. It keeps me in touch with what you fellows are doing. I miss coming down to the Union Hall and talking to everyone. Had eye surgery this year do don't do much long driving anymore. Am sending a check for the 1999 dues and convention assessment and also money for the HOOK to help you fellows with your expenses. Would like Jim Robinson phone number or address if you have it.

Keep the good work up for us old timers.,
Sincerely."

From Mrs. MADLYN KIRK, Lacey., WA.

"To staff of RUSTY HOOK:

Even though my husband has passed away I do en-

joy reading the RUSTY HOOK and would like to get it through 1999.

P.S. I want to tell you also what a wonderful director NICK BUCKLES has been in ILWU Benefits Office. I can't leave out his "Girl Friday either for all the help they both gave me in my many needs."

We will be glad to continue sending you our RUSTY HOOK even in the twenty-first century - if there is one.

From SYLVIA HIGGINBOTHAM, Seattle, including a check:

'Seattle ILWU Pension Club - RUSTY HOOK:

I wish to thank you for the copy of your paper in which my husband JOSEPH T. HIGGINBOTHAM was honored in the Final Dispatch. HIGGY as he was known on the waterfront was very proud to be a crane operator Longshoreman. We are very grateful for all the services we have received from ILWU to make our lives more comfortable. I am enclosing a check to help your organization to keep going.

Sincerely"

From FRED REDMAN, 56640, Snohomish, WA. Check enclosed:

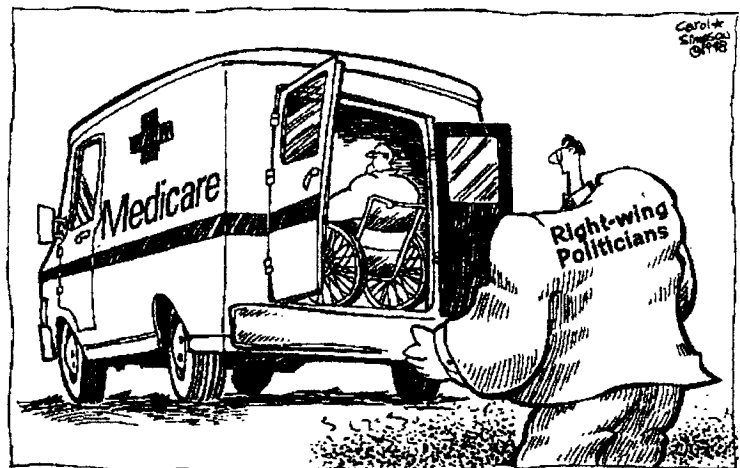
"Hi Guys:

Just a few lines to let you know that I enjoy receiving the RUSTY HOOK.

I had to retire on full disability October, 1984 due to a job related injury and I must say that the ILWU and Local 19 has been with me all the way. All I can say is God Bless the Union and guys like you who are still fighting the good fight."

From JACK D. HANSEN, Brier, WA., check enclosed:

<CONTINUED ON PAGE7>



"Okay, Gramps... get out and push."

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THE PROPOSED NEW CONTRACT 1999 - 2002

The consensus of opinion among our Local 19 delegates to the caucus and negotiating committee is that the new contract is a victory for the ILWU. This is based upon the fact that the PMA opened with an entirely anti-union approach under the leadership of President and CEO Miniace. He is, as Larry Hansen, President of Local 19 said, our enemy.

The PMA first tried to stare the union negotiators down - doing nothing but sit and stare without opening their mouths. It was obvious their strategy was to stall in hopes a stalemate would weaken the union. When that failed due to the unity and fighting spirit of the union negotiating committee, the employers finally presented their demands. They demanded:

No picket line demonstrations of any kind in support of other unions or union causes,

Threats against the hiring hall by installing a completely computerized system,

Change the arbitration system to favor PMA,

To further computerize clerks jobs with reduction in work force.

Threats to alter the Welfare and pension programs.

THE PMA GOT NONE OF THOSE DEMANDS!

Instead the union got:

The new pension schedule listed below. An substantial increase for our oldest pensioners and survivors.

The PMA will contribute \$2000.00 per year to each working member's 401k, account.

Jurisdiction and training program in Maintenance and Repair jobs,

Welfare coverage according to Brother Buckles, Welfare Director, was not only maintained, but enlarged in several respects:

Mental health is to be considered an illness the same as any other. This will include first twenty therapy visits free. After that welfare will pay \$31.77 per hourly visit.

Hospice care is completely covered.

Speech therapy for children will be covered.

Physical therapy covered up to \$400.00.

Hospital care completely covered.

The Choice Port Plan will be completely covered.

!00% dental coverage is being studied.

A sub-committee was set up to study the implementation of an industry-wide child care program.

Maximum coverage for any member or pensioner is \$2 million.

Pensioner and Surviving Spouse Benefit Increases In the New Contract

	Current Benefit Rate per Qualifying year	July'99 Benefit Rate per Qualifying year	July2000 Benefit Rate per Qualifying year	July2001 Benefit Rate per Qualifying year
Pensioner				
Separated prior to June 1981	44.00	50.00	55.00	65.00
Separated July 1981 to June 1984	39.00	50.00	55.00	65.00
Separated July 1984 to June 1987	38.00	50.00	55.00	65.00
Separated July 1987 to June 1990	38.00	50.00	55.00	65.00
Separated July 1990 to June 1993	41.00	50.00	55.00	65.00
Separated July 1993 to June 1996	69.00	69.00	69.00	69.00
Separated July 1996 to June 1999	72.00	72.00	72.00	72.00
Separated after June 1999		80.00	90.00	95.00
Surviving Spouses				
Separated prior to June 1981	22.00	27.50	30.25	35.75
Separated July 1981 to June 1984	19.50	27.50	30.25	35.75
Separated July 1984 to June 1987	19.00	27.50	30.25	35.75
Separated July 1987 to June 1990	19.00	27.50	30.25	35.75
Separated July 1990 to June 1993	20.50	27.50	30.25	35.75
Separated July 1993 to June 1996	34.50	37.95	37.95	37.95
Separated July 1996 to June 1999	36.00	39.60	39.60	39.60
Separated after June 1999		44.00	49.50	52.25

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As far as the RUSTY HOOK is concerned, this proposed contract is the best that could be gotten across a negotiation table. Not only did the union maintain the provisions of the '63 - '69 contract, but gained in the areas listed above. If we consider that many unions are forced to make concessions and/or face layoffs by the thousands, we came through with flying colors!

This was due to two facts which were stressed by the caucus delegates:

1. The caucus and negotiating committees were thoroughly united around a fighting spirit, and

2. As was stressed in all the delegates' reports, the membership of the union was solidly in support of the union position!

As for the future, as Larry Hansen said: "We have to watch out for Miniace who is always scheming to alter the contract"!

IT TAKES A UNION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

By the time you read this the Teamster UPS strike is over and won. While a single win does not rejuvenate the labor movement, at this stage of the game a good win in a major industry begins to raise the hopes of the labor movement. As the history of the labor movement teaches us, labor's fortunes are cyclical. It has its ups and downs. Since the 1850s labor has had three major ups - the early organizing campaigns of the 1800s, the period before the First World War, and the period of the 30s and 40s.

Generally speaking, in the last 150 years, labor fortunes have been good for a period of twenty five years spread across the 150. That score is not too good, but it does mean we have survived and rallied to victories again and again in spite of the odds. In the entire period, it took unions to make a difference! Nothing else helped labor gain its right to a decent living standard. And, in spite of all the anti-union propaganda to the contrary, when labor has a decent living standard, the country as a whole is prosperous, not just Wall Street! It just may be that the Teamsters victory heralds a new up.

But, true to the anti-union bias of the government, the Federal regulator in charge of labor elections ruled against Ron Carey, President of the Teamsters Union running in the new election. This would left Hoffa in the drivers seat. This in spite of the fact Carey led the UPS strike and won remarkable gains for the workers. And also in spite of the recent ruling in the Boeing Aeromechanics election that similar irregularities did not dis-

qualify that President from running.

Obviously some powerful forces among the transportation industry wanted to see Carey out and Hoffa in. They prefer a corrupt union leadership to one that supports democracy. That preference for corruption in labor leaders was the reason Harry Bridges was hounded time and again by the courts and Congress, using "anti-communism" as a cover. He could never be corrupted. He could never be bribed. He believed and fought for democratic, rank and file control. And he won. That has been the basic strength of the ILWU ever since. The present struggle on the part of the membership for continuation of a life time guarantee of welfare benefits is an example of such rank and file democratic initiative.

There are those who think a union does not make a difference. The record of over a hundred and fifty years of union struggle for the rights of workers proves the opposite.

The President, Congress and the courts have decided that labor's worth is \$5.25 per hour. That is what we are up against. That is what we have to change!

We repeat -

IT TAKES A UNION TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Final Dispatch

Pensioners		Arthur H. Tiekamp	19
Wallace Behrens	19	Maynard Wick	19
Alvin Benson	52	Harry Wivart	19
Carl J. Berg	19	Survivors	
Gale D. Bloomer	19	Pearl B. Benson	19
Timothy Casey	19	Velma J. Cashman	52
Joseph Coletti	19	E. Corrington	98
John H. Franklin	52	Dorothy Ellis	52
Fred Hanke, Jr.	98	Elinor Johnson	19
Theodore P. Lui	52	Lillian Lindh	19
Preston meggett	19	Edna E Neudorfer	98
Carl S. Monsen	19	Elsie Pollock	98
George H. Nishiyama	19	Annella Rasmussen	98
Barney S. O'Donnin	19	Melvina Rogers	19
Robert F. Pintler	52	Marleen Shepherd	52
Peter P. Saccomanno	19	Georgia k. Thompson	98
Leroy Swanson	19	Verna L. Williams	19

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Seattle, 5th April 1999

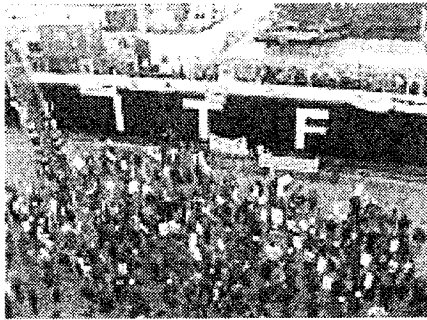
The GLOBAL MARINER was the focus for a large rally organised by the waterfront workers in Seattle on April 1st. The rally had been organised as a precursor to the upcoming contract negotiations with employers on the Seattle waterfront.



Nearly 1000 workers from port unions attended and

converged on the pier by the ship, accompanied by most of the GLOBAL MARINER crew. The rally gathered at pier 48 and walked along the waterfront to pier 66 where the ship was berthed.

Here, using the ship as a platform, various speakers addressed the crowd, stressing the need for unionization and solidarity as being ever more urgent.



The GLOBAL MARINER had arrived in Seattle the previous day, 31st March. This had been declared "GLOBAL MARINER day" in King County, by Ron Sims, King County Executive.

At a reception on board that evening the Mayor of Seattle, Paul Schell welcomed the GLOBAL MARINER.



"Seattle is a labour town and always will be," he said, "it's also a fair town, we know about inequity.

One out of every three jobs here depends on trade, you see real folks doing real work, and in many ways it reflects what we truly are,

rather than see empty seas with no ships."

Other guest speakers included Barbara Greene, representing Senator Patty Murray, Pat Taylor representing Representative Jim McDermott, Brian Derdowski, King County Councillman, and Mic Dinsmore, Executive Director of the Port of Seattle.



Labour speakers at the reception included Brian McWilliams, International President of the ILWU, Larry O'Toole, President of MEBA and Gunnar Lundberg of the SUP. Guests were entertained by the

Labour Choir of Seattle. One of the regular members who joined the performance on board was local ITF inspector Lila Smith.

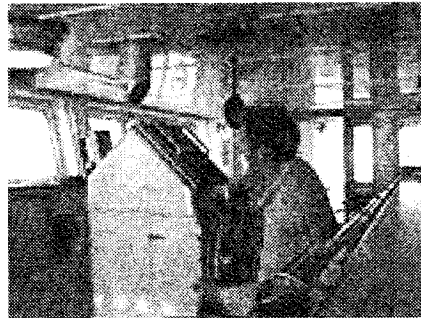
As a show of solidarity for education workers, some GLOBAL MARINER crew members took part in a projection on the Seattle Mariners' baseball stadium. Slogans were projected onto the stadium during a game and spectators were leafleted outside. This was organised on behalf of the Seattle Education Association, demanding a better deal for teachers.



On Good Friday, Father Tony was back, along with other local church representatives, to take part in an afternoon service on board in hold number 2.

Despite the cold (and rain), almost 5000 visitors saw the exhibition over the Easter weekend.

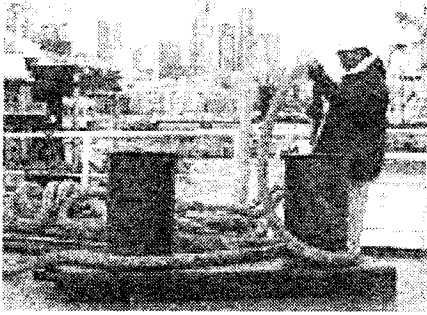
The GLOBAL MARINER had arrived in Seattle at 10.45 on 30th March, after 33 hours of the worst sea conditions of the tour so far. The pitch and roll of the ship made steering quite an exercise.



Fortunately the ship and the exhibition stood up well to the weather, unfortunately some of the cabins did not. The captain's desk took a walk, one of the fridges jumped off the bulkhead and ended up in the 2nd engineer's cabin and the campaign office looked like a rubbish dump.

Working the mooring ropes for the last time on board

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was Aung, the Burmese seafarer who had been on board the GLOBAL MARINER for four months.

Aung left the ship in Seattle, not to return home to Burma, but to return

to his temporary home in Bangkok. Under the present political regime in his homeland he would face imprisonment, or worse, for trade union activities.

The GLOBAL MARINER left Seattle for the three hour trip to Tacoma at 0900 April 5th.

CORRESPONDENCE

<CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3>

“Dear TERRY

Here’s my 1999 convention assessment plus contribution.

P.S. Use the contribution anyway that is needed.”
Sincerely.”

From DONALD P. REIDEL, Anacortes, WA., check enclosed:

“Brothers:

Enclosed is check to used for the PCPA convention. I may have missed a payment.

Just returned after a 25 day 2200 hundred mile trip down and up Baja Mexico. 19 RV’s in a group.

Ensenada showed some improvements with “two” 45 ton can cranes. A Mexican kid told me they hope to complete the dock in ’99, but they had told him the same thing in ’97 - ’98. NAFTA at work!

Local 27 - 98, 67018”

In July R.E. MACLLELAN (Big Mack) sent \$100 to the Rusty Hook and \$100 to the Convention Assessment. He sent his home address and we will be sure that this issue of the Rusty hook goes there.

If you aren’t getting the RH, please let us know.

From AUDREY KOVER, wife of Wilford (Willie) Kover, Local 98 retired.

“Sorry this is a couple months late. Must have had a Senior Moment when I put the “Rusty Hook” in a safe place. It was such a safe place I couldn’t even find it until

the other day while looking for something else”

“We appreciate your efforts on behalf of the retired ILWU members!! Good luck in your “fight” for our benefits in the new contract.”

She enclosed \$100. \$85 for lifetime membership and \$15 for convention assessments for 1998-99-2000-01-02.

From CAE PITHAROULIS, in Athens, Greece
Greetings to her old friend, Jerry Tyler, and enclosing \$20.00 for the RH

Thanks to GENE NICHOLS (Alaska Nick), Arlington, WA for his money order.

We should have listed it in the Spring issue of the Rusty Hook.

From JEAN GUNDLACH, Marysville, WA

“Top O’ the morning to all—

A beautiful day on the Reservation - and the yearly Salmon Ceremony too place on Saturday (Billie will be there , I’m sure)

Sorry I can’t get to meetings—I miss them, even if you don’t miss my presence (my silent, admiring presence.) There’s only one ILWU!

P. S. Miriam Moork’s son, Evan Jones, just finished a gorgeous mural on a Heritage Bank wall in Everett.

Greetings and best wishes to all.”



Lifetime Memberships

A single payment according to the following schedule:

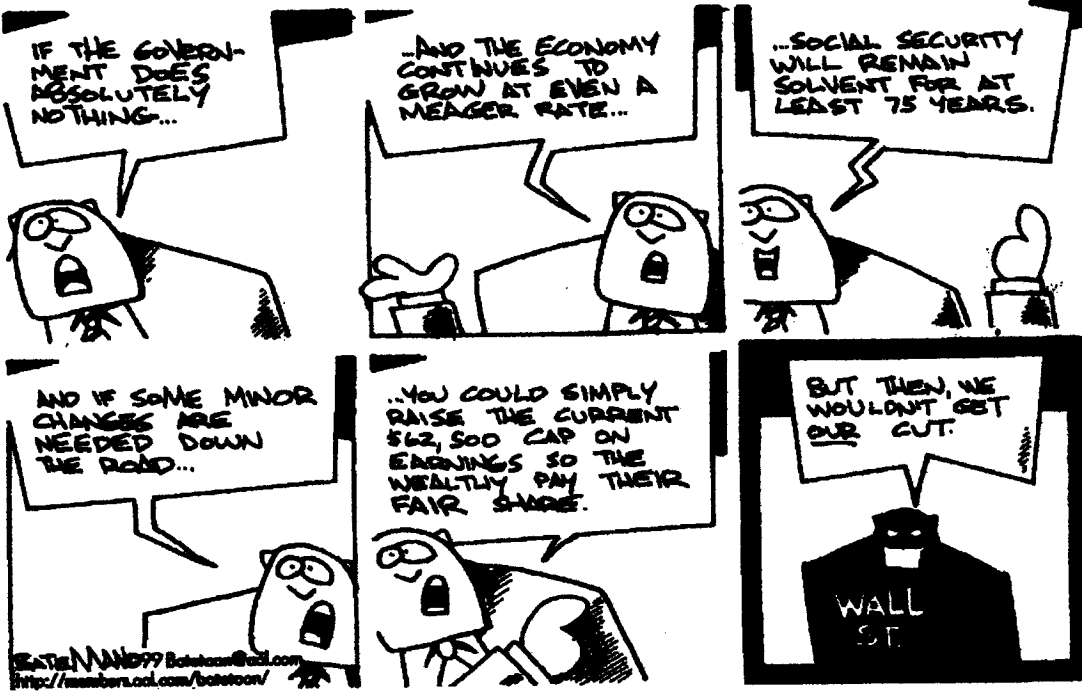
Age 55—60	115.00
Age 60—70	95.00
Age 70—90	85.00

*Special Message
to All Lifetime Members:*

Life time membership does not include the assessment for the PCPA Convention to be held in Seattle in 2002.

The assessment is \$ 3.00 per year for 1998, 1999, 2000, 2001 and 2002

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Seattle ILWU Pension Club

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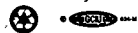


**Harry Bridges
Chair in
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