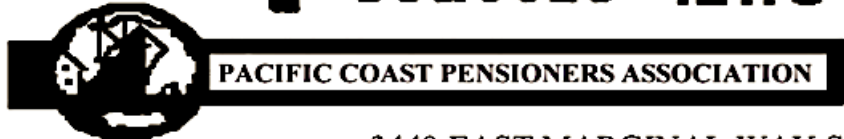




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Club MEETING DATES:

March 3, April 6th, May 4th,
all at 11:00am @Local 19
Office open M-W-Fri @noon

www.rustyhook.org

A BULLY IN THE CHINA MARKET

by *Dave Chaddock*

We are told that “the notion that global economic integration amounts to human progress” is now a quaint outmoded idea. It may have had a “long run” of seventy years in the minds of the “powers that be” but now we live in a “new era” in which “national interests take primacy over collective concerns.” As Trump sees it, “multilateralism is for suckers.” In any bilateral trade relationship, the “unrivaled scale of the American economy . . . can tilt the rules” in the U.S. favor (NYT, 12-15-19).

However, over the course of the last seventy years, there has been a bit of shuffling in the ranks

of the “powers that be” and China, emerging as the second biggest economy in the world, and the largest trading nation, has a quite different conception. In Volume Two of his *Governance of China* President Xi declares that “countries have extensive converging interests and are mutually dependent” and “mankind has become a close-knit community of shared future” (p. 524) and that “countries should stick together like passengers in the same boat” (594). He argues that “protectionism is like locking yourself in a dark room. While wind and rain may be kept outside, the dark room will also block light and air” (525). I invite all my readers to check out the real-world relevance of Xi’s alternative ideas as they are embodied in his “Belt and Road” initiative. Simply go to “You Tube” and click on “New Silk Road.”

There are a whole series of documentaries sponsored by Singapore. Look for the red triangle in the corner with the initials “CNA” underneath. This evidence is so impressive that I believe it is the wave of the future. There is some lingering

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A BULLY IN THE CHINA MARKET *continued*

anti-Chinese prejudice in Vietnam and Mongolia due to past conflicts but as new infrastructure comes into play it may be overcome. Dominic Navue Sengi, a foreign policy adviser to the government of Papua New Guinea calls B and R “perhaps the greatest innovation of all time. . .Not one other powerful global economy leader since the dawn of time has publicly invited all nations, big or small, developing or developed, capitalist or socialist, to come and share in its prosperity” (Beijing Review, 12-19-19).

There has been a great deal of Western criticism in recent years of China’s big territorial claims in the South China Sea. But we have to keep in mind that China is, after all, a very big country. But without surrendering its claims which are based on extensive historical records, China is proposing to other South Sea claimants: Let’s put these disputes aside for the time being and work together. Later on, when we have become close friends, we can resolve our competing claims in an atmosphere free from angry vituperation. President Duterte in the Philippines thinks this is a good idea. He doesn’t want to have a war. He has a plan for joint exploration for oil and gas in disputed areas, and he has won billions of dollars in investment pledges from China. But the U.S. is upset by the growing friendship between China and the Philippines. It does not want the territorial dispute to be put on the back burner. It recently sent the aircraft carrier Ronald Reagan to Manila in order to “show support for an ally locked in a territorial dispute with China” (NYT, 8-9-19). In the old days this “gunboat diplomacy” might have paved the way for a U.S.-supported coup. But the Times notes that Duterte has wide public support. The people of the Philippines do not want to be manipulated into a conflict with China.

Meanwhile in Cambodia the U.S. has discovered an airstrip “like a scar” in the jungle. “Why would the Chinese show up in the middle of a jungle

to build a runway?” asks a political scientist in Los Angeles. It is noted that the runway has the kind of “tight turn favored by fighter jet pilots.” Prime Minister Hun Sen explains that a runway and port are intended to “transform this remote rainforest into a global logistics hub” on the Belt and Road. But a Pentagon spokesman dismisses Hun Sen’s explanation, asserting that the “facilities greatly exceed current and projected infrastructure needs for commercial activity” and jumps to the conclusion that Beijing wants a “de facto military outpost.” The next step, having rejected the real explanation, is to wax indignant about an imaginary threat, condemning the effrontery of the Chinese for bumping up against a “regional security umbrella shaped by the U.S. decades ago.” The Pentagon was warning Cambodia not to invite a “foreign military presence” which would “disturb peace and stability in Southeast Asia.” It was explained: “After American bombs devastated its countryside during the Vietnam war, it was supposed to be firmly ensconced in the democratic political orbit” (NYT, 12-23-19). But what is “democratic” about seizing territory after bombing it to bits? Fifty years ago a large number of us blocked traffic on the freeway near the University of Washington after Nixon invaded Cambodia. We were firmly convinced that it was America that was a “foreign presence” disturbing the peace!

It may be awhile before the United States finally comes to its senses and follows China’s lead. But eventually it should realize that, China having done the heavy lifting, the invigorated infrastructure will open up many investment possibilities. There is no future in holding oneself aloof from the world and continuing to intensify military superiority.

Steve Bannon declares that Trump’s tariffs have “worked brilliantly, forcing the Chinese to the

(continued on Page 3)

**Report of Dan McKisson,
International Executive Board**

December 11th-13th 2019

San Francisco, Ca

International Executive Board Trustees Ray Benavente, 13, Melvin McCay, 10, and Dan McKisson, 19 met with Secretary Treasure Ed Ferris and President Willie Adams and reviewed financial data from the first six months of 2019. We were also joined by ILWU legal council and briefed on pending litigation.

The International was required to carry a Litigation Contingency of \$704,245 by our audit firm to account for future judgement awards. The Litigation Contingency was not considered when the 2019 budget was proposed. Due to the Litigation Contingency, the union showed a deficit of \$568,681 for the first six months of 2019. Without the requirement to account for the \$704,245 Litigation Contingency the union would have been in the black for the first six months of 2019 by \$135,564. The Litigation Contingency will be accounted for until it is removed or satisfied.

The full IEB, with the exception of a Panamanian Delegate being present, met on Thursday and Friday. The IEB swore in new Delegate John Simpliciano, 142 and Rhonda Morris 142 was elected as Trustee. The organizing department gave a detailed report on current organizing efforts with one of the highlights being that Anchor Steam Brewery signed a TA on December 10th.

During Reports of Delegates it was reported by Canada that the terminal operator who was planning to build a new automated terminal capable of handling 2 million TEUs per year in British Columbia had pulled out so

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A BULLY IN THE CHINA MARKET, continued
table” (NYT, 11-8-19). But what did they say when they came to the table? They said stop the stupid tariffs! You’re only hurting both sides and the whole world economy as well. And it took almost two years to get Trump to ease up somewhat on the tariff mania. As for the increased purchase of American goods, this is not something China was unwilling to do and did not need to be tarified into doing it. If it weren’t for the tariffs China would be able to purchase even more American soybeans today. But China was forced to retaliate against the United States so it started purchasing soybeans from Brazil. And now it would be unfair if China suddenly left Brazil high and dry.

Round One of the tariff saga has ended. Trump continues to believe the Chinese are cheating, taking advantage of us, stealing our secrets. But the Chinese honestly believe that these charges are false. More struggle lies.

ΔΔΔΔ

***Rusty Hook Publication
Schedule for 2020-21***

Spring 2020 Issue: submission deadline is April 6th, to be published on April 13th.

Summer 2020 Issue: submission deadline is June 9th, to be published in June 16th.

Fall 2020 Issue: submission deadline is September 14th, to be published on September 21st.

Winter 2020 Issue: submission deadline is December 1st, to be published on December 7th.

For Spring 2021, submission deadline is March 1st, to be published on March 8th, 2021.

Function of Nicknames on the Waterfront

ROGER: The complexity of nationalities and cultures and personalities that congregate in a seaport helps explain why nicknames are so commonly used on the waterfront and generally in the maritime industry. Nicknames are another example of the nature of the industry influencing the social relationships of the workers. Most longshoremen were dispatched from the hiring hall for short-term jobs. They may rarely see each other on the job. They might work with a gang for a week, and then not dispatched to the same ship or pier for months. In maritime, too, you have guys who leave ships and sign on ships. Pretty soon, seafarers are known, not by name, but by nickname—which is usually descriptive. Otherwise, a name by itself might not identify a person. How many named Jones are on the waterfront? Pretty soon a guy becomes identified with something personal, like "Cigar" Jones or "Raincoat" Jones or "Skinhead" Jones, or Ollie Olson or "Wooden Shoes," which was Henry Schmidt's nickname. It's for identification purposes because guys don't know each other by names as much as by some aspect of their behavior or the way they look or dress. I always think of the guy who was always chewing on an unlit cigar. He was known as "See-gar." I remember two brothers who were elected and reelected year after year to be sergeants-at-arms at Longshore meetings. They were known to everybody as "Big Dago" and "Little Dago."

SHEARER: What did they call you?

ROGER: They said Sid "Radio" Roger.

SHEARER: Sid "Radio" Roger? Roger: In Hawaii I was called "Sid the Voice." When I was in high school, some of the boys in gym, at

which I was clumsy at best, dubbed me "Nerves" because of my tic. I didn't like it, but you take it from your peers in high school. Harry Bridges was most often called "The Limey" or "The Nose." So much for nicknames. The best place to find these nicknames are on ballots for union office. Most dock workers had no idea what anyone's full, real name was. So the nickname became the only form of recognition.

Aside on Eric Hoffer

ROGER: The waterfront was also a haven for intellectuals. It was a place where they didn't have to get involved with the other people if they didn't want to. Like Eric Hoffer, who was a working-class guy, and also an intellectual. He spent his spare time just reading. What did he read at lunchtime mostly? Time Magazine. You might as well know, It wasn't Montaigne or Plato. It was Time. I worked with Eric Hoffer quite a few times.

SHEARER: This is when you were a ship clerk?

ROGER: Yes. Each ship clerk usually was attached to a ship gang or, if the work was on the floor, to a group of men. Once I was the clerk where Eric Hoffer was part of a floor gang, building certain kinds of wooden flats—called loading boards—to hold cargo in a certain configuration on a ship. I watched him as he got the gang to work very hard in an organized and unified fashion. One would hammer while another held pieces of wood together. Another would saw. He made a team out of a group of men who didn't know each other. The one thing they did have in common is they were longshoremen. It amazed me how he managed to get them enthusiastic about doing good work even on a type of job they didn't like. He would say,

Continued on Page 5

Nicknames, from page 4

"That's wonderful." "Let's all nail together, 1-2-3, let's nail." You saw these guys falling under his spell. He'd get so enthusiastic. Of course, some of the union folks might have a wry approach because, traditionally, that enthusiasm about your work might be called speedup. But, I found it wonderful to watch this whole work experience develop. It had something to do with pride in your craft. There isn't much said about pride these days. Another day I spent any time with Eric was when he was a hook-on man. We were working —

SHEARER: Hook-on?

ROGER: Hook-on. Which is where two men stand on the pier right under the hatch. When the sling comes over and is lowered down to the pier —

SHEARER: The empty sling?

ROGER: Empty sling. You hook on the next load. A hook-on job takes various forms, depending on the kind of cargo being loaded or unloaded. Usually, two men work together—one on each side of the load—and when the man on the winch brings the empty hook over the side the hook-on men attach the wires, or chains or bars or ropes, to the hook and the load is winched up and over and down into the hatch. That's about as well as I can describe it without drawing pictures. Now, there was a guy on the winch on this particular job who was known for his sour-puss and constant complaining and terrific ability as a winch driver. On this ship, he was driving what was called a whirly crane, which takes even greater finesse. This is over forty years ago, but I remember his name was Albert. A grayish guy from Belgium. I remember this because we got to talking during coffee breaks.

During the lunch break, we were all eating around the same table—Hoffer and Albert and about four other guys and I. I remember Albert was complaining about women. He says, "Me, I don't understand women. I'm so good to them. I work so hard. I give this woman, this wife of mine, everything she wants, and what does she do? She leaves me." He turned to Hoffer and said, "Eric, you're a smart guy. You write books. You're a smart guy. Why do you suppose women are that way?" And Hoffer said, "You know Albert, I'll tell you, if you could make love as good as you drive a winch, you wouldn't have any problems. [laughter]." You heard it the first time here. The Eric Hoffer you didn't know.

SHEARER: So this is the kind of person who was attracted to waterfront work?

ROGER: These kinds of folks; this marvelous mix of people. Dispatch Hall Protocol

ROGER: They had something else going for them on the waterfront. Again because of the hiring hall. If any day you decide, tomorrow I don't want to work. Tomorrow I want to loaf. Tomorrow I want to shop. Tomorrow I want to pay a fine or get drunk or go visit somebody. Whatever. You can call the dispatcher and say, Replace me. You must replace yourself. That is understood in this particular social organization the hiring hall created. You are always responsible to be on the job and if you're not going to be there for any reason—in fact, you don't even have to give a reason—you are duty-bound to make sure you're replaced.

SHEARER: Meaning?

ROGER: You call the hiring hall—

SHEARER: And say, I'm not going to be responding today so someone else can get ahead of me.

Continued on Page 6

Freedom Song

Can somebody sing me a freedom song?

You don't have to sing it very loud or sing it very long.

Not a somebody done me wrong , cum by ya , or a why can't we get along song, but a good old fashion freedom song.

Like," My country tis of thee, sweet land of Liberty, of thee I sing"

or " If I had a bell I would ring it in the morning , I would ring it in the evening, all over this land....."
song.

Can somebody sing me a freedom song?

You don't have to sing it very loud or sing very it long.

Not a somebody done me wrong , cum by ya, or a why can't we get along song,

but a good old fashion freedom song.

—James Barnett, Local 19 ILWU Pensioner

Recent Retirees

*Emmet Walsh; Brice Lenz; Zecarias
Omaha; Booker Stevens; Richard Briggs;
Sam Matulic; Pete Adler, John Wimbish,
Steve Gardanar, Jeffery Reitz, David
Bridges, Russell Anderson, Steven
Jacobs, Ronald Kenney, John Waddell,
Anthony Sorentino, Sam Matulic, David
Lewis, Mike Hansen, Michael Wagener
Sr., Christopher Moore, Roger Weist,
Donna Gilchrist, Robert Berry.*

Nicknames, from Page 6

ROGER: Well, no. It can seem complex, but the rules are clear. When you were dispatched it was for the entire job. Many jobs, let's say a Luckenback ship at Encinal Terminal in Alameda, would start absolutely from scratch, empty. The ship might take, with hand work, as much as maybe five days and nights to load the whole—

SHEARER: So this assumes someone who is in the middle of a job?

ROGER: Yes. You're in the middle of a job and you don't want to work tomorrow for whatever reason. To a lot of people that was a wonderful aspect of the process. As long as they did two things. One, they had to replace themselves and two, they were allowed one replacement a week. If they did it more than once, they had to add eight hours to their total hours so that they wouldn't do this as a gig in order to get advantages in job placement. You you can come back to the hall and get another job. But you have to wait a day. That's part of the penalty so to speak. There are marvelous types around the waterfront. I knew people on the front who were good artists. They liked to paint, but they had to make a living. Now and then, if they had enough money to last a few days, they went out with easels instead of cargo hooks. So it attracted this great mix of people. A remarkable number of them were well educated. Later, there was a wartime influx of African-Americans from the Deep South. It added a significantly different culture to the waterfront. That's the way it is now.

.....

Pensioner's Correspondence

From LARRY SAMPLES, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$200.00 donation to the Rusty Hook in honor of his dad "RED SAMPLES" and his dad's 3 closest friends and golf buddies, ED KAMPANOS, ART WALLACE, & RICH MALETTA. All four, great union men. Thank you so much LARRY. From ERNIE WILLIAMS, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks ERNIE. From TOM BAKKEN, \$60.00 for 2020 & 2021 dues and \$40.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you TOM. From TONY FOWLER, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks TONY. From GARY EPPERSON, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you GARY. From LYLE KENNEY, \$100.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so much LYLE. From LANNY McGREW, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$200.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you, thank you LANNY.

From KANDI KANDI, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you KANDI. From HARRY ACKER, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks HARRY. From SHARON ARTHUR, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks so much SHARON. From STORM KING, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks STORM. From TERRY OHNSAGER, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks TERRY & SYLVIA. From STEVE NOE, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks STEVE. From WAYNE THORPE, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$270.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you so, so much WAYNE.

From JON LEPPA, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks JON. From GARRY SCRIBNER, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks GARRY. From JOAN RETTINGER, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$100.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks JOAN. From DON HOPKINS, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$170.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks DON. From AL ROBBINS, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you AL. From BOB CAMPBELL, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you BOB. From

WARREN NARVESON, \$20.00 for 2020 dues, except the yearly dues are \$30.00. Thanks for the \$20.00 WARREN, but you still owe \$10.00. From STEVE FARNAN, \$60.00 for 2020 & 2021 dues and \$40.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you STEVE. From JOE WENZL, \$60.00 for 2019 & 2020 dues and \$40.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks JOE. From HERB LENZ, \$90.00 for 2020, 2021. & 2022 dues and \$110.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks so much HERBIE. From PAUL PEMBERTON, \$60.00 for 2020 & 2021 dues and \$40.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you PAUL. From WAYNE ERICKSON, \$10.00 for 2020 lifetime member dues and \$40.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks WAYNE.

From MIKE CASO, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you MIKE. From STEVE PERKINS, \$10.00 for lifetime member dues and \$90.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks STEVE. From JOHN LEWICKI, \$10.00 for lifetime member dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks a lot JOHN. From JERRY STORVIK, \$10.00 for lifetime member dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks JERRY. From ROBERT DUGGAN, \$10.00 for lifetime member dues and \$90.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks ROBERT. From ROMAN JAVILLONAR, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks so much ROMAN. From CARY BODEN, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you CARY.

From DICK MELTON, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$100.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks DICK. From MIKE HEDRICK, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$170.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks so much MIKE. From SCOTT MARTINEZ, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$20.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks SCOTT. From GARY KALDESTAD, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you GARY. From NORM HANSEN, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$25.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks NORM. From ROD BAKKEN, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thank you ROD. From DON BURFITT, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks DON. From LARRY MOONEYHAM, \$30.00 for 2020 dues and \$70.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks so much LARRY. From FRED REDMAN, \$10.00 for lifetime member dues and \$40.00 donation to the Rusty Hook. Thanks FRED.

Conversations with Harry

By Ian Kennedy

It's been well over a year since I'd last made contact with Harry. It's not that I hadn't tried, it's just that my timing hasn't been very good. A lot has changed in that time. Sue is now the manager of The Bar, (she changed the name to "The Bar",) and as I understand it, she is buying the owner out. The staff has been completely turned over. She hired Sammy Lee as the day barman and Big Billy for the late shift. Sue will work the the floor if things get busy, both day and evening. I haven't met whoever is the day floor person, but the night worker's name is Helen. She doesn't have the ability to see Harry and doesn't understand why Sue won't let anyone but me sit at our table.

Last week, I flew down to San Francisco to visit a dear friend who was very sick, and I wanted to spend a few days with him. The evening of the second day, I stopped in on the chance that Harry would appear. Helen has learned to always bring two glasses and a pitcher of beer any time I come in. During the hour I'd been sitting, Sue came by and let me know, "Harry hasn't been in during the last few weeks, so if I keep coming back each evening while I'm in town, I may catch him."

I was just pouring the last few drops from the pitcher, figuring he won't show up, when he walked in. "Well, this is a surprise, I thought you might have gotten tired of coming down." He greets me. I signal to Helen that I need a fresh pitcher. He sits down with a smile, "It's good to see you." he remarks. And I respond as Helen sets down a fresh pitcher, "I've been in but always miss you." Helen gives me a strange look, shakes her head and walks away. "It's not always easy to make an appearance." He answers.

I fill our glasses from the fresh pitcher, "Expect you want all the information as to what has been going on this past year plus?" I ask. He nods, "That would be nice." We've emptied our glasses and I refill them.

"You probably know that McEllrath had to step down due to age," Harry nods, I continue, "both the Vice-President and the Secretary/

Treasurer decided to run for the office, meaning all three mainland positions were open." I pause to refill our glasses, "the upshot, Willie Adams won the Presidency. To keep this short, there were problems with the Panama Division votes, and the Election Committee rejected them. Well, the NRLB got wind and decided to look into it." Harry is shaking his head. I continue, "and it sounds like they are going to order a new vote." I finish my beer and refill my glass. "I haven't heard when the final determination will be made. But the way our Government has been ruling, it's sure to happen."

Having just spotted Harry, Sue comes over with a fresh pitcher, sets it down and gives Harry a big hug, Then comes around the table to give me a peck on cheek. "This one's on the house but don't forget to include it in your tip for Helen, she's a single parent and needs all she can get." With that she walks away.

"What is the Union doing about the NRLB?" Harry asks. "Well they are fighting it. The new Officers have been in office for a year now, the next election is just two years away, If we had to redo the election, by the time it's completed it would be time to start campaigning for the next election. On top of that, if President Adams should lose the the re-election, that would mean almost two years lost in our dealings with the Employers." I sit back and sip my beer, remember I'd finished a pitcher before Harry arrived, and wanted to be sure I could get back to my hotel.

Harry asks, "How about the Lawyers? Are they up to the job?" "I don't know." I respond, "Remar is retiring and he's the last lawyer I know." We sit silently for a few minutes. "I really don't think it will make much difference, knowing the feds." I add. Harry nods in agreement.

"Any thing else going on?" Harry asks. "The fight with ICTSI," I respond, "You may remember, ICTSI had leased Terminal six in Portland and made an effort to get rid of the Union." Harry again is nodding, "Refresh me, they are from where? Aren't they the ones that have been going all around the World buying up Terminals and breaking the unions and dropping wages, and also getting rid of any activists?" "Yes," I Respond, "The owner of the

company is a very wealthy Philippino who wanted to get a foothold in the US. And the Company thought Portland would be a likely target. So they made a deal with the Port Commission. Who can tell who, if anyone, got paid off. Anyway, Local 8 was not going to let them break us. The upshot of it was that ICTSI lost the fight on the ground but seem to be winning in the Courts. The Union lost in the lower court and ICTSI has asked for \$100,000,000.00, that's right, One Hundred Million Dollars. I believe that is being discussed, in the meantime, I think the Union is appealing it to the Ninth Circuit Court."

I slog down the rest of my beer and refill the glass, and sit back in silence. After a minute or so Harry asks, "Anything else going on." then waits for my reply. "On a lighter matter, but one of concern, is the PCPA," Harry looks a little confused, "that's the Pacific Coast Pensioners' Association." I respond. Harry smiles with a little guilty expression on his face. I continue, "We've run into a problem, the convention is to be held in Northern California next year and the San Francisco Club is talking with Hotels. The one we usually get has set a room rate of \$249 for us. That's down from \$299. Once you add all the taxes and fees, we're looking at close to \$350, and that's a lot of money, even with our pension. The Canadians would have to put up about C\$400 and they can't afford that.

It's been suggested that San Francisco looks for an area away from the city." Harry's looking at me, shaking his head, no. "Don't you have anything positive to report?" he asks. I smile and answer, "Yes, The Harry Bridges Chair and Labor Studies will be receiving \$300,000 a year for the next two years from the State Legislature. We are just now beginning to talk about how to expand the Center." That brings a smile to his face.

Harry raises, putting on his jacket as Sue comes over and gives him another hug and kiss on the cheek. As he leaves, she comes around the table, gives me a hug, and slips the tab into my hand, "And don't forget that BIG, BIG, tip for Helen." Then turns and heads to her office.

Ian Kennedy



Final Dispatch

Jack Fairbanks, Local 19

Elliot Ali, Local 19

Randy Vekich, Local 52

Isaac Nahmais, Local 19

Giovanni Picnich, Local 19

Kennis Ghee, Local 19

Dillard Henry, Local 19

Dick Hopper, Local 19

Steve Kendall, Local 98

Love Fields, Local 19

Matt Endicott, Local 19

Elliot Ali, Local 19

Notice from Benefit Plans Office (BPO)

Proof of 2020 Medicare Part B Premium: Medicare Part B premiums change annually. To ensure you are being reimbursed the correct premium, the Benefit Plans Office (BPO) will be requesting pensioners and beneficiaries to submit proof of their 2020 Medicare Part B premium. Please provide the BPO with a copy of the Social Security letter showing your 2020 Part B premium, as soon as possible. Write your Registration Number next to the name. Letters received by 3/31/20 will receive retroactive adjustment to January. Letters/notices received after March 31, 2020 will be adjusted based on the month of receipt and no retroactive adjustment, although any overpayments will be collected.

Flu and Pneumococcal injections covered by Medicare: If you are on Medicare and receive a flu or pneumococcal injection, the injectable must be submitted to Medicare as primary. Questions? Call (206) 938-6720

1099 Tax Forms: The 1099-R tax forms were mailed on 1-25-20. If you have not received yours yet, please call the ILWU-PMA Benefit Plans office @ (415) 673-8500.

Update your beneficiaries online:
netbenefits.com/atwork

Report, International Executive Board, continued

the project was most likely delayed 5 to 10 years.

The ILWU legislative staff gave a DC report.

The union had gained support for language in the National Defense Authorization Act and the Federal Appropriations Bill that banned the use of federal public money for the automation of marine terminals, language that would secure the continued existence of MACOSH covering safety on the docks, language that addresses grain negotiations and, finally, language that permanently repeals the 40% Excise Tax (Cadillac Tax) on medical plans like ours. As of the writing of this report, all of our language was included in the bills signed by the president.

One motion and three Statements of Policy (SOP) were passed by the IEB. A motion showing support of the international for the Local 9 negotiations with the Port of Seattle was passed. A SOP to support the workers of Unite Here Local 8 at the Edgewater Inn in Seattle was passed and a SOP on Political Action that concerns raising money for the International Political Action Fund was passed.

The IEB went into executive session to discuss pending litigation and a SOP was passed to give the International officers authority to address some litigation in the absence of, or the ability to have, a timely IEB meeting or Convention.

The officers had invited presidential candidates Buttigieg, Steyer and Biden to the Friday session of the IEB meeting. Candidate Buttigieg did not attend and may meet with the International officers in 2020. Candidate Steyer arrived in the morning; He gave a statement and took questions for over an hour. Mr. Steyer took positions on climate, labor, taxes on the wealthy and a federal system of voter initiatives much like our state initiative program. He touted his past support for labor and his 10 year history of supporting and passing state initiatives around the nation. The first question asked of Mr.

Steyer was how it felt to be a billionaire his answer was a bit lengthy. I concluded in my notes "It feels pretty good." I asked Mr. Steyer about his position on Single Payer Health Care and he felt that blending a public option with the current system was the best plan.

Candidate Biden arrived after Steyer and, out of the 3 candidates we met in August (Sanders, Warren & Harris) and Mr. Steyer, Mr. Biden was the most prepared on our issues. He touched on automation and the HMT and touted his support for the PRO Act (addresses and eases laws for union organizing). He stated that anti-labor companies should not be awarded government contracts. Biden is in favor of blending a public option to the current healthcare system and stated that we should build on the Affordable Care Act (ACA). Mr. Biden stressed that he is the most experienced candidate. When asked if he would run for a second term he replied "I need to win the first term." Mr. Biden spent over an hour and a half with the IEB.

The IEB did not take a position to endorse any presidential candidates at the meeting.

The meeting concluded Friday at noon and IEB members attended a luncheon hosted by the Local 10 Pensioners. It is a honor to represent the Washington Area on the IEB and as a trustee. In Solidarity, Dan McKisson



**A big thank you to all the members
who paid their 2020 dues:**

Bill Woeck, John Ross, Raul Uranga, James Barnett, Jim Jefferies, Phil & Paula Acosta, Ken Roberts, Bob Rinaldi, Frank Holberg, Lonzo Flick, John Vlasic, Jeff Vaughan, Ricky Bussanich, John Fern, Don Franz, Sam Matulic, John Barrett, Wally Styrk, Marland Sybouts, Jeff Vigna, Oscar Miller, Joe Toro, Kathleen Brown, Pepe McDonald, Jim Miniken, John Brown, Bennie Jefferies, Willard Morrison, Dennis Fillbrandt, Bob Taylor, Alex Baroumes, Di Fairbanks, Ron Kerzic, Al Barnes, Ron Marshall, Chuck Kol

An Injury to one is an injury to all!

Seattle ILWU Pensioner's Club Annual Luncheon

When: Thursday, May 21, 2020 at the White Center Eagles
Social Hour 11:00-11:45a.m. 11:45-12:30 Lunch @ 12:30

Cost: \$25.00 per person

Location: 10452 15th Ave. S.W. White Center, WA 98146
No Host Bar and Guest Speakers

••••

All Active members, pensioners, and family are invited to attend our annual luncheon. If you have never been to our Luncheon, this is a great opportunity to have lunch and visit with our pensioners, old friends, and buddies you have worked with for many years. Come listen to the stories. Tickets can be purchased at the Pensioner's Club @ Local 19 on Monday, Wednesday, & Friday between 9:30 am & 1:30 pm. You may also order by mail (see below) or phone 209-623-7461 SEE YOU THERE !!!! Please respond by May 16, 2020.

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Seattle ILWU Pensioner's Club Annual Luncheon

I would like to attend the annual luncheon,
Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ guest(s).

NAME(s): _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE: _____

E-mail: _____

PLEASE SELECT ONE OF THE CHOICES PER PERSON:

PRIME RIB _____ CHICKEN _____ VEGETARIAN _____

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Bill Lassiter
Luncheon Committee:
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ILWU-PMA Benefit Plan Washington Area Welfare Director contact: Andrea Stevenson (57049)
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