



WATERFRONT NEWS

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DECEIT CHARGED

Union Demands Conciliators Removal

VANCOUVER — The removal of Federal Conciliation Officer Bill Lewis from the contract dispute between the ILWU Canadian Area and the BCMEA has been demanded by the Longshore negotiating committee.

Bill Lewis had been involved as Conciliation Officer since his appointment on December 20, 1985 after direct talks between the parties had broken down.

On March 14, 1986 after five meetings in an attempt to conciliate the dispute, Lewis informed the Union officers that "as a result of my talk with the spokesmen (Dave Lomas for the ILWU and Norm Cunningham for the BCMEA) and finding they feel that an agreement is not possible with my continued presence, I will proceed to write my report to the Minister. Having said that, I expect the parties to proceed to attempt to get an agreement."

Only much later did the Union realize that Lewis had not lived up to his promise and in fact had not submitted his report. The matter was reviewed by the Longshore negotiating committee on April 23, 1986 at which time it was decided to take the unprecedented action of requesting Lewis's removal. In a letter to the Director General of the Labour Canada Mediation and Conciliation Service, Canadian Area President Don Garcia stated "credibility is of the utmost importance in mediation proceedings and it is apparent that Mr. Lewis has breached his agreement with the parties and attempted to divert us in a direction contrary to his agreement with the parties.

"I therefore submit that this deceit renders his credibility unacceptable to the ILWU Canadian Area and his usefulness is finished. I urge you to wait the next step of the Act and to allow the parties to meet head to head across the bargaining table completely free of encumbrances."

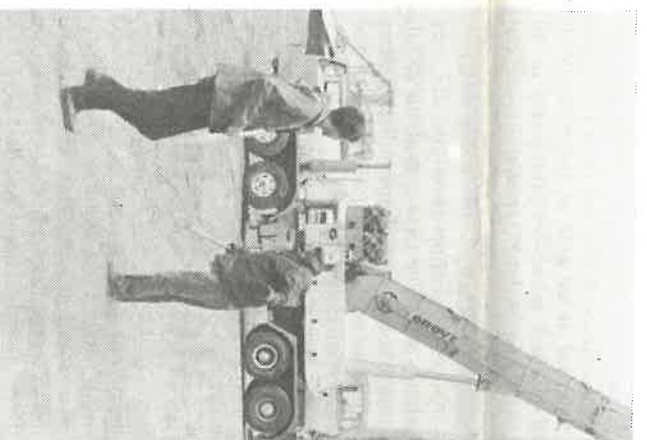
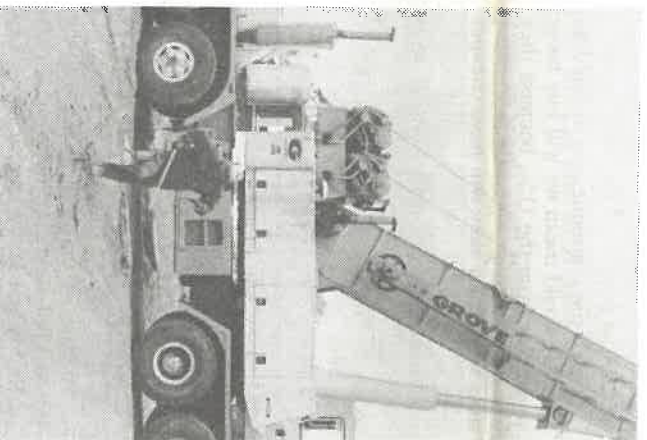
A Conciliation Officer has no authority to compel the parties to settle. If not successful in assisting the parties to resolve the dispute, he must report to the Minister. Upon receipt

of the Conciliation Officer's final report, the Minister will then decide either to appoint a Conciliation Commissioner or Conciliation Board or to advise the parties that the procedures are waived and that either party has the legal right to strike or lockout seven clear days from the date the parties are notified of the Minister's decision.

Throughout the negotiations the Union has requested the Minister of Labour to waive the conciliation procedures and allow direct bargaining between the parties.

Numerous issues remain unresolved in the dispute, with the employers continuing to demand a wage cut, major changes in flexibility, a special section of the agreement covering bulk sites and the complete removal of the container clause. Union demands include improvements to recognized holidays, vacation pay increases, a 10¢ per hour employer

KERKHOFF THUGS CHASE DANDELLIONS



"Dandelions", a newly formed organization of unemployed workers, sprouted in early May at the J.C. Kerkhoff jobsite on the north side of the new Annacis Island bridge. They were protesting the exploitation of unemployed workers by the notoriously anti-union contractor. The peaceful pickets were met with goon-squad tactics when a scab truckdriver (shown left) pulled out a baseball bat. The threatened "Dandelions" stood their ground (center photo) and like all bullies the scab proved to be a coward and was forced to back down (right).

— PHOTO PETER NORRIS

City Finances in Top Shape

By Alderman Bruce Yorke
(COPE-UNITY)

Member of City Finance Committee

A few weeks ago the Vancouver Sun reported in a prominent front page story that the City was "In the Red", implying that our finances were being mismanaged by COPE-UNITY.

This is the same false story being spread by the NPA-TEAM group on Council. What is the truth?

The City has just received its audited financial statements from the chartered accountant firm of Thorne Riddell. Their statements show that the city operated at a \$14,168,787 profit in 1985 and that our total assets increased from \$2,122,674,181 a year ago to \$2,227,192,826 at December 31, 1985. Hence the truth is that we are operating at a good surplus and our total assets are rising.

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EDITORIAL

Site C — Another Mega Mess

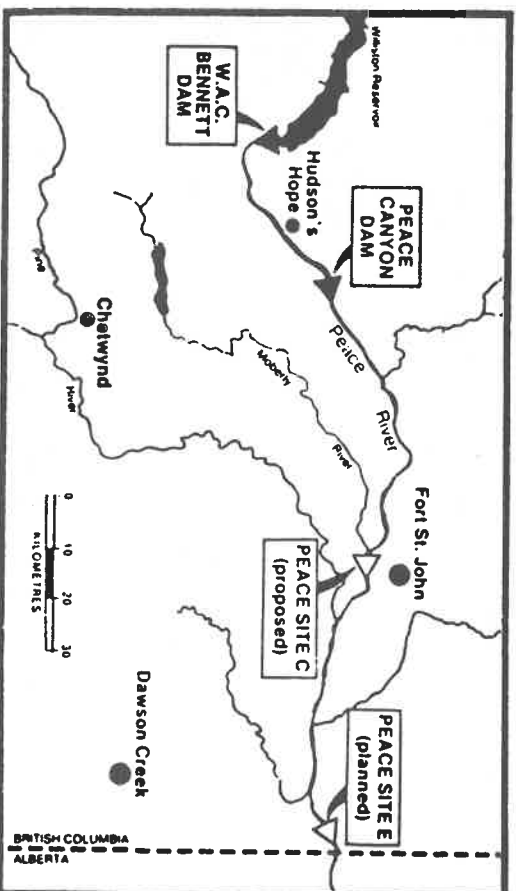
It appears the Bill Bennett government has a new policy of "Building for Export". We certainly have witnessed this in North East Coal, the project to satisfy a number of Bennett's fantasies and which now is a disgraceful financial bust. The Japanese get the coal while we get the hole.

To say the people of British Columbia are a little spooked as a result of this mismanagement by government in the coal project would be like declaring Expo a passing Royal American Show. That is one reason why so many people are questioning the sanity of the decision to proceed with Site "C" dam — the latest Mega-vote-getter. This decision makes one wonder if the Premier of all of Lotusland isn't indeed ready for rubber walls and padded floors in a room with no windows or doors.

The estimated cost of Site "C" construction is 3.2 Billion dollars. Let's put the cost figure in perspective. If you had 3 billion dollars on January 1st, 1900 and had to spend it by December 31st, 1985 you would need to spend \$96,696,00 per day. Barring leap years and interest. We are talking one hell of a lot of money. And we don't even need the extra power.

According to Joan Sawicki, NDP candidate for Burnaby Willingdon and noted environmentalist, "We are hardly utilizing the 1843 megawatts of production from Revelstoke as it is. Most is being exported." Joan also points out the year 1998 when the 30 year Columbia River Treaty is up for renewal. "We have the option of reclaiming 1100 megawatts of power. In the interim we have the Burrard Thermal Plant lying idle and rusting away. With an estimated shelf life of 20 years Burrard could be fired up to produce as much power as Site "C". At a mere fraction of the cost."

Joan Sawicki has pointed out some alternatives to the Site "C" Mega mess. Dr. Adrienne Peacock, NDP candidate for Little Mountain, suggests there are others. Dr. Peacock states "there are flexible, low cost, alternatives to Site "C" such as a serious look at conservation as



Completed and proposed hydroelectric development and the Peace River.

a source of energy supply. The Northwest Power Planning Council, a U.S. federal agency, found the equivalent output of ten Site "C" dams could be generated at an average cost of 2.3 cents per kilowatt hour. Site "C" will cost at least 5 cents per kilowatt hour, even when environmental costs are ignored.

"Wood waste could also be used to generate energy. A recent estimate suggests the potential in B.C. is about equal to that of Site "C" at one half of the cost. There are many other alternatives. B.C. could hook up with Alberta's thermal system. This would free B.C. from building excess hydroelectric capacity to meet needs in low water years."

The question of jobs must also be considered. There is no doubt Site "C" will produce 2000 short term jobs. Jobs that will, if we look at the example of Expo and other Megaprojects, in all likelihood be done by non-union and out of province workers. This was the case in North East Coal.

Once these short term jobs are over what is left? The answer is about 25 full time jobs at a cost of one million dollars to create each one! Surely to God one million taxpayer dollars can create more than one job. Conservation will create

six times as many full-time jobs per dollar invested as projects like Site "C".

There is currently a glut of power available to the market. Increasing the supply will merely lower the price the U.S. will pay for energy. This will allow the U.S. industry to acquire power cheaper than Canadians, making it harder to compete with them. Thus we will lose jobs to the U.S.

Site "C" will flood 8000 acres of high quality agricultural land in the Peace River Valley. Joan Sawicki points out the fact that only 4.9% of all B.C. land can grow food. While the Peace River region as a whole can grow wheat and barley, only the Peace River Valley itself can grow vegetables. Site "C" will eliminate a substantial portion of the Valley area.

One of the consequences of building Site "C" would mean we will buy more vegetables from the U.S., because they will be able to produce them cheaper than we can for they will have cheaper power!

The question is, will Bennett ever learn?!

Submitted by *Doug Sigurdson*
President of *Local 514 Ship & Dock Foremen*

Court Case

UNIONS CAN USE "POLITICAL" DUES

The use of union dues for political purposes is not a matter covered by the Charter of Rights and Freedoms, the B.C. Supreme Court has ruled.

The issue was brought to the court by provincial government worker Charles Baldwin who believes his rights under the Charter are violated when the B.C. Government Employees Union uses dues to fund political groups and causes.

Justice Albert Mackoff, in a judgment issued Thursday, said that what the BCGEU does with its dues "is the activity of a private organization to which the charter does not apply . . ."

Soviet Union Delegates Selected

A five person delegation representing the ILWU Canadian Area will visit the USSR in June 1986 following an invitation by the one million member Sea and River Workers' Union of that country.

The delegates will visit Moscow, Leningrad, Novorossiysk and Sochi. They will have the opportunity of getting acquainted with the ports of those cities, the activities of the trade unions in protecting the rights of water transport workers and viewing the system of professional training for longshoremen.

The Canadian Area Executive Board decided that the delegation should be comprised of rank and file members along with one Canadian Area officer.

City Financial Facts Revealed

— continued from page 1

These facts, which cannot be denied by the Campbell forces, are ignored. Instead they go on endlessly to charge that we are bleeding our Property Endowment Fund (PEF) to death.

This charge is also false. Our auditors show that this Fund, which is part of the consolidated financial operations of the city, had a net operating income of \$14,748,126 in 1985.

From this amount we set aside \$2,213,859 for parking sites, \$315,000 for park acquisitions, and transferred \$7,027,445 into our operating budget in order to maintain services and keep taxes down.

As a result the Fund had an overall surplus of \$5,191,822 in 1985 and its assets amounted to \$460,452,062 at year's end. Some bleeding!

Last week Council adopted its 1986 budget, which will result in a modest \$25 tax increase for the typical homeowner. Again this budget provides for full maintenance of civic services.

But if the Campbell grouping had had their way, there would have been either cuts in services or taxes increased further by another \$30 for every homeowner.

Incredible as it may seem, given the facts, the so-called "responsible" fiscal conservatives (all five of them) voted against a bookkeeping transfer of \$10.6 millions from the PEF revenues in 1986, which as stated above translates into voting against a tax cut of approximately \$30 for every homeowner.

Hence, far from being in the red or

Labour News

RETAIL-WHOLESALE

Saskatchewan

Disputes Settled

REGINA — Two major contract disputes which involved the majority of members ILWU affiliate Retail Wholesale and Department Store Union in Saskatchewan have been resolved.

A lockout at McDonald's Consolidated has been under way since October 4/85 with two major plants in Saskatoon and Regina being scabbed. The employers had been demanding major concessions in contract language to allow the massive introduction part-time employees into the industry as well as the introduction of a two tier pay system. The settlement contains none of these concessions and includes a pay increase 90¢ over two years.

The Safeway stores dispute saw the employers implement changes in working conditions while negotiations were still proceeding. The Saskatchewan Labour Relations Board had ruled that such action was valid ignoring completely the historic application of the Trade Union Act.

Once again the employers had demanded major concessions in contract language. The settlement included some modification to a "most available hours clause" but the Union was able to maintain the principle of preference of employment for senior casual people. The Union was also successful in restricting the duties of some lower paid classificatio to customer service work.

Union Secretary-Treasurer Len Wallace while explaining the settlement to the recent Canadian Area convention, thanked the Canadian Area officers for arranging meetings with senior Safeway management people. The meetings resulted in a lessening tensions which allowed for constructive collective bargaining, eventually leading to settlement of the disputes.

It was further agreed to establish an experimental committee which would attempt deal with problems which arise during the life of the agreement with a view to settling the before they become major issues in contract bargaining.

Mackoff agreed with BCGEU lawyer Jot Baigent that the charter is designed to cur governments from infringing on citizen rights and the Baldwin grievance is not charter matter because there is no government involved in the spending of the dues. Said Mackoff: "The respondent (BCGEU's) authority to spend union dues derived solely from its constitution and bylaws, which do not require any positive action by the government to breathe life into them."

Mackoff said the collection of union dues compelled under provincial government legislation, but the connection is not enough to bring the use of funds under the charter.

— Vancouver Sun

International News

FINLAND

250,000 on strike

HELSINKI — Industrial activity and trade came to a standstill earlier in March when nearly 250,000 blue-collar workers went on strike for better wages and shorter working hours with no reduction in pay.

SPAIN

The struggle continues

MADRID — Labor unions, peace group and several parties of the left, including communists, recently vowed to continue their fight against full integration into the NATO military alliance, despite a recent referendum vote to remain with the U.S.-led military block. The anti-NATO vote registered a strong 40 percent. Peace activists recently attributed the referendum setback to socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez who actively campaigned for NATO last month. Gonzalez was strongly opposed to NATO prior to becoming Prime Minister in 1982.

— U/E News

Why We Walk For Peace!

VANCOUVER, B.C. — April 27th marked the annual Walk For Peace in this city. 70,000 people made their statement against the arms race by marching in two steady streams of humanity which poured over the bridges of Vancouver to meet in the heart of the city for a mass rally in the city's new domed stadium.

This year's highlights included a week of peace activities which led up to the big march and rally. A three day symposium featuring speakers such as economist John Kenneth Galbraith; Admiral Eugene Carroll, Retired Commander of the U.S. 6th Fleet; Paul Warnke, U.S. negotiator of the second Strategic Arms Limitation Treaty — SALT II; The Mayors of Hiroshima and Vancouver, and many other international speakers, focused on the difficult task of formulating some achievable steps to make a real start on the road to Peace.

The symposium concluded with the issuing of a statement, "THE VANCOUVER PEACE PROPOSALS". Contained in this document are seven specific recommendations "... to check this suicidal process and gain time to reverse it..." [see "Vancouver Peace Proposals"]. These recommendations were ratified at the large rally at BC Place Stadium held at the end of the Walk For Peace.

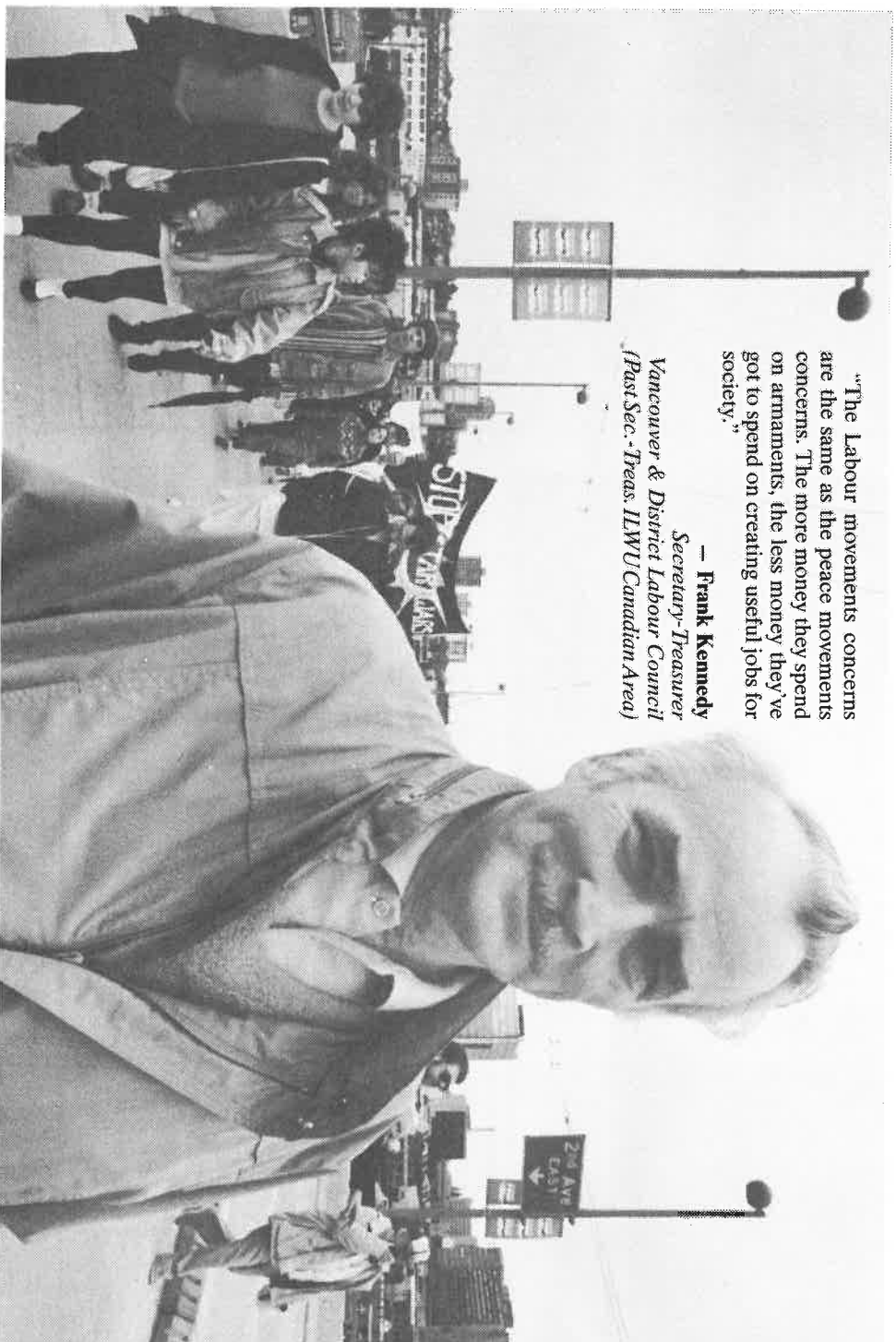
This year the number of people on the annual Walk For Peace was down slightly from last year's 80,000. Organizers attributed this to the fact that the Social Credit government gave away some 80,000 free tickets to EXPO '86 on the day of the march. The weather also served to discourage a larger turnout as it had been pouring down rain for the two days prior to the march. Luckily just hours before the march was to start the rain turned to clouds and sun.

PEOPLE SPEAK OUT

The tens of thousands of people who participated were very enthusiastic about why they were there. Here are some samples of their comments:

"The Labour movements concerns are the same as the peace movements concerns. The more money they spend on armaments, the less money they've got to spend on creating useful jobs for society."

— **Frank Kennedy**
Secretary-Treasurer
Vancouver & District Labour Council
(Past Sec.-Treas. ILWU Canadian Area)



— WATERFRONT NEWS PHOTO, HOWIE SMITH

"The working man is in the front lines all the time, whether it's peace or war. The attack is on the working man continuously, and the working man must stand up for his rights."

— **John Anatooshkin**
Retired Carpenter



"I think clearly the people of Vancouver have said that peace is a civic issue. They have said that they want elected people to take a stand. If we don't deal with this issue we can forget about all the pot-holes and the bridges and all the other things that we deal with. This is the most important issue that we have to deal with.

"My son is wearing a T-shirt that says 'When I grow up I want the world to be here!'. It's very important that we have our children with us, because that's part of the reason that we walk for peace. We want to make sure that there is a planet when he grows up and when his children grow up. So, we come as a family."

— **Libby Davies**
Vancouver Alderwoman

"I'm one of the head marshalls in the walk. The trade union movement has always been involved in social issues, and I think this is one of the main social issues of mankind. And they have the mechanism to organize people. So I think this is our effort (to help marshal the peace walk) on behalf of the trade union movement.

— **Dave Long**
Pres. Local 1004
Canadian Union of Public Employees
(Vancouver Outside Workers)

"I walk for peace because there is no option. I enjoy differences of debate within political organizations and other interests; but there will be no debate, no dialogue, or no life if nuclear war happens. So the tranquility of differences of opinion can be maintained through the demonstration that all of us have one commitment in common — and that's to life. We all share the desire to keep on living.

— **Dave Barrett**
Former Premier of B.C.
(New Democratic Party)

"... It proves to the politicians and to the press that there is genuine concern out there that they have to pay attention to. And it gives us a chance to do something about it practically. No one can afford to ignore the hundred thousand people or so that get involved in it. And there have definitely been politicians of every stripe involved in this march. They fight each other to speak! The whole political spectrum is involved. The fact that so many people have come to the Peace Festival from all over the world shows that it's an international event and it's something that they (the politicians) can't ignore.

— **Geoff Meggs**
Editor
Fishermen's Union newspaper

Vancouver Peace Proposals

"End the Arms Race — Fund Human Needs" — this is the message of Vancouver's Walk for Peace in the year of its 100th anniversary.

"It is natural that this city, which has declared itself to be a nuclear weapons-free zone and which has, on many occasions, urged the cause of peace, should have chosen this occasion to sponsor the Vancouver Centennial Peace and Disarmament Symposium.

"The catastrophe we face is not inevitable. There are immediate opportunities to check this suicidal process and gain time to reverse it:

- "1. A Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, stopping all further testing of nuclear weapons. We urge the United States to respond to the Soviet initiative by immediately ceasing nuclear testing and urge the Soviet Union to extend its moratorium. We call upon other nuclear states to stop all nuclear weapons tests.
- "2. A ban on all weapons in space.
- "3. A freeze on development, testing or deployment of new nuclear weapons and their delivery systems.
- "4. Immediate and substantial reductions in the existing nuclear arsenals.
- "5. The establishment of nuclear weapons-free zones in Central Europe, the Nordic and Balkan regions and the Indian and North Atlantic oceans and compliance by the nuclear-weapons

states with the newly-established South Pacific Nuclear-Free Zone Treaty.

"6. Renunciation by all states, and in particular by the nuclear-weapons states, of the use or threat of force and intervention in the affairs of other states, and a commitment to negotiate an agreement to that effect.

"7. Recognizing that the arms race is having serious negative effects, both on the nations involved and on the whole world, it is now urgently necessary to reduce substantially all military budgets and transfer the resources thus saved to the promotion of human wellbeing.

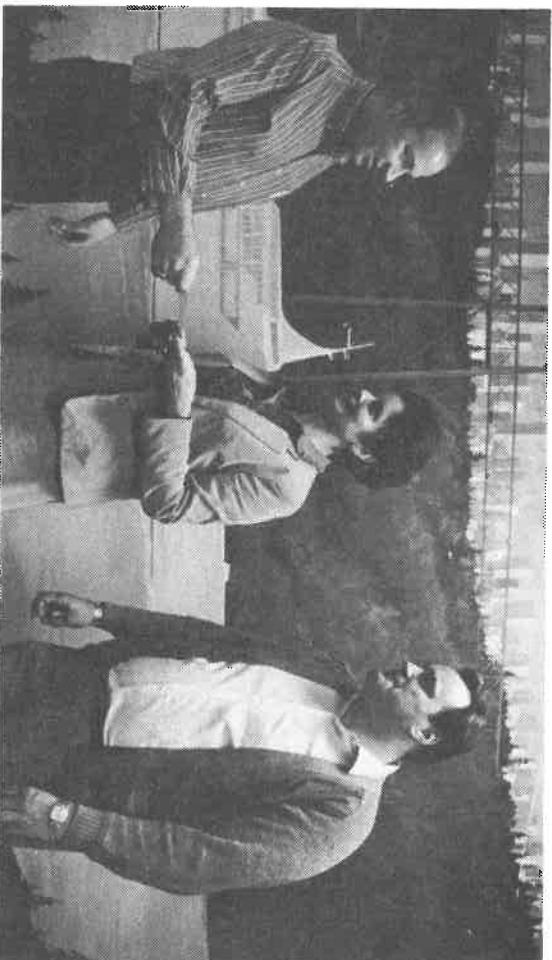
"The measures we have proposed are essential first steps back from the edge of oblivion and toward a peaceful world. It is within the power of the people of each and every country to exercise their right to determine and preserve their own future, to intervene and compel a change of course. We particularly commend to the smaller nations the positive role they can play in bringing about this change.

"Parallel with these changes, new creative initiatives are needed to address the problems of hunger, disease, education, environment and other global problems, and indeed to the establishment of a just international economic order.

"From this peaceful city we appeal to our sisters and brothers everywhere: Let us act together now to end the arms race and to fund human needs."



Local 500 supports Food Banks



Local 500 officers Barry Campbell and Denny Allen present a check to Vancouver food bank co-ordinator Sylvia Fussel.

VANCOUVER — ILWU Local 500 has agreed to continue its significant on-going donation to the food banks of the lower mainland at least until December 1986.

At the February/85 membership meeting, the Local had committed \$5,000 per member per month or a total of \$7500 in regular monthly contributions to assist with the food bank's work. That commitment was reviewed at the February/86 membership meeting at which time the membership gave approval to continue this support until at least the end of 1986.

"Our membership recognizes that the job being done through voluntary contributions to the food bank is a responsibility of the government" stated ILWU Local 500 Secretary-Treasurer Barry Campbell, "however people are going hungry because welfare income and earnings from this province's ridiculously low minimum wage simply do not provide enough money for the bare essentials in many cases. Our membership is not prepared to stand idly by and see innocent people suffer as a result of unfair government policies." The Local's total donations will exceed the \$160,000 mark by the end of 1986.

THE ILWU AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Our union conventions have traditionally dealt with our position on International Affairs. Conflicts facing workers in other countries and the question of war or peace are debated, with our Union consistently taking positions and actions in support of unions and workers who are in struggle in other countries.

The question arises from time to time as to "why our Union involves itself in affairs of other countries that don't concern us".

It has been said that our job as a Union is to negotiate and protect benefits and working conditions of our own members and we have no business in the politics of International Affairs. We believe that as a trade union our priority is to serve the interests of our members first, and to do what we have to do, to balance a number of other issues that at first blush may not appear to be in our own direct interest, but upon reflection we understand that we do have a vested interest in activities outside of our traditional jurisdiction.

When legitimate aspirations of workers in other countries are suppressed, such as the right to form legitimate trade unions and the right to strike, we as trade unionists must be concerned for two fundamental reasons.

First, it is our responsibility as a working class organization to use whatever influence we have to assist others who are less fortunate to achieve what we desire for ourselves.

Second, where countries with undemocratic and suppressive governments are allowed to get away with not implementing basic human rights, it sets the stage for other governments, including ours, to either take advantage of another country's "cheaper" labour rates or use the argument that we must lower our standards to compete with the other countries.

South Africa is a perfect example where the racist apartheid system is built into the economy for the major reason of providing cheap labour. Western companies exploit this system by relocating their production systems in South Africa, taking advantage of cheap labour and maximizing profits by selling the

finished products back to consumers in our country.

Although many companies have now yielded to the pressure and withdrawn their investments in South Africa, those that have closed down plants in the U.S. and Canada to move there will most likely now relocate in another third world country where they can be assured of high profits and ineffective unions or no unions at all.

Similar reasoning is applied to our

Talking Union



by
Dan
Cole

Union's involvement in the World Peace Movement and our support for disarmament. It will not matter whether or not we can negotiate decent benefits and working conditions in our contracts if any of the current armed conflicts that are prevalent around the world were to break out into a war that could involve nuclear weapons. An increase in terrorism, an expanded civil war, or the flexing of the superpowers' muscles leading to a war with no winners, can wipe out all of our gains and aspirations in one fell swoop.

The ILWU has a proud tradition of supporting workers in struggle around the world and opposing the arms race and any conflicts that could lead us into nuclear war.

Our convention decisions on these matters are carried out not only by written protests, but also by using our position as a militant, powerful and well respected trade union to place these policies into action in our day-to-day activities.

Those who believe that we best represent the interests of our membership by isolating ourselves from the rest of the world must come to understand that unless ours and other unions are prepared to face and take positions on the myriad of problems which impact on the lives of workers everywhere it will eventually lead to increased attacks against our own hard won benefits and conditions.

International problems such as the arms race, terrorism and many others are far too important to be left to the politicians. The voice of workers must be heard on such paramount issues and the labour movement is the only voice through which they can speak as one.

DANGEROUS WORK

The Right to Refuse

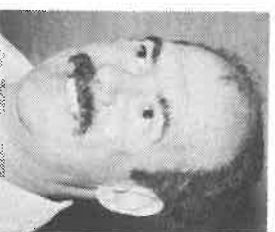
Hundreds of thousands of Canadian workers now have the right to refuse dangerous work under new laws that took effect April 1, 1986.

The amendments to the Canada Labour Code were approved by Parliament nearly two years ago but are only now being proclaimed. The changes include:

Allowing employees to refuse work without fear of discipline if they believe that such tasks endanger themselves or fellow workers, and if they make a formal complaint;

First On Deck

by Steve
Bushell



Requiring employers to establish health and safety committees, inform workers of all known job hazards and post federal health and safety regulations where they can be read easily;

Encouraging workers to identify job-related health and safety problems and allowing them the same appeal rights as employers.

The Code covers about 600,000 workers under federal jurisdiction, including those in radio, television and cable industries, airports, transport companies, banks, grain elevators, feed mills, seed cleaning plant, nuclear facilities and about 40 crown corporations.

You Can Prevent Hearing Loss
Prolonged exposure to high levels of sound (90db or more) can cause permanent, life-long hearing problems. Noise exposure on the job slowly damages sensitive cells in the inner ear causing hearing impairment over the years.

• **Wear hearing protection whenever you are working with, or are close to loud equipment.** (Ear plugs and earmuffs both provide adequate hearing protection.)

• **Your employer must provide hearing protection** (whenever you are exposed to high noise levels).

Headsets are Dangerous

There have been close calls on the jobs by slingsman or persons on the dock when they were almost hit by mobile equipment when wearing a (radio) headset or "walkman".

WCB regulations (13.29) states: "workers in any work area shall not wear muff type hearing protectors or headsets which have been designated or modified to accept AM or FM radio or other music sources."

Labour designates day of mourning for job casualties

Ottawa — April 28 will be observed by the trade union movement each year as the "Day of Mourning" in remembrance of the thousands of workers killed and the millions injured on the job.

The date has been picked by the Executive Council of the 2.2 million-member Canadian Labour Congress because it was the day the first Workers' Compensation Act in Canada received its third reading in 1914.

"We made a lot of progress in the 1970's with the passing of provincial and federal health and safety acts," McDermott said, "But we still have a long way to go in remedying what remains a disgraceful and tragic situation in the country's workplaces."

"Deaths from industrial injuries are still running at around a thousand a year and every year there are around a million work injuries — this represents an injury every six seconds and a death every two hours of the working day."

McDermott pointed out that work-related fatalities, injury and disease in Canada accounted for 15.9 million work-days lost in 1981.

"The situation is simply intolerable," he said, "I hope that the Day of Mourning will focus attention on the plight of injured workers and lead to the progressive and total elimination of death, injury and disease at work. I ask that unions hold public ceremonies with speakers who can address the plight of injured workers and hold a minute's silence in remembrance of those killed at work by injury and disease."

BOOK REVIEW



by Ron Stewart

When labor looks at big businesses, a perspective comes across that the conventional media misses.

This is the viewpoint in a thin paperback called "Labor Confronts the Transnationals". Get past the title. In this book are the opening remarks of delegates from Japan, Mexico, Canada, Britain, USA and France at the Conference on Trade Union Unity Against the Transnational Corporations (TNCs). The Labor Research Association, the New York cousin of Vancouver's Trade Union Research Bureau (TURB), published this material in 1984. The conference took place in Toronto in 1983.

The first chapter is by Emil Bjarrason, known in Canada and Vancouver for developing the Consumer Price Index and as director of TURB. The basics are laid out in this part.

TNCs are companies which gather raw materials in a few countries, process them in a few others, and sell finished goods in many countries, through many subsidiaries, under many names. To gain wage and tax concessions, TNCs threaten to transfer jobs and

operations to cheaper foreign competitors, often one of their own subsidiaries.

The export of capital is the ultimate goal TNCs. Home governments assist this design Witness Thatcher's Britain and Reagan USA. Two keen reports in this book expose these situations.

In Britain, half the production of the top manufacturers comes from outside. In the last 3 years, those companies have raised their level by 20% while unemployment figures doubled at home. TNCs are loyal to profit not people.

The chapter on the USA reveals that \$2.2 million was invested overseas in 1983. He that money stayed home, it would have created 4 million jobs during those seasons of high unemployment.

Arms proliferation, a recurrent issue in the book, boosts TNC prosperity. Fortunately most people recognize that this burden carried by reducing social programs, such as public education, health care, pensions.

The report from Canada given by Sam Gindin, research director of the UAW, is bad news. After Britain, our unemployment rate is the worst. Our trade deficit per person is the highest in the world, concentrated in key sectors such as machinery. The book asks one divining question. Should we, as resource dependent nation, look at what sell in the world market place to decide which industries (and, therefore, jobs) to promote? The UAW in Canada has proposed that every TNC must guarantee a specific number of jobs before it is allowed access to an market.

What has been culled for this review by means summarizes everything these report offer. Data has been knitted to emphasize certain issues. The complete pictures are more extensive and allow any reader to discover unique connections hidden in our economic. The short time spent reading this book will by amply rewarded with new perspectives.

SPECIAL REPORT

The 1986 Canadian Area Convention

NEW WESTMINSTER, BRITISH COLUMBIA — For five days from March 17th to the 21st, sixty-two delegates representing eleven coast locals met in New Westminster to debate the policies of the Union and choose the leadership that will govern the Canadian Area over the next two years. Delegates at the convention confronted a variety of issues presented through reports, resolutions, and speeches from invited guests.

MONDAY

Day One

On the first day of the Convention, delegates were presented with a comprehensive sixty-two page officers' report which dealt with the social and economic issues now facing the membership. Here are some excerpts from the first part of the report:

PEACE MOVEMENT GROWING

"In Vancouver last April over 80,000 people walked for peace. The Vancouver City Council has declared Vancouver a Nuclear Free Zone. Campaigns are now underway in B.C. for an end to the Star Wars program as well as Canadian withdrawal from NORAD. We urge all our locals and members to give these campaigns their full support."

CENTRAL AMERICA

"At our last convention we drew attention to the U.S. threat to invade and overthrow the government of Nicaragua. Members of the ILWU have been active in their support of Nicaragua and have donated a great deal of volunteer time loading ships and donating supplies to their cause."

SOUTH AFRICA

"South Africa, with its racist apartheid regime, remains the last major stronghold of slavery in the world. The Canadian trade union movement and many other groups such as churches, have come out solidly in support of the movement to end apartheid. We support:

- Full sanctions against South Africa.
- A boycott of all South African goods and support for the hampering of any goods to South Africa.
- Full support to South African trade unions and other democratic organizations fighting to abolish apartheid.
- The release of Nelson Mandela."

South African Issue Dramatized

During the Convention a South African ship, the Nedloyd Kembla, arrived in Vancouver with a cargo of stainless steel, automobile windshields, canned fruit, and wines and spirits. Longshoremen honored picket lines set up by South African solidarity groups. Finally, after a B.C. Supreme Court injunction had been issued, and after a delay of four days, the pickets were removed.

These events were closely monitored by the convention delegates who expressed their strong feelings on the issue by voting to have the union's anti-apartheid policy on South Africa publicized through the media.

Committees

Tackle Issues

On the afternoon of the first day of the convention delegates divided themselves into four working committees. The job of these committees was to consider the positions put forward in the officers' report along with the resolutions submitted by the Locals.

The committees discuss issues raised and then make recommendations in their reports to the whole convention. This aids the convention delegates in their considerations of the many diversified issues that must be dealt with. The end result should be a comprehensive set of policies to guide the union officers in carrying out the wishes of the membership.

Also on this first day, the delegates were given an opportunity to hear from the first guest speaker at the Convention, NDP leader, Bob Skelly.



SPEECH BY R. SKELLY, PROVINCIAL LEADER, NDP TO THE ILWU CANADIAN AREA CONVENTION

I would like to thank you for inviting me to speak to you at your convention.

Some of you may have noticed that we had a throne speech come down last week. It seems to have been written by a guy who really doesn't know much about what's happening in British Columbia, you wouldn't think there was such a thing as unemployment in British Columbia.

Jobs Strategy

The NDP has been trying to change politics in British Columbia over the last two years. We've put together what we call the Jobs First Employment Strategy to try to deal with some of the high levels of unemployment and the high levels of welfare in the province of B.C., 198,000 people out of work, 237,000 people on welfare. We estimate that we can put 50,000 people back to work each and every year for three years.

Where are those jobs going to be created? Well we have looked at four areas:

Housing

Housing starts in British Columbia over the last few years have dropped to half their ten year average. We're saying that we should be providing housing for senior citizens, for low income people, for handicapped people, for people that are out of the housing market as a result of their income levels. Social Housing, it's called. If you restore housing starts to the ten year average, we can put 7800

construction workers back to work in British Columbia.

Municipal Infra-Structure Program

We've also looked at what we call the Municipal Infra-Structure Program. Now Mike Harcourt has developed this program in consultation with the municipalities across Canada and in consultation with the Union of B.C. Municipalities here in B.C. And it's been identified through a survey that municipalities in British Columbia, their infra-structure is deteriorating; sewer systems, water systems, streets, roads, bridges, sidewalks — they are running down as a result of the restraint program. The provincial government simply isn't providing enough money to maintain those services to their proper standard.

Let me ask you what your priorities are. If your family was short of food, if the roof was leaking in your house, if you were having difficulty buying clothes for the kids and sending your kids to school, if you were having difficulty putting gas in the gas tank, and most people are in this province — would you pay down your mortgage before it's due, before you paid for those day-to-day requirements. That's precisely what Bill Bennett did last year.

He paid \$432 million dollars on the historic debt of BC Rail, some of which isn't due for 20 years, and some of which is outstanding at 2% interest rate. Instead of creating employment, instead of

upgrading municipal infra-structure, Bill Bennett put that money to pay the historic debt of BC Rail.

"If your family was short of food . . . would you pay your mortgage before it's due? Bill Bennett did!"

Every province in Canada has supported the Municipal Infra-Structure Program with the exception of one. Guess what that province is? British Columbia.

Site C, Dam

Bill Bennett said he wants to build the Site C Dam. That is going to cost you as ratepayers for B.C. Hydro 3.2 Billion Dollars. And he says he is going to ship all of the power from the Site C Dam down to California.

I think the Californians are doing to Bill Bennett exactly what the Japanese did to Bill Bennett in North East Coals. They suckered him into building a project that would produce a surplus of coal in order that they could then bid down the price of that coal.

Reforestation and Silviculture

The last part of our Jobs First Employment Strategy has to do with reforestation and silviculture. It's universally agreed that this government is mismanaging the forests of this province and the forest industry in this province. And we're saying that we have an obligation to our children and to our grandchildren to improve the way we have managed the forests and to restore the forest of British Columbia to sustainability. How do you do that? Well, you plant what's being logged on a current basis. Right now we are only planting half or less than half of what we log each year.

We estimate that we could put 13,000 people back to work in British Columbia annually.

That's the basis of the NDP's Jobs First Employment Strategy. We feel that by using that strategy we can get people back to work in British Columbia. And we're not talking about putting them to work on the lowest bid contracts. We're talking about putting them to work at decent salary levels under decent working conditions.



Bob Skelly talks to Willard Gallie, Local 503.

TUESDAY

Day Two



Delegates Joe Schmier (left) local 500 and Peter Goeders, Retail-Wholesale Union.

The morning of the second day of the convention saw the four committees continue to focus their discussions on the officers' report and resolutions. The morning was high-

lighted by presentations from two guest speakers: Fred Paulino, Vice-President of Local 142 in Hawaii; and Cliff Anstein, Secretary-Treasurer of the B.C. Federation of Labour.

Fighting Back

SPEECH BY CLIFF ANSTEIN, B.C. FEDERATION OF LABOUR

These days we get a lot of people telling us that Unions are too strong, that we don't need Unions anymore. Well, many of those people should just look around to what's been happening to us recently, particularly here in British Columbia.

At Expo we are going to have tens of thousands of jobs created but everybody in the province is going to be working at \$3.85 an hour!

The attack on the Unions is taking place not only here but in Europe and in the United States. Employers and government are engaged in the deliberate policy of de-unionization of this province and this country. They want to put us back to where we started from when we started with nothing.

When we started organizing we had nothing, and each year bit by bit we fight the employers, fight the bosses, the companies, the RCMP, the scabs, the strike breakers.

"We've got to start fighting back stronger than in the past."

Each contract we gained a bit. A few rights, some respect, better wages, better working conditions. And now they tell us we've got it all and we should give a bit back because we've got too much and it's our fault that the dollars are declining, that there are budget deficits, that there's 15% unemployment here, that there's 50% unemployment in the construction industry. It's all our fault.

[They say] if we give it all back then everything is going to be alright. Sure. Just look at the PWA strike. PWA is the healthiest airline company in this country. Its profits last year, its rate of return far exceeded CP Air, Air Canada or any of the eastern airlines. Their three unions have been on strike for over four months at PWA.

Governments and employers found another way to keep workers and unions in line these days. It's called unemployment. It worked well in the thirties and they're trying it again. Creating unemployment is a deliberate policy of this government in British Columbia and of the government in Ottawa.

A recent book came out called "The Next Canadian Economy" [it was] written by a couple of Canadian economists who interviewed a lot of government leaders, business leaders and one of the quotes from it is from a guy who is heading up a big corporation. He says "Large companies in Canada are not in the business anymore of creating jobs. We're in the business of creating layoffs." So employers and governments are working together to create unemployment, to weaken unions, to worsen working conditions and lower wages.

We've got to start fighting back stronger than we've been fighting in the past. A couple of years ago at the CLC convention Bob White said that workers don't need unions to lead them backwards. That CLC convention started the fight against concessions. We've been more successful on the fight here in Canada than they have in the United States.

We're part of the heritage of the trade union movement. There's two solutions that face us. There's the union solution of organizing, bargaining, striking to keep what we have. The Federation is working with a number of unions to try to co-ordinate some of these activities. The other solution quite frankly is a political solution. We do have an alternative in this country. We have the NDP. Now they are a long way from gaining office federally, but they've got a real good chance to do it provincially. An NDP government can have an impact on bargaining and the struggles, even in those areas like yours which fall within the federal jurisdiction.

But at the same time that we organize and plan for an NDP victory, we also have to be prepared in the event that they don't win again. The labour movement through the Federation, Labour Councils, Affiliated Unions has got to continue to organize, continue our fight, develop programs and alternate strategies just in case next year we still have a Social Credit government.

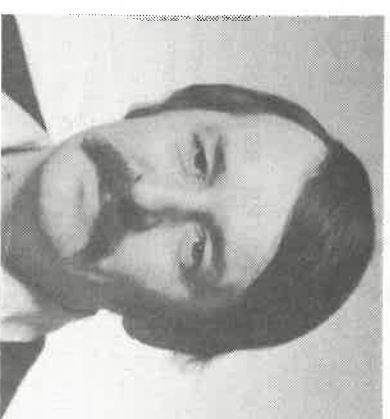
We have to work to send a message to Bennett and to the Socreds, to Mulroney and the Tories, to Jim Martin and the Employers' Council and to the right-wing in this province that they're not going to pick us off one by one, that we are prepared to support each other, we are prepared to defend our rights. And then maybe Brothers and Sisters a year from now we can look back and say that we not only held our own in this battle but we've made a few gains.

IN MEMORY

"The Union has lost a great deal with his death — including his considerable organizing and administrative skills, his selfless dedication and his articulate contribution to the debate on the major issues within the Union."

From a eulogy by Dan Cole at the March 24, 1982 Memorial Service for Bert Johnson.

The 19th Convention, 9th Biennial of the ILWU Canadian Area was dedicated to the memory of the late brother Bert Johnson, who met an untimely death in a motorcycle accident on March 20, 1982. Brother Johnson had just completed a



Bert Johnson

two year term as Canadian Area 3rd Vice President. He had been active in ILWU Local 500 since 1975 as an executive committee member and as a convention and caucus delegate. He was also a Business Agent on two separate occasions.

The second day's afternoon session marked the reconvening of the full convention and the presentation of the committee reports for debate.

Corporate-Government Conspiracy Hit

One section of the officers' report dealt with by Committee #2 focused on social and economic issues on the domestic front.

For example the committee members recommended that strongly worded motions should be passed to identify and condemn the current anti-worker conspiracy between big business and right-wing governments. The convention concurred, condemning:

"... the conspiracy by big corporations together with the governments in Ottawa and Victoria to: centralize control of the economy in the hands of a few all the social gains won in the past; to emasculate social legislation; to render the trade union movement ineffective; and to integrate Canada fully into the arms race as a satellite of the U.S."

Free Trade Opposed

Other concerns of the delegates focused on the trend towards privatization and deregulation. They also expressed concern over the negative effects that a free-trade agreement with the U.S. could have on Canadian labour rights, cultural autonomy, and economic stability.

FREE TRADE

Free trade between the U.S. and Canada will result in a huge loss of jobs because (a) the more powerful big U.S. companies will put their Canadian com-

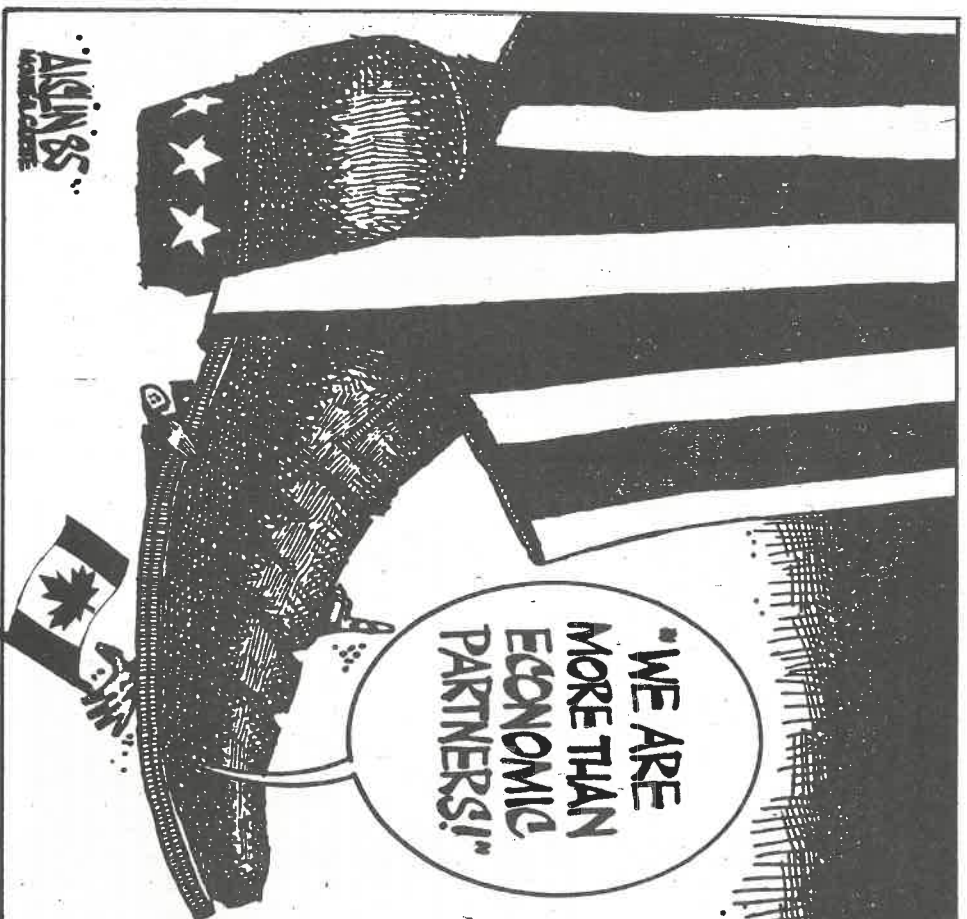
petitors out of business; (b) U.S. branch plants in Canada will close down, and (c) Canadian companies will move to low wage areas such as Alabama. The government of Ontario estimates that free trade will result in the loss of 280,000 jobs in Ontario alone. The Council of Canadians predicts a loss of 500,000 jobs for all of Canada.

Free trade would result in increased pressure in Canada to:

- reduce wages to the levels in Alabama or the Sillicone Valley.
- more "Right-To-Work-for-Less laws.
- sell all our fresh water resources to the U.S.
- abolish costly safety laws.
- remove environmental and pollution regulations.
- remove protective labour legislation including hours of work and holiday pay.

- abolish all equal pay for women legislation.
- abolish social legislation such as medicare and family allowances.
- change the whole Canadian tax structure still further in the interests of big corporations.

• abolish the CBC and National Film Board and allow U.S. corporations to take over the whole Canadian book publishing industry.



WEDNESDAY

Day Three — Economic Issues Debated

Unemployment was a key issue discussed in the committee reports at the convention. (Official figures place Canada's unemployment rate at more than 10%; while in B.C. the rate remains over 14%.)

The delegates agreed that unemployment was the only real 'growth industry' produced by the corporate-government conspiracy; and that working people must demand fundamental changes in the structure of the economy and the role of government.

THE ECONOMY TODAY — RECOVERY FOR WHOM?

Canada is now in the fourth year of recovery from the economic crisis of 1980-82. But we still have to ask the question — economic recovery for whom?

The gross national product is up and record profits are again being made by the banks, the oil companies and many other corporations.

Unemployment remains very high, 10 per cent on a national scale and close to 14 per cent in B.C. and many industries, including some resource industries have not recovered. The standard of living of working people has gone steadily down, first because wage increases in most occupations have been below the rate of inflation, and second because of the cuts that have been made in social services, particularly in B.C. The latter include both health and education.

The economy of B.C. and Canada, and for that matter all of the western world, has always been of the boom and bust variety, with economic crises at frequent intervals. We are now in the boom period but as we can all see it is not a boom for working people. What we have today is the best that our so-called free enterprise system can offer working people. We are heading for another economic crisis which could occur at any time. If this is a "boom", what will the next "bust" be like?

How do we deal with this situation?

The feeling is growing in our society, among unions, church leaders and citizen groups, that capitalism, as it is structured today, can no longer serve the interests of the majority of the people, that in pursuing maximum profits the big corporations that control our economy are playing a regressive role. The production of pornography is more profitable than the production of affordable housing. The arms race is more profitable than peace-time production.

That is why there is a growing call from unions such as the Canadian Union of Public Employees, the United Electrical Workers, The Vancouver & District Labour Council, the Catholic Bishops and the United Church for some fundamental changes in the structure of our economy and the role of government.

This call is motivated by the conviction that labour should not accept con-

cessions, lower its sights and adapt our demands to what our employers and governments are willing to give. Instead, they are calling for changes in the whole economic and political structure so that society will serve the needs of people and not just profits.

The changes advocated can be summed up as follows:

- a high degree of public ownership of the banks, resource industries, transportation, communication and other key industries and especially of transnational corporations.



Left to right: Frank Morrison Local 519, Bill Kemp Local 500, Mike Marino Local 500, Richard Michaud Local 514.

As I speak to you this morning keep in mind that the underlying problem that workers have both in Canada and the United States is a vindictive conspiracy on the part of government to either utterly destroy Unions or to make them so ineffective as to be worthless.

Government Conspiracy Charged

SPEECH BY JIM HERMAN, I.L.W.U. INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



Jim Herman

You can hardly look to a struggle anywhere in our respective nations and not see the full force of the federal government coming down on the backs of workers so as to deny them the right to get from employers what employers can pay, and keep employers respecting Unions as Unions should be respected.

What looms large here in this great nation is a probable law that will deregulate transportation, that will delude people into believing that regulated industries are a bad thing and that it is good for the country to eliminate all sorts of regulations. I wish the people of Canada, I wish the workers of Canada could peer across the line and see the catastrophic results of deregulations, to see how workers are placed on scrapheap after scrapheap after being mutilated by a slick President who should get an Academy Award for acting and who ought to get run out of office for his betrayal of everything good and decent that any of us would aspire to.

In California alone, up until deregulation, 95% of all trucks that came to the docks, were driven by members of the Teamsters Union. A few years after deregulation, right now, 95% of all trucks coming to any part of the waterfront are owner-operated non-union. They'll run over their mother to pay for the truck. They're placed in a frame of such desperation believing that they're now businessmen, that trade unionism is second, and their business foolishness is first.

What that does to longshoremen on both sides of the line is potentially awesome.

It means that irrespective of what differences there may or may not be, what quarrels there are or are not, the bottom line achievement that we've always enjoyed at least in the contemporary period is that we support each other in a beef. We support each other if the employer has some idea that one of us is available and can be used to wreck the other Union. You'll see that line of support dissolve and you'll see what were decent workers turn into vultures because it's the only way they see it to take care of their families.

Deregulation is where you separate the strong from the weak, where the powerful corporations kick ass, and they kick ass at the expense of workers, they kick ass by turning the clock back where there has been tremendous progress, where there are respectable wages and fringe benefits and working conditions.

We are especially alarmed when we take a look at the severe damage being done to a Sister Union on the East, in the Gulf, the International Longshoremen's Association. It's the only other Longshore union. They're in the Eastern Canada, North Atlantic, South Atlantic, East and West Gulf. They have 36 ports in the United States.

Up until a year ago, they thought and we would have given them every assurance, that they were invincible from attack from by non-union employers who would undermine their agreements and introduce massive non-union stevedore operations that is the case today! You have a new non-union stevedore association presently operating in 12 ports in the Gulf, 6 ports in the South Atlantic and looking north even to the extent of going into New York City. They're operating in Connecticut, they have a small port in New Jersey, they are doing a harchet job that is unbelievable and that has to make us nervous.

In the Gulf, you now have a situation that virtually all of the grain, all of the bulk is loaded by non-union stevedores or by the Teamsters. They do this work for from \$6.00 to \$10.00 an hour in contrast to the \$35.00 an hour that it cost to hire an I.L.A. longshoreman. Now the reason that Teamsters signed contracts with Cargill and other grain exporters is because I.L.A. made a mistake, a grievous error in New Orleans, they raided a Teamster garbage workers local union. The Teamsters retaliated by being available to the non-union stevedores with

• along with public ownership must come public control, with trade union and citizen groups having a decisive say in how these publicly owned industries are managed.

• full employment and economic recovery in Canada and B.C. can only be achieved if (a) Canada and B.C. begin to develop a strong manufacturing industry based on our rich resources, and (b) labour intensive social services are significantly increased.

• restructuring of our whole tax system to make big business pay its fair share of taxes and reducing the tax load on working people.

• end wasteful arms spending and divert funds to socially useful projects.

• develop trade with all countries. Don't put all our trade eggs in one U.S. basket.

• most important of all, if we are to have any fundamental change, is the role of government. If we are to achieve these objectives we need more, not less intervention and direction from government in the economy. The role of government is decisive.

whom they signed contracts. The International of the I.L.A. Teddy Gleason, and Johnny Bowers, were not aware of this and they have tried to extricate their Union from that problem and hope to be able to do it.

But in the meantime, on the Mississippi River you'll see a ship being loaded with grain where a terminal is literally towed out, where workers are brought out by helicopter, and where those people perform throughout the Gulf.

In 1980, there were 38 million longshore hours in ports from Maine to Texas. In 1986 there will be 30 million hours. That reduction is shocking. That reduction means that in the South Atlantic and Gulf ports where the primary damage has occurred, it means that they will struggle desperately to maintain sufficient funding that is paid on a man hour basis for the guaranteed annual income which has a deficit now, for their pension which is about to have a deficit, and for their welfare fund which also has a deficit.

"In Canada and the U.S. (there) is a conspiracy on the part of the government to destroy unions."

So what you see is a tragic and a dramatic example of workers with natural power, with real energy, with outstanding courage who can't use any of these things because of massive government rejection of the right of workers to defend themselves and their lifestyle and the circumstances under which they and their families live. What is different there than here? Not very much.

Now I didn't travel here to paint an abbreviated picture of doom and gloom, but I travelled here instead so that we may all be alerted against any illusion we had even a year ago that we were insulated, that we were going to be immunized against fierce and gruesome attack that is directed at every other working class organization. That we somehow would be exempt. To let you know that it isn't true, and if we continue believing it's true and going on our merry way then our failure is guaranteed. But it need not be that way.



Lee Jantzen, Local 500

THURSDAY

Day Four

The fourth day of the convention started off with an impassioned speech by native leader Miles Richardson, President, Council of Haida Nations, about the need for a settlement of native land claims in B.C.



Bill Laurillard, I.L.W.U. Pensioners

SPEECH BY MILES RICHARDSON, PRESIDENT COUNCIL OF HAIDA NATION

My name is Miles Richardson. I am the President of the Council of Haida Nations. I have come here this morning to talk about something that is very high in our people's minds and I know is a great concern to the people of not only the Province of British Columbia but the people of this country.

I'm talking about the land issues. Our homelands are Haida-gwaii, the Queen Charlotte Islands and surrounding areas. The Haida people have existed on those lands, on Haida-gwaii, for ten thousand years and Canadian society has joined us there for the past two hundred years.

I think there's a real need for us as people who inhabit a common coast to understand each other. Because I think that's the only way that we're going to be able to properly deal with these very serious issues that are before us. And our people have pointed out very clearly that the basic concern to us is survival of us as a people, as a culture. The survival of our identity as a Haida nation. I think it's through groups like yours, the Longshoremen's Union, that we need to foster an understanding of exactly what we're saying in relation to each other in order that we can work these issues out.

Our people feel very strongly that Haida-gwaii, the Queen Charlotte Islands are to this day Haida land. By the same token our people recognize that those are very rich lands and there is lots of room on Haida-gwaii and along this entire coast of British Columbia for all of us.

*"We're all in the same boat
whether we're Haidas, (or)
whether we're longshore-
men . . ."*

We as Haida and every person on this coast who lives and intends to live here owes their existence to those lands, seas and resources. And our problems that we have been having in retaining our cultural identity are directly related to our people being alienated from those lands, seas and resources. That was basically done in two ways. One way was through legal suppression. Some people call it cultural suppression. Passing laws without any consultation with us, without any negotiations — no longer can you hunt there, no longer can you fish here, no longer can you take those things that your life and your identity depend upon. Just unilaterally done despite our objections. We continually face the weight of the legal and political system against that.

The second way was the destruction of those lands and resources. So about fifteen to twenty years ago people decided we will try to negotiate since our very existence is at stake. So two areas of Haida-gwaii were identified.

One was South Moresby on the southern part of the Charlottes, the other was up on the northwest corner. It was called Tongouse Tribal Park. Those were not the only issues but there were two areas which were intact of our lands and our

people had decided that we must protect them.

We went through all of the usual things that you are supposed to do in democratic society. We informed people as to what our position is, the rationale for it, we lobbied politically and we tried some court cases. We were continually rebuffed over this twelve year period.

We have been very patient. We identified the issues clearly and we decided it was time to deal with it.



Miles Richardson

That's what led to the blockades and the court cases and what happened on Lyell Island.

At the same time as we are trying to get a fair decision out of the government in Victoria we see all the conflict of interest that is going on. The Minister of Forests having shares in the Western Pulp Partnership, that in the court case at the Supreme Court of British Columbia they let affidavit evidence, that very clearly said that if we don't log South Moresby these pulp mills that are part of Western Pulp Partnership are going down. Stephen Rogers is a part of that. Premier Bennett had himself covered but he as also implicated in it. And one of the interesting things that even in the public hearings, one of the guys who stirred up this question when it was very close to being resolved in that year of dialogue between ourselves and the province was Jack Webster. He took a very strong stand on it and mobilized a lot of support for people who played the job lines, that we were threatening jobs. He has very substantial interest in that area. So in the face of this our people decided that we have to walk our own trail, that we have to stand up for what we know as right.

There's room for all of us. And I think when we get down to realizing the fundamentals of this issue we're all in the same boat whether we're Haidas, whether we're longshoremen, whether we're any part of the economy of this province.

We've been here for ten thousand years as a Haida people, we intend to be here for another ten, and we intend to live productively with all of the people that we share Haida-gwaii with, that we share this coast with and this country. I think that we can begin to understand each other and do away with all these fear and threatened issues and tell the political leaders in some manner that we have to get on and deal with these questions. I think we'll find that the future is very productive, that these lands are very productive.

This was the last day for delegates to conclude their general discussion and evaluation of the committee reports as they were presented on the floor of the convention. One of the key issues tackled was the need for political action in the province.

POLITICAL ACTION NEEDED

"The Social Credit government deserves to be defeated and must be defeated in the next provincial election if we are to restore any measure of economic and social justice in B.C."

With the virtual certainty of a summer provincial election coming on the heels of the opening fanfare of the Vancouver worlds fair, Expo 86, delegates from around the province recounted the disastrous effects of the right-wing B.C. governments current 'profits first — people last' policies.

They pointed out that although the longshore industry has been insulated from the general rise in unemployment in the province, union members and their families have still fallen victim to the wholesale cuts to B.C. schools, healthcare, and social services.

Delegates approved motions to support the New Democratic Party in the next provincial election, pointing out that they were the only real alternative. However, the support offered was not a 'blank cheque' for the NDP. The delegates made it clear that the union would:

"Reserve the right to voice constructive criticism of NDP policies or actions if that becomes necessary."

Union Issues Highlighted

The debate was intense concerning the question of funding for the activities of the Canadian Area. After careful consideration delegates voted to approve a needed one dollar per capita increase.

In part, this money was earmarked for continued funding of the regular publication of the recently revamped *Waterfront News*.

Waterfront News

Since the last Convention the Officers have considered various options available to carry out previous Convention policies to upgrade The Waterfront News and publish it on a regular basis.

The first issue of The Waterfront News was published in 1970 and in succeeding years twenty-eight editions have been published. Twenty-six of the editions were four pages in length, one was eight pages in length and one twelve pages in length. The average of the fifteen year period was two 4-page editions a year.

The 1976 Convention endorsed a recommendation that 25 cents of the per capita be earmarked for The Waterfront News. The Conventions of 1980 and 1982 endorsed resolutions that The Waterfront News be improved and the budget be increased if necessary to accomplish this.

We therefore recommend that the Waterfront News be published quarterly with a target of two 12 page editions and 2 eight page editions yearly and that the per capita earmarked for The Waterfront News be increased from twenty-five cents to seventy-five cents per member per month.

We believe that The Waterfront News is an important link between the Canadian Area and the membership of the

Union. It also provides the public image of our organization to the non-I.L.W.U. individuals and organizations on our mailing list.

Other sections of the officers' report focused attention on some important issues on the waterfront.

Safety, always a key concern, was reviewed both in terms of actual conditions on the job as well as any changes made in legislation the application of existing regulations. Delegates concurred in the condemnation recent changes to the B.C. Workers Compensation Board (W.C.B.); noting that:

"In the last two years the W.C.B. has attacked workers in B.C. through some dramatic changes in the (Workers Compensation) Act."

The changes noted to the workers' compensation system included the freezing employer contributions and the rejection improved regulations, while at the same time existing regulations were being watered down. All this has occurred without even asking for input from the labour movement.

FRIDAY

Day Five

On the last day of the convention delegates had an important task to perform on behalf of their membership — the Prim Election of Officers to head up the Canadian Area for the next two years. Presiding over the primary elections was former Region Director, Craig Pritchett.

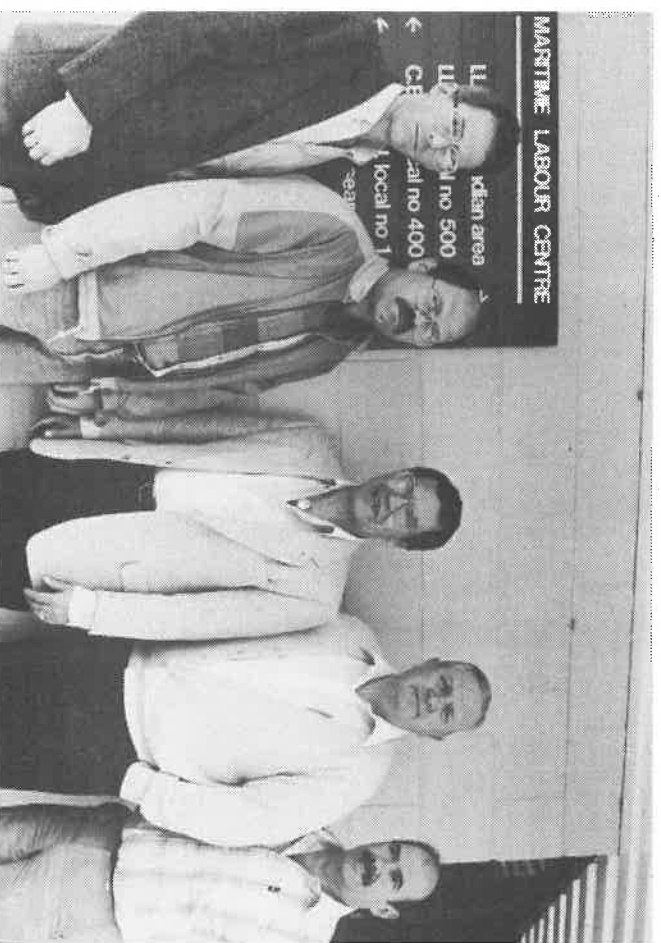


Craig Pritchett

Nominated for President were: Da Lomas and Don Garcia, for 1st Vice President: Bill Kemp and Gord Westrand, 2nd Vice-President: Richard Jones, for 3rd Vice-President: Steve Bushell and Da Pritchett, and for Secretary-Treasurer: D Cole and Alex Point.

NOTE — The names of these candidates went before the membership of the locals for the final vote (see accompanying story).

The last item on the convention agenda was the setting of the place of the next convention. It will be held in Vancouver, 1988.



New Canadian Area Officers (left to right) Dan Cole, Richard Jones, Don Garcia, Bill Kemp Steve Bushell.

MEMBER PROFILE

A Longshore Original



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Letters

The following open letter to all members of the ILWU was issued by the International Officers:

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

We are writing to ask for your support for the boycott of Shell Oil launched last month by the AFL-CIO and the Free South Africa Movement. We hope that this boycott will send a message to all corporations doing business in South Africa that their continued support of the apartheid system is unacceptable. Shell is our first target. It will not be our last.

Shell has been singled out because of the important role it plays in greasing the wheels of apartheid's enforcement machinery, and because of its brutal treatment of its employees in South Africa.

Working at Gunpoint

The Shell boycott is a response to a request for aid by the South African National Union of Mineworkers, on behalf of its members who are employed at the Rietsspruit Coal Mine of which Shell is co-owner.

In February, 1985, some 800 of these mineworkers held a two-hour stopwork meeting in memory of a co-worker who was killed on the job. Mine management responded by firing four NUM stewards.

Eight hundred workers walked out in protest. Shell fired 86 "ringleaders" immediately, expelled them from company-owned housing, and called in the police who fired at NUM pickets, attacked them with tear gas and dogs, and forced them back to work at gunpoint. To this date, the company has prohibited union meetings, and forbidden union organizers access to the workforce.

This is unacceptable to the trade union movement.

Shell Makes Apartheid Work

But it's more than just another union getting mugged, or another runaway shop.

Shell Oil makes apartheid work. As the operator of South Africa's largest oil refinery, of the off-shore station through which most of South Africa's oil is imported, it's largest coal export facility, and of a massive network of pipelines and distribution facilities, Shell Oil enables the entire oppressive apparatus to function. Without commercial oil resources of its own, South Africa is entirely dependent on imports.

Without Shell Oil, the South African police couldn't run their armored personnel carriers into the black townships, attacking funeral processions, and shooting at children. They couldn't break the picket lines of the National Mineworkers Union and other affiliates of the newly emerging Black trade union movement.

Without Shell Oil, the South African army couldn't continue its illegal occupation of Namibia, nor could it continue its bombings and other attacks on the nearby Black African states of Angola, Botswana, Mozambique and Lesotho.

"That's Baloney"

Shell Oil is a symbol of all the multinationals who say their presence in South Africa will gradually reform apartheid. "That's baloney," Bishop Desmond Tutu said in San Francisco last year. "Whether they like it or not, they are making it possible for an evil system to survive."

As an expression of support for the Boycott, we ask all ILWU members with Shell credit accounts to cut their cards in half and mail them to ILWU International headquarters, 1188 Franklin Street, San Francisco, California 94110. These cards will be turned over to the boycott committee in Washington, DC which will mail you a "Shell Discredit Card" as a token of your cooperation in this important effort.

Thank you for your help. Together, we can make a difference.

Jim Herman, President
Rudy Rubio, Vice-President
Curt McClain, Secretary-Treasurer

Editor, Waterfront News:

On behalf of the ILWU Ladies Auxiliary I wish to express our sincere thanks for the wonderful contribution made to us following the recent Canadian Area convention.

The entire Auxiliary enjoyed the chance to assist at the convention, participate with the union and to learn and understand more about the principles and purposes of the trade union movement.

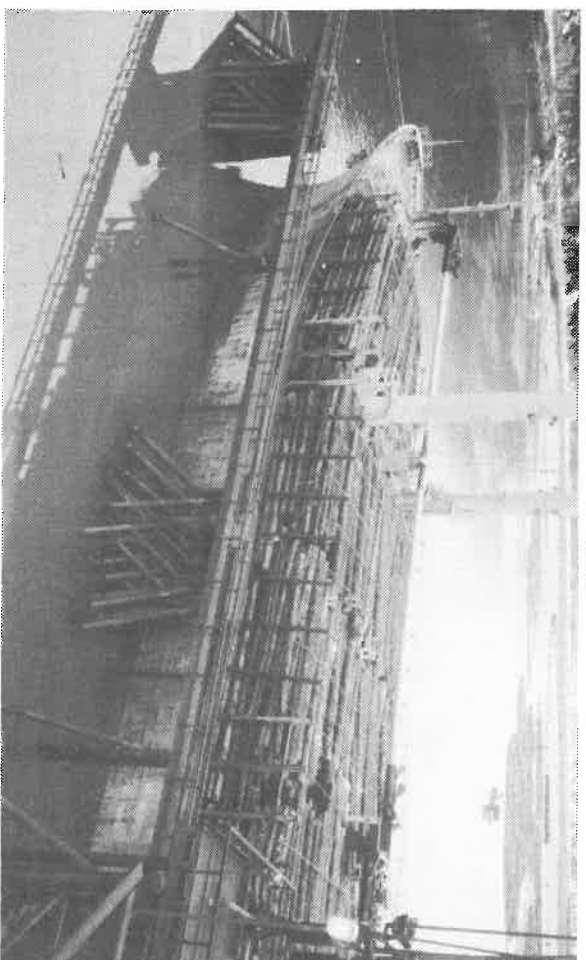
Many thanks again and we look forward to a closer affiliation in the future.

Fraternally,
Pat Moerike
President
Auxiliary #30

Editor's Note: Members of the Ladies Auxiliary assisted greatly at the recent Canadian Area convention and by unanimous convention decision were given a \$500.00 donation to carry on their work. Those wishing to join may contact Pat Moerike, President, 779 Lynn Valley Road, North Vancouver, B.C. 985-2946.

LOCALS GAIN JOBS

Log Ship Loaded in Stewart



The "Sammi Frontier" in Stewart, B.C.

The "Sammi Frontier" loaded three million board feet of logs in the port of Stewart, B.C. in late February 1986, becoming the first log ship to work in that port for a number of years.

Stewart is located on the extreme north coast of B.C. near Hyder, Alaska. ILWU Local 519 was chartered there in 1978 with their main activity being the handling of asbestos products at the Cassiar Asbestos dock.

The log job employed 43 additional local residents who were trained for skilled functions by ILWU members. According to a spokesman from Western Stevedoring Co. Ltd. the job went well and commenting on the new employees "what they lacked in experience they made up for in enthusiasm."

Local 519 President Frank Morrison stated "we are hopeful that this shipment is the first of many which will provide additional employment in our community over the next few years."

Wanted — TV Stars

On the evening of June 4th, the ILWU in Canada will join forces with our brothers and sisters in the Puget Sound to answer telephone calls in a pledge drive for Public Broadcasting Station KCTS Channel 9.

KCTS is a publicly owned, non-commercial station which provides an informative and educational format for TV viewers which is not available on any of the commercial stations. They are able to exist only with monetary contributions from the public in both Washington State and B.C.

Volunteers are needed from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. on June 4th to answer telephone callers making pledges to the station.

Those willing to assist should contact their local union office.

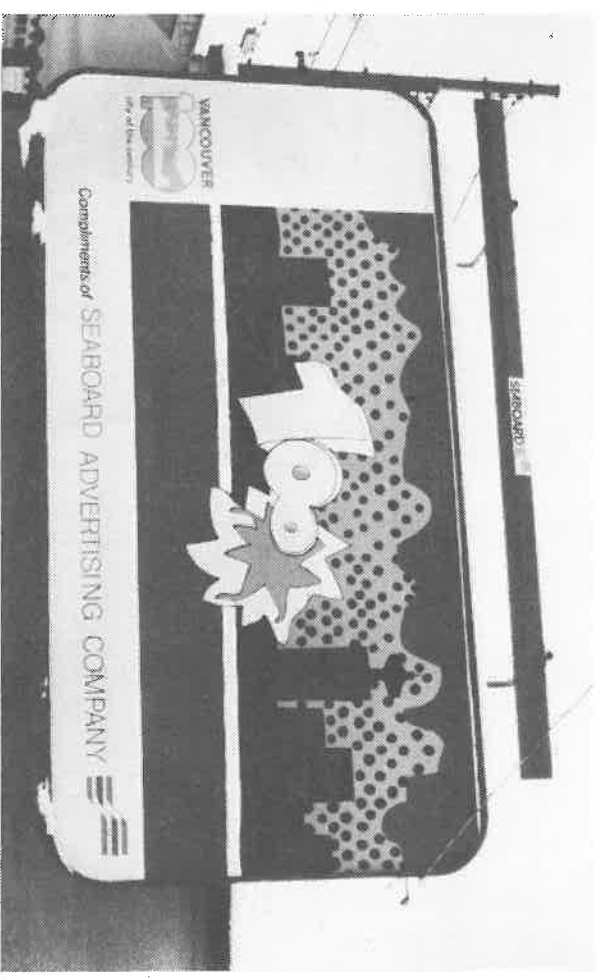
Vancouver Local Elects New Business Agent

Gordon Westrand has been elected by the Local 500 Executive Committee as Business Agent to fill the unexpired term of Brother Bill Kemp recently elected as Canadian Area First Vice President.

Westrand has served as a Local 500 executive member and chairman of the Membership and Grievance Committee, Local Trustee and convention and caucus delegate over the past few years.

He is also active politically, serving as a School Trustee in Coquitlam and as Chairman of that School Board for the past year.

LOCAL NOTES



Tracey Bushell, daughter of Canadian Area 3rd Vice President Steve Bushell was one of ten youths who were selected to have their artwork displayed on billboards around Vancouver. The theme of Tracey's artwork (shown above) was the Vancouver Centennial.

Boycotts

All readers are asked to support the following trade union-sponsored consumer boycotts.

- **CANADA TRUST**
(all locations)
- **U.S. LETTUCE**
(Donny, Red Coach, Big Fred, SAS, Big A, Bobby & Andrews brands)
- **PROCTER & GAMBLE SOAP PRODUCTS**
(Liquid detergents: Ivory, Joy and Dawn, Powder detergents: Tide, Cheer, Oxydol and Bold. Bar soap: Zest, Carnay and Ivory)
- **LOUISIANA PACIFIC CORPORATION**
- **SNO BOY, STAND BY & SUNSHINE PRODUCTS**
(Fresh fruit and vegetables, canned goods, and packaged products)
- **SANDMAN INNS**
- **CHILEAN PRODUCTS**
- **SOUTH AFRICAN PRODUCTS**
- **CALIFORNIA TABLE GRAPES**
- **HORMEL PRODUCTS**

- **SHELL**
- **VICTORIA PLYWOOD**
(Products identified with Vicply)
- **ALL SELF-SERVE GAS STATION**

Hot List

The following "HOT DECLARATIONS" have been issued by the B.C. Federation of Labour.

- **ENTEX DOOR SYSTEMS**
- **SLADE & STEWART**
(Wholesale produce and groceries)
- **OKANAGAN H-R-I SUPPLY LIMITED**
(All products and services)
- **PURULATOR COURIER**
(B.C. operations)
- **STEVENSON CONSTRUCTION PENNYFARTHING SITE**
(Vancouver)
- **ROYAL CANADIAN LEGIONS**
Branch #4 Chilliwack
Branch #2 Langley
Branch #15 Abbotsford
Branch #265 Aldergrove

UPCOMING SOCIAL EVENTS

IL.W.U. Local 502
Pensioners Banquet
Saturday, June 14, 1986
Cumberland Hall, 104th Avenue
& 44th Street, Surrey, B.C.
6:00 P.M.

IL.W.U. Local 502
Picnic
Thursday, June 19, 1986
Cultus Lake
IL.W.U. Local 500
Pensioners Picnic
Thursday, July 24, 1986
New Brighton Park

B.C. WORKERS ARE NOT ALONE

Fighting Concessions — The Lessons of Hormel

by **Howie Smith, Waterfront News**
(first in a series on labour issues in B.C.)

"It's better to lose our homes fighting, than to lose our homes working."

With those words an Iowa meatcutter, here in B.C. to gain support for a bitter U.S. strike, said what the eighty unemployed B.C. workers had been discussing at a meeting of the new organization of the unemployed — the Dandelions.

Taking their name from a similar group formed in Alberta two years ago, the B.C. Dandelions (their full name is the Dandelions Unemployed Action Committee) are composed of unemployed workers, most of them victims of more than three years of widespread unemployment among B.C.'s seventeen unionized building trades.

Their motto, "You can't kill a dandelion," is a straight forward statement about their determination. These unemployed workers do not agree that there is any such thing as an "acceptable" level of unemployment.

They met to discuss a response to a threatened construction lockout by the contractors association (CLRA). The contractors are demanding that construction workers take 20% pay cuts along with a long list of other concessions that would effectively destroy any union protection in the construction industry.

The dandelions know that they are facing an uphill battle.

The Lessons of Hormel

Mark Marcetsching, the Ottumwa, Iowa, meatcutter, orally said a few words that night. He couldn't talk about the specific problems in B.C. He wasn't even a construction worker. But it didn't seem to matter.

Mark Marcetsching



— PHOTO PETER NORRIS

Mark talked about the struggle of U.S. workers against the George Hormel meat packing plants located in the heart of the U.S. 'corn belt'. He recounted their disastrous first-hand experience of taking concessions, and then the bitter fight to try to regain lost ground. He went right to the heart of the issue facing all the workers in that room. The fight against concessions.

In just a few words he made it clear that all workers in North America were part of the same struggle which they were now facing. He was speaking from personal experience. Mark (who says his friends call him "Bear") spoke after the meeting about the experience of the Hormel workers.

The Hormel strike started on August 17, 1985 when 1,500 workers, members of the United Food and Commercial Workers (UFCW), went out on strike against the Austin, Minnesota, meatpacking plant in Austin, Minnesota.

The issues of the strike were wages, safety, dignity, and obtaining common expiration dates for the contracts.

Wages

The wage issue goes back to 1984 when Hormel workers agreed to take a 23% cut in



wage rates. The strikers' demand in 1986 was simply to put the wages up to \$10.60 per hour — the level they were at back in 1978! The company has refused.

Mark points out that it was shortly after the company obtained the wage concessions that they started investing in the meatpacking industry of South Africa. In fact Hormel now has major investments (through a subsidiary) in the second largest meat packing corporation in South Africa.

Dignity

If you work on the production line at the Hormel plant you have to raise your hand to get permission to go to the bathroom! Mark explains that if you are active in the union you often have to wait up to three hours or more. The strikers want this humiliating and discriminatory practice abolished. For them it's an issue of dignity.

Safety

This is a key issue in the strike. The safety record at Hormel's Austin plant is appalling. For every 100 workers there are 208 accidents per year! Almost half of these involve lost time of more than three days. In fact the rate of injury at this plant last year was six times the national average for the meatpacking industry in the U.S.

Again, Mark can speak from personal experience.

The index finger on his left hand is missing. I asked him how it happened.

"The safety lock on my machine failed", explains Mark. "It started up while I was cleaning it. That was February 16, 1982. I was about to get one week off, I had one minute to go."

Strike Escalation

By January 1986 the Hormel strike in Austin, Minnesota had settled in to a hard, bitter struggle. Austin is a company town of 23,000 people. Hormel is the only major employer and the strike has caused divisions in the town.

"Some bars you just don't go into," says Mark. "Everybody knows which ones they are. During the strike the Hormel plant has managed to keep working at about 20%

capacity through the use of non-union labour."

The Austin local (P-9) is a sister local to the nearby Hormel plant in Mark's home town of Ottumwa, Iowa. On January 27, 1986, Local P-9 picketed the Hormel plant in Ottumwa.

Arrests and Threats

Since the Hormel strike first started at the Austin plant, there have been 350 strikers arrested. Tear gas has been used against the strikers on several occasions.

The National Guard has been called in to assist in taking strikebreakers through the picket lines. And Hormel has tried to use the threat of a permanent plant closure as a way to break the strike.

On January 27th, 507 workers (out of 710 who were on their way to work that day) refused to cross the picket line. All 507 workers were fired. This occurred despite the fact that the union contract at the Ottumwa plant specifically gives the workers the right to refuse to cross a picket line.

The Hormel plant in Ottumwa has continued to work at 10% capacity using non-union workers (Iowa is a 'right-to-work' state). The union has grieved the firings, and is taking the issue to arbitration.

"A City Within the Union"

Today, 150 rank and file members like Mark are now travelling all over the U.S. and Canada seeking support for their fellow strikers. A boycott of all Hormel products is underway. (In B.C. Hormel products to boycott include SPAM and Dirty Moore Stews). In addition unions are being asked to support a number of innovative programs set up by the Hormel strikers.

"We're like a city within the union", continues Mark proudly. "We've set up an emergency and hardship fund to help to cover people's medical bills. We have a Food Shelf where they can come and get food. We have a

Clothing Exchange where people bring clothes and get things that they need.

even have a Labour Exchange; and all of it is run out of the union hall in Austin.

"Another program that we've started called 'Adopt-a-family'. We ask union locals to send back (to the Austin local) money to help support one family for three months. It could be \$100 to \$400 per month. Mark is currently out on bail facing charges of "unlawful assembly and gross riot" participating in a demonstration in April. Mark says these tactics haven't stopped strikers from demonstrating their support for Hormel strikers. "At our last rally in Austin we had 6,000 people from 40 states."

ILWU Support Praised

"One union that has been very supportive of the Longshore union. Their locals donated over \$50,000 so far. Local 1 in Seattle is currently sending \$1000 per month for the Adopt-a-family program."

Mark points with pride to an ILWU pin in his union cap, "The members of ILWU 19 voted to give me this. Other ILWU locals have also helped us. In March Longshore in Oakland 'hot cargoed' some Hormel products."

Dandelions on Right Track

Mark likes what he sees at the Dandelion meeting. He says so. When asked how strikers are holding out, Mark comments, "The morale is good. It seems like adversity makes us stronger. We know we're not just in this fight by ourselves." He points out that it is important to involve other groups in the community in the struggle against concessions. "Individuals, unorganized workers, churches, women's groups and who you can."

After all, he emphasizes, "It is better to your home fighting for something, than lose your home working for nothing."

CLC Convention Report

The CLC held the largest convention of its 30-year existence in Toronto at that city's new convention centre.

The Sixteenth Constitutional Convention was called to order by President Dennis McDermott on Monday, April 28th with 1,884 delegates in attendance. However, by Thursday, May 1st, election day, there were 2,878 delegates present in the morning and the figure of 2,956 ballots cast was obtained by 11:30 a.m.

Despite the size of the convention there was a positive, upbeat flavour to the proceedings.

Shirley Carr, Secretary-Treasurer of the CLC, was handed the gavel by Dennis McDermott who left the scene to devote his energies to his new job as Ambassador to Ireland.

Sister Carr did a good job of chairing the convention and guiding the delegates through the resolutions and committee reports. There was a total of 717 resolutions plus emergency resolutions plus 23 reports to be dealt with.



Along The Shore

by
Don
Garcia

Some were combined, some were combined but despite these numbers the major work was dealt with and only one night sitting required.

The theme of the convention was peace and unity, that is world peace and trade unionity. Delegates roundly debated these two to struggling with problems and issues involving them.

Other topics were "free" trade outbacks and strain, Canada ship building merchant international affairs, public and private technology. There were many more and most were aired, ventilated and the delegates given a chance to put forward their views.

Sister Carr was elected President of the CLC, the first woman to win this position. The resolutions adopted become the policy for the next two years. They are ambitious program and will require the assistance of all affiliates to make this program a success.

Bumper Sticker of the Month



WATERFRONT NEWS

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