



Local 504 gains much-needed work with the decision to base the cable vessel Seaspread at Ogden Point in Victoria. Several times each year the ship will employ longshoremen in the transfer and storage of fiber-optic cable. The one and a half inch diameter cable is manufactured in England and brought to Victoria where it is stored in creels at Ogden Point and then transferred back to the ship as needed. The first transfer of cable to creel was for 180 kilometers of cable at an average speed of two and one half Km/h. The cable is used to repair cables from the west coast of the U.S.A. to Alaska and Japan.



Accidents claim lives of two members

Recent incidents have resulted in the deaths of two longshoremen.

On July 22, Local 500 member and first aid attendant Brian "Moe" Morris, 57, attempted to rescue two men who had entered an airless compartment in a barge at Vanterm.

Moe went into the hold to rescue Local 514 member Doug Catton and Vick Marine Enterprises employee John Drake who were overcome by the lack of oxygen.

The hold had been sealed for a long time before John entered to inspect some machinery. Seeing

men from the hold; unfortunately, Moe did not survive.

On August 13, Local 514 (Ship & Dock Foremen) member John Quincy, 60, died after a lift of 12 units of pulp struck him, pinning him to the ship's coaming aboard the M. V. Pacprincess at Fraser Surrey #2.

Investigations to establish the cause of the accident are continuing.

John joined Local 504 (Victoria) in 1964 and Local 514 in 1974, spending most of his career on Vancouver Island. He joined the workforce at Fraser Surrey Docks earlier this year.



AT THE TABLE

Progress is slow, issues are difficult in longshore contract negotiations

The parties continue talks with the assistance of federal government mediator Bill Lewis.

Progress is slow, with the S.U.B. Plan and four-hour extension being among the most difficult.

Local 514 (Ship & Dock Foremen)

Negotiations for the main industry agreement have reached an impasse and the parties have applied for mediation.

ment soon.

Local 520

Talks with the Pacific Pilotage Authority continue, and the parties are not too far apart.

INSIDE...

Prairie Cousins 2

Job Prospects 3

Porto Bay 2

Canadian Area has advantage of being big and small

Over the last five years the labour movement has been debating whether unions are better if they are bigger.

The argument is that if the union is big, then the resources of a large pool of dues are unlimited.

The union can then fight employers on the same financial level at the negotiating table and in the courts.

The counter to the 'big is better' philosophy is that in a small union the officers have a greater opportunity to have direct contact with the membership.

The advantage to the membership is that the concerns of the individual hold a more personal priority. In most cases smaller unions are also seen as delivering more on-the-job service to their members.

The International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, although strong in the economic impact we have, is small in comparison to many unions. As a small union we have committed to a high service level for our members.

So, are we a small union? NO!

Many in the ILWU Canadian Area tend to only look at the longshore division, which has 3,100 members. The fact is though, that the Canadian Area is also made up of another 6,700 members in the Retail Wholesale division in Saskatchewan and B.C.

Ten years ago our friends in the Retail Wholesale Department Store Union (Sask.) and Retail Wholesale Union (BC) were outside the CLC because they had broken with their international.

To help RWDSU and RWU a new division of the ILWU Canadian Area was formed, and both unions affiliated with our union.

This affiliation has benefited all of us by giving us the numbers to become the 27th-largest union in Canada, while allowing all three unions to remain autonomous and continue to function as small unions.

The concept of being separate and part of an affiliation has become very attractive.

The Grain Services Union, representing about 2,800 members who work in grain elevators on the prairies, have been indicating over the years that at some

point they would be willing to look at joining the ILWU through an affiliation agreement.

With many of the large unions starting to pressure smaller unions, the Grain Services Union now feels that the time may be right to begin discussions on how the affiliation should take place.

In September the RWDSU, the GSU and the ILWU will meet informally and then report back to their executives later in the month.

It is hoped by all the parties that recommendations regarding the affiliation would then go to our respective conventions in the spring of 1994.

If this affiliation is acceptable to the membership then we would see the ILWU Canadian area grow to 13,000 members, with each division of the union retaining their autonomy.

Big, but small.



Gordon Westrand
Canadian Area President



Proudly holding their banners at the recent convention in Saskatoon are, from left, Peter Goeders of the Retail Wholesale Union in B.C., Dennis Hicks and Len Wallace from the Retail Wholesale Department Store Union in Saskatchewan, and Gordon Westrand, President of the Canadian Area.

Retail-wholesale Longshoremen celebrate 10th anniversary

The Retail Wholesale Department Store Union (RWDSU) in Saskatchewan and the Retail Wholesale Union (RWU) in B.C. celebrated 10 years of affiliation to the ILWU Canadian Area at the RWDSU Convention in Saskatoon May 19 to 21, with the presentation of plaques to the two unions.

The Retail Wholesale and General Division of the Canadian Area of the ILWU has existed since 1983. RWU and RWDSU are the two founding members of the Division.

These two unions were once part of the Retail Wholesale and De-

and RWDSU to dis-affiliate from the International in 1973 and 1981 respectively.

The two unions then looked for a Canadian-based affiliation and the affiliation to the ILWU Canadian Area was ratified in 1983.

The democratic constitution of the ILWU and the prestige of the longshore organization in Canada has made the division affiliation a source of pride for the RWU and RWDSU.

The Division is the vehicle that allows the approximately 6,700 union members their affiliation to their

SAFETY

No standards exist for testing worn web slings

Recently we have had concerns about web slings.

There have been incidents where webs have parted due to overloading or contamination. At this moment we have no regulations in place to force the testing of web slings.

An industry meeting was held recently regarding this matter. The ILWU feels it was a fairly productive meeting.

It was agreed that the industry would use the international Standards Organization (ISO) standard 4878 and the Coast Guard Wear Standard.

It is the intention of the ILWU, the BCMEA and the Coast Guard to develop a web sling standard.

This will take some time, as it has to be presented at the Canadian Marine Advisory Council meetings in Ottawa, and then passed into law by parliament.

Some items to look for when inspecting web slings:

Edge Damage — cuts not to exceed the thickness of the material.

Abrasion — the penetration of the abrasion is not to exceed approximately 15 per cent of the thickness of the webbing, taken as a proportion of all plies

cent of the sling thickness is allowed, but not to within 1/4 width from the edge, and the damaged area not exceeding 1/4 width of the sling.

Weft thread damage. This is longitudinal separation of the sling. Up to 1/4 width of the sling and extending not more than twice the sling width.

For additional information refer to the Wear Standards of the Canadian Coast Guard.

Repaired Web Slings — It is the policy of the ILWU and the Web Sling Association that web slings with structural damage shall never be repaired.

Contaminated Slings — A sling contaminated with cement dust will feel soft and limp. Cement (lime-stone particles) penetrates the fibres and act as a thousand knives attacking the fibres, causing premature failure.



Economic, political future lost unless we regain control

Canadian Sisters and Brothers have come a long way over the years.

Our democratic leadership is the backbone of what we are today. Without it we would not survive.

Unfortunately, as long as the corporate agenda continues unabated, Canadian unions will have no chance of regaining control of their economic and political futures.

Canadians need practical, workable alternatives to an economic system that has damaged lives and families to the benefit of a corporate few. Expanding the corporate free-trade zone to include the rest of Latin America simply extends the trans-national zone of influence to the entire hemisphere.

The Free Trade Agreement has been bad for the environment, and NAFTA will be worse. Downward harmonization of standards, uncon-

trolled exploitation of resources, limits to future government powers and shutting out citizen activism are particular problems in the agreement and reasons why we must get out of the FTA.

If we are to prosper in a changing world, we have to build a different kind of economy. That means more investment in research and development, upgrading union worker's skills, opening new plants and upgrading equipment.

We must move, sector by sector to economic policies to create a sustainable economy in a sustainable environment. We have to compete in the global economy not on the basis of low union wages, inferior social services and a disregard for

This essay was written by a rank and file member who took the ILWU leadership course at the Canadian Labour Congress Winter School. Essays by other members at the course will be in future issues of *Waterfront News*.

the environment, but rather on the basis of our ability to produce technologically advanced goods and services that service our needs.

Advanced technologies can be introduced so as to raise skills and reduce work time, rather than to degrade and eliminate jobs. Growing trade and investment ties between north and south should be managed to raise living standards in the developing countries and to stimulate world growth, not to drag down our wages and living standards to Third World levels. Forcing businesses to live up to higher environmental standards can create new jobs and raise the quality of life.

Real positive change will not

come from the election of a new federal government committed to a major change in direction — though that is an essential step — but through the creation of new relationships between all of the key elements in our society: labour, business, governments, community groups and the popular organizations which speak for women and other groups.

If we truly believe in taking democratic control of our economy and social structure, we must develop new processes for citizen participation and public accountability. We all have a choice. Instead of trying to compete and weakening Canada, let's build from our strengths.

We can all make a difference.

Sister Charlene Ewanekewich
ILWU Local 517

Will loss of longshore jobs continue?

We have all been told over the past three years that Canada is in a recession. This reality has been brought home to thousands of Canadians who are part of the cold statistic of 11.5 per cent average of workers unemployed.

Although the ILWU did not feel the impact of the economic downturn in the first year, there can be no doubt that we feel it now.

Our industry and our work opportunity is subject to world markets, and the shifting of those markets by trade agreements and decisions by multi-national companies are beyond our control.

Canada used to be the major world supplier of wood and other natural resources, and now faces competition from many other countries.

Railway de-regulation in the USA has caused the shifting of lumber to the US east coast from ship to rail, with the resulting loss of longshore work.

Market control was recently shown by the banning of Canadian 'green' lumber to Europe because of the Spruce Nematode, allowing the 'green' lumber market to be controlled by suppliers from Northern Europe.

Pulp and paper markets are now being supplied from Asia, South Africa, the US South, as well as Canada and Scandinavia, the traditional suppliers. A world-wide recession has further reduced the market.

Lynn term will be moving new pulp this year from Alberta and

exporting some northwest pulp currently being shipped at other B.C. ports. Markets are not expected to improve in the next two years.

Sulphur markets face a long-term slump, unlikely to improve during the next seven or eight years. The collapse of world demand and prices for sulphur, which is used to make fertilizer, is due to many factors.

Among these are the prolonged world-wide recession; the disintegration of the Soviet Union; serious debt problems in customer countries; world crop production overcapacity; massive investment by China in the fertilizer and petrochemical industry and a steady in-

crease in recovered sulphur output from natural gas and refineries. Sulphur is now being stored in block form by Canadian producers until a market recovery. The current world market price is less than the cost of transporting and loading of Canadian sulphur.

Demand for chemical fertilizers, including potash, are expected to remain reasonably stable.

Grain is down, especially due to interrupted shipments to Russia because of their poor financial condition. Container movements, although down, are expected to reach the 1992 level.

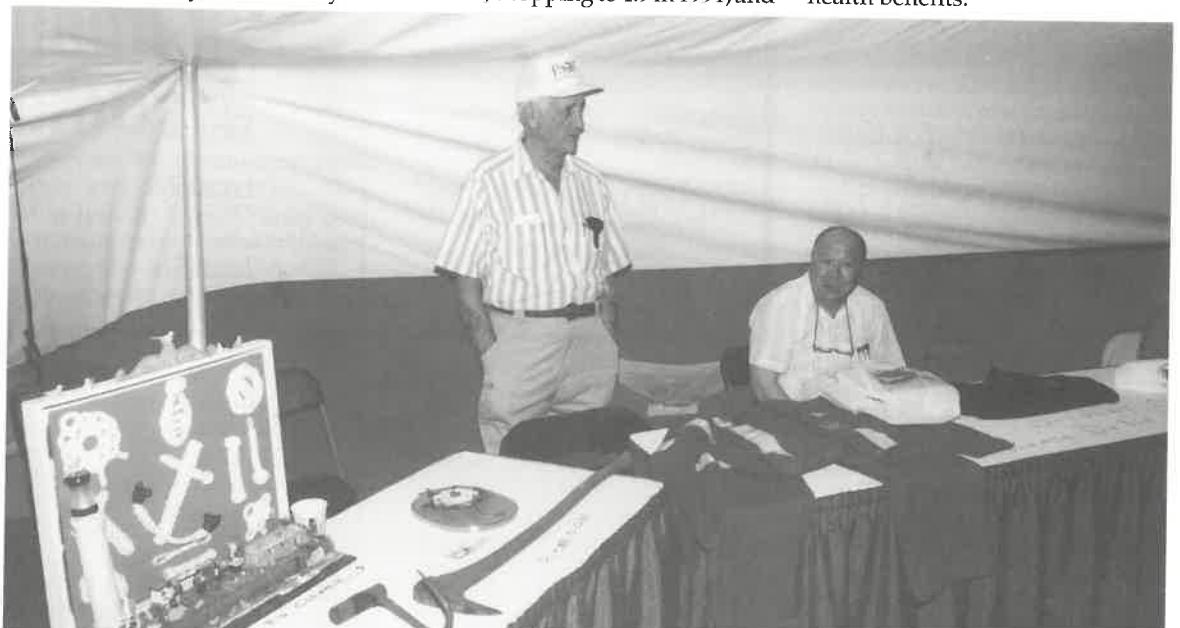
In 1988 Longshore hours were 5.4 million, dropping to 4.9 in 1991, and

4.6 in 1992. Industry hours are expected to be down approximately 250,000 hours in 1993.

To Mid-August local 500 is down 200,000 hours from 1992, equal to the loss of 140 full-time jobs in one year.

Local 514 (Ship & Dock Foremen) are experiencing a similar drop in hours. In 1989 foremen hours were 951,000, dropping to 871,000 in 1992, and to an estimated 855,000 in 1993.

Both the foremen and longshore locals will continue to experience shrinking memberships and work opportunities, putting additional pressures on those working to maintain the current pension and health benefits.



One of the last of the 'old time' longshoremen

The ILWU lost a long-time friend and member with the sudden passing of William (Red) Foster on May 23, 1993.

Red's career on the waterfront stretched from 1932 when he began longshoring, to his retirement in 1973, a span of 41 years.

The 1935 strike caused him to leave the waterfront for two years, but he returned again in 1937. He worked at various longshore jobs, eventually working for Louis Wolfe & Sons Stevedores as a truck driver. He was a member of Local 501 and in May of 1946 he transferred to the new Grainliners Local 507.

Always concerned with improving conditions for workers and adhering to his principles, Red was involved on the executive of his local, and was elected president of local 507.

He went to jail on June 17, 1966 along with nine other local presidents on contempt of court charges when they refused to order longshoremen to work on statutory holidays while our union was trying to get the BCMEA to abide by the federal statutory holiday act.

Following the formation of Local 500 as a result of the amalgamation of the various Vancouver locals, Red continued to be involved and served as vice-president in 1969.

After retirement he became involved with a national seniors organization, COSCO, becoming the president of the B.C. section. For many years he was the president of the pensioners club of Local 500.

Over the years Red helped many seniors with their problems and organized countless outings and bus trips for them.

One of the last of the 'old time'

longshoremen, Red is survived by his wife of 58 years, Anna, daughters Shirley Nichol and Norma Doerksen, three grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Red Foster is gone at the age of 83.



Local fishing derby and golf tourneys big successes

The 24th annual golf tournament for Local 500 was held Aug. 19. Bob Boise won Low Gross with a score of 74, and Second Low Gross went to D. Olson with 76.

Low Net went to Rob Robertson (59), and Second Low Net went to Jeff Thomas (65). The Low Calloway went to L. Squibb, whose score of 70 was just enough to beat out B. Broccollo, with a 71.

Low Senior was Mike Ponak with a 72, and Second Low Senior went to Norm Delaire with 73. Low Super Senior was Russ Vantassell with 73, and second was B. Hippwell at 74. The Low Visitor was I. Rakin at 71, and second was John Milligan, 71.5.

The longest drivers were Hart Shorneck Jr. and Tim Chapman, and the closest to the pin winners were Ted Robertson and D. Olson.

Local 514's annual golf tournament went in May at Carnoustie Golf Club.

Mike Duey of Local 518 again won the main event, with Bill Heads of Local 514 winning the seniors title. Pat Martin of Local 514 won the Senior Low Net, and Bill Haddow, retired member of local

504, won the super senior.

Fishing Derby

On Aug. 21 and 22 Local 500 members reeled in 150 fish at their fishing derby.

The derby winner was Pete Van Ryk, who landed a 15-lb. 12-oz. Spring Salmon. The winner of this year's Alaska cruise was Local 500 Secretary Jim McKinley. Proceeds from the derby go to B.C.'s Children's Hospital.



| | Age | Years of Service |
|-----------------------|-----|------------------|
| Local 500 | | |
| <i>May 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Elmer Booth | 65 | 36 |
| John Gottselig | 65 | 33 |
| Hugo Karvonen | 65 | 32 |
| Sverre Eilertsen | 65 | 30 |
| John Boardman | 65 | 20 |
| Phillip Grant | 65 | 20 |
| <i>June 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Murray Sidery | 65 | 20 |
| Dave McKee | 62 | 37 |
| Honesto Dino | 65 | 26 |
| Cosimo Spagnuolo | 55 | 25 |
| Peter Stephens | 64 | 33 |
| <i>July 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Brian Westrup | 60 | 30 |
| Ralph Kerr | 65 | 24 |
| Rocco Melchiorre | 63 | 30 |
| Robert Blackley | 64 | 30 |
| Robert Booth | 65 | 30 |
| <i>August 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Gordon Wilson | 65 | 32 |
| Ernest Lowe | 62 | 33 |
| Samuel Owen | 64 | 31 |
| Donald Duncan | 63 | 34 |
| Nick Calderino | 64 | 31 |

We Remember them well

Deceased Active Members Local 500

| Name | Age | Date |
|----------------|-----|----------|
| Shangara Darar | 46 | April 14 |
| Ian MacLean | 45 | April 28 |
| Frank Morrison | 49 | May 23 |
| Alvie Baker | 62 | June 10 |
| Per Schjong | 50 | June 21 |
| Bryan Morris | 57 | July 22 |
| Bill Bicknell | 50 | Aug. 27 |

Local 504

| | | |
|------------|----|--------|
| Emil Engel | 57 | May 22 |
|------------|----|--------|

Local 502

| | | |
|-----------------|----|---------|
| Richard Lassman | 40 | July 21 |
|-----------------|----|---------|

Local 514

| | | |
|-----------------|----|---------|
| Carey Hall | 53 | May |
| George Porteous | 60 | July 17 |
| Rick Jones | 48 | July 17 |
| John Quinsey | 60 | Aug. 13 |

Deceased Pensioners

Local 500

| | | |
|------------------|----|----------|
| Lloyd Green | 73 | April 21 |
| Harvey Natrasany | 67 | April 22 |

| | | |
|--------------------|----|---------|
| Mark Ginetz | 76 | May 9 |
| William Foster | 83 | May 20 |
| Fred (Radar) Smith | 79 | May 22 |
| Phillip Grant | 65 | June 8 |
| Dale Woodcock | 61 | June 8 |
| James Nichols | 76 | June 14 |
| Owen (Paddy) Coyle | 79 | June 20 |
| George Smith | 89 | June 4 |
| William MacDonald | 70 | June 30 |
| Arthur Pearson | 87 | July 4 |
| Gus Milke | 86 | June 8 |
| Patrick Westhaver | 63 | July 16 |
| Everet Scribner | 80 | Aug. 2 |
| Victor Fontaine | 84 | Aug. 2 |
| Henry Nelson | 85 | Aug. 8 |

Local 502

| | | |
|--------------|----|---------|
| Walter Scott | 71 | July 13 |
|--------------|----|---------|

Local 503

| | | |
|------------------|----|--------|
| Joseph Spanbauer | 73 | May 24 |
|------------------|----|--------|

Local 508

| | | |
|-----------------|----|----------|
| Glenn Oscar | 76 | May 8 |
| Dennis McCarthy | 69 | April 16 |

Local 514

| | | |
|---------------|----|--------|
| Kenneth Gibbs | 71 | May 10 |
|---------------|----|--------|

Local 502

| | | |
|---------------------|----|----|
| <i>June 1, 1993</i> | | |
| David Simpson | 62 | 35 |
| <i>Aug. 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Jakob Rebec | 65 | 31 |

Local 503

| | | |
|------------------------|----|----|
| <i>June 1, 1993</i> | | |
| James Ralph | 56 | 30 |
| <i>Aug. 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Waldemar Jungenkrueger | 62 | 31 |
| Roland Girard | 64 | 27 |

Local 505

| | | |
|----------------------|----|----|
| <i>March 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Ferdinand Jensen | 62 | 31 |
| <i>June 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Laurie Corbett | 61 | 36 |

Local 508

| | | |
|---------------------|----|----|
| <i>June 1, 1993</i> | | |
| John Mitchell | 62 | 32 |
| Donald MacDonald | 63 | 28 |
| Harold Ronningen | 61 | 26 |

Local 514

| | | |
|----------------------|----|----|
| <i>April 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Donn Smith | 62 | 16 |
| <i>Aug. 1, 1993</i> | | |
| Lawrence Henderson | 65 | 32 |

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 Phone (604) 254-8141, Fax 254-8183

Editor, Barry Campbell
 Associate Editor, John Lynn

President, Gordie Westrand
 1st Vice President, Richard Jones

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