

PUT 'EM ON

The new Prez is making some revolutionary changes in the nation's capital. Lyndon B. had dimmed the lights around the White House as an economy measure, but due to purse-snatching in the area, Richard Outhaus had them turned up again because, in his words, this "was bringing crime too close to home". Back to the slums, purse-snatchers, your easy pickin's days are over!

BIRCHERS DON'T DIG SEX

Recently in Houston Wobert Belch, Prez and Founder of the John Birch Society, asserted that the real aim of sex education in the public schools is to keep our high-school youth obsessed with sex. (And of course you know who is behind it: those nasty ole commies.)

The Birchies are going to combat all forms of pornography—including sex education—by setting up local committees called "Movement to Restore Decency".

Ho Boy! More private showings!

WET BACKS, KEEP OFF OF MY DRY BEACH!

The latest ruse of land-grabbers along the Ocean front in Oregon is the dry-sand one. Private-property owners argue that only the portion of beach washed by high tide is public land. That portion which remains dry belongs to them as inviolate private property. Such if valid would give them the right to literally fence in the Ocean. Oregon weather being what it is, these land-grabbers must be a bunch of Easterners!

DON'T PATRONIZE

You really ought to get along without California table grapes, chiquita bananas, A&W root beer, A&W hamburger stands. If you must fly, "Please do not fly with United," organized janitors say.

BOYCOTT STORES THAT

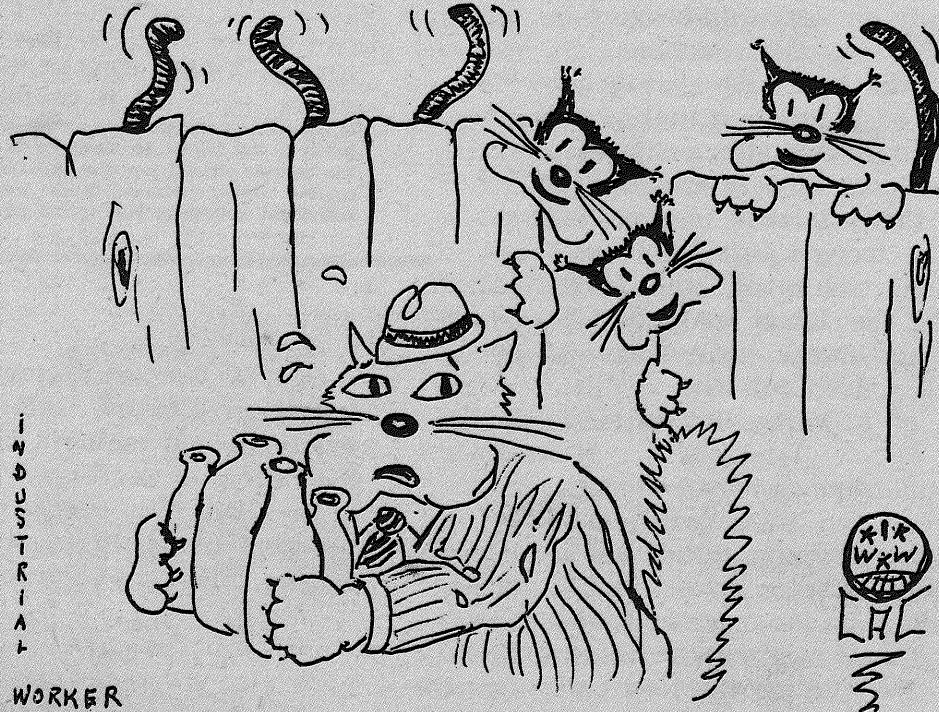
SELL CALIFORNIA GRAPES!



IWW HAS NEW SEATTLE OFFICE

SEATTLE—Fellow Workers and friends are welcome at the new local IWW office at 307 Jones Building, 3rd Avenue and Union Street, open from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. every day except Monday. At other times telephone West 7-2513 for information. IWW Stationary Delegate Herb Edwards is in charge.

WILD CATS LOOSE IN W. VIRGINIA



Fat Cats Frantic!

While the United Mine Workers Journal appeals to US coal miners to "keep their cool" and to rely on Union President Boyle to back their demands for safe working conditions, these have, instead, taken the direct-action route in a wave of wildcat strikes that threatens to shut down every mine in West Virginia.

During the last week of February, the walkouts closed down virtually all coal mining in the southern half of the state, and at last report they were surging up into the northern field as well.

The foremost demand of the strikers, and the one most publicized, is for immediate legislation that can provide compensation for "black lung", medically known as miners' pneumoconiosis.

Always a short cut to the grave for coal miners, this disease became a veritable plague with the introduction of underground machine mining. To date, West Virginia law has not recognized "black lung" as an occupational disease, and therefore it is not covered by the state's compensation law.

The demand for the "lung" law is out front in the present struggle, but the basic demand is for improvement in mine conditions that will eliminate the cause of the disease and the causes of the all-too-frequent explosions and other mine accidents.

Recent published statements by mine owners and mine union officials alike indicate that these gentlemen are more than a little irked because of the severe criticism of all who are responsible for continuing unsafe working conditions in the mines.

An employers' statement, published in the "Journal", brags about "the impressive trend toward fewer injuries, better health, and still further increase in life expectancy of the men who mine the nation's coal". In a "Message to Members", in the same magazine, a union official calls the critics "nit-pickers".

The same official notes that some progress has been made in mine safety since the "dramatic horror" last November at Farmington, West Virginia. But he added:

"To call these improvements in enforcement of the Federal

7000 Workers on Strike at Belgian Ford

The strike at the Ford plant in Genk, Belgium late in October had all the elements of another sell-out by the two big Belgian unions—the C.S.C. (Catholic) and the F.G.T.B. (socialist). In 1963 a five-year contract had been signed by the two unions with Ford in which the salaries were lower than those at Anvers, another Belgian Ford factory, but higher than what workers in the region were able to make in the mines. As the work at the Ford plant increased, more people were "freed" from the mines and took jobs with Ford. The plant made parts for the Taunus M-17, a popular middle-priced car, and it is said that the union contract, drawn up with the help of the Belgian Government and local authorities, guaranteed Ford the best conditions for exploiting the workers.

The contract expired late in 1968, and both Ford and the unions would have liked to renew it as it was. For more than nine weeks union leaders and management talked—while the workers kept on the job, enabling Ford to pile up stock in case there was a strike. Finally a strike was called for Monday, October 21, but not all the workers in the plant went out. 1300 stayed on even though their unions were affiliated with the same central union. They ran the administrative and business machinery at the plant while saying that they were "with" the workers and "for" solidarity. In reality they were

scabs. The more-militant workers felt that the union leadership did everything in its power to prevent any spontaneous movement which might lead to the occupation of the factory along the lines of what happened in France in May and June.

The contrast between the action of the rank-and-file union members who stopped busses and trucks from entering the plant and who were active on picket duty, and the mouthing of the trade-union leaders about their connections with the Ford plants in Germany and England and even Detroit and their gratefulness to the local authorities for restoring law and order is sharp. Police, of course, were on the side of management. Twelve policemen and four jeeps were needed to get one worker into the factory; 100 police escorted trucks into the plant to break the workers' blockade.

Among the grievances of the workers was not only salary, but conditions of work. Hours are too long, workers object to the speed-up on the assembly line, and the fact that often workers on the line are injured and are not given medical treatment because the work can't be interrupted.

Belgian trade-union leaders refer proudly to meetings held with their fellow trade-union officials in Germany or England, but do nothing to prevent English Ford factories from making the parts made at Genk while Genk is on strike, nor do they prevent increased

(Continued on Page 5)

(continued on Page 8)

Editorial

Unionism up Front!

"This is the object of the IWW—to give labor a form of organization to make it invincible."—Justus Ebert

These words of an outstanding writer and editor of the IWW's early formative years imply a libertarian's faith in the ability of human society to erase its mistakes, and a worker's conviction that his class has the power to do it, when correctly organized.

As we have had opportunity to learn, this view is challenged, always by conservatives and reactionaries, frequently by the Left. Even the New Left approaches unions with caution and only on political matters, and urges the unorganized to action only on matters unrelated to their employment; and it seldom directs attention to the important economic fact that all labor is exploited at the point of production. The thought that labor could by itself end this exploitation, and many other evils besides, is rarely voiced by the latest crop of Left agitators and teachers. Perhaps never before has so much red-hot radicalism been poured out with so little bearing on the key problem of a worker's relation to his job.

This, of course, pleases employers and their stooges, the conservative union leaders and labor politicians. It also pleases many workers who would rather not be reminded of their status as wage slaves.

Meanwhile, there are happenings on the industrial front which prod workers to action on their own, without assists from theoreticians of either the Old or the New Left.

Increasing speed-up is disturbing assembly-line workers. Dangerous work conditions, layoffs in many industries, and wage scales that don't move up with the cost of living are building up discontent throughout the land. Union railroad workers are fighting for full crews on trains. Coal miners are striking for dust-control in mines—a life-and-death issue for tens of thousands. Outside the influence of the more-effective unions, low pay feeds millions of workers just above the starvation level, and then only while their employment remains fairly steady.

Few will question that this means simply and clearly that the need for more and better unionism to fight for the traditional union demands—wages, hours, conditions—is as great now as it was in the days before statism made welfare a political issue.

But the job for unionism grows bigger. In the past, few workers questioned economists who declared that the market demand for goods produced by labor operated like a law of nature and that labor functioned automatically to satisfy the market demand. Now at last it is generally understood that the market is created and maintained not to supply food for the hungry, not to benefit human society, not even primarily to enhance the power and glory of nations—but to protect and extend the power of a world-wide ruling class. Everyone knows now that the production of food is not increased automatically just because more people are in need of food. If any think that half a world hungry creates a market for food, they're blind. If any doubt that profit in arms is the factor that stimulates arms production, they're worse than blind.

Consciousness of the importance of this fact to the future of the world is building up in the ranks of labor, as it is disturbing all thinking people, with the exception, we may suppose, of capitalists, dictators, and Mr. Block.

Out of this situation grows the new need for planned union action by labor on the industrial front; for action that lies just outside the traditional "immediate demands" of the labor movement. It is no longer enough to judge a job of work as good or bad by the wage it pays.

We can't undertake here to feed the hungry of all the world, but certainly we could easily feed our own; and we could decide here, in agreement with workers in other industrial countries, to stop producing those things that only ruling-class idiots want us to produce and use. Well, like military armament, for instance.

Amazing as it may be, there are still many Left-thinking people who consider this a matter strictly for politics and who ignore the possibilities of direct action on the industrial front. And this at a time when shrewd observers are announcing the "Death of Politics"!

This argument for the pre-eminence of unionism in the struggle against exploitation and reaction may, in fact, be full of holes. But the holes can be plugged up with available facts, given time and space.

"An Injury to One Is an Injury to All" • One Union One Label One Enemy



INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Official Organ of The Industrial Workers of the World
Owned and Issued Monthly By
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

2422 N. Halsted Street Chicago, Ill., 60614 Phone: LI 9-5045

Second-Class postage paid at Chicago, Illinois

Editorial and Business Offices of the Industrial Worker are at
2422 North Halsted Street, Chicago, Ill., 60614

SUBSCRIPTION RATES No Paid or Commercial Advertising accepted.
36 issues \$6.00
24 issues \$4.00 Make all Remittances payable to
12 issues \$2.00 "INDUSTRIAL WORKER"

Carl Keller, Editor

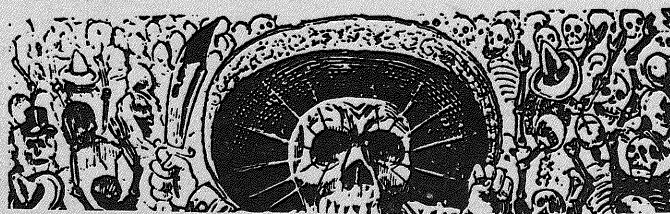
CARL KELLER, General Secretary-Treasurer

W. H. Westman, Business Manager

It should be understood by members and others who read this paper that it is the policy of the I.W.W. to designate as OFFICIAL any articles or policies which have the regular official sanction. Anything not so designated is not official. All other matter herein contained is the mere personal expression of the individuals or individual writing or editing the same.

NEW EDITOR

Carlos Cortez is taking over the editorship of the Industrial Worker. Carl Keller is relinquishing editorial functions and taking a break from most of the duties of his office as Secretary-Treasurer. Allan Just, Chairman of the GEB, is in charge of Headquarters. Walter Westman remains as business manager of the Industrial Worker and as office manager and bookkeeper.



Winner Take ALL

I look upon the rich as men who own warehouses full of good food just across the way from the tenements and shacks of the hungry poor.

They often pose as public benefactors, giving generously of their surplus, but not of their capital stock. That they keep under lock and key, well guarded by lawful means, for it is in the old tradition that the rich shall have their mansions and the poor their shacks. Theirs is the law as propounded in Washington and at way points in government outposts.

They are great sticklers for playing by the rules of the game, for it is by so doing that they win the American sweepstakes. Winner take all, that is the cardinal rule of this free-enterprise game. They are players who like to bet on sure things, like equality of opportunity, they only having the opportunity.

The poor are in the position of a lamb in the presence of a devouring wolf. The Indians lost their lands, the Negroes lost their liberty, and the great American poor lost everything.

Gambling hell, the USA, Uncle Sam, proprietor! Step right up this way, boys, you have nothing to lose but your shirts! (Your pants are long gone.)

Let us hark back to our early days as a nation: Much of the wealth of America was invested in slavery-related enterprises in 1776, and the affluent Revolutionaries, victorious in the end, bequeathed to posterity a fancied right to live off the labor of workers, whether slave or free.

Free-minded workers, questioning that right, are properly called radicals. We who do our thinking and talking on that side of the fence are now rebels in our own right, and would like to see a second American Revolution—a peaceful one this time, we hope.

Nearly two centuries of government by the Establishment have furnished the common people with a list of grievances as long and as grave as those that stirred to rebellion the Eighteenth Century Americans. Our native Tories govern us as poorly as did the British when they had the Thirteen Colonies in their grasp. We are still being tribute-ruled, only it goes into pockets nearer home.

This America is the homeland of the great common people, and we shall build here our Co-operative Commonwealth for their use. This is our land.

J. F. McDaniels

YAKIMA LETTER

A Challenge We MUST NOT IGNORE

YAKIMA, Washington — It's been a hard winter here again in the Yakima Valley, and once more the farmer's cries of distress are heard in the land. It's going to be another bad year, they say.

But the fruit ranchers always start crying as soon as the first little freeze comes. They get an early start, trying to build up sympathy and easy acceptance of their low-wage offers. Funny thing: it often works out for them.

Not that the fruit tramp or home guard worker who has toughed out a hard winter really gives a care about the ranchers' hard luck, real or pretended; but it provides a phony excuse (for those who are looking for one) to avoid joining in a fight for a decent living wage.

Certainly, the size of the crop affects the amount of employment—the number of jobs; but there is no good reason why a short crop should be used to force the pay scale down, or to keep it down to near-starvation level. That's what they will try to do, let the crops be good or bad, by making full use of competition for jobs among unorganized wage slaves.

The medicine for that situation is organization, and nothing else will take its place.

Anyway, we will know more about the crop condition in the fruit by from April 15 to May 1.

Meanwhile, there is another matter to think about.

There are about 10,000 Mexican Americans in the lower Yakima Valley employed mainly in stoop labor—beets, asparagus, et cetera—but beginning to move into the tree crops also. I have had a hard time communicating with these workers, as I do not speak their language.

These workers we cannot, must not, ignore. They constitute a large and growing part of the agricultural work force in this area. Moreover, they are, largely, a stable part of the population. They live here, and their season of employment averages longer than that of the wandering fruit tramp on whom so much of our attention has been concentrated in past years. There is no question about their need for IWW organization. They are among the most exploited wage workers in America. There is nothing to be done about them except to help them get organized, preferably in the IWW

I feel very strongly about this. So also does every other Wobbly familiar with the situation here. I don't mean that we should diminish our efforts among mixed migrants who come here mainly for the fruit harvest, or among the more or less native anglos who drop in on us for an annual vacation in the apples. I mean

we must extend our efforts this year and in the years to come to cover the whole field of agricultural labor. I believe we are equal to the job, and that we can meet the challenge with colors flying if we really get down to working at it. But something a little special is needed here now.

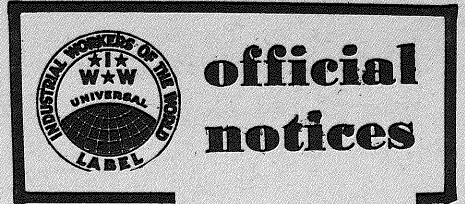
We need at least one—and more would be better—Spanish-speaking IWW worker to introduce our organization to these Mexican fellow workers who now do most of the stoop labor in the vegetable fields and who are joining us in increasing numbers in the orchards.

All of us know that the farm wage slave in this country is a disadvantaged, alienated, and discriminated-against person. Regardless of language, color, nationality, size, age, or education, when wages, justice, and fair treatment are handed out, farm hands always get the smallest share.

We've got to change all that. One thing that we must do to make that change is to be damn sure that we do not let any barrier stand that keeps us separated from one another. We have a little but troublesome language barrier here. We've got to take steps to break it down or bridge it.

To this end, I conclude my first letter of the new farm work season with an appeal to the general membership, to the GEB, to the Administration, and to what other powers there be to see to it that we get more competent help out this way this year, and that we get it as soon as possible; and especially that we get at least one Spanish-speaking IWW organizer. Some literature in Spanish language also will be helpful.

Yakima Delegate



BERKELEY: The Branch Secretary is Robert Rush, 1723 10th Street.

BOSTON: Write to Branch Secretary Dan. L. Tilton, New England Resistance, 27 Stanhope Street.

CHICAGO: Branch general membership meetings are now being held on the first Friday of the month at 2422 North Halsted Street. Write to Branch Secretary W. H. Westman.

DULUTH: Write to IWW Stationary Delegate Patrick J. McMillen, Post Office Box 559 (55801), or phone Pat (727-3154) after 7 p. m. for an appointment.

HOUSTON: Robert (Blackie) Vaughan is Acting Secretary of the Houston I.U. 510 Branch. All communications intended for the Branch should be addressed to him at 7505 Navigation Boulevard (77011).

ITHACA: Stationary Delegate Bill Siebert can be reached at the Glad Day Press, 308 Stewart Avenue (phone 607-273-0535 or 273-1899).

LOS ANGELES: Write to IWW Stationary Delegate, Post Office Box 46583, or phone Dorice McDaniels (OR 7-8397).

NEW YORK: For delegate service and information, phone Bill Goring (749-6465).

PHILADELPHIA: Write to Jarama Jahm, Post Office Box 17161 (19105), or phone MA 7-1896.

SAN FRANCISCO: See Michael Mack, Branch Secretary, 425 Presidio Avenue. Get involved in the action. Keep informed. It's been done by others.

SEATTLE: Call H. M. Edwards, Stationary Delegate, after 5 p. m. for information (WEST 7-2513).

VANCOUVER, British Columbia: Write to Stationary Delegate J. B. McAndrew, 1896 I Avenue, Basement, or phone 738-7864

WATERLOO: IWW Student-Teacher Branch at University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada: Cyril Levitt, Secretary, c/o Federation of Students.

YAKIMA: Write to Stationary Delegate, Post Office Box 2205, Yakima, Washington 98902.

Preamble of the Industrial Workers of the World

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the earth and the machinery of production, and abolish the wage system.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for the every-day struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

LEARN ABOUT THE I.W.W.

The IWW: Its First Fifty Years
cloth cover..... \$3.00
paper cover..... \$2.00
(203 pages, one-third discount on order of five or more)

Battle Hymns of Toil (Poems by Covington Hall)..... \$1.00

Song Book (new edition).. \$.40

One Big Union..... \$.35

The IWW in Theory and Practice..... \$.25

General Strike..... \$.20

Unemployment and Machine..... \$.10

(40% commission allowed on lots of 10 or more copies)

INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

2422 North Halsted Street Chicago, Illinois 60614

USA Can't Shake That Habit

The Government is trying to get us to shake the cigarette habit. It warns us it is bad. But it has an even stronger habit: pushing the sales of US surplus production abroad. The Federal Government spent \$230,000 during the current fiscal year on advertising in Japan, Thailand, Austria, and Germany to promote the sale of American cigarettes and tobacco products.

THE FUND GROWS

Fellow Worker G. Bakos of Perris, California wired in his \$100 for the IWW Eastern Drive (which is scheduled to blast off this summer) just a little late to get mention in our February issue. It's acknowledged here now with thanks.

Out front in the spring preparations, the old Hungarians will be on hand, too, when the IWW celebrates the harvest of new members next fall.

So-Long, Christy Hansen

NEW YORK CITY—Sadly we report the death of Christy Hansen on February 16. He would have been 80 years old in a couple of weeks. From his early youth he was a "Wobbly" and propagandized wherever he went, up to the last days of his life.

He was active on ships and in shipyards, putting out literature, organizing on the job for action when, as he would say, "the going was tough", for any union effort, but especially for the IWW.

He participated in all the activity of the organization here in New York when the IWW ran the weekly forums in the Labor Temple on 14th Street. He painted the most attractive signs advertising the meetings. Thousands of people passing along the busy street knew through his artistry that the organization was alive and active, and many people came to listen to the forum's fine speakers.

This was during the Joseph McCarthy days when so many were afraid to come near any radical action, and these signs with their striking words of revolt "hit the mark", as Chris would say. He made the signs for the anti-Franco demonstrations also.

Christy Hansen was a faithful Jimmy Higgins without whom no organization, no matter how many generals it has, can live. He was a gentle fellow worker and a loyal friend. A piece of the IWW has gone with him, but the spirit to carry on remains with all those here who were fortunate enough to have known him.

E. J. Weiner

RUMPUS ON THE CAMPI

by FRED THOMPSON

"Not in industry, but on the campus and in the ghetto—that's where the action is."

If one is speaking of pressures to change the world, then, despite the extent and effectiveness of the longshore or oil workers' strikes, it does seem that "that's where the action is". And there is where the screws are being tightened, nominally to stop bits of the action said to be afoul of the law, but in effect to stop the world from changing.

Mike Siskind, 21, draws five years. They say he tried to firebomb an ROTC building on his St. Louis campus. Governor Reagan and the Regents (five refusing) decree suspension of any disruptive student on all 18 campuses of the University of California. The National Guard settles in at Madison. A Marxian sociologist loses her job at the University of Chicago despite student protest seizure of the administration building.

A lad from Roosevelt University appears on TV, explains his position, and says he will surrender to the police, who have a warrant for him, as soon as the show is over. He had been charged with trespass after he and other black students had used classrooms scheduled for other purposes to hold classes of their own. In the absence of the teaching they had requested on black experience in America, they had assigned readings for discussion from books they found more relevant to their problems than the African anthropology courses they had been offered instead.

Much of the campus rumpus relates to the special needs of black students. They have had the general support of faculty and fellow students who felt colleges should be accessible and usable to those in the ghetto who want to change the world. On that issue students and union teachers have been on strike since early last November at San Francisco State. That issue ties action on campus and ghetto.

RIGHTIST WORRIES

World news alarms the Right. Somehow 23 or so years after a big war ends a large number of young folk turn 22. Here and everywhere they are just right for cannon fodder, but it seems that if they are allowed to go to school they start demonstrating and making trouble the world over.

Eight thousand cops did end the year-long sit-in at Tokyo University in January with tear gas, fire hoses, and helicopters. Franco has jailed thousands of students in February for demonstrating against the police for shooting their

fellow student Enrique Ruano as he passed out leaflets outside a factory in Madrid. But what if tear gas and jails don't change their minds? Can a Right-winger draw comfort even from the anti-Russian demonstrations in Prague? Didn't some pacifist lad here do like Jan Palach and set himself on fire?

SLOBOVIAN VIEW

These kids start studying and get ideas, and then there's trouble. It seemed timely to have Al Capp spell it out in the This Week supplement to a thousand or so Sunday papers February 22:

"You show me a young idealist who is demanding the right to change a world he hasn't lived in long enough to know anything about, and I'll show you a pest. But show me a student who 'merely wishes to make a good living', and I'll show you a kid who's going to be of service to his fellow men—because that's the only way he can make a good living."

But students cannot accept this notion that those who made their pile did so by being of service to their fellow men. They know bank accounts and bonds draw income, that the graph of income distribution is too skewed for this fairy tale to be true. They know of the solid old fortunes built on the shipping triangle of rum-slaves-molasses. They have some idea how the Astors and Rockefellers and Mellons got theirs. They know of the syndicate today, and of coal-mine operators who stop dusting as soon as the federal inspectors turn their backs, and who say black lung must not be ruled compensable. They know of steel and paper companies that insist on polluting air and water. They may have even been shown someone's old copy of Al Capp's Shmoo. Even this notion that people should be able to make a good living by being of service to their fellow men confirms the moral validity of the old slogan, production for use.

SIT-INS—THEN AND NOW

Nosing around ideas is a menace to things as they are. But as the Tories know, there is something more substantive at stake here than ideas. It involves such questions as who gets what and who runs what.

One old-timer writes us that he never went to college, but did "work his way through a university underground in a utility tunnel". He expresses his enthusiasm for the "militant and informed students" he meets, and also his hope that they will not be entrapped by

any agents planted among them to discredit them.

The recent rumpus on campus today sounds rather familiar to those who built unions in the Threadbare Thirties. They were denounced as mere handfuls of agitators stopping thousands of workers from going about their work; but their minority action made union meetings and union elections possible and did extend some semblance of democracy to industries. They hear campus rebels denounced today as mere handfuls stopping hundreds more from going ahead with their studies—and they see already some growth of democracy on campus as a result of these minority actions.

Back in the Thirties strikers demanded "no discrimination against strikers", and their persistence made this part of the established ways in fights against unfair labor practices. Today students demand amnesty and liberals strangely say they should gladly accept punishment as evidence of their pure intentions. Union men should know one helps build the movement to restrain autocracy by winning some degree of amnesty or non-discrimination.

The stories of campus revolt led one old Flint Fisher Body veteran of the big stay-in strike to recall how proudly they maintained more sanitary conditions in the plant during the sit-down than when it was not under their control—and recommends that stay-in rebels today do likewise.

RUN THE SORBONNE?

One union teacher who was in Paris last May wrote us:

"The Sorbonne was still fully occupied by the students. Red and black flags flew from every window, decorated every statue in the inner courtyard; there were enough papers and pamphlets and paperbacks on sale by every shade of Left-wing organization to outfit a dozen revolutions. I think the students' main fault was in not attempting to run the University as a going institution when they had actual control of it and a great deal of sympathy from many of their instructors. If they could have gone ahead as an on-going system, they would have had a much greater impact on French workers. Instead they merely seemed to be using the Sorbonne as a headquarters for revolution, and for that a store or warehouse would have been as useful.

"The students argued that since the University suffered 600 years of maldirection, they shouldn't be expected to re-direct its course in six

(continued on Page 5)

CAMPUS RUMPUS

(continued from Page 4)

weeks; nevertheless, France was so close to a real version of revolutionary industrial unionism in those May days that, given the way in which French labor will sometimes follow intellectuals, I feel the students let the whole movement down."

Opinion, but highly-informed opinion.

The similarity between the campus fights of today and the fights to establish unions in industries 35 years ago is far from accidental. Both are part of the same process, and an old, old struggle. Education has become an industry too. Students are for the most part unpaid apprentices preparing to serve corporate society with some special training. They cannot accept the future that has been set out for them. They cannot let the use of their youthful years, or the expected course of their later years, be set by those who keep the world from changing.

The campus rumpus is for that reason world-wide. Here, it is bound up with the need to clear up the consequences of past and present racism. A volcano is erupting. We would like volcanos to be neat and orderly, but can hardly expect it. We would also like to see this particular volcano prove effective, and it is the more likely to do so if its participants make a few constructive comparisons with the industrial eruption of the mid-Thirties; see the need for unity with those who have similar aims in industry; see the usefulness of self-imposed union-type discipline; note that planted agents will want them to undertake futile efforts calculated to turn against them those whose support they need, and lay the basis for indictments or for other punishments. It is the same battle on campus and in industry, and it cannot be won in the one place without being won in the other.—F. T.

7000 Workers on Strike At Belgian Ford Plant

(Continued from Page 1)

production at Liverpool where the same type of car is made as at Genk. What is needed is a plan to inform Ford workers in Europe and the US directly of the strike in the Belgian plant so that the workers could express solidarity through their own actions. One way to combat the international corporation is with international solidarity.

Summarized from Informations Correspondance Ouvrieres of November 1968 (ICO) Paris.

Big Labor: Liberator or Tame Baboon?

Sun Valley, California

Dear Industrial Worker:

Issue February reminded me of one of those movie serials of the silent era. Picture this awful scene: The heroine is lying unconscious on a conveyor belt that feeds a rip-saw (unfortunately, the belt has been set moving); the hero is out cold, having been struck on the head by a four-by-four; the villain, however, is in fine shape, quite the master of ceremonies. I think you have anticipated the title that subsequently flashed on the screen: CONTINUED NEXT WEEK.

So with Ye Ed. in a thinkpiece called "Has Labor Joined the System?" Two script-writers—a prof at Ann Arbor and a researcher at Brandeis—describe a hell of a depressing scene: the absorption of American labor into The Genocide Society. They do a slick job, too. One thinks: How are the Leftists going to answer that one? But, Ye Ed. promises to straighten it all out in the next issue. And one hopes: We're for yuh, Ed.; show us how the hero is going to revive and shut off that conveyor belt.

Me, I'm pessimistic as hell. I think that gal is going to have split personality real bad, and I think that labor is headed for an oddly similar fate. I mean, Big Labor will continue to work for the class enemy here at home, and to destroy its class brothers abroad. Schizoid behavior, as the intellectuals might say. They are reducing their own potential in thus selling out. Indeed, they hasten the day when free labor will have ceased to exist; I think the Wobblies know that the blueprint calls for genetically-produced robots in the glorious future.

At my own level—the factory proletariat—I see no opposition whatever to the oligarchy's plans. Indeed, I cannot even detect any interest in the subject. Of course, day-to-day

happenings may elicit a comment or two, but they show no understanding of how details relate to the whole. For example, the oil slick in Southern California coastal waters got too much publicity; who cares about "ecology"? Sweden should be turned into another Viet Nam; they recognized Cuba, and they won't buy our grapes. Pretty Diane, in the front office, thinks oligarchy-controlled eugenics is nice and sexy. Recession? Shee-it....

But, as I say, show me where I am wrong, PLEASE.

Like the Wobblies, I think that student revolts and black power are over-rated. One admires the students—nay, since they are young, one feels a profound affection for them.

And, they are hitting hard. But the system fights back like a champion; it rolls with the punches in true professional style—the few punches that connect.... The blacks are something else. I seriously doubt that the American (or African) Negro really opposes capitalism—in spite of the genocide that threatens them. I think that their desire is accommodation, acceptance. Like European "communists", they want to sit down with whitey boss and devour those pork chops.

You say, Goddamit, Fellow Worker, you got no respect for ANYbody. Workers, peasants, students, coloreds, pretty office-girls—you shit—can everyone.... I say, No; G-d bless 'em everyone. Especially the students, the coloreds, and pretty Diane.

Nuisance, double-spacing. Organized labor—for example typographers—sure likes to strain at gnats and swallow the capitalist camel.

If you have a crazy spell and decide to run this sub-proletarian literature, please don't blue-pencil the hell out of it. Worse stuff than this has gotten to Nobel Prize.

John Davis



Migrant Looks Ahead

Fellow Worker Editor:

I fell like I ought to be ordering a bunch of papers about now to get the word around that it's time for fruit tramps and other seasonal farm hands holed up here for the winter to begin thinking about certain economic questions—like wages, hours, work conditions, and a union. It's a fact: Spring will soon be here again.

Meanwhile, if you have been monkeying around with OEO, which is supposed to be snooping for economic opportunity for the likes of you and me, or graping-up to MES, which runs surveys on our capabilities, records, and thinking, you have probably reached the same conclusion that I have; these outfits are to pit workers against each other and to keep them divided.

I have been stopped each time I tried to organize all the low-income wage workers together. They want to keep them separated. They want to keep US separated—whites against blacks, browns, and other non-anglos in this line of work.

They are building more jails and keeping up old concentration camps; enlarging police forces, too. And they are not doing it to provide nice summer picnics and free winter housing for the poor.

If we don't want to be Nixonized next winter, we'd better get organized now. Join the IWW.

Fruit Tramp

GOD LOVES OIL?

Biafran women nurse
their young with tears
While fatherblood
soaks into native soil.
God does not hear
the prayers of these poor.
He is too busy
with the price of oil.

—Evert Anderson

A Day Well Spent

Editor:

Just back from a Peace March Demonstration and meeting at Eagles' Auditorium (Seattle). It was orderly as could be, but enthusiastic and inspiring. Would that I were young again! I estimated that 99% of those participating were young people, students, and victims of the draft. The auditorium is supposed to hold 2,000 plus; it was filled to overflowing. And that on the first fair-weather Sunday in about two months.

A GI speaker really told it as it is in forceful

expressions with graphic four-letter words—enough to make the hair of a Christian general curl—as he told of sadistic torturing of soldiers in the stockades at San Francisco, and of the unspeakable hypocrisy of the industrial-military complex when trying to make us believe that the war in Viet Nam is a war for freedom and democracy.

Good and well. It's an old story and it has been going on for a long time. It's somewhat like "Talk is cheap, but it takes money to buy whiskey."

Needless to say, as an old

has-been I was stirred most by the oratorical blast of the main speaker when he said that "the Industrial Workers of the World was the greatest organization that ever hit this country". Standing so far away, I may not have gotten this right word for word, but I know that mention of the IWW brought forth loud applause.

That eloquent speaker, whatever his name is, cooled no words. They were hot enough to cut through the asbestos armor of the Merchants of Death.

—HME

Whistlepunk's Tale Revived at

Seattle General Strike Commemoration

A commemoration of the Seattle General Strike, jointly sponsored by the Peace and Freedom Party and student organizations, was held during the period corresponding to the time of that event of 50 years ago, February 6 through 11.

Meetings held at the Hub of the University of Washington were open to the public and well attended. Though the majority of the audience were students, there were also members of a variety of political and industrial organizations. All responded enthusiastically to give the occasion an atmosphere of fellowship—the way it should be at all times among people who have interests in common. We of the IWW were invited, and I was pleased to attend two of the meetings.

Harvey O'Connor, author of "Revolution in Seattle", was out here from the East and was the main speaker—a likable fellow with a robust posture and a good "Irish gift of gab". In other words, he can, as far as voice and delivery are concerned, speak as well as he can write. In reviewing the history of the Strike, he touched on many subjects and factors, most prominent of which was the part played by the IWW. But what impressed me most favorably in his speeches at most meetings was his expressed nostalgia for the singing at IWW gatherings in the "old days"; and he asked the audience to join in singing at both meetings.

I should like to stop right there, but I cannot; if I did, this report would not be worth space in an IWW publication. I must ask you, the readers, to help me appraise the puzzling ambivalence of what the speakers said with great emphasis regarding the IWW they knew in a bygone era. The old cliché, condemning with "faint praise", did not apply because the condemnation was expressed loudly and emphatically as if it was meant to glorify something they insisted was a common practice of the membership and a policy of the IWW as an organization. Why ???

I believe that I can guess the reason; but to tell it would make this report too long, besides having the touch of an Alfred Hitchcock story, and merely prove that truth is stranger than fiction!

The meetings were conducted in orderly and democratic fashion by Student Chairman George Arthur. The first speaker, a young, attractive woman, Barbara Winslow, presented a review and eulogy of the life of Anna Louise

Strong. It was very well done—and, one may add, deserved.

Next came the turn of Jack Wright, a smallish man who was old enough to pose as the Voice of Experience Who Had Been There When.... But why he was there as an expert on the history and practice of the IWW, and why he chose the theme of sabotage, is best known to himself and to those in the shadows who are still trying to "liquidate" the IWW for not following the "line" laid down by political supermen.

Mr. Wright is a man of many parts. He had been a Socialist, a member of the IWW at about 15, and a militant member and organizer of AF of L trade unions. Oh, yes, he had been a "logger", too—a whistle punk—and as such he had witnessed many acts of "sabotage", such as the disconnecting of the but-rigger' (a logger's term) from the mainline and throwing away of the shackle pin. (An old experienced logger would laugh at that one told by a greenhorn "punk" who didn't know what it was all about.)

I was reminded there of the story about driving railroad spikes into logs as a means of sabotage, a story no real logger, radical or conservative, would believe because he would know how the spikes came to be there, if there ever was such an incident which caused an injury or damage—something I never heard of as a logger and lumber worker in various occupations and in many states, during a time I was first a young scissorbill and later a member and organizer of the IWW.

Looking back over my years in the "sticks" from the "short-log" districts of Wisconsin and Idaho to the "long-logs" of the Pacific Northwest, including British Columbia and the California redwoods, how come I had not been witness to the infantile petty irritations which were dripping from the lips of the speaker as "sabotage"? Had I been asleep or blind?

The Lumber Barons must surely have been mistaken when, on one of their periodic black lists (1920), I was honored in having my name at the top as one who "could be depended on to work in the interest of the IWW" wherever I went.

I must confess, however, that in the interest of safety and a longer life for the chokermen, I gave them ample time, as a rigging slinger, to get out of the way before hollering to the whistle punk to blow the whistle before going ahead with a "turn" of

logs. As a matter of collective action and solidarity, I willingly took part in similar situations in the interest of the lumber workers, but never in any act which the law called "willful destruction". From what I could see and experience, the employers had a monopoly on such acts—enough to fill a book, but not in this one!

As the speaker came to the end of his speech he told about reading and studying the works of Karl Marx and how he came to the conclusion that Karl was right and Bakunin was wrong. Then our expert on Sabotage and the IWW turned to "politics" as a matter of advanced learning.

O'Connor, as the last speaker at both meetings, was smoother and gave generous praise and credit to the IWW in the struggle to improve conditions for the working people. And since he had not been around the members and organization for many years, the credit he gave to the IWW could only be in the past tense. He did, however, remark that "one hears a lot about the IWW these days".... while at the same time

he left the impression that the oldtimers who were charged with Criminal Anarchy, as he was at one time, were the real Wobblies and a superior breed to the hundreds who later fell victims of the Criminal Syndicalism law.

Of course, being a writer—and a good one—he should probably be excused for his melodramatic romanticism? But that did not excuse him for stressing the theme of Sabotage and turning again and again to "fellow worker" Wright for authoritative agreement. He also possibly coined a phrase when he said: "The saboteurs were the guerrilla fighters of the IWW."! Could that be wishful thinking by some of his associates?.... Just in case!... And that he, as a writer, liked the sound of the phrase?...

Both O'Connor and Wright were more moderate in their Sabotage theme at the second meeting. Thanks to the fairness of the Chairman, I was given ample opportunity to correct what I considered a false impression made by the speakers.

Not being an All-seeing God, I could not deny the possibility of IWW members' having committed minor destructive acts of sabotage. Without knowing, I took it for granted that people, especially slaves, who were unjustly treated and abused retaliated with such acts long before there was any IWW. Knowing that, and the inherent temptation to resist injustice and gross unfairness,



the speakers and writers of the IWW warned against violence and destruction so that the organization would not be victimized. But the enemies of the IWW twisted that around to suit their purpose—to destroy an organization which had always been loyal to the exploited workers and which wanted to see a world without destructive violence and human slaughter.

Since the speakers left the impression with me that the lack of material benefits derived from the General Strike had some direct relation to the IWW participation and influence, I had to point out that the Lumber Workers Union of the IWW made a greater gain against stronger opposition a year or so previously than in any other strike in the Northwest, and that the victory was due to the "conscious withdrawal of efficiency—a non-violent, non-destructive form of 'sabotage' based on the solidarity of the strikers and supporters. That became known as "striking on the job", details of which may be found in any history of the IWW.

While never wanting to throw my weight around or blow my own horn, I could not resist the temptation to take advantage of a sympathetic audience in the interest of the IWW. Having sat through four jury trials as a defendant and been a witness in other trials where we were charged with Criminal Syndicalism, I felt obligated to bring out a certain fact with relation to sabotage and other "criminal acts" which is not known to a lot of people! That out of the hundreds of members—some of them at least the most active in the work of the industrial unions of the IWW—who were charged, tried, and convicted under the CS law, none of them was ever charged, personally, with any physical criminal act—only with being a member of an organization which "taught, aided, and abetted" such acts.

To "prove" our guilt, the prosecutors put professional witnesses, also known as finks, on the stand, and they testified or "confessed" to having committed all kinds of dastardly acts along with some John Doe members of the organization; and some of those "acts" were of such a low and sadistic nature that they would have prejudiced a saint, let alone a brainwashed jury. Against such "evidence", when permitted by a judge, all our defense was inadequate.

(continued on Page 7)

Book Review

IF YOU DON'T WANT TO BECOME A SOLDIER

BEHIND BARS, The Prison Experience: an anthology of writings by and about those imprisoned for opposition to the American military. Chicago Area Draft Resisters (CADRE), 519 West North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60610. 25¢

This little publication consisting of roughly 35 pages and selling for two bits is the latest in a real bargain in current Leftist literature. CADRE, an organization in the Chicago area that gives counseling and other aid to those who are opposed to the present military conscription on ideological or moral grounds, is the publisher of this anthology. Your reviewer recommends it even if, by reason of age or gender, you are far removed from the danger of being drafted.

For those who are in that danger, as well as those who have someone near and dear who is, this book is all the more important. I say that because whatever group the reader belongs to, there are the hosts of scissorbill relatives and friends who should know that there are alternatives in a society that has not as yet gone completely totalitarian.

This is a collection of writings by those who have endured prison experience as a result of their uncompromising opposition to the current war in Viet Nam, and who have faced up to the alternative of being isolated from normal human society, knuckling under to the system, or choosing voluntary exile in another country. The overwhelming majority of the writers here look upon migrating to Canada as a "cop-out" whereby one can never return to his own land without a long prison term hanging over his head; besides this, no real service is being rendered to the anti-war movement. It is far preferable to suffer imprisonment when the chips are down and there are no further alternatives; for even though one is stuck away out of circulation, one can still remain a thorn in the side of an undesirable system.

This anthology is of particular interest to your reviewer, since he did his soldiering behind bars during World War II. Other readers of this struggling little tribune whose ideological hymens were ruptured in like manner will be able to compare the differences in the prosecution and imprisonment of draft violators of the past quarter century, as will any who still linger on from the First World

War. The general consensus will be that a lot of changes have been made.

Progress is in fact being made, not on the part of our manipulators, but in the degree of awareness of those of us who are manipulated, even if only infinitesimally. The facts that sentences are on the whole much lighter and that a little better treatment is being meted out in prison, not to mention the fact that no attempt is being made to prosecute ALL draft violators, bear that out.



However the fact that your reviewer may, in the light of his own past experience, look upon the lot of the contemporary prison conchie as a comparatively-easy go is beside the point. Despite the differences noted upon reading, the ineradicable picture that remains is that a jail is still a jail, and no matter how clean it is on the inside, it's a hell of a lot nicer to be on the outside. The fact remains that it takes more real moxie to stand by one's convictions to the point of going to jail than to knuckle under in the hopes that nothing will happen, and maybe even a medal will be pinned on. After all, if wars could be fought by volunteers, there would be no need for conscription; and the fact that no wars were ever fought with volunteers is ample evidence that warfare is not a basic trait of the human personality. So these draft-resisters are not really alone.

The principal purpose of this anthology is to point out to those who are planning to carry their resistance all the way, just what they can expect. At that it pulls no punches. Even though his claws have been trimmed a little, a prison screw is still a mean bastard who will do what he can to

make the life of an ideological prisoner a little bit rougher than that of the "honest cons"; and even if the screws are not so bad, "time" is something no one else can do for you.

Among the material in this anthology are tape-recorded dialogues, interviews, and some really good narrative literary efforts. The experiences covered range through hunger strikes, time in the "hole", racism, "hard time", and the adjustment of once more being on the "outside". But the most important thing pointed out is, don't pay any attention to any of the old Hollywood movies for a true impression of what prison life is. Despite the unalterable feeling of confinement, it is still possible to live a productive and creative life and enjoy the society of one's fellow inmates.

And for those who may not be directly concerned with the draft, let them take comfort from the fact that there are more war-resisters in prison today than there were during the two world wars, not to mention a greater number still walking the streets whom the system would prefer to ignore.

It is my memory that in the old days, whenever somebody got in trouble with the Selective Service authorities through his principles, the press would smear his name all over the front page to discredit him, whereas now the tendency is to play down any news of draft-resistance rather than to give any faltering hearts dangerous ideas.

The United States has not as yet granted complete immunity to military service to those of ideological conviction, as is the practice of some countries, such as England; but when you consider that there are still some countries where even in peacetime the only alternative to military servitude is the firing squad, you realize that despite evidence to the contrary there is some measure of awareness on these shores. But at the same time there is need for a hell of a lot more awareness.

Carlos Cortez

WOBBLY ANTI-WAR POSTERS (\$1.00 each)



2422 N. Halsted Street

Chicago, Ill., 60614

Get It Straight

The I.W.W. It's First 50 Years

Don't miss this account of the Wobblies through the stirring years from 1905 to 1955.

Cloth, \$3.00 Paper, \$2.00

Order from I.W.W.
2422 N. Halsted
Chicago '14

Seattle Gen'l Strike Commemoration

(continued from Page 6)

But one with a sense of humor can find it almost anywhere. In getting acquainted with some of the hard-boiled convicts who had been convicted of real crimes, we found that they respected and trusted us—not for what we really were, but for what the newspapers and the hysterical persecutors and prosecutors said we were! As such we were the real McCoy and greatly admired by all but the lowest human rats.

We, on the other hand, found—shocking as it may seem to some people—that many of the so-called hardened criminals were more honest and straightforward in their general dealings with other people than some of the sanctimonious "good citizens" on the outside.

The meetings both ended enthusiastically with the singing of "Hold the Fort for We Are Coming" and the songs of Joe Hill. As for the students, I have never seen a more-orderly or better-behaved audience anywhere. Too bad that the old women of both sexes could not be there and get the surprise of their lives!

Though unable to remember having met O'Connor when he was here before and during the General Strike, we had a life-long friend in common: Ralph Winstead, ex-editor of the Industrial Pioneer and author of the "Tightline Johnson" yarns. O'Connor was surprised to learn that Ralph's ashes had been scattered on the water of the Puget Sound.

H. M. Edwards

They recently rejected a romantic space series on TV because of the far-out title. It was called: "Kiss My Astronaut!"



Somethin' learned at Simon Fraser

VANCOUVER, B. C. — The aftermath of last November's occupation of the Simon Fraser University administration building here by 114 protesting students was still to be determined as February ended.

Immediately after the arrest of the 114 and their release on bail, it was rumored about that the charges would be severe and the penalties heavy, not merely a fine on a misdemeanor charge. But on the hearing date, February 6, they were given opportunity to plead guilty to the lesser charge. This 107 of the 114 did. The seven who decided for fighting it out in court have set up a defense fund and are preparing for a long trial.

The short sit-in took place when the University authorities refused to hear grievances of the dissident students. Among these were four members of the IWW. The others were members of Students for a Democratic University, the Canadian counterpart of SDS.

The students charged the University with both political and class discrimination, spelled out as: "discrimination against American draft resisters and 'politically suspect' Canadians" and "against working-class students from regional colleges". All such persons, the protesters charged, were not permitted to enter SFU.

Of late, interest in the IWW here has been growing, as it is elsewhere in Canada, especially in university cities.

The main lessons the students learned from the "occupation" here was the necessity of having a strong base within the working class. Lacking that to a sufficient extent, we did not have the strength, financially or in membership, to deal effectively with bourgeois Justice. — L. Gambone

War on Poverty

In 1950 the number in USA on relief ran a bit over six million, and an average of \$400 a person was dispensed to somebody in their name. In 1968 the number on relief had grown to 9,540,000, and funds spent by federal, state, and local authorities on their behalf averaged out to a thousand dollars per head. But the folks on relief are asking: Who got it?

On February 27, mechanics, ground crews, and cargo handlers struck American Airlines. If it's still on, stay off.

Wild Cats Putting Fat Cat's Fat in the Fire?

(Continued from Page 1)

coal-mine safety act of 1952 belated, has got to be the understatement of the year." He says that had even this unsatisfactory law been properly enforced, many lives would have been saved in the 16 intervening years. Years during which Republican and Democratic politicians have been bossing the Department of the Interior and the Federal Mine Bureau, and thus in charge of mine safety law enforcement.

Resentful of criticism or not, it cannot be overlooked that during these same years and for a long time before, union officials did not encourage worker-initiated action for safety on the job, any more than they are now cheering on the wildcat strikers.

These same officials claim they have worked long and hard for the welfare of their miner membership, and, as they appeal for patience and confidence, they promise to work even harder in Congress

and legislatures, and in conferences with employers. They say their critics are publicity-seekers, and they beg the dues-paying membership to be "reasonable" and to wait.

Sixteen thousand strikers (and the number is growing) say the union officials are wrong.

As this is written, it is reported that four coal operators' associations in the southern half of the state are urging the United Mine Worker officials to get "their" men back to work as soon as possible. One may assume, judging by the record, that that is exactly what the union leaders are doing.

The beauty of a wildcat strike is that it leads itself. A miner who has been told by a company doctor that his lung problem is not really serious and that he had better go back to work "because you could die sooner of starvation than from this dust problem that is bothering you doesn't need a pie-card union leader to show him the way to the picket line.

Induced Hibernation

Doctors Dawe and Spurrier have put some Chicago squirrels into hibernation by injecting them with blood from naturally hibernating animals. Body temperature, breathing, and circulations slowed down. This so conserves energy (and prevents aging) that medical researchers believe it may help astronauts on space flights lasting many years.

Some workers old enough to remember the Big Depression recall false hopes of hibernating until prosperity turned that corner. And for those who are told they are ahead of their time... perhaps a shot of bear blood?

A Lot of War

"In the last 5,500 years there have been 14,531 wars, for an average of 3.18 wars per year. In the last 20 years the frequency has increased to 5.2 per year."—T. Tackobary, Journal of Economics and Sociology, January 1968.

can't be buffaloed. You gotta shoot straight, and slow. I have been off a while with a job injury (finger tip cut off), but am back on again, so here's five bucks for some dues.

Word came my way that an ex-Wob was talking with the UE strike leadership here. Didn't get his name. How many thousands of folks do you suppose are scattered through the countryside that could be mobilized for the struggle? Seems like a couple of "ex-radicals" turn up daily. Well, I hope we never get "ex".

New Hamp Wob



On Northeastern Fronteer (Letter)

Fellow Worker:

Seems like there is a whole bunch of student-worker alliances showing up, tearing down barriers between students and workers. A notable thing is that the Hippy creeps don't show up on the picket lines. (They claim to be fugitives from the system but they are voluntary non-participants in the struggle against it.)

A plant in Springfield, New Hampshire has been out on strike for nearly four months. The Dartmouth SDS has raised money for them, walked the line with them, and made fast and lasting friends. Some of the students are visiting striking workers at their homes. It encourages the feeling that this is not just a case of workers at a single plant fighting their employer, but is in fact a community of workers in serious conflict with the boss class and the system.

Funny thing, though: The union is the UE (once a CP union), and its officials have shown a distinct hostility to the students who have volunteered their help, help which has

been gratefully received by rank-and-file strikers.

Students have walked the line in dozens of strikes, and never has one been kicked off. But one day down Springfield way the local UE union president, who feared the students and rank-and-filers were hitting it off too well, walked into the line screaming for students to get out and threatening to call the cops if they didn't. (The cops present grinned from ear to ear.) This in the independent and progressive UE. Not even their arch enemy, their AFL-CIO counterpart, has shown so much love for the bosses and their stooge cops.

Well, there was a later encounter, and this time the picketers stood firm and demanded that the students be allowed to stay. The company planned to run a scab truck through the line. There was plenty of opposition, in which students participated, and the truck didn't make it through, and the union misleaders didn't dare object to the presence of the students.

I am trying to make friends on my own job, going slow here. These old-time Yankees