

'Free Rides' WOB IDEA TAKES HOLD

"The greatest buy any city could have" — that is what Alan S. Boyd says about free public transportation. Boyd held the cabinet post of Secretary of Transportation and is now president of the Illinois Central.

For several years the Chicago branch of the IWW has been urging that the Chicago Transit Authority adopt a free-fare basis, for every time the fare goes up more riders switch to their own cars and make pollution, traffic jams, housing problems, and sundry other matters worse. The Wobs have argued that those riding the busses are going either to shop or to work or to learn how to work, and the manufacturers and merchants should foot the bill for transportation.

Boyd's recommendation of free rides to the June 2 national Conference on Transportation may influence some who don't take us Wobblies as seriously as they should. If it doesn't, other pressures will have to be applied. One that the IWW has already recommended is that our fellow unionists in their bargaining make a bid for pay for average employee travel time to and from work. This would give the employer a direct interest in getting transportation problems solved.

Recently the Greater London Council in England discussed various proposals for improving public transport, among them that of free fares. It concluded from its study that this would increase the number of rides by only about one tenth. In Chicago a substantially greater increase could be expected, but even a one-tenth increase in the number using public transit would cut down car pollution significantly. The IWW argument runs that the total social costs including health, good use of our time, and the like would be much less with free fares.

How elastic is transportation demand? New York cab drivers find that a 50% fare increase cut driver income and lost many their jobs.

The June 10 Machinist ran an editorial in support of free rides. Its argument ran:

"Last week representatives of more than 70 non-profit organizations met in Washington... to build public support for public transportation.

"The facts are startling. Today in the cities, 94% of all transportation is by automobile. Public transportation is carrying about one quarter of the passengers it carried in World War II.... In many cities streets are clogged (with cars), air is polluted, and the cost in street repairs... et cetera is skyrocketing.

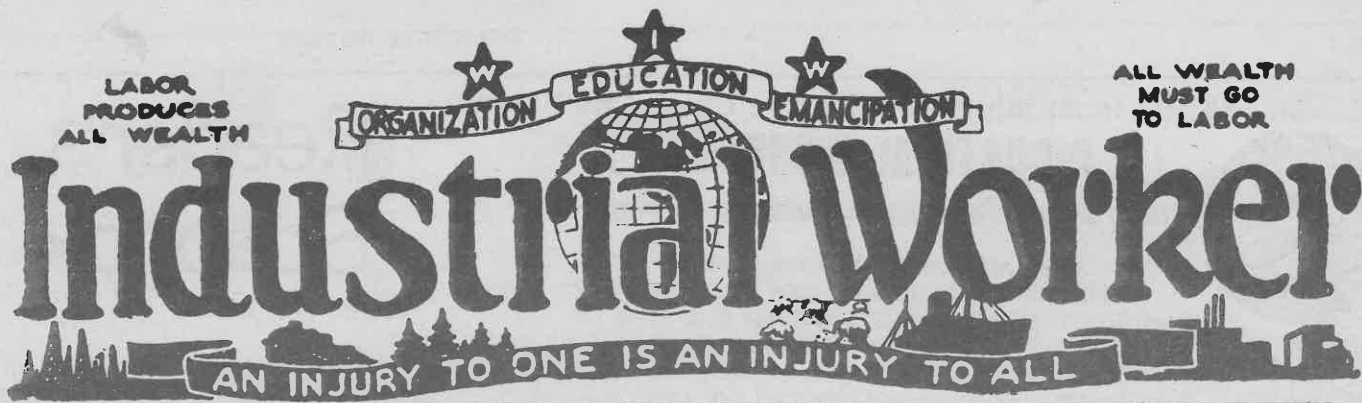
"They estimate that a citizen who drives to work costs a community about 10 times what it costs if he comes by public transportation. They are convinced that building more highways won't solve the problem. The country has spent seventy billion dollars on highways over the last 10 years, and the traffic problem is worse than ever almost everywhere.

"Free rides on busses, subways, and rapid-transit rail systems would actually save money, reduce congestion, and help clean up the air. It's a cause you'll be hearing more about from here on."

It might have added that up to a year or so ago this was something urged by the IWW alone. It is good to see this rationality in the Machinist, though many IAM members have jobs repairing cars. It would be even more cheering to see the good cause taken up by UAW Solidarity and the Rubber Worker — evidence that saving our lives is recognized as more important than trying to save our jobs. The labor movement will be far more free and flexible to push for rational action if its members can be assured that losing a job is no longer a tragedy.

REFERENDUM

A new referendum is being issued at the request of members by petition, to issue a \$2 compulsory Organizing Drive stamp. Ballots to be counted July 25.



VOLUME 68, NUMBER 7 — W. N. 1300

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS, JULY 1971

15 CENTS

These Young Wobs Get Around . . .

A clipping from the Guam Pacific Daily News for May 28 gives a picture of Fellow Worker Beatrice Kincaid and a pitch for a sleep-in baby-sitting job or the like while she visits Guam. The feature explains that this young arts major from San Francisco State hadn't planned on being in Guam right now, but had been deported there by Japanese authorities after a two-week stay in an immigration jail in Tokyo for working as an English teacher while having only a tourist visa. She liked Japan, even the jail food, and is quoted as saying: "I found in the Japanese people a gentle honesty and respect for each other that Westerners often do not have."



The city editor's feature goes on to say "The pretty young lady isn't all sweetness and light." and quotes her as saying: "Guam needs a revolution. The Guamanian people are being exploited by the Navy and the big hotel chains and there is not enough union activity. I would like to see the IWW,

a union to which I belong, come in here." Beatrice told the paper she would like to make her way around the world, working at times and getting to know fellow workers in all lands . . . and now that one might even enter Red China — how far is it, anyway?

Black Workers Refuse to Scab

When they found they could not recruit blacks to break a strike of 3200 painters, bricklayers, roofers, and carpet layers, the Seattle-area contractors shut down all projects in a lockout set for June 14. The contracts of the four crafts ended June 1. On June 4 the Contractors Association that bargains with 18 building-trades unions said it would seek non-union men and passed the word throughout the black community, where unemployment runs from 28% to 50% as against the general area rate of 13%. The Black Contractor's Association which has been trying for two years, in a series of job confrontations, to get black apprentices on the jobs, refused to fall for the bait.

NASA Satellites Aid IWW Program

Down at Carbondale, at the University of Southern Illinois, R. Buckminster Fuller and his staff have a vast computer outfit keeping tally on the earth's resources and man's ability to use them. Some of its data come from co-operating scientists and statisticians. Some come from the NASA satellites that use infra-red photography to view the earth's surface at such high magnification that they check even its underground resources. For years the IWW and similar movements had looked forward to a tremendous statistical task of union men doing that same thing to plan best use. Now it will come easy. But there are still value judgments to be made — and it works out differently according to whose values shape those judgments — a working stiff's or a bureaucrat's.

From others in Guam we hear about these big hotel chains, often owned jointly by Japanese and American concerns, but usually with the workers all Japanese. So they are reading literature from IWT, the Industrial Workers of Tokyo, that urges industrial unionism, rank-and-file control, and classwide concern about things here and now and for a new social order.

IN PAPER STRIK CHIPS PILE UP

A mountain of unprocessed chips grew up in the Western Pulp and Paper Workers strike against Crown-Zellerbach and Weyerhaeuser. At seven Crown-Z plants in Washington, Oregon, and California, a 28-month contract accepted by a narrow margin June 2 ended a dispute that started as a lockout April 23, and became a strike May 11.

The union struck Weyerhaeuser paper plants on May 6. For a few days some Weyerhaeuser lumber mills, under the jurisdiction of other unions, were shut down by Paper Worker picket lines. At Longview pickets sat on a railroad track and, until enjoined, stopped trains from pulling out. This strike continues.

The pile of chips tied up 30 loaded barges, and the mills at Tacoma and Seattle either shut down or reduced operations.

Syndicalism Trial In San Diego

The case of Ricardo Gonsalves, David Rico, and Carlos Calderon in San Diego, charged with Criminal Syndicalism, goes to trial July 26.

Meanwhile in another case the American Civil Liberties Union has started the slow and tedious procedure of challenging the constitutionality of that law once more, on the ground that it punishes mere advocacy and thus violates the right of free speech. Their action is based on the prosecution of John Harris in 1966 for a leaflet that used far-out rhetoric about what to do with the police.

In 1968 the ACLU got a federal district court ruling that the Criminal Syndicalism statute is unconstitutional. This year the US Supreme Court, without going into the merits of the case or the constitutionality of the law, ruled that since all recourse within the state had not been exhausted, the federal court should not have intervened.

That's the sort of law it is, but hundreds have served years in jail on account of it. So we ask again: Give your support to this case by making out a check to Los Tres de San Diego Defense Committee, then put the check in an envelope and mail it to the IWW delegate in San Diego, Arthur Miller, at Post Office Box 1332, San Diego, California 92112.

Parasites Fear Life Too Easy For Workers

Governor Ogilvie of Illinois flew into Chicago's Midway Airport and saw that it was littered. He decided that public aid recipients should go to work to clean it up. A few days later he saw the taxi companies advertising for drivers. He promised them the names of 10,000 able-bodied men on welfare. This made taxi drivers talk about a strike: "Lousy — It makes cab drivers look low down." "The drivers you see got nothing to do but sit around. It's getting harder and harder to get a fare." "They might make \$65 a week if they eat and sleep in their cabs, and that's not counting traffic tickets they'll have to pay."

Illinois has passed a law requiring one year's residence in the state to qualify for welfare. It hopes to get by the Supreme Court ban on such laws by pleading hardship.

This notion of thousands of able-bodied men on relief does not fit the available figures. Those getting some form of public assistance have increased in five years from 7.7 million to 13 million, most of the increase coming in "prosperous" years. Of these 13 million, 9.5 million are on AFDC. HEW made a recent tally that of those on welfare, 24% were old-age recipients, 50.3% children, 8% disabled, 1% blind, 2.9% incapacitated, 13% mothers. Of course the 10 million working poor who earn less than subsistence even when they are steadily employed need help as soon as they lose a job: Even 52 weeks a year, 40 hours a week at \$1.60 per hour comes to only \$3,328.

Mr. Ogilvie is such a kind man he wants Welfare patients to arrange for special bargain-basement health care, with \$3 out of their grocery money for every day they stay in the hospital and \$1 for each visit to the doctor. That should teach them to loaf! Governors talk like Ogilvie from California to Massachusetts.

Adlai Stevenson says make all welfare federal and you'll save a billion dollars in administrative costs. Now that there are 55 areas with the jobless figure above 6%, it might save more money.

Wages Too High

The Hotel and Restaurant agreements for the Duluth area assure hard times for the next three years. In hotels the mangle operators in the laundries, the elevator operators, and the dishwashers have been brought up to \$1.60 an hour and are to get a dime increase in 1972 and 1973. The bellman has been raised 12¢ to \$1.18, the front porter in hotels to \$1.18, and the busboy to \$1.52 — all to get a dime more each of the next two years. Restaurant dishwashers get 5¢ more, but drive-in car-hops start at \$1.40.

Yuba City Murders

Over and above the tragedy of all these workingmen done in, is that of their death in life: the poverty of being no one, and of so little consequence to anyone else, even an equally impoverished working stiff, that no one bothered to look for them.

"An injury to one is an injury to all" One Union One Enemy



INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Official Organ of The Industrial Workers of the World

OWNED AND ISSUED MONTHLY BY
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
2440 NORTH LINCOLN, CHICAGO 60614 (549-5045)

SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT CHICAGO
EDITORIAL AND BUSINESS OFFICES LOCATED
2440 NORTH LINCOLN, CHICAGO 60614 (549-5045)

NO PAID (COMMERCIAL) ADVERTISING ACCEPTED	SUBSCRIPTION RATES 36 ISSUES \$5.00 24 ISSUES \$4.00 12 ISSUES \$2.00	REMITTANCES PAYABLE TO INDUSTRIAL WORKER
--	--	---

FRED THOMPSON, EDITOR THIS ISSUE
WALTER H. WESTMAN, BUSINESS MANAGER
LIONEL BOTTARI, GENERAL SECRETARY - TREASURER

POLICY: Unless they are designated as official statements, those articles which appear in the Industrial Worker are the personal expressions of the individuals who wrote them, and can be expected to clash with each other at times. It is not our practice to pay for any items published. Most of our articles are written by workers, members of the IWW, but we welcome short items dealing with matters of general working-class interest from non-members as well. All material except flash news should be in by the 15th of the month so that typesetting, layout, and printing may be completed by the 20th of the month.

A Fear That Makes Us Nuts

When we read history we look back at people massacring each other on such grounds as that their religions differed, and we think how unreasonable they were. When future historians write about us and have to explain our toleration of a military-industrial complex that kept us at war, they will likely attribute it to a further great irrationality of our times: the fear of losing a job.

This fear of losing a job drives us to demand that work be done that we don't really want done. It makes us disregard what unnecessary work does to harm our environment and our bodies. It hinders us from reaching a worldwide understanding with our fellow workers about what to do with this earth. It is the great basic irrationality of our times.

In his book "Operating Manual for Spaceship Earth", R. Buckminster Fuller offers an argument which we may condense as follows:

"The great social struggles of labor to increase wages....made possible mass purchasing; ergo, mass production....Our labor world and all salaried workers including school teachers and college professors are now...afraid that automation will take away their jobs. They are afraid they won't be able to do what is called "earning a living", which is short for earning the right to live....To take advantage of the fabulous magnitudes of real wealth waiting to be employed intelligently by humans and unblock automation's postponement by organized labor, we must give each human who is or becomes unemployed a life fellowship in research and development or in just simple thinking. Man must be able to dare think truthfully and act accordingly without fear of losing his franchise to live....Fishing provides an excellent opportunity to think clearly."

Fuller's argument runs that if one person in a hundred thousand thus given a living in which to think comes up with a useful idea, it will pay the cost of maintaining all the hundred thousand. They don't have to go fishing; they can study and explore if they feel like it.

A sizable part of the social struggle today is over the right to keep on living when you don't have a job. It is a critically important part of the struggle. The less men and women have to fear for themselves and their families, the more they dare demand from their employers. The less workers have to fear the loss of their jobs, the more intelligent union action they can undertake.

In late May George Taylor, executive secretary of the AFL-CIO committee on health, said that because of the bleak job outlook, unions are concentrating this year on "bacon and beans" and passing up demands for pollution control. In local political pressures, some unions join their employers to urge the anti-pollutionists to go easy lest they lose their jobs. The Boeing workers didn't want to build SSTs; they wanted jobs.

The rational attitude on all this is not to hold in contempt our fellow workers who must look to welfare. The rational attitude is a class position: "We are the working class. You, the employing class, have seized control of our products and our resources. Either you use them so we all eat regularly or we dump you." Of course, we ought to dump them anyway.

Communards

1871 - 1971

Paris in that long-ago spring shone with glory.
The workers' banners flew over the battlements.
Freedom and justice were the order of the day;
Oppression was banished, and a bold new age dawned.
But the forces of reaction would not be silenced.
They marshaled every ounce of might to crush honor,
Vowing that not one innocent child should escape.
Their firing squads reaped a bloody harvest of souls.
Fresh faces in a Parisian crowd reflect hope.
Dreams die hard, and so do the deeds of noble men.
Communards in spirit will carry on the fight.
Seeds of awakening germinate in the good earth.

Gordon L. Herman

PLEASE PRINT: Mail to Industrial Worker, 2440 North Lincoln, Chicago, Illinois 60614.
Send Industrial Worker for years to (name)
(street and number)
(city) (state) (zip)
I enclose \$ (\$2 for 1 year, \$5 for 3 years). If receipt should be sent to an address
other than the above, write it here
(NOTE: ALL DUES-PAYING IWW MEMBERS IN GOOD STANDING GET THE IW FREE!)

Reader's Soapbox

POWER FOR PEACE

The Establishment summed up the Washington anti-war demonstrations as follows: "They proved that dissenters can protest and they will be listened to." So the demonstrators really permitted the Establishment to continue the same game it has been playing since the 1963 March on Washington: allowing large numbers of powerless people to assemble and petition — and then ignoring them. Since all that noise and energy changed nothing, will both public and activists assume that nothing can and/or should be changed? Repeated displays of powerlessness can only serve to discredit and discourage a movement.

The plan of centralized demonstrations was elitist, severely limiting participation. The only honest purpose of a mass march or demonstration can be to educate one's neighbors — by showing the strength of an idea and thus convincing others to participate. Simultaneous marches in every city and town across the country would have involved many hundredfold more average folks, including working people.

The power to end the War lies with the workers who make the war materials and the soldiers who use them. The draft resistance movement and the GI movement are functioning at the point of production: helping soldiers and potential soldiers to resist the War. This is the only part of the peace movement possessing power.

If the rest of the peace movement is to be productive, it must abandon its illusions that petitions to politicians and non-violent protest will change anything. Let us instead leaflet — picket — agitate to convince our fellow workers who produce the weapons that they belong in the peace movement and that they can and should use their power to end war.

O. M.

New Leaflet

The leaflet Economic Revolution, by Edwards, that appeared as an article in the December 1970 Industrial Worker is now available. This very attractive leaflet explains the social changes the IWW wants to make.

FARM WORKERS ASK:
AVOID UNITED VINTNERS



The United Farm Workers are asking unionists to stop handling or drinking any product with the label of United Vintner, which owns Devitto, Gambarelli, Hamm's, Heublein, Italian Swiss Colony, Lejon, Mission Bell, Petri, Smirnoff, and others. Under union contract are the following acceptable wines: Almaden, Christian Brothers, Gallo, Masson, Perelli-Manette, and Schenley. Tell your friends.

JOE HILL MEMORIAL

When Fellow Worker H. M. Edwards was in Sweden in 1968 he learned of plans to turn the building in which Joe Hill was born into an international labor memorial. At the 1968 IWW Convention he launched a proposal for members and friends to contribute something for this purpose. On January 15 we sent the last \$354 we had gathered through this office, bringing the total gathered and sent to \$753. Since then F. W. Nicholson in San Francisco sent Edwards an additional \$15, which he sent on to Gavle direct.

If any fellow workers or friends still wish to contribute, we suggest they get their dollars together locally and send them direct to Sven Nygard, Secretary, Stiftelsen Joe Hill - Garden, S. Skeppsbron 14 B, 802 33 Gavle, Sweden.

Hand Me Down . . .

by Phil LaSalle

Oh hand me down my picket sign
Oh hand me down my picket sign
Oh hand me down my picket sign
And please don't cross our picket line
We're gonna win our struggle today.

Oh hand me down my raise in pay
Oh hand me down my raise in pay
Oh hand me down my raise in pay
Before my hair starts turnin' gray
We're gonna win our struggle today.

We don't believe the boss's lies
We don't believe the boss's lies
We don't believe the boss's lies
That's why we've learned to organize
We're gonna win our struggle today.

Oh hand me down my Wobbly card
Oh hand me down my Wobbly card
Oh hand me down my Wobbly card
Then workin' for a livin' won't be so hard
We're gonna win our struggle today.

Oh hand me down my contract too
Oh hand me down my contract too
Oh hand me down my contract too
Someone'll win and it won't be you
We're gonna win a New World some day.

Guild to Change Name

The American Newspaper Guild is set to change its name to The Newspaper Guild — ANG to TNG, for plain NG may be derogatory. This is being done out of respect to its Canadian members who feel that "American" has been used to mean USA.

The Guild has been fighting against discrimination based on sex or race, and appropriately, at the suggestion of some members who also belong to Women's Lib, has cut out the annual "beauty queer contest" at its convention. In June it had strikes against Pittsburgh, Newark, and Wilkes-Barre papers, and continued its old, old fight against the Hearst Herald Examiner of Los Angeles with signs on the back of local busses calling for a boycott. At the same time it entered a "friend of the court" brief on behalf of one of the Herald Examiner scabs, to back up his refusal to disclose the source of a story he had turned in on the Tate murder case, for the principle is of prime concern to its reporter members.

SHOP CARD RULING, USE OF UNION LABEL

By action of the IWW General Executive Board, all previously granted rights to display the IWW IU 450 label on printed matter expires May First, and is valid only on renewal.

Per Article VIII, except on literature "emanating from the general offices of the IWW, the universal label shall be printed only as evidence of work done by member of the IWW", and only by authority of the organization, and only when accompanied by a statement indicating what work they did. Authority to use the label now requires annual renewal each May First, remaining valid only so long as a majority of the employees in the work place remain IWW members in good standing. Job groups or members using the label or displaying the Union Establishment card should send in dated statement signed by all members with their card numbers requesting official authorization, and in the case of movement printing co-operatives indicating the basis on which members participate in them and their purposes.

Assistance of all members is requested to make this policy effective to protect the good name of the organization.



I.W.W. DIRECTORY

IU 450: All members working in the printing and publishing industry are asked to give their addresses to Ken Freedman, 305 West South College Street, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387. He is co-ordinating to establish a functioning industrial union in this industry.

ANN ARBOR: Ask for any Wob at the Gene Debs Co-op, 909 East University Avenue, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104 (761-1237).

AUSTIN: The IU 450 Branch is at 1312 West 42nd Street, Austin 78705. Fellow Workers of the Armadillo Press may be reached there.

BUFFALO: Contact IWW Delegate Henry Pfaff, 77 Eckhart Street, Buffalo, New York 14207 (377-6073).

CAMBRIDGE: Write to IWW, Post Office Box 454, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA: Branch meetings are held every two weeks. For details on his or other IWW activities, visit the Earthworks Garage (an IU 440 shop) at 219 South Water Street, Champaign, Illinois, or write to Delegate G.C. Graves, Box 249, Station A, Champaign, Illinois 61820.

CHICAGO: The Chicago Branch meetings are now being held on the first Friday of every month at 2440 North Lincoln, LI9-5045.

CLEVELAND: The IWW Delegate for the Cleveland area is Larry Cornett, 13347 Hayes Road, Chesterland, Ohio 44026.

DULUTH: Phone IWW Delegate Patrick J. McMillan, 419 East 4th Street, Duluth, Minnesota 55805 (727-4827).

HONOLULU: Mervyn Chang, IU 450, Box 352, Haleiwa, Oahu, Hawaii.

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

ITHACA: Stationary Delegate Bill Siebert can be reached at the Glad Day Press, 308 Stewart Avenue, Ithaca, New York 14850 (273-0535 or 273-1899).

LAWRENCE: Contact John Weismiller, 1343 Tennessee #22, Lawrence, Kansas 66044 (843-8770).

LOS ANGELES: Mike Dale, Secretary, 1419 North Fairfax, Apartment 6, Los Angeles 90046. Dorice McDaniels, Member Executive Board (677-8397). Van Nuys: EWIU 620, Srafprint Co-op, 14133 Gilmore, Van Nuys, California 91901 (781-7589 or 782-6185).

MADISON: Julia Vea, Secretary, 114 West Gorham, Madison 53703 (or see the people at Riley's Liquor Store on State Street).

MINNEAPOLIS - SAINT PAUL: Write Jim Cain, Post Office Box 9885, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440.

NEW YORK CITY: A hall has been opened Room 500, 400 W. 23rd, Phone 929-0667 or William Goring, 749-6465.

OAKLAND: Richard Ellington, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland, California 94609 (658-0293).

PORTLAND: Write IWW Post Office Box 3022, Portland, Oregon 97203. Anyone interested in organizing campaign in this area please write soon.

PULLMAN: Jerry Calvert, Post Office Box 2331, CS, Pullman, Washington 99163.

PHILADELPHIA: Telephone Jarama Jahn (724-4895) or drop in at 2054 South Salford, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19143.

SAN DIEGO: Contact IWW Delegate Arthur Miller, Post Office Box 1332, San Diego, California 92112.

SAN FRANCISCO: Bay Area Membership Branch: Contact Mike Mack at 20 Sanchez Street, 84114, or Jim Bumpas at 909 Covington Road, Los Altos, California 94022.

SAN JOSE - PALO ALTO AREA: Contact IWW, Box 4091 Mountain View Ca., 94040 or phone 967-7718

SANTA ROSA: Write to Eugene Nelson, Post Office Box 7037, Santa Rosa, California 95401.

SEATTLE: Contact Branch Secretary Bob Horsley at San Vito Press, 501 19th Street East, Seattle, Washington 98102. Stan Iverson is the Wob contact at the ID Bookstore, 1408 Northeast 42nd Street, Seattle, Washington 98105.

TACOMA: Contact IWW Delegate Ottalie Markholt at 714 South 16th, Apartment 4, Tacoma, Washington 98405 (272-8119).

VANCOUVER: Contact Secretary M. C. Warrior, 427 East 20th Street, Vancouver 10, British Columbia, Canada.

WHITETHORN: Contact Delegate Darryl B. Van Fleet, Post Office Box 311, Whitethorn, California 95489.

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

YELLOW SPRINGS: The office is located at 102 Dayton Street, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387. Ken Freedman, Branch Secretary, 305 West South College, Yellow Springs, Ohio 45387.

OVERSEAS BRANCHES:

AUSTRALIA: Bert Armstrong, 20 Barton Street, Concord, New South Wales.

GREAT BRITAIN:

SURREY: The IWW Stationary Delegate for Surrey is David Pickett, c/o Syndicalist Federation, 259 Hillcross Avenue, Morden, Surrey, England.

HARTEPOOL (NORTHEAST ENGLAND): Brian Carter, 1 Ormesby Road, Seaton Estate, Hartepool, County Durham.

GUAM: Shelby Shapiro is the Stationary Delegate for Guam. Communicate with him through Post Office Box 864, Agana, Guam 96910 or phone Shelby at 746-2114 (nights).

SWEDEN: David Sund, Harpundsavgen 44, 124-40 Bandhagen. Phone 47 45 32

fly a kite

CAMP NEWS reports the anti-war fight at encampments around the world. May 5 is Children's Day in Japan, and on that day fifty or so Japanese students and citizens took to a public road near the north end of the main base flightline of the Marine Corps Air Station, and started flying kites. The authorities on base called the police to say that the kites were impeding flights and base operations, as "jet planes are especially vulnerable to small objects because of the delicate mechanism of the jet intake".

A hundred police soon chaperoned the kite flyers. There was no law against flying kites, so they tried to provoke the students into "assault" as an excuse for arrest, but the students kept their cool. A few of them, however, took to flying their kites from fishing boats, with the hearty co-operation of the fishermen.

Resistance in Army Grows

CAMP NEWS is mimeographed each month by the Chicago Area Military Project at 2214 North Halsted, Chicago 60614. Its late May issue said of the May 15 and 16 activities across the nation: "On Armed Forces Day Weekend, the GI Movement had its largest show to date.... Great Lakes, Fort Carson, Quonset Point, Fort Ord, Fort Hamilton, Fort Campbell, and many other bases canceled their Armed Forces Day shows. At Fort Carson they stopped (their show) 15 minutes into the festivities because the demonstrators showed up on base."

They report increasing citizen support in army towns such as Fairborn, Ohio (Wright-Patterson Air Force Base) and Clarksville, Tennessee (located near Fort Campbell) despite the opposition of Kiwanis and some in the Ministerial Association as well as Army Brass.

This movement among GIs to resist war and the Brass has developed a sizable "underground" mimeographed press, with such periodicals as The Last Harass, at Fort Gordon; On the Beach, at Virginia Beach, Virginia; In Formation, at Fort Knox; Final Flight, at Hamilton Air Force Base; Navy Times Are Changin', at Great Lakes, Illinois; Counter Attack, at Fort Carson; Fatigue Press, at Fort Hood; Left Face, at Anniston, Alabama; Spaced Sentinel, at Marysville, California; and many others. They fight the war machine with a grin, not only in the names they have chosen but in their contents. The following tongue-in-cheek demands were allegedly formulated by brown, red, white, and yellow GIs at a ranch near Muskogee, Oklahoma:

"Free and open purchase of marijuana in the mess halls and PX;

"Issuance of Government credit cards in place of military IDs;

"Compulsory retirement at age 25;

"That 50% of all military personnel at all ranks be women;

"That the President of the United States be replaced with a statue;

"That uniforms be abolished."

But with no tongue in cheek they want to end this business of being called on to kill their fellow workers here or overseas.

JOHN HOYER DIES

Fellow Worker John P. Hoyer, who joined us in February 1917, recently met accidental death in Minneapolis, where he and his family have lived for many years. For many years he served as the local job delegate, and he has been very helpful in many ways.

VETS vs. WAR

About seventy Veterans Against the War, one of the largest veterans' groups in the parade, marched in the Memorial Day observances in Seattle May 31. Arms outstretched in the peace sign, they marched silently behind their banner. Members of the Seattle and Tacoma units that participated included veterans of World War II and Korea as well as Vietnam. They were joined by some members of the Concerned Officers' Movement from the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard at Bremerton. The Veterans Against the War drew frequent applause from the crowds lining the streets.

The press reported an appeal by other veterans to boycott the parade if the peace vets were allowed to march. It was said the commander of the American Legion had dismissed the chairman of the Americanization committee for this effort, holding that the protest group were bona fide vets and had every right to express their views. Don Treese of the Seattle Veterans Against the War was quoted as saying they want to end all war. "There are too many war dead now to grieve and mourn for."

Donations to I.W. Sustaining Fund

Lawrence Tepper	-----	\$ 4.00
Paul Ware	-----	11.00
George Anderson	-----	8.00
A Friend	-----	3.00
Otto Schaefer	-----	5.00
Carl Holmgren	-----	100.00
Joe Murphy	-----	10.00
Robert Halstead	-----	1.60
Charles Smith	-----	100.00
Karol Kucinski	-----	3.00
Virgil Donatoni	-----	5.00
Fred Beauchamp	-----	30.00
		\$280.60

Previously acknowledged \$ 2,643.48

Grand Total (Jun. 24) 2,924.08

Many thanks to the Fellow Workers listed above for their financial support to help us carry on with our educational work for a better world.

Fred Thompson, Editor

W.H. Westman, Business Manager

Correction

In May issue article on Guam referred in error to Archie K. Bengston as supporter of R.J. Bordallo



DIG WOB HISTORY: Fresno, San Pedro, North Woods, SPA

Once again some notes on more recent writings and researches regarding IWW history.

FRESNO 1910

First some important research by a member. Fellow Worker Ted Lehmann has sent us a 30-page report on his researches into local sources on the Fresno free-speech fight of 1910-11. Detail largely from the rather hostile Fresno Republican brings out the story much clearer and shows how violent and lawless businessmen will become to ward off unionism and wage boosts — and feel entirely righteous in doing so.

Frank Little's brother W.F. Little was 36 in 1910, four years older than Frank, and had settled down with wife and children in Fresno with a job at the local carpet cleaning plant. It was this older brother who had launched Local 66 in Fresno by organizing fruit pickers and out-of-town construction workers. Police put pressure on migratory workers to take whatever wage was offered and not to stay around town hoping for a better offer.

In the spring of 1910, months before the big fight, IWW members were arrested for advising workers that they did not need to take these offers. Police harassed the Wobs for this whether they gave this advice from a soapbox or in conversations on the sidewalk — and the big fight grew out of this circumstance.

Frank was arrested in summer along with his brother and another fellow worker in such a conversation. Frank was their spokesman in court and drew 25 days. His brother brought perjury charges against the prosecution's chief witness, who was let out on \$500 bail on a serious charge while Frank had to stay in jail on a misdemeanor. This turned to solitary on bread and water when he refused to rake leaves. Local 66, backed with a wire from Secretary Saint John, eventually induced Frank to pick up the rake and eat the slumgullion instead of the bread and water.

Again on December 9 Frank defended himself in court on a street-speaking charge by calling attention to the fact that there was no law or local ordinance against speaking. This was such an adequate defense that the judge told the police they would have to let the Wobs speak. They did. But the police looked the other way when the businessmen, with the aid of a pugilist who had a fire-department job, tackled all who dared use the right of free speech and beat them up, then burned the camp that served as Local 66 headquarters.

Secretary Saint John wired the Governor to ask what he was doing to restrain this "broadcloth mob". The reply said that this was up to the Mayor. Saint John wired the Mayor, and this reminded the Mayor to convene the Council to pass an ordinance against speaking on the streets. So the fight was on again.

From Portland, from Denver, from all over workers headed toward Fresno. Some climbed the snow-filled passes of the mountains so the SP police could not keep them out of the state. They headed toward police beatings, toward being herded into jail tanks where they were drenched with water knee-deep in winter. They did this because they felt that not only in Fresno, but throughout the West, any migratory worker would have the status of a stray dog wandering through town if they did not win in Fresno.

It was this pressure that made the business class decide that it was best to permit Wobs to speak. Part of the pressure was the practice of each Wob defending himself demanding a jury trial and making it last as long as possible. On March 5, 1911 the fight was officially won. It is regrettable that no photos were taken to illustrate this paragraph of Ted Lehmann's report:

"The Monday following the release of the prisoners, the jailers inspected the jail prior to cleaning it. They discovered that putting cartoonist-Wobbly Jack Murdock into jail didn't stop his drawing. The walls of the tanks in which the IWVs were held

were covered with cartoons mocking city and national officials. The entire preamble to the IWW constitution was cut into the masonry of the west wall of the prison. The newspaper commented that 'Every bit of available space on the walls was used by Murdock and others to leave evidence of their six-month visit to the county jail.'

Fellow Worker Lehmann says a Fresno paper expects to run an abridged version of his researches, only sampled above; but he wonders if any old-timer knows what happened to Frank Little's older brother who started Local 66.

CS AND SAN PEDRO

Now that the old Criminal Syndicalism law has been dug out of its grave to be used against three workers in San Diego, it is timely to look back to its earlier use in the Twenties. On April 25, 1923 a marine transport workers' strike was called by the IWW to demand restoration of the three-watch system, the same food for licensed and unlicensed seamen, better wages, and other union demands along with the release of all class-war prisoners. It was most effective in the port of San Pedro, near Los Angeles, where some 2,000 were on strike. A fairly complete account of it can be found in the second volume the Perrys wrote on the Los Angeles Labor Movement, in the volume for the years 1911 to 1941, Pages 163-192. An interesting sidelight on the strike appears in the Pacific Historical Review (November 1969) in Martin Zenger's article "Politics of Confrontation".

The article describes the strike and the decision of the shipowners to prevent both meetings and speeches. Leo Stark was arrested for reading the Declaration of Independence on Liberty Hill. Upton Sinclair had resolved to keep out of trouble and confine his activities to writing — but this led him to try to read the First Amendment. He too landed in the can, where he found that there were fewer lice on the floor than on the bunks. The focus of the article is how the strike led him and others to found a branch of the American Civil Liberties Union in Southern California — and it gives valuable insight not only into the strike, but into the psychology of the forces of law and order.

MINNESOTA WOODS

The 1916-1917 IWW lumber strike in Minnesota gets full treatment, complete with pictures, quotations, and numerous footnotes, in John E. Haynes's article "Revolt of the Timber Beasts" in the current issue of Minnesota History (Spring 1971). It draws largely on the stenographic record, over 1300 pages, of hearings on the strike, and cites testimony of Charles Jacobson, secretary of the miners' union at Virginia; Archie Sinclair, Wobbly lumberjack, poet, and journalist; Sigmund Slonim, a socialist attorney in Duluth who served the IWW; job delegates Slim Thorne and Bill Peterson; and also two Wobs who managed to get themselves recruited as deputy sheriffs, Jim Sorenson and R. L. Buck. There is likewise the testimony of sheriffs, strikebreakers, and company men.

Haynes is an administrative assistant to

TO LABOR

A Toast

To the sailor on the ocean,
To the mucker in the mine,
To the child slave in the factory,
To the logger in the pine,
To the lowly social outcast,
To the woman of the street,
To those who feel oppression,
To the striker in defeat,
To every son of labor,
To every child of toil,
This toast is dedicated,
That we may live to see
A sturdy race of free men
In the age that is to be.

Joe Murphy

the Governor. He faithfully documents the conditions leading to the strike: ninety men sleeping in one bunkhouse, two men to each straw-filled mattress in double-deck bunks under conditions that made it "impossible to keep their bodies free from vermin", no sanitary facilities, poor grub, an eleven-hour day with the sun up for only eight or nine hours — and all for less pay than common labor earned in the towns. Yet he writes of the IWW as "inciting the strike", and more specifically of Jack Beaton as inciting it against the judgment of Charles Jacobson and Haywood.

This is very readable, and the most detailed account of this strike so far available. It tells how Beaton and Jacobson with a flying squadron headed into the camps on the weekend before New Year's, held meetings, pulled out the camps at the end of the line (furthest from any town), and with this crew marched toward town, pulling out the camps as they came to them, faster than the sheriff could take any counter action.



This historian also details the complete disregard for the law displayed by the companies and town police and sheriffs, who drove every active striker out of the area, and thus ended the effectiveness of the strike. They did this with a force of deputies which they hired in Minneapolis, including (quite illegally) teenagers and aliens when they ran out of naturalized pimps and similar riffraff. The company paid these \$3 a day and board in addition to the state wage of \$2 a day, while the lumberjacks had been getting only \$1.50.

Author Haynes does miss one point: The companies wanted to use Company F of Virginia that had just come back from sentry duty on the Mexican border, but these soldiers simply refused. (All the farmers in the area also refused to be deputized.)

THE IWW AND SOCIALISM

James Weinstein, author of "The Decline of Socialism in America, 1912-1925", has a 40-page bird's-eye view of the IWW, from the rather unusual perspective of "What did the IWW do for the Socialist Party?" in the October 1970 issue of Socialist Revolution, a serious bi-monthly published at 1445 Stockton, San Francisco. Since the purpose of the IWW was to build

History Conference

The Pacific Northwest Labor History Conference met May 1 at the University of Seattle to hear presentations on labor in the 1948 election, the New Left, health of underground miners, labor education, the BC electric railway strikes of World War I, and Mother Jones. Of particular interest to Wobblies was a discussion of Norman Clark's book "Milltown" on the background of the murder of free-speech figures at Everett in 1916.

Among those in attendance were some old-time fellow workers, all of whom wished the elevator had worked to the fourth-floor meeting hall: Pete Miller and George Underwood from Yakima, Herb Edwards from Seattle, John McAndrews from Vancouver. The audience sparkled with Wobbly buttons, and all the Wob song books and literature on hand got sold. The biggest hand at the Conference came in response to one old-timer's rising to correct the misconception that the IWW had vanished from the woods right after the Centralia affair in 1919. Concern about what can be done with the IWW program is still very much alive.

something through which workers could do something for themselves, what it did for the Socialist Party is rather incidental. That it did incidentally give that party much aid has been shown earlier by Joseph Conlon in his book "Bread and Roses Too" and his earlier article in the magazine Science and Society.

Weinstein does show that the Socialist Party cold-shouldered the IWW in favor of the AFL, not out of any misconception that the trade unions would furnish a better basis for a socialist society than revolutionary industrial unionism, but simply in the forlorn hope of having the same relations with the AFL as the Social Democracy in Germany had with the Legien unions there. Weinstein's essay does contain some misinformation: that the IWW refused to bargain collectively; that it excluded all except manual workers; that the government 4-L union turned its 1917 Northwest victory into a "disaster"; that the IWW was seduced from its class conflict position when in 1917 it decided that it could fight more effectively by organizing in industry than by denouncing the War from a soapbox — and even that its literature did not anticipate the shifts in occupations that would follow from mechanization!

In spite of so much rather amazing misinformation, Weinstein does get it across that the history of the IWW is most readily understood if one keeps in mind that workers came to it in numbers "almost exclusively in a time of crisis when the conservative unions refused aid". This situation is recurring. Weinstein notes:

"In the last several years the IWW has enjoyed a revival, both in the 'movement' and among historians — in the 'movement' because militancy, opposition to racism, and commitment to direct action provided a tradition with which to associate, and among historians because the IWW appeared in some ways a predecessor of the 'movement'."

F. T.

WHAT INDIANS REALLY WANT

On May 20 a number of Sioux took over the Twin Cities Naval Air Station and landed in jail. The Naval Air Station had been abandoned by the Government in 1969 — 101 years after the 1868 treaty that provided that all property abandoned by the Government in that area reverts to the Sioux. But still they landed in jail.

What do they want? Not the Naval Air Station. That is only a way to dramatize a demand for the right to be themselves, to live if they so wish as their forefathers lived, with room enough to do this, and without becoming tourist curiosities.

A while back some Indians landed in jail in Los Angeles for a museum sit-in. They had found the displays of Indian skeletons and religious artifacts as repugnant as you might find some museum ghoul's public display of the contents of grandmother's grave.

If you want Indian views on such matters, subscribe to Akwesasne Notes, Rooseveltown, New York 13693. It is a tabloid issued nine times a year, usually running 49 pages of reprints of items concerning Indians and statements by Indian spokesmen. It is 50¢ a copy, and they will even send it to you free.

When Indians hold onto Alcatraz Island they suffer only hardship by doing so; but it is one way to reclaim sovereignty. Fishing rights tie ethnic pride and food supply to the heart of the Indian protest: the right to live their own lives.

Decisions are individual, group, or at most tribal, but there is a strong trend toward an Indian consensus and united action, united also with other minority groups, and moving toward concern with rescuing Spaceship Earth as well as Alcatraz Island from the US Government.

THE YOUNG LABOR UNIONIST

BY JAMES W. CAIN

Within the AFL-CIO the composition and response of local labor-unions today is considerably different from that of the labor-unions of 20 years ago.

Today: The rank-and-file labor-unionist is not docile, does not want to be led, but wants to participate in the activity of the Union. Today: The rank-and-file labor unionist does not want promises...but immediate Action.

Today: The rank-and-file labor-unionist is less willing to accept the discipline of the workplace...let alone the discipline of the labor bureaucracy. Today: The rank-and-file labor-unionist is inclined more to reject bureaucracy-recommended contracts than to accept them.

All in all: The labor movement (today) is complicated and irresolute and diverse and flexible. The AFL-CIO bureaucracy is finding it increasingly difficult to weld the labor movement into one solid metal block (obedient, monolithic, heavy, passive, brainless).

The militant activity of the labor movement (today) is largely the result of the thinking, feelings, and goals of the young labor-unionist.

According to the formal statistics of the AFL-CIO: The proportional breakdown of "local labor-union membership tends to the younger side with Union rank-and-file membership getting younger each year."

According to the formal statistics of the AFL-CIO: "31% of Union members are now less than 25 years old. 56% are less than 30 years old. 26% of Union members are women. 14% of Union members are blacks. In the service industries 27% of Union members are blacks. 29% of Union members have belonged to their local for five years or less. 57% have belonged to their local for ten years or less."

Within the AFL-CIO: The young labor unionist is in agreement with the labor bureaucracy on one fundamental issue... the validity of organization. There is no widespread dissension regarding the concrete necessity of having labor-unions. However: There are some considerable differences between the young labor unionist (of today) and the labor bureaucracy (which was frozen into white solid ice 20 years ago).

Bargaining For Retirees

Can unions bargain for retired workers? Pittsburgh Plate Glass has gone to the US Supreme Court to seek confirmation of a lower-court decision that the company could act on retired workers without bargaining.

Pittsburgh Plate Glass made a unilateral change in health-insurance arrangements covering workers who had been retired from its plant at Barberton, Ohio. The NLRB backed up the claim of the Allied Chemical Workers that such a change should be discussed with the union. The company went to court, and the Sixth Circuit ruled that retired workers are not employees and do not come within the scope of the union contract.

The AFL-CIO and UAW have had briefs filed arguing the union case as friends of the court. They argue that when workers decide to bargain through a union they are seeking collective bargaining for their retirement as well as for their productive years, and further that production workers have a stake in these funds and should have a voice.

Not within the scope of this case is a related question that has concerned some economists. Funds covering pensions and related welfare have become a sizable part of the total funds financial institutions have available for investment. The workers at X Gismo Company build up a sizable fund in the hands of some institution whose directors decide to use it to finance another company that will put the lads at X Gismo out of work — perhaps by stealing their chief customer. Alienation works out that way.

In fact: The young labor-unionist is eager for change. The young labor-unionist thinks in terms of opposition to the status quo. The young labor-unionist passionately rejects racism and the War. The young labor-unionist is eager for Action. The young labor-unionist passionately attacks "Management" on questions of the work process itself (such as speed-up). The young labor-unionist thinks in terms of opposition to the labor-bureaucracy itself.

The labor-bureaucracy is prepared to fight for improved pensions. The labor bureaucracy is prepared to fight for improved welfare programs and the like.

To the contrary: The young labor unionist is prepared to fight for immediate and huge demands for more money. The young labor-unionist is prepared to fight for a short workweek and more overtime. The young labor-unionist is prepared to fight for longer vacations and more holidays. The young labor-unionist is prepared to fight against racism. The young labor-unionist is prepared to fight against the War. The young labor-unionist is prepared to fight for control of the work process. Clearly: Between the labor bureaucracy and the young labor-unionist...conflict is easy.

As in all the other areas of the social structure in America today, young people are making their presence felt in the labor movement. During the last three years, young labor-unionists ("defiant, arrogant") have created considerable impact on local labor-union demands against corporate capitalism.

Bay Area Action

In Berkeley, on June 20th, militant workers at Yummer's Roast Peef raised their wages and ended discrimination, the use of scab lettuce, and gained the right to elect the store manager. More in the next issue.

Some IWW's are currently involved in Richmond, Cal. at a warehouse strike. The plant, owned by the U. of California, is part of their printing complex. More on this in the next issue.

LABOR NOTES

The ILO Conference which opened June 2 in Geneva was told by its employment committee to expect the world labor force to grow by an average of 32 million a year throughout this decade. They expect some 267 million of these 320 million workers to be distributed in developing countries: 119 million in Southern Asia, 88 million in Eastern Asia, 34 million in Africa, and 26 million in Latin America. Most face under-employment.

The classification "light-duty clerk", formerly filled by women at a lower rate, has been abolished in the Seattle-Tacoma area A & P contract, which contains a new journeyman rate of \$4.275, and took a three-day strike to produce an acceptable offer.

Rebel Miners

In May a strike spread through most of United Mine Worker District 6, bringing out 6,000 miners in 28 mines in Ohio and West Virginia to backup demands for union democracy, and especially that Sterling Safeel be rehired at Y and O's Allison Mine. The company said he had given false statements when he was hired. There was talk of brownouts as power companies ran out of coal. A major grievance is that in 23 districts the United Mine Workers are being run by appointed instead of elected officers.

The Wheeling News Review commented: "Most of yesterday's pickets were young men who have been miners only one, two, or three years. One older picket, father of a teenage boy, said: 'The young kids that are going into the mines today are a lot more intelligent than we were at their age. I don't think they are going to put up with any more of this.'"

More coal is being burned these days, and 145,000 miners are working, 90,000 of them in the UMWA. Another 90,000 are retired, some getting a pension, some not. The average union rate in 1969 is given by the Labor Department as \$6.13 per hour, and the average non-union rate as \$3.27. The Boyle publicity tries to put all the blame for the Welfare Fund mess on the dead John L. A later court problem is the decision that UMWA and Consolidation Coal must pay \$7.2 million to South East Coal Company and other smaller coal companies on the ground that the 40¢-per-ton royalty for the welfare fund did drive them out of business and could have been expected to. This unprecedented application of the Sherman Act is a general challenge to unionism.

Strike Benefits

In Michigan a bill was introduced this year to qualify workers for unemployment benefits after they have been on strike six weeks. Why not? Public policy calls for equality in bargaining. In a long strike the worker is scrounging eats for his family while the boss, well fed, suns himself by the seashore and keeps on saying "no", counting on hunger to win for him. Is this equality in bargaining?

Would everyone go on strike and stay there? When 13,000 railroad signalmen struck, they and half a million other railroad workers got \$12.70 a day for the two days they were out. This comes from a \$400 million fund made up as 4% of the payroll, and is paid by the railroads. It has not proved unworkable.

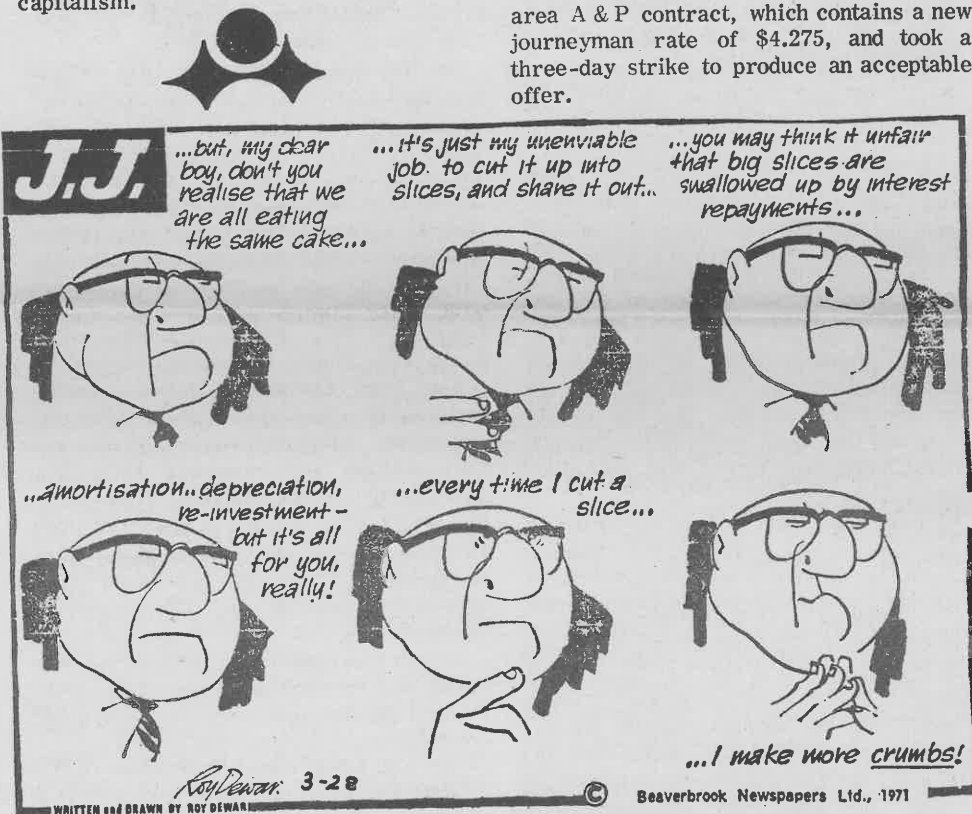
The Machinists recently published some figures on strike-fund debt. They had a bit over a million members a couple of years ago, and are now down to 960,000. Their strike benefit is \$40 per week, and last year \$7.5 million in strike benefits was paid out to 57,248 members. Last year was the first year since 1965 in which their strike fund took in more than it paid out. At the end of 1965 the fund had risen to \$9.6 million, but by the end of 1969 it had turned instead to a debt of \$1.1 million — now about \$700,000.

Between September 1 of last year and March 31, the UAW strike-fund income was \$60 million, and the strike outgo was \$173 million. A recent statement showed a \$43 million debt, mostly to Teamsters, Steelworkers, and Rubber Workers. Its finances will be helped by its recent organizing victory at National Cash Register in Dayton, Ohio, with 18,000 members — the largest UAW organizing gain since 1948.

These unions were built when a few dollars had to be spent discreetly for beans and sowbelly. If need be, they can fight that way again. The chief strike benefit is always the deferred one — what you win from the boss.

STRIKES VERBOTEN

The liberal Government of Saskatchewan has recently extended to all industries the provisions enumerated in the Essential Services Emergency Act, which originally was designed to require compulsory arbitration to prevent strikes in hospitals, utilities, and the construction industry.



PREAMBLE

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 everyday 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.

book review: the black worker

THE BLACK WORKER, by Sterling D. Spero and Abram L. Harris (originally published in 1931, Athenaeum Edition 1968, 469 pages plus appendices, bibliography, and index, \$3.75 paperback)

A delegation of blacks told President Andrew Johnson soon after Emancipation:

"The hostility between whites and blacks is easily explained. It has its root and sap in the relation of slavery and was incited on both sides by the cunning of the slave masters. Those masters secured their ascendancy over the poor whites and the blacks by putting enmity between them.

"They divided both to conquer each...."

This root was planted 200 years before — in early Colonial America — to destroy the bond that frequently existed between black and white indentured servants and made possible joint acts of rebellion against their masters. To justify laws punishing social and economic intercourse between blacks and whites — to justify slavery — the myth of black inferiority was created and prejudice was cultivated.

Prejudice operated equally in the North, where free blacks and runaway slaves were driven out of skilled trades they had learned as slave artisans. Against the background of black freedmen being pushed from their former trades into menial and service jobs by the hordes of European immigrants lured to the United States by expanding industry, Spero and Harris examine the confrontation between black and white workers.

Several patterns emerge: Blacks fought hard for their "rights of manhood", alongside their white fellow workers when they were accepted without discrimination, and in separate organizations where they were rejected by white unionists.

The first major push, which occurred during Reconstruction, of black union men for equality and for acceptance of black apprentices was met with evasion and finally rejection by the white National Labor Union. A decade later, in the Knights of Labor, black and white workers organized together and fought together in both North and South. Rejecting racism forthrightly, the Knights showed that black and white solidarity could be powerful, even without the weapon of skills.

Blacks led their own fight against exclusion. A black delegate warned the founding convention of the American Federation of Labor in 1881:

"...Our object is, as I understand it, to federate the whole laboring element of America. I speak more particularly with a knowledge of my own people, and declare to you that it would be dangerous to skilled mechanics to exclude from the organization the common laborers, who might, in an emergency, be employed in positions they could readily qualify themselves to fill."

By 1895 AFL policy had hardened into hypocritical lip service to equality and practical acquiescence in the exclusion of black workers or their organization into second-class locals. At the turn of the century in the United Mine Workers, black and white solidarity again built strong and effective unionism in Alabama, where for a few years black miners were more completely organized than white.

Many sincere "race men" in the black community counseled black workers to beware of white unions. Other blacks were bought and paid for by the employers to recruit scabs. Exclusion and discrimination in white unions strengthened the argument that the black worker could find a better friend in the white capitalist than in the white worker. The authors fault the black press, the Urban League, and other black organizations for at times condoning or encouraging strikebreaking. They note the League's responsiveness to its wealthy white backers.

Prior to 1916 most blacks were Southern agricultural laborers, a vast labor reserve that was tapped periodically to break strikes. However in most industries black scabs did not retain their places; after a strike was broken they were dropped from

the industry. The argument that blacks could enter an industry as scabs simply was not true. The authors conclude that employers were color blind, using blacks or whites as it suited their purpose to defeat organization, and white scabs were usually the great majority. The labor shortage during the First World War brought blacks north in a vast migration, to find permanent places in steel, auto, meat packing, and other industries.

No historian can or should be impartial. These black authors do not pretend to be. For them the good, the ideal, is a strong industrial union, without discrimination internally or on the job. The IWW, they find, fulfills these requirements. They estimate that about 10% of IWW members were black. In a chapter on the IWW they relate the struggle of black and white lumber workers in the South from 1912 to 1915 and the IWW on the Philadelphia docks from 1913 to 1925. The Philadelphia Marine Transport Workers local, they say, "did bring white men and black men into one organization in which race distinctions were obliterated in both the leadership and the rank and file.... Despite the fact that Garveyism won a following everywhere at this time, the Negro longshoremen of Philadelphia were deaf to its pleas, for their labor movement had won them industrial equality such as colored workers nowhere else in the industry enjoyed."

The authors examine the response of black workers to radical thought during the 1920s: the black radicalism of the "New Negro" and the white radicalism of the Socialist and Communist parties. None of this attracted black workers. Of more significance was the struggle of Pullman porters and maids to organize to improve wages and working conditions substantially below those of other railroad workers, and the alignment of forces in the black community for and against their union.

The last chapter of this book written in 1930 is prophetic. The development of black capitalism, the authors say, will not help the black worker, but will simply "postpone the day of a more thorough understanding between white and black labor...."

"A labor movement built on the principle of working-class unity would of course take the Negro into its ranks and fight to raise the general standard. Self-protection alone should dictate such a course. But the white worker, sharing the prejudice of the rest of the white world, balks at the bugaboo of 'social equality' and persists in relegating the black laborer to a place of permanent inferiority."

They predict the development of the black caucus:

"...Negro workers threatened with wholesale elimination from jobs or brought face to face with industrial problems which demand united action for solution have shown a tendency to turn to unions of their own. Frail and ineffective as such organizations have been in the past, they show the beginning of Negro labor consciousness. They may in time develop a labor leadership which will help to educate both the Negro workers and the general labor movement to the realization of the need of black and white unity...."

"But even if the Negro world should change its outlook and approve of an industrial and political alignment of the working class cutting across class lines this change alone would not be sufficient to affect the situation. No such alignment could be effected by the will of the outcast minority alone. It must depend on the will of the controlling majority, and that majority is white."

Now, forty years later, black workers are actively organizing and fighting for equality in the unions, while white workers are still denying that equality. A hundred years after the interview between Andrew Johnson and the black delegates, white workers are still willing pawns in the masters' ancient game of divide and conquer.

This book is important as a good account of the black worker. It is doubly important to white workers as an indictment of the supreme stupidity and danger of their continued racism. As blacks have said repeatedly: "There is no black problem in America — but a white problem." If the white unions do not attack that problem — and now — they invite their own destruction.

Check this book out of the library, or find a copy of the 1931 edition. To my chagrin, I discovered after buying the paperback reprint that it was manufactured

by the notorious rat printer, Kingsport Press in Tennessee. The plastic on the cover is peeling off, shedding bits of trash every time I touch the book. Union book binders would undoubtedly improve the product.

Ottalie Markholt

(An interesting account of Ben Fletcher and the Philadelphia waterfront is given in an article on Fletcher by Foner in the January 1970 issue of the Journal of Negro History.)

ILGWU FACES REVOLT

The International Ladies Garment Workers Union (ILGWU) blames its inability to get money for its members on foreign competition, or at times on competition of out-of-town manufacturers. But its members and its retirees are getting so unhappy they talk of putting pressure where it may be effective — with wildcats when the fall season opens.

Long the ideal union of the liberals, it has ceased to charm them. The New York Nation of June 7 carried an extensive article on the ILGWU pointing out that its wage demands are so modest they should make even Mr. Nixon happy. Where the average factory wage (with all industries lumped together) is \$130 per week, the average dress factory wage is only \$83. Pensions are the lowest yet.

At the Miami convention fifty retired members passed out leaflets urging that the pension be raised to \$100 a month. Other leaflets in the same vein are passed out in front of ILGWU headquarters. Anderson's syndicated column commented May 18 on the Labor Department finding that ILGWU officers have been getting cut-rate mortgages and cut-rate loans from union funds, which is strictly against Landrum-Griffin rules...but they didn't go to visit Hoffa.

The Joint Council of Retirees leaflet answers the "reserve" excuse with this statement: "The Retirement Funds had \$321 million by December 1970. The average age of the retirees is 73 years. How much of a reserve is needed?" They also ask that the "Dollar Drug Plan" which is financed from the Severance Fund anyway, be applied for the benefit of retirees.

Joseph Managano has issued an open letter to Louis Stulberg, president of the ILGWU, stating some of these issues and asking:

"Do you know that all the other Union retired members enjoy the low-cost drug plan and other benefits (besides higher pensions) the same as active members?"

"Do you know that the longshoremen, members of ILA, besides all the medical benefits when they retire, receive about \$300 monthly pension?"

"What is the pension of the General Officers of the union when they retire?"

Some other attacks focus on ILGWU bureaucracy as being a predominantly "white, male officialdom" in an industry in which the workers are largely women, but in which men have had better-paying jobs, and in which a large part of the work force is black, Chicano, or Puerto Rican.

The ILGWU can perhaps get good publicity on such rare union direct action as instructing its members to quit handling cloth containing asbestos. The Government is considering such a ban, but the ILGWU issued its own order to stop such work. Over a hundred thousand women's winter coats containing asbestos were made last year, and the buyer can get lung cancer from brushing her coat, and so can the operator who sewed it.

Why can't the officialdom "act union" as readily on wage rates and pensions as they did on asbestos cloth? The answer may lie in traditional perspectives that apply to the former but not to the latter. Both risk jobs. One line of tradition since the early '20s in needle trade unionism has been to stop the boss from going out of

business, even by supplying union funds to keep him afloat and hold on to jobs. Basic union economics in any competitive industry must make plain that on the margin of the industry there are some employers who cannot survive a wage boost. The only way unionism can raise living standards in a competitive industry is by frankly recognizing that one of its results is to put concerns out of business that are not efficient enough to meet union standards. To do otherwise is to make it a low-wage industry.

Parallel recognition of economic reality is needed in a view of the world market. It is a world market. Chrysler will handle Mitsubishi and vice versa; Ford and GM expect to find their Japanese counterparts. It has even longer been a world market in clothes. What can labor do in this world market? What it has to do in any market: pull itself together and reach a collective understanding — this time about what to do with the world's resources.

If all the garment workers, electronics workers, longshoremen, steel workers, and what have you, here and the world over, were to start reckoning how to make optimum use of the earth's resources by running industry directly themselves for that objective, there would be a surprising amount of "What Can We Do For You?" suddenly blossoming from corporation heads and politicians, all anxious to induce us not to speed that day. And yet it is the most rational answer to a whole bundle of questions: population density, pollution, war, want, and man's freedom.

REPRESSION

Avoid the Mexico City Twist. On June 11 police fired on 20,000 "rioting students" who had started a march to demand labor union reforms, university reforms, and the release of political prisoners. The rioting started when some plainclothes police and Right-wingers who had entered the parade with signs reading "Viva Che!" started clubbing genuine Leftists with these signs.

Acquittal is not freedom. Four of the 13 New York Panthers, after being locked up for two years, were held on such other charges as having a weapon when arrested or conspiring to riot in the Tombs while they were held there. When Los Siete were acquitted of the phony charge of murdering Brodnink in 1969, a grand jury re-indicted them the same day for stealing a car with a gun when they were fleeing the police. Four of the seven have taken to hiding, forfeiting \$30,000 bail. Seale is acquitted, but not free.

At government request, the arguments over what to do with the Chicago 7 who got acquitted of conspiring to upset the Demo '68 Convention is postponed till October. This conspiracy doctrine grows: Spock, the Seattle case, the Chicago case, the Berrigan literary consideration of citizen arrests as publicity for peace, and now — as aftermath of the May Daze — conspiracy charges against Rennie Davis and John Froines again.

How phony those accusations can be. All the trouble over the missing Rap Brown came when a Maryland district attorney cooked up an arson charge (He admits it now,) as an excuse for asking for a federal fugitive from justice warrant.

IN GREECE RED FLOWERS BLOOM

It was the First of May and the Premier had just declared a national holiday to honor all working men. In the port city of Piraeus a parade had been organized on one of the principal thoroughfares leading out of one of the working-class quarters. Rather than one of the usual holiday parades that one associates with the US, with floats, drum majorettes, and general patriotic atmosphere, it was a classic May Day parade with platoons of workers in the work clothes of their trades carrying red carnations and keeping a most unmilitary step to bands playing popular airs.

No, this was not Cuba, Russia, Sweden, or any other socialist or neo-socialist country. This was Greece, which has been under a military junta since April of 1967. After four years the junta is still very much in power, although the casual tourist, seeing things from his hotel window or air-conditioned rubber-neck bus, may get the impression that a great liberalization has taken place. Mini-skirts and hippies are no longer banned, as there is an ample supply of both, the latter consisting of foreigners.

The tourist will also see translations of the writings of Eldridge Cleaver, Che Guevara, Mao Tse-tung, and many other contemporary revolutionaries sold openly in the kiosks and believe that there now is absolute freedom of speech. He will also see the increasing number of automobiles that are choking the streets of Athens and believe that the Greek people are enjoying an affluence they have never seen before. His dollars still bring a generous share of drachmas; and of course not having to live on drachmas, the way the Greek worker has to, he has no idea of the inflation that has taken place since the coming to power of the junta.

This is what greeted me after having been away from my homeland for five years, since before the military takeover. True, one can buy books and literature of the contemporary revolutionaries and all sorts of diverse opinion; but nowhere will be found any commentary that concerns the Greek people and their plight. It is all right to read and talk about things in other countries, but if the situation in Greece is brought up by an outsider, either there is an embarrassed silence followed by a hasty change of subject, or the conversation immediately becomes one of whispers.

Those who are willing to talk freely will do so with an air of resignation. They will explain to you that the spirit of most of the people is one of resignation, and that all of this surface atmosphere of affluence and living it up is the action of people who just live from one day to the next. The buying power of a Greek worker's wages is very poor. To give an example, in the building construction trades, which prior to the takeover were the strongest unionized, and today still employ some of the best-paid workers in Greece, a skilled construction worker gets 300 drachmas, the equivalent of \$10 a day; while the unskilled construction worker receives 150 drachmas, the equivalent of \$5 a day.

For a pound of good meat or fish the skilled worker must work around two hours, while the unskilled worker must work twice as long. For a slightly poorer quality of meat with bones, both workers can work half as long. While the cheapest meat, which is frozen lamb from Australia of inferior quality, the unskilled worker can manage to buy with an hour's pay, but he must work twice as long for a kilo of olive oil, a staple in the Greek diet. Bread, rice, macaroni, small fish, beans, and greens which can be had for a half-hour's pay make up the bulk of the everyday diet.

This is only an example based on the buying power of the best-paid workers. It must be remembered that most workers receive much less, some as little as 70 drachmas, or \$2.30 a day. This does not include the fact that the average worker must work a whole day for a cheap work shirt and work anywhere up to half a week for an inferior-quality dress shirt.

The bulk of the people are apathetic toward social problems, preferring to

dress up, drive a car that is being bought on time, and try to enjoy the poor man's dolce vita. The few who are socially conscious will resignedly ask you what can be done?

They feel that the Greek people's hands are tied, as the only thing that keeps the junta in power is the economic aid from the United States. Every day out in Piraeus Harbor the Sixth Fleet lies there with its aircraft carriers, reminding the Greek people that they will be pulverized should they ever attempt to revolt against the dictatorship.

India: Use What Is

If the Government says the cure for unemployment in India is for the unions to go easy on wages so employers can save enough profits to build more factories and thus provide more jobs — if this is the way of it, isn't the logical union reply to ask that as a first step all the existing factories run three shifts a day seven days a week?

Mrs. Indira Gandhi and the Congress Party won the election hands down. INTUC, the Indian Trade Union Congress, has often been described as a projection of the Congress Party. But this union logic may end that.

Mrs. Gandhi had announced a firm line of industrial peace and high productivity. She summoned the various union leaders on May 20 and told them:

"The employed, particularly in the organized sector, who enjoy a measure of social security, should recognize that in our country to be employed is in itself a privilege. Hence they should not seek unilateral gains for themselves, but should have some compassion for those who are willing to work yet are not able to do so because of the comparatively low rate of capital formation in our country."

That means: Please don't ask for a raise; then your boss may make enough money to build more factories and hire the jobless. In the developing countries especially it is a standard pitch to urge the labor movement to go easy. It assumes that unemployment stems from insufficient factories, not from the insufficient market for factory products among workers who have no money.

A few days later the Asian Regional Organization of the anti-communist ICFTU (International Confederation of Free Trade Unions), to which INTUC belongs, held a conference in Bombay on unemployment throughout Southeast Asia. This was an assemblage of the moderate and even conservative forces in the labor movement, but their major proposal would seem to be a direct answer to Mrs. Gandhi:

"Full utilization of idle capacity and efficient management of heavy industry; three shifts working with reduction in working hours and adoption of a five-day week for workers along with a seven-day week for factories."

If unemployment comes from inadequate capital formation, from a lack of sufficient factories to work in, then three shifts seven days a week, with each worker's hours less than forty — That ought to do it!

The conference on unemployment also urged that throughout Southeast Asia the work be undertaken of linking the major rivers to provide better irrigation and river transport. It also recommended "a rational choice of technologies most suited to the requirements of a country" and encouragement of small-scale industry and other handicrafts. These proposals reflect a need to arrange that people make a living with the means at hand and to avoid the increase in unemployment that could come from rapid industrialization. There isn't much left to the plea to go easy on the boss.

The current population of India is 547 million. China is the only country more populous. Despite union and government urging of birth control, the population of India has increased 25% in the last 10 years. Birth control works only when people have hopes of living better. The

The frivolous tourist enjoying his dollar power does not concern himself that here is another Spain. He does not even understand the taunt that some indignant Athenian may hurl at him.

In Greece there is a little flower called the Paprouna. It is red with a black center, the color of freedom. My father, who is an old man now, used to sit in the fields and talk to it. Then he would write poetry. It is his favorite flower. It is my favorite too. All over Greece it is still growing.

Alfredo Hitzikakis

Wages Don't Decide Imports

Robert Stevenson, Ford vice-president in charge of international operations, told the British weekly paper Autocar recently:

"Hourly wages don't make the difference any more between the manufacturers in different countries. The difference lies in technique and in production volume.... US hourly wages are often double those of other countries, but this is no longer as important as it used to be, inasmuch as labor costs have a lesser bearing on the cost of a vehicle. There are no more than nine or ten hours of manual labor left in the assembly of an automobile. If you add up all the elements of a car, from tires to engine, glass, seats, and so on, without counting raw material, the total number of working hours embodied in a car is between 65 and 70."

UAW Vice-President Ken Bannon quoted this to answer corporation contentions that labor costs here account for rising car imports.

What effect have tariffs? Not long ago Canada reached an Automotive Product Agreement with the USA, anticipating that Canadian car buyers would be able to buy cars at US price levels. Instead the auto companies kept the old Canadian prices, thus pocketing about fifty million dollars they would otherwise have paid in tariffs. They play for keeps. It all confirms that where oligopoly (control of market by a very few concerns) prevails, prices get set at the point at which neither lower prices and more sales nor higher prices and fewer sales would increase company profits.

UNDERGROUND PAPERS SEEK PRESS CARDS

Los Angeles Free Press, a commercial venture critical of the Establishment and pro-hippy, asked the police to give its reporters press credentials to give them the same access to news other reporters had. When they were denied they went to court. The Ninth Circuit Court ruled that the Free Press "as a newsgatherer has no constitutional right of access to information which is not freely accessible to the public generally." The Free Press took this to the US Supreme Court, which by one vote refused to hear its case.

The same issue may be presented yet in a similar case brought by Baltimore's underground paper "Harry". But why call these "underground"?

CONS REQUEST READING

A means by which Black and Spanish prisoners in New York State jails can receive revolutionary literature has just been set up. Requests have been received from the prisoners that such literature be sent to: Rev. Jeffrey T. Cuffee, 619 Birch Lane, Peekokill, New York.

Learn About The IWW

- The IWW, Its First Fifty Years (203 pages clothbound, 33% off on five or more) .. \$3.00
- General Strike..... .20
- World Labor Needs A Union..... .25
- Unemployment And The Machine..... .10
- IWW Songbook..... .40

Sheet Music

- The International..... .25
- Rebel Girl..... .25
- Workers Of The World Awaken..... .25

(40% discount on ten or more of the above)

- Works From Other Publishers
- Turner: Sydney's Burning..... 2.00
- Dubofsky: We Shall Be All..... \$12.50
- Kornbluh: Rebel Voices (Anthology)... 4.95
- Gibbs Smith: Joe Hill..... 7.00

(We are currently out of One Big Union and Theory and Practice, but expect revisions and also new literature to become available soon.)

LEFT SIDE

LEFT SIDE

Let's be cheerful for once. Some call it a recession, and one should not waste a perfectly good recession being gloomy.

Canadian Premier Trudeau proposes that ten thousand jobless youth head for the Far North and start a new city. "You've got engineers," he told them. "You've got doctors, you've got some groovy people — people who like to live in communes. Go and stake out a new city up there." He promised support. If he will make it far enough north and accept some American youth, he might get help from Governor Reagan and others.

The Ford Foundation and the Upjohn Company had a conference to explore why so many young people feel that a job is just a disagreeable way to make money. The Bell Telephone Company reported it had experimented with some unhappy hands putting together a local telephone directory. The job had been divided into 21 robot steps. They re-blended the procedure so that each worker assembled a complete directory, and report it made them all happy.

Harry Woodward, director of correctional programs for the Right-wing Clement Stone Foundation, has been touring prisons here and abroad. He came up with the proposal that each prison should have some trailers in which men could visit with their wives. Right on, but why discriminate against the single prisoners and their friends?

Lawrence Zeitlin, professor of industrial psychology at City College, New York, says employers should be glad their hired hands steal three billion dollars worth of pencils, paper clips, and the like each year. He figures this runs to only \$1.50 a day per employee, and at the same time satisfies a deep psychological need which if left unsatisfied would result in wage demands of far more than \$1.50 a day. We have expected as much — but in a few years \$1.50 worth a day would fill up the closets at home with paper clips. It must be that some higher-up is grabbing those things in quantity to re-cycle.

William Buckley discloses how he and other Right-wingers reason in comments on the acquittal of the New York Black Panthers: He chops logic this way: Everyone is supposed to be innocent until he is proven guilty; this applies also to prosecution witnesses who have not been convicted of perjury; therefore if you suppose that these prosecution witnesses are not guilty of perjury, you should believe them and thus conclude that the defendants are guilty!

Didja see the Kabouters on the First Tuesday in June? They are a jolly lot in Holland, somewhat hippy, who have "cracked" seven hundred unused buildings to house the homeless. They fight pollution. They win seats on the Amsterdam City Council. They have developed a community of wanderers from all over the earth, some from the USA. It may remind one that centuries ago a few masterless men hiding out in these lowlands began to undermine feudalism.

And that's all I can think of to be cheerful about right now.

CHICANOS MARCH

Starting May 5 at Calexico, and making only ten miles a day, a march sponsored by the Chicano Moratorium and known as "Marcha de la Reconquista", headed for Sacramento to protest the treatment of Chicanos in the draft, police brutality, and welfare and immigration policies.

CAN WE SQUEEZE THE RIGHT TOES?

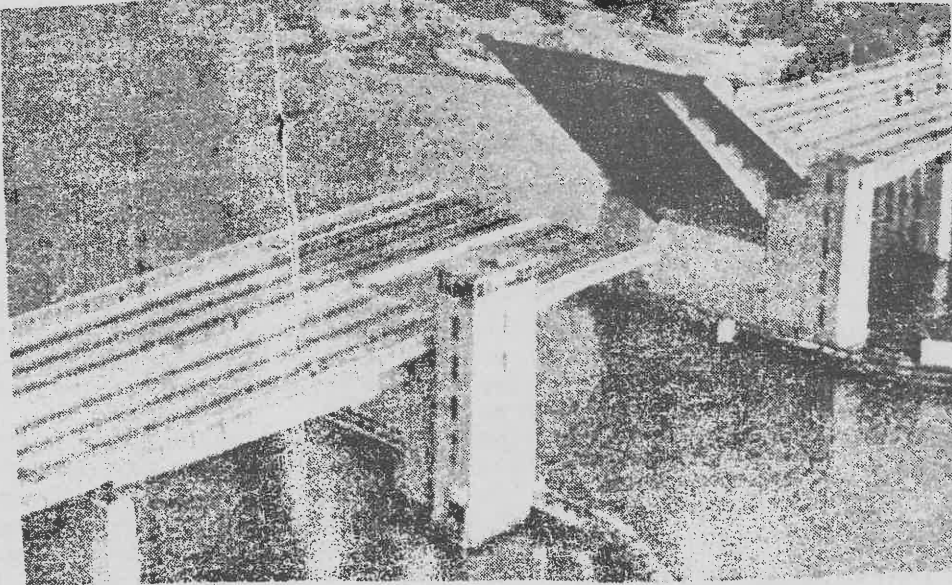
New York bridge tenders went home June 6 with their bridges raised and closed to traffic. The sewage-treatment workers joined them, and untreated sewage flowed into the rivers. All that this massive pressure got was a sort of promise that next year the Legislature might consider their request for half-pay pension after

20 years and full-pay pension after 40. Their pressure squeezed only ordinary folk who couldn't chisel on bridge tenders' pensions if they wanted to. It did not squeeze the toes of the influential citizens who could effectively say yes or no to their request. The System shifts to work out that way too often. To pinpoint pressures where

they should go the labor movement needs some structural changes to permit more flexibility and co-ordination.

Law-makers have found it is useless to forbid public-employee strikes, but this experience is being followed by other restrictive legislation and court decisions. UTW gets told that the Norris-LaGuardia Act does not stop injunctions in aviation or railroading. The UMWA gets hit with a \$7 million penalty under the Sherman Act.

Public and quasi-public employment grows, and the unionization of public employees has been growing even faster. Since 1957, State, County, and Municipal Employees has grown from 150,000 to over half a million; Teachers from 50,000 to 250,000; Federation of Government Employees from 64,000 to 300,000. Five postal unions merged their 300,000 to fight plans to cut down on jobs and postal service. They bargain mostly with broke public agencies. In related fields telephony workers can walk out and inconvenience no one. Telegraphers can strike, but no stop business communication via Telex and TWX. We will have to learn how to squeeze the right toes.



One of 28 open bridges that tied up New York

POOR ADDRESS COSTS A DIME!

Please help us save postage. When we send out a paper with an address that is not up-to-date, we get it back with either forwarding information or "not known", and it costs us a dime. If it is to correct some poorly written address, we also have to cut a new plate — and the reader misses an issue or gets it way late. One extra minute spent giving us the address right in the first place saves us some dimes (And we run short of them!) as well as time and trouble.

You Have a Right To Respect Pickets

NLRA Section 7 protects a worker's right to assist a labor organization whether he belongs to it or not. On this basis the NLRB has ruled in the Kellogg case that unless the contract covering a worker indisputably surrenders his right to act union, he can respect the picket line of another union... even when his own union tells him to go to work.

Contracts covering the 3500 workers at Kellogg in Battle Creek expired in April 1969. Most of the workers belonged to the Grain Millers' Union, which reached a settlement and new contract without a strike. But a hundred belonged to the Printing Pressmen, and these men, unable to get a satisfactory settlement, struck and put up a picket line.

The president of the Grain Millers' Union sent a wire to the local saying that their contract required them to continue on the job, and they must go to work to protect their jobs. This was read over the radio. A few members of the Grain Millers, perhaps because some were married to members of the striking union, stayed away from work and were fired. Later they sought reinstatement. The trial examiner — partly because of standard "No Strike" clauses and a specific "No Sympathy Strike" clause in the contract, but even more on the strength of the union president's telegram — ruled against these workers. But the NLRB over-ruled the examiner with this finding:

"In refusing to cross the picket line at their place of employment and report to work, the two alleged discriminatees were each assisting the labor organization then on strike. It did not matter that they were not members of the bargaining unit represented by that union. It is well said that Section 7 of the Act protects an employee in his right to assist a labor organization regardless of whether he is eligible for membership in it, and that such conduct is protected concerted activity."

Hear Utah Phillips Sing Labor Songs

Utah Phillips played his guitar; sang railroad, hobo, Wob, and other labor songs; and explained the facts of life to an enthusiastic bunch of young and old rebels at the concert he gave for the benefit of the IWW in the Chicago Wob Hall June 14. They promised to pack the Hall when he comes back in the fall.

He had stayed over from a two-week engagement at a Chicago night spot to do the benefit concert for the union of which he is proudly a member. When he explains a bit about the historic setting of some song he is likely to add: "But remember, I didn't join a history association; I joined the Union to do something about the world."

Utah will be singing at various folk-song festivals this summer: June 19 and 20 at Middletown, New Jersey; July 1 to 5 at the National Folk Lore Festival in Washington DC; July 9-11 at the Mariposa Festival in Toronto; July 16-18 at Newport, Rhode Island; August 5-8 at Petersburg, New York; and August 27-29 at the Philadelphia Folk Festival. It is a performance no rebel should miss.

LABOR FORCE

The US labor force is now 83.5 million and growing by about 1.5 million a year. This does not include a million or so on tap but not actively trying to land a job.

SACCO-VANZETTI AND JOE HILL FILMS AT CANNES

Italy's official entry in the Cannes International Film Festival was the movie "Sacco and Vanzetti", starring Gia Maria Volonte, Riccardo Cucciolla, Cyril Cusack, Geoffrey Keen, and Milo O'Shear, directed by Montaldo. It includes Joan Baez singing her "Ballad of Sacco and Vanzetti".

On August 22, 1927, Sacco, an anarchist shoemaker, and Vanzetti, an anarchist fish peddler, were electrocuted in the state of Massachusetts despite worldwide protest over the frame-up.

The Swedish entry was the Widerborg film "Joe Hill", starring Tommy Berggren as Joe and Evert Anderson as the hobo Blackie. It runs 110 minutes with English soundtrack. The Variety review comments that more of Hill's songs could have been sung, and indicates a story line of strikes and repression leading Joe to write labor parodies of Salvation Army and other tunes — getting shot by a jealous lover and framed for the murder of a grocer because of the bullet hole.

Is it a sign of the times that two major entries deal with this frame-up theme against a background of class struggle?

KEEP GOOD MAN ON THE JOB

Vern Washington, a militant black steward in the International Bottle Blowers Association at Owens-Corning Fiberglass plant, located in Santa Clara, California, was fired under circumstances that led the rank and file in the plant to see that he was being fired for being too good a steward. He was part of a rank-and-file movement to fight for the interests of the men against union-management collusion.

On June 1 there was a union-management meeting to consider Washington's case for reinstatement. The rank and file committee called on students and others (about 35 in all) to picket the plant gate to press the meeting to achieve a just result. Now the case goes to arbitration, and the facts should win Vern reinstatement.

Vern has worked at the plant for five years. He is so well liked by his fellow workers that in a recent election for delegates to the International's convention in New Jersey he beat out three union piecards for his seat. He feels that this is the real reason for his predicament. The three union officials, according to Vern and those around him, used an accidental spilling of beer to start a fight and caused Vern to be arrested and sent to a hospital for his injuries.

The established white union officials and the company management consider Vern a "troublemaker". The company fired him charging he had threatened three union officials and had falsified reasons to claim time off. This second charge relates to approved time off granted by the company over four months ago. The company had previously accepted Vern's proof that he had indeed taken the time off to attend the funeral of his step-brother. In spite of the fact that the company usually agrees to provide three days off with pay for such occasions, Vern had told them to keep their pay for those three days.

Both charges are invalid. The company refuses to pay Vern his unemployment compensation. More and more union people are coming to see that one of our primary duties is to make it hard to get rid of good unionists like Vern.

X 324946

Convention Set

Flash! The IWW convention will take place Sep't. fourth, and will be a mass and delegate convention. This is at 9 A.M. on the Saturday of the fourth. All members are invited to attend.