





Some years back I had a lady friend who was an art student at the local Art Institute, and she would regale me with stories from her home back in the Hawaiian Islands. One of her less pleasant stories was about the reign of terror against her people in the days immediately following the bombing of Pearl Harbor. The heads of all Japanese households were arrested by the military and taken to barracks, and the families were told that they would be shot in the morning. The Haole soldiers delighted in barging into the clean Japanese homes to track their muddy boots all over spotlessly clean woven mats, strutting like so many John Waynes. Some of these soldiers had never lived in a clean home themselves.

Some years later, while visiting a friend in Germany, whose only reason for not sitting out World War II behind bars like myself was that his only alternative was the firing squad, told me an unpleasant story of his home town while showing me the building where it happened. This particular building in the center of town was occupied by Jews, and one morning was surrounded by troops of the SS armed with machine guns and flame throwers who laid siege to the building until no one inside was left alive. After the smoke cleared, these proud members of the "Aryan" race brought out the accumulated treasures of the families who had lived there to smash on the sidewalk. My friend tells me that the soldiers were of the type that had never developed a regard for delicate things, much less a regard for human life.

Some weeks back, a Fellow Worker from Arkansas sent me a newspaper from his home town about some of the stuff that went on at Fort Chaffee, where a large group of anti-Castro Cuban refugees were being held. These anti-Castro refugees, it is true, consisted in part of the criminal element, along with others that Fidel was only too happy to get rid of, and there are still arguments, pro and con, as to the worth of this latest group of refugees. However at the camp at Fort Chaffee they have been systematically subjected to harassment by officers of the Immigration and Naturalization Service. Some of these officers would introduce themselves to the refugees as "Official de la Muerte" (officer of death), and proceed to work them over with riot batons. The article lists specific incidents and charges. These are not members of the regular military, but officers of the Immigration and Naturalization Service; but the psychology seems to be the same. Take a few individuals who are born losers, with nothing going for them, give them positions of authority over their fellow humans, and you have the oft-repeated example of extreme brutality.

Armies all over the World and all through history have been composed of individuals who were either born that way or conditioned by peer pressure. Such is the nature of militarism, and all you fellow workers of draft eligibility should take this into consideration. As those who

have been through it have told me, if you have anything on the ball intellectually, keep it under wraps. Otherwise the commanding officer or sergeant will incite the rest of the gang against you.

There has been talk over the years of unionizing the armies; but in the humble opinion of yours truly, the time to organize the troops is before they get into the army. Don't forget the old Wobbly slogan: "Draftees of the World, unite! You have nothing to lose but your generals!"

Talking about military brutality and repression, the famous Green Berets of Vietnam lore are now being dispatched to El Salvador to train the army down there in "containing" insurgency.

This is the month that Columbus is honored throughout Freedom Land, and schools will be closed in honor of a sea captain whose reputation as an employer was so bad that the only way he could get a crew for his voyage was for the King of Spain to load his ships with convicts. No one else in their right minds would sail under him. The King and Queen of Spain knew they had a good thing; otherwise they would never have parted with any of their parasitic wealth to back up his voyages.

Old Chris is credited with discovering the Western Hemisphere, but the fact is that many years earlier the Chinese set sail across the Pacific and hit these two continents. They spent quite a bit of time visiting the various native nations, and exchanged seeds and stories before sailing back to China. The Vikings also came down, but didn't get along too well with the natives and returned to their fjords and flaxen-haired maidens back home. There was even a Welsh expedition, which apparently got along well and became a tribe of lighter-skinned Indians. But it seems that Christopher Columbus is singled out for special honors because his expedition paved the way for colonization, exploitation, and the eventual rise of capitalism.

The so-called Western World had been enduring some acute dietary problems, but the introduction of the many food products from the "New" World had not only placated the discontented masses of Europe, but also enabled the European rulers to feed their armies well enough to go forth and take over the World.

This is not to imply that non-European rulers were above imperialistic designs, or that they were paragons of human virtue. They were merely in circumstances fortunate enough to enable them to get their wealth closer to home. The Chinese, again, had been to Africa before the Europeans, but found it more convenient to expand closer to their own turf, and thus became feudal in nature.

So don't belittle the contributions of the original nations of the Western Hemisphere. Besides contributing corn, tomatoes, potatoes, tobacco, and toboggans, they very definitely contributed to the growth of the present economic system. However it would be much nicer to be remembered for toboggans, and maybe we should just keep it that way.

Down in South America the various brands of Marxists and socialists have been trying to organize the Indian masses, but are finding out that the traditional collectivism of the Indians is a couple of centuries ahead of their dialectical materialism.

Draftees of the World, unite! You have nothing to lose but your generals!

C. C. Redcloud

## Draft - an ill wind

Selective Service has given the Justice Department the names of a couple of hundred young men who did not register for the draft, "for investigation and possible prosecution".

Close to a million young men have passed up registration. Despite the threat of five years in jail and a \$10,000 fine, the number of those refusing keeps growing. Draft counselor Chris Robinson (Recon Publications, PO Box 14602, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19134) states in a release:

"According to Government statistics, the number of men who have refused to register is increasing with every day. During the summer of 1980, 3% of the men born in 1960 and 1961 refused to register for the draft. That jumped to 13% of those born in 1962, who were required to register in 1981. Since that time men born in 1963 have been required to register within 30 days of their 18th birthday, but a full 30% so far have refused to register."

Why? Here's one of the many letters that have appeared in *Resistance News* (San Francisco), from resister Paul Jolly of Bronxville:

"This country is preparing itself for war. Draft registration is a gesture of compliance with the military ethos. It is an indication of availability. I have decided not to register simply because I am not available for military 'service'.... The Government has forced me to choose: either to allow myself to become a mindless cog in the machine that threatens all life, or to say 'No.' I am saying 'No.'" (quoted from *Lip* - Lancaster, Pennsylvania)

Your American Friends Service Committee can offer advice.



## Working for Peace

The banner above the IWW literature table in front of the Lincoln Memorial reads "Industrial Workers of the World Working for Peace." There IWW members from the Washington DC region had gathered with other protestors to commemorate the first A-bomb devastation at Hiroshima and Nagasaki on August 9.

Since its beginning the IWW has been active in the effort to end war by building a war-proof solidarity of labor and getting working people to plan the best use of this planet's resources, which won't be nuclear weapons.

-Daniel del Valle

## EDITORIAL

### PATCO: What Kind of Solidarity?

Union folk got set to go to Washington DC for Solidarity Day, this time by auto and bus. For though the September 19th demonstration was set well before the Professional Air Traffic Controllers Organization (PATCO) went out on strike, circumstances made support of this "maiden strike" the focal issue.

In Washington the American Federation of Government Employees has been especially active on the PATCO picket line. The Reagan limit of 4.8% pay increases for federal employees makes them interested. The extension of government employment into new areas makes the right of government employees to strike basic to a free society. Capitalism survives in Canada without any such ban. Back in 1940 the Columbia University Press published David Ziskind's *One Thousand Strikes of Government Employees*, yet the union of the states had endured alongside the AFL and CIO. Only eight states specifically provide that state employees have the right to strike.

The labor law governing this strike is the Railway Labor Act, not the NLRA and its appendages. Thus the ban on secondary boycotts that applies to most industries does not apply here. Unions operating in the air-transport industry, however, have been held back by a variety of restraints, among them the no-strike provisions of their own contracts. Instead they have come up with a strategy based on the small number of workers involved in the PATCO strike: A few million unionists should be able to take financial care of a few thousand strikers.

The Government, through HUD, which has mortgages on the homes of some of the strike controllers, told regional offices to crack down on strikers who can't make their mortgage payments. The AFL-CIO set up a PATCO

Family Fund—not for strike relief, but to take care of such emergencies. The Communication Workers of America promptly responded with a check for \$100,000 and a promise of more if needed. CWA President Glenn Watt said the firing of the controllers and the move to decertify their union "sets an alarming precedent that can only be viewed as an attack on public-sector unionism at all levels." Other federal employees have signed the same no-strike provision as the air controllers.

Thus solidarity in this instance will take the form of financial generosity, and not industrial-action support. Air controllers of other skies took job action in Britain, Canada, France, Norway, Portugal, and New Zealand, and 27 of them got suspended. Their premise for action was that the strike made air travel to the USA unsafe, and out of concern for travelers' safety, they should hold up trips into US air space. At the same time, Air Line Pilots took to TV to assure all that air travel was safe.

It wasn't in the finest spirit of solidarity, though perhaps based on the circumstance that the job stress, which is the crux of this strike, comes from the top of the workload and not from the bottom three-quarters, which is all the scabs have had to handle. The International Federation of Air Traffic Controllers is still on speaking terms with the Transportation Secretary, who won't talk to PATCO, whose contract with the FAA will run through March 15th.

Solidarity Day—a fine idea. It's something to practice every day on the job. But it's very difficult for unions to practice it if their structures and policies inhibit solidarity. To work for solidarity requires the correction of these structural and policy shortcomings. Just howling at Reagan won't do.

★ EDUCATION ★ ORGANIZATION ★ EMANCIPATION



AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL  
ONE UNION ONE LABEL ONE ENEMY

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# SOUND OF A DISTANT DRUM

After every strike or street protest that has ended in a violent confrontation, the courts have dealt out heavy prison sentences to demonstrate that the State still wields its awful and lawful authority. It is supermarket justice handed out within hours of the counting of broken skulls.

There is also delay. The arrested man or woman is held without trial within an overcrowded prison week after week and month after month, until the spirit is broken and friends or associates have become involved in another cause or another case.

In the matter of the Brixton violence X is still being held in prison, and when X will come up for trial is a matter strictly for the fortune teller's crystal ball. Of all the many that were arrested, I refer to X because I count him as a friend.

A week ago I made the journey to the south bank of the Thames and to the Lambeth Magistrate's court, for David McCabe was due for trial over his alleged involvement in the Brixton Street court battle. He was plucked out of the milling, running crowd by the Snatch Squad, using the method perfected in the streets of Northern Ireland, and with various other men and women he was charged with a number of offenses against the authority and dignity of the State. Most of the charges against him appeared to have been thrown out by the police, and he had to stand his lonely trial without jury within this sun-warmed red-brick Victorian magistrate court.

What makes this case different is that David McCabe may be crippled for life as a result of "alleged" police violence during his arrest. He was dragged and thrown into a police van, and he claims that while he was huddled on the floor of the moving police van with various policemen swarming all over him, one policeman used the van's fire extinguisher to smash and smash again on his huddled knees and legs. He now moves very slowly, and only with the aid of hospital crutches. The predominant medical opinion is that he will probably be crippled for life as a result of that beating.

Within the courtroom where David was tried there were probably no more than a dozen people. I was the sole "member of the public", sitting alone in my glass-partitioned public box until I bluffed my way into the press box using my tattered *Industrial Worker* press card.

The trial was very civilized and very dignified, with no raising of voices and no histrionics. For the defense there was a woman barrister, confident and good-looking. The SPG riot policeman, neat and white-shirted, pink-faced and moving early in life into a pot belly, gave his evidence with the indifferent official air of one who is simply stating facts. He was followed into the witness box by a colored policeman who had aided in the arrest, and who with a friendly smile for every question agreed that what his

white colleague had stated was correct.

Then David McCabe hobbled into the witness box and crouched forward to rest on his two crutches. He gave his reason for being at Brixton on that violent day, protested that he had been given no medical help, and denied that he had committed any violent act against the riot police. Then he hobbled back to the dock. The police do not deny that violence was used against him on that day, but do deny that it was an act of revenge against those that were battling on the streets of Britain.

There was a brief silence in the small Victorian court. Then the magistrate, without raising his voice or lifting his eyes, annotated his notes and said: "I do not believe your story. You will go to prison for three months." With a nod in my direction David McCabe hobbled down to the cells, and I went out to find a phone to inform his mother.

This is but one of a hundred such cases, but of this one I can bear witness. What of Pam Isherwood, who passed by the Brixton street battle and was hauled from her bed at 5:45 in the morning two months later? She was held in a police cell overnight on the word of a small-time crook who acted as a police informer and, Judas style, pointed her out to Detective Chief Inspector Brian Boyce when she was marching in an anti-Nazi march. She was set at liberty only as a result of the police raiding the home of the police informer, where they found "letters containing false allegations about the Deptford party fire in January in which 13 young people died".

Kevin Griffin was arrested in the Toxeth rioting. He claims that he was beaten up while handcuffed, his nose was broken, and he was held down while a truncheon was forced into his anus. He further claims that he was then homosexually raped by the same police officer within the prison.

What will happen in the matters of David McCabe, Pam Isherwood, and Kevin Griffin, who have publicly protested their treatment by the forces of the State?

Two of us drive through Brixton's colored slum ghetto after sitting in at a meeting discussing the impossibility of raising thousands of dollars to get X out on bail until X's trial comes up in court. Fifty or so colored men and women form a moving group in the road and on the pavement. There is a car in the middle of the group with its windows splintered and broken, and four policemen lean on their police car listening. And we drift on in our "banger", for it is but another scene from the Theatre of the Street—the Theatre of Violence. And someone has slashed Lady Diana's portrait in the National Portrait Gallery when I have a review in the tray stating why it is an awful painting; but it was never that bad.

Arthur Moyses, London

## OBU Active In Britain

For a report on what the IWW members in Britain have been doing recently, we draw on *Wobbly Number 5*, a bulletin issued by our fellow workers in Oldham, Lancashire, Box 48. The format is an 8½-by-11 magazine that provides material of general working-class interest as well as some internal union business. Because of its wider use, such internal matters as financial statements are stapled separately. It is enlivened with numerous cartoons, many of them Fred Wright's, borrowed from UE. From it we learn:

Our London members have been distributing a leaflet on unemployment. It argues that "the potentially liberating effects of a new technology are being sacrificed in the pursuit of ever higher profits", and urges that workers cut out overtime, go through a six-hour workday, and give serious thought to how workers "can take over industry and re-organize production".

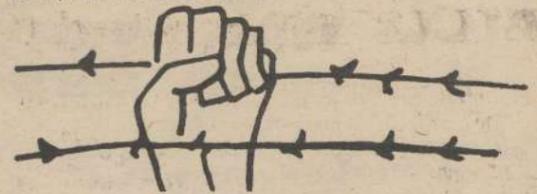
In Leicester our members got involved in a 12-week sit-in to maintain a child-care center, and they won. After a number of public meetings, petitions signed by thousands, and lobbying at the City Council had failed to secure continued operation of the Beal Street Play Centre, an IWW participant proposed that parents and their supporters occupy the center and operate it. This they did despite a fleet of police cars to put down the "uprising". During the sit-in the Leicester IWW showed the film *The Wobblies*, and the local papers covered both events. The IWW is also co-operating with dissidents in establishing a new Leicester Socialist Center which occupies three floors over the Blackthorn Bookshop. "Facilities include a creche, kitchen, six meeting rooms... The Centre will be a forum for all socialists in the area... for joint activity on the left."

In Leeds our members have gotten involved in a community-service function that could be imitated in various places. Fellow Worker Mike Phythias is active in the Leeds Trade Union and Community Resource Center, and says of it:

"Its work covers and unites women's, community, and trade-union groups, and it is managed by its affiliates." To avoid political manipulation, it allows no political organization to be an affiliate. "The center provides an inquiry service, a library of information of use to people active in the community (including IWW literature), and a range of resources including typing, photo-copying, and duplication facilities and safety monitoring equipment, all of which can be used at low cost by members of the community (not necessarily affiliates)... Currently there are four full-time and three part-time workers funded from a variety of sources, and also a number of volunteers." The work of the center has included in-depth reports on new technology and on working women.

Leeds Wobs proudly displayed their IWW banner in the April TUC march, the May Day march, and the Men-with Hill Peace Rally. The bulletin notes that "two of the local members had been held for questioning in July for the 36-hour limit under the prevention of Terrorism Act before being released without charges." They report current slow growth and such nefarious plans for this fall as showing *The Wobblies* and other labor films at Leeds University.

The IWW group in Oldham, Lancashire (PO Box 48) issues this *Wobbly Bulletin*, prints stickers, offers 200 assorted stickers for a pound sterling, and indirectly keeps up the Brazier Book Service at the same address, offering both new and old books and pamphlets dealing with labor history and socialist thought.



## Irish Unionist Urge Unity

The Labor and Trade Union Group, consisting exclusively of trade unionists, was formed in Northern Ireland in 1974 "to strengthen the trade unions, to strengthen the unity of the working class, and to end sectarian divisions".

In a recent open letter directed largely to American union members, the Group describes its current battle against unemployment. On this problem it is acting in unity with the Labour Party of Southern Ireland and the British Labour Party. It looks ahead to an All-Ireland Irish Congress of Trade Unions as an important step in the unification of life on the island. It opposes alike British rule in Ireland and "the campaigns of the Provisionals and other para-military organizations". Its letter contends:

"The methods of these groups weaken the trade union and labour movement as they increase sectarian division. In weakening the working-class movement, they are weakening the only force that can unite the country and end the foreign as well as the native exploitation of the country's resources in the interests of the owners and the finance houses and the major industries."

# AROUND THE WORLD

The Mexican Federation of Labor has asked the Government to reject the Reagan proposal to accept 50,000 Mexican workers yearly in the US as second-class citizens without the rights accorded other workers.

In Brazil, unionists plan to establish a nationwide trade union October 1st, despite a Government announcement that any such union will be forbidden. Nationwide unions were forbidden when the military seized power in 1964. The unions plan to go ahead, and if necessary they may call a general strike to establish their union.

One little-noted feature of the Japanese economy is that it has no "guest workers". It has the little-wanted jobs that guest workers usually do, but it has two labor pools with which to fill them: the young, and the workers who retired at 55 but can't get their pensions until age 65. Professor Edwin P. Reubens of the City College of New York, a noted economist, says of these menial chores in Japan: "These tasks are not badly paid or held in low esteem as they are in other countries—and they are often

not dead-end assignments."

Registered aliens, mostly Korean, are less than 1% of the population. The wage practice of unequal pay for the same work, but increasing with age and seniority, also fits into the area picture.

This summer the Bombay Government destroyed many thousands of sidewalk huts of its poor. This was done in the middle of the monsoon rains. A judge ordered a stay in the process until better weather. Nothing has been done, however, to provide alternative living quarters, as the Government wants to force these people back to the villages from which they came, often decades past.

These huts make up the unofficial slums of Bombay. The official slums are promised electricity and water. The community of Dharavi in Bombay, with 500,000 dwellers, is known as the world's biggest slum. City planners expect that by the year 2000, the city population will reach 16 million, with three quarters of it in the slums. By that time most of the politicians and businesses will have moved to the suburbs—or, we can instead make life different, and good.

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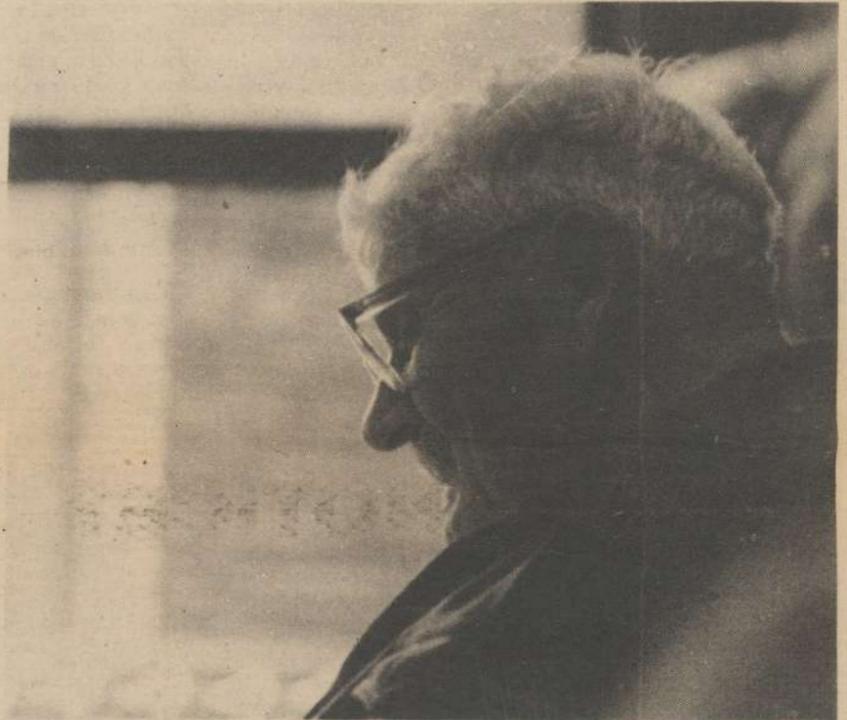
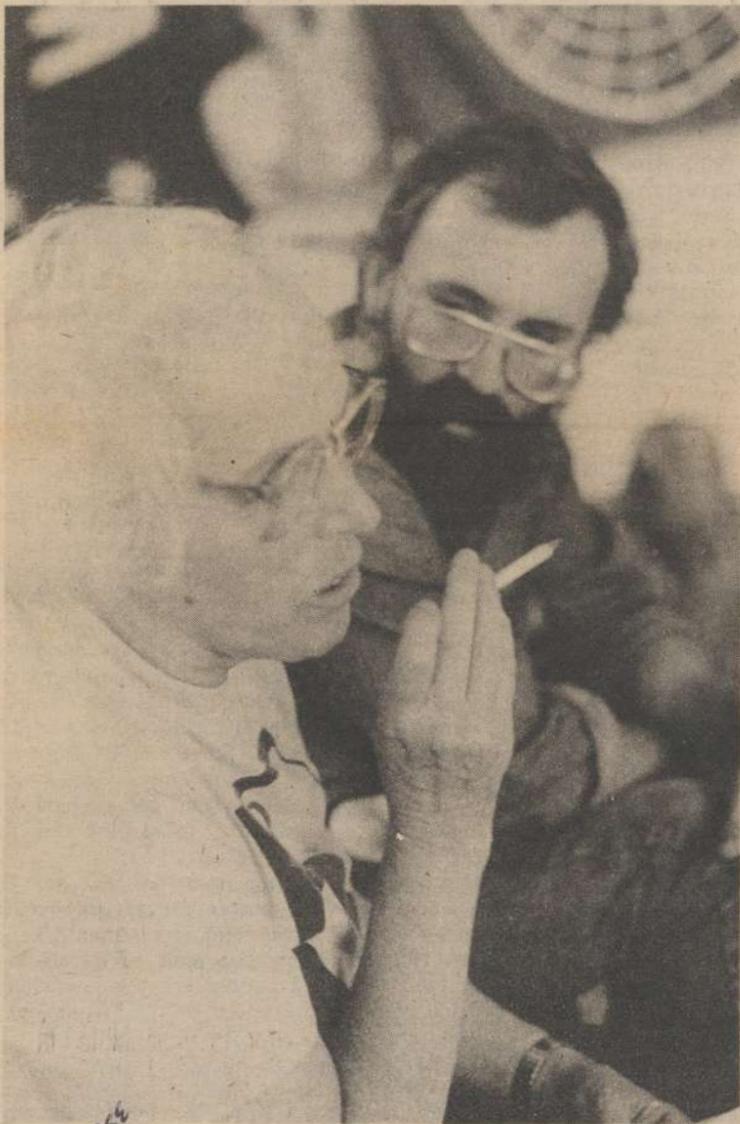
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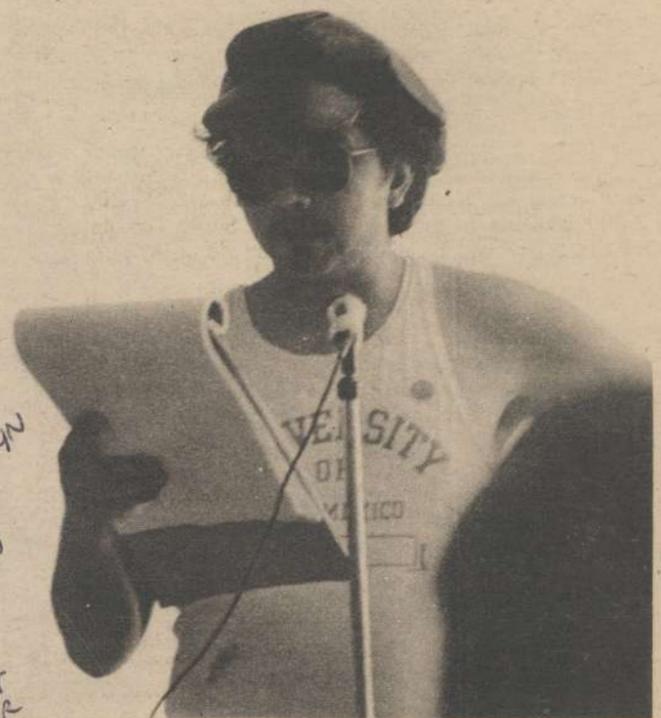
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1. Rochelle Semel and Susan Fabrick report on better office procedures.
2. The Alaskan delegation: Ruth Sheridan, Chris White.
3. Art Nurse, from Montana.
4. Delegates hear a committee report.
5. Roberto Roibal gives New Mexico report.

IW photos by Frank Callahan

# LABOR IN NORTH AMERICA

The UAW has applied to the FCC for low-power TV licenses useful for community news projects, and is looking into the development of satellite transmission for less costly TV broadcast of union and community organization programs. It has also started the publication of *Skill*, a magazine for the union's skilled-trades members. It recently issued its 150,000th journeyman card to toolmaker JoAnne Drumheller. It urges local units with 25 or more skilled tradesmen to hold monthly meetings of skilled-trades workers in preparation for 1982 bargaining and the mid-February skilled-trades conferences. The main focus of the first issue of *Skill* is the new medical screening program to check for cancer in time at Chrysler, especially among model makers. In lumber mills wood dust is a serious health problem, but by the time the model makers get it, it has been impregnated with many weird substances raising the incidence of cancer.

In Detroit they had the first Labor Day parade since 1966. Unions co-operated with Wayne State University to show two "banned" films, *Can't Take No More* and *Worker to Worker*. These are OSHA safety and health films banned by the Reagan gang.

The United Rubber Workers have won sizeable back benefits for members in two recent cases. Litton Industries (which UE is battling in South Dakota) closed its Hewitt-Robins plant in Buffalo in 1974 after the URW had been on strike there for two months for more pay. Now the workers have been awarded back pay running to \$2,150,000. In 1967 Linear, Incorporated closed a plant the URW had organized, and claimed it had no assets. Now the courts have decided that Linear's parent companies must pay the laid-off workers \$850,000.

Production of nuclear weapons was reduced for six weeks by a strike of 4800 members of 18 unions at Union Carbide's plant in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. The 18 unions bargain jointly as the Atomic Trades and Labor Council. They won 10½% for the first year, 9% for the second, and a wage re-opener for the third. SEIU's journal *Service Employee* comments: "There is speculation that the employer and the Department of Energy acted in collusion to force the workers on strike, thus helping Carbide meet its budget by cutting labor costs."

Inflation has raised the Government figure to mark the poverty level for a family of four from \$7,412 in 1978 to \$8,414. Inflation has thus swollen the number of officially designated poor by 3.2 million to 29.3 million. In 1980 the median white family income was \$21,900, the median Hispanic family income was \$14,720, and the median black family income was only \$12,670. Down below the poverty level last year there were 19.7 million white, 8.6 million black, and 3.5 million Hispanic workers and their families. Between 1978 and 1980 the percentage of children below the poverty line grew from 16.2% to 18.1%.



THE COMPANY WON'T ACCEPT THIS REPORT ON UNSAFE WORKING CONDITIONS. ITS NOT TYPED DOUBLE SPACED!

## DID YOU NOTICE?

One of the hot issues facing the US Senate this fall is revising the four-year-old Foreign Corrupt Practices Act aimed at stopping US businesses from making bribes overseas. Business representatives claim that the law discourages competition by Americans in foreign countries.

The US Government is settling out of court a lawsuit resulting from the Black Hills Ordnance Depot's 20-year practice of burning and releasing military poison gasses. Court records and army documents obtained under the Freedom of Information Act show that between 1951 and 1967 about 230 tons of mustard gas, 9,999 pounds of phosgene, and 1,800 pounds of toxic cyanogen chloride were burned or vented. While the burning may have destroyed the mustard gas, it also released deadly chemical by-products including metal-dissolving sulfuric acid and highly toxic chlorosulfonic acid. While government workers were given protective clothing and masks, the 600 to 2,000 civilians in the town of Igloo, South Dakota, where the depot was located, were given no protection.

In Bolivia, Amnesty International reports that Genero Flores, executive secretary of the rural workers' confederation and one of the few surviving prominent members of the Bolivian Workers' Confederation, was allowed to leave the country. AI also reports that Julio Cassio Meruvia, a leader of the Bolivian miners, died as a result of torture by special security agents. His wife and four children were abducted by security forces and were apparently taken to Cochabamba, but their precise whereabouts are unknown.

In June of this year, a national trade-union association in Chile, the Coordinadora Nacional Sindical, presented the country's leaders with a list of demands including an immediate raise in the minimum wage and changes in the laws restricting the right to organize and strike. On July 8th President Pinochet had the association's entire executive board jailed. The president and secretary of the association remain in jail, though eight others are out on bail. All face trials that could lead to sentences of more than a year in jail, expulsion from the country, or banishment to a remote area inside Chile.

Sexual harassment has caused 10% of working women to quit their jobs rather than put up with them, according to a survey by a professor at the Claremont Graduate School. Men who harass women sexually at work are few in number but chronic in their behavior. They tend to be married, but vary in age. In an earlier study about three years ago, 20% of the men interviewed did not consider demanding sex as a condition of employment a form of sexual harassment, but that figure has dropped to 2%.

In 1941 the top 5% of American families and individuals got 24% of the nation's income, while the lowest 40% got 14%. By 1962, after the New Deal and Fair Deal "redistribution", the richest 5% got 17.4%, while the poorest 40% got 13.5%.

Government officials in Australia have been expressing dissatisfaction with the country's Arbitration Commission practice each April of awarding all 6.6 million members of the country's work force a pay raise equal to 80% of the cost-of-living increase in the previous six months. This year the Australian workers got 3.6%. Certain industrial interests, however, favor retaining the Commission on the ground that an end to the wage-fixing policy will re-establish collective bargaining with wage increases approximating those in Great Britain. Whatever is done with the Commission, the Australian workers, 60% unionized, will doubtless press their own demands.

The poorest standard metropolitan area in the US is the McAllen-Pharr-Edinburg area on the Rio Grande River on the Texas-Mexican border. The 1979 per-capita income for the area was \$5,024—43% less than the national average. The McAllen area takes in Hidalgo County, a semi-tropical region with rich soil that produces abundant citrus, cotton, grain, and vegetable crops, and is tops in the state of Texas for farm revenue. Yet food prices in the county rank slightly above the national average, and a fourth of the county's residents live in households that receive food stamps. The unemployment rate in the area is 13%, compared to 4.2% in all of Texas.

Project Censored—a media-research effort based at Sonoma State University in California—has named El Salvador the most "censored" story of 1980. The nine other most important stories receiving the least press coverage were National Security Agency spying, continued censorship of the nuclear issue, the cover-up of Bendectin (a drug prescribed for pregnant women that may cause serious birth defects), the conversion of prime farmland in the Third World to cash export crops, the export of pesticides banned in the US to the Third World, the race between the US and the USSR to develop "killer satellites", the "conspiracy of silence" between the media and the tobacco industry, the oil companies' monopoly on solar industry, and toxic-waste dumping that poisons land and water.

Strike-caused idle time during July declined to 0.1% from 0.19% in June, the lowest level since March, the US Labor Department reported. The drop was attributed to the settlement or end of a dozen major strikes in June.

### PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION of the INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

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

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

We find that the centering of the management of industries in 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 interests 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 there is a strike or a lockout 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 fight with capitalists, but also to carry on production once capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

The high blood pressure and tension that come with driving to work persist all day, according to an 18-month study conducted in California. The study of 61 men and 39 women found that commuting increased blood pressure, reduced tolerance for frustration, decreased alertness, and caused poorer job performance and concentration. Such effects did not decrease as commuters grew accustomed to their drive. Moreover, the increased blood pressure appeared to stay at higher levels throughout the work day. The farther the commuters drove, the more their blood pressure went up. There was no difference found by sex or age.

Nearly half the human race depends on wood, charcoal, animal dung, and agricultural waste for cooking. In 1981, more than 100 million people can't find enough fuel wood to meet their basic energy needs, and another million are affected by shortages. By 2000, the UN Food and Agriculture Organization predicts that more than 2.3 billion rural people will need cooking fuels to replace firewood.

Britain's jobless total soared close to three million in mid-July for the first time since World War II, the Government reported. The total was 2,940,497—representing 12.2% of the country's work force. The official unemployment figure is 9.1% in France, 8.7% in Italy, 7.6% in the US, and 7.0% in Canada.

In August, the Northern Indiana Public Service Company announced that the Baily nuclear power plant had been scrapped. The shelving of Baily after a bitter 10-year battle marks the first time cost escalations and anti-nuclear opposition succeeded in killing a major nuclear project in the US. The Baily plant, never more than 5% finished, was to be built in one of the most densely populated areas in the US, down the road from 20% of the country's steel plants and up the road from the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore. Concern about the site had brought steel workers and environmentalists together with anti-nuclear groups.

The US has not produced chemicals for military use of nerve gas since 1969, but is moving to end that moratorium. In September the Government began soliciting bids for renovation and reconstruction of a nerve-gas munitions plant in the Pine Bluff, Arkansas Arsenal. The country's existing chemical-weapon stockpile consists of artillery shells, rockets, and bombs filled with ready-to-use nerve gasses: GB, or sarin, which is inhaled and disperses quickly; mustard gas; and VX, a liquid absorbed through the skin. All are considered unitary systems, meaning the nerve gas is encased in a single container. Plans for the Pine Bluff plant call for production of GB in binary munition. The components of GB would be contained in two different canisters until the weapon is used.

# From the Bookcase



**A SHORTER WORKWEEK IN THE 1980S** by William McGaughey, Jr., \$6.95, Thistlerose Publications, 5161 East County Line Road, White Bear Lake MN 55110.

A long-standing solution of the Industrial Workers of the World to the growing problem of unemployment is to shorten the work hours, thus necessitating the hiring of more workers, therefore it pleases us much to have the opportunity of reviewing books that treat on one of our favorite subjects. The author, William McGaughey, Jr., does not happen to be an IWW member; in fact, he is an avowed Republican, but nevertheless he sees the need for the shortening of the work week and presents some strong arguments.

One of the arguments is that full employment would do away with massive government spending in the areas of welfare, relief, and unemployment compensation. He makes a strong case that compelling workers to work long hours, rather than increasing production, in reality cuts down on efficiency. He gives convincing examples that a shorter work day is conducive to better production as tired workers are more apt to make mistakes.

He tells of the increasing trend on the part of employers to pay overtime rather than hire additional workers; the employer finds unemployment insurance, pension plans and other fringe benefits more costly than paying time-and-a-half for overtime. The author strongly recommends that overtime should be paid at double the hourly rate to discourage it and to compel the employer to hire more workers.

One of the fallacious arguments against the shorter work week or shorter hours is that it would only further encourage moonlighting. The fact is, that as better paying jobs are eliminated through overtime or reclassification, the employment opportunities that are left are lower paying jobs. Lower paying jobs are geared to unskilled workers and result in a high turnover which spares the employer the payment of benefits. Such trends are only of benefit to the employers and to the detriment of the workers and society as a whole.

One of the side effects of such a system has been reflected in consumer products. Such staples as wheat and canned corn have decreased in production and are far outstripped by such products as white sugar, cigarettes and beer. This, of course, reflects a naked profit motive, with no regard for society as a whole.

Much talk has been made about inflated wages for blue collar workers as the cause of inflation where the truth is that blue collar wages have been steadily losing ground to the rising cost of living. The real inflated wages are not among blue collar workers but among the professionals, and leading the list of overpaid professionals are doctors, judges, lawyers, professors of medicine and of law. They are the ones whose earnings have skyrocketed in relation to those whom they "serve."

One of the time-worn arguments against shorter hours for workers is that they would not know what to do with the extra time on their hands. Even a revered liberal such as the late Robert M. Hutchins of the University of Chicago was quoted in a news interview: "More free time means more time to waste. The worker who used to have only a little time in which to get drunk and beat his wife now has time to get drunk, beat his wife—and watch TV." The business unionist Walter Reuther, on the other hand, when asked by Mike Wallace what he thought about a thirty-hour week, said in part "... where the tools of abundance can take care of the material needs of the outer man with less and less human effort—this really means the first opportunity for the great mass of human beings to participate in culture."

The author continually emphasizes that true progress is the increasing amount of leisure time that the workers have. Such an observation is heartily seconded by this reviewer, whose observations have been that those workers with long hours have a tendency to "make the most" of their free time in bars, bordellos, night clubs or speeding down the highways or expressways, while those who have more free time on their hands are inclined to take an easier pace and look for more creative outlets to occupy themselves.

The book likewise touches on the progress of shorter hours in other countries and notes that the United States is lagging behind. Many countries have strong legal prohibitions against overtime work, according to a study made by the International Labor Organization (ILO). The same study finds that "in the United States, there is ... practically no obstacle to overtime working."

This book is filled with copious statistics and graphs supporting the author's contentions. The average reader need not be intimidated by said copious graphs and statistics, but can read the meat of the book and refer to the reference data at leisure. While the author of this book does not call for the abolition of the capitalist system, the cold facts and data within the book pretty well do it for him. This book is recommended for any worker and rank-and-file unionist, particularly for the latter as it will give them fuel to light a fire under their "representatives."

The author broadly hints that we should not wait for business or government to institute shorter hours, but that

it is something that we ourselves who work for a living must strive for. Seven dollars plus postage and handling doesn't even buy a decent bottle of bourbon any more, so live dangerously!

—Alfredo Nuberoja

## BOOK REVIEW

*The Incredible Shrinking Dream: An Illustrated People's History of the United States*, by Estelle Carol, Rhoda Grossman, and Bob Simpson, Aylson Publications, PO Box 2783, Boston, Massachusetts 02208, 176 pages, \$7.50 postpaid

This is the first comic book I've seen to have an alphabetic index and bibliography at the rear. Otherwise its 176 pages, 8½ x 11, are filled with cartoons that take a look at American history—definitely from the left.

It's not narrative, but it is chronological, and the occurrence of similar faces in similar situations a century or so apart may indicate the continuity of a pioneering proletarian family, or perhaps that "the more she changes, the more she is the same".

With two to eight cartoons per page, the roughly thousand drawings, captions, and balloons cover discovery, Colonial life, the Revolution of 1776, American politics to our current recession, the growth of industry, and the growth of unions (including a few on us Wobblies). It ends with the puncture of two dozen American history myths. You'll get a refresher course in American history as well as a few chuckles. It oughta be in every school—but it won't be.

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## Readers' Soapbox

August 6, 1981

*Industrial Worker*

Dear Editors:

I wish to correct an important mistake in Jeff Stein's recent review of my book, *History of Work Cooperation in America*. I certainly do not look with optimism to the new co-op bank, to the UAW presence on the Chrysler board, or to the government, to get us any closer to a cooperative or collective industrial system to replace capitalism. On the contrary, any seeming help to the movement from the corporate establishment or the government, can only be a ruse in their ultimate goal of constraining and defeating it. Yet these are good signs, concessions made from a position of weakness, defensive tactics. If the bank can get loans to worker cooperatives, so much the better; but certainly it will not be permitted to help the worker cooperative sector of the economy grow to where it is a threat to the wage system: at any point the corporations can easily bankrupt the bank and all that it spawns, as long as they hold state power and control of the money system.

True workplace democracy in a collective industrial system can only be brought about by mass action by the American working population. I do not support managerial business-cooperativism nor business-unionism; on the contrary, I look to revolutionary collectivity and revolutionary unionism as the road to the ultimate abolition of wage slavery in America and the liberation of the working people. It is this tradition, in which the IWW is one of the most important landmarks, that I trace in my book.

Thank you.

Solidarity,  
John Curl  
Homeward Press

## Sustain Us

NOVEMBER ISSUE

No plans for a November Memorial issue were made. Greetings will be accepted, but no commercial or political promotion. We plan usual 8-page issue unless greetings make larger issue necessary. Rates for greetings: \$5 for 1-column inch; \$20 for 5 column inches; \$30 for half-column; \$75 half-page. Copy: earlier the better; none after October 15.

## ★★★ IWW Directory

### NORTH AMERICA

ALASKA: Anchorage IWW, Ruth Sheridan, Delegate, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage, Alaska 99504.  
Juneau/Douglas IWW, Barry Roderick, Delegate, PO Box 748, Douglas, Alaska 99824.  
Fairbanks IWW, Chris White, Delegate, Box 72938, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.

ARKANSAS: Arkadelphia IWW, PO Box 371, Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923.

CALIFORNIA: San Diego IWW Group, Sandra Dutke, Delegate, 4472 George, San Diego, California 92116, Phone (714) 296-9966.  
San Francisco General Membership Branch, Frank Devore, Branch Secretary, PO Box 40485, San Francisco, California 94140, Richard Ellington, Delegate, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland, California 94609, Phone (415) 658-0293.

Industrial Union 450 Branch, Laura Rosenfeld, Secretary, Synthex Press, 2590 Folsom, San Francisco, California 94110.

IOWA: All Workers Organizing Committee, Box 382, Sioux Rapids, Iowa 50585, or Jake Edwards, (712) 283-2816.

ILLINOIS: Chicago General Membership Branch, Leslie Fish, Branch Secretary, 3435 North Sheffield, Suite 202, Chicago, Illinois 60657, Phone (312) 549-5045. Meetings held on the first Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. Child care provided if notice given in advance to Branch Secretary.

Champaign/Urbana IWW, Jeff Stein, Delegate, 1007 North Randolph, Champaign, Illinois 61820.

MARYLAND: J. K. Spitzberg, Delegate, 13042 Open Hearth Way, Germantown, Maryland 20874.

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston General Membership Branch and General Defense Committee Local 13, Willie Marquart, Branch Secretary, PO Box 454, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139. Meetings are held the first Sunday of each month. Child care provided if arranged in advance with the Secretary. Phone 522-7090 or 524-0529.

MICHIGAN: Detroit/Ann Arbor General Membership Branch, Eric Glatz, Delegate, 2305 West Jefferson, Trenton, Michigan 48183, Phone (313) 675-8959.

University Cellar IU 660 Branch, PO Box 7933, Liberty Street Station, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104.

Upper Peninsula IWW, Robin Oye, Delegate, Terrace Apartments 6, Lakeview Drive, Hancock, Michigan 49930.

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis/Saint Paul IWW, Nancy Arthur Collins, Delegate, 1688 Dayton, Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104. Scott Burgwin, Delegate, 3343 15th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407.

MONTANA: Thompson Falls IWW, A. L. Nurse, Delegate, Route 5, Box 88, Thompson Falls, Montana 59873, Phone (406) 827-3238. Missoula, PO BOX 8562, Missoula, Montana 59807.

NEW MEXICO: New Mexico General Membership Branch, c/o 700 Vassar Southeast, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87106.

NEW YORK: Buffalo IWW, Henry Pfaff, Delegate, 77 Ekert, Buffalo, New York 14207, Phone (716) 877-6073.

Greater New York City Organizing Committee, Rochelle Semel, Delegate, 788 Columbus Avenue, New York, New York 10025.  
Syracuse IWW, Georgene McKown, Delegate, 605 Hickory, Syracuse, New York 13203.

OREGON: Corvallis IWW Group, Bill Palmer, Delegate, 546 NW 14th, Corvallis, Oregon 97330.

Eugene/Springfield IWW Group, Tim Acott, Delegate, 442 Monroe, Eugene, Oregon 97402.

TEXAS: Houston IWW Group, PO Box 35253, Houston, Texas 77035, Phone (713) 865-4875, or Gilbert Mers, (713) 921-0877.  
Austin IWW, Red River Women's Press, 908C West 12th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, Phone (512) 476-0389.

Rye, Texas: Fred Hansen, Delegate, Box 728, Rye, Texas 77368, Phone (713) 685-4875.

San Antonio: Industrial Worker Distribution Project, 1602 West Huisache (2), San Antonio, Texas 78201.

Industrial Organizing Committee, PO Box 12831, San Antonio, Texas 78212, Phone (512) 736-6033.

WASHINGTON: Seattle General Membership Branch, Charlotte Jahn, Branch Secretary, 3238 33rd Avenue South, Seattle, Washington 98144.

Bellingham, David Tucker, Delegate, PO Box 1386, Bellingham, Washington 98227.

Tacoma/Olympia General Membership Branch, Otilie Markholt, Branch Secretary, 2115 South Sheridan Avenue, Tacoma, Washington 98405, Phone (206) 272-8119.

WISCONSIN: Madison General Membership Branch and General Defense Committee Local 9, Richard Linster, Acting Secretary, 426 Cantwell Court, Madison, Wisconsin 53703.

BRITISH COLUMBIA: Vancouver IWW Group, Al Grierson, Delegate, 4631 East Pender Street, Burnaby, British Columbia V5C, 2N2, Canada.

### EUROPE

GREAT BRITAIN: British Section IWW, Paul Shellard, Section Secretary, PO Box 48, Oldham, Lancashire OL1, 2JQ, England. Elaine Godina, Delegate, Phone 061-633-5405.

SWEDEN: Stockholm IWW Group, Goran Werin, Delegate, PO Box 19104 104 32 Stockholm 19, Sweden.

### PACIFIC

GUAM: Guam IWW Group, Shelby Shapiro, Delegate, PO Box 864, Agana, Guam 96910.

AUSTRALIA: IWW Sydney Office, 417 King Street, 1st Floor, Newton, Sydney, Australia.

### IW SUSTAINING FUND

(Received August 7th Through September 14th)

Tom Wayman	\$30.00
David Svedlar	\$ 1.50
Sophie Cohen	\$ 5.00
Gilbert Mers	\$ 5.00
Matt Rougle	\$18.00
Pete Posthumus	\$10.00
Shelby Shapiro	\$ 5.00
Frank Fox	\$10.00
Daniel Del Valle	\$ 5.00
Edison Dudley	\$11.00

TOTAL .....\$100.50

Many thanks, Fellow Workers, for your generous support.



**Literature**  
THEORETICAL

- ( ) IWW Organizing Manual ..... 75¢
- ( ) Collective Bargaining Manual ..... 75¢
- ( ) IWW Preamble and Constitution ..... 30¢
- ( ) Inflation: Cause and Cure ..... 25¢
- ( ) Workers' Guide to Direct Action ..... 25¢
- ( ) General Strike for Industrial Freedom ..... 50¢
- ( ) One Big Union ..... \$1.00
- ( ) Unions and Racism ..... \$1.00

MUSICAL

- (20) IWW Songbook ..... \$1.00
- ( ) The Rebel Girl (sheet music) ..... 50¢
- ( ) Workers of the World Awaken (sheet music) ..... 50¢
- (5) Joe Hill: IWW Songwriter ..... \$1.00

HISTORICAL

- ( ) The IWW's First 70 Years (hardbound) .... \$15.00
- ( ) The IWW's First 70 Years (paperback) .... \$4.95
- ( ) History of the IWW in Canada ..... 50¢
- ( ) Lucy Parsons: American Revolutionary ... \$4.50
- ( ) Pullman Strike ..... \$2.95
- ( ) Autobiography of Mother Jones ..... \$4.95
- ( ) The Right To Be Lazy ..... \$1.25
- ( ) Eugene V. Debs: Spokesman for Labor and Socialism ..... \$5.95

POSTERS

Printed

- (3) Organize! ..... 50¢
- (3) One Big Union ..... 50¢
- (3) Two Anti-War Posters ..... \$1.00

Lino-graphics

- ( ) Joe Hill ..... \$5.00
- ( ) General Strike ..... \$5.00
- ( ) Huelga General ..... \$5.00
- ( ) Draftees of the World Unite! ..... \$5.00

MISCELLANEOUS

- (10) General Defense Button ..... 35¢

Bulk orders of five or more of any item on the literature list may be ordered at a 40% discount unless otherwise noted. Postage costs will be added to all orders that are not prepaid. Please allow three weeks plus for delivery.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL GROUPS AND BRANCHES

Available from the Chicago Branch, 3435 North Sheffield Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60657: *Fat Cat Poster*, \$5; *Metal Workers' Guide to Health and Safety on the Job*, 50¢; *Durruti: The People Armed*, \$5; *Bicicleta*, a Spanish anarcho-syndicalist magazine (in Spanish), \$1.50. Available from the Tacoma-Olympia Branch, 2115 South Sheridan Avenue, Tacoma, Washington 98405: *Fellow Union Member*, 10¢ each; bundles of 5 to 15, 5¢ each; 15 to 499, 3¢ each; 500 or more, 2¢ each.

CORRECTION

In our August issue, under Sophie Cohen's poem titled "Triumph of Power", we put in a note identifying her as the woman who in the film *The Wobblies* said she didn't date cops. Sorry: She was the one who sang "Workingmen unite, we must put up a fight..." to that old Red Wing tune. British fellow workers repeated the error when they ran that poem on the cover of *Wobbly Number 5*.

## Profit Control of Discovery

In return for the exclusive license to market any results of its genetic research, Du Pont has granted the Harvard Medical School \$6,000,000 to make profitable discoveries for it. Recently Hoechst-Roussel, a German pharmaceutical firm, made a similar \$60,000,000 deal with Harvard's Massachusetts General Hospital, likewise covering genetic research.

Genetic research has prospects to make us optimistic, and prospects to give us nightmares. Should this new field be guided by profit making? Should the decision to pursue a result, to withhold a result, or to make a result available to others be decided by profit considerations?

Our capacity to devise new products and processes is something our ancestors developed over many millions of years, and our inventions are the application of understanding and techniques it took ages to achieve. The inventor, the laboratory technician or team, is original only in the most superficial respect, depending on a historic accumulation that goes back to the primitive conquest of fire and the splitting of stone to produce a sharp edge. Monopoly of last week's new application declares monopoly of a vast historic achievement.

Profit control of discovery manipulates the directions discovery takes. University research has been misdirected for years by the grants that shaped its course. Military objectives have made what might have benefitted the human race something likely to eliminate the human race.

A powerful pitch is being made these days to enhance profit making in invention and discovery. If America is slipping technologically—and it is—the modern Merlins say it must be the lack of profit incentive. They lament that 37% of US inventions are now being issued to foreigners. They used to be issued almost entirely to Americans, but the profit motive changed all that.

The general drift of our technology is toward massive things to work with, and a diminishing investment in the

people to work with them. This builds a powerful resistance to innovation. After World War II it was in the countries whose industrial equipment had been bombed out that the new technologies advanced most rapidly. Who, owning a billion-dollar investment, wants his research department to come up with something that will make it obsolete? The American economy, with its profit motivation, is more ready to bail out a Chrysler than to encourage innovations. The oil companies seek patent monopolies in solar energy, and their office boys in Washington cut out government research in that field. Surprised? And will it be surprising to import solar technology from other countries?

For years some patent attorneys have specialized in maintaining a retrieval system on patents about to expire, and have advised industrial clients that they could start tooling up to market the product as soon as it was no longer protected. Patents are bought up at times to get rid of the nuisance of new ideas. The 17-year span of protection a patent gives is said to have grown out of the old seven-year apprentice system, allowing a monopoly for two apprenticeship periods and then adding three years for good measure. It fit the rate of industrial innovation current at the time it was adopted.

If we get rid of both militarism and capitalism, the directions of research and invention will shift toward human well-being. But for human well-being we will no doubt have to impose new restraints on the rate at which they innovate industrial processes—partly to make sure that they don't have some unpleasant unanticipated consequences, partly to make good use of the equipment we already have, and perhaps partly so that mechanization will be designed to fit human beings, not vice versa.

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## Preserve the future.



GIVE to the sustaining fund!

## Useful Addresses

The American Friends Service Committee, 2160 Lake Street, San Francisco, California 94121, offers two 28-minute slide shows for sale or rent: *We've Got the Power* documents local achievements in energy choices; *Hamburger, USA* "focuses on economic concentration in the food system".

The Union of Concerned Scientists, 1384 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02238, offers publications on nuclear hazards and related issues.

The National Labor Law Center, 2000 P Street Northwest, Suite 612, Washington DC 20036, offers a two-dollar pocket-size "Workers Guide to Contract Language" and a series of 25-cent "shop sheets" on Organizing the Workplace, Safety and Health, The Right to Free Speech, Trusteeship, and the like. The Center was set up by the National Lawyers' Guild.

*Negotiating the Contract* and a series of other textbooks useful to active union members is issued by Union Representative, 430 South Michigan, Chicago, Illinois 60605, in connection with the Labor Education Department of Roosevelt University.

Saul Schneiderman, 7925 Sligo Creek Parkway, Takoma Park, Maryland 20012, issues a bulletin called *Talkin' Union*, focusing directly on labor songs. There's no sub price on it, but it takes first-class mail. Among its announcements: ACTWU Songbook, 15 Union Square, New York, New York 10003, has issued a book of 50 labor songs, "first copy free". Dick Reuss of Ann Arbor is compiling a discography of labor songs. Collector Records, 1604 Arbor View Road, Silver Springs, Maryland 20902, has issued Joe Glazer's *Jellybean Blues* on Reagonomics, and will soon release Bobby McGee's *Songs of Working Women*.

## Work That Needs Doing

While there is massive unemployment, there is also massive deterioration of the American economic infrastructure. The Council of State Planning Agencies says the rehabilitation of old facilities has fallen off and has not been replaced by new construction. Billions will be needed in the next 20 years, it says, to maintain urban water systems and to meet existing water-pollution standards. There is work that needs doing. The unemployment figure drops now and then without any corresponding increase in the number at work; some folks just get tired of being a statistic.

## Dirty Tricks

The Communication Workers of America (CWA) reports some tussles it has been having with union-busting labor consultants.

At Purolator Products in Fayetteville, North Carolina, management, on the advice of its union-busters, declared five union activists to be supervisors. That made them ineligible to vote for the union or to join the union, and it also removed them from protection by the NLRB. Then it fired the five.

Two days before a representation election at a Nashville plant owned by Bell of Canada, the parking lot was filled with large empty trailers. The implication was that if the union won, the plant would close. But it didn't work.

One dirty trick that did work was pulled in Birmingham to prevent the organization of Blue Cross/Blue Shield workers. The labor consultants had country-and-western singers serenade the workers with anti-union ballads and capped a mountain of misleading anti-union literature with a stunt that did turn workers against the union: As they arrived at work on election day they found "F... Blue Cross" in large orange letters across the company lawn.

When the CWA started organizing hospital workers in Pueblo, Colorado, management brought in a nun who had led a successful anti-union drive at Colorado Springs. The union won by bringing in a pro-labor priest.

Union-busting by professional consultants has grown with the NAM's Council on a Union-Free Environment, and the AFL-CIO has been keeping some tab on it in RUB (*Report on Union Busters*), now in its third year of publication.

## Lives are Cheap

Last January Dean Bogany, aged 21, was sent by his supervisors, working for the Port of Houston Authority down into a recently fumigated grain elevator, without mask or warning, to retrieve a fallen manhole cover. Then Presley Lynch, aged 23, was sent down, also without a mask, to rescue him. Both died.

In August the Port of Houston Authority was fined \$10,000 after pleading no contest to a charge of misdemeanor negligent homicide in the death of Bogany. The Authority was indicted on only one death, as it could be tried only once for the negligence that had resulted in both deaths.

# There's Life in Our Union

The opening session of the IWW Convention heard progress reports from various sections of these United States. At this Convention no delegates represented our members in Canada or abroad, but FW Jessica from Australia, who has been living the last two years in Brixton (scene of recent riots in Britain) and has been active in the Direct Action Movement there, was able to give us an idea of what troubles workers both in Britain and "down under".

Lisa Blake of Ann Arbor, at this paper's request, gave a detailed report on negotiations at the Book Cellar there, and this appears as a separate item.

Fellow Worker Tucker, who had come to the Convention from Bellingham, Washington partly by boxcar and partly by thumb, reported an enthusiastic group of a few dozen new members there. Some work in collectives, some in small enterprises that they hope to organize, most on jobs organized by other unions in which they are also active. Their local labor movement is progressive and welcomes the IWW, and they are getting set for a weekly radio show featuring news and analysis, labor history, labor songs, and interviews. This fall they plan a labor film series. They have access to a print shop where they run off local leaflets, and would like to exchange newsletters and minutes with other IWW groups.

FW Tucker also reported on the substantial progress the IWW is making in the Seattle-Tacoma area, and the rousing educational work that Utah Phillips of Spokane and Bob Markholt of Seattle did with their "One Big Union Medicine Show" last winter.

From further northwest, Ruth Sheridan of Anchorage and Chris White of Fairbanks spoke of the labor situation there. Many who had gone there hoping to make a fortune found prolonged unemployment instead. Chris White told of the struggle to make the unions in Alaska agencies the members control and can use to cope with their problems, for under Alaska conditions democratic control of unions, hiring systems, pension funds, and such are indispensable.

Art Nurse, former seaman and longshoreman who has retired to Montana, reported optimistically on the recent resurgence of the IWW in Butte, Helena, Anaconda, and other spots in that state. There workers are worse off because decisions about their bread and butter are made by corporate directors in remote places. They see the need for One Big Union to cope with this situation, and are trying to build it. Art says he is ready to travel anywhere between Spokane and North Dakota to help the process along.

Nancy Collins and Greg McDaniels of the Twin Cities told of constructive educational efforts there: the issuance of a pamphlet on producer co-ops, a literature table at *The Wobblies* movie and at book fairs with Wob music to build up interest, some growth especially among construction workers, and satisfactory results from their own improvised boxes that serve as Silent Salesmen (or Sales Things?) for the *Industrial Worker*.

Texas branches in Dallas, Austin, Houston, and San Antonio reported organizing among book-bindery workers, hospital employees, and uranium miners in direct support of Industrial Organizing Committee projects.

Robert Roibal told of activities of our members in and around Albuquerque, New Mexico. He reported recent organization of two small shops there, and also progress toward organizing a print shop and a food co-op, and among musicians. The major activity has been agitational, such as participation in anti-nuke demonstrations and

protests on behalf of American Indians. They had a good May Day street party in Albuquerque, though a few of their members were far away that day, marching with a million more in Havana. The New Mexico members will issue a calendar again for 1982, and advance orders are welcome.

The Iowa delegates, besides providing the Convention with its Chairman and Recording Secretary, had a newsy report on organizing that appears as a separate item in this issue.

In the Uptown area of Chicago, membership is growing among workers who are renovating old buildings and are consequently much concerned with community welfare in that area. They threw a Convention-eve party for us at a project. Chicago members have participated in a wide variety of demonstrations, as have our members downstate in Champaign-Urbana.

The spots where the IWW is growing (such as Montana) are sometimes marked by crisis in the old order, but are always places where someone seriously tries to do something—such as the staid city of Syracuse, New York, where Georgene McKeown has been getting us readers and members, and confesses that she has been using a fortnightly Wobbly cocktail hour to spread the good word.

Fellow Worker Spitzberg of Maryland spoke of applying the IWW principle of industrial solidarity to the problems facing schoolteachers in that state. He had enjoyed the opportunity to speak to the few hundred who came to the Smithsonian to see *The Wobblies* film, and he and Fellow Worker del Valle had gotten the signatures of many who wanted further information on what the IWW is trying to do—developing this opportunity instead of lamenting that the film told our story only up to 1920.

New York City members reported that they meet more readily for action projects than for business meetings. They held a benefit to raise funds so the Teamsters for a Democratic Union could open up a storefront as an organizing center. They got good visibility with literature where *The Wobblies* film was shown. At the "No More Witch Hunts" demonstration in July, they used a literature booth and photo display as well as staging a mock free-speech fight. In the PATCO fight, they picketed the New York City Central Labor Council to urge solidarity. They have found that a small palm card explaining the IWW is a useful handout, and would like to see a new supply of IWW stickers ("silent agitators"). They use the *Industrial Worker* as an organizing tool, and supplement it with their own leaflets.

Our members in Rhode Island have joined us only recently. They report that they have acquired some of the equipment of the New England Free Press, and hope to continue performing some of its functions in the land of Roger Williams.

Delegates from the Boston area reported extensive participation in anti-war, anti-nuke, gay-rights, and other demonstrations, in addition to support for the Air Traffic Controllers' strike. They will have a contingent marching in Washington on Solidarity Day, September 19th. At a recent area picnic attended by fellow workers from New York, they set up some optimistic planning for the Northeast. A new group is forming in the Amherst-Springfield area. Later in the convention, in connection with discussion of better ways to fill literature orders promptly, the Boston delegation plan to arrange for an IWW literature depot in their area to serve the East Coast.

## New Contract at U-Cellar

In August, at the Book Cellar that serves students at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, we negotiated our third contract after a 20-hour-marathon session that ran right up to the strike deadline.

The new contract increases our benefits. The employer pays a greater percentage, and sooner, for health insurance and for a new \$10,000 life-insurance policy. After year-long disability benefits run out, workers who become too disabled to work are to get \$50 a week for the same number of years they were employed for. We get one sick day per month, and these can be accumulated up to a total of 48 sick days at a time.

We retained the important sections of our previous contract: a union shop for IU 660 of the IWW, a "grandperson" clause, and union control over certain organizational money for raises (beyond those spelled out in the contract). Each department collectively determines raises, hiring, scheduling, and work assignments. There is a past-practice clause covering the last four years, and management must negotiate with the union about creating any new management positions, and about what the duties of those in these positions would be.

Permanent (as distinguished from temporary) employees will receive a 34-cent hourly wage increase across the board. Then in October \$15,000 is to be divided as the departments collectively decide, and in March another \$6,000 is to be divided the same way.

The most important contractual gain is the guarantee of our participatory organizational structure. Management gave up one of its three seats, and we added a non-voting union member to what is now a 12-seat council. Except for the two management seats, the rest are elected by their respective departments, and the union member is

elected by the union. The Council makes the operational decisions and generates policy for the store.

We struck over this issue two years ago, and the structure was put into effect only one year ago, just in time for our '81 fiscal year. In the two previous years, the store had lost money. In Fiscal '80 it was \$75,000 in the red (partly due to a tax case we lost with the City of Ann Arbor). The fiscal year just completed, with the Council in place, showed total net returned earnings of \$105,000. The "profit"-sharing plan already mentioned means that the bargaining unit shares \$30,000, our formula providing between \$400 and \$500 for each worker.

We hope to have more influence on the Board of Directors, which is made up of six University of Michigan students, three faculty members, one administration appointee, and our two union members. We won the two union positions in 1979, though this is the first year these two seats are guaranteed in the contract. The University of Michigan student government is responsible for appointing students to our Board of Directors. (We recently found out that the old conservative subcommittee responsible used to ask applicants if they were pro-union or anti-union, and behold—the people answering "pro-union" never got on the board.)

A leftist political party that helped us two years ago has now gained a majority, and we may soon have a more sympathetic Board, which means we can take bigger strides toward workplace democracy. But of course with or without a Board, the U-Cellar IU 660 will always have worker self-management as its goal.

Lisa Blake, X331,731

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## Split Vote Avoided At Cookie Plant

The All Workers Organizing Committee that has been leafletting extensively in Iowa stepped over the Minnesota line to leaflet the Sather Cookie Company employees at Round Lake, Minnesota in the last week of July. They promptly started getting some phone calls to inquire when the first meeting would be. The response at the first meeting showed that these workers wanted a union.

After two weekly informational meetings authorization cards were passed out, and within a week about half of those in both the production and the clerical units had signed them. An NLRB petition was submitted for these two units. The committee reports:

"Before initiating the drive we asked the United Food and Commercial Workers if they had any interest in the plant. This union sent a steward to our fourth meeting to tell us that they planned no campaign there and wished us well. Two days later some workers at the plant got in touch with the UFCW in Worthington, Minnesota to ask what it had to offer.

"At the next scheduled meeting we invited the president and chief steward of the nearest UFCW local to sit in and tell their story. Dan Pless spoke for the IWW. Both unions told the workers that to put two unions on the ballot would be good only for the boss.

"The workers were interested in what strike benefits the unions could offer, and in other services available. Here the UFCW, which was well established in the area, had definite advantages over the IWW. The officers of both unions then left the hall, and after long and loud discussion the Sather workers chose the UFCW.

"The IWW agreed to withdraw its NLRB petition in favor of the UFCW. President Engbarth of the UFCW local then told the workers that the IWW would continue to organize at other plants in the area and would have his support in doing so, and he urged them to do likewise. A letter with these same sentiments from the UFCW local followed. The suggestion was enthusiastically received at the meeting.

"To the All Workers Organizing Committee: While this development involved some disappointments, we are gratified that these workers will have a union, even if it is not ours. In the effort we were assured that the IWW type of unionism is something that workers want, but they would also like to be assured of good strike benefits too. The UFCW, however, is not so far asking to represent the clerical workers."

## THE RETURN OF MR. BLOCK

