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INDIGENOUS TRIBUNAL CONDEMNS FOREIGN INVADERS OF THE AMERICAS

Throughout November 1980 Rotterdam in the Netherlands was host to delegates from Native Nations of the Western Hemisphere attending the Fourth Bertrand Russell Tribunal. This international body has no government representatives, can make no laws, and is thus free from worry about whose feet it steps on.

In Europe much publicity was given to the Tribunal's proceedings, but—quite understandably—no mention was made of the Tribunal in the North American press, somehow including the Left. North American politicians talk about violations of human rights in other parts of the world, but they are silent about the injustices perpetrated against the indigenous nations of North America.

Many of the delegates to the Tribunal were there at great personal sacrifice and risk. Two delegates from Guatemala wore hoods over their heads to avoid reprisals against themselves and their families.

The Tribunal denounced: the repression of indigenous leaders by assassination, torture, kidnapping, and exile; the destruction of indigenous nations by denial of their culture, language, and tradition; the destruction of their ecology by transnational corporations; the relocation of racists from Rhodesia to strengthen white domination in Bolivia; sterilization; the undermining of native religions, especially by the Summer Institute of Linguistics; the division of native peoples by the arbitrary definitions set up by the invading nations, as in Canada; the massacre of Indian miners and campesino communities by the military dictators of Bolivia; the continued massacre of the majority native population of Guatemala; the military junta of

El Salvador for its involvement in massacres there; and the military junta of Chile for its violation of the rights of the Mapuche Nation and its ethnocidal Law 2568/78, which divides the Mapuche communities into small parcels of land, destroying the indigenous concept of life.

One resolution reads: "That the Tribunal condemn activities and enterprises that are destructive of our relatives, the four-legged of the land, the winged ones of the air, the occupants of the waters, and the creatures of the seas, including all other life-forms necessary to their sur-

vival, and a clean, healthy, and renewable environment within which they may flourish."

The delegates proposed a mechanism to provide for continuous Tribunal observation of the accused governments' publicity on findings by the European Support Committee.

This summary is made from a complete verbatim report in the Winter Issue of *Akwesasne Notes*, an indigenous periodical published by the Mohawk Nation, Rooseveltville, New York 13683, USA.

JAILHOUSE NEWS

• On March 8th a grand jury found the Plowshare 8 guilty of burglary, criminal mischief, and conspiracy to raid a GE missile-assembly plant. They face 25 years. The "burglars" are priests Phillip and Daniel Berrigan, Reverend Carl Kabat, Chaplain Dean Hammer, philosophy professor Elmer Haas, Sister Anne Montgomery, Molly Rush of the Thomas Merton Center, and attorney John Schuchardt. They are convicted of entering the GE missile-assembly plant in King of Prussia, Pennsylvania last September, spilling blood on blueprints, and damaging the nose cones for two nuclear missiles in their Christian effort to beat swords into plowshares. The judge excluded all discussion of international affairs, atomic warfare, and philosophy from the charge that they committed bur-

glary, whether with love or with malice in their hearts. The defendants had wanted to present evidence that the arms race is such an emergency as to justify their action.

• Glenn Gan and Steve Yip attended a United Nations assembly on May 1st, 1980 and splashed red paint on the reps of both the USA and the USSR as an accusation that both great powers threaten mankind. On February 5th the US Court of Appeals refused to re-hear their case.

• In Chicago, with all the defense's peremptory challenges exhausted, a jury was impaneled and sequestered on March 1st to hear the charges that 10 black members of two street gangs in Pontiac Prison reached a truce and killed three white guards. Jury selection has taken five months, and the trial is expected to be an expose of modern penology.

• At FCI in Pleasanton, California, federal judges and parole officers discussed sentencing practices with prison inmates at a "Sentencing Institute". The judges were surprised to hear that length of term on indeterminate sentences is set by the "silent beefs"—charges made against prisoners and later dropped—for parole boards get the whole file, including unproven and dropped charges.

• Warning that intolerable conditions in the nation's largest prison system will worsen, the Justice Department is seeking a court order to ease overcrowding in Texas prisons, where inmates are forced to sleep on floors and window ledges. The Department hopes to force Texas to provide beds for 2600 inmates.

• Aaron Owens has just left San Quentin Prison. He spent nine years there convicted of a double murder he did not commit. The real killer, it turns out, resembled Owens.

• The Environmental Protection Agency is searching for 70 former inmates of Holmesburg Prison, Philadelphia who were tested for reaction to dioxin, a highly toxic and carcinogenic substance, by the Dow Chemical Company in 1966 and 1967. All of the records have apparently been lost or destroyed, and none of the inmates have been located. The Holmesburg inmates "volunteered" for the tests by signing a form authorizing "medical and other tests" on themselves and absolving anyone of blame for "complications or untoward results" that might have occurred. But the subjects were not told of the nature or potential dangers of the tests.

• This year prison industries in New York expect to produce about \$120 million worth of office and school furniture, road signs, cleaning materials, and clothing. Governor Carey proposed a 15% boost in the prisoners' \$1.50-per-day wage. The Governor is also pushing to repeal the law that forbids sales to the private sector. Organized labor is opposed to any such repeal.

• The NASSCO 3, pipefitters at National Steel's San Diego shipyard and also members of the Communist Workers Party, face 35 years in a trial set for this summer. The charges are based on conversations taped by a plant who urged violent acts but didn't record their objections. Their local, Ironworkers 627, has been put into receivership.

Spies Promise To Quit Spying

On March 3rd the International Law Society sponsored a discussion at the Kent-IIT College of Law in Chicago. As the discussion adjourned, a military-intelligence officer was seen pocketing a tape cassette. He admitted that this was the tape recording he had made of the meeting, furtively and without permission, but refused to give the tape up. One of the members of the discussion panel was Douglas Cassel Jr., a leading attorney in the investigation of police spying, who has proposed a suit to get that tape.

All of this takes us back to a hearing in Chicago on February 13th. To this hearing thousands received invitations, among them a few hundred members of the IWW. The invitations and stamped envelopes came from the Clerk of the Court, but they were addressed by organizations likely to have been spied on, including the IWW, and dropped in the mailbox by these organizations.

Fellow Workers Dan Pless and Mary Frohman represented the IWW at that hearing. They were prepared to

make a statement, but decided to add nothing to the fully-adequate evidence that illegal spying had been going on in this city and elsewhere. The outcome was that the cops, CIA, FBI, and the like all agreed to quit doing such illegal things. That was on February 13th. By March 3rd they evidently were back in the spy business again, if they had ever left it.

To find out how dull is the life of a spy on the Left, go to a library and get the Summer 1980 edition of the magazine *Labor History*. There Lorin Lee Cary has combed the National Archives for reports of spies on the Left in Toledo, Ohio from 1918 to 1920. You will find that in those days that gleam with distant glory, the Wobs in Toledo were trying to keep their rent paid, holding picnics attended mostly by members' families, and attending business meetings that started out with 15 and ended up with only 7, even as in 1981, yet somehow building solidarity and making their mark on history.

MAKING WAR IS NUTS

Cozy bunkers for the Washington elite and a growing business to provide retreats, arms, and dried-food "Survivalists" all run along with a proposal to renovate the manufacture of nerve gas at Pine Bluff, Arkansas and Navy Secretary Lohman's bid to increase the size of the US fleet from 456 to 600 ships and subs.

Even Government folks are amazed. The General Accounting Office warns that the MX wandering-missile project will cost more than twice the \$34 billion the Pentagon figured. A recently "declassified Pentagon report" aired by Senator Nunn irritated the big arms spenders because it pointed to the technologically-inescapable follies of the arms program: the complexity of modern weaponry multiplies costs; time from design to manufacture grows into years; the more complex the weaponry, the more prone it is to break down; sophisticated weaponry is outgrowing the personnel trained to use it (even as with the old Shah); the more sophisticated the weaponry, the more vulnerable it becomes to electronic counter-measures and the more dependent it becomes on vulnerable support bases.

The generals in the Pentagon and Kremlin should go huddle with the dinosaurs and find out why they disappeared before they make the rest of us do likewise. It was

a parallel case. To survive they had to get bigger, until they got so big they couldn't survive.

IOC In Austin

The Industrial Worker Organizing Committee met in Austin, Texas February 21st and 22nd at the invitation of local IWW members. Members attended from various parts of Texas as well as from Arkansas and New Mexico.

Of the proposals considered, the following were approved: formation of an IU 210 Metal Mine Worker committee to conduct a health and safety educational campaign in south Texas; increased activity among timber workers in New Mexico and the Northwest; and a direct-mail effort to publicize the IWW and solicit membership. It was decided also that the IOC would look into the situation of farm workers in Arkansas.

After the regular sessions, delegates met at an informal party with bus drivers of the Austin Transportation Union and with members of a recently-formed independent union, the University Employees' Union. The outcome: some new members.



SOUND OF A DISTANT DRUM

THATCHER TEACHES REAGAN;
MINERS TEACH ROTH

Grosvenor Square is the property speculator's dirty dream. There in the heart of London's fashionable Mayfair, it is America's Other Island. There the American General Staff planned the invasion of Europe in the Second World War and invited me along. There the American CIA wheel and deal, and mini-minor embassies of lesser-cultures wait for their invitations to the official free-loadings in the name of the United States. Dominating Grosvenor Square is the American embassy, crude and crass and vulgar—an architectural folly, for those who hold power should never flaunt it.

I have derived much pleasure from the use and abuse of the American Embassy in past years: its newspaper library, its art exhibitions, and the great mass demonstrations to storm it, which culminated in the historic Battle of Grosvenor Square. But now peace has settled on Grosvenor Square. The library is ended, for Senator McCarthy killed it when he sent his two comedian hit men to root out subversion; the exhibitions are no more; and within the American Embassy one's way is barred by a huge metal grill, and clean-cut, clean-limbed American Marines check and recheck one's credentials and call one "Sir", which is good for the alien proletarian ego.

A PRESS CONFERENCE

One receives one's invitation to the press conference within the American Embassy, and it is timed for 11:30 in the morning. One attends in the hope that this time there will be free food and drinks. One enters the Embassy and is checked and rechecked by the electronic scanner for any weapon, and as the probe is run over one's body beautiful, one has to turn out for inspection all coins, keys, and other metal objects. I am a romantic and a cynic, and I believe that the study of man is man, and I love this circus, man, I love it; but it is down, down into the concrete basement and more rechecking for the press conference.

There within that large basement room are about 50 members of the national press plus two TV crews. Seated

at the High Table is Congressman James R. Jones, Democrat of Oklahoma and Chairman of the Budget Committee, with Representative Delbert Latta and a half dozen lesser lights on this happy-time, freeloading European tour. Their purpose (and I quote) is "a fact-finding tour intended to provide delegation members with information about UK economic policies and their relevance to the development and implementation of US economic policies.

What it means, comrades, is that this group of visiting firemen are President Reagan's Hollywood hit squad checking up on Ma Thatcher's Tory Britain to see how the attack on organized labor, the destruction of Britain's social services, and 2,500,000 unemployed can serve as a pattern for the American middle class's fight to control the American economy in their own interest. And the American political Hollywood hit men are impressed, man, they are impressed; for that press conference in the end became a political jamboree (if, for political reasons, *sotto voce*) in its unconcealed admiration and its applause for Ma Thatcher and her Tory Government, who are hailed as the mad axe persons to undo a century of struggle by the British working class to defend and protect our old, our sick, and our young, our homeless and our destitute.

Those American Congressmen at the High Table within the American Embassy basement gave unstinting approval to every slash and cut. And mark this well, comrades; for in America, just as here in Britain, the working class will suffer. They will go cold in the winter and have less food to eat, and will see their children deprived of milk, pencils, and books. For only the working class can be sacrificed in the name of insane "Sound Government".

A QUESTION

I raised my hand to ask the final question: "Would I not be correct in assuming that all the money that the American Government slashes from American social services will be used to help finance the arms program and the reduction of income taxes? In the end will not the cuts in income tax and the increased cost of America's arms program be financed at the cost of the well-being of America's poor?" But there was no time for an answer.

this purpose the Illinois Labor History Society has produced three half-hour films: one on the Pullman Porters, one on the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, and one on the IWW.

A MOVIE: THE LIFE AND TIMES OF ROSIE THE RIVETER

Rosie the Riveter is a documentary about women in war plants. After hundreds of preliminary interviews, producer-director Connie Fields chose five women across the country to tell their story of working on "men's jobs" during World War Two. All five talk about the joy of making something they could see and touch, from shells to ships—work they felt important. This, and good spirits from working in a team, added a life-affirming dimension. The pay was better, too.

There were hardships, however. Child care was scarce. Some of the women were separated from their children for years at a time. Male workers were not overjoyed to have women in "their" plants. Unsafe working conditions were common.

Three of those interviewed were black. Their stories show that racism caused as many problems as sexism, for they were given lower pay and dirtier jobs than white women and were harassed by white workers, both male and female.

The documentary re-enacts among these memories some dramatic resistance. At the Ford River Rouge foundry black women integrated the women's showers, whereupon management closed them. In a California shipyard a woman welder protected a male Filipino co-worker against their foreman by threatening him with her blowtorch, and her fellow workers went with her to the office to stop her from being fired. Each of the five women told about trying to form a union or trying to get the existing union to represent them.

Interspersed with interview and re-enactment are film clips from *March of Time* and Government newsreels. These document the use of the media during World War Two to draw women into the industry, then push them out and sell them and everyone else the idea that they should be pushed out. The first of these clips produced no audience reaction, but by the middle of the film, the audience was jeering at them. It is a very human film about what those war years were like.

Susan Fabrick

EUGENE WOBBS SHOW FREE LABOR FILMS

In these days of inflation, you can't beat an event billed "free" instead of "price of admission—". The Eugene/Springfield (Oregon) IWW group has found a way to come through with a free labor-history film series and serve free refreshments too. With the donation of a projector here and the donation of a coffee machine there we've been able to prove once again that a lot of working people pulling together can do more than they could have done alone.

Films being shown include *Salt of the Earth*, *Control-*

The political Hollywood hit men drifted away, leaving me with the ultimate tragedy that in the Embassy of the richest country in the world, there were no free drinks for the invited press.

A COAL STRIKE

Ma Thatcher's Tory Government (as with Heath's Tory Government) received its first bloody nose when it took on Britain's miners. When the Government threatened to close down fifty coal mines, the miners voted with their feet and walked out on unofficial strike. And they won; for unlike the isolated American miners, Britain's coal miners sought and received an immediate confirmation from Britain's road and rail transport unions that they would not move one sack of coal while a strike was on. All the mini-mountains of surface coal that the Tory Government had built up as their strike-breaking weapon became pyramids declaring that you cannot beat a united working class. And those fifty coal mines are staying open; for, like the Polish miners, Britain's coal miners gave a classic demonstration of a united working class. But for how long, comrades; for how long?

AN ART SHOW

I wander across town to the great bleak National Theatre to view and admire David Redfern's good solid paintings of social protest; for since Tony Adams there has been little work of social protest, bitter and angry. I would hold that Redfern and Adams are, as artists, superior to the magnificent Hopper exhibition at the Hayward. Yet in my heart I know it is Hopper's paintings of small-town, downtown America that I will always wish to bear witness to, for he is the poet of loneliness and isolation within any society given over to the cult of the accumulation of personal wealth as an end in itself. He is the obverse of Rockwell's *Saturday Evening Post* covers. And there are too many lonely people in our world, comrades; and Vicki, my black bitch, is waiting.

Arthur Moyses, London

Labor Films

"WOBBLIES" FILM IN SEVERAL CITIES

The documentary *The Wobblies* has been providing an opportunity for our members to meet with friends and fellow workers in various cities, and to promote interest in what the IWW is trying to do today.

In New York City the film is showing six times daily March 18th through 26th at the Art Theater on 8th off Fifth Avenue, and in Seattle it will be showing March 22nd through 28th at the Harvard Exit Theater. In Ann Arbor it was shown along with *The Organizer* (a remarkable Italian labor film) and the IWW had a literature table on the premises. In Chicago it was shown five times January 23rd and 25th at the Art Institute Midwest Film Center, and for this occasion local IWWs prepared a chronology and reading list to provide a bare outline of what we have been doing since 1920, where the documentary ends. Seattle and New York Fellow Workers are producing similar fact sheets for use there, as well as offering our literature.

The documentary lasts 90 minutes, and the Chicago Art Institute showed it at two-hour intervals, with IWW historian Fred Thompson having half an hour after each showing to answer questions from audiences that enjoyed this arrangement. The theater was well filled at all times, and the audiences, perhaps because of the location, were especially interested in Carlos Cortez's linograph posters. They placed so many orders he had to make some more with our new address on them. In Seattle the IWW and the Pacific Northwest Labor History Association are arranging events with the co-operation of the theater management.

Our New York Fellow Workers are co-operating with the plan of the Teamsters for a Democratic Union to open up a storefront there to promote union democracy, and are also co-operating in a raffle to promote funds for that purpose. They are using literature promotion at showings of *The Wobblies* to push that worthy cause too, as well as to assure the world that the IWW is still in there trying.

SEATTLE AREA FILM FESTIVAL

In the Seattle and Tacoma area the IWW, in co-operation with the Pacific Northwest Labor History Association, will follow up showings of *The Wobblies* with a Labor Film Festival April 14th through May 30th at the Shoreline Community College, the Green River Community College, the Tacoma Community College, and the Seattle Labor Temple. There will be discussion of the Festival films by speakers well known for their activity in the fields they cover. Topics and films start with the Sacco and Vanzetti case and cover immigrant workers with *Children of Labor*, black workers and black unions with *Trickbag*, rights of women workers with *Blow for Blow*, labor's environmental concerns with *Under the Sun*, union democracy with *Taylor Chain*, and economic democracy with *The Detroit Model*.

The use of films for labor education is growing, and for

ling Interest, and *Harlan County USA*. The first two films, shown as a double feature, were *Union Maids* and *Loose Bolts*, which opened the series to a packed house. It was standing room only, with most Wobblies and their closest friends on their feet.

After the films, the folks were invited to hang around for a discussion of how they related to the everyday experience of the people on hand. The son of a plant manager graced us with the opinion that "There are no sides—change consciousness, not social structure." He received a good instruction on the fact that working people cannot simply change their conscious desires, as the rich and powerful can, but for us in the other half of society there is a long and hard struggle ahead before any part of "the Good Life" can be ours. That is *class* consciousness.

On the agenda for the future, the group is planning a second film series, and on May Day will hold its second annual "Hard Times" free-food picnic. Last year over 700 plates of food were served. We are hoping and planning for an even bigger turnout this year, since there are even more people going hungry in the Eugene area this year.

An Injury to One is an Injury to All One Union One Label One Enemy



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The *Industrial Worker* is mailed without a wrapper to cut expenses, but a wrapper can be requested.

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Carlos Cortez, Leslie Fish
Patrick Murfin, Penny Pixler, Fred Thompson

THE FINAL DEADLINE FOR ALL COPY IS
THE SECOND WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

Mary Frohman, Business Manager

BRITISH UNIONS FACE CRISIS

Half a million white-collar civil servants in Britain walked out March 9th in a protest strike against Tory wage policies. Inflation has run 14% a year, but Ma Thatcher wants to allow these workers only 7%.

The nine-union coalition tied up seaports, courts, Government computers, and tax collection. The air-traffic controllers walked out too, and the airports went dead. Among Government functions, only Buckingham Palace remained undisturbed.

Some strikes were to be only for one or two days, but others, like that at the paymaster-general's office, were designed to handicap any Government spending indefinitely. Many non-clerical functions hinge on computer services performed by white-collar civil servants.

This white-collar walkout was inspired by the mine strikes and massive demonstrations of late February and an economic crisis that calls for rational use of the island's resources by its workers in co-operation with the workers of the rest of the world.

GLASGOW DEMONSTRATION

The great Glasgow march against disemployment on February 21st was triggered when the French concern Peugeot-Citroen said it plans this summer to close the Talbot auto plant in Linwood, Scotland, which it took over from Chrysler a few years ago. The march was a demonstration against such remote decision-making on workers' jobs and lives, and also a celebration that two days earlier the National Coal Board had been forced by the threat of a nationwide coal strike to temporize on its plan to close the less-profitable coal mines.

The impetus behind the demonstration was the demand for jobs by those who lack them and for a secure hold on their jobs by those who have them, but along with these basics the recognition of the irrationality of our present economic arrangements. So our fellow workers in Britain were in that march with their IWW banner to stress that more rational view.

BRITISH AUTOS

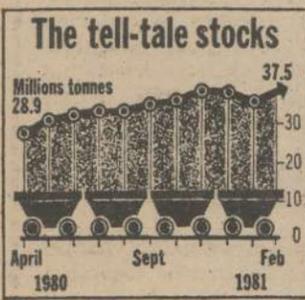
Closing that Talbot plant would kill 4,500 jobs directly and another 2,000 indirectly. Scottish spokesmen wanted the foreign office to get the French owners to grant one year's reprieve during which to find alternative uses for the plant. Recession and high fuel prices have shrunk the car market throughout Europe, and Peugeot-Citroen has already had to shut down its plant in Belgium, so is deaf to pleas to keep on turning out Sunbeams in Scotland unless perhaps it is tempted by tax-raised money. (It used to be a Chrysler plant.)

At Government-owned British Leyland, white-collar workers do not feel that it makes sense to work overtime while the company is urging more of them to take a lay-off. These white-collar workers are enrolled in four different unions, but united in this decision to refuse overtime work. "BL", as the company is called with as little affection as GM or GE, has been pressing these white-collar workers to "volunteer for redundancy", accept an early retirement, or get gone somehow. BL complains that only 3,000 have volunteered to give up their jobs, and demanded that 900 more "volunteer" before March 31st. Thus the ban on overtime.

SHORT COAL STRIKE

Early in February the National Coal Board announced that it planned to close down 50 unprofitable coal mines. On February 12th the National Union of Miners executive voted unanimously to ballot miners throughout Britain on calling a nationwide strike to resist this. The last such strike had been in 1974, and the issue this time made many feel there might be a repetition of 1926, when most British workers walked out in a general strike to back the miners.

While coal stocks piled up as though in preparation for a strike, the Government says the shrinking demand required either coal stockpiling or layoff. The Electricity Generating Board opposed the decision to cut down on imports, chiefly from Australia, but promised to cut them from 5,000,000 tons a year to 1,500,000. They say importing saves them 40 million pounds a year.



Miners feared a cutback

The National Coal Board explained that it has to cut off the unprofitable "bottom tenth" of its coal production, lopping off 750,000 tons this year and another 250,000 tons next year. It proposed to start this reduction by closing ten mines this year, five of those in South Wales. These five mines employed more than 2,000 of the 25,600 miners in that area. Without waiting for any ballot they struck on February 17th, and transportation workers at once refused to move any coal from that area.

Another 10,000 walked out in Kent, Yorkshire, and Scotland. Though the Energy Secretary had scheduled no meeting with the union until the 23rd, because sundry bureaucrats had other engagements, a hurry-up meeting was called pronto. The Coal Board promised to withdraw pit-closure threats and to cut down on imported coal. The miners' executive voted 15-to-8 to return to work on the 19th. In many areas miners were unwilling to accept this decision to go back until they had more solid assurance.

A strike right now could be more a political than an economic pressure. British stockpiles of 37 million tons are a four-month supply. The NCB complains that it costs over four pounds a ton just for the interest charges on the money tied up in such stockpiling, and that it loses 19 pounds sterling per ton on the "bottom" ten million tons that it hauls from the most costly mines. (What is a pound? Many unskilled factory workers get around 50 to 60 pounds a week, and miners get about double that. Coal is sold to power plants at around 33 pounds a ton.)

The Coal Board is bringing in new pits while closing more costly ones. It is declared policy in Britain, as it is throughout most of Europe, to increase coal production to decrease dependency on oil. The European Economic Community agreed at its Venice summit meeting to double coal production throughout the EEC by 1990. Governments are subsidizing coal production. Belgium subsidizes it at 34 pounds sterling per ton, France at 18, and West Germany at 15, but Britain at only a bit over a pound on the average. The British Government is cutting down on recruitment and apprenticeship for its mines and offering miners a thousand-pound transfer allowance, all to avoid costly stockpiling of costly coal to minimize the laying off of miners. The Coal Board proposes low-interest loans to firms to cover the cost of switching back from the use of oil to the use of coal.

WATER WORKERS

The 32,000 water and sewage workers in Britain are organized mostly in the General and Municipal Workers

Union. In mid-February they started "working to rule" to reject a 10% pay boost by the National Water Council, and got set for a strike vote. The National Union of Public Employees represents those working for the Severn Trent Water Authority, and decided to accept the offer out of concern for the serious consequences of any interruption of service.

Water workers unwillingly settled for a 12.3% raise.

Three years ago the Fire Brigades Union (firefighters) ended their strike on the understanding that their pay would be kept "in the upper quartile of adult male earnings". To keep it there, they are currently due for a 20% raise; but public authorities plead they cannot afford it.

YOUTH JOB TRAINING

The British Manpower Services Commission expects that this summer around 400,000 will be "leaving school for the dole queue". It promises to provide 440,000 job openings for youth in 1981-82 to assure everyone reaching 16 a temporary job within six months of the time he registers, to gather work experience. Over half of those so placed are offered steady jobs. Meanwhile, they draw a 23-pound weekly allowance while getting their first job experience. Employers are subsidized, and the Manpower Commission reckons that a quarter of the jobs it creates in this way result in the loss of a regular job to an unsubsidized worker. While the Trade Union Congress favors the plan, many unions have reservations, and the chief union of government employees is opposed to the idea of these young people getting any government clerical jobs.

In the industrial showplace of Telford, birthplace of the Industrial Revolution, the unemployment rate is now 18.4%, and one reads in the *Sunday Times* that "a third of the town's teenagers are on the dole". One reads also that "Kidderminster carpet makers have been hit by cheap American imports." Is there something about that complaint that sounds familiar? Something that suggests that we unionists need to re-organize the world's work so we all have a good time?

And In The USA

The Government threat to restrict black-lung benefits evoked the largest demonstration of solidarity among the American coal miners that has been seen for years on March 9th. With major contracts covering 160,000 Eastern miners expiring March 27th—but with many miners unorganized or organized in more than one union, and eastern and western contracts expiring on different dates—this black-lung issue, of common concern to all miners, demanded unity. And there was inspiration from Britain, where, when miners go out, neither truck nor train nor barge moves coal.

There has been much hokum about black-lung victims living high. Actually black-lung benefits range from just \$279.80 a month for a single retiree to a maximum of \$559.50 a month for a victim with four or more dependents. (That's all.)

In January a thousand UMWA miners walked out at Peabody's five western mines. While they were out, Pittsburgh and Midway (a Gulf Oil subsidiary) set a pattern with the UMWA for increased pensions, 37% more pay over three years, but no COLA. Other Western UMWA contracts expire April 7th.

A major UMWA achievement in the Lewis era was the system of hospitals and health care for miners and their families that went on whether some mining companies stayed in business or not. That gave way to much less ample health insurance company by company. Now mining companies want to put pensions on that same shaky basis. Sunday has been a day off, but now companies ask for permission for a 24-hour day seven days a week, especially where they want to shift to longwalling, a procedure that gets out all the coal and involves massive investments, but very few miners.

In January the UMWA told eastern operators that they wanted a wage-escalator clause, increases for pensioners, dental health care, restoration of health benefits that have been taken away, pay for Health and Safety Committees, and training for all on health and safety.

UNION SHORTS

- The 650,000-member Service Employees International Union and the 10,000-member Working Women, an organization of female office workers, have announced a new attempt to unionize the 20 million secretarial and clerical workers in the US. They will create "District 925", with local autonomy, into which the newly-unionized workers would be placed.

- In January the Hollywood Stuntmen's Union opened a Chicago local—Local 3. The new Chicago local was established after the Los Angeles and Houston locals, but before the two other locals that recently opened in New Mexico and Canada.

- The United Auto Workers, the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, and the United Furniture Workers of America have called a Harrisburg



rally against nuclear power and for full employment on the second anniversary of the accident at the Three Mile Island nuclear plant on March 28th, 1981, the day following the expiration of the UMWA contract. The rally will demand: that no radioactive water still standing in the basement of the nuclear power station be dumped into the Susquehanna River; that the United Mine Workers be supported in their effort to gain a decent contract; that a shorter work-week and a massive public-works program be established to cut unemployment; and that nuclear workers be guaranteed alternative employment at union rates.

- Immediately after the space shuttle Columbia completed a pre-flight launching rehearsal, 1050 union employees at Boeing walked out. The union, Local 2061 of the International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers, timed the walkout so it would not be accused of delaying a crucial test in the lagging space-shuttle program. In 1978, the last time the Machinists walked out on Boeing in Florida's Kennedy Space Center, they stayed out 111 days.

- Teaching assistants at the University of Houston have staged sickouts to buttress their request for a minimum salary of \$850 a month. In Houston the United Food and Commercial Workers have been on strike at Lewis and Coker Supermarkets because the company wants to cut the wages of meat wrappers (all female) from \$8.49 an hour to \$6.21.

THE STRUGGLE IN

EL SALVADOR

El Salvador holds the record for the longest-running stretch of military rule in Latin America. Since an unsuccessful uprising against the class of large landowners in 1932, in which 30,000 peasants were killed, colonels and generals have ruled the country. During the 50 years of military rule, the conditions that led to the 1932 uprising have been maintained.

Promised since the overthrow of the Romero regime in October 1979, the land reform undertaken by President Duarte was supposed to modify the century-old pattern of unequal distribution of land in a nation about the size of Massachusetts, with a population of 5.5 million. However the institution in charge of implementing the reform (the military) has consistently used it as a way of eliminating peasant leaders and acquiring bases from which to terrorize the people in the countryside.

A technician with the El Salvador Government's Institute for Agrarian Reform told this story: "The troops came and told the workers the land was their own. They could elect their own leaders and run it themselves. The peasants couldn't believe their ears, but they held elections that very night. The next morning the troops came back, and I watched as they shot every one of the elected leaders."

Similar testimony comes from other sources.

The key US consultant on land reform to the Salvadoran junta is University of Washington professor Roy Prosterman. Prosterman even suggested the name of the program, "Land to the Tiller", which comes as no surprise since he devised a nearly identical program of the same name for use in Vietnam in the late '60s.

Prosterman's Vietnam program was a ploy to win the allegiance of the Vietnamese peasants away from the National Liberation Front, which had for years redistributed land in areas it controlled. But in Vietnam, as in El Salvador, the land reform was often used as a cover for repression; it was implemented along with the infamous Phoenix Program, under which 30,000 suspected NFL sympathizers were killed.

Officially, Prosterman is involved in El Salvador as a consultant working for the American Institute for Free Labor Development. The AIFLD was created in 1961 by the AFL-CIO as a non-profit corporation to assist "in the development of free, democratic trade-union structures in Latin America". In practice that means working to counter the efforts of radical or socialist unions, a function wholeheartedly supported by the representatives of major multinational corporations who make up half of the AIFLD's board of directors. Up until 1967 the CIA channeled funds into the AIFLD through fictitious foundations. Today major funding for the AIFLD comes from the State Department's Agency for International Development.

AIFLD support for the Salvadoran regime does not necessarily reflect the attitude of unions in the US. In San Francisco, the International Longshoremen and Warehousemen's Union has refused to load military cargoes bound for El Salvador. The Santa Clara, California AFL-CIO has condemned the AIFLD's actions in El Salvador.

This report is taken from the article "El Salvador: Land Reform and Official Terror", appearing in Issue 65 of *Dollars & Sense*.

HAITI

On November 28, 1980, Haitian President of the Republic for Life, Jean-Claude Duvalier ordered a swift and secret wave of arrests. More than 100 of Haiti's leading independent journalists, human rights activists and opposition party leaders were jailed. Many were brutally beaten. A few were sent into exile, but most remain in jail where, their exiled colleagues fear, they will remain indefinitely unless international pressure is exerted to save them.

The arrests were apparently intended to end the public criticism of Duvalier that has been building almost since he took office in 1971. Not that the Haitian government gladly tolerated criticism before this. A reporter for an independent radio station was arrested in 1975; he died a year later in prison. No charges had been filed against him. In 1976 the body of a journalist was found by the edge of a road; the government is believed responsible for his death. But opposition continued to grow.

Official labor unions, such as the Haitian-American Sugar Company and the Ciments d'Haiti (cement workers), elected new boards and began to protest working conditions. Some union leaders were killed and their deaths were also blamed on the government. Then community action councils began to formulate demands for the peasants they represented. Finally, in February 1979, opposition political parties were formed. They added to the growing barrage of criticism directed at the Duvalier regime.

Despite Duvalier's vaunted "economic revolution," Haiti remains the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. At least three-quarters of the densely packed population of six million lives below what the World Bank calls the "absolute poverty level" of \$140 yearly income. Eighty percent of the people are illiterate. Malnutrition and starvation are rampant. The life expectancy

is 50 years.

In the capital, Port-au-Prince, beggars line the streets and people bathe in open sewers. The air is filled with the stench of human waste. The people of the slums sleep in tiny, windowless concrete hovels or in the streets. In nearby Petion-Ville, a wealthy suburb, elaborate mansions sit on the hilltops, far from the misery below. Although official publications claim that crime is virtually nonexistent, exiled journalists say that property crimes are burgeoning, as are suicides among people who have too little to eat. According to the World Bank, 5% of the population received 50% of the national income.

Exiled journalists believe that protests against the Haitian government will continue, despite the stifling of the press. In the short run, however, they fear even greater repression of the Haitian people, for, at least for the time being, organized opposition has been crushed.

MEXICO

In four years Mexico has become the world's fifth-ranking oil producer, but it does not have enough milk for its own people. Ordinary grade oil is four times cheaper than milk. As Mexico has striven for industrialization by subsidizing domestic oil prices, the rural sector of the country has become more and more impoverished. Despite its oil wealth (\$14 billion a year), few other countries show a more disproportionate income pattern. It is estimated that as few as 10% of the nation's people control as much as 75% of its wealth.

In 1980 Mexico had to import 12 billion tons of food, compared to 3.7 million tons in 1979. That is not enough; the government admits that half of the 67 million Mexicans have some form of dietary deficiency.

Inflation is racing towards 40% while unemployment is almost 50%. Is it enough to say that the promises of the 1910 Revolution have not been kept?



January 1980: The El Salvadoran military firing on marchers commemorating the 1932 rebellion. (Photo from the North American Congress on Latin America)

GUYANA

Guyana is a small country on the northeast coast of South America, east of Venezuela and south of the Barbados Islands, not known for much among North Americans except for being the scene of the Jonestown massacre. The country has no tourist attractions and almost no industry except sugar and bauxite.

During the early 1960s, before Britain granted the colony independence (it was then known as British Guiana), it was torn by racial violence between the descendants of African slaves and East Indian indentured servants. The leftist rhetoric of "Red" Cheddi Jagan, the then Prime Minister, caused London and Washington to oust him. The CIA used the AFL-CIO's American Institute for Free Labor Development as a cover to stir up labor unrest. Britain rigged the 1965 elections to insure that the East Indian Jagan lost to his more "moderate" black opponent, Forbes Burnham.

Since a referendum in 1978 that gave Burnham's party the power to prolong its stay in the government indefinitely, the country has become a one party dictatorship. Press freedoms have been curtailed, and independent labor unions and student groups repressed. While Jagan's People's Progressive Party has suffered periodic persecution, the other opposition party, Working People Alliance (WPA) has been hit harder. Five WPA leaders were killed or seriously injured in eight months in 1980, including Walter Rodney, the author of *How Europe Underdeveloped Africa*, who was killed in July.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) recently agreed to provide Burnham's government with a \$135 million standby loan at a time when Guyana is spending 47% of its annual budget paying interest on its foreign debt. Such IMF generosity carries its usual price, including rises in the cost of rice, the principal staple in the Guyanese diet, and higher prices for electricity and urban transport. Protests by workers, already suffering from food shortages, a 20% unemployment rate and a 21% annual inflation rate, have

been met with armed force.

As in other countries "favored" by IMF loans, the loan agreement will likely hasten militarization and a decline in the standard of living while increasing the country's foreign debt.

URUGUAY

Uruguay's slide to national ruin was gradual. It lacked the drama of the demise of democracy among Uruguay's Southern Cone neighbors, no storming of the presidential palace as in Chile, no near-mythical figures like Peron in Argentina. But the state is a totalitarian military dictatorship, perhaps the bleakest in the hemisphere.

For its size—some 2.8 million people—Uruguay is one of the world's most heavily policed populations. There are almost 35,000 men in the armed forces and 15,000 police. Internal repression is, of course, the primary function of the large military establishment. Surveillance of the civilian population is constant and torture is regularly taught in the armed forces' intelligence courses and used systematically.

Repression in Uruguay has touched practically everyone. Amnesty International estimated that by 1979, one out of every 50 Uruguayans had been through some period of imprisonment. Some 20,000 people are known to have been tortured. Those who haven't personally been picked up have a friend or relative in prison or in exile. An estimated 600,000 people have left the country.

The key to military domination, beyond its willingness to use force, terror and torture, is its control over private life. No meeting can be held without prior notice of the authorities, even for birthday parties. No organization can elect its own officers until the authorities approve the list of candidates.

In the public sector, all employees must be certified as to their "democratic faith," which, to the military, means lack of any previous political activity. A low grade means immediate dismissal; an intermediate grade leaves employees aware that one wrong step can mean dismissal and economic ruin.

In economic policy, the military is fervently committed to the free-market model associated with the Chicago school and Milton Friedman; that is, throwing people out of work in the name of efficiency at the same time as it cuts away the social services built up to cushion such economic blows. For the moment, the internal economy survives on a construction boom in Montevideo, and especially in the resort city of Punta del Este, which is funded largely by Argentine investors avoiding taxes at home.

BOLIVIA

Were Bolivia a private company rather than a country, it would probably be declared bankrupt. Not only was the last trace of democracy expelled in the July 1980 coup but the already weak economy was wrecked.

The infant mortality rate in Bolivia (157 per 1,000) is one of the highest in the Western Hemisphere—more than twice the rate for Mexico and nearly six times Cuba's; life expectancy (48 years) one of the lowest. Illiteracy afflicts more than half the culturally rich but economically impoverished Quechua and Aymara Indians. And in a country more sprawling than California and Texas combined, there are less than 1,000 miles of paved roads. Foreign debt is \$3.5 billion, and making payments on it consumes 60% to 70% of Bolivia's stagnating export earnings.

Tin accounts for nearly half of the country's export earnings, but Bolivia's tin miners—most of the Indians, who earn no more than \$3 a day and can hope to live about seven years after going underground—are resisting the new government. In the popular revolution of 1952, miners badly defeated the army. In recent years, they have fought for democracy with dynamite, rocks and rusty rifles left over from WWII. But their strongest weapon has been the refusal to work.

It was no surprise, then when the victorious junta took action to crush a miners' strike following their takeover. Bombing raids, a blockage of food supplies and brutal attacks that killed mostly women and children in bleak mining villages broke the strike. But there are reports that the miners are working only enough to keep the army of what they call "this fascist government" from slaughtering them. As a result, tin production has fallen an estimated 40% since the July coup.

Bolivia was one of the largest recipients of U.S. foreign aid in the world—about \$200 million scheduled for 1980—but this was terminated when the military seized the government. However, a considerable amount of Agency for International Development money is still flowing into Bolivia, as well as money from the International Monetary Fund and the Inter-America Development Bank. Ten private U.S. banks, led by Bank of America, are also helping the generals. Direct U.S. foreign aid to Bolivia may resume under the Reagan administration; until then the junta have another source of funds: the \$600 million a year cocaine trade.

LATIN AMERICA

GRENADA

Grenada, an island about the size of Martha's Vineyard in the Southern end of the Lesser Antilles in the Caribbean, is the Western Hemisphere's smallest nation. It was held by the British until February 1974, when it became independent during a general strike. On March 13, 1979, the corrupt government headed by Eric Gairy was overthrown by supporters of Maurice Bishop. Gairy, who had first risen to prominence in the 1950s as an anticolonist union organizer, had come to consider himself a demigod as well as a political leader. He made repeated appeals to the United Nations for funds to communicate with extraterrestrial beings; and in fact was at the UN when his government was overthrown.

Bishop's New Jewel Movement, propelled by an outpouring of popular support, set out on a number of ambitious programs. School tuitions have been reduced by two-thirds, and a Center for Popular Education established with the goal of teaching reading to the entire population of 110,000. Through a program of agrarian reform, the government hopes to settle groups of unemployed Grenadians on government land to farm it for food. The island is not self-supporting for food; the country spends more than \$50 million annually on imported food. Much of the already cultivated land is used for cash crops such as spices, bananas, cocoa and sugar. Through aid from Cuba and several other countries, Grenadians are building the island's first international airport in the hopes of attracting more tourists.

When the New Jewel Movement took power, Bishop promised a new constitution and prompt elections. Neither promise has been kept. Meanwhile, the island's only independent paper was closed down by government order.

NICARAGUA

When Anastasio Somoza fled Nicaragua in July 1979 after 18 months of civil war, his overthrow ended the Somoza family's 43-year rule. He took the national treasury with him, leaving only \$3.5 million in cash and a foreign debt of \$1.6 billion. Aerial bombings by Somoza's National Guard had reduced urban centers, roads and factories to rubble; up to 500,000 of the nation's 2½ million people were homeless. Rural areas were damaged and crops were lost or never planted during the fighting. Thousands of National Guard troops joined forces with the Salvadorian military or established camps on the Honduran border.

The new government, led by the Sandinist Front for the Liberation of Nicaragua, is an uneasy alliance of radicals and property owners who opposed the Somoza family's manipulation of taxes, bank loans, import duties and subsidies for their own benefit. The Sandinistas immediately moved to nationalize the Somoza holdings. Most of the other private properties were not touched—except that all commercial banks were nationalized, the new Ministry of Foreign Trade took over the operation of the export sector, and the land and factories of some owners who refused to put them to work were seized. Seventy percent of the economy remains in private hands.

In the interest of preserving the alliance with private business, the Sandinistas have resisted demands to move faster in socializing the economy. In some cases the government has intervened against workers striking for higher wages and the takeover of more private plants.

Agriculture is the key to the Wisconsin-size country. About two-thirds of Nicaragua's foreign exchange comes from the export of cotton, coffee, sugar and meat. Some 70% of the population makes a living from agriculture and related activities such as food processing. Following the Sandinista victory, the Somoza landholdings came under the control of the National Institute of Agrarian Reform (INRA). These lands, together with others seized by enthusiastic peasants, make up the state agricultural sector which accounts for 20% of the nation's farmland. INRA runs the production of these lands together with the Association of Rural Workers (ATC), a union that grew out of the committees on various large farms who became involved in the struggle against Somoza.

The ATC has continued to organize workers on the remaining private lands, which comprise 60% of the farmland. The union, which now represents between 30% and 40% of the nation's agricultural workers, has enforced workers' demands to be paid the new minimum wage, pressured landowners for better housing, and kept tabs on the owners' compliance with government reconstruction policies.

Another part of the ATC program has been to organize the small land holders and the landless workers (who are the majority) into co-ops. The co-op sector, accounting for about 20% of the farmland, involves two types of co-ops: peasants who already have some land are organized into production co-ops on land rented from large owners. Through the production co-ops the ATC and INRA have been able to bring previously idle land into production.

An overall problem facing the agricultural economy is its dependence on the price and demand vagaries of the world market. The country's best land is used for the production of cash crops for export, while basic food crops for internal consumption are neglected. One immediate goal of the agricultural reform is to use idle cropland to grow grain.



Unionists in Guatemala, where the minimum wage is only \$3.20 a day, carry signs saying "The repression of the

government and the bosses will not hold us back." (Photo from NACLA)

BRAZIL

Brazil's economy is in trouble. Inflation in 1980 reached triple digits, 109%—one of the highest in the world. Other problems include a mushrooming \$57 billion foreign debt, said to be the largest of any developing country in the world, and a debilitating dependence on the Middle East for some 83% of its petroleum needs.

Many international bankers are urging Brazil to go to the International Monetary Fund for a bailout of yet more loans. But most political observers say the IMF would slap Brazil with recession-promoting restrictions, stemming the country's 8.5% buy-now-and-pay-later economic growth.

One obvious reason for the reluctance of Brazil's military regime to go with the IMF is that it would give the country's increasingly active opposition parties, recently made legal, a rallying point to widen their populist support.

One alternative to the IMF would be to become more independent of foreign imports. Brazil continues to produce its unique 100% alcohol-powered cars, to help cushion the country from further oil price rises.

Another alternative to the IMF is Brazil's campaign to

boost exports. In 1981 exports rose to \$26 billion from 1980's total of \$19.2 billion. The country has become the Third World's leading arms exporter. Arms exports in the first four months of 1980 reached \$1 billion, surpassing that for all of 1979. The total 1980 weapons export was estimated to reach \$3 billion.

From the factories of its government-supported private industries, Brazil sends tanks, airplanes, armored cars, revolvers, missiles, explosives, police equipment, napalm, machine guns, ships, submarine parts, cannon and flame throwers. Its customers are on nearly every continent—in Chile and Bolivia, in Togo and Liberia, in Belgium and France.

Meanwhile, Brazil's Indians, apparently pushed to their limits by advancing plantations and road construction, have struck back. According to the news magazine *Veja* of São Paulo, bands of Indians attacked two plantations this fall, killing 11 white workers on one and 22 on the other.

Compiled by PLP

Book Review: US History

Working People of Philadelphia, 1800 to 1850, by Bruce Laurie, Temple University Press, Philadelphia, 1980, 273 pages

This book portrays the response of white male workers in Philadelphia to the emergence of industrial capitalism. The changing character of production necessarily altered working-class culture. All aspects of life were pressured—values, traditions, lifestyles. Workers in different segments of the working class—skilled, semi-skilled, and unskilled; immigrant and native-born—were affected differently, however. Industrialization of the crafts reduced the skills needed to work at them, but all crafts were not industrialized at the same pace. A new hierarchy was created among the occupations, with those still requiring skilled labor on top and newly deskilled occupations at the bottom with the traditionally unskilled.

Going beyond economic institutions and political parties, Laurie examines the interaction of work experience and culture to speculate about why a widespread working-class consciousness or a widespread interest in alternatives to capitalism failed to develop.

Laurie identifies the religious practices and social beliefs of the workers, and suggests three discrete groups within their society. Traditionalist workers hung onto pre-industrial attitudes as long as possible. They were most apt to work at unskilled labor outdoors or to work at home on the "putting out" system. The poorest and most independent of the workers, they took days off and celebrated Saint Monday as they saw fit. The volunteer fire companies and the pubs were the center of their social lives.

The revivalists were more individualistic and more deferential. Their lives, fortified by the spirit of evangelicalism and the Protestant work ethic, revolved around the workplace, the home, and the church. They internalized the evangelical message of the evils of drink, idleness, and profligacy. Revivalists attributed poverty to individual shortcomings and tended to work in occupations undergoing the sharpest division of labor between modern factories and neighborhood sweatshops.

The radicals were seasoned artisans of urban birth or upbringing who identified themselves as republican workers. Neither proletarians nor "expectant capitalists", most of them worked in skilled trades, often those that produced light consumer goods. Radicals were the inheritors of the European Universalism and Free Thought movements of the late 18th Century which produced Paine, Godwin, and Shelley. The radicals created a two-tiered organizational base for their ideas: unions, and a network of debating clubs, discussion groups, and reading rooms.

Laurie traces the decline of this radicalism during the six-year depression that started in 1837 to the strengths and weaknesses of the pre-Marxist producer ideology of the radicals. The producer ideology called for a more equalitarian society with a co-operative ethic, but also contrasted the productive class of people (including employers) with the idle rich and the idle poor. The book discusses the formation and decay of the Mechanics' Union of Trade Associations (the nation's first bona-fide labor movement), the General Trades Union of the City and County of Philadelphia, and the Assembly of Associated Mechanics and Working Men.

plp

"WETBACKS" IN THE WOODS

Already beset by herbicide health threats, laws that work to their detriment, declining markets, and inflation, the co-operative reforestation workers of the Northwest now have one more problem on their hands: unscrupulous contractors are employing undocumented Mexican workers at substandard rates or sometimes no pay at all.

Reforestation—tree planting—is necessary if the US is still to have timber in the year 2000. It is grueling work requiring peak physical condition—climbing steep hillsides with 100 pounds or more of young trees on your back and planting them fast, in all kinds of weather. The Northwest Forest Workers Association (NFWFA) is a democratically-run group of reforestation co-operatives in Oregon, Washington, and California. Each co-op crew is run by and for the workers making up that crew, and each bids independently on contracts. The NFWFA offers members insurance, sells them equipment, and handles legal and other issues for 18 member co-ops—800 workers in all.

The workers of NFWFA wholeheartedly identify with working people. It is especially difficult for them to come to grips with the problem of the undocumented worker. While privately-owned reforestation businesses picket the federal courthouse with racist slogans against the Mexican worker and demand stepped-up deportations, the co-op workers see no such simple solution. Their policy states that cheap, mistreated labor hurts all other workers by bringing wages down and putting co-ops and the less-exploitive employers out of business. They see equal rights as necessary for all workers.

UNPAID LABOR

Unscrupulous contractors make use of undocumented workers by capitalizing on their fear of deportation. They often pay no insurance, no medical bills, no tax withholding for the workers as required by law. They house Mexican workers in leaky tents and make them pay for tents, sleeping bags, food, clothing, tools, transportation, and every other necessity of life. Workers' tallies at the end of a month of 12-hour days sometimes make it appear that workers deserve no pay, but instead owe money to their employers for the privilege of living while in their employ.

Sometimes, to avoid having to meet payrolls, employers will turn their workers in to Immigration the day before payday. Immigration will then round them up and send them home, penniless after hundreds of hours of labor. The contractors who do this are well known and include 15 constant abusers. The public has been alerted to the situation through frequent newspaper articles. The Federal Government knows who the guilty parties are, yet the situation persists.

Employers hire undocumented workers at rates less than the Fair Labor Standards Act will allow. When they are caught underpaying them, the employers are required to pay their workers the back wages due them—if they can locate them. Employers so often say they cannot find their former employees that the General Accounting Office proposes an alternative: all such funds should be deposited in the US Treasury so as not to benefit the employer.

NFWFA spokesman Rick Koven says of the Federal Government's part in the matter: "It's their fault—they did it. They encourage it." The Federal Government is the largest owner of reforestable land, and that makes it the largest user of the contractors who exploit the Mexican workers. Koven explains that "every government agency likes to save money—to cut back on their budget". The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and Forest Service (FS) consistently refuse to investigate the payroll and hiring practices of their contractors. They take the lowest bid without concern for labor law, immigration violations, or human rights. Says Koven: "The Government rents hands and feet." He doesn't believe that legislation is the answer. The NFWFA doesn't want more Immigration agents running around in the woods. It doesn't want more roundups of Mexican nationals or penalties against them. It also doesn't believe in legal sanctions against employers. Explains Koven: "There'll never be a law against hiring illegal aliens, because the Left sees it as discrimination and the Right sees it as a threat to profits." All attempts to pass such legislation have died, but in the long run such failure is for the best. "Punish the Employer" bills have included provisions for a national work card to be carried by every US worker—something like a draft card—so that the Feds can keep better tabs on all of us.

DON'T LOOK TO GOVERNMENT

The FS and BLM are not expected to investigate contracts. They have to make complaints to the Immigration Service and the US Department of Labor, and they seldom do. Says Jerry Mason, public-information officer for the Willamette National Forest: "I know that their concern is a legitimate one. But FS does not have the authority to terminate a contract just because illegal aliens are being used on the contract." The Department of Labor (DOL) can't or won't do much, because workers who face deportation are very unlikely to report abuses. Even so, \$200,000 to \$300,000 worth of unpaid wages are reported annually; but this is nothing but the tip of the iceberg. I. L. Skolaut, director of the Federal Wage and Hour Divi-

sion of the DOL in Oregon, says: "If they were (reported) the Department would probably not be able to handle them. We have a very limited staff."

Meanwhile, the primary action of the Immigration Service is deportation and raiding of work camps, not help in preserving workers' rights. Says Rick Koven: "All workers in the industry will be protected only when every worker is really guaranteed the pay, benefits, and working and living conditions 'guaranteed by law'."

A CO-OP SOLUTION

What does the NFWFA see as a solution? First, on the immediate problem of undocumented workers, NFWFA resolutions include recognition of the right of undocumented workers to organize and rejection of the racism inherent in blaming the workers instead of the unscrupulous contractors. They see enforcement of existing laws and regulations as an important step toward ending the unfair labor practices of contractors. They also support administrative changes, as proposed by a local Congressman, that would change jurisdiction and procedures so as to make the problem a lot harder for the agencies involved to ignore. They oppose the national-work-card system as a threat to the civil rights of every worker in the US.

STEWARDSHIP

The NFWFA sees all of the above measures as only a temporary and partial solution. It is its well-studied opinion that only a well-organized, stable work force can

efficiently do the planting and nurturing to maturation of timber—a resource that Government mismanagement is rapidly depleting. A stable work force would make the use of cheap, temporary, unskilled, overworked, and isolated workers inefficient and unprofitable, while creating more jobs for the entire Northwest. With the right to organize, as the NFWFA sees it, Mexican workers could naturalize and take part in the benefits. The NFWFA proposes a system of stewardship contracts "that are let for a period of years... An example would be a five-year contract with the goal of reforesting a specific number of acres to a certain number of released, healthy trees per acre." This would include trail maintenance, watershed maintenance, fire breaks and trails, fire prevention and fighting.

Stewardship contracts are a method of management that encourages a consistent work force, incentive to improve quality throughout each step of the process, and a better understanding of the specific forest-management needs of each site. They provide an opportunity for rural people to work in and manage neighboring public lands and involve people in the quality of their own environment. The NFWFA recommends a switch from toxic petroleum-based chemical methods to labor-intensive methods, thus concentrating decision making and management within the local area and allocating far more control to the actual on-site workers. A long struggle with the federal bureaucracy seems inevitable if forestry workers are going to save their jobs and the nation's forests.

Linda Jencson

Ontario Worker's Environment Concern

Workers concerned with occupational health and safety need to link up with environmental groups. That was the main message of members of the Windsor Occupational Safety and Health Council (WOSH) and the Ontario Public Interest Research Group (OPIRG) at a meeting sponsored by local church groups February 18th.

Bob MacArthur, a worker in Windsor's salt mines and a member of WOSH, made it clear that the threat to workers' health in the workplace is a violation of their human rights and a major battle every day. But the battle does not end there. It extends beyond the walls of the factory.

Farmers in Harwich township are fighting the disposal of toxic wastes that pose health hazards to that vicinity. Local residents have organized Citizens Rebellious Against Waste (CRAW) to fight the multinational corporation responsible for the dumping and the Government that has not imposed safety standards. Members and supporters of CRAW have begun to make conscious links with the workers who are primarily exposed to these noxious materials in industrial plants, though concrete organizational links have not yet developed.

Jim Brophy of OPIRG made it clear that these struggles are movements for self-defense. Like the struggles of the workers in Poland and El Salvador, they are a legitimate response of people acting to protect their lives and to gain control over their everyday conditions.

The occupational health and safety movement and the corporate response to it—as illustrated by the Windsor situation—shakes off the pretense of equality and cooperation between workers and management. All prob-

lems are put on the workers' backs, and accidents are assumed to be the workers' fault. When workers face such hazards as those posed by asbestos, it is they who must prove the hazards through body counts; it is only after they have risked their lives and some have died that the dangers are admitted to.

If the workers threaten strike action for health and safety, the company threatens plant closure. In Windsor Bendix used asbestos to manufacture brake linings, and has now closed. In other Windsor plants where workers fight for occupational safety, rumors are circulated by management that these plants will close too. In cities like Windsor, with one in five unemployed, this is a form of blackmail.

This fight, however, can lead to a growing consciousness among workers of their need for collective action. We complain to management about workplace conditions, but the managers control the workplace for corporate owners. Thus occupational health and safety issues call basic social relations into question.

The meeting mentioned at the beginning of this article called for support and action from those present, many of them active in church groups. When Jim Brophy was asked how they could help, he told them that the organizational capacity and moral force of their churches could be used to get many more in the community involved. In isolation such groups as WOSH, OPIRG, and CRAW can do very little.

Leonard Wallace

Boycott News

Some boycotts are direct and simple. In Flint, Michigan, Buick replaced a plant caterer that the UAW had organized with a non-union food service that paid its workers about half as much. The UAW local has donated the use of its picket-line kitchen facilities to the laid-off crew to provide curbside plant-gate food service while the local boycotts the non-union replacement Buick chose.

Some boycotts, however, are not so simple. The AFL-CIO has been boycotting the Sanderson (chicken) Farms, where workers organized by the International Chemical Workers were forced out on strike in February 1979 and replaced by scabs who got higher pay. Now the NLRB has concluded that Sanderson Farms forced the strike with "surface bargaining", for it "kept shifting its position, apparently to avoid terms to which the union could agree". So the judge has ruled that the strikers must be offered their jobs back.

The boycott of Perdue chickens, a popular line, along the North Atlantic coast continues. Perdue bought up a union plant, closed it, and re-opened it non-union, so the United Food and Commercial Workers hit it with a boycott.

To keep track of various boycotts, Bill Hill issues a *Boycott Census* six times a year from 131 Washington Street, Brighton, Massachusetts 02135. For a sample send a self-addressed business-size envelope and some postage, which has just been raised. Among the publication's services, it hopes to tell you when a boycott is called off.

Back in 1974 the Flint Glass Workers won an election at Bartlett-Collins in Sapulpa, Oklahoma, but could reach no agreement because, among other matters, the company insisted on having a court reporter at all negotiations over the union's objections. In 1977 the AFL-CIO endorsed a boycott of the company. Now in 1981 the courts have backed up the NLRB ruling that the company's insistence on having a court reporter was an unfair labor practice. This may lead to a settlement that will permit lifting the boycott, but will not necessarily do so.

Not all boycotts arise over union bargaining efforts. Consider the long-standing boycott against Nestle and its subsidiaries. There is a detailed article on it in the February issue of *WIN* (326 Livingstone Street, Brooklyn, New York 11217). This boycott was initiated by folks concerned for the health of babies in developing countries, for Nestle induced mothers there to replace their own healthful milk with canned formulas requiring sterilization of babies, refrigeration, and other care which they could not provide. The boycott pressure against Nestle includes refusal to buy the wide range of products of its subsidiaries, including Taster's Choice Coffee, QUIK, Stouffer Products, and the entire Libby, McNeil, and Libby line.

There is also an independent boycott against Libby, along with all Campbell Soup products, by the Farm Labor Organizing Committee. The aim of this boycott is to induce Libby and Campbell to enter into three-way negotiations with both the farmers who grow tomatoes and the workers who pick them.

Literature

THEORETICAL

- () IWW Organizing Manual 75¢
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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.

SUSTAINING FUND

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Many thanks, fellow workers, for your generous support.

PREAMBLE OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

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

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

We find that the centering of the management of industries 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.

Farewell, Fellow Worker!

Fellow Worker Alvin Stalcup died in the VA Hospital in Portland, Oregon on February 26th. In his old age his disabilities kept him indoors; but they have not kept him from his persistent efforts to pass his hopes for the human race along. He has circulated leaflets and reprinted Chaplin's "Red Feast" and selections from Debs, Bertrand Russell, Oscar Ameringer, and especially Kirkpatrick's World War One War, *What-For?* These he sent in small bundles to his correspondents asking them in turn to "Pass Along".

He was born in the Oklahoma Panhandle, went to work in an Idaho sawmill when he was fourteen, and for much of his life was a Seattle streetcar conductor. In Seattle in October 1924, soapboxer Arthur Boose invited his audience to the IWW hall, and Stalcup went and joined. And at IWW headquarters last month, Mary Frohman had just indexed his current dues when news of his death arrived.

Before his disabilities tied him down, he enjoyed travel and took trips to Hawaii and Mexico. In Mexico he became a friend of the late Pedro Coria, and it was thus that Coria's memoirs of IWW activity from 1905 to 1919 were made available for Eugene Nelson to translate for the *Industrial Worker* in the early '70s.

Fellow Worker Stalcup is survived by a brother, local friends and fellow workers, and a string of correspondents who will pay him honors when they "pass along" the last of those leaflets he sent them.

SONGS OF THE WOBBLIES

Virgil Vogel is anxious to obtain a recording of *Songs of the Wobblies*, issued years ago by Labor Arts.

CONVENTION MINUTES

Our fellow workers in Albuquerque undertook the printing of the 1980 Convention Minutes, and these can be obtained from them for one dollar.

They have also printed an attractive IWW 1981 calendar. It is 11 by 14, black and red on a yellow background, and in the center of the 12 months is the IWW bull's-eye: More Wages, Better Working Conditions, Shorter Hours, Abolition of the Wage System, Shop Democracy. If you add another buck for the calendar, that may leave a few dimes over for local organization work. Order from the IWW, PO Box 4972, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87196.

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★★★ 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 Dutky, 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.

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 20767.

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 Friday of each month. Child care provided if arranged in advance with the Secretary, Phone 522-7090 or 876-0807.

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.

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

NEW YORK: Buffalo IWW Delegate, Henry Pfaff, 77 Ekhert, 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) 723-0547, 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 IWW, Fred Hansen, Delegate, Box 728, Rye, Texas 77369, Phone (713) 885-4875.

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.

Tacoma/Olympia General Membership Branch, Ottilie 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.

GLOBAL RACISM

IN FRANCE

The French Communist Party has been surprising leftists by its adoption of racist physical attacks on workers from other countries living in France. The pattern started before Christmas with the Communist mayor of one Paris suburb up front in a bulldozer attack on a hostel into which African workers had been put. This has been followed by similar attacks on groups of Asian, Arab, African, and other "guest workers" housed in low-income areas where French workers, often unemployed, view these guest workers as a threat. In deciding in this instance "to follow the workers", the Party is presumed to have taken into consideration the circumstance that these prejudiced proletarians have votes, but the "guest workers" don't. For many years France was deemed to be the country most free of racial prejudice.

IN SOUTH AFRICA

Some white South African trade unions have decided to open membership to blacks. Among railway workers the Footplate Staff Association left the Confederation of Labor so that it could accept black members, while the Railway Police Staff Association, also an affiliate, is voting on whether or not to accept black members, even though this would require departure from the Confederation. When 188 black bus drivers struck for more pay, they were arrested for violation of the Black Labour Regulations Act, though this act is about to be repealed. They pleaded guilty and drew 18 months' imprisonment. The South African Government has refused to register the affiliates of the left-of-center Federation of South Africa Trade Unions, which accepts black members.

AND IN THE USA

The Department of Labor finds that a third of black wage earners are covered by union contracts, but only 28% of white wage earners are so covered. Not all of any color who are served by a union belong to it, however, and thus these percentages are somewhat above the percentages of workers who belong to unions. But it is not an unwillingness to organize that keeps living conditions for black workers, except for a small good-job elite, worse than for white workers. Black children are thus twice as likely as white children to die in their first year, and 25% more likely than white children to die of childhood diseases; and 42% of all black children in the USA are born to families below the poverty level. The good admonition that they should study and get ahead is offset somewhat by the statistic that the unemployment rate for college-trained blacks is the same as that for white high-school dropouts.

Shelby Shapiro's pamphlet *Unions and Racism* is an outstanding study of the harm the working class has done to itself by tolerating the divide-and-conquer game of racial prejudice. It's on our literature list. The continuing murders of black children in Atlanta (20 as of March 8th) point to the mental disorders race prejudice helps develop. It's a safe bet that the murderer is not a capitalist, but some worker whose head has been twisted by capitalism.

LABOR NEWS IN BRIEF

BC SIT-IN

Ten thousand members of the Telecommunication Workers Union, frustrated in 14 months of efforts to reach a new contract with the British Columbia Telephone Company, occupied its major installations across the province early in February, and kept the phones running under union management. On February 10th union officers, under threat of a contempt citation, called the occupation off.

The telephone workers continued picketing, while the company said it would accept the arbitrator's report provided the Government gives the company a big enough increase. Concurrently, the Canadian Union of Public Employees has had 10,000 out throughout the province despite 75 injunctions, and the garbage is piling high.

The company is allergic to unionism. It took an 81-day strike to win the contract that died 14 months ago. The management's refusal to negotiate led the union to urge that the company be made into a "crown corporation", Government-owned but autonomous (even though this arrangement in the lumber industry back in 1975 thrust the province's progressive politicians into the role of strike breakers). In December the union issued buttons reading "Crown Corporation Now-TWU", and the company began large-scale firings, even invading the homes of union members to fire workers dramatically before their astonished families.

On March 9th thousands of workers on Vancouver Island took the day off in sympathy with 11,000 striking telephone workers. This stopped ferry services, lumbering, and many government operations.



Last year the Eugene/Springfield IWW Group threw a May Day Hard "Hard Times" Picnic. With the help of donations a free meal was served to six hundred along with music, singalongs, and good company. This year a thousand are expected for the Eugene IWW's Second May Day "Hard Times" Picnic.

DID YOU NOTICE?

- A Presidential commission is calling on Congress to pass a law creating a national minimum-funded pension system which would be required of all employers. All employees over 25 would start building pension credits after one year of at least part-time employment. They could transfer the credits from job to job. Other commission proposals included mandatory pension rights for spouses on death or divorce, mandatory Social Security coverage for Government workers, elimination of the so-called "earning test" that reduces Social Security benefits of the working elderly, and raising of Supplemental Security Income welfare benefits to the poverty line. The National Association of Manufacturers, which represents 12,000 major employers, immediately announced "strong opposition" to the pension proposal.

- The Soviet Union has officially protested to the US about the number of headless walrus carcasses washing up on its coasts. As scrimshaw (engraving on ivory) becomes more popular in this country, killing walruses for their tusks has suddenly become profitable.

- In Israel the lame-duck Begin Government, in a rush before the June 30th elections, is seeking to seize thousands of acres of West Bank property to create at least 10 new West Bank settlements, bringing the total to 80. Although the Begin Administration lacks the \$125 million to finance the settlements, it hopes to tie its successors' hands by signing binding contracts with major builders. More than 20,000 Israelis now live on the West Bank.

- A *Harvard Business Review* survey showed that both men and women believe sexual harassment should not be tolerated, but 55% of the men said they believed the problem was exaggerated compared to 32% of the women.

- The US Army has been pressing for years for permission to resume production of nerve-gas weapons, citing intelligence reports of Soviet production. The Army has been whining that the US stockpile of serviceable chemical weapons is decreasing because of aging and obsolescence "and will be unusable by the late 1980s unless improvements are made". The Carter Administration's farewell defense budget contained no provisions for manufacturing chemical munitions, but the Reagan Administration is expected to earmark \$20 million to install nerve-gas production equipment at the Army's Pine Bluff, Arkansas arsenal.

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JAPANESE TRANSPLANTS TOUGH

Japanese firms building plants in the USA to organize. The Honda plant at Marysville off the UAW and is appealing the NLRB ruling there have the right to wear UAW buttons. Sasaki management in Nebraska told workers if they unionized, the work would be switched to Japan. Datsun hired a non-union contractor to build its plant at Smyrna, Tennessee, but a picket line prevented groundbreaking ceremonies. In Los Angeles the Communication Workers of America got the co-operation of Japanese progressives to crack through the opposition of the Sanyo Corporation, which manufactures refrigerators there. They showed an educational film from Japan which emphasized that every major industry there is unionized, with business leaders talking of the benefits of unionization. The union won the election 294-to-245.

WOMEN VERSUS JOHN HANCOCK

A nationwide campaign is on to win better conditions for women employees in the various offices of John Hancock Mutual Life. Thirteen affiliates of Working Women, "9 to 5", and the National Association of Office Workers will co-ordinate the campaign at all John Hancock branch offices. Besides pay and promotion issues they ask that John Hancock withdraw from the Boston Survey Group, a consortium to depress wages. A survey by "9 to 5" last summer showed that 28% of the 5,000 responding women had trained their higher-paid supervisors. Typical of this condition is the finding by a Labor Department hearing officer in February that Chicago's Harris Trust Company owes women over \$12 million to redress past bias in hiring and promotion practices.

ON TO MAY DAY

Declare yourself for peace, for solidarity, for union democracy, for what concerns you most in our May Day issue. We will need your copy in by April 8th so that this issue can be on both coasts for your use Friday, May 1st.

On May Day, 1981, your physical presence at some gathering of your fellow workers should tell the world that you believe we should all stick together and not bomb each other. You can help make that clear by having some copies of our May Day issue with you. In bundles of five or more they cost you only a dime.

Your greetings in our May Day issue are welcomed (but no commercial advertising). That issue will be larger than usual, and can handle greetings all the way from one column inch to one page. This year we would like more small greetings than we had last year. Because we run three columns to the page, display spaces must fit that format. We recommend a half page (\$75), a half column (\$30), postcard size: five column inches (\$20), a column inch (\$5), or a full page (\$120).

Camera-ready art for greetings is much appreciated, and so are greetings we have to lay out ourselves. If you would like display space and want to leave it up to the Industrial Worker Collective to find suitable copy, we'll be glad to see what we can find. Please send greetings in early.

We also welcome input and suggestions for that May Day and other issues.