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★ EDUCATION ★ ORGANIZATION ★ EMANCIPATION

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If you add the number of unemployed persons who have given up job hunting to the 9.5 million officially counted as unemployed, you get a total of 10.7 million people, or 110 people for each of the 97,000 jobs State Employment Service job banks had to offer. In *Labor*, John Clark made this effort to picture them:

"It is impossible... to conceptualize 10.7 million peo-

ple. It helps a little to picture them as a long line. If that number of people stood comfortably close, nose to back, you would have a line that stretches from Salt Lake City, Utah to Cleveland, Ohio. Turn them around and stand them shoulder to shoulder, and you would have a line of jobless workers that extends from Los Angeles to Boston and back again to Saint Louis, Missouri."

Only about 40% of those counted as unemployed are still getting unemployment compensation. Besides the official count, there are another million or so who have given up looking, and another five million working part-time or on occasional jobs who would prefer steady work. Total: about 16 million.

THE ODDEST BARGAINING EVER!

It used to be that unions opposed machinery that would put their members out of work. Now they demand that employers buy machines to do that, so they can compete better with fellow workers abroad. It used to be that unions boasted about how much more money their members made than unorganized workers doing the same work. Now they proclaim the need to cut down on that difference to keep the jobs from going to low-wage or non-union operators.

In the past unions and employers schemed that bargaining patterns for a period would get set to their advantage by going to bat earlier in those spots where they, rather than their opponents, had the bargaining advantage. This time around the pattern seems to have been set by "to be or not to be" Chrysler. This year over 1400 union contracts each covering more than 500 workers will expire, along with a host of contracts covering smaller units. Is Chrysler to be the model for them?

The pattern is being followed with both the big and the little, with both the competitive and the non-competitive. It prevailed in the prosperous oil industry, where the union felt it had to take a 9% raise without cost-of-living adjustments (COLA)—7% in '83 and '84—which means a cut in real wages when prices rise further. But the alternative was a long and perhaps uncertain strike. Likewise in dealing with the auto giants, where concessions did not stop GM from closing down its Fremont and South Gate plants in California. The UAW replaced the contract that still had months to run at Ford with a new 31-month agreement deferring COLA for 18 months and giving up the annual 3% pay increment and personal holidays in exchange for a commitment to avoid contracting work out to non-union plants and an experiment at two plants with guaranteed incomes for old hands.

Meat packing and trucking are far more competitive than are autos and oil. The Teamsters' National Freight Agreement lowers rates for new employees, freezes wages for others except for COLA for three years, and applies some of that to buttress pension funds. Trucking companies and meat-packing companies both raise the bogey of competition from small, independent, non-union outfits. But in recessions it has not been the little ones that ate the big ones, but has been the other way around; for recessions end up with the same properties and businesses in fewer hands, which helps explain why some influential folks prod recessions along.

The United Food and Commercial Workers have replaced agreements at Swift and Hormel with a 44-month wage freeze, similar to their earlier pact with Armour and Wilson. In return, Swift and Hormel promise to close no plants this year. The union has expressed concern that wage rates at the big companies significantly higher than at the small independents, especially in pork packing, will tend to shift work to these smaller concerns. Yet meat packing is a highly productive and profitable industry, requiring costly equipment, in which workers today handle two and a half times as many tons of meat per worker as they did in 1960.

The Chrysler model has hit the building trades. Union bricklayers in Phoenix took a 25% pay cut, hoping to win back work from open-shop contractors who were getting most of the orders. President McElroy of the Phoenix

bricklayers' union says he got the idea for his \$3.63 pay cut from the local Electricians, who had negotiated a \$7.50 cut and had gotten more of the jobs. Plumbers Local 51 in Portland, Oregon cut their pay from \$20.08 to \$12.25, hoping to regain territory for the union.

These give-aways have been endorsed in most cases by membership referenda, though with obvious reluctance, on the reasoning that "half a loaf is better than none". The giveback program is thus not something put over on an innocent rank and file by sellout bureaucrats. Its worst feature is that it reflects the thinking and limited perspective of the rank and file. This could not have been done to a working class that gave collective consideration to its collective interests.

The half-a-loaf theory bespeaks an individualistic disregard for one's fellow workers and for a local's or union's fellow workers. It is not good unionism, because it is not good economics. How can an economy geared to produce full loaves keep the wheels running when we accept half a loaf? We got into this jam by producing a lot more than we got, and givebacks cannot help remedy that sort of

situation.

Over 1400 union contracts expire in 1982. Will all follow the Chrysler model, or will some remember the union slogan of the '30s "Resist All Wage Cuts"? For win or lose, the only way to deter wage cuts is to make them costly.

Unionists and non-unionists look at all this differently because the unionist is considering a larger picture, a longer period than the fellow who's concerned only with looking out for himself. Today's bargaining indicates that unionism has gotten infected with non-union perspectives. We live in a time when a global economy is replacing national economies, just as a century ago a national economy was replacing local markets. New union perspectives were needed then to adjust to this fact, just as they are needed now. These perspectives should put front and center the fact that *our meager living is imposed on us by our irrational social arrangements, and not by any shortage of human ability or resources with which to provide for all four billion of us.*

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Prisons For Profit

The cost of keeping a person in prison has risen to between \$10,000 and \$20,000 a year. Yet almost twice as many people were in prison in March 1982 as in January 1981. By June of last year the prison population had reached 349,118—with inmates sleeping on floors, in tents,

in prefabs, and in abandoned barracks. The female prison population is growing faster than the male; 14,656 women were imprisoned in the first half of last year.

Despite the costs and overcrowding, there is a hue and cry for more imprisonment and for programs of preventive detention. Washington DC is so far the only place in the country that has adopted preventive detention. It has the highest per-capita jail population of any US city, yet it ranks fifth among American cities in its rate of violent crime.

Capitalism being capitalism, it was inevitable that some would find a way to make money out of all this. The latest wrinkle in prison reform links up with private industry for training and employment. In Minnesota some prisoners are earning around the minimum wage making computer-disc drives for the Control Data Corporation. In Kansas the prisoners working for Zephyr Products at the minimum wage have to buy their own lunches at the factory and pay the company a dollar a day for transportation.

Since the cost of keeping people in prison has limited prison population, the profitable employment of prisoners may lead to unlimited prison growth. Unionists are torn both ways: They recognize that the enforced idleness of prison life is a burden on the prisoners, yet they fear with good reason the prospect of growing prisons filled with cheap labor to compete with the rest of us.

Over half of those in prison have no record of violence and could be released to take jobs on the outside. Less unemployment, more worker control of jobs outside jail, and letting people lead useful and meaningful lives will cut both crime and prison population.



— SOLIDARITE OUVRIERE

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LEFT SIDE

Lest the reader of this column think the natives of the Western Hemisphere are the only people on Earth who have been divested of their nationhood, it may interest said reader to know that on the home turf of colonialism, Europe itself, there are at least thirty nationalities who have been waging a long struggle for sovereignty, or at least for home rule. Among them are the Basques and Catalans of Spain, the Bretons and Corse of France, and the various Celtic peoples of the British Isles. Of particular interest are the Sami, better known as Laplanders, who find their nation divided up between Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Soviet Union. They are even more split up than the Iroquois or Diomed Eskimo here in Freedom Land.

How many United States dwellers know the name of the first nation that granted diplomatic recognition of United States independence back in George the Wash's day? It is a reasonable assumption that few do. It is likewise unlikely that they would know that the language of said nation is the closest linguistic relative to the English language. Yet Frisia still exists as a nationality, even though the Frisians today are divided up between the Netherlands and West Germany. However they still show a sense of humor in saying that theirs is the only land that is expanding geographically. By building dikes, they extend their territory a little further into the sea.

The Sami in northern Scandinavia are being encroached upon by the hydro-electric developers, in much the same way as are the Indians in Freedom Land. Though matters such as these are seldom given any mention in the conventional news media, there has been a steady exchange of news and comparison of notes between various small journals around the World that are dedicated to the concerns of native rights, and they are referring to themselves as the "Fourth World".

Your scribe has a special aversion not only to large corporations, but also to large nation states, and despite (or because of) being an anarchist in philosophy, would like to see some of these various nation states around the World split up into smaller political entities. At least they would not be so threatening.

One example that backs up such preferences is the example of the tiny nation of Andorra, nestled in the Pyrenees. Their annual expenditure for armaments of some twenty-five dollars is for fireworks for their festival, though inflation no doubt has upped the ante since your scribe read this item a few years ago. Yours Truly, being of diverse racial and ethnic ancestry, has long ago declared himself his own independent and sovereign nation.

The cities of New York and Detroit have charged that the 1980 United States Census undercounted hundreds of thousands of blacks and "Hispanics"—which has been summarily denied by the courts. Regarding the statistics concerning the latter group in the city where these words are being penned, anyone taking a bus ride through same could not help being reminded of the myth of the ostrich that sticks his head in the sand.

By the time these gems of wisdom are read, the snow should be off the ground and the feathered ones twittering above our heads before succumbing to the carbon monoxide.

The campaign against cigarette smoking goes on, with the assistance of some notable show-business names. So if you have been hacking and spitting too much lately, don't be so unpatriotic as to blame it on carbon monoxide and industrial emissions. After all, if the American Medical Mafia says it's because of cigarettes and tobacco, it is incumbent upon you to take them at their word. Never mind that my forebears had been puffing away on uncured and unfiltered tobacco for centuries before Columbus came, and when he did come he didn't find any cancer wards.

Smokescreens can cover up a multitude of sins; so don't let the smoke get in your eyes, as a popular song of a couple of generations ago once said.

C. C. Redcloud



An estimated 1 million employees are fired in private industry each year without a "fair hearing." That's because they're unorganized employees, not covered by a union contract which in most cases provides due process before a worker can be fired, according to Michigan State University Prof. Jack Stieber.

EDITORIAL:

What Are YOU Doing May Day?

May 1st is World Labor Day. It falls on Saturday this year, which makes it easier to observe it as the events of this year demand.

TV and the press have tended to depict May Day as some occasion for the Soviet Union to parade its military prowess. But actually May Day originated in 1890 as an occasion for workers to demonstrate their class solidarity worldwide—and that solidarity offers a prospect for peace that nothing else can provide.

Why does Labor Day come on the First of May? The answer is to be found in American labor history and in the New England weather conditions that in the last century stopped most construction in winter. As a result, the building-trades unions got in the habit of settling terms of employment for the summer by the end of April or going on strike May 1st.

To get international support for such a strike scheduled for May 1st, 1890 to win the eight-hour day for the building trades, Samuel Gompers, head of the AFL, sent an envoy to an international congress of labor and socialist bodies meeting in Paris on July 14th, 1889. He asked that they promote demonstrations for the eight-hour day on a world scale on May 1st of the coming year.

Before Gompers' envoy, Howard McGregor of the Seamen's union, got there, the congress had agreed that some specific date should be set to demonstrate for a shorter work day on an international scale. They felt that this was needed because employers in each country had argued that a shorter work day would drive jobs to other countries. To fit this in with Gompers' proposal, they selected May 1st as the appropriate occasion, and it has been World Labor Day ever since.

Today, as in 1889, the struggle for tolerable working conditions requires transnational solidarity. We are taking wage cuts under various disguises in the hope of keeping jobs from going to other countries. We are cutting down on support for the aged and helpless to amass a greater supply of arms with which the misorganized workers of the world can destroy each other.

This world has become one. Recently European governments have been complaining about the Rube Goldberg device in which (a) American arms buildup causes a budget deficit here, which (b) raises interest rates, which (c) causes European capitalists to send their money over to America, thus (d) increasing unemployment in Europe.

That's the sort of world we live in now. It's a world where the pesticides we ban here get exported to countries where bananas and coffee are grown, and are brought back to our kitchens in that way. It's a world where the pollution we put into our water reaches all shores, and the carbon dioxide from doing a lot of unnecessary things threatens the polar ice caps and coastal areas everywhere. It's a world where workers everywhere should be getting together to resist the incredible mismanagement of this planet, to arrange to act in unison to do less work and live better, and to use this planet's resources for the com-

mon good—something workers can never do under any direction other than their own.

The world no longer consists of parcels of people with the same culture and language marked off from each other by boundary lines. The search for jobs, the flight from war, even the importation of our grandparents to scab on each other have made us a polyglot, many-cultured class, rubbing shoulders on the job and in the marketplace. May Day is the day for us to re-assert that we will not let our exploiters use us against each other.

What are you planning for May Day to assert that loud and clear?



Health, Safety And Freedom Of Information

A worker's right to know can no longer be separated from a worker's right to live. With the introduction of thousands of new processes and substances into the workplace yearly, knowledge becomes the key to working in safety, as opposed to dying by inches on the job.

Awareness of this fact is rapidly spreading among all workers, from chemical and nuclear workers, to clerical workers concerned over possible health hazards from prolonged use of word processors. The response to this awareness by those who control the economic life of this country has been consistent. Corporate management, often aided by its allies in government, has repeatedly attempted to conceal, suppress or withhold information—information that is in many cases literally vital.

The current attempt to effectively eliminate the Freedom of Information Act is yet another example of this attitude on the part of management. S.1730, a bill currently before the Senate, has strong corporate support. Along with exempting the FBI and CIA from any necessity to disclose information, it would give business a virtual veto over release of information in government files relating to health and safety, industrial pollution, product reliability and consumer fraud, among others.

The life-and-death nature of information obtained under the act has been repeatedly demonstrated. Information obtained linked the death by electrocution of an installer at Bangor Hydro-Electric Co. to company failure to maintain regular safety inspections. In 1978, a study obtained from the Dept. of Energy showed evidence of increased cancer among workers in a plutonium plant in Hanford, Washington. Further information revealed that 30,000 workers in nuclear plants nation-wide were exposed to unsafe levels of radiation in 1980, and that the total amount of radiation exposure increased 35% between 1979 and 1980. Finally, PATCO, before striking in 1980, had obtained information from the FAA proving that 9 out of 10 air traffic controllers were unable to retire on full pensions, because medical problems had forced them to leave their jobs early.

In organizing to fight for health and safety on the job, access to information is crucial. Without concerted action on the part of workers to preserve the Freedom of Information Act, that access will be considerably curtailed. Employers have shown no hesitation in joining together to fight efforts to improve health and safety, including efforts to provide workers with the knowledge of what risks they face on the job. For them, it is a matter of economic interest. For us, for working people, organizing to defend and expand our right to know goes much deeper—our lives may depend on it.

—Jim Jahn X332060

(For further information concerning activities to save the FOIA, contact Jim Jahn, c/o N.Y. IWW.)

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

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AMERICAN LABOR ROUNDUP



Litton Industries has asked the Government to decertify the United Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers (UE) at its Sioux Falls, South Dakota plant on the ground that UE "unlawfully aided, abetted, supported" PATCO in an illegal strike against the Government. (So too did almost all of the American labor movement, and it's time to note a difference between strikes of Government employees and strikes against the Government, and to question how strikes can be illegal in a land whose constitution bars involuntary servitude.) The corporation action grows out of a long UE struggle at the Sioux Falls plant, where UE won an NLRB election in September 1980, but still hasn't gotten the company to sign a contract.

Local 925 (pronounced 9 to 5) of the Service Employees announces the formation of District 925, a "national division for women clerical workers". It declares: "We have won millions of dollars in back pay increases for women who were being inadequately paid by filing charges against those companies that were discriminating. We have won better job-posting, training, and overtime policies, and most importantly we have won respect—through working together, making our demands known, and refusing to be categorized any longer as appendages to our typewriters, data processors, and coffee pots."

The Communication Workers of America are worried about what effect AT&T's divestiture agreement will have on job conditions. The union has asked AT&T to start negotiating the successor provisions of its current agreement. Present AT&T stockholders will be given shares in the scattered successor corporations created by the breakup of AT&T, so the workers will be facing the same people but under new corporate names, and in a year of deteriorating bargaining wonder how well they'll be protected.

Multi-pension funds in the construction industry have assets of around \$50 billion which grow at the rate of about \$5 billion a year. The Building Trades Department has proposed that about 1% of these assets, perhaps half a billion, be used for job-creating investments. One investment they propose is a coal-slurry pipeline to facilitate the export of coal. Railroad unions oppose this on the ground that it would make more railroad workers lose their jobs (41,000 are already jobless), that it would be an advantage to some mines but would require the mines not reached by it to pay more to haul coal, and that it would use up more energy than the present procedures.

The 34 coal-mine deaths in January doubled the 17 such deaths in January 1981. Some wonder whether the mine-safety inspectors are afraid to antagonize the companies to which they may look for employment if the Government lays them off. The paperwork at the RFH Coal Company mine where seven were killed showed that many recent inspections had been made, yet that blast must have come from excessive dust: TV shots of the disaster focused on bags of rock dust—used to prevent such explosions—outside the mine.

It used to be that needy strikers were not disqualified for food stamps by the mere fact that they were on strike. Last October the rule was changed to allow food stamps only to those strikers whose wages before the strike were so low as to entitle them to stamps, and their allotment was reckoned as though they were still working. Now the Department of Agriculture wants to reckon in strike pay and income from odd jobs.

Some unions grew in the '70s, and some shrank. From Department of Labor statistics, the *United Mine Workers Journal* runs a chart naming the leading winners as the Communication Workers (up 30%), UMWA (up 15%), IBEW (up 12%), and the Steel Workers and Teamsters (each up 3%). The losers include the UAW and the Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers (each down 9%), the Machinists (down 13%), the Ladies' Garment Workers (down 25%), and the Rubber Workers (down 31%).

MAY DAY IS COMING

May First falls on Saturday this year. That is all the better for observing it with a worldwide demonstration of working-class solidarity against war and exploitation.

Have some copies of this paper on hand for that occasion. We will need our copy for the May issue by April 6th, and all orders for it by April 13th. Even that may not get it to all readers by April 30th, so we plan to have our April issue also suitable for use at May Day demonstrations, and suggest you play safe by ordering some extra copies of those now.

We will also carry May Day greetings. If we get more than would look good in an eight-page paper, we will either go to more pages or hold some for the June issue. Rates for these greetings will be the same as last year: \$5 for one column inch, \$20 for five column inches, \$30 for a half column, and \$75 for a half page.

This paper carries no commercial advertising, even if smuggled into a May Day greeting.



WOMEN AT WORK

Aerospace and aeronautical engineers got the highest pay in 1981 among male occupations, while women fared best as operations and systems researchers and analysts, according to Department of Labor reports. In the male category, the aerospace and aeronautical engineers led with a median weekly salary of \$619, well above the second-place occupation of stock and bond agents at \$589. For women, the operations and systems researchers had a median weekly salary of \$422, just two dollars higher than computer-systems analysts. The studies covered wage and salary workers only, thus excluding self-employed people like some doctors and attorneys. The studies noted that the ratio of women's earnings to men's

was 71% among salaried lawyers and 81% among doctors. This ratio was highest among nurses, dietitians, and therapists (94.7%) and among postal clerks (93.9%).

Two out of three poor adults are women, but most efforts to get them off the welfare rolls will fail because the programs are designed for men, according to a study on *Feminization of Poverty* published by the National Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity, which went out of business last year. Anti-poverty efforts traditionally aim at putting recipients to work. Women lose out mainly because they have job-finding problems that men don't have—sex discrimination, harassment, and segregation in the job market, and continuing responsibility for child-rearing.

According to US Secretary General Kurt Waldheim's Report to the UN Commission on the Status of Women: "While women represent half the global population and a third of the labor force, they receive only a tenth of the world income and own less than 1% of the world's property. They also are responsible for two thirds of all working hours."

William Blake once said that "Prisons are built with stones of law, brothels with bricks of religion." Now Canada's new constitution contains a clause in its bill of rights that seems to guarantee Canadian women all the rights that the apparently about-to-fail Equal Rights Amendment would guarantee women in the US. The proposed 27th Amendment to the US Constitution, which has aroused such ire in ERA opponents, states: "Equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex." The Canadian constitution contains the statement: "Every individual is equal before and under the law without discrimination based on race, national or ethnic origin, color, religion, sex, age, or mental or physical disability."

LABOR AND THE LAW

J. P. Stevens has been ordered to reimburse the Clothing and Textile Workers for the litigation and organizing costs they incurred in fighting the corporation at its Wallace, North Carolina plant. This rarely-used remedy imposed by the NLRB has now been approved by a federal appeals court. Stevens has also been ordered to bargain with the union. The NLRB held that the company had lost in its 1975 election at the plant only because of its unfair practices.

Now the NLRB will assess a 20% interest rate on back pay and other remedial awards for all of 1982, instead of the former rate of 12%.

A court decision has offered 340 stewardesses their jobs back at Trans World Airlines. They were let go because they had become pregnant. The case has been in litigation for 12 years now, and the back pay comes to \$12 billion.

In 1970 the union that then represented their bargaining unit reached a settlement, but it was one that provided neither money damages nor reinstatement with full seniority. In 1979 the stewardesses won the present settlement, but meanwhile the independent Federation of Flight Attendants had replaced their old union as agent for their bargaining unit. The IFFA appealed the decision because reinstatement with full seniority imperiled the jobs of its members. The situation is even tighter because TWA has hired no flight attendants since 1979, has fur-

loughed 500, and to clear itself of sex discrimination has hired a 15% sprinkling of male flight attendants since 1972.

The International Woodworkers report that at Shantytown, Wisconsin there is a small mill owned by Hamil Forest Products with only 10 employees. Last summer these voted 7 to 3 to bargain through the IWA. But they have found it impossible to get the company down to any bargaining, because the company is represented by Seyfarth, Shaw, Fairweather, and Geraldstone—a Chicago firm that advises on how to bust unions and charges a minimum of \$300 an hour for this service. Its Shantytown technique: delay upon delay.

Reagan complains that the Government over-subsidizes lawyers who make a living out of suing the Government for about \$20 million a year. But this is small potatoes compared to the legal bills run up on both sides of the big anti-trust cases. In the 13-year case against IBM, the Government paid its lawyers \$13 million, and IBM handed out about seven times as much to its own lawyers. In its seven-year tussle with AT&T, the Government paid its lawyers \$15 million, while AT&T paid its lawyers \$360 million. Now telephone users will probably repay all this with higher local telephone charges.

There is strenuous labor objection to current NLRB chairman Van de Water, serving thus far without Senate approval because of his previous career as an anti-union consultant.

Worker-Owned Jobs

The Center for Community Self-Help (PO Box 3259, Durham, North Carolina 27705) is promoting worker-owned enterprises in that state. Fellow Worker Frank Adams, active in the movement, reports that to date six such enterprises exist, including a construction operation, a sewing factory, and a secretarial service. A restaurant, a zipper factory, and a newsstand are in "start-up stages".

The movement bulletin *Changing Shifts* welcomes the news that the UAW is arranging for workers at the General Motors ball-bearing plant in Hyatt, New Jersey as something to give hope to these communities in the Carolinas. In July 1980 the Texfi Industries in New Bern, North Carolina closed down, laying off 500 workers. Some of the laid-off workers have opened a bakery as a worker-owned undertaking, but find they need money, and their bulletin hopes to find them some.

The Center for Community Self-Help has been sponsoring workshops to discuss the problems and prospects for more worker ownership, and notes that a National Center for Employee Ownership has been founded, with Corey Rosen as director, at 4836 South 28th Street, Arlington, Virginia 22206.

Worker ownership does not end the need for workers to have unions. As this paper pointed out recently, the cab drivers of Denver own the company they work for and elect the management, but still have day-to-day tussles needing union resistance to that management. If these worker-owned enterprises are viewed as stepping stones toward a worker-owned economy, they will need the labor movement with them. That's why many in that situation are members of the IWW.

CANADA

Union membership in Canada in January 1981 was reckoned by the Labour Department at 3,487,231—up 2.7% from the previous year. Unions affiliated with the CLC had 2,360,000 members. The Confederation of National Trade Unions had 210,000—mostly in Quebec. The largest single union was the Canadian Union of Public Employees with 267,407 members, followed by the National Union of Provincial Government Employees with 210,000.

A thousand members of the International Woodworkers in Toronto making corrugated boxes have arranged that their eight contracts will all expire at the same time—on the last day of this year. Major employers are McMillan Bloedel and Consolidated Bathurst.

Canadian workers today are benefitting from the legislation covering shut-down plants—on severance pay, advance notice, and pensions—that developed in response to the series of plant occupations in late 1980 and 1981. There was little such legislation before that. The occupation of the Houdaille bumper plant at Oshawa got the most publicity—after a new concern, KKR of Florida, had bought it out. Occupation of the plant did not save the jobs, but did save union pensions and severance pay. It also sparked occupations at Beach Appliances in Ottawa and elsewhere, and at Windsor Bumper, where an eight-hour sit-in did save jobs.

SOUND OF A DISTANT DRUM

There comes that moment in a State's history when the politicians of the day decide to open various dark and dirty corners and the secret files are placed on public display. The guilt of men or women who died in the sanctity of high office, the innocence of those who were destroyed as part of the political game, are offered as no more than interesting readings, for all the participants are by then deemed to be beyond the angry justice of their fellow men and women. Thus it is only now, after forty years, that the British people learn that in 1943 192 British soldiers of General Montgomery's elite Eighth Army were secretly court-martialed in Italy, and those who were not sentenced to be killed by the firing squads were sentenced to terms of penal servitude ranging to life imprisonment.

The victims were front-line soldiers wounded in various actions and waiting in a transit camp to rejoin their regimental units. There are strong regimental loyalties in the British Army, and these men had been told by their regimental officers to agree to go to no regiment other than their own. Thus when they found that because of a "communications mix-up" they were to be shipped off to fight with strange units supporting the American foul-up in Italy, they simply stood at the side of a grassy road and demanded to go back into action with their own regiment. And for that these 192 soldiers were placed under armed arrest and court-martialed, and a number were sentenced to death by senior non-combatant officers.

These death sentences were later commuted to terms ranging to life imprisonment, but were held in permanent abeyance as the victims were shipped off to front-line fighting units, where they were sent out night after night on fighting patrols and left in the line when their new units were pulled out of action to fight and die to cover up the secret shame of the military foul-up. The story has now been leaked, and many of those men are still alive, but their anger and bitterness will not leave them. In the First World War French troops were ordered

into suicidal action by Parisian politicians for party political reasons. And out of the slaughter and the horror of that carnage, the French military high command court-martialed a random number of soldiers and had them shot by firing squads. Even after half a century of French political investigative journalism, this is a State secret that still lies tucked away within secret archives.

In 1945 Eddie Slovik, a metropolitan-bred youth who had been shipped overseas from an American boot camp, panicked and jumped out of the lorry taking his fresh squad into a battle area, and moved in as a mascot with a happy-go-lucky Canadian unit. Shortly thereafter Eddie was arrested by the American military police, court-martialed, and sentenced to be shot. The American military machine executed Eddie Slovik because the American high command, under General "Ike", panicked at the news of a German military breakthrough. Now "Ike" lies in Arlington Cemetery and Eddie lies in an isolated grave in France, and the politicians lie and lie and lie.

President Reagan rides out of the sunset to bribe the juntas of Costa Rica and El Salvador with \$100,000,000 each to sign away in secret sessions the life, liberty, and pursuit of happiness of their impoverished peasantry. And Ma Thatcher is ready to pay the American arms lobby \$20,000,000,000 for the Trident D5 nuclear weapon—whose purpose is to hit Moscow and penetrate Soviet missile silos—while the military experts dribble with horror at the thought of the people of this tiny overcrowded island shooting off this pretty nuclear toy at the great arsenal of Russian military hardware two minutes before the entire population of these gray green islands coagulate into a stinking overfried hamburger.

Heaven forbid that I should dare to teach the military top brass their job, but the American Government and military brass have accidentally revealed that in the Third World War Europe is to be accepted as a total write-off, and its function is to absorb the first waves of nuclear

bombs. This means that the entire contingent of America's armed forces stationed in Europe will also be wiped out to the last man. The military plan for the European peoples is to demand that no nuclear weapons be based in Europe, and that Europe's function be to prepare to fight a massive guerrilla-style war on the Vietnamese plan. It would be shattering to the pride of the European military, but only in that form of warfare might salvation for the European people lie. But it will not be fought like that, and in a Third World War the populations of Europe and the soldiers of the American armed forces stationed there will become one with Eddie Slovik in his lonely French grave.

But if we are to die, then let us die with a good grace and a pint of Guinness in our hand, and talk of more-mundane things—such as the ending of the national railway strike. For ASLEF, the small craft union of train drivers, have fought well and won well in their defense of the eight-hour day. And they did so by using—as I proposed in this column—a continuous barrage of two- and three-day strikes that tied up the whole of the national railway system. I do not defend small craft unions looking after their own selfish interests, but one must applaud their classic industrial guerrilla action.

And for me, my black bitch Vicki is dead, and out of sentimental foolishness I wept for a few brief secret minutes and went to the Landseer exhibition at the Tate Gallery to view the work of that sentimental Victorian animal painter. He was a very second-rate painter, and it was he who modeled those huge lions you see at the base of Nelson's Column in Trafalgar Square every time you watch a news clip of a demonstration marching into the Square. But my black bitch Vicki is dead, and I cannot mock; for the greater the love, the greater the sorrow. And now sitting on my old armchair is Mick—a small brown mongrel who watches me as I type.

Arthur Moyses, London

Readers' Soapbox

From British Postal Worker

I was fascinated by the article "Spies and Speed-up" in the December *Industrial Worker* about the experiences of U.S. postal workers. Whatever the differences in detail, a comparison with the situation in Britain's post offices shows how, the world over, workers face the same problems and the same enemies.

We have our own Post Office Investigation Branch, boasting it is the oldest detective force in the world. In the past few years our union, the Union of Communication Workers, has struggled to curb their enthusiasm, particularly for interrogations which ride roughshod over employees' legal rights. The bosses like to hide them away. When advertising for new recruits they ask for candidates to be ordinary-looking and of median height so they won't be noticed. Over the top of our new automated sorting offices (we are still catching up on the States) there runs a full-length walkway sheathed in one-way dark glass to hide supervisors and investigators.

Divide and conquer is the well-established British practice too. Since the Post Office Corporation used to be a part of the civil service until it was turned into a nationalized industry, it has inherited a system of hierarchy, status and promotion. With this system the workforce constantly breaks the back of its own solidarity. There are five grades of postmen. To get from one grade to another depends on years of service and practical experience at the higher grade work by means of "acting lists" of candidates who cover for their seniors when the latter are on leave or off sick. There are more bitter arguments among employees about these tidbits of power than about the rates of pay. A few of us fight a losing battle to keep the union out of these cockfights where the management get us to do their dirty work for them.

We lost the right to strike under a legal injunction that reinterpreted a law passed centuries ago to curb the activity of highwaymen! The judgment is a little murky; it may be we can go on official strike, but woe betide us if we have a go-slow or work-to-rule. As yet the judgment remains untested.

Margaret Thatcher dislikes nationalized industries, so the Post Office has been split between Telecommunications and Postal—two new corporations in place of one. This will make it easier to carve up the profitable sections and sell them to the highest private bidder. A side effect was the splitting of the massive employees Pension Fund completely against the wishes of the employees themselves—no doubt as a punishment for its interference in sensitive and profitable stockmarket dealings. There now follows a long uphill fight to defend our conditions under the threat of privatisation, uncertain legal conditions and widespread job insecurity, against an intransigent government forcing the pace of automation and productivity with a whip and no carrot.

One final problem: We all have to sign a document on entering the service respecting the Official Secrets Act. This letter is possibly in breach even though I wrote what is common knowledge, so yours in solidarity.

—Martin

WORLD LABOR NEWS

The recession throughout Europe appears to be deepening, as unemployment rose to a post-World War Two record of 9.5% in January 1982. The figures, released by the Common Market's statistical service, showed that about 450,000 more people were out of work in January than in December. It was the eighth straight monthly decline in employment in the 10-nation European Economic Community.

Work stoppages, strikes, and boycotts by black workers are beginning to affect the economy of South Africa. The response has been tighter controls and increasing numbers of arrests, with 42 members of the South African Allied Workers Unions being tried on charges of "incitement to public violence" stemming from September confrontations with police in which they allegedly sang songs and shouted slogans of the banned African National Congress. Since May 1981, the entire leadership of the Congress of South African Students (a group that grew out of the Black Consciousness Movement which was banned after Steve Biko's death in detention in September 1977) has been detained. Many are still imprisoned under Section 6 of the Terrorism Act.

Japanese workers, holding their first mass labor rally in Tokyo for nearly a decade, demanded a tax cut of a trillion yen—about \$4.3 billion—for Fiscal 1982. The rally, which attracted at least 60,000 people, was called by four labor federations amid charges by workers that their disposable income has dwindled in the last five years.

Ireland is one of the poorest members of the European Common Market. The country has been highly successful in attracting foreign investment in new industry, but this has generated a need to borrow heavily to finance new roads and other industrial needs. Debt payments are now absorbing more than 1% of the Gross National Product. Ireland's budget deficit now amounts to 17% of the GNP. Its inflation rate of 20% last year was the second highest in the Common Market, and it has 147,000 people out of work—11.5% of the labor force. Because of Ireland's 1.5% population growth rate (the highest in the Common Market), the country has an unusually young population, almost half of which is under 25. Thus Ireland has an unusually small work force on which 70% of its population is dependent, compared to the Common Market average of 50 to 55%.

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police are being charged with unbridled snooping. Seventeen Mounties are currently on trial in Montreal for activities in the early 1970s in Quebec. The RCMP security service resorted to wiretapping, break-ins at offices of left-wing groups and removal of documents, sending a fake communique to the media designed to look as though it had been issued by the Front de Liberation du Quebec, burning a barn to prevent a meeting of "subversives," and spreading false information.

In addition, a commission appointed to investigate the Mounties charged that they had violated privacy guarantees by systematically using the personal information on citizens gleaned from files in the insurance, unemployment insurance, health and revenue departments. The commission also found that the RCMP security service had kept files on 800,000 Canadians, including students, civil servants, labor officials, blacks, homosexuals, members of Parliament and any citizen who visited the Soviet Union.

PREAMBLE TO THE CONSTITUTION of the INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE CRIMES OF THE "NEW WORLD"

HEMISPHERE COLONIALISM

If there is one thing happening around the World, it is the determination of peoples not simply to accept the two versions of inevitable progress—that of Western capitalism or Soviet socialism—but to find ways of combining the power of technology with the energy of their own traditions.

Carlos Fuentes (1980)

The Fourth Russell Tribunal was held in the city of Rotterdam, Netherlands in the month of November 1980. In attendance were representatives of indigenous Native Nations from every part of the Western Hemisphere, who because of an early explorer's geographical ignorance have been known ever since as Indians. Attending also were many individuals and support groups from the International Community. The conference was completely non-governmental, and the delegates in attendance were beholden to no government or political party. Though some attempts at disruption were made by individuals from both right and left political extremes, the Tribunal was successful in arriving at the following conclusions, which are only part of a voluminous and meticulously-detailed report.

The Russell Tribunal is not a formal court of law, nor does it have any force of legality to enforce its decisions; yet this very weakness constitutes its strength in being influenced by neither governmental nor corporational interests. Unable to impose sanctions, it can only appeal to the conscience and reason of the World community. Because the established press and other mass-communication media, particularly those of the USA, have chosen to ignore important matters such as these, it is incumbent upon journals such as the *Industrial Worker* to aid in the dissemination of this important information, and to combat the conspiracy of silence that has prevailed for the last four centuries.

This article is an attempt to provide only a digest of the voluminous report of the Russell Tribunal, and is by no means exhaustive. All of the nation states indicted in this report have been found guilty of violating not only international law, but in many cases their own law as well. The situation of Native Peoples has remained basically unchanged by the various declarations of independence on the part of the European colonists who have overrun the Western Hemisphere, except for further encroachments on their land and their freedoms.

Chief among the violators is the super-power known as the United States of America, with Canada a close second. All of the nation states that now exist in the Western Hemisphere are foreign importations which reached nationhood status by displacing the original native inhabitants through deceit and outright aggression. In some areas, like the US and Canada, the Native Nations are engulfed by a sea of aliens, while other areas are overwhelmingly native but are controlled by an alien government. And the crimes perpetrated against the Native Peoples have by no means been confined to the distant past, but continue to be inflicted as we near the close of the Twentieth Century. Thus these Native People have remained the one people on Earth who do not have a state of their own.

Where in the past the original inhabitants were encroached on by imported nation states, they are now besieged by these same states in collusion with large multi-national corporations which seek to exploit the resources that still remain on what little land base remains to them. Because of the defenselessness of these Native Peoples and the immediate supply of cheap labor, many natural ecological resources are being permanently damaged.

The concern for the land rights of the original inhabitants of the Western Hemisphere is not just a matter of people's being able to maintain their own territories and unique cultures, or of simple human rights. These same multi-national corporations that are destroying the natural environment are the ones who are a threat to urbanized societies as well. These corporations and the governments who support them are interested only in the quick buck, and have no regard for future generations. Though the urban white dweller "comfortably" riding down his metropolitan expressways may have seemingly little in common with the dweller of the Amazon rain forest, once that rain forest has been deforested, the atmospheric consequences will be just as drastic to the urban proletariat as to the forest aboriginal. Nowhere is the IWW maxim "An injury to one is an injury to all," more applicable than in today's aboriginal-rights struggle.

Along with repressive military dictatorships, the worst threats to indigenous populations are the multi-national business corporations that are exploiting present international political tensions and the so-called energy crisis to further increase their profits.

The provincial government of Quebec has initiated a hydro-electric project, and in doing so has violated the land rights of the Attikamek, Montanais, Algonquin, and Naskapi Nations, with the Canadian Government unilaterally extinguishing those land rights. In the American Southwest, Peabody Coal Company is forcibly removing

over 6,000 Navajo, while companies like Kerr McGee have converted the Four Corners area into a polluted wasteland.

An MX nuclear-missile system, with its draining of the critically precious water table, would convert the entire Western Shoshone land into an uninhabitable wasteland, while in Panama Texas Gulf and the Cerro Colorado Mining Corporation are expropriating territory of the Guaymi Nation. Throughout North, Central, and South America there are many more examples of profit-hungry corporations grabbing up aboriginal land with the collusion and



outright assistance of the national governments who are the supposed protectors of the Native Nations. In Brazil and Paraguay there are Custer-like military campaigns against Native Peoples to clear their lands for commercial exploitation.

Not only have the national governments been aiding the "industrial displacement of indigenous peoples, but many religious organizations have been "converting the heathen" in order to divest them of their territory. In Brazil, the Salesian Order not only have been expropriating aboriginal lands, but also have imposed through their boarding schools the breakup of traditional family and communal life based on mutual aid, with the result that many young girls become domestic servants or prostitutes in the big cities. The Salesian Order receives help from the Brazilian Government and from international institutions, ostensibly to assist the Indians.

In Peru, young girls have been kidnapped from their parents by religious organizations to become "domestic servants" in the cities. Coming under particular scrutiny was the Summer Institute of Linguistics, also known as the Wycliffe Bible Translators, a Protestant missionary group whose main focus is the disruption of Indian life, and which has been successful in removing land dwellers to become occupants of the urban slums.

The findings of the Russell Tribunal are rife with violations of religious freedom throughout the Hemisphere. In the United States, which has long boasted of its free-

dom of worship, there are many examples of the destruction and appropriation of sacred places, in particular the present plans to take over the Paha Sapa (Black Hills) of the Lakota by the uranium miners.

Many examples of outright genocide are cited in this report, the most outstanding being the incident of the Spanish Embassy in Guatemala. Despite the repeated assurances of the Spanish Ambassador that the occupation of the embassy in the capital city by Ixil, Quiche, Achi, and Kakchiquel campesinos was for peaceful dialogue, the president of the republic ordered a military action against the Embassy resulting in the slaughter of all the occupants, including the Embassy staff itself. In the republic of El Salvador, a vicious campaign of genocide is being waged against indigenous and mestizo peoples by the military junta, who receive direct aid from the United States.

Among other charges brought up at the Tribunal was that of the forcible sterilization of Native women in the United States, a clear example of premeditated genocide. The report carefully describes the crimes of genocide and ethnocide, human-rights violations, and repression of religious freedom, which according to the United Nations charter and numerous international conferences are all matters of international law. Not only have the European and European-launched powers of the Western Hemisphere been found guilty of violating international law, but in many cases they have been found guilty of violating their own law as well.

Some readers of this paper may wonder why any concern should be shown toward a race of peoples many of whom have not advanced into an urban industrial society beyond the point of acknowledging basic human rights. Detractors from the struggle of the indigenous peoples will say: "Why do they want to live the way they did two centuries ago?" The sad fact is that these people had better lives two centuries ago than they have now as colonial peoples under monopoly capitalist powers. They would like to be a part of the Twentieth Century as much as anyone else, but they want to accept technology on their own cultural terms rather than on the terms of the slave-owner mentality that dominates the World today.

These peoples have lived close to nature for centuries, and have a respect and reverence for the land that modern urban-industrial humanity would do well to emulate, especially in this day of expanding populations and diminishing natural resources. The governments and multi-national conglomerates which are destroying the last bit of unspoiled nature have no more regard for their urban wage slaves than they have for the aboriginals that they are driving from their native territories with any means possible.

We are constantly being told that the energy crisis and the present international political situation leave no room for sentiment. But no matter how many Native Nations have been deprived of what is left of their land, the costs of everyday utilities continue to rise. And if the people of the World continue to leave important decisions in the hands of small power elites, we will still have wars long after the last communal society has been wiped out.

As one anthropology professor recently stated, if the Indians of Brazil are going to change their feather head-dresses for baseball caps, let it be their own decision. It is incumbent upon those of us who can envision a better World to give our support to and spread the publicizing of the struggles of the original social collectivists.

Carlos Cortez



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From the Bookcase

FELLOW WORKERS AND FRIENDS: IWW Free-Speech Fights as Told by Participants. Edited by Philip S. Foner; 242 pages, cloth, Greenwood Press, 1981, \$29.95.

At the National Archives, among the unprinted records of the Industrial Relations Commission, are two series of letters that Vincent St. John got IWW members to write, one on what migratory workers are up against, the other by participants in IWW free-speech fights. Professor Foner has drawn on these to supplement previously published memoirs and has tied them together with his own summary of these struggles from the battle in Missoula, 1909, to Everett, Washington, November 1916.

The Missoula fight is covered by a quote from Elizabeth Gurley Flynn's memoirs, *I Speak My Piece*, and her report to the *International Socialist Review*. For that magazine Flynn wrote a series of detailed reports on Spokane, supplemented here with the reportage that she, Agnes Fair and William Z. Foster provided to the *Seattle Workingman's Paper*, John Pancner's 1959 recollections and a Spokane citizen's report to the Commission on Industrial Relations (CIR).

From these CIR records there is a complete diary of the Fresno fight, running from October 16, 1910 to March 3, 1911 when the victorious Wobblies left, carrying most of the rock pile with them for souvenirs. On this Fresno battle Foner also reproduces the detailed account that E. M. Clyde wrote of the group that left Portland for Fresno, but won it by their arrival in Chico, and their preparations to go on from there. (Prof. Conlin of the California State University at Chico dug these Chico records up and published them in the Fall 1979 *University Journal*, summarized in our February issue; the Clyde document was dug up by Charles L. Warne and run in *Labor History*, Spring '73.)

On Aberdeen, Washington, 1911-12, there is Stumpy Paine's 1919 recollections from the *One Big Union Monthly*, and on San Diego two participant accounts from those CIR records, and Laura Emerson's eulogy at the funeral of Michael Hooley, killed by police maltreatment in that fight. On the Denver 1913 fight there is Ed Nolan's detailed account of the trip from San Francisco to Denver of hobos headed to fill the jail there, and two CIR reports. CIR participant reports detail the Agricultural Workers' fight in Minot, ND, 1913, and Aberdeen, SD, 1914, and the second battle of Kansas City that same year.

On Everett there is Walker Smith's "Voyage to the Verona" from the *International Socialist Review* of Dec. 1916, and quotations from his book, *The Everett Massacre*; also Jack Leonard's memories, "Jail Didn't Weaken Them" (which you can also find in an excellent free speech chapter in Joyce Kornbluh's anthology, *Rebel Voices*).

This segregation of IWW free speech fights from the rest of its history is somewhat like removing John Smith's appendix, bottling it, then saying "Meet John." These free speech fights were predominantly in the developing west and within a span of four years. The Spokane fight clearly arose from resistance to the job sharks; the Fresno fight from police interference with discussions among migratory workers on what wage to accept. In advance of the Everett struggle, the *Industrial Worker* wrote, on Sept. 16, 1916: "This is not a free speech fight. It is a fight on the part of the bosses for the open shop and the destruction of all unionism on the Pacific coast." The San Pedro free speech fight of 1923, not mentioned in this volume, arose out of a strike and can be relived in Upton Sinclair's novel, *Oil*, or studied in Brown's essay, *Pacific Historical Review*, Nov. 1969. Robert Diehl's thesis on the San Diego fight presents the case that the IWW was entrapped there by the M&M. In Aberdeen, Washington 1911-12, the objective was organizing; Foner's collection misses one

excellent participant account to be found in the memoirs of H. R. McGuckin, who then went on to the fight in Vancouver. The fights in the Dakotas, like that in Fresno, grew out of efforts by migratory agricultural workers to agree on what would be an acceptable wage. The CIR report on Aberdeen, SD, in the volume explains, for instance:

"Lee was arrested because of an altercation with a drayman who was maintaining that a workingman should be compelled to work for whatever the employer chose to pay. Lee asked him to carry a small parcel across the street for a dime; he refused and the crowd laughed until he did take it. Then Lee asked him to carry it back. . . ."

This record of the atrocities police commit out of subservience to the employers is not without its humor too. Flynn ends her account of the Missoula fight thus:

"Finally, the men refused to leave the jail although the door was thrown wide open. They had been arrested. They demanded a trial and individual trials and jury trials at that. At last one man broke solidarity. He was married and sneaked out to see his wife. But when he returned the door was locked. He clamored to get in—he did not want his fellow workers to think he was a quitter. The cop said, 'You're out, now stay out.' Finally the authorities gave up. All cases were dropped. We were allowed to resume our meetings."

—Fred Thompson

INFAMY

New confirmation has appeared that Roosevelt was aware of a Japanese carrier armada ready on December 2nd, 1941 to attack Pearl Harbor. The information was given at the time to the Dutch naval attache in Washington, and was recorded in the attache's official diary, found and quoted by historian John Toland in his new investigation of that affair: *Infamy: Pearl Harbor and Its Aftermath*. Toland is another historian who is convinced that FDR left Pearl Harbor a sitting duck to move the American people into acceptance of involvement in World War Two. The Japanese air raid on Pearl Harbor killed 2,248 people, wounded 1,109, and sank 18 ships.

FREE SPEECH IN SIOUX CITY

The Missouri Valley Socialist (PO Box 971, Sioux City, Iowa 51102) has run two articles on IWW free-speech struggles in Sioux City. In the Fall 1981 issue, Bill Douglas tells us the story of the 1915 struggle: how 150 unemployed workers invaded the Commercial Club's banquet in 1915, with the result that the county offered work grading roads the next day, but vag arrests of IWWs led to a free-speech fight which the IWW won.

In the Winter 1981-82 issue, William Cumberland tells of the championship of free speech by Mayor Short, a Congregationalist minister who belonged to the Bartenders' Union and became mayor of Sioux City on a Labor ticket. He had secured accurate nationwide publicity for the 1915 struggle.

During the big IWW trial in Chicago in 1918, Mayor Short appeared as a defense witness. He shocked his opposition by addressing the spring conference of the IWW wheat harvesters in 1919. Still the Sheriff padlocked the hall, so these strawcats finished their convention outside on the street. Mayor Short fought off recall with solid labor backing, and remained active in labor politics and related issues till his death in 1953 at age 86.

Farewell, Fellow Worker

Fellow Worker Vaughan Chorlian, active for years in the Marine Transport Workers, died suddenly early in March at the age of 78. Vaughan served the MTW on its GOC and as Branch Secretary in New York, Baltimore, New Orleans, and Houston, and was ahead on his dues when he died. After he married, he worked ashore. His wife died recently, but he is survived by a son. He will be sorely missed by many members of the IWW, including his old shipmate, fellow worker, and pal—Fred Hansen.

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WHY JOIN THE IWW?

Because there are things we can do together that we cannot do alone. Some of these things will benefit your job and some will merely benefit the human race. Whether we are in a position to get you a pay raise or not, your conscience will repay you and your self-respect will increase if you join with us to get things done.

Since we are a union, this offer is open only to those who work for wages or salary; but since we are building One Big Union, it is open to wage and salary workers whether they happen to bargain through other unions or not. Look at the directory on page 7. If you can readily reach someone there, do so. If not, write to the General Secretary, IWW, 3435 North Sheffield, Chicago, IL 60657, with a line about your job. The initiation fee is \$5 in the US, and dues are \$5 a month.

Unions and the Media

The International Advertising Association reports that Madison Avenue has corrupted the world. In 1980, advertising expenditures in 86 nations ran to \$111.5 billion, up 14.4% from the preceding year. Back in 1960 US business spent 65% of the world advertising budget, but in 1980 it spent only 49%.

SAINT LOUIS TV STRIKE

"I cannot in good conscience cross that picket line," anchorperson Susan Kidd of Station KTVI-TV told the *Saint Louis Post-Dispatch*. She was referring to the picket line that the 51 engineers, members of IBEW Local 4, had set up when the Times-Mirror Corporation of Los Angeles had tried to impose unilaterally the new working conditions of a proposed contract unanimously rejected by the engineers. The Times-Mirror Corporation had bought the station from the Newhouse chain not long before.

The engineers' picket line was respected by the Local's 13-member photography unit and its two-member technical-maintenance unit, but—except for anchorperson Susan Kidd—not by the members of AFTRA, the union for the on-camera workers. Susan Kidd explained in her interview:

"A friend of mine at the station called and said the bottom line is money. That's nonsense. The bottom line is getting up in the morning and feeling good about yourself.... I've never belonged to a union before. I don't have a family history of union involvement. I know that there's a lot wrong with unions today. But I know what the alternative is. I worked for seven years in a 'right-to-work' state: North Carolina. I know what happens to people who don't have union protection. I've seen textile workers in North Carolina with brown lung and furniture workers working for slave wages."

She went on to express her pity for those who are scared of what the company might do if they honored the picket line, saying: "At some point you have to stop giving lip service and stand up for what you believe in."

AFTRA put up an informational picket line urging resumption of negotiations in this dispute that the electricians call a lockout and the company calls a strike. The union had gone along for some time after contracts had expired trying to agree on a new one.

The 13-member photography unit and the two-member technical-maintenance unit have walked out with the engineers, and have been temporarily replaced by scabs sent in by the chain from other stations it has swallowed. The photography unit published a statement of sympathy for these scabs in the East Saint Louis *Labor Tribune*, explaining:

"We are news cameramen. In that capacity we continually witness and document the experience of Saint Louisians. Tragedy, struggle, compassion, and heroism are the stuff of television news. More difficult to capture are the images of machinations and maneuvers of the people who control the levers of power... Who suffers in this picture? The engineers, certainly... and the community at large. Who suffers? Consider the scabs—yanked out of their communities, sent to Saint Louis to threaten the livelihood of their professional colleagues. Their refusal to come here would threaten their livelihood, because they do not have the benefit of union protection. The Saint Louis IBEW brothers could not in conscience or legally be forced to go to Dallas, Birmingham, or Syracuse to interfere with working conditions."

To assure that the scab cameramen do some suffering, when they came to cover a session of the Board of Aldermen, John Koch, an IBEW member, asked for a recess to avoid working behind a picket line. The Board concluded that it must not bar the press from its meetings, but resolved against co-operation with non-union reporters or cameramen during the lockout. Unions are pressing advertisers not to patronize the station.

THEATER STRIKE

The janitors at the United Artists and Syfy Theaters in the San Francisco general area walked out, and their picket lines were soon increased by locked-out members of the Projectionists and Stagehands and by Office and Professional Employees.

Large demonstrations greeted the United Artists stockholder meeting until they were dispersed by police. At theaters in the Bay area, central labor councils have set up sympathy picket lines on behalf of the SEIU janitors and others involved.

SEIU at Southern California theaters reported facing theater managements insistent on no wage increases and large take-aways, with indications of a scheme to get rid of the union.

MEDIA RELATIONS

The AFL-CIO Department of Information has arranged a workshop for national and international union officers at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies during April Fool's Day on how to deal more effectively with local TV, radio, and press. At its Executive Council session in Bal Harbour, it re-affirmed its policies on the regulation of broadcast facilities, equal time and fairness doctrines, and the breakup of newspaper chains and of combined ownership of newspaper and broadcast facilities.

WELCOME TO SPRING

Spring was brought in March 21st by Norman Lear with a two-hour "I Love Liberty" roundup of stars funded by the 61,000 members of People for the American Way. Now if the viewing public could charge the corporations that assault them with repeated commercials at the minimum wage for the time those commercials interrupt their viewing pleasure....

TECHNOLOGY IMPACT

The Communication Workers of America are sponsoring a half-hour TV show and a series of radio programs on what the new communications technology may do to us or for us.

The TV show will appear at least in Boston, the District of Columbia, Saint Louis, and Los Angeles. It will receive some answers from former CBS president Fred Friendly, CWA president Glen Watts, researcher Dan Yankelevich, and Martin Agronsky. The radio series to be moderated by Agronsky will ask whether the new technology will free us from poverty and drudgery, or become a new means to control or exploit us. (Surely that must depend on what the unions do with and about that technology.)

LABOR HISTORY ON TV

Belatedly, the labor movement is getting its history on TV. (There have been a few episodes shown, such as the "Molders of Troy", whose title sounded more like archaeology than like labor troubles in a New York town.) But a 10-part TV series, "Made in USA", will start filming this year for viewing in 1983 on Public Broadcast channels. The series will narrate or dramatize labor and social history from 1835 to 1945.

Episodes will include "Lowell Fever", the female millhands in early New England factories; the Knights of Labor in 1880 Richmond, where solidarity across race lines shocked many; Gompers and the founding of the AFL; John McLuckie and his role as both union man and mayor in the Homestead strike of 1892; Debs and the Pullman boycott of 1894; the 1909 uprising of the garment workers in New York; the Ludlow Massacre of 1914; and the 1906 Flint sitdown.

Elsa Rassbach of Public Forum Productions thought of the series in the mid-'70s while working on *Nova*, but was told that the Public Broadcasting System, because of public funding, could not have so partial a series, especially if funds came from unions: It seems Milton Friedman unintentionally came to the rescue, perhaps brought there by Adam Smith's "invisible hand", for his *Free to Choose* series for public broadcasting was so blatantly biased and funded by Big Capital that no one could keep a straight face and deny funds from both unions and the National Endowment for the Humanities for this series.

ASNER OF SAG

On March 2nd, on the nationally-broadcast CBS Donahue Show, Moses (or was it Charles Heston?) came on to reprimand Ed Asner, president of the Screen Actors Guild, for his involvement on behalf of the peasants of El Salvador and other oppressed people. Moses-Heston held that union officials should not take any action to imply that their members objected to what Reagan and his pals are doing. He also disapproved of the proposed merger of the union for the movie extras with SAG, for most members of SAG are already unemployed. Ed Asner has favored the merger; the extras will vote on it first, and SAG will vote only if the extras want in.

ENTERTAINMENT CONTENT

In France, where many strikes have developed since a socialist Administration came in to worry the employers and give some hope to the employed, TV crews dimmed the lights in a protest action against Government control of show content. At least that's what the dispatches said: too much tiresome uplift. Here the Machinists and co-operating unions keep a tally on show content which has little good about workers in it.



★★★ IWW Directory

NORTH AMERICA

ALASKA: Anchorage IWW, Ruth Sheridan, Delegate, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage, Alaska 99504.
Juneau/Douglas IWW, Barry Roderick, Delegate, PO Box 748, Douglas, Alaska 99824.
Fairbanks IWW, Chris White, Delegate, Box 72938, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.
ARKANSAS: Arkadelphia IWW, PO Box 371, Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923.
CALIFORNIA: San Diego IWW Group, Sandra Dutke, Delegate, 4472 George, San Diego, California 92116, Phone (714) 296-9966.
San Francisco General Membership Branch, Frank Devore, Branch Secretary, PO Box 40485, San Francisco, California 94140, Richard Ellington, Delegate, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland, California 94609, Phone (415) 658-0293.
Industrial Union 450 Branch, Laura Rosenfeld, Secretary, Synthex Press, 2590 Folsom, San Francisco, California 94110.

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

ILLINOIS: Chicago General Membership Branch, Leslie Fish, Branch Secretary, 3435 North Sheffield, Suite 202, Chicago, Illinois 60657, Phone (312) 549-5045. Meetings held on the first Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. Child care provided if notice given in advance to Branch Secretary.
Champaign/Urbana IWW, Jeff Stein, Delegate, 1007 North Randolph, Champaign, Illinois 61820.

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

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

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

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

Copper Country IWW: Robin Oye, Delegate, 1101 Cottage Drive, Hancock, MI 49930.

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis/Saint Paul IWW, Nancy Arthur Collins, Delegate, 1621 Marshall Avenue (3), Saint Paul, Minnesota 55104; Scott Burgwin, Delegate, 3343 15th Avenue South, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55407.

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

NEW MEXICO: New Mexico General Membership Branch, PO Box 4872, Albuquerque, New Mexico 87196.

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

Central New York General Membership Branch: Branch Secretary Andrea Barker, 201 Seeley Road, Apt. 4-H, Syracuse, NY 13224; Georgene McKown, Delegate, 117 Edgemere Road, Syracuse, NY 13208.

Greater New York City Organizing Committee, Rochelle Semel, Delegate, 788 Columbus Avenue, New York, New York 10025.

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.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Elton Manzione, Delegate, Harbinger Publications, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, SC 29201, Phone (803) 254-9398.

TEXAS: Houston IWW Group, PO Box 35253, Houston, Texas 77035, Phone (713) 865-4875, or Gilbert Mers, (713) 921-0877.

Austin IWW, Red River Women's Press, 908C West 12th Street, Austin, Texas 78701, Phone (512) 476-0389.

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

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

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

VIRGINIA: Daniel del Valle, Delegate, 2994 Monticello Drive, Falls Church, VA 22042, Phone (703) 698-9293.

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

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

Tacoma/Olympia General Membership Branch, 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.

WE'RE PINCHED!

In January the Government doubled its charges for mailing this and other labor papers. That pinches us hard. Besides that, the \$4 we charge for a year's subscription doesn't buy what \$4 did when we set that price years ago. That pinches us too.

While money is acceptable in this pinch, we would prefer something even more helpful: more readers. Until we announce that the subscription price has been raised, we will gladly accept gift and other subscriptions at the old four-dollar rate. Don't you know some people who should be reading this paper?

Some Things Our Members Are Doing

EDUCATION WEEKEND

Some IWW members are arranging for an educational weekend at Woodstock, Illinois. It will run from Friday evening, May 28th to Monday morning, May 30th, leaving Decoration Day for travel homeward.

This "Work People's College Conference" will be held at Pleasant Valley Outdoor Center, a 460-acre farm with lodging and meeting space for up to a hundred people. The cost of the weekend, including food, lodging, and conference materials, will be \$35, but bring your own sleeping bag or equivalent. This fee does not include transportation, but limited transportation will be arranged from Chicago to Woodstock.

Sports and recreational activities are being planned, as well as workshops on Occupational Health and Safety, Workers' Compensation, Group Process, Burnout and Stress Management, Using the Media, The Arms Race, and Global Labor Economics.

Those who are planning to attend should contact the IWW general office, 3435 North Sheffield, Chicago 60657, early! Ideas for programming and conference publicity are welcome.

SING-ALONGS

Sandra Dutkey, our delegate in San Diego, sends us her "business card"—useful when she sings for such groups as CLUW and such purposes as ERA. It enables her audience to join her in the old UMW song:

Step by step the longest march
Can be won, can be won.
Single stones will form an arch,
One by one, one by one.
And by union what we will
Can all be accomplished still.
Drops of water turn a mill,
Singly none, singly none.

The small card also carries a verse excellent for audiences to try "round" singing to the tune of "Three Blind Mice"—something she picked up from Dean Nolan's review of a Canadian Student Christian Movement songbook: a song of the '30s nicely suited to the present day:

Prices rise, prices rise;
See how they mount, see how they mount.
They've raised the price of your daily bread
And given you cruisers and guns instead;
They know it won't trouble you when you're dead
That prices rise.

AT OLYMPIA

From the *International Woodworker* account of the demonstration of some 20,000 union people at the Washington State Capitol in Olympia: Amid signs saying such things as "Hungry? Eat Your Imported Car" and "Export Lumber, Not Logs", there was the IWW. To wit:

"Members of the Industrial Workers of the World drew cheers as they paraded their famous Wobbly banner up the winding driveway to the steps of the Legislative Building. The demonstration took 47 minutes to pass any single point. It had everything: fiery speeches, excellent folk singers, balloons.... incredible discipline. It even had three new verses for 'Solidarity Forever' written specially for the rally by Don Leslie, a timber faller.... It's inter-



BOSTON DEMO

Steve Kellerman, IWW GEB member, addresses a rally on Boston Common February 6th, called by left groups to show solidarity with the Polish trade union Solidarnosc. The Boston IWW was a founding member of the Boston Committee in Solidarity with Solidarity, a coalition of left and progressive union, political, and community groups. The coalition aims to stress the genuine workers' movement for democracy and workers' self-management that Solidarnosc stands for, and to counter opportunistic right-wing views. (Photo by Bill Shakalis)

esting how many people know that song these days, and it's exciting and moving to hear 20,000 people sing it at full volume."

BRITISH WOBS

From the latest issue of *Wobbly*, the bulletin of our fellow workers in Britain, we learn that our Leicester members have indeed been spreading the word. They carried their banner in the CND demonstrations in London and in the Right to Work March. They are producing a new issue of *Blast*, rebuilding the Troops Out Movement (out of Ireland, we presume), supporting the Bradford 12, raising funds for a mural to commemorate the Battle of Cable Street, and helping picket at the long, long strike against Evans Lift at Leicester.

The current issue of *Wobbly* features the troubles that Mick Pythian and two of his fellow workers had with the Prevention of Terrorism Act. At 4:30 one morning, with no reasons given, police armed with shotguns and pistols (rare in Britain) woke them up, handcuffed them, and jailed them for 36 hours. Under that Terrorism Act a constable can arrest without warrant and hold a person for as long as seven days with no charge and no hearing, all simply on the suspicion that he or she may be preparing to commit some act of terrorism. What's happened to Magna Carta and Habeas Corpus? Of the 5,061 persons detained under the Act to the time *Wobbly* was written, 4,483 were neither charged nor deported, 249 were served with exclusion orders, and the rest were charged with non-violent crimes such as theft.

More cheerful is the reprint from the *Preston Worker*, published by the Preston Trades Council, of a discourse by Jim Burns on "The IWW and the Arts": IWW influence on labor songs, cartoons, novels, and the like. The item concludes: "Authority never likes to be laughed at."

PHILLIPS TOUR

"Utah" Bruce Phillips will be singing his labor, hobo, peace, and strictly-human songs in April at these spots: Friday, April 9th in Boulder, Colorado at the Unitarian Church.

Saturday, April 10th in Denver at the Guild Theater. Tuesday, April 13th in Las Vegas, New Mexico at the Castaendo.

Thursday, April 15th in Taos, New Mexico at the Community Auditorium.

Friday, April 16th in Albuquerque at the University of New Mexico.

Tuesday, April 20th in El Paso, Texas at the Chamizol National Monument Theater.

Friday and Saturday, April 23rd and 24th in Austin, Texas at Emma Jo's.

Sunday, April 25th in Little Rock, Arkansas. For details contact Dan Pless, PO Box 371, Arkadelphia, Arkansas 71923.

During his Chicago stay Utah put in a lively hour on the Studs Terkel show on WFMT, focusing on the unemployment of these days and the consequent re-growth of hoboing, looking for a job, and the need to practice what the IWW preaches.

SOLIDARNOSC TEACHER

Our New York members arranged a "rap session" at Cornell's midtown Manhattan campus with a teacher member of Solidarnosc. There participants got the chance to chat informally with Jacek and ask him questions directly, and thus got to know and understand the events in Poland in an intimate way. His audience gladly came up with what was needed to take him on his way to talk with our fellow workers and their friends at Columbia, South Carolina.

Jacek is a member of Solidarnosc and of the Polish Student Association. He was involved in 1976-78 with underground printing projects, and later in organizing a teachers' branch of Solidarnosc. In 1981 he participated as an advisor in negotiations between Solidarnosc and the Polish Government. He has been in the USA since November 1981 under the sponsorship of the Movement for a Free Society.

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TO:

DID YOU NOTICE?

The American Library Association's Office for Intellectual Freedom (the place librarians call when they are told to take a book off the shelf) got about 300 calls a year about would-be book banners in the late '70s. During the '80-'81 school year they got between 900 and 1,000 calls. In the last six months, 148 titles have come under fire from local pressure groups in 34 different states. Among them are *Huckleberry Finn*, *A Farewell to Arms*, *The American Heritage Dictionary*, and *Best Short Stories by Negro Writers*, as well as such often-banned books as *Catcher in the Rye*, *Slaughterhouse Five*, 1984, *Brave New World*, *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, and *Our Bodies, Ourselves*. Banners in Girard, Pennsylvania, however, were thwarted in their attempt to prevent students from being assigned to read Studs Terkel's *Working* when the author went to the town and spoke at a high-school assembly, where his remarks were greeted with "deafening applause".

In 1973 an Office of Management and Budget staffer estimated that maintaining President Nixon and his 500-member executive staff cost taxpayers about \$100 million a year. Today's estimate of what it takes to keep our over-priced presidency going is \$150 million a year, nearly four times the estimated \$42 million required to maintain the British royal family each year. Virtually the only things the President and his family have to pay for are their own food and drink when dining alone, strictly-personal entertaining, and personal items like clothes.

Next fall Montgomery County Community College in Pennsylvania will disband its library-science program and add a weapons-training program in its place. "The public schools aren't hiring library employees like they were five years ago," says the College president, adding that positions in the security field have increased.

Traditionally, finding a site for a new prison has been a problem for state governments, as no town wanted convicts for neighbors. With the current economic downswing, however, more than 20 Illinois communities are vying to have a prison built in their area, since this would mean recession-proof jobs for the locals.

The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has drafted a new safety goal which considers it an "acceptable risk" if nuclear accidents cause no more than 13,000 deaths during the next 30 to 40 years. According to Commission staff persons, the 13,000 figure pertains to the number of people living within 50 miles of nuclear plants, and doesn't include people who might be killed by nuclear waste or the possibility that nuclear accidents might cause genetic defects.

Daniel Samper Pizano, a columnist for the *El Tiempo* newspaper of Bogota, has designed "Formula-Z", a model news story for reporting Latin American coups d'etat: "Last night General _____ declared a state of emergency

in _____ for reasons of national security.... The exact whereabouts of _____, president of the principal workers' group, are unknown. After dissolving the unions, the General went on TV to explain the martial law.... The army interrupted all communications to the outside and suspended publication of _____ and _____. The president of neighboring _____ gave his clear support to the new government and warned other nations against any move opposing General _____, his 'old friend and ally'."

Businessmen, wealthy landowners, and other prominent residents of El Salvador have been stunned recently by the revelation that a former army officer who headed a private security company was responsible for more than a dozen kidnappings of people he was paid to guard. Most of the kidnappings, which netted ransoms totaling about \$30 million, had been attributed to leftist guerrillas. Guillermo Roeder Escobar, an army major until he was found guilty of a multi-million-dollar fraud in the mid '70s and expelled from the military, was seized by police January 28th as he tried to pick up a \$4 million ransom intended to win the release of a wealthy industrialist. Roeder has already been tied to the kidnapping several years ago of Francisco de Sola, head of one of El Salvador's wealthiest families. He was released after the payment of several million dollars, an unheard-of sum at that time. The incident was used to paint leftist guerrillas in the country as brutal terrorists.