

DEMAND AMNESTY FOR BRITISH MINERS

Chicago Wobs kicked off a campaign for amnesty for British miners July 27th by picketing the British Tourist Authority, located on the 33rd floor of a major office building in one of Chicago's busier shopping districts.

Since the coal miners were forced back to work last March by hunger and Government repression, the Thatcher Administration has been taking its revenge. Some 150 miners and at least 7 strike supporters are in jail on strike-related charges, while more than 700 have been blacklisted for having the courage to resist the British Government's attack on their livelihood. Many miners still face trial before juries whipped into an anti-miner frenzy by the boss press.

British courts have been handing down harsh sentences to these workers (most of whom stand convicted of nothing more than defending themselves against police and boss attacks), sending a clear message to the rest of the working class: "If you resist, you will be crushed without mercy."

The Chicago IWW decided to begin picketing local British offices, and circulating a petition demanding the release of the imprisoned strikers and the re-hiring of those dismissed, in order to draw attention to the plight of the miners and begin the task of building an effective amnesty campaign. During the picketing, hundreds of leaflets calling for amnesty (and backed with copies of the amnesty petition) were distributed to generally-sympathetic passersby. One old gent was moved to grab a sign bearing the legend "Free All Class War Prisoners" and join the line for a brief period, in spite of considerable ribbing by his companions. Other local activists also turned out for the action.

Several persons expressed their support for the amnesty campaign, and two handed out cans of cold beer to picketers as they passed by. And of course one scissorbill (a vacationing Britisher) stopped by to spend several minutes arguing that those miners in jail were thugs and murderers, and that we were "hurting the miners' cause" by defending them.

This scissorbill proved to be a great friend of the miners—as long as they were polite to scabs, allowed police to herd them away from pit entrances and other picketing sites, accepted pit closures, and were on the receiving end of the bobbies' clubs. "Vote Labour!" was his re-

frain, and above all don't defend yourself against the attacks of the bosses. And never, never take action to let scabs and scab-herding police know in the only language their kind understand what you think of them and their efforts.

There were a few other such scissorbills (one noted that the miners were all "communist thugs"—a thought that must have Maggie Thatcher quaking in her boots), but they were the exceptions—easily outnumbered by those who walked past chanting "Amnesty! Amnesty!" or asked for more information.

The leaflet proposed that people call the British Tourist Authority and Consulate General (or Embassy) to let them know they won't be visiting England till the jailed miners are released and those fired re-instated in their jobs; circulate petitions among friends and co-workers (available from the IWW in Chicago); get local unions to do the above, to "adopt" particular prisoners (a list of 75 imprisoned miners and the prisons in which they are being held is available from the IWW), and to donate relief funds; and talk to friends and co-workers about the need for working people to stick together and resist the bosses' attacks on our living and working conditions. Only through solidarity, it argues, can we prevent what has happened to the British miners from happening to other workers.

Nearly 150 signatures have already been gathered on petitions for amnesty, and the Chicago IWW intends to mount future pickets at the British Tourist Authority and other British offices. Other IWW groups might want to consider the same. (If you don't have a consulate or tourist-authority office handy, an airline, bank, or other British office or facility could work just as well.) And if sufficient support exists, we're interested in co-ordinating an international day of actions in solidarity with the British miners.

With the end of the strike, most of our fellow workers have already forgotten the plight of the British miners, who waged a heroic year-long fight to defend their jobs and their communities. But the need for international solidarity is as acute now as it ever was. Remember: An injury to one is an injury to all.



Chicago Wobs picketed the British Tourist Authority on July 27th to demand amnesty for British coal miners being victimized for participation in last year's bitter strike.

Industry Blues

Time was in Lorain, Ohio when you could take the pulse of US industry by watching the parking lot of the big Ford Motors plant. During boom times, it was always crammed. Then a recession would sweep in, forcing massive layoffs, and the lot would look half empty till the next recovery arrived. But in the latest economic "recovery", something unprecedented has happened: Production at the plants has bounced back significantly, but employment hasn't.

Instead of recalling more laid-off workers, Ford and the US Steel plant in Lorain have turned increasingly to automation and cost-saving substitutes such as subcontracting to cheaper, non-union firms when possible and putting the workers still in the plant on overtime. (At time and a half, overtime is cheaper than new hiring.) Over the last several years, Ford has put a number of robots in the plant's paint and body shops, and they have helped get the plant up to full production while cutting human employment from 7200 to 5200.

What is happening in Lorain is happening in all the Great Lakes states. During the depression of the early 1980s, manufacturing jobs in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin fell from 5.2 million to 3.8 million. US unemployment has hovered at 7% for a year and is not likely to fall. The 1981 corporation tax breaks that (according to supply-side voodoo economics) were supposed to spur capital investment have only encouraged corporations to buy each other out. The strong dollar and the huge military budget deficits are working in tandem to aggravate the economic crisis, yet US politics have degenerated so far that no one can suggest steps even to alleviate symptoms.

The bloated military budget is generating too much profit for the military-industrial complex for them to tolerate any reduction in military spending. But there isn't enough welfare spending left to be cut to reduce the budget deficit. And helpful as it might be to other US manufacturers for the dollar to fall so far that foreigners could again afford to buy US products and imports into the US would become more expensive, the US Government is unlikely to devalue the dollar.

The strong dollar is the banker's dollar (just as the weak dollar is the manufacturer's), and most of the nation's major bank holding companies are posting banner profit increases (with the notable exception of BankAmerica Corporation and First Chicago). Of course the prosperity is not shared by small banks, particularly in the agricultural Midwest, where bank failures are running well ahead of the 1984 pace which caused the highest number of bank shutdowns since the early 1930s.

Meanwhile, foreign confidence that the dollar will remain strong and US interest rates relatively high has lured some \$100 billion in foreign capital into the US—money not available for investment in the rest of the world. This hemorrhage of money out of Third World countries like Mexico has caused inflation and renewed difficulty in meeting International Monetary Fund demands for debt repayment.

All in all, the people at the top are doing fine. It's just the workers in Lorain, throughout the rest of the Midwest, across the US, and around the world who aren't.

Fare Fight in Vancouver

For several months now, Vancouver's Organization of Unemployed Workers (OUW) has been campaigning for free bus service for people on fixed incomes. More than 4,000 signatures have been gathered on petitions backing this demand.

The campaign shifted into high gear June 1st, coinciding with a 17 to 40% hike in bus fares. Over a hundred people, plus a crowd of Saturday shoppers, attended a rally which featured the IWW's Starvation Army Band and speakers from the OUW, Seniors Without Adequate Transportation, and the Unemployed Teachers' Action Centre. At that rally the OUW began distributing UnFare Cards—to be offered in place of fares or official monthly passes. Over 2,000 of these cards have now been distributed, and several organizations have endorsed the action.

Many drivers have supported the campaign, doubtless encouraged in part by the widespread public solidarity during a recent contract fight. In a May 27th Notice to Operators, president Colin Kelley of Independent Canadian Transit Union Local 1, which represents Vancouver's bus drivers, drew the drivers' attention to the campaign.

"While operators would normally have some obligation to determine whether or not a passenger had a correct fare, it should not be the responsibility of operators to singlehandedly attempt to neutralize a large, organized, and legitimate protest by a huge segment of our society," Kelley argued. "Bus drivers should not put themselves in the position of policing a political demonstration against the provincial government."

Many drivers have been accepting UnFare Cards, particularly in Vancouver's East End, where most of the

city's lower-income people live. One Vancouver Wob reports that she has had her UnFare Card accepted in lieu of fares by four out of five drivers.

The Unfare Cards refer bus drivers to Section 2:13 of Vancouver's Metro Transit Operating Company Regulations, instructing the drivers to let passengers ride free "when (a) lack of funds appears to be genuine", after obtaining their names and addresses. A spokesperson for the MTOC was quick to tell the media that the OUW is quoting an unknown section of an unknown policy manual; but the regulations are known to the drivers, handed to each upon hiring by the Company.

The OUW also prepared a leaflet patterned after the MTOC's onboard handout to publicize and explain the campaign. The leaflet notes that the combination of service cutbacks and fare hikes has hit low-income people especially hard, arguing that access to public transportation should be a right.

The campaign continues as the *Industrial Worker* goes to press, with several unemployed riders still using their UnFare Cards. However as the action has become invisible (due to a media blackout and the difficulty of sustaining actions over Vancouver's hot summer), usage has declined. The OUW is planning new strategies to revitalize the campaign in September, and continues to gather signatures on its petition and to meet with local groups seeking to build support for free public transit for those on fixed incomes.

(adapted from *Solidarity Bulletin*)

HELSINKI SYNDROME: Positively-charged particles of information afflict the central ideological system, thus causing the victim to question America's moral superiority in the Cold War. Specialists refer to victims as being "Finlandized", and thus beyond recuperation.

**IF YOU THINK THE
 SYSTEM IS WORKING
 ASK SOMEONE WHO ISN'T**



A noted personage recently had an operation on the nether regions of his anatomy, and whenever the hapless rabble tuned in to the one-eyed monster we were regaled with the latest developments. A host of eminent surgeons and physicians described every detail of the operation, and we were given the unmistakable impression that we were to be as impressed by what emerged from the nether regions of that august personage as we were supposed to be by what emerged from its opposite pole.

Perhaps this was to divert our consciousness from the unpleasant reality of millions of fellow humans dying of starvation in other parts of our planet, as if the proliferation of sleek automobiles, hi-fi stereos, and double-decker purgers were not really doing their job.

One cannot help being reminded of the myth of Nero fiddling while Rome was in flames. A myth it was, and not only because bowed string instruments had not yet been introduced to the European continent. For even if they had, it is highly unlikely that Nero would have been plucking a lyre while watching the conflagration. More realistically, he would have removed himself to a safer distance after having exhorted his constituents to bravely carry on, much in the manner of our present-day politicians and statesmen. After all, there has to be some reason why that breed of critters has managed to survive so long. But no doubt P. T. Barnum could have further elucidated on that.

P. T. Barnum was the legendary showman who pontificated that "a sucker is born every minute". And this statement is constantly being verified by Freedomland's voting public.

Every top banana that gets voted in somehow manages to make the previous SOB look like a likable bumbler by comparison, and the show goes on. But eventually the bottom of the barrel will be reached, making the next successor look like a starry-eyed liberal by comparison, and thus we will eventually have another new deal and march off once again to save the World for democracy.

Biologists will tell you that many parasitic forms of life have persisted through the ages because there was always an adequate supply of hosts to live off of. And as long as there are enough of our species who consent to be hosts, we will continue to carry on our backs those who defecate from contrary portions of their anatomy.

On a somewhat more pleasant note, this coming year we're all expecting a very distinguished visitor: Halley's Comet. It seems that every time this phenomenon has come around to our humble planet, there has been some sort of human conflagration resulting in further progress for our species. The last time the Comet came this way the Mexican Revolution was launched, and at this time there are many more Mexicos. But really, do we have to wait for a comet to come around?

If enough of us humans get together, we can light a fire that won't have to take a back seat to any comet. The continuing advancement of technology behooves us to take things into our own hands. A penal psychologist is already working on a crime-fighting device. A criminal offender released on bail or probation could be rigged with a "difficult to remove" short-wave radio transmitter that would keep the police constantly notified of his or her whereabouts, bringing about the ultimate in incarceration. These babies think up things that Orwell hadn't gotten around to writing about.

It takes only a little imagination to speculate about what would happen under certain politicians to unionists, anti-militarists, and people who don't subscribe to the doctrine of Creationism.

The state of New Mexico is already using monitoring devices on convicted drunk drivers. Sweden, however, has a more efficient and perhaps more humane system. A convicted drunk driver has his or her driver's license taken away for good, and in spite of the fact that the Swedes like their little libations every bit as much as the Yanks, there is almost zero drunken driving there. The benevolent Swedish capitalists also want to sell both alcohol and gasoline, just like their overseas colleagues. But perhaps there are those in high positions here who are closet population-control activists.

From the Let the Buyer Beware department comes the news that supermarkets are beaming meat and produce with low-level radiation to prevent decay and increase shelf life, and the Food and Drug Administration seems favorably disposed to the widespread use of such methods of preservation. Like I've said before, if nuclear warfare doesn't do us in, the present economic system will eventually do the job just as effectively.

The consumer goods I used to indulge in had their own self-contained shelf longevity, but of late my capacity has become mercifully commensurate with my economic circumstances. The goose that lays the golden eggs has been developing a bad case of lead poisoning.

C. C. Redcloud

Editorial: Regulating Labor

This seems to be a year for anniversaries. Not only is the IWW 80 years old, but the National Labor Relations Act, or Wagner Act, has turned 50. The business-union press has marked this anniversary with a great deal of wailing and gnashing of teeth. It appears that under the command of Reagan's man Donald Dotson, only around 43% of the cases coming before the National Labor Relations Board are decided in favor of Labor. (Even during the Presidencies of those great friends of Labor Nixon and Ford, the unions could count on winning about 84% of the time.)

This has caused a great deal of concern on the part of Big Labor. After all, the NLRA is the foundation upon which their bureaucratic house is built. The institutionalization of collective bargaining; the certification, via elections, of unions as exclusive bargaining agents for groups of workers defined as eligible by the Board; and the maintenance of membership and dues check-offs have all served to transform unions from organizations that workers create to defend their interests into bureaucratic monstrosities that are increasingly unable to defend those interests now that capital has gone on the offensive.

The NLRA, like the National Industrial Recovery Act and various employee-representation plans and company-union schemes before it, was and is another example of the constant quest of employers for greater control over the workforce to make it a more predictable cost of production. On the other hand, certain advocates of reformist industrial unionism within the AFL, such as John L. Lewis and Sidney Hillman, saw the death of the AFL approaching in the Great Depression unless the mass of unskilled and semi-skilled workers in basic industry could be organized. Spurred on by the rising militancy of workers in the early '30s, with its mass strikes and pitched battles, the more far-sighted employers joined forces with these advocates of "responsible" unionism to get the NLRA passed so they could bring this upsurge under control and nip any possibility of revolutionary developments in the bud.

Of course not all employers readily accepted unionization, and the period from '35 to '38 was a time of violent upheaval in American industry; but the coming of war, with its promise of super profits if only labor peace could be maintained, finally convinced the die-hards that a social pact with "responsible" labor would be good for business. And so it was. Built on the ruins of war, business boomed and Labor was allowed to share in that prosperity... a little. For nearly three decades a constantly-rising standard of living lulled the rank-and-file into a false sense of security and allowed the bureaucracy to entrench itself.

But when the prosperity bubble burst and American

A SCAB'S LIFE


Just when you think there is no justice in this world, something happens to redeem your faith.

National League umpire Dave Pallone, who scabbed on his fellow umps in the most recent baseball strike, got blasted in the groin July 11th by a blazing Nolan Ryan fastball bouncing off the dirt. Play was stopped for 20 minutes while Pallone reeled in the dirt in pain, finally catching his breath. No other umpires would come to his aid.

Bruce Kayton

WAY TO GO: Among 49 large US companies, 65% let the boss fly first-class, 31% supply a private jet, and 27% pay for "spousal travel", according to New York consultants Towers, Perrin, Foster, and Crosby. Did it ever occur to anyone that the trouble with US industry is not US workers, but the bosses?

*EDUCATION *ORGANIZATION *EMANCIPATION



AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL


ONE UNION ONE LABEL ONE ENEMY

Industrial Worker

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capital found itself losing ground to that of other nations, and the union bureaucracy found itself faced with growing rebellion in the ranks, the bosses came to the conclusion that they could do without unions, particularly because union leaders were showing themselves increasingly capable of controlling the rank-and-file. So



today employers are increasingly turning to other strategies for controlling workers, such as Employee Stock Ownership Plans, Quality of Work Life improvements, Japanese-style management, and robotics, seeing these as cheaper and more reliable than unionization.

The crocodile tears being shed over the "reactionary" turn of the NLRB and the dire threats of a return to the law of the jungle on the part of Big Labor only mask the bureaucracies' desire for a return to the social pact and good labor-management relations. For the rank-and-file of Labor and the millions of unorganized workers, on the other hand, there is need for a realization that, social pact or no, the only way to defend and extend our interests is through self-organization and direct action based on a recognition of the incompatibility of our interests with those of the employing class. We must develop the capacity to manage our society without bosses or bureaucrats, and no law can do that for us; we have to do it ourselves.

Mike Hargis

Preamble of the Industrial Workers of the World

THE WORKING CLASS AND THE EMPLOYING CLASS HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON! THERE CAN BE NO PEACE SO LONG AS HUNGER AND WANT ARE FOUND AMONG MILLIONS OF WORKING PEOPLE AND THE FEW, WHO MAKE UP THE EMPLOYING CLASS, HAVE ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE.

BETWEEN THESE TWO CLASSES A STRUGGLE MUST GO ON UNTIL THE WORKERS OF THE WORLD ORGANIZE AS A CLASS, TAKE POSSESSION OF THE EARTH AND THE MACHINERY OF PRODUCTION, AND ABOLISH THE WAGE SYSTEM.

WE FIND THAT THE CENTERING OF THE MANAGEMENT OF INDUSTRIES INTO FEWER AND FEWER HANDS MAKES THE TRADE UNIONS UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE EVER GROWING POWER OF THE EMPLOYING CLASS. THE TRADE UNIONS FOSTER A STATE OF AFFAIRS WHICH ALLOWS ONE SET OF WORKERS TO BE PITTED AGAINST ANOTHER SET OF WORKERS IN THE SAME INDUSTRY, THEREBY HELPING DEFEAT ONE ANOTHER IN WAGE WARS. MOREOVER, THE TRADE UNIONS AID THE EMPLOYING CLASS TO MISLEAD THE WORKERS INTO THE BELIEF THAT THE WORKING CLASS HAVE INTERESTS IN COMMON WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS.

THESE CONDITIONS CAN BE CHANGED AND THE INTEREST OF THE WORKING CLASS UPHELD ONLY BY AN ORGANIZATION FORMED IN SUCH A WAY THAT ALL ITS MEMBERS IN ANY ONE INDUSTRY, OR IN ALL INDUSTRIES IF NECESSARY, CEASE WORK WHENEVER A STRIKE OR LOCKOUT IS ON IN ANY DEPARTMENT THEREOF, THUS MAKING..... AN INJURY TO ONE AN INJURY TO ALL.

INSTEAD OF THE CONSERVATIVE MOTTO, "A FAIR DAY'S WAGE FOR FAIR DAY'S WORK," WE MUST INSCRIBE ON OUR BANNER THE REVOLUTIONARY WATCHWORD, "ABOLITION OF THE WAGE SYSTEM."

IT IS THE HISTORIC MISSION OF THE WORKING CLASS TO DO AWAY WITH CAPITALISM. THE ARMY OF PRODUCTION MUST BE ORGANIZED, NOT ONLY FOR THE EVERY-DAY STRUGGLE WITH CAPITALISTS, BUT ALSO TO CARRY ON PRODUCTION WHEN CAPITALISM SHALL HAVE BEEN OVERTHROWN. BY ORGANIZING INDUSTRIALLY WE ARE FORMING THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW SOCIETY WITHIN THE SHELL OF THE OLD.

STEALING FROM CHILDREN

"The Butter That's Traded for Guns" is the title of a revealing article by Seymour Melman, Professor of Industrial Engineering at Columbia University (*New York Times*, April 22nd, 1985). Melman proves that "President Reagan's militarism is literally taking bread out of children's mouths" and stealing billions of dollars belonging to poor disadvantaged men, women, and children to pay for the most modern weapons of murder and destruction. Here are a few examples:

\$5.3 billion is stolen from federal food and school lunches for infants and children to pay for the Army's single-channel ground and airborne radio system.

\$8.7 million is stolen from New York City lunches to pay for 800 multiple-launch rockets.

\$1.5 billion is stolen from housing for the poor to pay for one marine amphibious assault ship.

\$4 billion is stolen from medicare services to pay for the low-altitude satellite system.

\$25 billion is stolen from social security to pay for the MX Peacemaker program.

\$100 billion—the cost of sewage treatment and clean water for the whole nation plus the treatment of thousands of toxic-waste dumps—is stolen to pay for fighter and cruiser programs.

Sam Dolgoff, X327560

WEATHERVANE: Jesse Jackson, referring to the protests outside the South African Embassy in Washington DC, where 87 anti-apartheid labor activists were arrested in January, pointed out that "Organized labor in America is fighting against slave labor in South Africa. Slave labor, in the eyes of the greedy industrialist, always takes preference over organized labor."

LABOR NEWS

ON THE BREAD LINES

A recent study reports that only 26.9% of US workers officially recognized as unemployed received unemployment benefits this June. The remaining three-quarters of the "official" unemployed (actual numbers, of course, are much higher) were denied benefits either because their benefits had run out or because they were not eligible in the first place (looking for their first job, re-entering the job market, or not having worked for their last boss long enough to qualify).

ALASKAN UNIONS UNDER ATTACK

In a year in which the Alaska Labor Department is predicting a 25% drop in construction employment (a drop of 5200 workers), union officials are becoming frustrated as oil companies on Alaska's North Slope award more and more contracts to outfits hiring non-union workers. Rather than spurring organizing efforts, however, many unions are accepting new contracts with slashed wages and benefits.

The Associated General Contractors began the downward spiral a year ago, when the building-trades unions agreed to a one-year wage freeze and the loss of some benefits, such as callout time, standby time, and travel time. The bad example spread, and by January '85 other unions were accepting agreements which slashed wages more than 20%.

Far from placating the bosses, of course, these concessions only encourage management dreams of a non-union workforce. In an attempt to avoid a direct confrontation with organized labor, contractors are forming non-union subsidiaries and shunting the work to them, even if it means flying in non-union workers from outside Alaska.

CHEMICAL WORKERS STRIKE IN VIRGINIA

Some 600 Hopewell, Virginia chemical workers have been on strike since May 12th against Hercules, Incorporated—the ninth-largest chemical company in the US and one of the most profitable. The company has been demanding massive wage and benefit cuts for its lowest-paid workers (coupled with modest increases for those at the top of the pay scale), elimination of overtime pay for Sunday work, and less vacation time, citing lower wages at its other plants and foreign competition as justification.

Imports of cellulose gum, one of the plant's main products, have risen from 2.6 million pounds in 1979 to 13.1 million pounds in 1984—a figure expected to double this year. But much of this has been coming from a French plant owned by Hercules. The union (a Steel Workers local) has refused to even discuss concessions unless Hercules opens its books—which the company has refused to do.

The strike is likely to drag on for months: Hercules entered with a six-month inventory in the plant, and is likely to increase production at its other plants in order to break the strike. Moreover, scabs have maintained partial production for most of the strike.

Most workers expect this strike to drag on for at least several months, during which time they must subsist on \$90 a week in strike pay. But with a little direct action to prevent stockpiles from rising to such levels by contract time, and some solidarity from the other 24,000 Hercules workers in this country alone (many of them organized), such strikes could be won with little inconvenience to our fellow workers.

OFF TO A BAD START

In his first speech since being sworn in as Secretary of Labor, William Brock called for an end to the "partisan rhetoric" that often divides labor and management, and urged adoption of a sub-minimum wage for teenagers. Brock, who believes that workers should co-operate with their bosses (and doubtless that lambs should sleep next to lions), admits that many employers might fire older workers so as to take advantage of cut-rate youngsters.

The AFL-CIO backed Brock for Labor Secretary, feeling that he would come up with a new way for workers to slit their own throats. But alas, his recommendations are nothing new.

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.

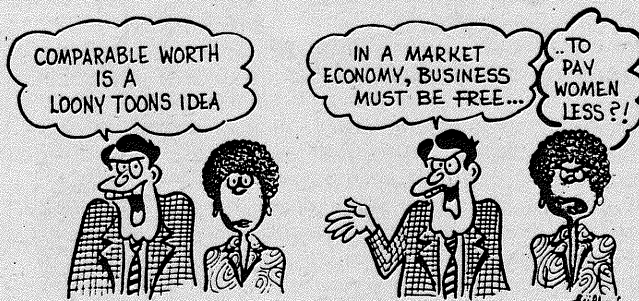
Since we are a union, this offer is open only to those who work for wages or salary; but since we are building One Big Union, it is open to wage and salary workers whether they happen to bargain through other unions or not. Look at the directory on Page 7. If you can readily reach someone there, do so. 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 U.S., and dues are \$5 a month.

CHILD-CARE PAY CHILD-LIKE

The professionals in the US who suffer the lowest pay, rank only two levels above dog groomers (the bottom) in public opinion, and have the highest turnover are the people who provide day care for nearly 11 million American children.

The US Bureau of Labor Statistics says that in 1984 there were 677,000 professional child-care workers—more than 95% of them female. (This figure does not include unlicensed day-care providers.) The demand for quality day care exceeds the supply (nine million full-time women workers have children under three), yet the Bureau says the average salary for professional workers in the field in 1983 was \$8,216 a year, or less than \$700 a month. Each day-care worker is responsible for numerous youngsters, perhaps part of the reason the average worker stays on the job only four months.

Day-care workers hoped the recent proliferation of for-profit day care would mean more money, but studies show it hasn't turned out that way, because day care is



so labor-intense. Without government subsidies, better-trained staffs with seniority cut into profits too much. Daybridge Learning Centers, based in Houston, Texas, is a for-profit company with 155 locations in 11 states and 3,000 employees. Starting annual salaries range from \$10,000 to \$12,000, and the highest salary is \$13,500 for an experienced teacher. Kinder-Care Learning Centers, based in Montgomery, Alabama, has 13,000 employees in 943 centers. The average salary for teachers is \$8400, including benefits, but as the executive vice-president of the for-profit agency said, employees would be compensated by upward mobility.

Things are no better in the not-for-profit day-care centers. At the Carole Robertson Center for Learning in Chicago, the teaching staff, all with bachelor's degrees, earn only \$9,000 to \$13,500 a year.

Mr. Block Gets the Axe

In all of my 26 years I've never seen anything like it, and I was sure I never would: the company man getting a pink slip. The guy who comes in early, leaves late, skips lunch, and owns a house, two kids, two cars, and a nice bunch of stocks. The man who at age 37 has spent more time with a computer (the company's computer, naturally) than with his family. The man who has twitches in his cheeks, eyebrows, and nose that synchronize themselves with his computer. The man who talks excitedly about his suburban bowling team's average. This is no laughing matter; this is serious!

The blockhead of note works at a major New York City publishing company, and has spent untold hours poring over computer printouts, determining which of the latest junk books sold well and which will go out of print after only a month on the rack. Now, or sometime in the next few weeks, he's going to see a printout that says: "Mr. Block, you're out! You're out of print, out of luck, out of a job! Your head is made of lumber, and solid as a rock. You're a typical executive, and your name is Mr. Block. You climbed the corporate ladder, and it turned out to be a crock. Now you'll be unemployed and watch the time tick off the clock." He'll probably think this is the description for a new book and ask where the sales figures for it are.

But if Mr. Block can be fired, what about the rest of us? We're really in trouble. I suggest that the IWW immediately organize an industrial union composed of One Big Union of Mr. Blocks. If the blockheads stand up to this assault on their integrity, they can put a stop to it right now. A mass picket line with Mr. Blocks holding signs reading "I Want to Work Overtime!" and "Give Me Orders or Give Me Death!" would show the bosses who's the boss around here. But unfortunately no one would show up at a Mr. Block rally, because blockheads don't think, protest, or do anything else against the company's interests. They just bow down and accept whatever happens.

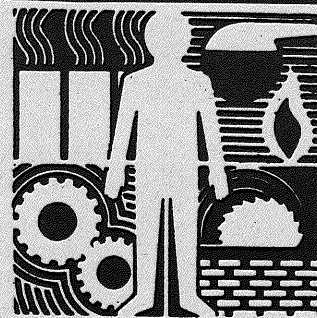
So let this be a lesson to all you young up-and-coming Mr. Blocks. In the good ole US of A, even Mighty Casey strikes out at the bat. Goodbye, Mr. Block. You won't be missed.

Bruce Kayton

WAGE APARTHEID: According to the South African National Chamber of Commerce, that country's average monthly wage for black workers in 1983 was \$240, compared to \$964 for whites, \$454 for Indians, and \$323 for "coloreds".

Fred Thompson's

labor in north america



Check with your local PBS station on when during Labor Day weekend it will air a half-hour program of labor songs recorded last spring at the Great Labor Song Exchange. Labor Day is time for you to start promoting the observance next May 1st of World Labor Day, adopted in 1889 to make the struggle for a shorter workday universal.

The Gallup Poll finds that more than half of all non-union families are now in favor of unions; four years ago the figure was less than half. There is need for the sort of labor evangelism that enlivened the 1930s, but it can't sing unless it's modernized. Of the 31 million jobs that have developed in the US since 1960, only one million are in manufacture; the rest are mostly in low-pay service jobs.

The Western Union strike didn't have as much impact on business as it would have had 30 years ago because of newer communication systems. Such weakening of the bargaining power of any group of workers menaces all workers, but that could be changed by class-wide bargaining on basic issues of how well we eat and how long we work, with industry-wide and plant-wide bargaining on details.

When Coca-Cola drivers struck in Chicago to keep two on a truck, management replaced them with three scabs per truck. The company eventually had to settle, but still got a two-tier wage scale out of the deal.

When negotiations broke down in Toronto, the Union of Bank Employees occupied the Imperial Bank of Commerce overnight, then marched out to set up picket lines.

The UAW's first contract with GM-Toyota raises the previous 13-dollar rate for assemblers by 28¢ a year in each of the next three years. Its American Motors agreement cuts pay 50¢ an hour to about \$13, and hits vacation and work rules. Renault workers want AMC jobs moved back to France. The New United Motor Manufacturing Company—the moniker for GM-Toyota's California plant—has hired only around a third of the old workforce, as components come from Japan and new job flexibility permits a smaller workforce. Under good union conditions, such flexibility could be a boon.

The solicitation procedures used to get the new Saturn plant would have shamed a streetwalker for economic if not ethical reasons, and didn't improve auto workers' chances to make a decent living.

San Francisco janitors won a strike in the financial district in four days, for Teamsters wouldn't pick up garbage. The main issue: protecting older workers' jobs.

As of July the United Mine Workers had 2800 members still out on the "selective strike" program adopted last year. Their big battle is against A. T. Massey in Virginia, half owned by Royal Dutch Shell, which sells five million tons of South African coal a year—some of it part of the two million tons imported by the US each year. In response, there is a boycott of Shell Oil.

The Oil, Chemical, and Atomic Workers' contracts with the refineries end January 8th. Their wages (averaging \$14.16) are a trifling part of refinery operating costs. In the last five years 127 refineries have been shut down, and last year OCAW proposed a world conference of unions in the energy industry to consider "manpower planning, job safety and health, global investment strategies of the multinationals, pipelines, and bargaining with the multinationals". OCAW is also seeking a merger with the United Paperworkers to build one union in the "paper, oil, chemical, atomic, drug, gas, utility, and wet-milling industries". Paperworkers president Wayne Glenn recently went to tell Congress that the current take-over mania among corporations is upsetting jobs with no advantage to anyone except the take-over artists.

The 13-union Co-ordinated Bargaining Committee settled with General Electric for a 3% wage increase in each of three years, pension gains, and greater transfer rights for workers whose jobs are eliminated.

Wheeling-Pittsburgh has more modern plants than its competitors, but with the okay of a bankruptcy court cut its pay scale (in mid-contract) to \$8.10 an hour, or about \$5 after deductions. So some 8200 Steel Workers walked out at nine plants on July 21st.

On June 27th the Supreme Court decided that the Pattern Makers had no right to fine 11 members who had scabbed at Beloit. Two days earlier, in Houston, lawyers filed the same sort of suit for 500 airline pilots who had been fined by their union for scabbing in October 1983. Coincidence?

In late July some 20,000 Teamster car haulers went on strike for the first time since 1967 after rejecting a national pact negotiated by Teamsters president Presser. The car-hauling firms, which have remained profitable in an otherwise depressed trucking industry, offered workers a contract with unacceptable job security and mileage pay provisions.

Who is most likely to go berserk and kill folks? Criminologist James Fox opts for unemployed security guards.

Brazil's Workers Struggling on 2 Fronts

SMELL OF DISASTER IN BRAZIL'S INDUSTRIAL ZONE

From one perspective, Cubatao, in Southeast Brazil, is an eloquent monument to that country's drive to become an industrial power. In the '70s, when the Brazilian Government was pushing growth at any cost and was offering corporations some of the world's highest profit rates (along with low salaries, pro-business labor laws, and a right-wing military government to keep order), corporations hastened to build plants for making steel, fertilizer, plastics, and cement. Today Cubatao's 111 plants account for 16% of the country's industry.

The factories on this swampland near Brazil's industrial center, Sao Paulo, have turned Cubatao into a cesspool of superlatives: The pollutants in the rain have hit some of the highest levels known to the world; the air is considered unfit for humans on a record number of days; and more cases of cancer, still births, and deformed babies are reportedly recorded here than anywhere else in Brazil.

This huge petrochemical center, the environmental experts fear, is an industrial disaster waiting to happen. And they say enough accidents have occurred because of low safety standards and poor maintenance for that fear to be well founded. When a gasoline duct caught fire last year, the slum alongside was destroyed and at least 100 people died, with some residents claiming the total was closer to 300. In January 15 tons of ammonia escaped into the air and 5,000 people had to be evacuated. Local squatters have built rows of shacks above a vast underground grid of pipes that carry flammable, corrosive, and explosive materials. Alongside some houses lumber heavy trucks loaded with poison, which has occasionally been spilled in traffic accidents.

High Chemical Levels

"The pollution is bad, but our biggest problem is accidental emissions and accidents," said Fernando Guimaraes, the engineer who monitors Cubatao for the state environmental agency.

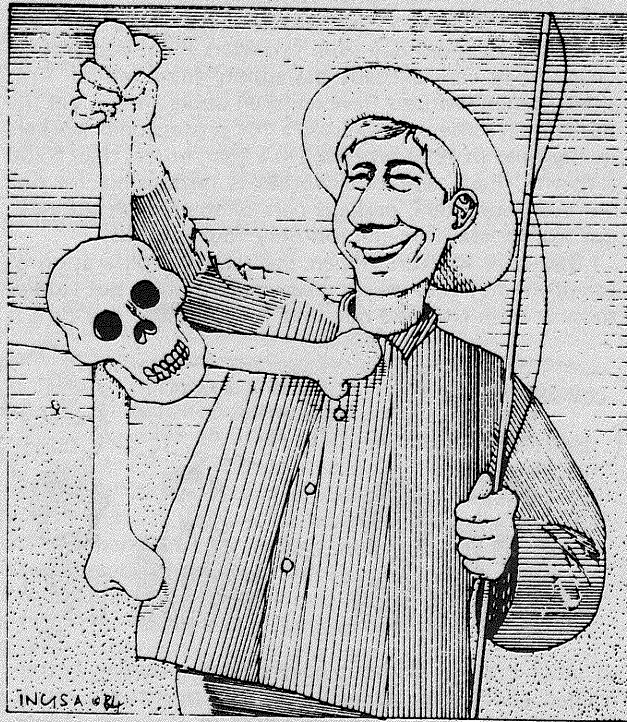
A study by the agency found that every day about a thousand tons of toxic gases and particles are emitted in a 30-square-mile area with nearly 100,000 people. In addition to sulfur dioxide, rainwater in this area contains 16 pollutants of which 6—ammonia, calcium, fluorites, iron, phosphates, and sulfates—have set world records for density. Because of the extremely high concentration of phosphates and sulfates, Cubatao's "acid rain" is becoming more of an "alkaline rain".

The agency found that 100 times in 1984 pollution in Cubatao's air exceeded 240 micrograms of chemical dust per cubic meter, a level commonly accepted as one that should not be exceeded to avoid long-term health damage. It reported that the dust, mostly sulfates and phosphates, often exceeded the "alert" level of 474 micro-

grams, passed 625 micrograms at least a dozen times, and once reached an "emergency level" of 875 micrograms.

"It's Like Being in Hell"

Companies in Cubatao do not issue reports on occupational accidents and diseases, and doctors who have worked in several industries say that in-house medical reports have vanished.



On a recent afternoon when the air was thick and still and the visibility had dropped to 200 feet, Dr. Claudemir Rodrigues attended patients in the first-aid clinic of Vila Parisi, one of the local shantytowns. He said many had skin and lung problems and there was an increase in leukopenia, a condition in which the level of white blood cells is markedly below normal. The doctor insisted that the cases he saw were the result of air pollution.

"Sometimes when we get thermal inversion, it's like being in Hell. On days when the plants let off ammonia, we have to give a lot of oxygen. The first to come are old people and children. We may get 120 people a day."

Around Cubatao pollution has choked off life in the rivers and fields and is killing trees behind the town on the mountain range that traps emissions. Without vegetation to hold the soil, landslides have followed and large strips of green have vanished from the 2,000-foot slopes as though scraped off by giant claws. In February, landslides damaged a railroad, a highway, and several plants, prompting several companies to put up protective dikes.

Some concerned citizens are hoping pollution and safety regulations may be tightened later this year when, under the country's new government, a new mayor will be elected, rather than appointed as in the past. Until the current mayor, Nei Eduardo Serra, took office, he was the regional director of the association of industrialists.

LAND REFORM IN BRAZIL: EVEN A HINT IS TOO MUCH

The hot, humid state of Maranhao in Northwest Brazil has become one of the country's most disputed regions in the last decade. As new roads have been opened, peasants have poured in from the drought-stricken scrublands to the east. So have cattle ranchers and timber and mining companies.

When a 550-mile railroad was recently driven through the jungle and savannas, speculators were able to buy false titles to thousands of acres running alongside it from corrupt land brokers and state officials. In many areas settlers suddenly found themselves declared squatters on land belonging to powerful people. The settlers were driven out by *pistoleros* (hired thugs) and sometimes killed. According to the Government, 180 people were killed in land disputes in 1984.

In Maranhao the three faces of Brazilian agriculture exist uneasily side by side. Modern mechanized farms produce soybeans and other export crops. Poor families, tilling the red earth with wooden plows, grow the beans and manioc they eat. On large estates that have changed little since the plantation days of the Portuguese colonizers, laborers are born, subsist as serfs, and die in the same house.

Disclosing the new agrarian policy in May, President Sarney said the concentration of ownership had become dangerous for the country's stability. He said 1% of the landowners hold 45% of Brazil's agricultural land.

According to a Government report, in the last two decades of military rule so much land has been amassed by cattle barons, large companies, and speculators "with official connivance" that 342 properties cover as much land (118 million acres) as 2.5 million peasant plots. The same report said that land covered by estates of more than 2500 acres jumped from 46.9% of the total in 1967 to 58.3% in 1984.

Under the new plan, the Government intends to take over unused estates of more than 2500 acres, paying a "fair" compensation, and to distribute a total of 1.2 billion acres to 7.1 million peasants over the next 15 years.

Even those who backed the plan have criticized it as too timid to affect the country's enormous social inequities. According to the Confederation of Rural Workers, 10.5 million peasants are looking for land. But given the strength of the opposition to the plan—locally by large landowners and internationally by the US and the World Bank—land-hungry peasants will have to fight for ownership of the land they work.

NOTICE? DID YOU NOTICE? DID YOU

HEALTHY PROFITS, SICK PEOPLE

If we are what we eat, we're in trouble. Scientists have known for years that continuous applications of small doses of antibiotics can encourage the development of resistant bacteria. But the pharmaceutical and meat industries staved off attempts to outlaw the routine use of antibiotics to promote growth, claiming that the passage of disease from drugged animal to meat eater had not been demonstrated.

A new study, published in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, shows the link clearly. Humans taking antibiotics themselves are most at risk. Perhaps the Food and Drug Administration will now prohibit meat producers from feeding antibiotics to cattle, pigs, and chickens, but don't count on it. In any event, the study has pointed out the danger of letting commercial interests have the benefit of the doubt in decision making.

Meanwhile, another corporate liar that has been nailed is the Dow Chemical Company of Midland, Michigan, under Government investigation because of the dioxin contamination of the Midland area. Dow has been contending that the dioxin in the area is a natural product of combustion, going back to the fires of the cavemen (sic). Tests of lake-bottom sediments in Michigan Isle Royale National Park, however, show that dioxin contamination was unknown before 1940, and built up in direct proportion to the explosive growth of the US synthetic-chemical industry after World War II. Let Dow try to wriggle out of this one.

NLRB: July 5th was the 50th anniversary of the National Labor Relations Act, which the labor board celebrated with an open house. The AFL-CIO declined to attend due to the anti-union slant of the current board, but calling for a one-day general strike would have been more in the spirit of the occasion.

"THE TRAGEDY OF SOUTH AFRICA is not simply in its own policy, it is in the fact that the racist government of South Africa is virtually made possible by the economic policies of the US and Great Britain." Martin Luther King pointed this out in 1967.

VOCABULARY BUILDING: Paradyne Corporation, a Largo, Florida computer-products company, has announced an "employment adjustment". Translation? Workers will be laid off.

RUNAWAY JOBS: Although the image of the abandoned factory has become commonplace, no exact numbers are available on just how many workers have been terminated as a result of plant shutdowns. In 1982 the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) estimated that there could be as many as 2.1 million "shed" workers. Based on current figures, the CBO estimates that 15% of the manufacturing jobs in the US will be eliminated in the 1980s. If so, then by 1990 the number of shed workers could increase to three million. In Illinois alone the number of manufacturing jobs has fallen from 1.3 million to 985,000 in the last decade. Meanwhile, the politicians debate the old arguments as to whether the Government should intervene to prop up declining industries or whether the marketplace should dictate which industries rise and fall.

TURKISH POLITICAL PRISONERS: There are now over 20,000 political prisoners in Turkish jails and thousands more awaiting trial. Some of these prisoners have been incarcerated since the 1980 coup and face the prospect of at least another 20 years in jail. On May 17th the trial of 901 miners and left-wing militants ended with one death sentence, 12 life imprisonments, and 608 sentences of up to 20 years. The miners and their allies were accused by the 3rd Army Martial Law Commander of occupying a coal mine before the 1980 coup and of membership in the banned Turkish Peoples Liberation Front and Revolutionary Path.

SUPREME COURT LIMITS military-base access: On June 24th the US Supreme Court ruled that a person who has once been barred from a military base has no constitutional right to re-enter the facility, even during an "open house" to which the general public is invited. The question arose after anti-war demonstrators warned off a base tried to re-enter the grounds, citing freedom of speech in a public forum. The 6-3 decision declared that the restriction of free speech is incidental "... if (the restriction) furthers an important or substantial government interest; if the government interest is unrelated to the suppression of free expression; and if the incidental restriction on alleged First Amendment freedoms is no greater than is essential to the furtherance of that interest." In other words, the First Amendment is not going to stop the Government from doing whatever it bloody well pleases.

SURPLUS STUDENTS: The notion that too many students are going to college is spreading again. You hear it from "experts" who contend that the student-loan program is too expensive, and that it and other loan programs have allowed so many people to go to college that high schools and elementary schools have been begging off from their task of providing students with adequate education. A good deal of the criticism seems to be rooted in Reagan-type romanticism about how much better colleges supposedly did in the old days than they are doing now, but these arguments all boil down to blatant elitism. Whatever ails American education, a dose of economic exclusivity will not cure it.

UNEQUAL OPPORTUNITY: Among full-time workers, US Hispanics receive slightly lower wages than blacks and 25% lower wages than whites, and Hispanics are more likely than blacks or whites to work part-time. In 1982 the average unemployment rate was 13.8% for Hispanics, 18.9% for blacks, and 8.6% for whites. In 1979 the median weekly wage for Hispanic women was \$116, compared to \$130 for black women and \$137 for white women. Given the low wages and high unemployment among Hispanics, it may seem surprising that Hispanics have an average yearly family income of \$14,700—lower than the \$21,000 for whites but higher than the \$12,600 for blacks; but their comparative advantage over blacks disappears when the larger number of wage earners in Hispanic families is taken into account.

JOB-OPENING POSSIBILITIES? In the Pentagon's never-ending quest to protect itself from embarrassing disclosures about vast cost overruns, weapons that don't work, and foolish equipment purchases uncovered by the Defense Department's own auditors (to say nothing of the five-sided monstrosity's war with the National Aeronautics and Space Administration about the information flow of the US space program), leaks are to be plugged. Military personnel and civilians employed by contractors who need access to highly-sensitive (ticklish?) government information are to be subjected to "lie-detector" tests. Richard Stilwell, Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Policy, said he didn't think the program would mushroom into a situation involving many thousands of tests, because the Pentagon currently has only 141 polygraph operators.

Union Scabs In Chicago Strike

As the *Industrial Worker* goes to press, the strike against the *Chicago Tribune* by the typographers', pressmen's, and mailers' unions is entering its third week. The walkout began July 18th after overwhelming strike votes and management's refusal to engage in serious bargaining. Eleven days earlier, when contracts expired at midnight, *Tribune* security and attack dogs herded pressmen into a small room away from the presses and held them for more than half an hour. The Trib has refused to meet with the typographers' union since October of 1984, and has taken a hard line in bargaining with other unions—flatly rejecting most proposals.

The Typographers—who hold a lifetime employment guarantee negotiated in 1975, are fighting management's demand (in violation of the agreement) that they do work in other departments, which would force layoffs of existing workers. The union has offered to accept transfers under certain conditions, but the Trib has refused to even discuss the offer.

The *Tribune* is being published by scabs—management personnel and imports from other plants owned by the company around the country—with Teamster drivers (who deliver the paper to newsstands) crossing the lines under orders from their union officials, who have made it clear that the union will not back anyone fired for honoring picket lines. The Teamsters are in the final stages of a campaign to convince the typographers' union to merge, arguing that the Typographers (whose jobs are being phased out by many papers with the introduction of new computerized equipment) need the support of the drivers in order to win. Presumably this argument will carry less clout (though it does, of course, have some merit) now that the Teamsters have demonstrated that even in the midst of such a campaign they

will not permit considerations of solidarity to override the no-strike pledge in their sacred contracts.

Picket lines have been honored by members of the electricians' union, and the Building Trades Council has urged its members to honor the picket lines should they be called upon to cross them. A few foremen are reportedly honoring the lines (almost without exception, the foremen are former union members), but there are no known cases of the paper's unorganized reporters or editorial or clerical employees honoring them. Some 15,000 subscriptions have reportedly been canceled as a result of the strike as the *IW* goes to press, and the unions have mounted a major effort to convince subscribers to cancel. At a meeting attended by about a thousand strikers and a handful of supporters, union leaders called for a campaign to boycott *Tribune* advertisers in an effort to force the company to capitulate.

The Trib appears to be digging in for a long strike, and has fired all strikers. This move did not surprise workers, however. As one striker noted: "We walked out knowing full well that we might never return . . . But we felt our choice was staying in with our tails between our legs or going out and fighting."

The strikers recognize that only solidarity can win the strike. *IWW* people have been enthusiastically welcomed on picket lines by rank-and-file members, though one picket captain did ask an *IWW* contingent to leave on the ground that our presence might provoke the *Tribune* management to seek an injunction limiting picketing. The picket lines at the Trib offices and printing plant are both large, though no effort to discourage scabs is being made. *Tribune* workers have dug in for a long strike—and only a massive solidarity campaign will enable them to win.



Strikers walk picket lines outside the Tribune Towers.

South Africa's Fighting Union

(Following is Part 3 of a series on South Africa's emerging non-racial unions. Part 1 featured an overview of South African unions, while Part 2 discussed the Federation of South African Trade Unions (FOSATU) and the new union federation it is helping to form. Copies of the issues containing those articles are available from the *Industrial Worker* for 50¢ each.)

The South African Allied Workers Union (SAAWU) is the fastest-growing and most militant of the unregistered unions in South Africa. Based in the East London area, SAAWU was inaugurated in March 1970 following a split from the black-consciousness-inspired Black Allied Workers' Union. Committed to a policy of non-racialism from the start, SAAWU has been active in struggles both on the shop floor and in the community. A particular focus of SAAWU's community activity has been South Africa's "homelands" policy, especially the so-called independence of the Ciskei (where many SAAWU members live).

In contrast to most of the emerging unions, SAAWU has totally rejected registration with the Government, and ignores the official bargaining system. But SAAWU has been able to secure recognition at a number of factories, due to the strength of its shop-floor organization. While SAAWU is a general union—organizing across the industrial spectrum—it also has industrial groupings among chemical and transport workers. In some cases when management has sacked SAAWU members rather than deal with the union, SAAWU has mounted impressive boycott campaigns.

As a result of its refusal to collaborate, SAAWU has been the target of repression more severe than that visited on any other South African union. Both Ciskei and South African police periodically round up scores of SAAWU members; detain SAAWU officials; and raid

SAAWU offices, seizing union records. The police are also suspected of being behind an assassination attempt against SAAWU president Thozamile Gqweta and the murder of his mother, uncle, and girlfriend. Gqweta has been detained eight times in the last three years, and has

BOOK REVIEW: SOUTH AFRICA'S FIGHTING UNIONS

Power!, by Dennis MacShane, Martin Plaut, and David Ward. South End Press, 195 pages, \$8.

This short book offers an excellent overview of the emerging, predominantly-black unions that represent the best hope for black workers to not only dismantle the apartheid regime, but also attain their emancipation.

Power! begins with a brief history of South Africa's black union movement, before tracing the current resurgence to the 1973 wave of wildcat strikes that began in Durban. The authors review the organization and structure of the largest unions, as well as their policies (with specific emphasis on health and safety, women workers, the struggle for unity, and international relations). One chapter explains which unions are most active in various industries, and appendices provide a number of policy statements by South African unions, as well as addresses for most of the major ones.

The book focuses on the two largest union groupings (the Federation of South African Trade Unions and the Council of Unions of South Africa), seriously underplaying the importance of revolutionary unions such as the South African Allied Workers Union. It also devotes excessive space to discussions of divisions in the anti-apartheid movement. But overall, this is the best introduction to South Africa's non-racial union movement that you're going to find.

JB

BUSINESS AS USUAL

A very routine thing happened in Washington DC last fall. Robert Fomon, the chairperson and chief executive officer of E. F. Hutton and Company, had a nice luncheon chat with William French Smith, then US Attorney General. He just wanted to discuss the investigation that had been going on for more than three years about the massive "check-kiting" operation run by Hutton's cash-management manipulators. Let no one say that a deal was struck; but Hutton was subsequently let off with only a fine, a little finger-wagging, and restitution, while a gang of white-collar crooks got off scot-free.

John Shad, for example, was vice-chairperson of E. F. Hutton when the fraudulent back-room dealings began in earnest, and the firm's profits were inflated by interest in effect stolen from hundreds of banks. He was named chairperson of the Securities and Exchange Commission by President Reagan eight months after the crimes began. Scott Pierce, Vice-President George Bush's brother-in-law, is another example. He is now president of Hutton and was assigned to oversee retail branches in the hot summer of 1982, when the extent of the federal and local investigations became known to the company brass.

required hospitalization after one detention. Another SAAWU official has been detained six times by police.

In the largest mass arrest of unionists in recent years, police detained some 200 SAAWU members and supporters after a meeting in October 1982. The workers were held for 10 days before being charged under the Riotous Assemblies Act (with singing freedom songs and chanting anti-government slogans).

Finding a number of its members unemployed as a result of employer reprisals, SAAWU has tried to organize unemployed workers, but with only limited success.

SAAWU claims some 80,000 members, though many of these are not paid up. It perseveres despite repression from the Government and employers, and recently contacted the secretariat of the International Workers Association (the revolutionary syndicalist international) in Madrid. While apartheid and racism are major enemies of workers—especially black workers—SAAWU points out that apartheid is closely linked to the development of capitalism in South Africa, and sees the struggle against racism as part of a wider struggle against all forms of oppression of workers. Because of its refusal to collaborate with Government or employers, SAAWU remains a primary target of South Africa's repressive apparatus. In its struggle for survival, and for a new world, it needs and deserves our solidarity and support.

SAAWU can be contacted at PO Box 7002, East London 5200, South Africa.

LOOKING OVERSEAS

The State Bank of Hungary is financing the plans of Eddie Shah to publish a major newspaper on the outskirts of London using the labor-saving techniques that unions so far have not allowed. British banks refused to finance the anti-union move.

British trade-union membership has fallen from 12.2 million in 1979 to 9.6 million, but still includes 47% of the British workforce. In the US less than 20% of workers belong to unions. And it's said that British labor is going more conservative.

Scab pilots killed themselves and 72 other people in Colombia in late July, when a 40-year-old Air Force DC-6 crashed in the jungle. The 350 pilots and co-pilots of Avianca airlines had been on strike for five days for higher wages. The day after the crash the company offered a 20% pay hike this year and 22% next year, and the strikers settled.

Reports have reached the *Industrial Worker* that rule changes in the British National Union of Mineworkers will make Arthur Scargill president for life. Such abominable perversions of union democracy are not unknown on this side of the Atlantic, but usually the picards have to hold a show election every now and then.

Amnesty International reports that Facundo Mauricio Ramirez, leader of the Sindicato de Trabajadores Bancarios (bank workers' union), was arrested in Ciudad Cre-disa, San Salvador, July 20th by plain-clothed men believed to be members of the National Police. Under Law 50 of the El Salvador Decree of February 1984, suspects may be held incommunicado up to 15 days before being brought before a military examining magistrate. During this period torture and other forms of cruel, inhuman, and degrading treatment are frequently inflicted.

And as the *Industrial Worker* goes to press, British dock and transport workers are refusing to load machinery destined for South Africa, in a protest against the "state of emergency" crackdown.

GIVE TO THE SUSTAINING FUND!

Wars & Rumors of Wars

MUNITIONS PROFITEERS IN EL SALVADOR

In economic terms, the Central American arms market is small change, dwarfed by Israel, Egypt, Turkey, and many others. But like any war in which one of the superpowers takes an interest, the war in El Salvador presents "growth potential" for the armsmongers.

Over the last five years, the Reagan Administration's determination to prevent a guerrilla victory in El Salvador has led to a transformation of that country's armed forces. The Salvadoran Army has grown from fewer than 20,000 soldiers in 1980 to nearly 30,000 today. Their cumbersome assault rifles, manufactured by Hechler and Koch in Norway and Germany, have been replaced with M-16s manufactured in Hartford, Connecticut by Colt Industries.

From 1980 to 1984 US military aid leapt from \$9.7 million to \$196.5 million. Since much of the aid money is tied up in Foreign Military Sales (FMS) credits, the Salvadorans are obligated to spend a large percentage of this money with US corporations.

Thus for Bell Helicopters, a Textron subsidiary based in Fort Worth, Texas which manufactures "Huey" Iroquois helicopters; for Cessna of Wichita, Kansas, which manufactures A-37 Dragonfly jet attack planes; for the Maremont Corporation of Saco, Maine, which manufactures M-60 machine guns; and for General Electric, Motorola, Westinghouse, and many other US corporations, US financing of foreign wars is money in their pockets. But then, the only difference between a business executive and a mercenary is the size of their paychecks.

US DEATH TOLL IN SALVADOR MOUNTS: Four US Marines and two American business people were killed June 20th in a submachine-gun attack on an outdoor cafe by leftists dressed like Salvadoran troops who killed 13 people and wounded 13 others. In May 1983, a US Navy lieutenant commander was killed on a Salvadoran university campus by the Popular Liberation Forces, one of the five guerrilla armies which make up the Farabundo Marti Liberation Front. The 50,000 Salvadorans killed and the million driven from their homes don't seem to bother America in its unswerving support for the Salvadoran Government, but perhaps a rising US body count will.

HONDURAS: READY, AIM... The name of the war game changes, but joint US-Honduran maneuvers never cease. The "Cabanas 85" war games, which began June 7th, will be carried out in two stages and are scheduled to last through September. Some 1800 US troops will participate, along with the 1200 permanently stationed in Honduras. This time, however, Pentagon sources finally admitted that the main objective of the military exercises the US has been carrying out in Honduras over the last four years has been to familiarize US troops with Central America's topographical and climatic conditions and train local troops for an eventual military confrontation with Nicaragua.

THE "HONDURIZATION" OF COSTA RICA: US pressure is rapidly militarizing Costa Rica, once known as the "Switzerland of Central America", whose constitution banned the formation of an army, and whose boast was that it had more schoolteachers than police. Honduras to the north of Nicaragua has been converted into a land-based aircraft carrier for the US and a staging ground for *contra* attacks, and the Reagan Government hopes to do the same to formerly-neutral Costa Rica on Nicaragua's southern boundary. In Honduras the Military was already ideologically pro-US, giving the Reaganites an entry point; in Costa Rica the US Government is taking advantage of the country's economic problems and financial squeeze to extort militarization.

In 1983 the Costa Rican Government of Luis Monge began to apply an economic policy "recommended" by the International Monetary Fund that included the elimination of subsidies, an increase in public-utility rates, a tightening of bank credit, and cutbacks on social programs and investments. Since then workers have repeatedly protested the deteriorating standard of living. Doctors, teachers, government employees, manual laborers, and landless *campesinos* have struck, demonstrated in the streets, and occupied land to defend their salaries.

Trapped by demands for social benefits, domestic electoral pressures, and economic demands of the IMF and international bankers coupled with political pressure from the White House, Monge has adopted a rhetoric that has become openly hostile toward Nicaragua. This rhetoric and adherence to US positions have opened new sources of international credit for Costa Rica, making it possible to avoid the shipwreck of an economy teetering on the edge of bankruptcy, moderate the social consequences of the situation, and hold back the deterioration of the Government's political image before the next election.

But more than anti-Sandinista rhetoric is on the price tag for this aid. The country was able to reject the presence of US military advisors in 1983, but in 1985 a US military base was established at El Murcielagos, just seven kilometers from the Nicaraguan border. Since then over 50 civil guards have been trained there, as well as 800 in Honduras—the first seed of an army. In addition, Costa Rica will receive \$9 million in military aid from the US this year to arm the civil guards like US infantrymen, as well as a donation of 4,000 M-16s, two artillery helicopters, and other war materiel. Furthermore, the installation in Northern Costa Rica of a powerful relay station for the Voice of America further entangles Costa Rica in Reagan's military solution to the Latin American problem.

TEXAS NATIONAL GUARDSMEN go to Honduras: Members of the Texas National Guard left the US at the beginning of April to join over 5,000 US and 4,000 Honduran troops participating in the Big Pine III military maneuvers in Honduras. During the maneuvers, the role of the 420-man Guard unit, which is 80% Latino, was to portray Sandinistas invading Honduras in order to test the strength of the Honduran Army's anti-tank defense.

NEARLY 500 ARRESTED IN BOULDER: In the largest civil-disobedience action against US policy in Central America to date, 478 residents of Boulder, Colorado were arrested April 9th through 11th for protesting CIA recruiters on the University of Colorado campus. Charging the CIA with "murder, rape, and arson" in Central America, the demonstrators tried to make citizens' arrests of the agency's representatives as they conducted interviews.

SMALL COMFORT: According to the Congressional Budget Office, in spite of the nearly \$1 trillion the US has spent on defense (sic) since 1982, the Army has added only one active division and the Air Force has one less active squadron than before. Only the Navy shows a noticeable increase in deployable battle forces: from 470 vessels to 542. The explanation for the discrepancy between money spent and weapons produced is simple: The military suppliers, unprepared for the windfall of dollars and unable to speed up production of cannons quickly, simply turned out more-expensive ones, jacking up prices through non-utilitarian design changes, gold-plating, and low reliability. For example, the price tag on such basic weapons as M-1 tanks has increased 45% in four years. Consequently, nearly half of the country's biggest munitionists are under federal investigation for fraud. They could have done worse, however; the munitionists could have taken the money and actually produced the weapons contracted for.

IW SUSTAINING FUND (Received During June 1985)

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Many thanks, fellow workers, for your generous support. (The *Industrial Worker* net loss for June was \$405.79.)

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- () The Right to Be Lazy* 2.25
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42ND CONVENTION MINUTES AVAILABLE

Minutes from last year's IWW Convention (September 1st and 2nd, 1984) are now available for \$1 per copy. Also still available—while supplies last—are copies of the minutes from IWW Conventions going back to the late 1970s, at \$1 for the first copy and 50¢ for each additional copy.

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Bulk orders of five or more of any item on the IWW Literature List, unless otherwise indicated, may be ordered at a 40% discount if orders are prepaid. We offer a 30% discount on similar orders which we must invoice. Postage will be added to all orders that are not prepaid. Please allow three weeks for delivery. (ND) indicates that no discount is available.

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A Workers' Guide to Direct Action: 50¢. New York IWW, PO Box 183, New York 10028.
 Fellow Union Member: 10¢ each; bundles of 5 to 15, 5¢; 16 to 50, 3¢; over 50, 2¢. Tacoma/Olympia IWW, 2115 South Sheridan, Tacoma, Washington 98405.
 Introduction to the IWW: 10¢ each; bulk rate 40% discount, paid in advance. San Francisco IWW, PO Box 40485, San Francisco, California 94140.
 Solidarity Bulletin (monthly publication): \$10 a year. Vancouver IWW, PO Box 34334, Station D, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6J 4P3.
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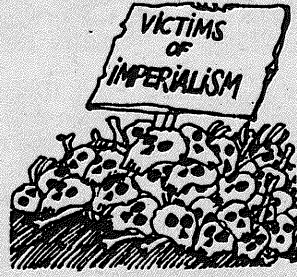
West Bank Landgrab

According to a study headed by Meron Benvenisti, former Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem, the Israeli Government has seized direct or indirect control of 52% of the land on the occupied West Bank, and has monopolized virtually all growth potential in the territory for use by the 42,500 Jewish settlers at the expense of the 800,000 Palestinian inhabitants. The Benvenisti study marks the first time anyone has compiled all the methods used by the Israeli Government to gain control over land on the West Bank.

The first method is outright expropriation. This includes expropriation of absentee-owned lands (owned by Arabs who left the West Bank in 1967 or before) as well as abandoned property. It also includes expropriation of land by declaring it "state domain".

In 1980 the Likud Government introduced a principle from Ottoman law declaring that all unregistered and uncultivated land could be claimed as "state land". Before that time, only land registered under the name of the Kingdom of Jordan was viewed by Israel as "state land". The net result was that Israeli authorities could claim all land on the West Bank as state land, "except what the Arab villages can prove is theirs under the narrowest interpretation of the law".

The second method involves the seizure or requisition of land for military purposes—either to erect military outposts or to declare an area an off-limits combat zone. All construction in such zones can be prohibited or restricted by the Military. Many of the largest Israeli settlements on the West Bank began as "closed" military



areas.

The third form of land seizure used by the Israeli Government is the expropriation of land for "public purposes", such as setbacks from roads or public facilities. The planning process on the West Bank is carried out entirely by Israelis, with almost exclusively Jewish interests in mind, and involvement of local Arab inhabitants is nil.

The fourth method used is severe restriction on construction and land use by declaring an area (Arab, of course) a nature reserve. Though the declared objective is environmental protection, the study points out that "it is considered by the authorities an integral part of the land-seizure program".

The final method is restriction of the cultivation of certain crops. This rule was issued to help plan agricultural production, but it is used to prevent expansion of (Arab) cultivation of land that has already been designated "state domain" by the authorities because it is "uncultivated".

In sum, 5% of the population of the West Bank controls 709,626 acres, or 52% of the land. Readers might compare the West Bank situation to that of South Africa, where 16% of the population owns 84% of the land.

Part-Time Workers Increase

In many respects, the current "recovery", with high unemployment, low-capacity utilization of industry, and resurgent inflation, seems more akin to a recession. Now there's another characteristic to add to that list: the high number of involuntary part-time workers.

The number of US workers who have no choice but to settle for less than full-time work is conservatively estimated at six million, on top of the eight million or so who have no jobs at all. The folks who are stuck in part-time jobs—many of whom would prefer full-time or permanent work—have become second-class citizens in a two-tier job structure.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, about 5.5% of all workers are classified as "involuntary" part-time workers—those who want a full-time job but can't find one. In 1976, another "recovery" year, the comparable figure was 4.1%. The figure for all part-time workers is close to 20%—and no doubt many of those classified as "voluntary" part-time workers would take full-time work if it were feasible—for example, if good child care were available.

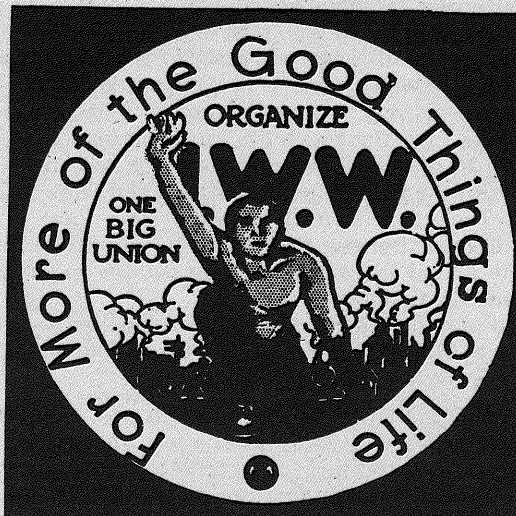
Employers use part-time workers as a way to keep labor costs down. The average wage earned by part-time workers is \$4.50 an hour, compared with \$7.80 for full-time workers. At that rate of pay, workers would be near the poverty line even if they worked full-time. Moreover, part-time workers aren't eligible for any fringe benefits.

It's common for the number of part-time workers to rise when the economy enters a downturn. Businesses can't afford to staff their operations fully when they're running below capacity. But usually when the economy turns up again, workers can expect to return to full-time

status. Over the last few years, however, the number of part-time workers has not decreased. Instead of being confined to the few businesses, like restaurants and retail stores, which have long or irregular hours, part-time work has spread to other sectors of the economy.

Some employers have adopted a "no layoffs" policy for permanent employees, using part-timers or temporary workers Japanese-style to fill in the gaps in production. In some electrical and auto plants, for example, certain employees may have jobs for life, while others work part-time at half pay with no benefits. The net result is to create a double standard, often pitting workers against each other while protecting the profits of their employers.

reprinted from *Dollars & Sense*, Number 108



UAW HYPOCRITICALLY PROTESTS KOREAN CONDITIONS

At first glance, the front-page story on South Korea's underpaid workers and weak unions in the United Auto Workers' late-June newsletter made it look like the UAW was making a rare gesture in support of international labor solidarity.

The article observed that in 1984 some Korean auto workers made between 64¢ and \$1.19 an hour and put in a 50-to-60-hour week without overtime. Furthermore, the article pointed out that since the Chun Doo Hwan coup in 1980, the South Korean Government can remove the leadership of any union at will, and also has claimed the power to dissolve unions "likely to become detrimental to the public interest"; outlawed union organizing in workplaces with fewer than 30 employees—meaning 80% of Korean businesses; banned industry-wide collective bargaining; forbidden unions to co-operate with or give money to any political party, while companies and employer associations can give political parties any support they wish; passed especially-restrictive labor laws against unions in foreign-owned companies; and passed cumbersome legislation designed to make the waging of legal strikes as difficult as possible, while "illegal" strikes can be put down as criminal actions.

But the UAW was not calling for joint action of US and Korean workers against companies that do business in both countries. It ran the article to whip up support for its "Buy American" campaign and its lobbying efforts to block Korean imports.

IWW Directory

ALASKA: Southeast Alaska General Membership Branch, PO Box 748, Douglas 99824. Ruth Sheridan, Delegate, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage 99508. Chris White, Box 72938, Fairbanks 99707.

BRITISH COLUMBIA: Vancouver General Membership Branch, Box 34334 Station D, Vancouver V6J 4P3, Canada, (604) 876-8438. West Kootenay IWW Group, PO Box 941, Nelson V1L 6A5, Canada.

CALIFORNIA: San Francisco Bay Area General Membership Branch, PO Box 40485, San Francisco 94140. Little River IWW Group, c/o PO Box 302, Little River 95456. R.M.R. Kroopkin, Delegate, 3924½ Park Boulevard, San Diego 92103. Richard Ellington, Delegate, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland 94609, (415) 658-0293. David Bernreuter, Delegate, 718 Cayuga Street, Santa Cruz 95062.

FLORIDA: Fred Hansen, Box 824, New Port Richey 33552.

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

IDAHO: IWW Delegate, Route 1, Box 137, Potlach 83855. Southeastern Idaho Forest Workers Affinity Group IU 120, Box 764, Pocatello 83201.

ILLINOIS: Chicago General Membership Branch, 3435 North Sheffield, Suite 202, Chicago 60657, (312) 549-5045. Meetings first Wednesday of each month, 7:30 pm. Champaign-Urbana IWW Group, Jeff Stein, Delegate, 1007 North Randolph, Champaign 61820.

INDIANA: Mitchell Rice, Delegate, 7333 West Isom Road, Bloomington 47401.

KANSAS: General Defense Committee, Arthur J. Miller, Secretary, PO Box 6130, Kansas City 66106. IWW Delegate, PO Box 522, Wichita 67201.

KENTUCKY: Louisville IWW Group, 2024 Baringer Avenue, Louisville 40204.

LOUISIANA: IWW Group, PO Box 16725, Baton Rouge 70893.

MANITOBA: Winnipeg IWW Group, "Haywire Brack", Delegate, Box 161, Station C, Winnipeg R3M 3S7, Canada.

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston General Membership Branch PO Box 454, Cambridge 02139. Meetings first Sunday of each month, 522-7090 or 625-5107. Western Massachusetts IWW Group, PO Box 465, Hadley 01035.

MICHIGAN: Southeast Michigan General Membership Branch, 42 South Summit, Ypsilanti 48197, (313) 483-3478. Meetings second Sunday of each month. University Cellar IU 660 Job Branch, 341 East Liberty, Ann Arbor 48107. People's Warehouse IU 660 Job Branch, c/o Burkhardt, 727 West Ellsworth Road, Ann Arbor 48104. IWW Delegate, 415 Ethel, Grand Rapids 49506.

MINNESOTA: Twin Cities IWW Group, Nancy Arthur Collins, Delegate, 1621 Marshall, Number 3, Saint Paul 55104.

MONTANA: Clark Fork Valley IWW Group, PO Box 8562, Missoula 59807, (406) 728-6053. A. L. Nurse, Delegate, Route 5, Box 88, Thompson Falls 59874, (406) 827-3238.

NEW YORK: New York City General Membership Branch PO Box 183, New York 10028. Henry Pfaff, Delegate, 77 Eckhart, Buffalo 14207, (816) 877-6073. Jackie Panish, Delegate, 99-12 65th Road, Number 5-J, Rego Park 11374, (212) 868-1121.

OHIO: Southwest Ohio General Membership Branch and General Defense Committee Local 1, PO Box 26381, Dayton 45426. Or: PO Box 19645, Cincinnati 45219.

ONTARIO: Brian Burch, Delegate, 257B Carlton Street, Toronto M1A 2L4, Canada.

PENNSYLVANIA: Tom Hill, Delegate, PO Box 41928, Philadelphia 19101.

SOUTH CAROLINA: Harbinger Publications IU 450, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia 29201, (803) 254-9398.

TEXAS: Andrew Lee, Delegate, 3402 Enfield, Apartment B, Austin 78703, (512) 472-7854. Gilbert Mers, Delegate, 7031 Kernel, Houston 77087, (713) 921-0877.

WASHINGTON: Bellingham General Membership Branch PO Box 1386, Bellingham 98227. Seattle General Membership Branch, 3238 33rd Avenue South, Seattle 98144. Tacoma/Olympia General Membership Branch, 2115 South Sheridan, Tacoma 98405, (206) 272-8119. Orchard Workers Organizing Project, Box 2223, Chelan 98816. Walla Walla IWW Group, PO Box 392, Walla Walla 99862.

WISCONSIN: Madison General Membership Branch, c/o 1846 Jenifer, Madison 53704, (608) 251-1937 or 249-4287.

PICKING AN ISSUE

At a conference conducted by the Midwest Academy (community-action organizers) in Wirtz, Virginia last fall, the following list of "characteristics of a good issue" was presented. A good issue must:

- be widely and deeply felt
- be winnable
- involve community people, not just experts
- have a set time frame
- be easily understandable
- have a number of clear targets
- help build the organization
- be within the organization's resources
- be immediate
- be non-divisive within the group
- help participants recognize power relations
- be moral, putting the group on "the right side".

From *Mountain Life & Work*

AUSTRALIAN STRIKE

In April Queensland, Australia faced a massive strike after the provincial legislature passed draconian anti-strike legislation and sacked a thousand power workers for striking despite the ban. The strike has shut down all rail, air, and sea traffic into Queensland, along with most trucking. Telephone and postal service has been disrupted and mass pickets (illegal under Queensland law) have demanded the repeal of the law and re-instatement of the strikers.

The new law allows unions to be fined up to \$30,000 for striking without prior notice, bars power strikes altogether, fines workers who participate in strikes up to a thousand dollars, and empowers the Government to confiscate strikers' possessions and homes. Reporters have been prosecuted merely for covering the strike, as the Government is going all out to crush workers' resistance.

After the thousand power workers were sacked in March for refusing to sign a no-strike agreement (the Government now says that they must not only sign the agreement, but also extend their working week by two hours and their two-week shift by a day in order to be re-instated), other power workers carried out solidarity actions leading to blackouts in Brisbane and other areas. Coal miners declared an indefinite solidarity strike, as did building workers and railway electricians. The seamen's union declared a ban on oil supplies, which was followed by strikes by telecom and transport workers.

The Australian Labour (sic) Party and the Australian Council of Trade Unions stepped in, ordering the power workers back to work, but the strike was still on at last word.

Philippine Strikers Slain

Going on strike in the Philippines under Marcos has always been dangerous. From 1972 to 1981 the Marcos dictatorship imposed martial law. During this period all strikes were banned, and if the ban was defied workers could be shot, beaten, or indefinitely detained in a military prison. Since 1981 strikes have been banned only in "vital industries"; but industries become vital as soon as work stoppages occur, and the Military continues to bust unions and break strikes.

This year, Lope Natividad was shot and killed by Blue Bar Coconut company guards February 27th. Ernesto del Pilar, on strike against Filipinas Plastics in Malabon, a district in Northern Metro Manila, was killed by police April 10th. On the island of Mindanao, Danny Salcedo, Joseph Herbolingo, and Renato Tumili, all workers at the Asian Carbon Factory in Panacan, Davao City, were killed April 15th.

On May Day Marcos signaled an all-out punitive campaign against workers by issuing "Letter of Instruction 458", allowing military operations against strikers who ignore the Ministry of Labor and Employment's back-to-work orders, as if the regime's anti-Labor laws such as BP 130 and 227 were not enough.

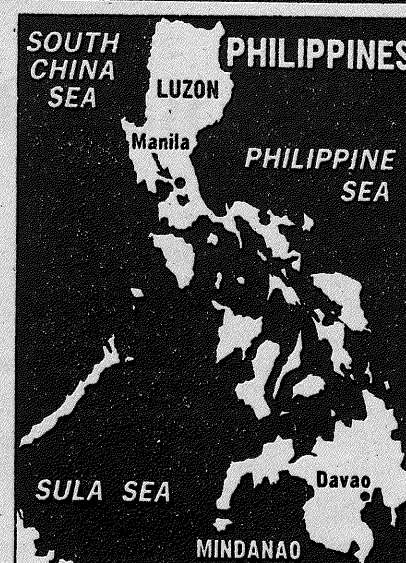
Right on cue, police attacked picketers May 2nd at the American Hospital Supplies strike in Metro Manila. On May 3rd the Metaphil pickets on the island of Cebu were violently dispersed by the 341st PC Company. On May 9th Marlon Latina of the Batangas-Laguna-Tayabas Bus Company was killed. On May 13th and 16th "security forces" attacked pickets at Clear Export and Antonio Agro Trade, injuring still more strikers.

Workers at Standard Fruit (Dole Phil) were beaten with rifle butts by soldiers when they tried to keep scabs from crossing the picket line. Roberto Moreno, a union officer at the Mabuhay Textile Mills in Valenzuela, was killed May 16th, and more than 20 workers were injured in Laguna May 20th when police charged the picket line at Filipinas Synthetics Corporation. On May 21st striking workers at Fantastic Garments in Laguna were treated to police truncheon blows.

The oppression of Labor in the Philippines is intolerable. Wages are below subsistence level, and 78% of all Filipinos live below the poverty line set by the Government. Workers at the Artex textile factory in Malabon have been on strike for a year now, trying to get their wages raised from \$1.25 a day to the minimum wage of \$3. Women workers are subjected to sexual exploitation by bosses and foremen, to the extent that in many factories the unwritten law is "Lay down or lay off."

There are no health or safety requirements inside the factories, while outside the factories workers live in vast shantytowns without running water or sewage disposal. The Philippines has the world's highest rate of polio, malaria, and tuberculosis, and one of the highest rates of cholera, diphtheria, dysentery, typhoid, and underdevelopment diseases.

Strike donations for workers in the Philippines may be sent to the Philippine Workers Support Committee, PO Box 11208, Moiliili Station, Honolulu, Hawaii 96828. Contributions can be earmarked for specific strikes, such as Artex. All unearmarked funds will be sent to the May First Union to aid in their organizing work.



\$44,000 AWARDED TO NEW YORK WOB

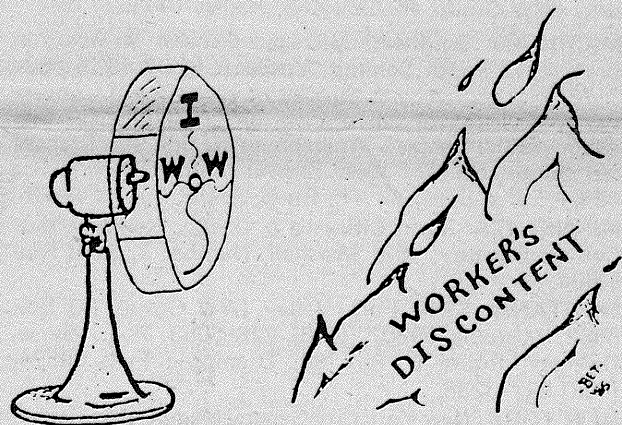
New York Wobbly Paul Poulos was awarded \$44,000 June 4th by a US district-court jury in a lawsuit brought by Poulos against Teamsters Local 814, Local President J. Vincent Bracco, and Local Treasurer Charles Martelli. Poulos—a long-time Teamster dissident—was denied his right to transfer back into Local 814 in 1980 (when he moved from Miami to New York), and was blacklisted at the union hiring hall. Told he must have 30 days' work in a shop represented by Local 814 to be eligible to rejoin, Poulos found a job at Desk, Inc.—just making his 30 days before Local 814 ordered him fired. The FW then sued the "union".

The jury awarded Poulos some \$6,000 in back pay for the period from July 16th, 1982 through August 31st, 1983, plus \$38,000 in punitive damages against Bracco, Martelli, and Local 814. The bulk of the damages are to be paid directly by Bracco and Martelli, who have threatened to appeal. At a July 1st hearing, however, the judge refused to award attorney's fees—a ruling which will be appealed by FW Poulos.

Nine days after the New York jury awarded Poulos the \$44,000, a federal grand jury indicted Bracco, Martelli, and three other Local 814 officers for labor racketeering. The indictment charges the five union officials, a number of mobsters, and executives of four moving companies with colluding in a scheme to bilk customers of moving and storage companies of tens of thousands of dollars which ultimately found their way into mob coffers. In addition, the indictment charges Bracco and Martelli peddled indulgers to bosses whose workers they represented, allowing them to employ non-union drivers and skimp on wages and payments to the welfare and pension fund.

Around Our Union

ANCHORAGE: The Anchorage IWW group hosted an evening with Gordon Haskell of the Association for Union Democracy June 19th. Gordon spoke of his experiences with the AUD in New York and San Francisco, stressing the loneliness of the dissenter within his or her union and the need to link up with other dissidents and find a support group.



TO FAN THE FLAMES

BISBEE, ARIZONA: Local Wobs and friends gathered July 12th to remember James Brew—murdered by vigilantes July 12th, 1917 while resisting the deportation of striking Wobbly miners. Phelps-Dodge thugs rounded up nearly 1200 strikers that day, dumping them miles away in barren desert with neither food nor water. Local musician Jerry Holloway sang at the graveside commemoration, which also featured a speech by IWW member Rob Hansen. The Bisbee Wobs then laid a wreath at FW Brew's grave. For the second year, this commemoration made Page 1 of the local *Bisbee Daily Review*.

BELLINGHAM: A good many local Wobs attended a highly-successful fundraiser for the Big Mountain campaign in late July. FWs Helm and Garlinghouse, among several others, organized a dance at a local tavern, and the reggae band Almighty Dread kept people on their feet. Over 200 turned out on a hot summer night, and \$650 was raised. Fellow workers from Tacoma and San Francisco stopped by on their way south after the West Coast IWW conference in Vancouver. Plenty of educational literature was available, and a lot more people are now aware of the Navajo/Hopi struggle for autonomy at Big Mountain.

CHICAGO: A hundred people turned out June 27th for an 80th-anniversary showing of *The Wobblies* and brief talks by FWs Fred Thompson and Mike Hargis. The audience was enthusiastic, and nearly \$200 worth of literature was sold while dozens signed petitions in support of British miners and Leonard Peltier. To round off the successful evening, two former members rejoined. Branch members have also joined picket lines and demonstrations in solidarity with our South African fellow workers in recent weeks, and are organizing a campaign to fight for amnesty for the more than 150 British miners being held in jail and the more than 700 blacklisted as a result of the defeated miners' strike.

Chicago Wobblies have also joined picket lines at the *Chicago Tribune* in solidarity with striking printers, and have participated in demonstrations outside showings of the jingoist film *Rambo* and against US intervention in Central America.

SOUTHWEST OHIO: There was much Wob activity all over this area during the months of April, May, and June. On April 25th fellow workers participated in an anti-apartheid demonstration in front of the administration building at the University of Cincinnati, protesting the UC's investments in South Africa. Fellow Worker Jim Dittner presented a lecture on the principles and activities of the IWW at the University May 22nd, and the Southwest Ohio Group participated in Yellow Springs' "sidewalk days" by staffing a literature table June 8th, producing a little revenue and rekindling interest in the IWW in an area that was once a Wobbly stronghold.

On the legal side, Fellow Workers Dennis Wolfel and John Perotti, members of the Southwest Ohio Group and inmates at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility, were both victorious in separate lawsuits over injustices and brutalities at the SOCF. FW Wolfel, acting as his own attorney in federal court, won \$25,000 in his suit against a prison guard who beat him while he was handcuffed. FW Perotti's case was against the State for use of high-pressure water hoses as harassment devices, as well as for non-delivery and confiscation of religious materials. These FWs, along with FW Paul Brumfield, are spearheading an organizing drive at the SOCF, which has denied them the right to possess Wobbly red cards or GDC cards. The newly-formed Southern Ohio local of the IWW General Defense Committee is currently engaged in both a legal and a direct-action struggle to get these workers' rights returned to them.

And in mid-July Southwest Ohio Wobs petitioned for a General Membership Branch charter, having reached the necessary membership.

VANCOUVER: July 18th and 19th saw Wobs from throughout the West Coast (and a few from points farther east) come together for an IWW conference discussing issues such as small-shop and agricultural organizing, internationalism, and the future of the IWW. A report will be published in our next issue. The Branch is also continuing its Job Problems Hotline, and has recently been assisting some construction workers protesting non-payment of promised sick pay, a cutback in wages, and generally poor working conditions. The Branch's Starvation Army Band joined the picket line of the Retail Wholesale Union at Purolator August 12th.

IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER ...

Labor's martyrs. And our November 1985 issue will carry appropriate greetings and messages. If we receive enough we'll put out a 12-page issue for the occasion. Rates are a nominal \$6 for one column inch, \$22 for four inches, \$35 for a half-column, and \$90 for a half-page. Please add an extra \$5 if your message requires either a lot of typesetting or layout, or a reduction or enlargement.

The deadline for all ads and copy for the November issue is September 23rd. The issue will be mailed out in time to reach readers at the start of the month, so if you want extra copies please let us know by October 1st (and enclose 10¢ per copy with your order).

US JUSTICE: A third of Florida's death-row population, the largest in an American state, was sentenced by judges who overrode a jury's unanimous decision in favor of life imprisonment.

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TO:

UNHOLY TRINITY: KIDS, TV, AND WAR TOYS

If you've been surprised by the long lines of patrons outside the movie *Rambo*, consider that the cult of war has been making a comeback on TV as well, and not just during prime time. According to the National Coalition Against Television Violence, five of the six best-selling toys in the US are war toys. And five of those six (G.I. Joe, Gobots, Masters of the Universe, Transformers, and Voltron) are being promoted in part via syndicated cartoon shows with war themes. The toys are selling the cartoons, and the cartoons are selling the toys. *Toy and Hobby World* reports that sales of "action" toys have increased some 350% in the last two years. A kid who watches four hours of cartoons a week is exposed to about 800 ads a year for war toys.

THE CENSOR IS CENSORED

Retired Admiral Stansfield Turner, writing on his tenure as CIA director during the Carter years, ironically complains about the "more than 100 deletions" made in his forthcoming book. "These ranged from borderline issues to the ridiculous. I appealed many of these questionable deletions to the higher levels of the CIA, and obtained only three minor concessions."

Yet it was Turner who urged Attorney General Griffin Bell in 1978 to prosecute former CIA employee Frank Snapp for writing a book about the CIA without agency clearance. As a result, all of the estimated \$60,000 profit from Snapp's book about CIA operations was confiscated.

WORLD REPORT: According to Amnesty International, torture is being used in 98 of the countries on this planet.