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SOUTH AFRICAN LABOR UNDER FIRE

Two explosions May 7th devastated the headquarters of the Congress of South African Trade Unions—South Africa's largest and most militant union federation, with some 700,000 members. The Johannesburg Fire Department has declared COSATU House unsafe in the wake of the blasts, which occurred just days after the Government had agreed in court to make no further assaults on the building, and condemnation proceedings are imminent.

COSATU believes the blasts to be part of an orchestrated attack by authorities during the last few weeks, and has tied the explosions to a series of police raids on COSATU offices around the country, the police shooting of six striking transport workers in April, the total banning of COSATU rallies and meetings, and the arrests of hundreds of unionists in recent weeks. "This is part of a co-ordinated campaign to break the power of the labor movement."

The Government is engaged in an all-out smear campaign against COSATU and other anti-apartheid forces, trying to blame the exiled African National Congress for the blasts and trying to pin responsibility for the deaths of five blacks—allegedly killed because they were suspected of scabbing on railway workers—on COSATU activists. Police occupied COSATU offices in the last week of April, claiming to be searching for evidence in the slayings. Hundreds of workers were searched, and Government stool pigeons reportedly fingered 11 workers. The Press Trust of South Africa reports that 400 workers were arrested in the raid, their subsequent fate unknown. Labor activists the world over have long been accustomed to frame-ups of this sort.

8,000 are being held.) In the wake of the elections, the regime has announced a crackdown against corporations that are providing housing (in white neighborhoods near their factories) for workers.

The Government fired some 18,000 striking transport workers April 22nd, after a six-week strike of rail and bus workers against the State-run transport board. The COSATU-affiliated South African Railway and Harbour Workers Union is challenging the dismissals in court. The strike was particularly bitter—even by South African standards—with several clashes between strikers and police and scabs. The Government has been especially eager to break the strike because its apartheid policies mean that most workers face long commutes to the factories from the segregated townships where they are permitted to live. The transport strike has thus disrupted large sectors of the nation's economy.

Several other strikes are also under way, although South African censorship means that few details are available. In late April some 7,000 postal workers struck in Johannesburg and Soweto, and on May Day tens of thousands of workers joined indoor meetings. This year COSATU forced the Government to recognize May Day as a national holiday, despite the banning of 21 outdoor rallies scheduled by COSATU. A rally in Johannesburg was broken up by police, and several workers were arrested.

Solidarity with our South African fellow workers is urgently needed. Now is the time for transport and other workers to refuse to handle South African goods, and to boost the international Shell boycott campaign (Royal Dutch/Shell is the apartheid regime's major source of oil). COSATU needs funds to survive the present crisis, and donations earmarked for this purpose can be sent via IWW headquarters. Readers are also encouraged to send letters to the South African Embassy (3051 Massachu-



E. T. Blanche, head of fascist AWB in S. Africa.

setts Avenue Northwest, Washington DC 20008) demanding the immediate release of all detainees, in particular the hundreds of imprisoned unionists, and an end to the attacks on COSATU.



COSATU

But fabricated charges are unlikely to stop COSATU. Explains United Democratic Front activist (Reverend) Allan Boesak: "What the Government does not realize is that this type of smear campaign against COSATU is going to cause a backlash of anger much worse than anything they have seen yet."

During the recent electoral farce, which saw Botha's party returned to office by an overwhelming majority of white voters, COSATU organized a general strike in protest. The union reports that the strike was between 85 and 100% effective in most urban areas. Scores of workers were arrested, joining the thousands still in detention. (Exact figures on the number of South Africans currently detained or imprisoned for labor and political activities are being withheld by the Government. The *New York Times* estimates that some 4500 people remain in detention, while *Time* magazine reports that

Brazilian Unionists Freed

The Brazilian Government has been forced to drop charges against Brazilian Workers' Confederation (COB) General Secretary Leonardo Morelli and other members of the League of Railway Workers (LTO), the COB's transport workers' federation. In January the COB asked for international solidarity via the International Workers Association (IWA) secretariat for these workers arrested in connection with wildcat railway strikes that erupted in November 1986 [see the March *IW*]. The COB is the Brazilian affiliate of the anarcho-syndicalist international.

In response to the call for solidarity issued by the IWA, many letters of protest were sent to both the Brazilian President and the Director of Transport, who deigned to send hundreds of replies as far as Japan and Australia giving the official version of events. (The letter received by the IWA secretariat was numbered 187.) The President commented that "the anarchists are the biggest danger for Brazil" and that they have strong international resources. This was also printed in the Brazilian press. These events show that *Solidarity* is the most im-

portant resource the international working class has at its disposal.

Along with the dropping of the court actions, the transport unions set up by the LTO-COB have now been recognized officially. The COB has since gone on to set up revolutionary unions in the textile, construction, and education industries.

The importance of these events is that the Brazilian anarcho-syndicalists have broken the myths that revolutionary strikes are impossible and that unions couldn't exist outside the State system. The country's transport system was brought to a virtual standstill by democratically-run strikes, controlled by workplace assemblies and supported by other sections of the community.

Although the court proceedings have been dropped, our Brazilian comrades still need money to consolidate and extend their gains. Donations can be sent to Box DA, Raven, 75 Piccadilly, Manchester M1 2BU, Great Britain.

(Reprinted from the May 1987 issue of *Direct Action*, newspaper of the Direct Action Movement.)

U.S. Rehearses Nicaraguan Invasion

In one of the biggest US military exercises in Central America, 6900 US troops staged a combined air and sea assault May 13th on Trujillo, Honduras, a small town about a hundred miles north of Nicaragua. The maneuvers, known as Solid Shield '87, involved 13 warships as well as fleets of helicopters and combat jets. They are part of extended exercises by the US Atlantic Command, involving some 40,000 troops in the US and Caribbean.

US officials said the exercise was designed to wave a big stick at Nicaragua and to show American resolve to defend Honduras in the seemingly-unlikely event of an invasion by Nicaragua, which is now trying to defend itself against an American-funded invasion of *contras* from Honduras.

In four years of almost-constant exercises, tens of thousands of American troops have trained in Honduras and have built or upgraded at least eight airfields for military use, as well as building roads to isolated areas. In addition, some 1200 American troops are assigned to the huge American-run Palmerola airbase in Honduras. In

the last five months, American Special Forces teams, parachute units, infantry divisions, and Air Force units have staged mock exercises in Honduras in a quickening tempo of preparation. In addition, hundreds of US military officers were flown to Honduras for the second practice run in recent years at commanding a major invasion in the area.

This writer greeted the outbreak of the Iran-*contra* scandal with a sigh of relief, feeling that it would now be impossible for Reagan to order a real invasion of Nicaragua. But if the mercenaries now invading Nicaragua are repulsed, everything will be in place for a US invasion. It would only be necessary to give the order.

A town of 10,000, Trujillo has a historic link to past US imperialist adventures in Nicaragua. William Walker, the American colonizer, slaver, and filibusterer who briefly occupied and ruled Nicaragua more than a hundred years ago, was seized, executed, and buried there in 1860 for interfering in Central American affairs. US troops have been in Nicaragua on two separate occasions since then.

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CANADIAN LABOR CHILL

NEW BRITISH COLUMBIA LABOR LEGISLATION WORSE THAN EVER

Two bills creating massive changes in British Columbia labor relations were introduced into the provincial legislature in April.

Bill 19, the "Industrial Relations Reform Act", and Bill 20, the "Teaching Profession Act", appear likely to cause either an escalating number of strikes and other job actions or a significant weakening of the ability of BC unions to function.

Calling the content of Bill 19 "incredibly one-sided", labor lawyers Walter Rilkooff and Patrick O'Neal summarized the bill this way in a statement circulated to unions: "Besides giving teachers an illusory right to strike, Bill 19 goes a long way toward the open shop, right to work, elimination of successorship, and weakening of unions by restricting picketing rights, and gives the [new Industrial Relations] Commissioner powers of intervention in private- and public-sector collective bargaining that are unheard of in Western democracies in times of peace.

"We fear that the title used on the Government's press release may too accurately describe what this bill holds for our province: Industrial Relations—A New Era.

"Unfortunately, that new era appears to hold little for workers and trade unions."

Specifically, Bill 19 includes abolition of the Labor Relations Board and the Mediation Services Branch, replacing these with an Industrial Relations Council under an appointed commissioner, Ed Peck (the present head of the Compensation Stabilization Program). Peck, who will get a salary of \$130,000 a year, will have power to authorize strike votes (including approving the wording), order a vote on an employer's contract offer, order an end to any strike or lockout, appoint people to investigate and mediate disputes, dictate the first contracts at newly-unionized workplaces, and more.

The bill also gives employers the right to intervene in organizing campaigns "to express their views" to employees; virtually eliminates the union shop by forbidding employers to fire employees expelled from unions for scabbing or other anti-union activities; gives employers the exclusive right to discipline workers who violate a decision of the Commissioner or his agents; gives non-union employees in a bargaining unit the right to vote on collective agreements, strikes, and the like; and restricts picketing during a strike to the place being struck, other operations of the employer being considered separate units protected from picketing.

There are also several provisions aimed specifically at construction unions that allow union contractors to set up non-union subsidiaries; allow unionized companies to declare bankruptcy and re-form as non-union firms; weaken non-affiliation clauses (which allow union workers to refuse to work alongside non-union employees) by restricting these clauses to specific construction sites; permit union companies to hire non-union apprentices and keep them on after their training is finished (thereby gradually whittling away the closed shop); and eliminate "hot" declarations by making them illegal (so construction tradesmen and other workers will be unable to refuse to handle scab-produced materials from a struck plant).

Bill 20 seeks to dismantle the BC Teachers' Federation, to which all the province's teachers and principals currently belong. Under Bill 20, teachers must choose between belonging to a trade union and joining a teachers' association. Both groups will have the right to bargain with school districts about wages and conditions, but only union members will have the right to strike. Association members must take any unresolved contract matters to arbitration. Teachers in each school district must decide by January 1st, 1988 which group of employees they will join.

Bill 20 also splits off principals and vice-principals from the teachers' organizations, as people filling these positions will now be employed on a contract basis. The bill also sets up a new College of Teachers to which all teachers must belong. The College will handle matters of certification, discipline, and competence—plus professional development, at present a major responsibility of the BC Teachers' Federation.

RESPONSE

The president of the Canadian Federation of Teachers, Frank Garrity, summed up his view of Bill 20 in a speech to 6,000 teachers at a Vancouver rally April 28th. Garrity said the bill is "the most vicious, the most monstrous, the most insidious attack upon the teaching profession ever perpetrated in the history of education in this country."

In response to the new bills, BC's teachers have held rallies, bought newspaper ads, produced lots of paper, voted to hold a one-day province-wide strike, struck (with 80% support), and immediately afterward launched an instruction-only campaign. The campaign means that teachers will refuse to provide any extracurricular supervision outside regular school hours. This curtails field trips, dances, graduation ceremonies, setting and marking provincial exams, and so on.

Other measures, such as rotating strikes around the province, were debated at a Teachers' Federation meeting May 9th.

Meanwhile, the BC Federation of Labor also held rallies, bought newspaper ads, and produced lots of paper. The 250,000-member BC Fed also threatened to boycott

the new labor machinery set up by Bill 19 once it becomes law.

Passage of the bills is assured by the governing Social Credit Party's majority in the BC Legislature; however amendments softening some of the harshest aspects of the new bills remain a possibility.

The Confederation of Canadian Unions' affiliates in BC, representing about 20,000 employees, raised the possibility of a general strike, if necessary, to defeat the new laws. "It may well require a general strike to defeat Bill 19," the Confederation says in a pamphlet. "The CCU's view is that the only way a general strike will be effective or even possible is when enough people are prepared to support such action."



At meetings April 21st and May 5th, the Vancouver and District Labor Council urged the BC Fed to consider using strikes against Bill 19.

But events in BC in 1983 make the Fed leadership uneasy about organizing significant strike action. In that year the BC Fed joined with a broad spectrum of community organizations to oppose a range of anti-human legislation brought in by the Socreds as part of the 1983 provincial budget. Included were laws directed particularly against public employees. The BC Fed launched an escalating general strike of public-sector workers beginning November 1st, 1983.

Under the Fed's plan, teachers—considered at the time to be among the weakest unionists—were selected to be first to go out. But when the teachers held firm, day after day other components of the public sector hit the bricks according to the BC Fed's timetable.

Backed by an alliance of community groups and union locals called the Solidarity Coalition, the BC Fed's escalating public-sector strike (Operation Solidarity) was enormously successful. Discussions and debates at union and community meetings and on picket lines sparked public reconsideration of many issues within and outside the union movement. Informal communica-

tions networks sprang up, understanding of the media's role in society grew, and morale was high among those on strike.

Apparently unnerved by the success of the Solidarity movement, the BC Fed leadership panicked. Two weeks into the strike, and only a week or so away from a total shutdown of public-sector employers, the Fed leadership dispatched Jack Munro, regional head of the International Woodworkers of America (IWA) and a vice-president of the BC Fed, to Kelowna to arrange for the movement's unconditional surrender. Operation Solidarity quickly became known as "Operation Sold Out" as the BC Fed leadership were unable to produce any terms of agreement with the Government.

The 1983 sellout remains a fresh memory in the minds of both the Socreds and the public. In many ways the provisions of Bills 19 and 20 are a direct extension of the anti-union legislation first brought in during 1983.

However, the grass-roots resistance that in 1983 so fiercely opposed the Government's legislation has been replaced, at least among many victims of the sellout, by a cynical caution. "The day the IWA is out on the picket line shutting down its mills is the day I'll join a general-strike picket line," one former community-college faculty-union president told *Solidarity Bulletin*. "Until then, forget it. I'm not going to do anything."

But if BC workers don't mount an effective opposition to this new anti-labor initiative, the Socreds will certainly implement even worse measures in the future.

(Reprinted, with some editing, from *Solidarity Bulletin*, newsletter of the IWW's Vancouver, BC Branch.)

CANADA: FACTS FROM THE TRUE NORTH

According to *Business Week* magazine, the Canadian economy is controlled by a small group of families and managers. Some 80% of the companies listed on the Toronto Stock Exchange are controlled by a half-dozen shareholders.

The System continues to concentrate wealth and control in fewer and fewer hands. In 1977 the 15 largest conglomerates in Canada controlled 37 billion dollars in assets—nearly 7% of all corporate assets in the country. In 1985 the 15 had been reduced to 12 and controlled 211 billion—16% of all corporate assets.

Those in control reap some large returns from "risking their capital" (reaping surplus value from the labor of others). In 1985, when the wages of Canadian workers rose an average of 3.8%, the income of Canada's business executives climbed an average of 22.5%. The rich are not suffering. For example Edgar Bronfman, chairman of Seagrams, got a bonus of \$680,000 and raised his annual salary to 1.4 million. By comparison, Alfred Downing, chairman of Hiram Walker Resources, received a salary and bonus of only \$524,000.

Meanwhile, Statistics Canada has announced that in 1984, 4.3 million people—17.8% of Canada's population—lived below the poverty line. These are families that spend 62% or more of their income on food, housing, and shelter.


About 2,000 workers are killed on the job each year in Canada, and about another 10,000 die each year of exposure to cancer-causing agents in the workplace. Work-related accidents and diseases are the third-most-common cause of death in this country.

Let's not mince words: This is a daily violence conducted against members of the working class. I have yet to hear of a corporate lawyer, business executive, or politician dying from asbestosis, black lung, or hard-metals disease.

The US Environmental Protection Agency has identified some 55,000 toxic substances in commercial use. In Canada, only about 650 of these substances are controlled. But "controlled" is a misnomer: Most of the 650 substances are only given "recommended guidelines" that are weak and poorly enforced.

Len Wallace

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AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

ONE UNION ONE LABEL ONE ENEMY

Industrial Worker

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GREEK WORKERS PROTEST AUSTERITY: Government, bank, and factory workers struck May 7th, demanding immediate wage increases and an end to the "Socialist" Government's austerity program. About a million workers joined the one-day strike, closing down schools, banks, and government offices in more than 20 cities and forcing the cancellation of many airline flights. Thousands of strikers marched through Central Athens shouting anti-austerity slogans and demanding a 10% increase in wages. The austerity program, in force since 1985, has cut the average Greek worker's income by more than 8%, according to Government figures.

IRELAND: The Irish Distributive and Administrative Trade Union, last in the news for striking Dunnes stores and demanding the right to refuse to handle South African goods, faces possible expulsion from the Irish Congress of Trade Unions. IDATU general secretary John Mitchell was suspended from the ICTU executive after he blasted the ICTU's Northern Ireland Committee and its affiliates for opposing moves to fight discrimination against Catholics and co-operating with the British State while "not the tiniest little squeak has been made about the oppression of our people". IDATU is the third-largest Ireland-based union.

I.W.W. (WORLD LABOR) NEWS

SPANISH DOCKERS VICTORIOUS

After a hard six-month battle, the Spanish dockworkers' union, Coordinadora, has won a skirmish in its ongoing fight against the re-structuring of Spain's stevedoring industry.

On February 18th a document was signed in Barcelona between Coordinadora and Contenemar SA in which many important issues were resolved in accordance with Coordinadora's overall objectives. Among the more-important points:

- Contenemar will employ permanent dockers for a period of no longer than six months. Prior to May 1986, when the Government published its "Decree Law" on re-structuring, dockers appointed on a "permanent" basis to private firms continued to be registered with the Government-run hiring hall, OTP. If a worker was laid off or otherwise dismissed, he was put back on the rotating list. Under the Government's new scheme this minimum protection no longer exists, and dockers fired by private firms are out of luck. (Under this new agreement with Contenemar the company has agreed that, after six months, permanently-appointed dockers must withdraw to the rotating list and be replaced by other registered dockers from the list.)

- Contenemar will honor its obligations under the existing Industrial Agreement.

- Contenemar agrees to hire only OTP-registered dockers on jobs reserved for OTP dockers.

- Goods receipt and delivery will continue to be performed exclusively by OTP dockers.

- Health and safety conditions will be upgraded in all Contenemar branches under the supervision of their respective labor committees.

- Contenemar will withdraw all sanctions and penalties leveled against dockers during the strike. The company agreed that the dismissal of workers that occurred last October in connection with the strike was illegal and improper.

Coordinadora considers the outcome of the struggle against Contenemar a real success despite the roadblocks thrown up by the Government to avoid an agreement. Contenemar was compelled to come to an agreement under the pressure of a November 1986 decision by the Barcelona Labor Court that the company could not hire strikebreakers.

The situation of permanent dockers and those fired for strike activity, however, is not entirely resolved. Although Contenemar has re-admitted some of those dismissed, it claims it is not in a position to re-admit the rest. OTP, for its part, is refusing to re-admit the excluded dockers to its rotating list (in accordance with the Government policy). These dockers (five in Las Palmas, two in Tenerife, and one in Barcelona) have taken their case to the Labor Court.

Meanwhile, the Government continues to push its restructuring scheme forward. In March the Spanish Ministry Council approved a decree developing the general rules and norms of the May 1986 Decree Law, and a ministerial order gave approval to a contract form that every docker now belonging to OTP must sign. Coordinadora considers this compulsory contract an attack on dockers' freedom.

So, while one battle has been won, the war on the Spanish waterfront is far from over. Solidarity and ultimate victory to our Spanish fellow workers!

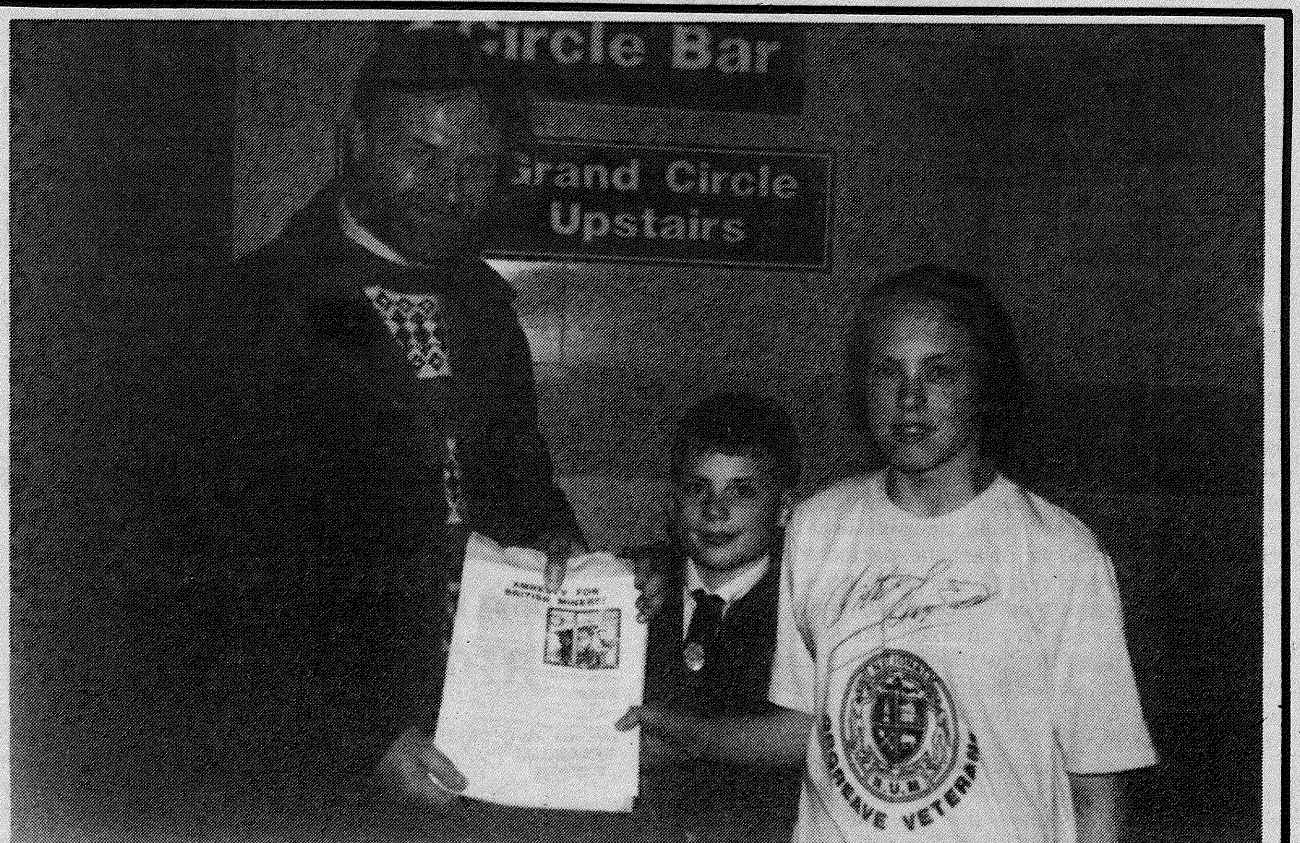
SUGAR WORKERS ORGANIZE

The sugar-cane industry around the world is in a tail-spin brought about by the increased use of alternative sweeteners. But workers are organizing internationally in an effort to defend their interests and prevent the bosses from playing them off against each other.

In the Philippines, the National Federation of Sugar Workers is demanding compensation from Coca-Cola and Pepsi after the two soft-drink giants switched from sugar to corn syrup, throwing tens of thousands of sugar workers on the island of Negros out of work. The union intends to use the money to finance its Farmlots program, which trains and equips unemployed workers to grow food on idle land. The NFSW has also been organizing distribution of food to Negros's starving workers, though the Government recently confiscated truckloads of food donated for this purpose.

On Mauritius, 10,000 workers have been laid off in the last five years and wages have fallen by 25%, reports Potaya Kuppan, president of the Sugar Industry Laborers' Union. Most male sugar workers survive on a base wage of \$3.68 for a 45-hour week (women earn a mere \$2.58), supplemented by production bonuses which are paid only during a few weeks of the year. The sugar industry is the largest employer on Mauritius.

Sugar workers' unions have established an International Commission for the Co-ordination of Solidarity Among Sugar Workers, which is working to gather data on the industry and to promote international links. The Commission publishes a newsletter, *Sugar World*, available to sugar workers from ICCSASW, Suite 301, 345 Adelaide Street West, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5R 2S2.



James and Sarah-Anne Spaul hand over the IWW's "Amnesty for British Miners" petitions to Billy Ellerington, president of the Justice for Mineworkers campaign, at a benefit concert held in Sheffield March 5th to mark the anniversary of the end of the miners' strike. The petitions, bearing several hundred signatures, had originally been turned over to James and Sarah-Anne's father, Jim, by Wilf Rhodes, retired president of the Hull and District Trades Union Congress, at that body's annual meeting in January. (A note from Fellow Worker Spaul informs us that there are still some 400 victimized miners who have yet to be called back to work. Fund-raising is continuing on their behalf, and the Chicago IWW still has "Amnesty for British Miners" badges available for a donation of \$10. All proceeds go to Britain.)

CATERPILLAR: WORKERS GO IT ALONE

The leadership of the Amalgamated Engineering Union (AEU) decided on March 31st to order the workers occupying the Caterpillar factory at Uddingston, near Glasgow, to surrender. Why? The occupation is illegal! Jimmy Airlie, a veteran of the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders work-in in the not-too-distant past and now a member of the AEU executive, delivered the message on April Fool's Day.

Caterpillar announced January 14th that production would end in May 1988 at the Uddingston plant, and the work would be shifted to factories in Belgium and France. Some 800 shop-floor workers and 400 staff workers would be made redundant. Simultaneously, the plant was being occupied. [See story in March *IW*.]

After this encouraging start, the workers followed the tactics of "new realism", finding some dubious allies. These included the Communist Party, the churches, Scottish nationalists, and wet Tories. The general attitude was summed up by a French CGT delegate who promised support "within the realities of the situation". Similarly, there were fruitless lobbies of Parliament (March 5th) and the Scottish Labor Party Conference (March 14th).

Financial support has been good (15,000 pounds per week from street collections and donations). Solidarity from Caterpillar plants in Leicester, Gosselies (Belgium), and Grenoble (France) has been largely token, although in early March the Leicester plant refused to accept replacement parts normally supplied from Uddingston. This decision was overturned by AEU officials.

Positive developments have included the use of mass meetings to ratify decisions of the occupation committee, and the setting up of a women's committee. The occupiers have also used the plant for music nights on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays.

Under pressure from the Labour Party, trade-union bosses, and Caterpillar, support for the occupation at mass meetings has been gradually falling, and many have voted with their feet. In mid-February the remaining white-collar staff abandoned the occupation. On March 23rd those workers remaining voted 418 to 352 to continue operations, whereupon Caterpillar immediately announced that the factory would close on May 11th, and 800 eviction orders were delivered to the factory gates. But none were opened, with workers stating "They can lie there and rot, as can Caterpillar management" and "Our future's decided by what we do in there [the factory], not what's in those envelopes." The company then sought an injunction.

With faith in the law, the stewards met the company in court March 25th, and "with much regret" the judge ordered workers to end the occupation. Another illusion dented, the workers refused to comply until the matter was put to a mass meeting March 30th. Trade-unionists were asked to show support by "physical presence" at the meeting. The workers voted 269 to 263 to continue the occupation. The trade-union leadership were horrified. After that the knives were out.

After the decision of the AEU to withdraw support for the occupation by May 1st, workers were furious at the union's intervention. One occupier declared: "The unions sold us down the river, they shouldn't be in here at all, it's our struggle. It's us that should decide." Needless to say, the occupiers have voted to defy the union call to end the occupation.

To defy the bosses (union or otherwise) the struggle must change and spread. Tactics should be debated and decided on by all supporters, relatives, and friends of the occupation. This strengthened the Fischer-Bendix occupation on Merseyside in 1972.

(The above article was reprinted, with minor editing, from the May 1987 issue of *The Tyneside Syndicalist*.)

May Day Around The World

POLAND: There were two May Day rallies in Warsaw this year: one huge and official, the other small, unauthorized, and encircled by Polish police. At the official rally, General Jaruzelski pontificated on discipline and the need to work assiduously. Outside a Warsaw church, a truck driver, Marek Miecznikowski, also talked about work to the 2,000 people who had managed to filter through the dozens of police checkpoints.

"For us workers," he said, "this is still not a real holiday of dignified labor, because we do not have the protection of law. We supposedly have the right to free expression of ideas, but we live in a time of police oppression. We have a legal right to our own unions, but those of Solidarity and the other independent unions have been liquidated."

Afterward, a few dozen people raised banners and started a march. Before they walked a hundred feet off the church grounds, squads of plainclothes cops darted out from behind the lines of uniformed cops to pull down banners and beat the marchers with the sticks they were attached to. Eight people were arrested.

There were attempts to stage unofficial (real) May Day demonstrations elsewhere in Poland. In Wroclaw, 50 people, including Solidarnosc supporter Wladyslaw Frazniuk, were arrested when they tried to march under the banner of the outlawed union. In Poznan, about a dozen people were arrested.

During the week before May Day, Polish police, in a pre-emptive move, delivered warnings to some 537 people, confiscated printing equipment, and detained at least 30 people overnight. The State offered as a concession the release of nine people who it contended were terrorists but who Solidarnosc leaders claimed were political prisoners, including seven residents of Krakow charged with attempting to disrupt last year's official May Day parade.

VENEZUELA: May Day was celebrated with a flurry of demonstrations, as people took to the streets to protest the public-transportation price hike and students protested against measures affecting the universities. On the pretext that the demonstrations were being organized by "subversives", Venezuelan political police raided the homes of political and union activists. Some of the activists were arrested, and others are being sought. In some cases, relatives of persons being sought were detained, apparently to try to intimidate those wanted by the police.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA: Police arrested two members of the Charter 77 human-rights movement when they unveiled a Charter banner at an official May Day rally. The two, Thomas Hradilek and Rudolf Bereza, raised a banner that read "Charter 77 calls on the people to show civil courage." A third Charter activist, Michal Mrtyv, was arrested for filming the event.

LEFT side



Greed seems to be the downfall of everyone except those who have made it their life-long profession. It seems the cops were looking for ex-cons who had some outstanding warrants against them. A fictitious organization was set up calling itself the Philadelphia Prison Reimbursement Fund, and it sent out the word that those who had done previous time behind bars were entitled to up to \$475 for the time they had served. When these ex-cons showed up anxiously licking their chops over the thought of an unexpected windfall, they were quickly brought back to reality when they found themselves reincarcerated for their outstanding warrants.

Some of the voluntary sitting ducks were philosophical enough to laugh at how they had been taken in. Like others, they had learned the hard way that get-rich-quick schemes only work for those who have been rich for a long time.

It was Arturo Giovanitti who told his fellow worker Joe Ettor, when they were being sentenced for their organizing activity during the Lawrence Textile Workers' Strike, that he shouldn't feel bad about having to sit in the same bullpen with thieves, murderers, and prostitutes. "No matter how much the stench, at least the Judge never sat on this bench!"

Despite the much-touted high standard of education we are told we have in Freedomland, the weakest subject seems to be simple geography. A recent survey asked people to point out various countries on a blank World map, and those who had taken high-school geography did no better than those who had never opened a geography book. The ones who were most ignorant of the locations of countries were the education majors themselves. About the best they could do was point out the US and the Soviet Union. Not one of the 879 students tested was able to point out all 11 countries the survey asked them to. Among these 11, the least-known countries were Ethiopia and El Salvador, but that figures: About two generations ago the average German didn't know the locations of Buchenwald and Bergen-Belsen.

A 39-year-old female commodities executive was told by a male colleague that men think women have "enormous magical powers", and therefore they have a hard time getting promotions. Another reason given for women's problems in getting promotions was that men think they're too pretty.

Despite these gems of wisdom, another survey disclosed that women bosses are easier to get along with than men, and that the future may see more women executives. Far be it from your humble scribe to deny equal opportunity on the basis of sex, but I would prefer to envision a future with no bosses at all!

To vindicate my last biased statement regarding bosses of any gender, one of the women writers for *Mother Jones* had offered to do an article for a woman editor of another magazine depicting the plight of Third World women refugees. This immensely powerful and successful editor of one of the leading women's magazines simply gave a charming wave of dismissal: "Sorry, Third World Women have never done anything for me."



I wonder if this editor knows who wove the fine textiles touted in her magazine, or who dives for the pearls advertised in her glossy full-page ads, much less who spends hours under the Sun picking the fancy vegetables with which she maintains her youthful figure. All she knows for sure is that disturbing information does not sell magazines as well as info on how to look glamorous.

Myself, I still have trouble with this term "Third World". I realize it sounds a hell of a lot more polite than greaser, spic, nigger, or gook, but I still can't help feeling pigeonholed. And while I'd rather see pigeons in the sky than jetliners, the smell of pigeon dung is not that appealing to me.

I am still a one-worlder at heart.

Some time back there was a protest picket line in front of a factory in Los Angeles. This factory had a striking new novelty called "bag lady" dolls. Apparently the execs of this factory saw a potential market

among those who viewed the homeless as comical figures. After all, doesn't our ham actor in the not-so-White House say that the homeless sleep on the street by personal choice? The people who formed their picket lines did not share the opinion that homeless women were comical or picturesque figures.

The top banana of the factory, who had been manufacturing these dolls for two years, was moved to make a statement in defense of his enterprise by saying that his dolls have "increased awareness and generated sympathy for the homeless". He pointed out that some 600 of these dolls have already found permanent homes.

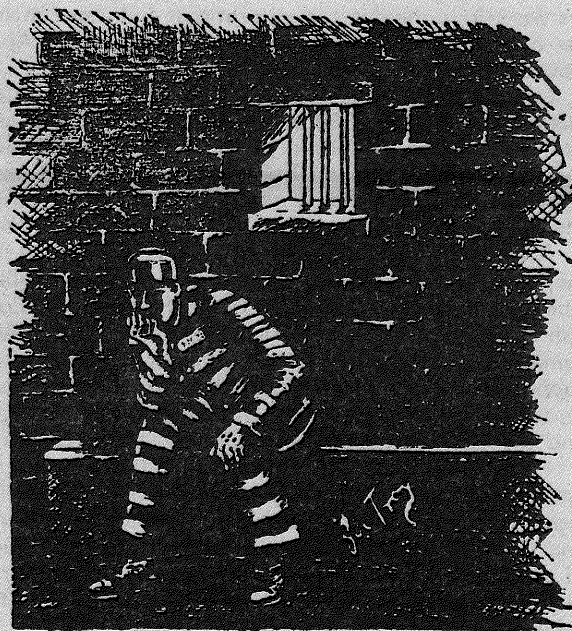
One must not forget that there is more profit in finding homes for dolls than for humans. At least we will not be guilty of saying: "Sorry, the homeless have done nothing for me!"

C. C. Redcloud

SUPREME COURT AFFIRMS U.S. RIGHT TO KILL

In two cases in the same week in late April, the US Supreme Court ruled 5 to 4 that some accomplices in crimes leading to death may be executed even if they did not personally kill or intend to kill, and that it is a "potentially irrelevant factor", not affecting the constitutionality of Georgia's death sentencing, that the state of Georgia is 11 times more likely to execute people who kill whites than people who kill blacks.

There are currently a record 1900 prisoners awaiting execution in 32 of the 37 American states that have death-penalty statutes. According to an Amnesty International report, between 1977 and 1986 almost 90% of prisoners executed in the US had been convicted of killing whites, even though there were almost as many black victims. AI also reported that 48% of the nation's death-row population in 1985 consisted of blacks or other minorities, even though they represent only 12% of the US population. (In some states the proportion of blacks on death row is much higher. In Alabama, for example, 66% of death-row inmates are black.)



The US and Pakistan are believed to have the largest death-row populations in the world. In recent years, the rate of US executions has been accelerating (58 prisoners were executed in the last three years, against only 11 in the previous seven). It would take an execution a day for five years to dispose of the current backlog.

This upsurge in executions comes at a time when there has been a consistent trend toward abolition in other countries, particularly in the Western industrial nations and in Latin America. At least one nation a year has abolished the death penalty since 1975, the most-recent being Australia. Since 1970 only one member of the 21-nation Council of Europe (Turkey) has carried out executions. In the Americas, seven countries have abolished the death penalty for ordinary offenses since 1975: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, El Salvador, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru. Moreover, studies in Canada have revealed that the murder rate actually declined after that country abolished capital punishment in 1976. The violent-crime rate dropped from 3.09 per 100,000 people in 1975 (the year before abolition) to 2.74 in 1983.

So why, since the world trend is against the death penalty, is it on the increase in the US? What makes American society so different?

Well, the US is the world's leading imperialist aggressor, with a penchant for solving problems with force and gadgets. As the power of unions wanes, the working class grows increasingly weaker relative to the owning class. The social disintegration caused by the concentration of wealth in the hands of a few is breeding a lot of crime. People feel vulnerable (and are vulnerable) to so many things beyond their control—jobs, health-care costs, air and water pollution, H-bombs—that "being tough on crime" by supporting the death penalty (another manifestation of force and gadgets—like the electric chair) is the only way people can feel strong.

plp

THE HARVEST OF CAPITALISM: MILLIONS OF EARLY DEATHS

Students at the University of Illinois in Champaign-Urbana have been collecting donations on the Quad in the last few weeks to help eradicate such deadly and crippling diseases as cystic fibrosis and muscular dystrophy. These are indisputably worthy causes, and the spontaneous outpouring of aid for such causes helps sustain one's faith in the survival and progress of our species. Yet despite all this activity, we seem to be losing sight of the biggest killer of all.

According to a report commissioned by the Agency for International Development, nearly 245 million children under five are expected to die by the year 2000, including some 240 million in poverty-stricken nations in Africa and Asia, and hundreds of thousands in relatively-wealthy countries such as the US.

On the death certificates (in those countries where these will be issued) the cause of death will be listed as malnutrition or some other poverty-linked disease. But these are mere symptoms: The real cause of death for these children will be an acute case of capitalism.



Meanwhile, hundreds of Scottish workers were forced in mid-April to abandon their occupation of Caterpillar's Uddingston tractor factory. The occupation began in January, when the company announced plans to close the plant, throwing 1221 workers onto the street. Just three months before, the company had announced plans to invest some \$100 million in upgrading and expanding the factory.

During the occupation, workers built a 75,000-pound tractor and tried to donate it to the Band Aid organization (which co-ordinates relief for famine-stricken areas of Africa). But Caterpillar secured an injunction to block shipment of the tractor to Ethiopia, on the ground that that tractor was "stolen goods".

Nothing could more clearly illustrate the difference between the financial needs of business and the potential to end suffering through working-class control of production.

Millions of people are starving around the world. Caterpillar tractors are among the types of equipment needed to increase agricultural production and alleviate the current food crisis. But Caterpillar is not in business to feed people or meet other human needs. It is in business to make money.

In contrast, the Uddingston workers desperately need to survive. Yet they were more than willing to donate their labor to help end human misery. Since some two-thirds of the value of a tractor comes from the labor workers put into it, you might think they would have the right to donate their labor to feeding people. But you'd be wrong.

Working people grow the food, build the factories, and do the rest of the work that keeps society going. But it is the capitalists who make the decisions and reap the benefits. This system (with some minor modifications) prevails pretty much over the whole world. But it is senseless all the same.

We workers pay a heavy price for this system in starvation, suffering, and needless deaths. We have the means to feed, clothe, and house ourselves. But present economic arrangements ensure that basic human needs will go unmet.

That's capitalism, and the price it exacts is far too high. It's time for a change in control of production.

(The above was adapted from an article by Jon Bekken in the April 29th *Daily Illini*.)

EMMELINE PANKHURST: "We disregard your laws, gentlemen: we set the liberty and the dignity and welfare of women above all such considerations, and we shall continue this war as we have done in the past... I incite this meeting to rebellion!"



For a new generation that has fought in or borne television witness to too many offbeat wars, the bombing of the small Spanish town of Guernica would now, one might think, come under the catalogue heading of: Art. Subject: Bombing of a Small Town. Artist: Picasso. For the murdered dead have long rested in their graves, and fresh agonies have demanded fresh tears. But Collingwood, in a long letter to a national right-wing British paper, decided to recognize May 1st by exhuming the old right-wing propaganda story, circulated at the time of the bombing of Guernica by the German Condor Legion, that it was the Basque inhabitants who deliberately destroyed their own town with a loss of 200 of their own lives. And Collingwood called on Kim Philby, the British Secret Service Russian spy employed by the plush *Times* newspaper, to support the Spanish fascist case. And in this fashion the British right-wing Establishment spat on May Day.

Yet these are fun times if one has a taste for the macabre humor of party politics. For the British Labour Party, having ditched the Red Flag, has shrugged off May Day in its sad attempt to prostitute itself for the middle-class vote in the coming national election. Its executive has booted out the vocal Miss Linda Bellos as a Parliamentary candidate, claiming that Linda, of the unrecognized Black Section within the Labour Party of Lambeth, called the Labour Party "racist" and was very rude about poor ol' Neil Kinnock. And this, comrades, is what elections are about, for it means winning the votes of those whose opinions and practices are mainly worthless.

But the fun and games are not confined to these small islands. For the American Marxist Peggy Kahn, whom the British media labeled Red Peg, claiming that she was Arthur Scargill's political advisor during the long coal miners' strike, has penned her alibi in the *Socialist Review*, produced in the sunny heartland of the University of California at good ol' Berkeley, USA. It is true that Peggy climbed on her bicycle, metaphorically speaking, and pedaled as fast as her legs could carry her Berkeley-bound before the coal miners' strike was ended. But in the true tradition of armchair generalship, rose-tinted Peggy claims that Scargill was "angry and punitive toward scabs" and condemns his "crude, sectarian, and ultra-Left-wing politics". The one lesson rose-tinted Peg must learn is that strikers in isolated areas who believe in the justice of their cause cannot and do not walk away in the middle of a strike.

With cooked-up figures seeking to hide Britain's four million unemployed, the Tory party, like the US Republicans, stands a fair chance of being returned to power. And let there be no mistake about it, comrades: Power for the Right Wing means *applied* power, and we must surely ask why millions of working-class and lower-middle-class people cast their votes to put the Right Wing back in power over them. But the answer is so simple, in that the unions and soft-centered left political parties have failed to offer any radical or effective opposition.



We can witness this—nay, we have witnessed it far too long—in the alleged "teachers' strike", which began as a simple matter of pay and working conditions and has now become a matter of principle, in that the Tory Government is determined to take any negotiable working rights from the teachers' unions. But for all that, it has become no more than a matter of irritating single "half-day" walkouts at selected schools, with neither the will nor the courage to defy the Tory Government with a massive solid walkout, while the 15-dollar half-day strike pay comes in or the pay computers fail to deduct the non-attending half-day pay.

For generations the job of being a classroom teacher to the children of the working class was a fief for the sons and daughters of Britain's lower middle class. But now, even though the working class have broken into the act, they still refer to themselves as a "profession", with the social status that dreads phrase smells of, and cry for shorter hours and higher pay as a right of that status. They cry "We want more pay so that we can recruit A Better Type of Teacher." And believe me, comrades, that ain't the lad from the ghetto or the lass from the backwoods.

There are no voluntary collections for the teachers or outsider pickets for the teachers' casual tiff with authority. For the "salary cheques" continue to be paid into their banks, and no pickets are needed because come the "half-day strike" everyone—but everyone—goes home. A demand for special privileges for one section of the working-class society cannot earn the support of the workers, and the teachers must learn the bitter lessons of Grunwick and the coal miners' strike.

Arthur Moyse, London

MALASIA'S DIMINISHING RESOURCES

On World Environment Day, Sahabat Alam Malaysia (SAM: Friends of the Earth Malaysia) released a press dossier on the present state of various environmental issues in Malaysia. The report was not a very encouraging one, since almost all areas of research showed environmental degradation.

One particular area of concern is the rapid and extensive exploitation of Malaysia's natural resources, especially with regard to fertile agricultural land, extensive tropical forests and wildlife, various minerals, and bountiful seas and rivers. Malaysia's rich natural resources have diminished very rapidly, and the situation will reach a critical stage if it is not controlled.

The state of Malaysia's forests can be gauged by the fact that less than 25% of peninsular Malaysia is covered by primary forest. About 100 years ago, forest stretched from the Thai border to the tip of the peninsula. The forests have been cleared mainly for timber, followed by agriculture, mining, urbanization, and infrastructure. In 1981 trees were being cut down at the rate of 0.25 hectares per minute. While the trees reaped billions of dollars, the forest was destroyed. Valuable genetic resources and wildlife gave way to timber extraction. Extensive soil erosion followed clearance of the forest cover, leading to river siltation and floods downstream.



The Government responded by adopting a "more stringent" National Forestry policy in 1981. Yet sawlog production increased by more than two million tons in 1982. The Forest Policy saw the creation of forest plantations. Fast-growing commercial species are selected. Apart from the relatively-small areas so replanted, compared to the extensive logging, such programs also show a misconception of forest rehabilitation.

While national parks and sanctuaries have been gazetted, they are still regarded as open to use. Recent plans to "develop" Taman Negara by building a road to the base of Gunung Tahan, opening an airstrip in the vicinity as well as setting up hotels and other tourist attractions in the park, will surely spell the death of the conserved area.

In Sarawak, the destruction of forests is also threatening the livelihood and culture of thousands of indigenous peoples who live in the forest. This has already happened in the Baram District, a heavily-logged area.

Food production places emphasis on export-oriented crops rather than on satisfying the basic nutritional needs of the Malaysian population. For example, while Malaysians have to pay higher prices for fish, and poor fishermen no longer enjoy as much fish as before, the bulk of our national output goes to feed people in the developed countries. More than a third of our prawns and fish are sold to Japan, Europe, and the United States.

Where meat consumption is concerned, peninsular Malaysia is 55% self-sufficient, while Sabah and Sarawak are meeting only 23% of their domestic requirements. Vegetable production in the peninsula has fallen drastically from 202,100 tons in 1980 to 124,300 tons in 1985. This is mainly caused by the conversion of fertile vegetable land into housing estates and other urbanization projects.

Grave problems have also arisen from the introduction of "modern" agricultural practices. These usually involve extensive and intensive use of chemicals. Widespread use of pesticides and weedicides on rubber and oil-palm estates has resulted in poisoning of workers. Many of these toxic chemicals are either banned or restricted in developed countries.

The replacement of traditional methods with modern technology, especially in the rice sector, is producing a backlash effect. Mechanization and increased use of chemical fertilizers raise capital investment, making the small and often poor farmers unable to participate profitably in rice production.

Traditional methods which worked for generations should not be dismissed without discussing their efficacy. Food to feed Malaysians must also be the priority in our agricultural policy.

Soil erosion is a serious problem. In logging areas, the rate of erosion is at least three times that of areas covered by natural forest.

Housing estates, industrial centers, and infrastructure also eat up forest lands. Hill cleaning for hotel development and luxurious condominiums poses a serious erosion hazard.

At the same time, heavy siltation of rivers and streams results from the exposed lands, causing flash floods in valleys and downstream areas. In Kuala Lumpur, for instance, floods have become a common and expected thing whenever there is a heavy downpour.

Soil conservation must be an integral part of project planning. Existing scarred areas should also be rehabilitated, especially former mining land.

There are already existing laws for this purpose, such as the Land Conservation Act of 1960, the National Land Conservation Act of 1965, and the City of Kuala Lumpur (Earthworks) By-Laws of 1975. Unfortunately, there is blatant disregard of these laws.

Sahabat Alam Malaysia

IRAN: WORKERS FIGHT BOSSES

Earlier this year, the workers at the Gherghereh-e-ziba cotton factory demanded the implementation of a job-classification plan. The management promised to consider the workers' demand and give them the results on February 17th. But on February 15th the management posted a warning that those who persisted in demanding implementation of the plan would be considered troublemakers. Following this announcement all workers involved in the protest were questioned, and 12 were prevented from entering the factory for 10 days under such pretexts as "carrying leftist leaflets" or "having gotten into rows with their supervisors in the previous year". Fearful of being fired, the 12 workers renounced their demand.

Some 700 people work in two sand mines on the outskirts of the city of Kamyaran in Western Iran. Most of them walk two to three hours to and from work on top of their 15-to-16-hour workday. The sand miners are divided into two groups of four, each sifting 20 tons of sand every day and loading it onto trailers. For all this, the workers get just 125 tomans (\$1 equals 80 tomans) per day. Job insecurity and rising unemployment have forced many of the workers to wait hours outside the mines hoping to be called in (and to agree to even-lower wages). Malnourishment is a serious problem, as the workers' main meal is a dish of potato or yogurt. There have been some scattered protests over conditions, but no unified action.

On March 10th, workers at Philip Electric Radio went on strike after the management refused to pay them their annual bonuses and give them the black-and-white TVs they had been promised. Instead, the company offered bonuses of cooking oil and rice. The strikers returned to work after the management called in the Pasdars (the regime's armed troubleshooters) and threatened the workers with detainment (arrest without trial) in Evin prison.

In mid-February, when workers in one of the Western Tehran construction companies had gathered to get their wages, they were called on to accept layoffs. By way of severance pay, two months' wages per year worked was offered. Some 45 workers (out of 800) accepted this offer, but soon after signing the required form they were told they would get only one month's wages for each year worked. The swindled workers were highly upset and tried to return to their jobs, but the management refused to re-hire them.

The workers in Zamyad factory have been told to repair mortar shells for the Military during two hours of unpaid overtime per night. Apart from enthusiastic members of the Islamic Society, none have complied with the order.



DIRECT ACTION ON THE JOB: CAROL'S STORY

I worked at the Center for Applied Social Science, a very-busy office [at Boston University]. One day the director decided that the secretaries, in addition to all the other things we did, would have to pull security for the building too. We would have to take shifts sitting at a desk in the entryway, and in between typing and taking phone calls, check each person coming in to find out where they were going and whether they belonged there.

All the secretaries were upset, so we got together for a beer after work and decided we would really do it right! We went out and got our equipment at the local Woolworth's: toy guns, walkie-talkies, badges, the works. And were we tough on anyone who walked in the next day! "Hey, stop right there!" We'd pull out our guns and communicate on our walkie-talkies with the secretaries upstairs. We only had to do it about half a day. No one ever said anything about security duty after that.

(The above item was taken from Boston's *Labor Page*, Number 28. Our thanks and a free copy of "Didactic Verses" to Nancy K.)

Malignant Kinship of Cancer and Poverty

The following was adapted from an article by Wilmette Brown, a single black lesbian cancer survivor from New Jersey, in *Woman Power* (Winter 1987).

Since the 1960s, black women's struggle, as part of an international movement of women, has finally established that whether we are in the metropolis or in the Third World, sexism is inseparable from women's economic exploitation, especially from women's unwaged work; and that for black women, sexism and racism go hand in hand.

"Women do two-thirds of the world's work, earn one twentieth of the world's income, and own one hundredth of world assets."

With black women as a point of reference, statistics from the US show that cancer embodies the malignant kinship of sex, race, and class.

Cancer is big business: Medicine is the second-largest industry in North America, and the price of cancer treatment is more than \$20 billion a year. Everyone lives in dread of cancer. One in five people in the US dies from cancer, and one in four may die if the trend continues over the next 10 years. But poor people suffer most: Income is inversely related to mortality, and poor patients have less chance of surviving every type of cancer. In all the most "cancer-prone" cities there are large black ghetto communities.

Every mother is a working mother. Two-thirds of all poor people in the US are white, but the proportion of the population in poverty is greatest among blacks. In the US, particularly among black people, women and children are becoming the majority of the poor.

According to a report by the National Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity, "The poor who are in female-headed families... would comprise 100% of the poverty population by the year 2000." World-wide, the woman-headed family is the fastest-growing sector of the population, and in developing countries, 50% of women are the main breadwinners.

"Because of the extra demands pregnancy imposes, nutritional and environmental diseases take a severe toll on women, and can in addition adversely affect the growing fetus. The same is true of new health hazards accompanying modern industrialization: exposure to radiation and to toxic chemicals is particularly dangerous for pregnant women.

"Women's heavy workload, particularly in traditional rural areas, but also in poor urban areas, increases their vulnerability to disease."

Thus in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America, and the Pacific, "development" means that degenerative diseases like cancer are developing in the metropolis within the Third World; while in the US cancer is ravaging black people, who are the Third World within the metropolis.

In the US, black people's cancer death rate is 30% higher than white people's; black men's is higher than white men's; and black women's is higher than white women's. Fewer than a third of black cancer patients survive for five years. At Harlem Hospital, one in five black cancer patients survives. Cancer is the major cause of death among middle-aged women, and among children it is second only to accidental death. A 15-year study in Oregon showed that housewives have "the highest job-related cancer death rate of any occupation."

How Holistic Is the Holistics Health Movement?

So far in the holistics health movement there have been three visible approaches to confronting cancer: changing one's consciousness and lifestyle so as to take responsibility for cancer; self-healing therapies such as diet, exercise, yoga, meditation, visualization, or a combination of these and other techniques; and exposes of how the medical industry, and the military-industrial complex as a whole, are profiting from cancer.

The consciousness approach can amount to saying that cancer is our own fault. For to ignore or deny that the military-industrial complex is continually projecting the view that black people are disposable, and implementing genocidal policies against people of color all around the world, is to be part of the problem rather than part of the solution. Black people are entitled to expect more from the holistic health movement than confirmation of what the State always tells us. One of the ways we are taking responsibility for our consciousness and lifestyle is by organizing to end the conditions and power relations set up by the military-industrial complex to destroy our health.

Most people lack access to the resources and techniques necessary for self-healing; and the poorer we are, the less access we have. Yoga and other classes at affordable prices are not widely available anywhere. The corner grocery or supermarket in black ghettos, and most other communities, is no health-food shop. Eating whole foods means time for travel, money for transportation, high prices, and the work of learning new eating habits and methods of food preparation—even buying new pots and pans. Food stamps, welfare, and low wages only go so far.

For women, especially with children, the housework of holistic health is enormous. Women generally have too little time and money and are too overworked for this kind of self-help. Yet lacking the time and money to research the information and implement the therapies, many women still feel guilty—as if cancer were the fault of women rather than of poverty and overwork.

And guilt is already one of the biggest obstacles to women's health. Self-healing for the few who can afford it, and guilt for the majority of us who can't, can hardly be considered holistic health.

The third approach has uncovered a wealth of information, which is a tremendous public service. But it leaves us with the questions of what to do and how to organize. Without answers to these questions (except in terms of more government hearings and lobbying), the more detailed the information about how the military-industrial complex plans and profits from cancer, the greater the impression of its overwhelming invulnerability, as though it were able to anticipate, counter, and/or co-opt our every move. If the balance of power

were really so one-sided (which it is not), we would all be doomed to be victims, not survivors, of cancer.

The information we most need is about how we are already organizing ourselves against cancer as a basis for moving further. Without this kind of information, fighting cancer is ghettoized to a single issue—the priority or privilege of a particular sector, deprived of the power and resources of the working class as a whole. Without reference to the daily lives of black women, we cannot know how comprehensive the issue of cancer is, or how capable the holistic health movement is of combatting it. Without reference to the daily lives of black women, cancer wins by default—through our own divisions of sex, race, and class.

Goldfield Wobs Exonerated

On May 14th the Nevada Pardons Board granted posthumous pardons to IWW organizers Joseph Smith and Morrie Preston, framed for killing a restaurant owner in the mining town of Goldfield, Nevada in 1907. On the second day of a gold miners' strike, John Silva, the restaurant owner, refused to pay a waitress her back wages, and the IWW miners' local put up a picket line around the restaurant. While Preston was picketing, Silva came at him with a gun, and Preston fired his own gun in self-defense. Preston was sentenced to 25 years in prison for murder, while Smith, who had called for the boycott of the restaurant, got 10.

A chronicle of the trial ("The Ignoble Conspiracy: Radicalism on Trial in Nevada") was recently published by the authors, Sally Zanjani and Guy Rocha, prompting members of Smith's family to get his name cleared by showing how the Wobblies were victims of an "ignoble conspiracy by mining-company tycoons to get rid of the IWW".

It's nice that FWs Preston and Smith got officially certified innocent. But the important thing about whatever publicity was raised by Zanjani and Rocha's book and the board's action is the brief glimpse they offer of working-class history that has been wiped out of public awareness. Radical labor has gotten crushed twice: the first time by the owning class directly, and the second time by being written out of the schoolbooks and erased from popular culture. The result is that most American

workers don't really know how the eight-hour day was won and against what opposition, or what the IWW stood (and stands) for and how we were repressed, or how the sitdown strike was used in Flint and how the business unions acquiesced to Taft-Hartley outlawing of solidarity. Consequently, cut off from known examples, the idea of workers fighting collectively to improve their worklife seems alien—even to the workers themselves. Without memories of how US labor got into this mess, and with only a declining 18% of the workforce organized, it seems only natural that US capitalist imperialism should have no effective internal opposition.

But the boss class has forgotten nothing. And if the IWW (or any combination of groups) ever becomes strong enough to give the bosses real trouble, we will face the same repression that beat down the IWW in the past. The readiness of the US owning/ruling class to help beat down militant labor in El Salvador, South Africa, and South Korea makes that plain. The readiness of the governors of Minnesota and South Dakota to send in the National Guard to break up picket lines that merely showed some signs of being effective makes that plain. In the last eight years the US boss class have made more money faster than they could have dreamed of before the Carter-Reagan military buildup. And they will not part willingly with a single penny of it.

plp

Wesley Everest's Grave Found!

Wesley Everest was among the group of Wobblies who were in their Centralia, Washington hall when it was attacked by a mob of American Legionnaires on Armistice Day, 1919. He was one of 12 Wobblies captured by the mob after a gunfight that killed four Legionnaires.

Already beaten senseless when he was captured, Everest was dragged out of jail that night, castrated, and hanged from a bridge over the Chelhalis River. Members of the lynch mob included many prominent local businessmen and political leaders. After his mutilated body was taken back to the jailhouse and displayed to the 11 surviving prisoners, four of them were forced to bury it in an unmarked grave in Centralia's potter's field.

When the defenders of the hall were brought to trial on a charge of conspiracy to murder, the evidence clearly established that the conspiracy was that of the businessmen to drive out the IWW, and that the first shot had been fired after the invasion of the hall. Nevertheless, the 11 were found guilty of second-degree murder. The City then raised a monument—often vandalized—to the thugs who attacked the hall as "a silent rebuke to the enemies of orderly government".

The old Centralia potter's field was incorporated into the Sticklin-Greenwood Memorial Park sometime in the '30s, according to Park sexton John Baker. Everest's grave is marked by a headstone, but apparently has gone unnoticed over the years. The headstone bears the IWW emblem, and one of the local stonemasons recognized the work as that of an old-time colleague. But Baker has not been able to find any record at the firm of the headstone's being cut or delivered.

Baker is trying to organize a memorial service at the grave on November 11th. Members of Local 3-130 of the International Woodworkers have agreed to care for the grave, and will present a resolution calling for the ceremony at the next convention of the Washington State Labor Council.

The March 26th, 1980 *Woodworker* carried an account of "The Haunting Truth Behind the Centralia Massacre", by Vince Digiroalmo. A limited number of copies of that edition are still on file at the International Woodworkers office, and anyone interested in getting one can try writing to the *Woodworker*, 1622 North Lombard, Portland, Oregon 97217. Include \$1 for postage and handling.

An Injury to One-----

Five members of the independent Russian trade union SMOT are still imprisoned or held in psychiatric hospitals, though some SMOT activists were released in the recent amnesty for political prisoners. SMOT's Council of Representatives is appealing to independent unions and human-rights organizations to write the Soviet authorities urging the immediate release of V. Guerchouni, V. Senderow, A. Sitynski, A. Skobov, and V. Skvirsky. Letters should be sent to the Soviet embassy at 1125 16th Street Northwest, Washington DC 20036.

Petr Pospichal, a 26-year-old Czech warehouse worker and supporter of the Charter 77 human-rights organization, was arrested January 22nd and was subsequently charged with "subversion of the republic", which carries a sentence of 3 to 10 years. His crime consists solely of his active support for Charter 77 and his correspondence with Solidarnosc activists in Poland. Pospichal's involvement with Polish activists apparently struck a particularly raw nerve among the authorities, already jolted by the remarkable unity among the various opposition groups in Eastern Europe demonstrated in recent months. His Czech colleagues have appealed for letters to be sent to the authorities demanding his release. Letters should be addressed to Gustav Husak, President of the CSSR, 11 908 Praha-Hrad, Praha, Czechoslovakia.

Israeli military authorities are cracking down on Palestinian unionists, forbidding union elections and meetings and arresting union officials. Some 180 union members voting in union elections in defiance of the authorities have had their identity cards confiscated, effectively placing them under military detention. Others have been beaten for participating in the elections, and ballot boxes have been confiscated by the authorities before ballots could be counted.

The unions affected are the Commercial and Public Service Workers Union, the Union of Building and Carpentry Workers, and the Sewing and Tailoring Workers Union—the first two of which are legally registered. *IWW* readers are urged to write the Labor Attache, Israeli Embassy, 3514 International Drive Northwest, Washington DC 20008, demanding that the Israeli Government respect the right of all workers to organize and hold union elections.

And international action is urgently needed to secure the release of hundreds of South African unionists swept up in recent weeks (and joining the thousands already held by the regime). Letters seeking the release of Amon Msane and other union activists should be sent to the South African embassy, 3051 Massachusetts Avenue Northwest, Washington DC 20008.



IWW DIRECTORY.....

ALASKA: Ruth Sheridan, Delegate, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage 99508. Barry Roderick, Delegate, Box 748, Douglas 99824.

AUSTRALIA: IWW Delegate, 417 King Street (1st Floor), Newton, Sydney.

CALIFORNIA: San Francisco Bay Area General Membership Branch, Box 40485, San Francisco 94140. Richard Ellington, Delegate, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland 94609, (415) 658-0293. San Diego IWW Group, PO Box 16989, San Diego 92116. General Defense Committee, Arthur J. Miller, Secretary, PO Box 2576, San Diego 92112.

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

GUAM: Shelby Shapiro, Box 864, Agana 96910.

ILLINOIS: Chicago General Membership Branch and General Defense Committee Local 2, 3435 North Sheffield (Suite 202), Chicago 60657, (312) 549-5045. Meetings first Sunday of each month at 1 pm. Champaign-Urbana IWW Group, Jeff Stein, Delegate, Box 2824, Station A, Champaign 61820.

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

LOUISIANA: IWW Group, PO Box 37581, Shreveport 71133.

MASSACHUSETTS: Boston General Membership Branch, Box 454, Cambridge 02139. Western Massachusetts IWW Group, Box 465, Hadley 01035, (617) 522-7090.

MICHIGAN: Southeast Michigan General Membership Branch, 42 South Summit, Ypsilanti 48197, (313) 483-3478. Meetings second Monday of each month at 7:30 pm in Room 4001 of the Michigan Union, University Cellar IU 660 Job Branch, 425 South Summit, Ypsilanti 48197. People's Warehouse IU 660 Job Branch, c/o Sarah Rucker, 727 West Ellsworth Road, Ann Arbor 48104. IWW Delegate, 415 Ethel, Grand Rapids 49506.

MINNESOTA: Minneapolis-Saint Paul General Membership Branch, PO Box 2245, Saint Paul 55102. Nancy A. Collins, Delegate. Meetings third Wednesday of each month.

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NEW YORK: New York General Membership Branch, Box 183, New York 10028. Delegates: Robert Young, Box 920, Wingdale 12594. Joe O'Shea, Winklers Farm, Towners Road, Carmel 10512. Rochelle Semel, 788 Columbus Avenue (16D), New York 10025, (212) 662-8801. John Hansen, 302 Avenue C, Brooklyn 11218. Henry Pfaff, 77 Eckhart, Buffalo 14207, (716) 877-6073. Jackie Panish, 99-12 65th Road (5-J), Rego Park 11374, (212) 868-1121.

OHIO: Southwest Ohio General Membership Branch and General Defense Committee Local 1, c/o Prison Education Project, Box 56, West Elkton, Ohio 45070. General Defense Committee Local 3, c/o John Steward, Number 158-903, PO Box 45699, Lucasville 45699-0001.

OREGON: R.M.R. Kroopkin, Delegate, 2226 Fairmount Boulevard, Eugene 97403.

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

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

TEXAS: Gilbert Mers, Delegate, 7031 Kernel, Houston 77087, (713) 921-0877.

VANCOUVER: IWW, PO Box 65635, Station F, Vancouver, British Columbia V5N 5K5, Canada. West Kootenay IWW Group, Box 941, Nelson V1L 6A5, Canada. J. B. McAndrew, 7216 Mary Avenue (1204), Burnaby V5E 3K5, Canada.

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WASHINGTON: Bellingham General Membership Branch Box 1386, Bellingham 98227. Seattle General Membership Branch, 3238 33rd Avenue South, Seattle 98144. Spokane IWW Group, PO Box 1273, Spokane 99210. Tacoma/Olympia General Membership Branch, 2115 South Sheridan, Tacoma 98405, (206) 272-8119.

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

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.

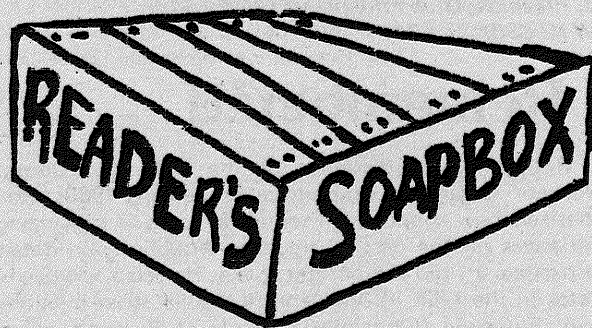
BETWEEN THESE TWO CLASSES A STRUGGLE MUST GO ON UNTIL THE WORKERS OF THE WORLD ORGANIZE AS A CLASS, TAKE POSSESSION OF THE EARTH AND THE MACHINERY OF PRODUCTION, AND ABOLISH THE WAGE SYSTEM.

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.



Dear Industrial Worker:

I was glad to see the *Industrial Worker* article on Camillo Berneri in the May issue. Berneri is an important revolutionary thinker whose works deserve to be translated and more-widely read. However, I was surprised to see the claim made that there was some doubt about who murdered Berneri in 1937.

All of the sources on the Spanish Revolution that I have read on the subject agree that "... Among the many revolutionaries murdered at this time by the Communists was Camillo Berneri, an outstanding anarchist intellectual, who was arrested and shot by the Communist-controlled police on May 6th." (Nancy MacDonald, "Homage to the Spanish Exiles", Page 40)

Jose Peirats, in "Anarchists in the Spanish Revolution", cites the CNT's newspaper *Solidaridad Obrera*, which details the arrest of Berneri at his home along with another anarchist, Barbieri. Later, the police assured Barbieri's female companion that the two men were safe and would be released shortly. But the families soon discovered that the Red Cross had found the bodies riddled with bullets and dumped in the street outside the Catalan government building the night before. (Page 220)

Broue and Temime in "The Revolution and Civil War in Spain" and Ronald Fraser in "Blood of Spain" also point out that Berneri was murdered after he had been arrested. In *Vision on Fire* (edited by David Porter), Emma Goldman is direct and to the point. She accuses "the murderous Stalin gang" (Page 42), "the henchmen of Stalin" (Page 162), of murdering Berneri and Barbieri.

The Stalinist Communists murdered not only Berneri but also many other anarchist militants during the 1937 Barcelona May Days. The May Days were provoked by an attempt by the Stalinist-commanded police force to seize the collectivized telephone exchange, even though the exchange had been collectivized legally. The May Days were the beginning of the restoration of capitalism in Catalonia and Aragon, which the Communists felt was necessary to get the capitalists to support the struggle against Franco and international fascism.

I think it is important to place the blame for the murder of Berneri where it belongs. We must never forget that in the struggle for working-class freedom, the Stalinists are just as much an enemy as the fascists and capitalists.

Jeff Stein

IWW CALENDAR COMMITTEE NEEDS PHOTOGRAPHS

The IWW Calendar Committee is seeking old and recent photographs for use in making the 1988 IWW Calendar. Pictures of strikes, union activities, organizing, peace or anti-nuke marches, work with co-ops, and anything else in which IWW presence is clearly seen are wanted. Dates of the pictures can be anything from 1905 to 1985, with pictures from the 1960s onward especially wanted. Owners of pictures used in the Calendar will be duly noted, and all pictures will be returned to their owners. Please send all pictures to Fred Lee, IWW Calendar Committee, 3435 North Sheffield, Room 202, Chicago, Illinois 60657.

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- History of the IWW in Canada50
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- A Worker's Guide to Direct Action. 50¢ from New York IWW, P.O. Box 183, NY 10028.
- Fellow Union Member. 10¢ each; 5-15 for 5¢ each; 16-500, 3¢ each; over 500, 2¢ from Tacoma/Olympia IWW, 2115 S. Sheridan, Tacoma, WA 98405.
- Introduction to the IWW. 10¢ each; bulk rate 40%, prepaid, from San Francisco IWW, P.O. Box 40485, San Francisco, California 94140.
- Solidarity Bulletin (monthly publication) \$10 a year from Vancouver IWW, P.O. Box 34334, Station D., Vancouver, B.C. Canada V6J 4P3.
- IWW baseball caps (one size fits all) \$4 each plus \$1 each for shipping from General Headquarters, Chicago, or from University Cellar IU 660 Job Branch (checks payable to IWW), 42 South Summit, Ypsilanti, Michigan, 48197.
- Amnesty for British Miners (enamel and gold buttons) \$10 each from Chicago IWW Branch, 3435 North Sheffield, Suite 202, Chicago, IL 60657. (All proceeds to British miners.)

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There's a Reason WHY INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM AND THE WORKERS REPUBLIC WILL TRIUMPH



Left to right: Sharon Muir, Maureen McElderry, J. B. Freeman, Utah Phillips, and Harry Muir: all members of IWW IU 630.

Fred Thompson Remembered

Nearly 200 of Fred Thompson's friends and fellow workers met May 9th at Chicago's Sulzer Library to salute, in words and music, the life and achievements of the great Wobbly and scholar who passed away two months ago.

Long-time IWW artist/poet Carlos Cortez, master of ceremonies for the occasion, set the tone of the meeting by stressing that it was "not a mourning but a celebration", a re-affirmation of the ideals and principles that animated Fellow Worker Thompson's 65 years in the IWW cause. The union's general secretary-treasurer, Penny Pixler, then recalled her decade of close collaboration with Fred on the *Industrial Worker*, and pointed out that "every article he wrote had one theme: World labor needs a union."

Franklin Rosemont of the Chicago IWW Branch provided some highlights of Fred's biography, noting his specific contributions to the development of the IWW, his invaluable work as a labor historian, and his pivotal role in the resurgence of the Charles H. Kerr Publishing Company.

In perhaps the single most-moving moment in the memorial, Fellow Worker Art Nurse—who had flown in from Missoula, Montana for the meeting—recalled signing up Fred in the IWW back in 1922.

Historian Arthur Weinberg, author of a biography of Clarence Darrow and other works, remembered how impressed he was when he heard Fred address the Junior Wobbly Union in the early 1930s. Weinberg cited Fred's

FELLOW WORKER ART NURSE'S SPEECH AT THE FRED THOMPSON MEMORIAL

Well, you're about to listen to the worst speaker you could hear. I've never been a speaker. But I did know Fred Thompson.

I met Fred in San Francisco in September 1922. I was a delegate for the seamen, Marine Transport Workers' Industrial Union 510 of the IWW, and he came up to the hall and talked with the members—two, three days in a row. And I said, maybe he's coming up here because he wants to line up. So I asked him if he belonged, and he said, "No, but I'd join up if I knew where to get a card." I said, "Right here."

He got organizer's credentials soon after that, and he went up on a construction job in California. That's the last time I saw Fred till about eight years ago, though we kept in touch all the time. The last time I heard from Fred he called me up in my home town in Thompson Falls, Montana on New Year's Eve.

My advice is, buddy, if you want to do something that Fred would like, get busy and organize in the IWW.

gifts as a soapboxer as well as a historian, and noted his role as a teacher at the IWW Work People's College in Duluth, Minnesota. He further stressed Fred's insistence that a union worthy of the name must always be more than a vehicle of the everyday struggle for higher pay—it must also be a vehicle for radical social change.

Joyce Kornbluh of the University of Michigan Labor Studies Center—also a member of the Illinois Labor History Society and Workers' Education Local 189, in both of which Fred was active—spoke of Fred's helpfulness when she was preparing her IWW anthology, *Rebel Voices*, in the early 1960s. She noted the strong impression Fred made on her students in those years, and how astounded they were when he told them he acquired much of his own education at San Quentin, where he had been imprisoned for IWW organizing. Remarking Fred's extraordinary kindness and gentleness, Kornbluh hailed him as a truly-exemplary figure in the struggle for a better world. "We loved Fred," she said, "because he lived the life we all dream of."

Robert Green, secretary of the IWW Agricultural Workers' Organizing Committee in the early 1960s, emphasized how supportive Fred always was of organizing initiatives on the part of younger Wobblies, and noted in particular Fred's important role as tactician and negotiator in the 1964 IWW blueberry pickers' strike in Michigan. Referring to an idiotic parade of Reaganites that took place the same day as the memorial, Fellow Worker Green urged one and all to "just say no" to the system of exploitation and wage slavery.

J. Quinn Brisben of the Socialist Party—in which Fred was also active—and Mike Flug of *News & Letters* spoke of Fred's dedication to the socialist cause, his non-sectarianism, his strong sense of radical pluralism, and his warm spirit of solidarity.

A number of messages were read from individuals unable to attend the meeting: Katharine Kerr Moore, 93-year-old daughter of Charles H. Kerr; Frank Zeidler, former Socialist mayor of Milwaukee; Studs Terkel; and many others. (Some of these messages will be included in next month's *Industrial Worker*.)

Fellow Worker Cortez then introduced the last speaker, "one of our union's greatest soapboxers, who even plays a soapbox with strings on it": Utah Phillips, of Spokane. Fellow Worker Phillips emphasized Fred's wild sense of humor: "He had a true sense of the bizarre. He was filled with hilarity. I suppose that was one of the ways he managed to survive." Phillips then sang, with the whole crowd joining in, "There Is Power in a Union", "The Popular Wobbly", "The Union Burying Ground", and, together with the Great Industrial Band from Minneapolis—Harry and Sharon Muir, J. B. Freeman, and Maureen McElderry—a rousing rendition of "Solidarity Forever".

Much credit for the success of the memorial belongs to these singers/musicians of IWW Industrial Union 630, whose songs were interspersed with speeches throughout the program. The Muirs' lively "Four-Hour Day" and "Another Link in the Chain", and J. B. Freeman's powerful handling of "Hallelujah, I'm a Bum" and "Bread and Roses", added appreciably to the impact of this

celebration of Fred Thompson's illustrious life in the service of working-class emancipation.

And impact there was. Memorials as such didn't mean much to Fred, but the IWW meant everything; and it would please him to know that this meeting brought some half-dozen new members into the union, and inspired several others to pay up their back dues. Surely building the IWW is the best of all possible memorials.

In his address to the meeting, Utah Phillips expressed a thought shared by us all: "Fred Thompson's life, abundantly lived, is its own summation. None of us can say anything to encircle it. Fred Thompson's life is a circle around ours."

Around Our Union

CROWD ENJOYS IWW'S MAY DAY DINNER DANCE

The Vancouver IWW's third annual May Day celebration saw a smaller-than-usual crowd for dinner, but an excellent turnout for the dance at the Ukrainian Hall. The participants enjoyed themselves, lots of IWW literature was sold or given away, and the evening returned a modest profit.

About 60 people were on hand for an East Indian feast featuring curries, pilau, East Indian candies, and fresh fruit. Following the meal, IWW folksinger Bruce Brackney led the crowd in singing rousing union tunes old and new, many of which were conveniently printed for the occasion on the dinner placemats.

Next, the Vancouver women's a-cappella singing group Aya performed. The five-member group are expert at intricate choral harmonies, and the audience responded enthusiastically.

As the Hall filled up, tables and chairs were cleared away and dancing commenced to the music of the Kingpins, a lively rockabilly band hired to replace the advertised reggae group, the B-Side Band, who were unable to make it due to a booking conflict.

A raffle drawing to benefit the IWW organizing fund was held during the evening. Prizes ranged from hundred-dollar food vouchers from the Eastside Food Corporation to a portable cassette tape player to IWW T-shirts and caps. Both the downstairs bar and the literature table were kept busy throughout the night.

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA: Local Wobs have been boosting the Hormel boycott, leafleting local events (including a well-attended speech by Cesar Chavez April 30th), and setting up frequent literature tables calling attention to this and other issues. The Champaign-Urbana IWW Group also provided a copy of the recent documentary *Todas Las Vidas/All Our Lives* (about the Spanish anarcho-feminist organization *Mujeres Libres*) to the Vancouver GMB, which showed it in late March. A scheduled May Day Eve program, featuring a video on the Spanish Revolution, had to be canceled when the tape failed to arrive. Wobs continue to work on a weekly radio show. Recent topics have included Independent Unionism in Eastern Europe, the military-industrial alliance, and an interview with labor troubadour Peyton Hopkins.

SAN DIEGO: Fellow Workers in the San Diego IWW Group distributed a flier at the Third Annual Anarchy Picnic commemorating the 75th anniversary of the San Diego Free Speech Fight and calling attention to ongoing infringements of free speech in San Diego and elsewhere around the country. The leaflet is the opening salvo in plans to commemorate the 1912 Free Speech Fight that include a re-enactment at the shopping mall built on the downtown streets where police, 75 years ago, battered in the heads of Wobblies and others insisting on their right to speak and organize against the capitalist system.



At the Fred Thompson Memorial: Wobblies from all over. Left to right: Ralph Verlaine, Dave Bachrach, Utah Phillips, Franklin Rosemont, Art Nurse, Penelope Rosemont, Jenny Velsek, Penny Pixler, Carlos Cortez, and George Lukas.

Jon Randolph

Jon Randolph