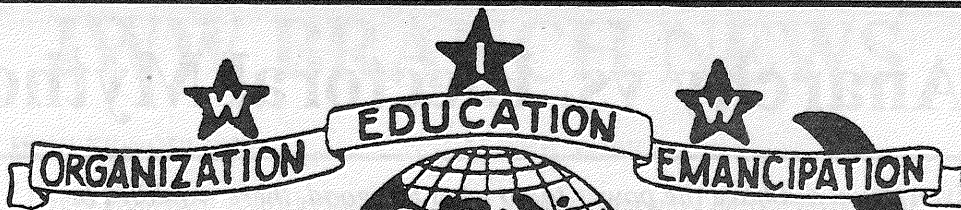


In November We Remember...

LABOR
PRODUCES
ALL WEALTH



ALL WEALTH
MUST GO
TO LABOR

Industrial Worker

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

VOLUME 85, NUMBER 11, WH 1505

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS NOVEMBER 1988

50 CENTS

Public Service Workers Hold Regional Conference

Northwest Wobblies Launch Organizing Drive

IWW members from Oregon, Washington and British Columbia met in Portland on October 17 to make plans for consolidating and expanding upon recent successful organizing efforts, according to a report sent in by the IU 670 regional organizing committee.

In order to build upon the momentum established by the recent NLRB certification of IU 670 at Oregon SANE, it was decided that a newsletter be created and circulated by the local IWW group. In addition to reporting concrete gains and methods for achieving positive results, the newsletter will include a structural analysis of the canvassing industry.

During the course of the current IU 670 organizing drive, the challenges faced by fellow workers in the canvassing industry will be squarely addressed.

At the Portland meeting, it was decided that in addition to the newsletter, IU 670 silent agitators would be designed and circulated.

After the meeting, the group held a public screening of the documentary film "The Wobblies".

The following article--excerpted from a forthcoming leaflet entitled Canvass Workers Problems and Answers--describes some of the work-related problems of canvassing and how a group of Oregon workers organized themselves so that they could improve their working conditions.

Working conditions faced by canvassers are unique. The typical canvasser faces stress from a variety of factors not found in any other line of work, although similarities do exist. Rejection by prospective supporters at the point of the contact can be compared to situations faced by salespeople who work door to door or by telephone. The decisive difference between the canvasser and the salesperson is that the canvassers are motivated by much more important beliefs and are therefore exposed to greater beliefs. Like salespeople, canvassers are working to support themselves--nevertheless, canvassers work for social justice.

As a result of the high level of commitment and dedication characteristic of these public service workers, they face a unique set of stresses and dangers. For example, management often expects workers to endure substandard treatment "for the good of the cause." Although this situation leads to burnout, management knows it can rely on a large pool of idealistic workers to take the place of those who are unable to endure chronic mistreatment.

The key to facing these challenges is the key to saving this planet. With this task in mind, the following ideas have been developed by canvass workers:

If we are going to do a good job, we must figure out what is happening within the job environment. For example, what do you hear people talking about around the office? What do they think is effective? How would they change things if they could? These questions are at the root of the challenge we face. Basically, your fellow workers and yourself are the ones who know how to make things run smoothly with good effect. The people who do

the work are the ones who have the best information about how to get the job done.

Is the judgement and experience developed by the canvassers put to good use by the administrative staff? Unfortunately, management is often out of touch with the realities encountered by most canvassers. This problem develops from a variety of factors. For whatever reason it arises, this condition has the worst effect upon the canvassers and the task they are valiantly trying to accomplish. These are the problems faced, some of the reasons why these difficulties originally came about, and what has been done to improve our organization.

We chose to unionize and affiliate with the IWW. The resulting improvement in worker morale led to significant increases in production.

We all know that how we present ourselves at the point of contact with prospective supporters is a function of how we feel about ourselves and our organization. Bad feelings mean fewer pledges and renewals. As we

organized, our new-found confidence translated into good feelings which translated into positive results at the point of contact. In a short period of time, a discouraged and fearful group of workers found a way to help each other reverse an untenable situation.

Every canvass worker knows that stress leads to burnout which leads to unemployment. Either the worker quits or is fired for having a "bad attitude." At Oregon SANE the workers advanced a proposal which sought to alleviate some of the stresses they were being subjected to. Management refused to take action on this proposal by using stalling and blocking tactics.

One worker consistently pressed for consideration of the proposed reforms and was fired. The grounds for his firing were subsequently demonstrated to be based on hearsay and personal bias on the part of the man who fired him. This boss was also the one who had written the so-called grievance procedure. The procedure required the worker to appeal to the same boss who fired him, and

face him alone since under these rules no provision was made for representation.

At this point, several workers realized they would soon be purged unless they took measures to defend themselves. They contacted an IWW organizer and began to make plans.

The workers soon found out that starting their own bargaining unit was a lot easier than they had thought. They also learned that by affiliating with the IWW they would be able to retain complete control over their bargaining unit. The IWW teaches workers how to form their own local, how to effectively bargain on a collective basis, and how to take care of fellow workers.

The bottom line is that those who are doing the work know best how to take care of the job, and they don't need to pay a lot of their hard-earned money for somebody else to do it for them. When it comes to unions, if you want the job done right, you have to do it yourself. With the help of the IWW, workers at Oregon SANE learned how to do it themselves.

National Archives to Release Joe Hill's Remains

On November 18 there will be a ceremony on the steps of the National Archives building in Washington D.C. in which a lost packet of Joe Hill's ashes will officially be turned over to the IWW.

Before his pending execution in 1915, Joe Hill requested that his body be cremated and his ashes spread across the globe. Hill's ashes were divided into packets that were sent to IWW locals around the world and in every state but Utah; he didn't want to be caught dead there.

At various ceremonies on six continents, the packets containing the dust of Joe Hill were opened and his ashes were cast into the breeze. All, that is, except for at least one packet.

Last spring an unopened envelope of Hill's remains were discovered in the files of the National Archives. Apparently when the Chicago IWW headquarters was raided in 1917, an unmarked envelope containing a packet of Hill's ashes was sent to a local fellow worker to keep it from being confiscated by federal authorities. The unmarked envelope was accidentally torn and the Post Office discovered that the contents had originated from the IWW. The Post Office confiscated this material and turned it over to the Bureau of Investigation (a forerunner of the FBI) where it remained for some time, until it was eventually turned over to the National Archives.

In the spring of 1988 the National Archives published a list of unusual items which they had in their possession. This was noticed by the Potomac Valley Labor Historical Society and someone from that organization notified the UAW's newspaper, *Solidarity*. After word



of the lost packet of Joe Hill's ashes was published, the IWW at once commenced making inquiries with a view toward regaining possession of our martyred Fellow Worker's remains.

Joe Hill was a prolific songwriter, providing the IWW with numerous songs to fan the flames. However, Hill was more than just a Wobbly poet. He was also a very active union organizer.

Joe Hill was born Joel Haaglund in Sweden but changed his name to Joe Hill sometime after his arrival in the United States at the age of 23.

Hill had been musically inclined throughout his life and he first earned a living by playing piano in New York saloons. Later he headed west and became a migrant worker.

Turn to page 8

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Comment

1988: Anarchy vs. Electoral Mythology

Even if you did have the power to do what felt good, there wouldn't be much threat to the power junkies and their psycho-thugs. They have the ultimate weapon for controlling any anarchic urges that may pop up. They call it "The Vote."

Some of you have been told you have the right to vote. This is a very big lie. This untruth is used by a very, very small group of power addicts who fear your exercise of freedom. For example, what if you decided you would rather get a little extra sleep one morning. After rising up refreshed and curious, you might decide to read the local paper. If this day happened to be September 14, 1988, you would find on page 2 of your regional daily a most interesting item. It's pretty long, but since you have plenty of time, it's okay to indulge yourself! As you read you find our so-called government has ordered experts in psychological warfare to unleash a campaign of mind-control by using proven methods of deception on an unsuspecting population.

This sort of practice is perfectly legal when applied to those who live in any place other than the United States of America. Unfortunately, as you read, this "psy-op" is happening to you and your neighbors. You might ask yourself, "Did I vote for this?" Naughty, naughty voter - there you go, thinking for yourself. If you keep this up, you might start making informed choices - very dangerous, very destabilizing. Of course, this scenario is totally far-fetched, so there really isn't any danger. The psychological campaign is real, but time to read about it is hard to get. Even if you did have the freedom to do what felt good, like sleeping in, or reading the paper and becoming informed on certain issues, there wouldn't be much threat to the power junkies and their psycho-thugs. They have the ultimate weapon for controlling any anarchic urges that may pop up. They call it "The Vote." Here's how it works.

The electoral process has been designed to disempower the vast majority of citizens. In his book *The Powers That Be: Processes of Ruling Class Domination in America*, G. William Domhoff expands upon concepts and findings developed in his 1967 book *Who Rules America*. Evidence of the ruling class's power is supported by statistics outlining the "overrepresentation of its members in economic and governmental posts as well as its disproportionate wealth and income." "Well-being" statistics, ranging from infant mortality rates to educational achievements, clearly demonstrate the advantages seized by this power elite.

These parasites dominate society's decision-making abilities in four ways, all of which depend on political control. The "special-interest process" provides rich corporadoes and bankers a method by which they can fulfill short-term demands. The "policy formation process" and the "ideology process" allow development and implementation of policies designed to provide an environment in which the bloated may continue to gorge undisturbed. The most important part of this method of domination is the "candidate selection process," the means by which the ruling class makes sure it totally controls the politicians allowed to hold office.

Over the last several decades the control of candidate selection has become increasingly easy for the ruling class, according to Domhoff. There is very little difference between the positions held by candidates for office. As a result, elections become a matter of personality and image. In such a political climate, name recognition and image creation

become dominant factors, commodities which can be easily influenced by large campaign contributions.

In reality, we can choose a rich white man and his rich white running mate, or we can choose a rich white man and his rich white running mate.

Voter, have you noticed that all four candidates are rich white men? Is this a coincidence? How many senators are women? How many legislators are members of our minority population? What is the average income among our elected representatives? Answer these questions and you will see that our system of "representative government" is actually a systematic method of repression.

This apparatus of control is based on deception, the cruellest lie being that we have a meaningful choice called "The Vote." In reality, we can choose a rich white man and his rich white running mate, or we can choose a rich white man and his rich white running

mate. We can choose between the carrot and the stick, either Republican Repression or Democratic Cooptation. Vote for Carrot Dukakis or Stick Bush, along with Stick Benson or Carrot Quayle.

Either way, dear voter, you are a beast of burden in the eyes of the masters. They care very little which choice you make, because they tightly hold both options in their oversized fist. Any guesses about what they hold in the other hand? This object has many forms, most of which are phallic. Sometimes it looks like a rifle, or a nuclear missile, or a job offer, but in essence it is one thing - the whip of domination. This gruesome condition is slavery, and nothing more.

Voting is absurd. Direct action is the only useful tactic. Henry David Thoreau had the right idea when he wrote "All voting is a sort of gaming, like checkers, or backgammon, a playing with right and wrong; its obligation never exceeds that of expediency. Even voting for the right thing is doing nothing for it." No freedom has ever been gained by voting. Chattel slavery was not ended by any vote. Civil rights were not gained by voting. The war in Vietnam was not stopped by petitioning Congress. This planet will not be saved by casting a ballot. The IWW calls for direct action in defense of life and liberty. The battle will not be fought in the election booth. The fight will occur where it always has. The struggle will be won in the forests and in the classrooms, on the job, and in the streets.

Billy Don Robinson

Now He Understands The Game

Solidarity, November 11, 1916.



Industrial Worker



ONE UNION ONE LABEL
ONE ENEMY

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It should be understood by members and others who read this paper that it is the policy of the IWW to designate as official any articles which have the regular official sanction. Anything not so designated is not official.--All other matter contained herein is the mere personal expression of the individual or individuals writing or editing the same.

Greenpeace Workers Keep Pressure On

... from a report in *Solidarity Bulletin*

Employees of U.S. Greenpeace's Seattle phone bank, fired August 8 for forming a union, are continuing to gather support for their case and to circulate information about Greenpeace USA's labor relations.

But the dozen fired phone bank workers are not optimistic about getting their jobs back, according to Allen Thompson of Seattle.

"Greenpeace is very, very obstinate," Thompson said.

"Greenpeace does good work, supported by the idealism of the canvassers and the people giving money. But in a way, people who give money are paying Greenpeace to be their conscience. This gets away from the idea of everyone taking part in changing the world for the better."

Thompson reported that as of early October the fired Seattle Greenpeace workers have collected more than 800 signatures on petitions circulated across North America demanding that Greenpeace affirm the right of working people "to organize in defense of their work environment."

"The response has been most heartening," Thompson said. At some point in the future, he explained, the group plans to present the petitions to Greenpeace management.

Meantime, the former phone bank employees have let Greenpeace know the channels of communication are still open, Thompson said.

Supporters of the fired employees have also written letters to Greenpeace on their behalf. According to Thompson, "these letters are answered by Greenpeace patently telling lies about what happened."

Thompson said the Seattle group will continue to educate and agitate to show Greenpeace that what they did to their Seattle phone bank employees is wrong. "We believe that in the long run Greenpeace will not contribute to saving the environment if they persist with a top-down, authoritarian structure."

Thompson reported that Wobblies in Atlanta made a presentation to Greenpeace employees there about the Seattle events. But the response of the Atlanta workers was negative. "They see themselves as good foot soldiers for Greenpeace," Thompson said. "The Atlanta Wobblies reported the whole concern of Greenpeace workers there is the bottom line. What's ironic is this is the same corporate mentality that allows companies to dump stuff and otherwise ruin the environment, as long as they can save a buck."

Many people find it difficult to believe Greenpeace can behave in ways like the Seattle union-busting attempt, Thompson observed. But as more Greenpeace workers get in touch with the fired Seattle workers similar events elsewhere have been revealed. Thompson said the Seattle group has learned that a sit-in at a Greenpeace office in France by disgruntled employees ended when management—according to rumor—called in the police to break up the demonstration with mace and clubs. Currently, he said, Greenpeace canvassers in New York are suing Greenpeace over alleged misappropriation of funds.

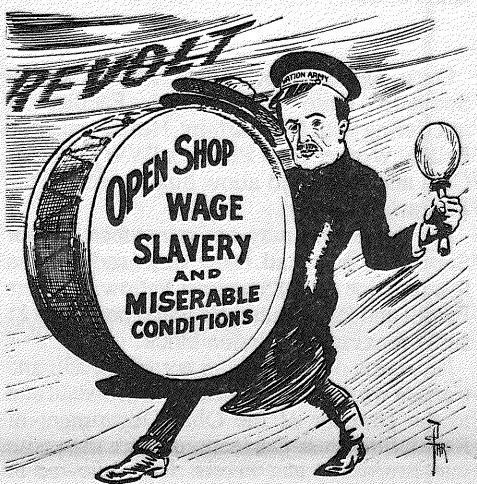
(According to statistics cited in the May 1988 issue of *Changing Times* magazine, Greenpeace USA does not meet the National Charities Information Bureau standards for

the cost of fundraising or for solicitations without payment of commissions. The Council of Better Business Bureaus maintains that Greenpeace does not meet minimal standards in three separate categories because of incomplete disclosures, including financial data. - Ed.)

Structurally, the problem with Greenpeace USA is that less than 50 people elect the board that controls the donations from nearly 1,000,000 people, Thompson pointed out. He said Greenpeace workers must have more than six years full time experience before they can get a say as to who forms the board of directors. Since there has been no change in how Greenpeace USA is structured, the Seattle events likely will happen again somewhere else, Thompson noted.

"Greenpeace does good work, supported by the idealism of the canvassers and the people giving money," he continued. "But in a way, people who give money are paying Greenpeace to be their conscience."

He says this situation has some positive aspects but also a strongly negative side. "This gets away from the idea of everyone taking part in changing the world for the better."



Thompson said he and the other fired workers still are not calling for a boycott of support for Greenpeace. "I personally wouldn't call for a boycott, but I would advise people there are better places right now for them to put their time and money." Thompson noted that the Seattle Greenpeace workers' actions have had consequences far beyond their own struggle. "What we did was right," he said. "It has educated people. Lots didn't know there were these problems within the environmental movement."

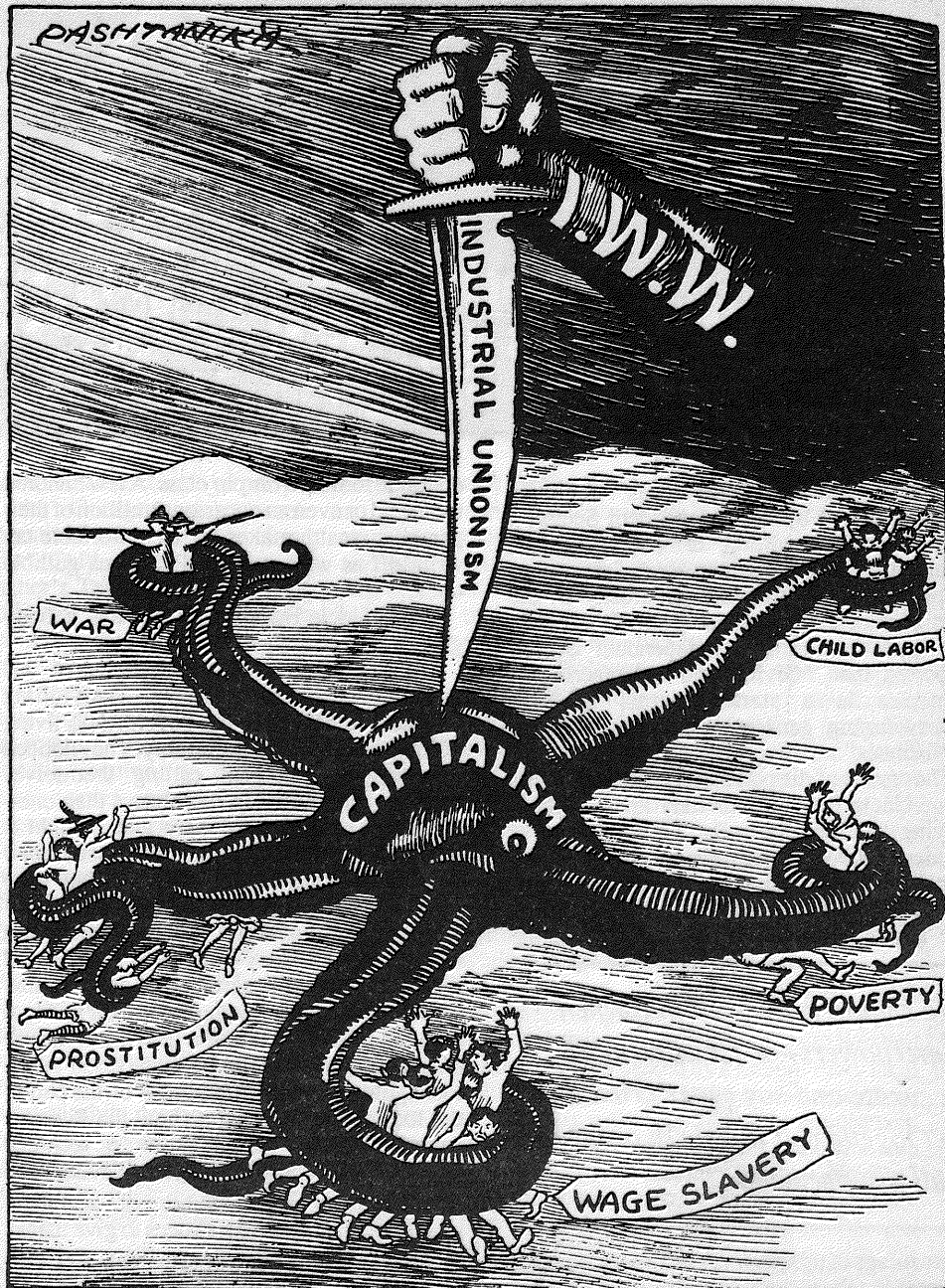
"And we've had a real effect in the progressive non-profit community," he added.

Thompson pointed to the recent National Labor Relations Board victory for the IWW in certifying about 10 employees of SANE's Portland office. SANE is a national organization that lobbies politicians on nuclear issues and advocates conversion of weapons facilities to peaceful uses.

He said more people in Seattle's SANE office have recently joined the IWW, and other employees of non-profit groups have indicated an intention to do so. And a Seattle IWW literature table with information about the Greenpeace workers has led to contact with some local university employees dissatisfied with their job conditions.

"Things just seem to be clicking," Thompson said.

An IU 670 organizing bulletin, to be circulated to employees of progressive non-profit organizations, is planned. "This will include interviews with people who work for these groups, and will include discussion about the problems found in these workplaces," Thompson said.



MORE POWER TO THE ARM

At a Glance...

Washington—Majority rule has finally been accepted by the Teamsters' 18-member executive board and representatives from 750 locals are meeting later in the month in Chicago to discuss new directions in the Union. Dissidents have been fighting for over twelve years for greater democracy within the Teamsters who until now had required a two-thirds vote by the rank-and-file to overrule decrees by the officialdom. Already this year the will of the rank-and-file has been denied in the ratification of the Master Freight Agreement where 63.5% voted against, in the United Parcel Service contract where 53% voted against, and the Stroh Brewery Co. contract rejected by 54%.

On the other side, the Teamsters have endorsed the Republican ticket of George Bush and Dan Quayle. One step forward, two steps back.

Chicago—The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) has decided that tasks performed by 1100 union workers can be done for less in private open shops and has commissioned a \$75,000 study to prove it. Officials at city hall cite a big push by the federal government toward privatization. The jobs in question are support services, printing, janitorial, towing and accounting represented by nine unions. Amalgamated Transit Workers Local 308 president Clarence Knox said this statement to the *Chicago Sun-Times*: "If we're pushed on something like this, there are ways to resist besides those that the CTA might consider strictly legal..." Go Clarence.

Washington—OSHA has fined John Morrell & Co. 4.3 million for safety violations at its Sioux Falls, SD plant. More than 40% of the plant's 2000 workers have suffered cumulative trauma disorders in the last year. This is the largest fine against a company in OSHA's history but then injuries at the Sioux Falls plant are nine times the average in the meat packing industry and 600 times the national rate for industries. Nonetheless, the Morrell Company maintains the fine is "grossly unfair and totally unjustified" stating that their safety improvement program is the best that experts have ever seen. Morrell vows to fight charges of willful medical mismanagement and is seeking an injunction against the fines. It is interesting to note that the majority of the present workers at the Sioux Falls plant were strikebreakers used to kill the UFCW strike of over a year ago. They are currently represented

by the UFCW, which initiated the safety campaign. The shoe's on the other foot now, fellas.

Pension plans—which have become fairly common in the workplace today—are being raided by the bosses. In the average plan, the employee contributes to a program enacted and administered by the employer. In many plans, the employer matches this contribution after one year. Within three to five years with a company the employee becomes "vested", i.e., he or she becomes entitled to the full amount of the contribution when leaving the company or dropping from the program. Where things have gone awry is that in recent years corporate planners have discovered that these pension trust monies have been growing at a rate far greater than what was originally anticipated. Through a loophole in the law these company "sponsors" have found that they can terminate existing pension plans and initiate new ones allowing them to skim off millions of dollars of surplus funds in the process. The *New York Times* reports that 1752 overfunded plans have been terminated since 1980 (strange how much current fraud now being uncovered began in 1980) and that the "sponsors" have "recovered" \$18.8 billion dollars. Until recently the government has permitted this practice to go on but on October 27th the Treasury Department imposed a six-month moratorium. It should be clear that every cent of pension fund money is intended for the good welfare and retirement of its contributing workers, and if there is an unforeseen windfall growth it should go to those whose wellbeing and security the fund was established for. Anything else is a criminal travesty.

Boston—A vote by 3400 technical and clerical workers that had been challenged in the courts by Harvard University has been upheld. The ballot taken in May was 1530 to 1486 in favor of affiliating with AFSCME, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. Harvard contended, and still maintains after the ruling, that AFSCME organizers harassed workers during the long fight for recognition. The current organizing drive began in early 1987; drives in 1977 and 1981 had failed. The university has maintained that should the election be certified by the NLRB they would bargain in good faith to have harmonious relations with the Union. No time like the present...

ONLY A TRAMP WAS LAZARUS THAT DAY... HE WHO LAY DOWN BY THE RICH MAN'S GATE! HE BEGGED FOR SOME CRUMBS, FROM THE RICH MAN TO EAT... BUT THEY LEFT HIM TO DIE, LIKE A TRAMP ON THE STREET!



HE WAS SOME MOTHER'S DARLING... HE WAS SOME MOTHER'S SON... ONCE HE WAS FAIR AND ONCE HE WAS YOUNG... SOME MOTHER ROCKED HIM, LITTLE DARLING TO SLEEP... THEN THEY LEFT HIM TO DIE, LIKE A TRAMP ON THE STREET...





Gallup the Pollster was recently commissioned by the Independent Sector, a not-for-profit coalition of 650 corporate, foundation and volunteer organizations to conduct a survey on the generosity of the denizens of Freedomland. Brian O'Connell, the president of the Independent Sector, reported that "Giving and volunteering in America is a stark contrast between heartwarming generosity and bone-chilling selfishness."

The results of the poll merely disclosed what your Uncle Redcloud already knew without having to take any polls. Those of low or moderate income were far more giving of their time and money than were their more affluent compatriots. It was disclosed that the higher the income of a person was, the lower the

We should know well that when superpowers--or let us be more accurate and say super criminals--get together, it is only in order to pull a super heist.

percentage of this person's income or time was donated to charity or worthy causes. The richer a bastard is the more tenaciously this bastard will hold on to his or her ill-earned loot.

There are those who are known as philanthropists who have built hospitals, museums and whatnot on their names and we slaves are supposed to slobber in gratitude over these "friends of man", and we are not supposed to think of the billions they steal and

continue to steal from our class. A few hundred thousand or even an occasional million of their parasitic wealth makes for a comfortable tax write-off as well as good PR for us gullible ones.

As old Uncle Hornplanter told me, nobody gets rich by being generous.

And speaking of Unk Hornplanter, his distant predecessors were by no means rolling in bountiful affluence but nevertheless living off of the land quite comfortably. They noticed a group of strangers calling themselves Pilgrims who were--in more ways than one--even poorer than they were and thought it would be only neighborly to rescue their derriers from starvation, insofar as they were not doing so well in their new surroundings.

Instead of saying "There goes the neighborhood," they pitched in and showed these pilgrims some agricultural methods that would be a bit more conducive to their survival than the ones they brought over from *merrie olde England*. It has to be understood that it took quite a bit of neighborliness on the part of the local Indians, being as how the Pilgrims were about as delightful as a teen-age circumcision. The good Pilgrims having been wrested from the clutches of imminent starvation, fell upon their knees to give thanks to their White Anglo-Saxon diety and then proceeded to fall on their Indian neighbors and they have been falling on them ever since.

Your scribe has received several letters as a result of his column in the August issue for further information on the 25 wars that are still going on in this planet of ours. In particular I have been asked from what source was the clipping from whence I obtained that information. I must apologize for the fact that I am unable to divulge the source of that information as once I have used any clipping for my column it becomes immediately discarded as my crib; ready looks like the nest of a packrat. Needless to say, my memory such as it is eludes me as to where the clipping came from. However, as I have oft mentioned that war is the health of the state, the fact that 25 wars are still going on despite all talks of perestroika and other such nonsense between the superpowers, states are not about to wither away through malnutrition.

Though I did not save the clipping for future reference, the sorry situation in our world today is evidence enough that there should be no possible sleepwalking on our part. We should well know that when superpowers--or let us be more accurate and say super criminals--get together it is only in order to pull a super heist. It is no time to breathe a sigh of relief. It is the time to watch out for what the bastards are up to.

As this is the month we remember (and we should remember in *all* months the sad history that has been paid for with blood) I wish to regale the reader with two quotations from other sources:

"I am a survivor of a concentration camp. My eyes saw what no person should witness. Gas chambers built by learned engineers. Children poisoned by educated physicians. Infants killed by trained nurses. Women and babies shot and killed by high school and college graduates. So I'm suspicious of education. My request is: help your students to be human. Your efforts must not produce learned monsters, skilled psychopaths, or educated Eichmanns. Reading and writing and spelling and history and arithmetic are only important if they serve to make our students human."

And in 1950 Dwight McDonald penned the following gem of wisdom:

"It is not the law-breaker that we must fear today so much as he who obeys the law. One of the most hopeful auguries for the future of the country, with the Permanent War Economy taking shape, is that we Americans have a long and honorable tradition of lawlessness and disrespect for authority."

There are some saving graces among our species and there is where lies the hope of our salvation. Draftees of the World unite; You have nothing to lose but your generals!

C. C. Redcloud

Lucasville Wobs Call for Letter-Writing Campaign

Editor's note: Perhaps no single IWW endeavor has spurred greater controversy or attracted more world-wide publicity in recent years than the organizing efforts of prisoner-workers at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility at Lucasville. SOCF inmates, who earn a paltry few cents an hour producing flags and pillowcases--which are then sold for the profit of the state--approached the IWW in 1984, and their tireless and often frustrating struggle for recognition has not since faltered.

As wage-workers within prison walls, their ability to organize for better working conditions and higher wages was bound to be difficult. But organize they did, fully aware that as workers behind bars, and thus, potentially, among the most exploited and vulnerable of all workers, the struggle would require patience and courage beyond measure.

Perhaps the best lesson to be learned from the ongoing struggle of the Lucasville prisoner-workers is that under a system in which the boss-class carries the keys and owns the guns, freedom for wage-earners is, was, and always will be a tenuous and relative proposition. We join the SOCF workers in urging IW readers to respond to Fellow Worker Perotti's call for solidarity by sending letters and petitions to the prison officials listed below.

Once again, Supt. Terry Morris at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility is interfering with IWW affairs. He has censored Fellow Worker John Perotti's IWW Delegate Card and refuses to allow him to receive the Industrial Worker.

For those who may not remember, former Supt. Ron Marshall (now deceased) started this practice in 1985 against Fellow Workers Perotti and Paul Brumfield while housed in J1 super-maximum isolation block.

Hundreds of Wobs from across the US and Canada wrote letters of protest to Marshall and to the Director of the Ohio Department of Rehabilitation & Corrections, with the result that Brumfield and Perotti were allowed to receive IW and their membership cards.

The excuse prison officials are now using is that the Industrial Worker is a monthly publication and as such is a publication which J1 prisoners are not permitted to receive. Yet J1 prisoners are allowed to receive daily publications and censors have allowed the weekly Guardian to come through. Fellow Worker Perotti's delegate credentials have been likewise withheld, on the basis that the words on the card indicate that a delegate may collect dues, and because the IWW is an "unauthorized" organization within the prison the card has been termed "contraband."



This excuse follows the same line of reasoning Warden Terry Morris and his henchmen used to issue conduct reports for rules infractions against FWs Wolfel, Scott, Byrd, and Perotti recently, after confiscating an Amnesty International petition circulating among SOCF Wobs which called for an investigation into these blatant human rights violations at the facility. These "prisoncrats" confiscated the complaints and justified their actions arguing that the Wobblies were an unauthorized group and thus were not permitted to function as a unit.

This recent revival of censorship is believed to be the result of prisoncrat alarm coming in response to the recent wide publicity and renewed consciousness of prisoners in organizing attempts at SOCF.

The rank and file's help is needed. We urge each of you to write a letter demanding that prison officials allow J1 and Level III prisoners to receive their monthly Industrial Worker, and all other IWW mail. Your letters brought about a change in 1985, and this is 1988--with a new prison administration which must be taught that there is power with the people!

In Solidarity,

John Perotti
X333145

Write:

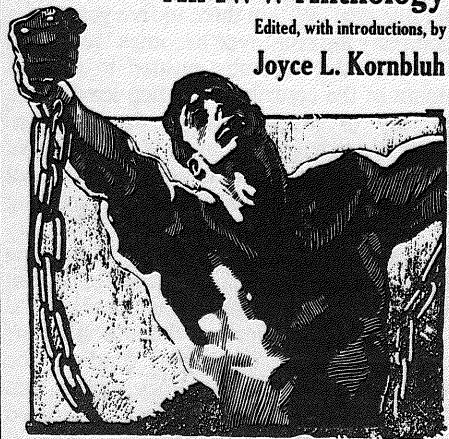
Terry Morris, Supt.
SOCF, POB 45699
Lucasville, OH 45699-0001

Mr. Wilson, Director
Dept. of Rehab. & Corr.
1050 Freeway Drive N.
Columbus, OH 43229

Rebel Voices

An IWW Anthology

Edited, with introductions, by
Joyce L. Kornbluh



Culled from Wobbly periodicals from the movement's founding convention in 1905 to the present, Rebel Voices presents pamphlets, stories, songs, poems, cartoons and illustrations that bring the story of the "minutemen of industrial unionism" to life in native accents. The IWW made lasting contributions to our language, folk music and literature.- Detroit Labor News

edited by

Joyce Kornbluh

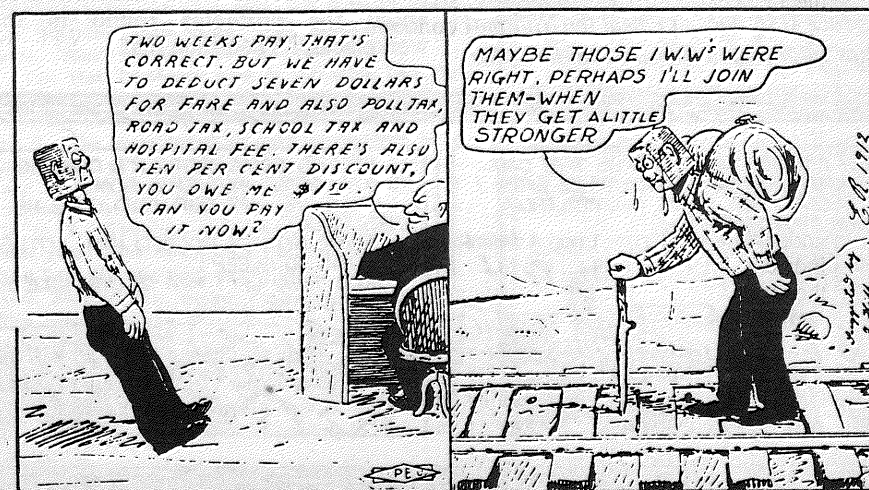
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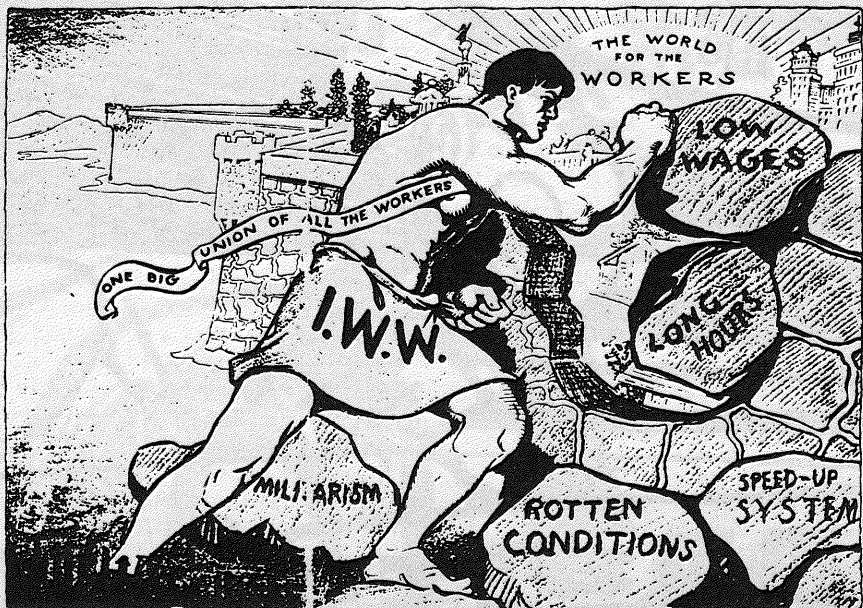
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A Clarion Call for Liberty

After all, the best preparedness is one that disarms the hostility of other nations and makes friends of them. Nothing is to be gained by workers from war.



The story of Helen Keller's life is well known and celebrated throughout the world. Made blind, deaf, and mute by a mysterious disease in infancy, she was locked inside her sensory-deprived mind. When she was seven, her mind's door was painstakingly unlocked by her own genius and the patient teaching of Ann Sullivan.

What is not generally known is that Helen Keller became a devoted Socialist and One Big Union advocate. She gave numerous lectures on labor issues and Socialism and was tireless in trying to reach all who would listen. She campaigned on behalf of the textile strikers in Little Falls, NY and despite warnings from the authorities, spoke in Sacramento, California on behalf of an IWW demonstration against unemployment. In 1916 she worked toward fundraising for Metal Mine Workers IU 210, then organizing on the Mesabi Range in Minnesota. The New York Times in that same year quoted her as being a member paid up in good standing with the IWW.

Helen Keller also campaigned hard to counter war hysteria and to keep in view the economic truth about the war. The following is from a speech she gave at the Labor Forum in New York City on December 19, 1915.

The burden of war always falls heaviest on the toilers. They are taught that their masters can do no wrong, and go out in vast numbers to be killed on the battlefield. And what is their reward? If they escape death they come back to face heavy taxation and have their burden of poverty doubled. Through all the ages they have been robbed of the just rewards of their patriotism as they have been of the just reward of their labor.

The only moral virtue of war is that it compels the capitalist system to look itself in the face and admit it is a fraud. It compels the present society to admit that it has no morals it will not sacrifice for gain. During a war, the sanctity of a home, and even of private property is destroyed. Governments do what it is said the "crazy Socialists" would do if in power.

I look upon the whole world as my fatherland, and every war has to me a horror of

a family feud. I look upon true patriotism as the brotherhood of man and the service of all to all. The only fighting that saves is the one that helps the world toward liberty, justice and an abundant life for all.

After all, the best preparedness is one that disarms the hostility of other nations and makes friends of them. Nothing is to be gained by workers from war. They suffer all the miseries, while the rulers reap the rewards. Their wages are not increased, nor their toil made lighter, nor their homes made more comfortable. The army they are supposed to raise can be used to break strikes as well as defend the people.

If the democratic measures of preparedness fall before the advance of a world empire, the worker has nothing to fear. No conqueror can beat down his wages more ruthlessly or oppress him more than his own fellow citizens of the capitalist world are doing. The worker has nothing to lose but his chains, and he has a world to win. He can win it at one stroke from a world empire. We must form a fully equipped, militant international union so that we can take possession of such a world empire.

This great republic is a mockery of freedom as long as you are doomed to dig and sweat to earn a miserable living while the masters enjoy the fruit of your toil. What have you to fight for? National independence? That means the masters' independence. The laws that sent you to jail when you demand better living conditions? The flag? Does it wave over a country where you are free and have a home, or does it rather symbolize a country that meets you with clenched fists when you strike for better wages and shorter hours? Will you fight for your masters' religion which teaches you to obey them even when they tell you to kill one another?

Why don't you make a junk heap of your master's religion, his civilization, his kings and his customs that tend to reduce a man to a brute and God to a monster? Let there go forth a clarion call for liberty. Let the workers form one great world-wide union, and let there be a globe-encircling revolt to gain for the workers true liberty and happiness.

The IWW: Home of Industrial Unionism

The Industrial Workers of the World has been described with varying degrees of inaccuracy as anarchist, socialist, syndicalist, and anarcho-syndicalist. Most of these terms are subjectively relative to whomever utters them at whatever particular time. What we are not described as is industrial unionists, which is sad in a truth-oriented kind of way because that is foremost what we are.

Historians, who surely ought to know better, have followed faithfully the skid marks first laid down by an early chronicler of the IWW named Paul Brissenden. Brissenden, after lengthy rumination, pronounced the IWW as syndicalist and with rare exceptions, generations of academics have said amen.

Orthodox Marxists first branded us as anarchists because of our refusal to put all of the economic eggs in their one political basket. The anarchists, on the other hand, condemned the IWW as socialists and damned the One Big Union for being a dictatorship. The Socialists, not to be outdone, dismissed the IWW as anarchistic and muttered darkly about syndicalism. Syndicalism was the new kid on the factionalist block. Composed largely of anarchists who believed in economic organization, the Syndicalists also worshipped the boring-from-within gospel and censured the IWW as a dual union. Clearly, we were making some zealous sectarians rather unhappy.

The capitalists and their scissorbill victims called us all of these things at various times and sometimes simultaneously. Being indiscriminate in ignorance and invective, they ride alongside our discussion vehicle of factionalism but occupy no seat. Having neither carried the horse nor chipped in for gas, we can wish them a bad day.

It has been said that time heals all wounds but in this case the anonymous sage erred, for the passing of time only served to aggravate the sorely afflicted. The Marxists screeched that

we were now syndicalists; a good many syndicalists became Marxists and pilloried the IWW for for being too syndicalist. The

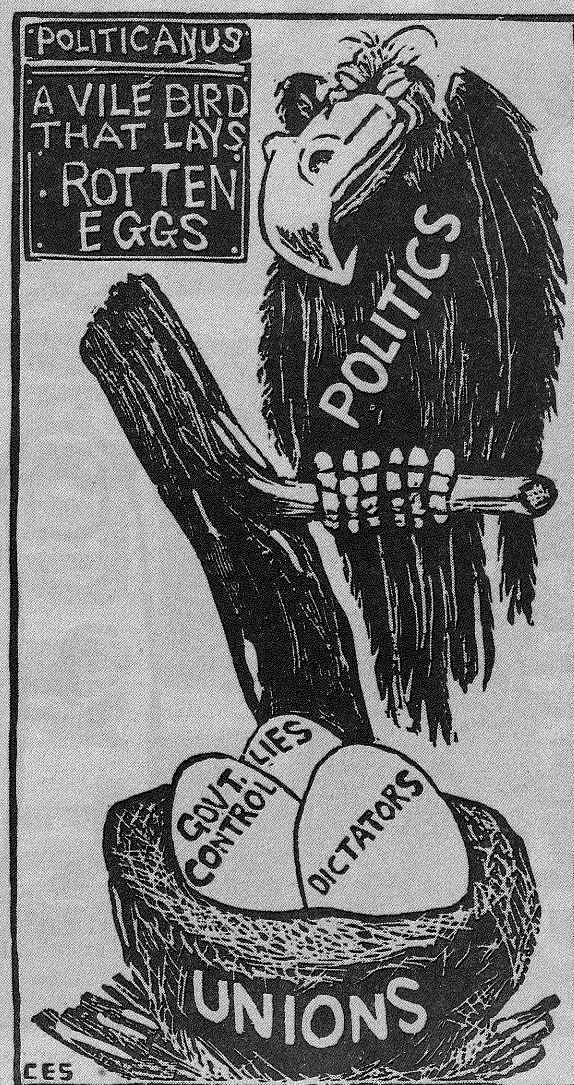
During the factional squabbling of the last half century, what of Norma and Norman Wobbly?

socialists, blessedly consistent, gave prayers for our anarchist soul. The anarchists--consistent too but in a nonhierarchical kind of way--deplored our despotic centralization and heaped calumny on those renegades who, like the leftover Syndicalists with dull augurs, took out red cards. This latest faction acquired a moderately new name: that of anarcho-syndicalism. For the next sixty years or so, the anarcho-syndicalists hovered around the IWW like an albatross, pecking away at heretics and reality.

During the factional squabbling of this last half century, what of Norma and Norman Wobbly? What of those countless and unegotistical men and women that view industrial organization as the lifeboats in a storm-tossed world? Well, we're still here, Fellow Workers, and getting more numerous every day. We have changed as the world has changed these past eighty years but our belief in labor's solidarity has not changed at all. We are all part socialist and part anarchist. Some pan drippings from Marxism; some of the froth of Syndicalism. Our theory is to organize industrially into One Big Union, our motto the abolition of wage slavery and the coming of economic democracy.

Let us stand together, Fellow Workers, the ravages of factionalism will dissipate with our solidarity. Let us act in union and form the structure of the new society in the shell of the old.

Phillip Harris
X334479



Industrial Worker, January 7, 1939.

JOE

**GAVLE, SVERICER
7 OKTOBER 1879
SALT LAKE CITY, U.S.
19 NOVEMBER 1915
UNION ORGANIZER
LABOR AGITATOR
CARTOONIST. POET
CUBICIAN. COMPOSER
MUBICIAN. WORKER
ITINERARSANGAREN
ARBETARSANGAREN**

JOE

**MURDERED BY THE
JUDICIARY IN
COLLUSION
WITH THE MINE
OWNERS WHO WISHED
TO SILENCE HIS SONGS
BUT THE SONGS ARE
STILL BEING SUNG!**

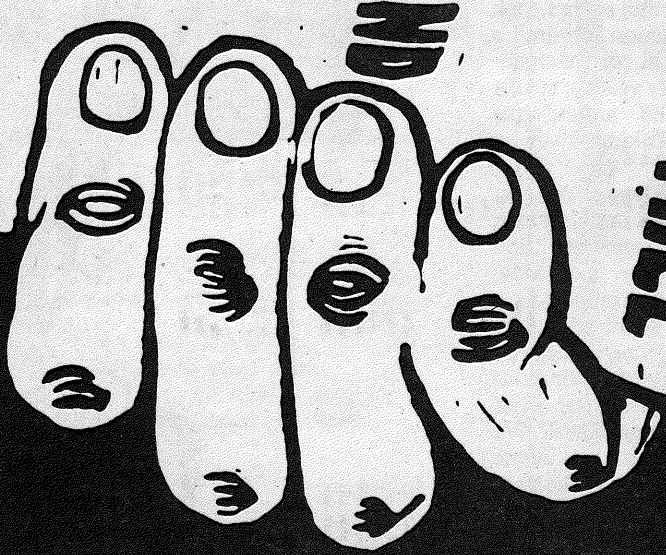
**INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
3435 N. SHEFFIELD AVENUE, SUITE 600
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60647**



1957 USA



IF WE WORKERS TAKE A NOTION
WE CAN STOP ALL SPEEDING TRAINS
EVERY SHIP UPON THE OCEAN
WE CAN TIE WITH MIGHTY CHAINS
EVERY WHEEL IN THE CREATION
EVERY MINE AND EVERY MILL
FLEETS AND ARMIES
OF ALL NATIONS
WILL AT OUR COMMAND
STAND
STILL



SÖRJEJ, ORGANISERA



Joe Hill's Remains . . .

Continued from page 1

Eventually, Hill found his way to San Pedro, California and worked as a longshoreman.

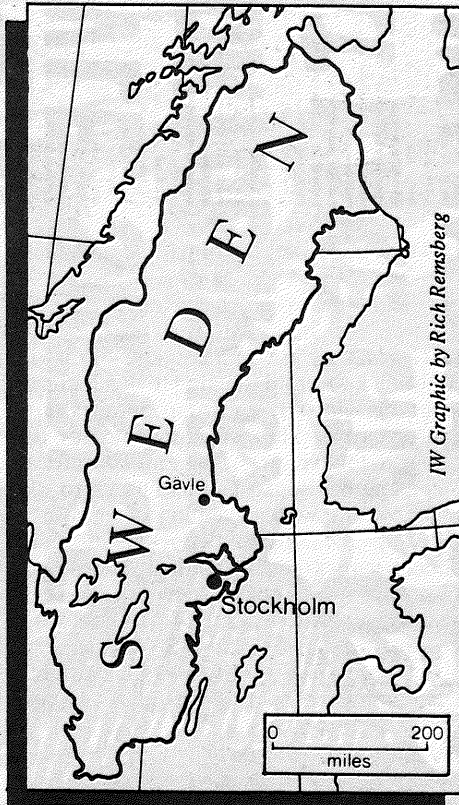
During this time he was constantly writing songs for the labor movement. Joe Hill had a talent for parody. Some of the best-known examples of those parodies are *The Preacher and the Slave* and *Casey Jones*. As Utah Phillips has said, the old-timers took the popular tunes and hymnals of their day and changed the words so that the songs would "make more sense."

Hill left San Pedro for a job in Park City, Utah. During a holiday trip to Salt Lake City, the murder of a local grocer occurred. Hill was subsequently arrested for that crime and became the victim of a frame-up.

Joe Hill was convicted and condemned by what at the very best could be called circumstantial evidence. A huge international defense network was set up on Hill's behalf and efforts were made to get him exonerated or provide him at the very least with a new trial.

All this time, Joe Hill didn't waste away his time in prison. During his incarceration he continued to produce songs for the union and the struggle to which he had dedicated his life. From behind prison bars, Hill wrote *The Rebel Girl*, a song dedicated to his long-time friend, Elizabeth Gurly Flynn. Finally, on the morning of his execution, Hill slipped the guard a note. It was his will and final poem.

Joe Hill was executed by the state of Utah on November 18, 1915. He has become since "the man who never died", because his songs can still be heard today and his activist spirit can still be found among modern workers the world over. Apart from his legacy as songwriter and IWW martyr, Hill departed this world with these words for his fellow workers,



Joe Hill's birthplace.

words that still ring out today: *Don't mourn--organize!*

November is the month we remember our dead, not only slain Wobblies, but all the many

others who have been killed simply because they were involved in the struggle to improve life for the working class.

It was during the month of November that the Haymarket anarchists were executed in Chicago in 1887. Free speech activists were gunned down on the decks of the *Verona* in Everett, Washington on the fifth of November, 1916. Wesley Everest was tortured and killed on November 11, 1919 in Centralia, Washington; and miners were shot down during the Columbine Mine strike on the twenty-first in 1927 in Colorado.

This is by no means a complete list. The month of November has been so bloody that it prompted Ralph Chaplin to write the poem *Red November, Black November* (reprinted elsewhere in this *Industrial Worker*). And so, in November we remember our dead, not for sentimental reasons, but to keep the struggle alive so that Joe Hill--and those many others whose memory we honor in these pages--will not have died in vain.

The IWW has not yet made plans for what to do with the ashes, but under discussion is the possibility of a May Day event on May 1, 1989 which would include scattering the ashes at the Haymarket Martyrs' Monument in Chicago, a mini-conference on the state of the labor today and a concert of Joe Hill songs.

Other suggestions on what to do with the ashes can be sent to: The Joe Hill Committee, Industrial Workers of the World, 3435 N. Sheffield Ave. Room 202, Chicago, IL 60657.

Ben Trant

Joe Hill

*High head and back unbending--
rearless and true,
Into the night unending; why was it you?*

*Heart that was quick with song,
torn with their lead;
Life that was young and strong,
shattered and dead.*

*Singer of manly songs, laughter and tears;
Singer of Labor's wrongs, joys,
hopes and fears.*

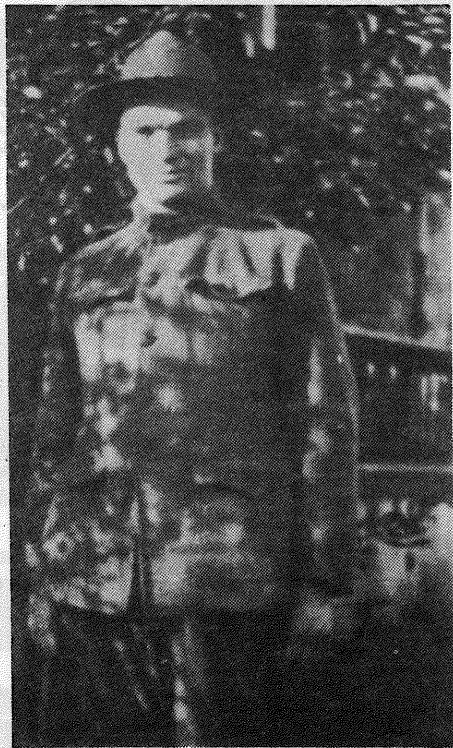
*Utah has drained your blood;
white hands are wet;
We of the "surging flood"*

NEVER FORGET!

*Our songster! have your laws
now had their fill?
Know ye, his songs and cause ye cannot kill.*

*High head and back unbending--
"rebel true blue,"
Into the night unending; why was it you?*

Ralph Chaplin
(excerpts)



Wesley Everest

*Torn and defiant as a wind-lashed reed,
Wounded he faced you as he stood at bay;
You dared not lynch him in the light of day,
But on your dungeon stones you let him bleed;
Night came. . .*

and you black vigilants of Greed. . .

*Like human wolves,
seized hard upon your prey,
Tortured and killed. . . and silently slunk away
Without one qualm of horror at the deed.*

Ralph Chaplin

The Wrath of Grapes

United Farmworkers Renew Boycott

United Farm Workers (UFW) president Cesar Chavez ended a 36-day water-only fast on August 21st. Chavez, 61 years old, was persuaded to break his fast due to serious health problems. Weak from fasting, Chavez issued a statement, read by his son Fernando, to 8,000 farmworkers and supporters.

"Today I pass the Fast for Life to hundreds of concerned men and women who have offered to share the suffering. They will help us to continue this struggle by taking the boycott to the doors of the supermarkets in each of their communities. . . the fast will continue until the fields are safe for the farmworkers."

Chavez launched his fast to emphasize the dangers of agricultural pesticides which poison an estimated 300,000 farmworkers each year. An epidemic of pesticide-related illnesses, including miscarriages, birth defects and pediatric cancers has effected farmworkers and their children, residents in communities near pesticide-laden fields and consumers of pesticide-contaminated food.

On September 14th, George ("I'm an environmentalist too") Bush declared that he had never supported the UFW's grape boycott against pesticides. On September 15th, over 1,000 people demonstrated against Bush at a rally in San Francisco. Dolores Huerta, first vice president of the UFW, was attacked by the SFPD (San Francisco Pig Department) and severely beaten. Huerta entered the hospital with two broken ribs and a ruptured spleen. Huerta's spleen was surgically removed. Both Huerta and Chavez are slowly recovering.

The first UFW grape boycott of 1967-70 brought California growers to the bargaining table and resulted in a statewide ban of DDT before the federal ban was enacted. The UFW was also successful in pressuring the EPA to suspend the use of Dinoseb, which poisons both workers and consumers. Earlier this year the UFW expanded the grape boycott to a campaign of non-cooperation with all supermarkets that carry California table grapes.

The UFW asks you to take on the fast-for-life, organize others to take on the fast, and organize and participate in picketing, leafletting and petitioning at a neighborhood

store selling pesticide-contaminated California table grapes. Information about the grape boycott and non-cooperation campaign is available from United Farm Workers, P.O. Box 62, Keene, CA 93531 (or call 805-822-5571). VIVA LA HUELGA!

Allan Anger

NOTICE

Mary Murphy, curator of the Frank Little Archives in Butte, Montana wishes to contact Wobbly women who have had experience in the radical labor movement. She wants to interview female IWWs for a research paper on women's labor history. If you would like to share your story with her or know of women she should interview please let her know.

Butte-Silverbow Archives
PO Box 81
Butte, MT 59703
(406) 723-8262

Correction

In last month's issue, Doug "Reuben" Slaton should have been listed among nominees for the 1989 General Executive Board, but his name was accidentally omitted. The IW collective regrets this oversight and we offer our apologies to FW Slaton.



GEB Chair Fred Lee has asked that we clarify a statement which appeared in last month's report on the IWW Convention. FW Lee states that although the GEB report--outlining its findings with regard to Bekken's charges--was rejected by the Convention, the findings shall nevertheless stand (pending appeal, presumably, to the 1990 General Assembly).



Augusta Ungerecht Cortez

1888

1959

*Wife and Mother
of Wobblies*

For a Rebel Mother

*As long as she had a house
No one had to be homeless*

*As long as she had a table
No one had to go hungry*

*As long as she had a heart
No one had to be an orphan*

*Born in a World of exploitation
She fought for a World of freedom*

*Living in a World of war
She fought for a World of peace*

*For her there is no private plot
With fancy headstone*

*Her name is not engraved on marble
But on the hearts she left behind*

FOR HER THERE IS NO GRAVE!



London--It is the season of party conferences and the Georgian poets seek in quiet desperation new rhymes for 'autumnal leaves'. Chill winds and grey rain, and Ma Thatcher's Tory government advises the old and the sick to avoid freezing to death during the coming winter by starting to knit shawls for themselves now. I kid you not, comrades, it is official State advice. It is the time of year for all political parties both major and minor to take to the rostrum, with a standing seven-minute leadership ovation, to denounce all other political parties and to paint--in words and hand gestures--a vision of a new Britain, a new dawn and a new rise in membership fees.

Unlike American elections, patriotism and the flag have a low priority in British political party conferences. For with Britain's Labour Party it is the "horrors of Thatcherism" and for the Tories the "demand for the return of the death penalty" that has the delegates screaming in the aisles. The SDP and the LDP, two minor lower-middle-class political farts in the body politic, have screamed their hatred of each other while demanding to be allowed to form the next government. The Tory party ran true to form with Ma Thatcher slipping into her accepted role as the imperial virgin saddened by the conference's unrealized desire to hang people.

The Labour Party is again on the defensive as the leadership struggles to keep the party's diverse theological strands united, to claim to be the voice of the sword of romantic socialism and to curl up into a soft woolly ball to win worthless middleclass votes.

Britain's Labour Party is the creation of the British trade union movement and union membership is demanded upon application for membership. When but a month or two ago the godfathers of the TUC expelled the EEPTU electricians' union for its single-union deals, no-strike agreements, and membership poaching, it was accepted that their right to Labour Party affiliation and their right to voting delegates at the Party conference would be lost, but to the rage of the leftwing party leadership, refused to authorize the expulsion of the electricians' union 'coz--said the leadership--the EEPTU are still legally a union and as they say in the *Pickwick Papers* "if that's the law than the law's an ass." Only Britain's official true-blue, Simon-pure, Euro-middleclass Communist Party enjoyed a conference of mutual adulation as they endorsed Thatcherite/Gorbachev/Chinese economics. They bathed in their assumption

that Britain's labouring class is, as with the *lumpenproletariat*, an historical write off and that the future lies with Lenin's N.E.P. policy, share pushing, high priced residential private housing complexes, and a choice of wines at the plastic barricade. American party conventions may be a choice between Ol' Blue Eyes or Hollywood liberals, and European national conferences given over to intellectual soul-searching, but in that ol' final analysis it always ends up in the battle with the bastard landlord/lady and eight hours on the conveyer belt. Democracy demands that every few years the highest among the political lowest have to stand in the gutter to plead their case to get back to the pig swill.

Strikewise in this tight little island the ferry seamen and women are on a losing streak, while various formless teachers have indulged in another well-publicized single half-day strike in defense of two hundred fellow teachers sacked by a Labour Party local council. The mailmen and women having been forced into a national strike by the government were told by the union that they had won and by the government that they had lost. Neither I nor the post workers know what really happened. Among the miners, at the new Margan \$100,000,000 coal mine with it's carrot of 830 new jobs, Scargill's NUM have again refused the demand for a six day work week which means three weeks of six days and one week off (which means, comrades, that instead of 146 days off a year they get but only 139 days off a year). Scargill's men and the coal bosses know that the scab union, the U.D.M., is crawling out of the gutter ready to work the six day week deal and whatever other filth comes with it. So there is that battle now waiting to be fought. But we soldier on.

At the Hayward "brutalist" massive art centre is the exhibition of the life and work of the Russian film-maker Eisenstein and while we bullshitted about the imagery of *The Battleship Potemkin* and *Ivan the Terrible* Fred murmured in my ear that "he was a bourgeois deviationist" and to think that in those drear days before Jane Fonda was born, I sat in the old Hampstead cult cinema lapping up and loving every image of the *Potemkin*. Maybe Fred is right and I am wrong but I'll take the creative and non-creative artist and the *lumpenprole* upon which to build my world.

Arthur Moyse

LAST LETTERS

Continued from page 10

VI.

Utah State Prison, Aug. 12, 1915.
Friend and Fellow Worker: Yours of August 5th at hand, and as you see I have been moved to the state prison. The appeal was denied and I was up in court the other day and sentenced to be shot on the first day of October. We were all very much surprised at the decision, because we thought that I would be granted a new trial anyway. But as Judge Hilton says "the records of the lower court are so rotten they had to be covered somehow." I guess you can draw your conclusions from that statement. I wanted to drop the case right there and then, but from reports received from all parts of the country, I think that the case will be carried to the U. S. Supreme Court. I didn't think I'd be worth any more money. You know human life is kind of cheap this year anyway--but I guess the organization thinks otherwise and majority rule goes with me.

Well, I don't know anything new and hoping that you are successful in snaring the elusive doughnut, I remain, Yours for the OBU,
JOE HILL.

VII.

Utah State Prison, Sept. 9, 1915.
Sam Murray,
Frisco, California.

Friend and Fellow Worker: Yours received O. K. Glad to hear that things are picking up. I see that you are employed at making bait for the German "sharks." Well, war certainly shows up the capitalist system in the right light. Millions of men are employed at making ships and others are hired to sink them. Scientific management, eh, wot?

As far as I can see, it doesn't make much difference which side wins, but I hope that one side will win, because a draw would only mean another war in a year or two. All these silly priests and old maid sewing circles that are moaning about peace at this time should be locked up in the crazy house as a menace to society. The war is the finest training school for rebels in the world and for anti-militarists as well, and I hope that all the S. S. bills in the country will go over there.

Well, Sam, I don't know anything about my case. My attorneys told me to leave it all to them, and that makes it pretty soft for me to have someone else do the worrying for me.

I believe your good work on the coast is being felt at this end of the line, though.

With best wishes I am as ever yours,
JOE HILL.

VIII.

(When the following was written, Joe expected to be shot within twenty-four hours, and all of us had given up hope. However, he later received a respite of something over a month, thus being forced to go over the strain of the last day on earth again.)

Utah State Prison, Sept. 30, 1915.
Sam Murray, 3345 17th St.,
Frisco, Calif.

Friend and Fellow Worker: Well, Sam, I received your letter, but you shouldn't feel so sentimental about it. This dying business is not quite so bad as it is cracked up to be. I have always said "a new trial or die trying," and I'll show that I meant it. I was moved to another cell last night and have an armed guard in front of my cell. I was also given a swell feed for the first time in God knows how long, and that is one of the surest signs.

Well, Sam, you and me had a little pleasure at one time that few rebels have had the privilege of having, and I guess I've had my share of the fun after all. Now, just forget me, and say goodbye to the bunch.

Yours for the OBU,

JOE HILL.

P. S. Sent a letter to Caroline.

This was the last letter I got direct from Joe Hill. But we kept up the fight; telegraphed to the unions of Sweden, the Swedish Minister at Washington, who sent President Wilson a letter; who also wired the Governor of Utah, but to no avail, and the night before the execution finally took place we received together with some of the other organizations throughout the country, his famous farewell wire: "Goodbye, Forget me. Don't mourn, Organize." which we immediately answered, but which, as near as we could learn, he never received.



Frank Little

*We'll remember you, Frank Little!
The papers said: "So far as known,
He made no outcry."
No, not you! Half Indian, half white man,
All IWW
You'd have died a thousand deaths
Before you'd have cried aloud
Or whimpered once to let them
Enjoy your pain.*

Phillips Russell



The Bill Haywood We Never Knew

'Big Bill' Haywood by Melvyn Dubofsky. New York, 1987: St. Martin's Press.

There has always been a special and confused niche in the academic heart for the IWW, not replete with understanding most of the time but the interest is still there. Perhaps no one in the history of this organization has been the subject of so much ink as William Dudley Haywood. Big Bill.

Melvyn Dubofsky, who in 1969 wrote a fair-to-good general history of the IWW called *We Shall Be All*, has recently composed a small biography of Bill Haywood. If this effort by Dubofsky should have to stand alone as the credible account and interpretation of its subject's life then Fellow Worker Haywood would be no better understood than when Dubofsky first took word processor in hand. For *Big Bill Haywood* by Melvyn Dubofsky is a very uneven work: halftone and mortise crafted and half gypo goods. The book contains no footnotes to speak of and glides mildly past ridiculous errors such as: asserting that Haywood had chosen his own man, Ralph Chaplin, to replace Ben Williams as editor of *Solidarity*, when Chaplin himself became editor due to membership referendum; having Frank Little riding blithely in the car that dark Montana night when all the evidence declared that he had been savagely beaten and dragged behind a car for several miles before lynched; stating that Haywood envied and feuded with Walter Nef when Nef was secretary-treasurer of the AWO, and that Haywood used his power to discipline Nef, thus forcing the latter's resignation from the AWO. Also some more blathering as to how Haywood could not accept organizational discipline nor share credit or glory with others. No source cited for any of this, no footnote beckons to clarify or justify.

Dubofsky, in keeping with that dubious tradition started by Paul Brissenden and John G. Brooks, uses to exhaustion that much misapplied and misunderstood term, syndicalism. Haywood was a syndicalist, declares Dubofsky. Given the meaning of syndicalism in Haywood's day, he was hardly a syndicalist. William Z. Foster left the IWW in 1912 because of the organization's persistent refusal to follow profound syndicalist advice. Tom Mann—who Dubofsky likened as Haywood's spiritual blood brother—gave the same advice on a lecture tour the following year and was told by Haywood, Vincent St. John, and the bulk of the membership to go peddle his snake oil elsewhere. Hardly a good beginning for syndicalist Haywood. Briefly, syndicalism meant disbanding the IWW into a propaganda league, train the militant minority to bore-from-within the AFL's craft unions, caring and knowing little about the paramount necessity of industrial unionism, having, as Joseph Conlin pointed out, a "curiously Leninist view" as to how to organize and move the working class, and a total repudiation of political action.

Much nonsense has been written and said about the significance of the "anti-political" clause inserted in the Preamble in 1908.

Vincent St. John clearly stated that the Preamble was changed to prevent the IWW from being tied to the tail of Daniel DeLeon and the Socialist Labor Party or any subsequent equivalent. Officially, the IWW became apolitical, endorsing no political party. The membership was free to do whatever they wished about the use of the ballot. While soapboxing, Bill Haywood was fond of claiming that he was a two-gun man from the West, with one hand pulling forth his IWW red card and with the other his Socialist Party membership card.



Bill Haywood.

When the right-wing of the Socialist Party instigated the recall of Haywood from its General Executive Committee and his subsequent resignation from the party itself in 1913, this is used by Dubofsky and other historians as the final nail in the political action coffin. See, they say, nothing but syndicalism.

Actually, there is no evidence to indicate that Haywood ever lost his belief in the necessity of making ready use of whatever tools and

materials the capitalist system allowed. Haywood, like St. John, was a realist and no believer in the dogma that worse is better because it expedites the Armageddon of revolution. He approved heartily of such ballot gained reforms as child labor laws, the minimum wage, tenement legislation, and any other ameliorating concessions. Not being a political ideologue hardly qualifies Haywood as an exponent of syndicalism.

Dubofsky achieves his finest moments when he chronicles the massive government and corporate assault on the IWW in 1917-1920. His sense of outrage comes to the fore and illuminates his humanity, a rare occurrence for historians. He is also astute in assessing Haywood's monstrous blunder in insisting on a mass trial of the 101 in 1918, rather than each defendant being tried separately and thus prolonging the indictments and clogging the judicial process. Dubofsky also underscores something which most academics ignore, that on the eve of a tidal wave of oppression, the IWW functioned very well.

This book is well worth reading despite its flaws and despite Dubofsky's appalling conceit in describing his earlier effort, *We Shall Be All*, as "the most complete and detailed history of the IWW". Such a claim is ludicrous: Philip S. Foner has written about this union in much more detail and substance, and Joseph Conlin with much more perception. Melvyn Dubofsky's latest effort reveals a vital interest in the IWW that the current condition of "organized labor" can only reinforce. We represent a vision and truth that the capitalists and business pie cards can never destroy: that we, the working people of the earth, can with organization and solidarity usher forth a better world. As much as anyone, Bill Haywood helped make this possible.

Phillip Harris
X334479

In November We Remember...

Joe Hill's Last Letters

Industrial Pioneer, December 1923

NOTICE that the Pioneer is going to publish a sketch of the life of Joe Hill in the November issue, so thought you might be able to use some of the letters I have and which were written by him while he was under sentence of death. These letters, to a great extent, show that peculiar spirit which enabled Joe to bear up so well under the enormous strain, while all the forces of both sides of the struggle were being marshaled—one to take his life, the other to save him.

I had been with Joe in Lower California, but had seen nothing of him and heard little, as I had been spending my time in an out-of-the-way place till August, 1914, when I arrived in Frisco and received the latest news relative to his case from a fellow worker who had just left Salt Lake.

If you could get a little poem he wrote a little while before he was shot, entitled "The Bronko Buster," and inspired by a picture of "Buster" Flynn on a pony sent to him by Gurley Flynn, it will shed some light on the love Joe always had for freedom and the untamable spirit that refuses to surrender it.

The cartoon I am enclosing was sent with the first letter I am sending.

SAM MURRAY, SU-410.

Oakland, California.

I

Salt Lake City, Sept. 15, 1914.

Dear Friend and Fellow Worker:

Yours of Sept 9 at hand. Glad to hear that you are still alive and kicking and back on the firing line again.

So, you tried to imitate Knowles, the Nature Freak, and live the simple life. It might be all right for a little while, as you say, but I am afraid a fellow would get "simple" of getting too much of the simple life.

Well, I guess the wholesale butchery going on in Europe is putting the kibosh on everything, even the organization work, to some extent. As a rule, a fellow don't bother his head much about unions and theories of the class struggle when his belly is flapping up against his spine. Getting the wrinkles out is then the main issue and everything else, side issues. That's human nature or animal instinct rather, and any amount of soapboxing will not change it. The man who coined the phrase "War is hell" certainly knew what he was talking about.

Well, Sam, old boy, I guess Van has told you everything about my case and I think he knows more about it than I do, because he has been around here and on the outside. I am feeling well under the circumstances and I am fortunate enough to have the ability to entertain myself and to look at everything from the bright side. So there is nothing you could do for me, Sam. I know you would if you could.

Well, with best wishes to the bunch in Frisco, I remain, Yours for the OBU.—Joe Hill.

P. S. Is Jack Mosby in Washington yet or did he leave?

II

Salt Lake City, Dec. 2, 1914.

Dear Friend and Fellow Worker:

Received your letter and should have answered before, but have been busy working on some musical composition and whenever I get an "inspiration" I can't quit until it's finished.

I am glad to hear that you manage to make both ends meet, in spite of the industrial deal, but there is no use being pessimistic in this glorious land of plenty. Self preservation is, or should be, the first law of nature. The animals, when in a natural state, are showing us the way. When they are hungry they will always try to get something to eat or else they will die in the attempt. That's natural; to starve to death is unnatural.

No, I have not heard that song about "Tipperary" but if you send it as you said you would I might try to dope something out about that Frisco Fair. I am not familiar with the actual conditions of Frisco at present; and when I make a song I always try to picture things as they really are. Of course a little pepper and salt is allowed in order to bring out the facts more clearly.

If you send me that sheet music and give me some of the peculiarities and ridiculous points about the conditions in general on or about the fair ground, I'll try to do the best I can. Yours for the OBU.—Joe Hill.

III

Salt Lake City, Feb. 13, 1915.

Friend and Fellow Worker:

Should have answered your letter before, but have been busy working on a song named "The Rebel Girl" (Words and Music), which I hope will help to line up the women workers in the OBU, and I hope you will excuse me.

I see you made a big thing out of that Tipperary song. (We had secured nearly 50 dollars by selling it for 5 cents for the Joe Hill Defense.—S. M.) In fact, a whole lot more than I ever expected, I don't suppose that it would sell very well outside of Frisco, though by the way I got a letter from Swasey in NY and he told me that "Casey Jones" made quite a hit in London and "Casey Jones," he was an Angelino you know, and I never expected that he would leave Los Angeles at all.

The other day we got ten bucks from a company of soldiers stationed on the Mexican line. How is that old top? Maybe they are remembering some of the cigars in glass bottles that they smoked at the expense of the "Tierra e Libertad" bunch.

Don't know much about my case. The Sup. Court will "sit on" it sometime in the sweet bye and bye and that's all I know about it.

Give my best to the bunch.—Joe Hill.

IV.

County Jail, S. L. City, Mar. 22, 1915

Sam Murray, Napa, Cal.

Friend and Fellow Worker: Yours of March 13th at hand. I note that you have gone "back to nature" again and I must confess that it is making me a little homesick when you mention that "little cabin in the hills" stuff. You can talk about your dances, picnics and blow outs, and it won't affect me, but the "little cabin" stuff always gets my goat. That's the only life I know.

Yes, that Tipperary song is spreading like the smallpox they say. Sec. 69 tells me that there is a steady stream of silver from Frisco on account of it. The unemployed all over the country have adopted it as a marching song in their parades, and in New York City they changed it to some extent, so as to fit the brand of soup dished out in N. Y. They are doing great work in N. Y. this year. The unemployed have been organized and have big meetings every night. Gurly Flynn, Geo. Swasey (the human phonograph) and other live ones are there, and Gurley F. tells me things are looking favorable for the OBU. The hearing of my case has been postponed they say, and they are trying to make me believe that it is for my benefit, but I'll tell you that it is damn hard for me to see where the benefit comes in at; damn hard.

Well, I have about a dozen letters to answer, Yours as ever,
JOE HILL.

V.
S. L. Cy., June 6, 1915.

Friend and Fellow Worker: Your welcome letter received, and am glad to note that you are still sticking to your "little cabin in the hills." I would like to get a little of that close to nature stuff myself for a couple of months in order to regain a little vitality, and a little flesh on my rotting bones. My case was argued on the 28th of May, and according to Judge Hilton, the results were satisfactory. He says he is sure of securing a reversal, and if so, there hardly will be another trial, for the simple reason that there won't be anything to try, if I can get a lawyer that will defend me.

With best wishes to all the rebels, Yours for the OBU,
JOE HILL.

P. S. I've just found out that the Superior Court judges are getting ready to go on their vacation until next fall, so I guess there won't be anything decided on my case for some time. But "everything comes to him who waits" they say, and that's the only consolation I got now.—JOE.

Turn to page 9

Rebel Voices THE NY IWW MAGAZINE

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Opinions • No Ads • Not
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MONTANA. Western Montana General Membership Branch Hall, 415 North Higgins, Room 104, Missoula. Open Monday through Saturday, 12-5. 800-873-4000 or 406-721-3000. A.L. Nurse, Delegate. Address all correspondence to IWW Branch, PO Box 8562, Missoula 59807.

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Dan Czurnys, 13 Wolsey Street off Heslington Road, York, YO 5BQ, England.

SOLIDARITY FOREVER!

IWW BRANCH NEWS

DENVER-BOULDER

Due to production delays by the State Historical Society, the Columbine Mine Massacre Memorial program has been re-scheduled from November until sometime next spring. In the meantime, the Denver-Boulder Branch is witnessing a growth in interest in the project, with people associated with the 1927 IWW strike and its repression from around the country indicating interest in attending the ceremonies. The Branch is pursuing the further possibility of having a gravesite memorial this fall and of enlarging the monument itself from a roadside plaque to a Miners Memorial Park. A brother from the electrical workers union has written a moving poem about the massacre, the memorial and workers' sacrifices.

Solidarity continues with Mailers Union Local #8, the members of which had their wages cut in half by the Denver Post this summer, with direct actions in the works. The branch, and all the OBU, is grateful to these workers for their struggle and leadership, and we were especially touched by a large birthday card to Joe Hill presented to the branch by the Post mailers in October. The card, a large cardboard affair with a black cat cutout affixed to its cover, contained signed greetings from many mailers and the following poem penned by one of them:

Joe Hill

*In each there lives the spirit
cold and dark,
But a single flame, a solidarity spark,
One beacon to ignite the working class,
One man whose flesh resides
within the grass.*

*His body killed, his life a short reprise,
His murder done by governmental lies.
The voice onced stilled,
rings on throughout the earth;
It sings while some still remnant
gives it birth.*

*The world will say he perished
with his death
But workers live his songs
with every breath.
His voice cannot be stilled
by worldly powers,
Joe Hill's eternal voice sings on in ours.*

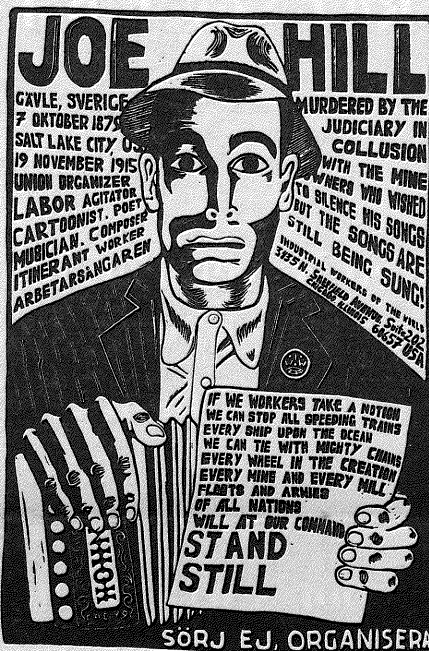
Convention Minutes Now Available

The minutes of the 45th General Convention are now available through IWW General Headquarters in Chicago. With a total of 86 pages, including a contents page and an appendix, even those who participated in this year's convention will have use for this verbatim report. They're available in limited supply, and we're asking for \$5 per copy (pre-paid) to defray costs of production and postage. Available to IWW members and archivists only. Order your copy now... they'll soon be gone.

NEW YORK

Three members of the NY Branch will represent the IWW at an event co-sponsored by the WSA to benefit Pittsburgh's Shipbuilders Local 61 on November 17 (As reported in the July IW, Local 61 has filed to decertify their international and gain NLRB certification as an independent local. During the course of the struggle, Local president Darrell Becker was arrested and sentenced to serve one year, then placed under house arrest, over shabby trespassing charges).

The New York Wobs recently began to publish a variety of organizing aids. "Rebel Voices", a quarterly magazine, is available for \$2.50 per year or \$.75 for individual copies. "What Every Professional Should Know About the IWW" is \$.15 per copy, with quantity discounts available (but please add \$.25 for postage each order). There is a related flyer which may be supplied to professors as handouts. The Branch also expects to have flyers for fast-food workers and students published and available for distribution in January.



VANCOUVER

Vancouver IWW members have been active as part of community support for restaurant employees on strike since August 27 against the White Spot chain. IWW members in September handed out leaflets in three locations urging patrons of the non-union White Spots (11 of the 29 White Spot outlets are unionized) to understand the issues in the dispute. White Spot has been cutting the hours of long-term employees in order to replace them with new employees it wants to hire at minimum wage.

The Vancouver Wobs also played a major role in a benefit dance for striking restaurant workers October 14, an event which featured the IWW dance band The Tools. Also appearing as part of the entertainment was the theatrical group "2 joans," which includes IWW member Pam Tranfield.

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 FORGING THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW SOCIETY WITHIN THE SHELL OF THE OLD.

BOOKS

FOR REBEL WORKERS

IWW PUBLICATIONS

- One Big Union (about the IWW)..... 1.25
- The General Strike by Ralph Chaplin..... 2.50
- IWW Songs: The Little Red Songbook.... 2.50
- Collective Bargaining Manual..... 2.50
- Workers' Guide to Direct Action..... 3.50
- Unions and Racism..... 1.00
- Metal Workers' Health & Safety..... 50
- A Quiz on You and the Arms Race..... 10
- The IWW: Its First Seventy Years by Fred Thompson cloth 15.00; paper... 4.95
- History of the IWW in Canada..... 50
- The Rebel Girl (sheet music)..... 1.00
- We Have Fed You All for 1000 Years (LP record/IWW Songs-no discount)..... 8.50
- IWW Preamble and Constitution..... 1.00

IWW POSTERS by Carlos Cortez

- Lucy Parsons Joe Hill General Strike
- Fat Cat Huelga General Ben Fletcher
- Draftees of the World, Unite \$10.00 postpaid

BOOKS FROM OTHER PUBLISHERS

- Rebel Voices: An IWW Anthology by Joyce Kornbluh..... 18.95
- The Yale Strike of 1984-84..... 5.95
- Roll the Union On: Pictorial History of Southern Tenant Farmers' Union by H.L. Mitchell..... 7.95
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- Memoirs of a Wobbly by Henry McGuckin... 5.95
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- The Head-Fixing Industry by J. Keracher... 3.00
- The Soul of Man Under Socialism by Oscar Wilde..... 3.95
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- Labor Law for the Rank-and-File..... 2.50
- Didactic Verse by Henry Pfaff (IWW humor)..... 2.00

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AVAILABLE FROM IWW LOCALS

- Out of the Depths (best book on the Ludlow Massacre). \$10 postpaid from Gary Cox, P.O. Box 478, Johnstown CO. 80534. Checks payable to Colorado Labor Forum. (All proceeds to P-9.)
- A Workers' Guide to Direct Action. .50 from N.Y. IWW, P.O. Box 183, NY 10028
- 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/yr. from Vancouver IWW, PO Box 65635, Station F, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V5N 3K5
- Amnesty for British Miners (enamel & gold buttons) \$10 each from Chicago IWW Branch, 3435 N. Sheffield, Suite 202, Chicago, IL. 60657. (All proceeds to British miners.)
- Wobbly T-Shirts, \$10 postpaid from Denver-Boulder IWW Branch, P.O. Box 478, Johnstown, CO, 80534.

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Chicago, Illinois, 60657

In November We Remember...

... Joe Hill, executed by the
authorities of the State of Utah,
November 19, 1915. "Don't waste
time in mourning: Organize!"

... Felix Baran, Hugo Gerlot,
Gustav Johnson, John Looney,
Abraham Rabinowitz, and those
unknown martyrs whose bodies
were swept out to unmarked ocean
graves at the Everett, Washington
massacre, November 5, 1916.

... Frank Little, lynched by the
Copper Barons at Butte, Montana
on August 1, 1917.

... Wesley Everest, lynched by the
Lumber Trust at Centralia,
Washington on November 11,
1919. "Tell the boys I died for my
class."

... IWW members killed by
the Bolsheviks at Kronstadt,
March 17, 1921.

... Striking miners murdered
at the Columbine Massacre,
November 21, 1927.

... IWW members who died fighting
Fascism in Spain, 1936-1939.

... Frank Terrugi, machine-
gunned by Fascists after the coup
in Chile, 1973.

... Frank Gould, missing in action
in the Philippines, presumed
murdered by government armed
forces, 1974.

Red November, Black November

by Ralph Chaplin

Red November, black November,
Bleak November, black and red;
Hallowed month of labor's martyrs,
Labor's heroes, labor's dead.

Labor's wrath and hope and sorrow,
Red the promise, black the threat
Who are we not to remember?
Who are we to dare forget?

Black and red the colors blended,
Black and red the pledge we made -
Red until the fight is ended,
Black until the debit is paid.

... to all unnamed Wobblies
who have suffered and died in the
cause of a world united in peace
and free from the exploitation of
labor.

We Never Forget!