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TO LABOR

Industrial Worker

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL

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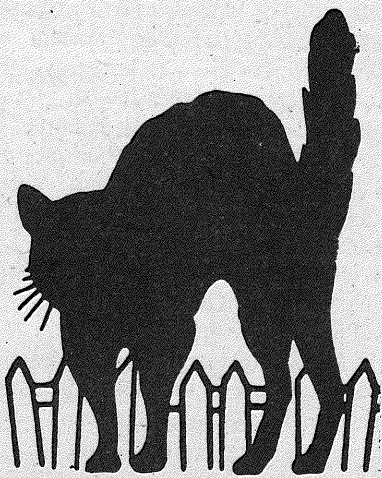
Contract Agreement Reached in Ann Arbor

The People's Warehouse Job Branch, I.U. 660 has reached agreement with the Michigan Federation of Food Cooperatives (MFCC—which owns the Warehouse) on a three year contract. This is the fourth contract won by the Wobblies who represent a 32 member bargaining unit; the first agreement was ratified five years ago.

People's Warehouse is the wholesale outlet for 320 cooperatives which are member-owners of the MFCC. First organized almost twenty years ago as a worker self-managed collective, the warehousing operation has been run for the past eight years with a traditional management structure and a general manager hired by the MFCC Board of Directors. Despite an almost constant effort on the part of the management to disempower the workers, the wobs have been able to preserve a real and effective form of participatory democracy in the day to day operations on the shop floor and guarantee it in their contracts.

The current agreement was ratified at a special meeting of the Job Branch on October 13. All the members in attendance, a full majority of the local branch, voted the contract up; clearly feeling a sense of victory. The MFCC Board of Directors also met at a special meeting the following Sunday and approved the contract by a vote of 4 to 3 with 3 members abstaining.

The voting was done in a public meeting after a closed session discussion. Since their discussion was held in secret, it is difficult to ascertain the board members' reasoning. Yet it is clear that some Board members were dissatisfied with the contract. It is well known that several directors wanted to break the egalitarian pay scale and dismantle the democratic shop management, outlined in the contract. The MFCC negotiators were unsuccessful in this regard. The Wobs at People's Warehouse continue to work under a contract which provides for real and



effective worker involvement in decision making.

Key Contract Terms

The first question which should come to mind for any militant IWW member is whether a three year contract ties the union to a possibly unfavorable situation. The answer is to be found in the terms of the agreement which the branch membership unanimously supported:

-wage and benefit increases.

The contract provides for a 7% increase in base pay for the first year, 4% the second year, and 3% the third. A simplified cost of living adjustment formula was included. The business share of health insurance premiums was increased back to 100%. One more paid holiday was added. Time and one-half after eight hours worked is now to be paid to truckers as compensation for excessive over the road time. A wage reopener clause was included which allows for wage renegotiations after the second year. It should be noted that the last wage renegotiations resulted in a significant pay increase and the inclusion of

continued on page 7

Organizing the Berkeley Recycle Center

Earlier this year, San Francisco Bay Area Wobblies were surprised to read in the Industrial Worker about a new job shop in Berkeley called the Ecology Center. The mystery was soon solved, however, when our financial secretary Dick Ellington contacted the job shop's delegate, Jeff Hoffman. Seems Jeff had been in Chicago on vacation and contacted our General Administration while he was there. Things went so well that he came home empowered to sign up new members, which is just what he did—a whole shop's worth of workers.

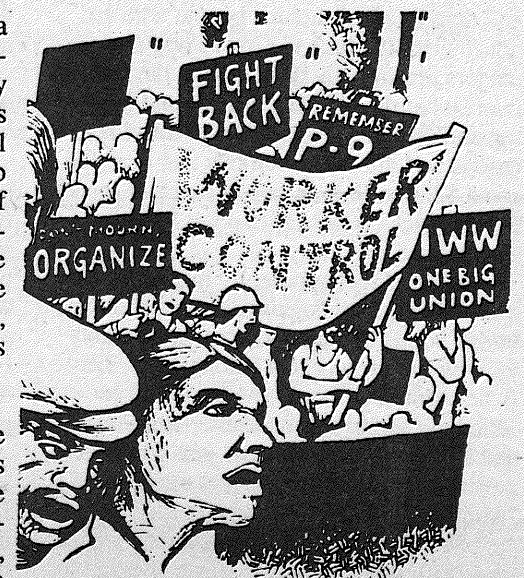
The following interview with Jeff took place on a quiet Sunday evening in San Francisco's Castro district, five days after the earthquake shook the Bay Area. In addition to Jeff's activities as an IWW and Earth First! activist, he also manages a punk band, and looks the part. With his spike bracelet, sleeveless black T-shirt, and tattoo, Jeff exemplifies the new breed of Wobbly organizer—young, daring, and environmentally conscious.

IW: How did you first hear about the IWW?

JH: I've known about them for years. Most people in the Bay Area who are politically active know about the IWW. Some people on the job were under the impression that they didn't exist any more, but I looked them up before I went to Chicago in January. I was going back to visit friends and relatives, and there was an office, and they were open, so...

IW: I was going to ask you about that. We didn't hear about you till we read that branch report in the newspaper. So you walked into the office and Ingrid was working...

JF: That was actually her first night. I had called Jeff (Ditz, IWW General Secretary Treasurer) and when I came in, he was



showing Ingrid around the office. I told him who we were and what we wanted to do, and he gave me all the paperwork and books and constitutions and buttons...

IW: So you came back to the Bay Area and proceeded to sign up folks at the Ecology Center?

JH: Right. We signed up people first, and then we had a National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) election to certify the union, which passed unanimously.

IW: There must have been some issues leading up to this unionization drive. I'm assuming there was a certain amount of dissatisfaction there already.

JH: Yea, there were two things. We were grossly underpaid, and overworked at the same time.

continued on page 3

IN NOVEMBER WE REMEMBER THE GREAT STRIKE PAGEANT

The Paterson Strike Pageant took place in Madison Square Garden on June 7, 1913. About 1,500 strikers had assembled at Turn Hall, Paterson, at 8:00 a.m. that morning, and at 9:00 were rehearsed by (John) Reed, who afterward led them through the town to the music of a lively band to the railway station. There at 10:45, 1,147 of the strikers boarded a special train of thirteen coaches which took them from Paterson to Hoboken, while another 800 marched behind Carlo Tresca to Union Square to rejoin the trainload and other silk industry strikers from New York City and elsewhere. (Money for the Pageant had been raised among the workers of New York City, largely by the efforts of John C. Steiger, himself a silk worker.) They marched up Christopher Street and Fifth Avenue with a band, singing the "Marseillaise" and the "Internationale," and led by an eighteen-year-old worker called Hannah Silverman.

The first the strikers had heard about a

pageant had been from Bill Haywood on May 16. Three days later he presented Reed to them as the man who would direct it, and Reed asked them to suggest the strike scenes they should represent. This was less than three weeks before the event. Rehearsals began at Turn Hall, in Paterson, the Monday before the Pageant. They practiced their songs, with Reed back in his Harvard role as cheerleader, at the haledon meeting on Sunday, May 25.

The committee organizing the Pageant more than once debated dropping the whole idea as too unwieldy—first during the first week of rehearsals, and again during the second week, only ten days before the announced date. They also had financial anxieties. The original scheme had been to present the Pageant for two or three successive nights, but they found the cost of renting the Garden prohibitive. Reed said the rent was \$1,000 a night, while building the stage cost \$600, and

the scenery \$750.

It was apparently the enthusiasm of strikers' representatives at the committee's meeting which made them go ahead; these representatives of the 10,000 striking silk workers of New York City volunteered to raise more money to meet the production costs. (The scenery included, besides the two-hundred-foot backdrop of a mill, painted by John Sloan, wings consisting of smaller representations of a dozen mills.) The project seems to have grown in size continually: later three hundred strikers were to have performed, and on June 2 the Central Strike committee announced that five hundred had now been assigned parts, and appealed for more volunteers; and finally about twelve hundred did take part.

A letter by Edward Eyre Hunt, a friend of Reed, dated June 12, says that a week before (presumably a week before the Pageant) the executive committee had voted unanimously

to give up the project because costs were mounting, newspapers were boycotting them, and the IWW itself seemed lukewarm; but then the striking silk workers of New York City vowed to raise as much as five thousand dollars more and to put the Pageant on themselves, if the "highbrows" couldn't.

Rehearsals had been held in the union hall in Paterson with John Reed in charge, directing things with a megaphone. He asked the strikers how the events they were reliving had felt and took suggestions from them about how they dragged their feet approaching the mill in the mornings, but it seems that his main assistants were Greenwich Village friends like Hutchins Hapgood, Jessie Ashley, Alexander Berkman, Bobby Jones, John Sloan, and above all Mabel Dodge.

What they saw when they got inside was a huge stage at the fourth avenue end of the hall, and across it hung the two-hundred-foot

continued on page 4

CORRESPONDENCE

WOW

Dear IW folks,

Just a quick note to say WOW, the last two issues of IW have been really hot! The layout, cover, photos, every thing is really improved and evident of immense work and creativity. I'm proud to be a member and subscriber. Keep up this new exciting style, and thank you!

Peace and Solidarity,

Dexter Herda
Colorado

Zionism

Industrial Worker Collective,

I was rather surprised to see in the "Correspondence" section of the September issue of the Industrial Worker that there are two readers who are not aware of the fact that Zionism is indeed another form of racism, a form of racism that favors Jews and discriminates against people who are not Jewish. It struck me too as odd that two readers presumably dedicated to the interests of the working class found nothing amiss with the fact that 35 AFL-CIO unions and three other unions had invested some \$300 million in Israeli bonds. I would like to touch on this latter point in my response first.

Virgil Vogel apparently missed my practical argument against investing in Israeli bonds by organizations presumably looking out for workers belonging to them as he seemed to focus on what could be called my moral objection by remarking that he "would like to know just which governments in this imperfect world" that I "would approve investing in."

That question is easy to answer. In this imperfect world an organization devoted to working class interests would invest its money in those securities which would bring maximum return on the money invested consistent with the security and safety of the securities in question. A labor

organization would not make a gift to the business or government selling securities by accepting lower interest rates than could be obtained safely and securely elsewhere. U.S. government bonds pay a higher rate of interest as do many other equivalent securities which would provide more money to sustain workers on strike that the return on Israeli bonds. This is not to say that U.S. government bonds are a cleaner investment as this government's crimes against humanity in Indochina, for example, undoubtedly surpassed those of Israel in her recent wars of aggression against her neighbors. I am simply saying that U.S. bonds and other securities are undoubtedly going to produce more income for labor organizations who are serious about helping their members when they go out on strike.

As D. Sacz did not speak to this question, I suspect that it is safe to assume that he too supports the AFL-CIO \$300 million investment in Israel.

Now I would like to speak to the question of Zionism as another racist ideology.

It certainly is true as Virgil Vogel pointed out that not all Jews are Zionists. I found it ironic that one of the persons that Vogel chose to denigrate as "Jew-baiter" was Lenni Brenner, a non-religious Jew whose Zionism in the Age of the Dictators and The Iron Wall: Zionist Revisionism from Jabotinsky to Shamir are perhaps two of the best anti-Zionist works available in print today.

In the Iron Wall, Brenner quotes Vladimir Jabotinsky on "race". Jabotinsky's views are significant because it is his Zionist tendency that has been ruling Israel since 1977. He is the intellectual "godfather" of Begin, Sharon and Shamir. With just a little modification, Jabotinsky's words could have been the words of Adolf Hitler:

"The source of national feeling...lies in a man's blood...in his racio-physical type, and in that alone...a man's spiritual outlooks are primarily determined by his physical structure...For that reason we do not believe in spiritual assimilation. It is inconceivable, from the physical point of view, that a Jew born to a family of pure Jewish blood...can become adapted to the spiritual outlooks of a German or a Frenchman...He may be wholly imbued with that German fluid by the nucleus of his spiritual structure will always remain Jewish...The spiritual assimilation of peoples whose blood is different is impossible...In order to become truly assimilated he must change his body. He must become one of them in blood." (p. 29)

After reading this passage again the thought occurred to me that Adolf Hitler could have written the Jabotinsky passage cited above without any modification. Read that passage again and imagine that you are a Nazi. The British historian Arnold Toynbee was correct when he observed that Zionism is the obverse or counterpart of anti-semitism.

Now let us turn to a leading Israeli opponent of Zionism, who exposed the racist character of the State of Israel in The Non-Jew in the Jewish State. This work, edited by Hebrew University chemistry professor Israel Shahak, who is also a Bergen-Belsen concentration camp survivor and Israeli civil rights activist, is a collection of news items from the Hebrew language press of Israel which he translated into English and also includes three essays by him in which the reader is obliged to conclude that Zionism is indeed another form of racism. The Non-Jew in the Jewish State deals only with the period when the "Labor" tendency of Zionism was in power as it appeared in 1976 one year before the "Revisionist" Jabotinsky tendency assumed power in Israel in 1977. In his essay "The Racist Nature of Zionism and of the Zionist State of Israel", Professor Shahak made the following introductory statement:

"It is my considered opinion that the State of Israel is a racist state in the full



meaning of this term: In this state, people are discriminated against, in the most permanent and legal way and in the most important areas of life, only because of their origin.

"This racist discrimination began in Zionism and is carried out today mainly in cooperation with the institutions of the Zionist movement."

Perhaps one of Shahak's most striking examples of how the Israeli government practices racism was given in his essay "What is the Meaning of the Jewish State." He cites housing as one example: "The State of Israel builds huge building projects in Jerusalem. But for whom? Not just for 'Israeli citizens'; they are build only for Jews.

"An inhabitant of Jerusalem can never be eligible for a flat in those building projects if he, for example, happens to believe in Jesus Christ or in the Prophet Muhammad and acts on this belief, i.e., is a member of any Christian or Muslim religion.

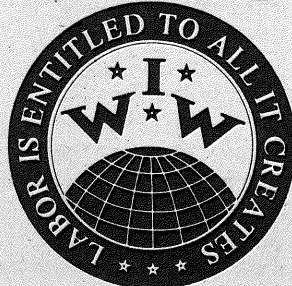
"If he is an atheist, his right to obtain a flat in most of the newly built housing projects in Jerusalem belonging to the State of Israel depends strictly on his race. If he can bring proof that his mother, grandmother, great grandmother and the grandmother of the grandmother were all Jewesses, he is regarded as a Jew and can obtain a place to live. If one of the links is weak, he cannot.

"The situation is the same in most areas of Israel. More than 90 percent of the inhabited areas of the State of Israel are under the rule of the Jewish National Fund regulations under which nonjews cannot rent or buy a house or flat, open a business, in short, cannot live."

One final note, Virgil Vogel did not challenge the validity of the data I presented in my essay on AFL-CIO investments in Israel. He suggested that the data were somehow tainted because financing of the research could have come from Arab sources. I would like to know why "Arab money" is tainted and other money, particularly "Jewish money" is not. Nor did he present any evidence that the admittedly anti-Zionist Institute for Palestine Studies has ever engaged in "Jew-bashing". It is to be hoped that the Jewish sources presented in this essay will be more to Vogel's liking, especially Israel Shahak as Vogel did not appreciate my August reference to Lenni Brenner as a source of information. Perhaps Brenner will be more to his liking now that he knows that Brenner is Jewish.

In any event, it is my hope that both of my critics, D. Sacz and Virgil Vogel and anyone else who is interested in this subject, will get in touch with The Israel League for Human and Civil Rights, P.O. Box 14192, Tel Aviv, Israel for more information about the racist character of Zionism and its progeny, the State of Israel.

Fraternally,
Robert E. Nordlander
333 Lopas Street
Menasha, Wisconsin 54952



Hurricane Hugo

Hurricane Hugo delays GOB

Wobblies receiving the IWW internal newsletter for June through August in October should be informed that the newsletter was at the printer in August. Schedule demands at the printer combined with damage by Hurricane Hugo to the building and equipment at Harbinger Publications to delay production and mailing of the newsletter.

The ballot included with the GOB carried a return date of October 9. This ballot is being reissued by first class mail as the IW goes to press. Please return the new ballot to vote.

Malthusians:

To the Editor

RE THE IW OCT. COMMENT ON MY JUNE LETTER:

The ceno-Malthusian doctrine, or Zero Population Growth (ZPG) teaching, like its paleo-Malthusian predecessor, serves no factual sociological purpose, but does serve two ruling class propaganda purposes:

1 - It conceals the fact that poverty is caused by exploitation of the working classes by the ruling, owning classes. This impels well-meaning but misguided people to seek to get rid of people instead of overthrowing the exploiting, owning classes.

2 - It provides the owning classes with an alibi for control OF the people in order to prevent control BY the people. The class-ruled, exploitative government of China, like its forerunners, the Chiang and Manchu regimes, claims overpopulation as a "valid" reason to violently crush popular protest, but yet somehow refuses to allow those so-called surplus people to emigrate from China, and to thus relieve China's "population problem."

As to the world-wide scene: Only the smallest fraction of our human population need reside on earth or draw sustenance from it. The vast majority can live their total lives in outer space, viabilizing and inhabiting other planets and other solar systems, sustaining themselves from those. Those still on earth can live quite spaciouly and graciously in tall narrow cities, and can eat quite well using only a small bit of earth's land for agriculture, and letting the rest of it go fully wild.

The ceno-Malthusians' present-day disparaging of their paleo-Malthusian predecessors' racism does nothing to exculpate Malthusianism, SPGism, per se, for it is just as wrong to cut down on all races as it is to cut down on any one race. An evenly spread wrong is just as wrong as an unevenly spread one. Even were all of the Malthusians to delete themselves, that would improve nothing, though it would surely reduce the population. (I hope they don't do this, because some of my best friends are Malthusians!)

One thing the Malthusians have never realized is that reduction of the growth rate of the world's population would NECESSARILY clamp restrictions on women's choices, but would not NECESSARILY impose ANY restrictions on men's choices. This is so because only women count for much in population; men count hardly at all. It will make little or no difference in population growth whether the men are given free reign or nine-tenths of them are sterilized or executed, for one man with 10 women can sire just as man children as 10 men and 10 women can.

That is why warfare has never retarded population growth, and why, in fact, the world's greatest of all wars to date, World War II, even with battle-deaths far in excess of 16,000,000 men, actually gave us the world's biggest leap in population growth, namely, the Baby Boom..

War ordinarily kills mostly men and usually spares practically all the women. Whatever fate it throws them into at the war's end, it spares their lives and thus the population grows without diminution. Had warfare been "women's work" through all these centuries, as it well could become in

continued on page 10

Industrial Worker

ONE UNION ONE LABEL
ONE ENEMY



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An Open Letter to the Progressive Community

The U.S. government wants us to "forgive and forget" those responsible for the Iran/Contra crimes. Yet some activists who opposed these crimes now face life in prison...

One of Ed Meese's last actions before leaving the Justice Department was to order the indictment of six long-time political activists on charges of protesting U.S. domestic and international policies through "violent and illegal means."

Like other recent political trials U.S. v. Whitehorn et al. (The Resistance Conspiracy Case) targets domestic opponents of illegal practices such as the contra war against Nicaragua and the invasion of Grenada. The investigation of these defendants is linked to the recent illegal FBI investigations of CISPEs and the Central America solidarity movements. Like them, it's characterized by massive FBI misconduct and illegality.

The six Alan Berkman, Tim Blunk, Marilyn Buck, Linda Evans, Susan Rosenberg, and Laura Whitehorn - are charged with being part of a network of groups that claimed responsibility for bombings of government

and military buildings in 1983-85, including the 1983 bombing of the U.S. Capitol after the invasion of Grenada. No one was injured in any of these actions. The government makes no claim to know who actually carried out the bombings. Rather, it wants to convict the defendants by proving that they shared a "common purpose" of resisting illegal U.S. war crimes: "guilt by political association."

The government has already put these defendants through fourteen separate political prosecutions. Five of the defendants are already serving sentences of up to 70 years. The sixth has been held in preventive detention for 2 1/2 years. This April, the trial judge dismissed all charges against three of the defendants on the grounds of double jeopardy, but the Justice Department has vowed to fight the decision.

The government wants to stage a show trial to have a chilling effect on activists. It uses the guise of security to create an atmosphere of fear and intimidation to make a fair trial impossible. A bulletproof plexiglass wall in the courtroom separated defendants and

spectators. This is political persecution, not a criminal prosecution. The targets are people who have shown a deep commitment to human rights and social justice over many years. There may be political disagreements among us, but we are all part of the community of people in the U.S. who have opposed and tried to stop the murderous, inhumane and illegal practices of the Reagan administration. The defendants in this case, like the other political prisoners in this country, need to be returned to our communities and not disappear into the prison system. We must lend our voices and support to ensure their rights-and thereby our own. We ask you to join in a campaign to halt this vindictive prosecution. Stopping this last prosecution brought by Reagan and Meese can be an important step in dismantling their legacy of a politicized criminal justice system and resurgent FBI.

For more information contact the Emergency Committee for Political Prisoners P.O. Box 28191 Washington D.C. 20038-8195.

Organizing the Berkeley Recycle Center

continued from page 1

IW: So people were pissed off already, huh.

JH: Right. We'd been talking about going on strike, and then people said "Well, if we're going to go on strike we ought to get a union first." And then once we did unionize, we decided to make demands of the boss and see what happened.

IW: Had you considered other mainstream unions?

JH: Not really. We knew what the other unions were, but the only union that anybody on our job would have felt comfortable with was the IWW.

IW: Were most of the people you worked with already either activists or at least progressive in their outlook?

JH: Right. I'd say the latter.

IW: Tell us about the actual work you do there at the Ecology Center.

JH: We drive around the city of Berkeley and pick up bottles, cans, and newspapers for recycling, much as garbage men make pickups except that we don't have specific stops, we look for people to put things out, we run routes. Originally the pickups were once a month in Berkeley but now we're switching to once a week. By the end of the year we expect everything to be weekly.

IW: So you signed folks up, had an NLRB election, and then approached management with a list of demands. What was the process by which you were picked to negotiate for the workers, or was it just assumed since you were the delegate?

JH: I just asked everyone if they wanted me to be the representative and they all said yes. I'm basically the most assertive, aggressive one there, so people thought I could represent them best.

IW: How did those negotiations go? Last time I talked to you, you were very close to an agreement.

JH: We've got a signed contract now. We got raises—we were making from \$5.00 to \$7.50 an hour, now we're making between \$8.50 and \$11.00 an hour. We had no benefits before. In fact, up till a few months ago, we weren't even making overtime pay, which is illegal in California. But we started getting that, and now we've some benefits like holiday and vacation days, and sick days, and a medical plan.

IW: That's a sizeable improvement.

JH: Like I said, we felt that we were grossly underpaid, and a small raise wouldn't have satisfied us. As a matter of fact, none of the people are really even happy with exactly what we got, we were hoping for more. We'd been looking around to see what other curbside recyclers got in the Bay Area, and the ones that drive big trucks and do heavy work like we do, the lowest paid is \$13.30 in San Francisco.

IW: Weren't you afraid that management would balk at your demands and fire everyone and hire a bunch of scabs?

JH: Not really. The pay was so low, that to find people who could drive trucks around Berkeley and do the heavy work we do would have been nearly impossible. They had a hard time keeping people on the job as it was.

IW: So from their point of view, this has probably helped the turnover rate.

JH: Definitely. We're still underpaid, but I wouldn't say we're grossly underpaid anymore. Our contract is for one year, so hopefully next year we can get another couple dollars an hour and catch up with what other people in the Bay Area are making.

IW: What do you see as the future of recycling? We've obviously got a severe waste management crisis here in the Bay Area. Even local governments are talking about recycling as the wave of the future. Do you see that happening?

JH: Yea. What I see happening is what's going on in New Jersey and parts of Chicago, where it's mandatory. People look through

your garbage and if they find recyclables, they just don't pick your garbage up. The landfills are filling up and it won't be long till whoever's in charge realizes that they have to make people recycle, because otherwise they won't do it.

IW: So then recycling is a growing industry, more people will be doing what you're doing?

JH: Yes, definitely.

IW: So then this is a good precedent for that industry, to be unionized.

JH: Definitely.

IW: Has your shop talked about "spreading the word", that is, approaching some of the non-unionized recyclers in the east bay who are still grossly underpaid?

JH: As a matter of fact I've already talked to them and there was some interest initially, but eventually I heard that some people didn't want to get in a fight with management and were afraid of losing their jobs.

IW: What was your experience with the NLRB? many unionists refer to them as "management's best friend".

JH: Jeff (Ditz, GST) advised us that we should do that. I didn't know much about them before that, and I still don't know 73 much about them, except that getting certified gave us certain rights. The election was nine to nothing.

IW: What's the procedure?

JH: We had to file a petition, then they came out to the yard, they even had this little makeshift voting booth.

IW: So there wasn't a lot of red tape?

JH: No. It happened really quickly. Knowing the federal government, I had told people it would take months, but it happened quickly and I was surprised.

IW: Recycling ties together two very strong currents in our union, environmentalism and unionism, especially in the case of your shop, the Ecology Center. Do you see a longer term solution to environmental clutter besides just recycling?

JH: I'm also an Earth Firster, and in my personal opinion, recycling is but a very small step in the right direction. What really needs to happen is the container industry needs to be completely eliminated. Things need to be sold in bulk, and things that can't be just don't need to be sold at all. Even recycling is a nasty polluting industry, as you'd realize if you went down to where the glass is recycled.

Jess Grant

A Namibian Poem

YOU

by 47pickandshovelunityboy

you
you will have to take up the spear
you will be the one on whom unity depends

you will have to fight your tiredness at yet another meeting
you will have to fight for words that are yours
you will have to carve plans from the granite of suffering that keeps us in chains
you will have to try again when only few have come to join you
you will have to fight the bottles false promises
you will have to argue till unity is achieved
you will have to agree with others what the aim of battle is

you will have to close factories down

you will have to close down many workshops like links in a chain
you will have to shake many bosses all at the same time
you will have to explain to them what is respect, the union, a living wage
you will have to be the commanders

AND AT THE END OF ALL WORDS

you will have to rise and strike

you will be the ones who will get the living wage

you will give your words the power of lightning

you will walk in dignity

you will bury the sorrow of the dead

you will learn the secrets of the bosses

you will drink at night in your own schools the knowledge that gives power to control
you will be your own managers

you will take and divide what is yours

you will build Namibia for those who work

you will take over factories and mines

you will speak in government

you will take over the big houses on the other side of town
you will take back the farms of your parents

you will not leave the dream of freedom in the land of sleep
you will carry at all times the spear

nobody will give you the things you want

nobody will provide good houses and a living wage

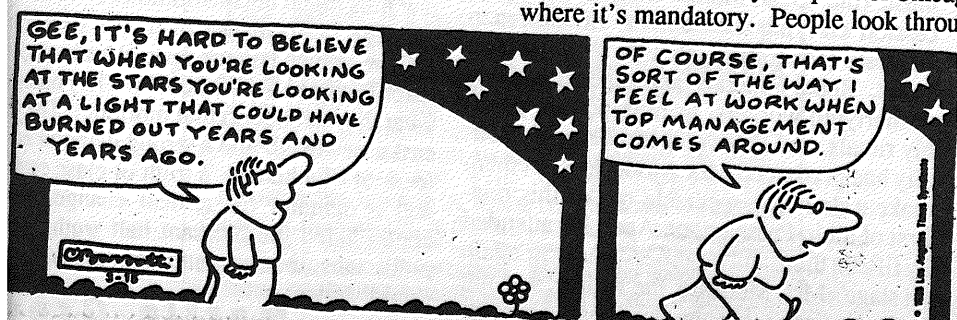
nobody will bring freedom to your shack

nobody will unite all those who are kicked

nobody will do what only you can do

only you can

you are your only hope





As the balmy weather has finally left these Northern climes and all us working stiffes are eagerly looking forward to Turkey Day and the end-of-the-year orgy of commercialism, the ozone hole over the Antarctic Continent continues to expand. The newsmen on the classical music station recently announced that our Great Plains will no longer be able to support food production in another two generations. At least the prairie dogs will be able to live off the sage brush and the coyotes will be able to live off the prairie dogs as us more sophisticated creatures continue to go to the dogs.

The air in our cities becomes increasingly more uncomfortable to breathe while our public transportation systems become increasingly less serviceable as the well-modulated voice on the boob tube assures us where we can get a good deal on the latest gas-guzzling carbon monoxide-regurgitating state of the art in planned obsolescence.

Our "elected representatives", collecting their back hand money from those they truly represent, continue to push us back into the nineteenth century as we eagerly await the twenty-first century, while our "elected union representatives" continue to consort with the politicians and those whom they truly represent. The union "representatives" lives becomes easier as they continue to have less rank-and-file to be accountable to.

Meanwhile our labor "movement" is being pushed back to ground zero where we will truly have nothing to lose but our chains. It seems rather discouraging to see all of the hard fought for gains that have been made by us working stiffes go down the drain as it becomes obvious that those who control our lives would like to see us all working for McDunghill wages. And the unfortunate truth is that if we don't wake up real quick, that is exactly what will happen.

We had better take some inspiration from the strikers at Hormel and from the strikers at Pittston, not to mention the construction stiffes up at International Falls. These are the dudes to whom the Class Struggle is more than mere theoretical rhetoric. They are the ones who are carrying on the good fight and whom are well deserving of our support.

It was amusing to listen to a television interviewer asking people what were to them the most important local, state and national problems and at the same time not bothering to ask about international problems. In this World of ours there are no local, state or national problems. All problems are universal! If a bomb drops on some city a hundred miles away from where you live, you are going to get some of the fallout. If the burg upstream from you dumps its sewage into the river, lake, or ocean, you are going to be drinking that sewage. If young people on the other side of town haven't had a decent education, have no work, have turned to drugs to take some of the frustration out of their lives and are turning to crime to pay for those drugs, you are going to be looking over your shoulder while walking your own streets.

I have a good friend who lives in the

suburbs and has a nice job where he doesn't work his derriere off too much who delights in telling me that us radicals are all wet. He tells me that we radicals only look at the World the way we think it should be and not the way it really is. It makes no difference telling him that because we do see the World as it really is, that is exactly why we keep seeing the World as it should and could be.

Said friend, being a fan of certain night spots, has on several occasions been the victim of street crime, but to his credit, it has not curtailed his joie de vivre. One evening as the both of us were cruising the night streets, we were approached by a young panhandler. My friend turned a deaf ear but yours truly accommodated the young person with a bit of loose change. Whereupon my friend commented on the fact that a healthy and strapping young dude should ask for money from an older person, and was I not at least a little indignant about that.

I replied that I was not in the least bit put out as I deemed it much preferable to be approached by a panhandler than to be accosted by a mugger. My comfortable suburban friend still insisted that a young strapper could always find some kind of work and it is not necessary to resort to begging or crime. It was then my turn to tell him that he was guilty of seeing his World as he thinks it ought to be rather than seeing it as it really is.

Yes, yours truly is a starry eyed radical and does not hesitate to see his World as it could be and furthermore is ever willing to share his visions with those whom he feels have not quite arrived at his same visionary state. I have been accused of seeing the World through rose colored glasses but the truth is that when I see our World the way it is being mistreated, I see red. I see red and want to see a Hell of a lot of other people seeing red too.

This is the November in which we remember and the only turkey I wish to roast are some of the turkeys who rule the roost over us. Because it is the turkeys on the top who, like the chickens on the top, that always bestow their waste products on those down below, to quote an old bit of Mexican folk wisdom.

So if you are really a patriotic Freedomlander, when you sit down to your turkey roast at the end of this month and give thanks, make sure you give thanks to the Indians who lost this land to your Pilgrim foremothers and passed on all the food products that not only enriched the Pilgrims but the whole World as well, and give thanks also to the kidnapped Africans whose unpaid labor made Freedomland possible.

And since your employing class does not have the courtesy to thank those from whom they obtained their undeserved affluence, it is beholden upon the contributors to their affluence to devise ways in which such gratitude can be acknowledged.

Take it easy, but Take it!

C.C. Redcloud

STRIKE PAGEANT



continued from page 1

drop picturing the dismal front of a paterson silk mill, with lights blazing through the "windows" and an entrance thirty men could go through abreast. The auditorium was decorated with IWW banners, featuring the color red, and the program sellers wore red bows in their hair if they were girls, red bow ties if they were men; there were red carnations, and the children present wore the same color. One banner did not originate with the IWW, at least not with the leadership. No God, No Master hung from the top gallery on the twenty-seventh Street side, but as soon as it was pointed out to Patrick Quinlan, one of the organizers, he climbed up and tore it down.

Right through the seating, from the stage out to the entrance to the Garden, stretched a roadway. Mabel Dodge says that Jones had insisted on making the Pageant into a Gordon Craig affair, which meant inducing audience participation by marching the performers along this roadway and through the middle of the audience. And in fact the audience on June 7 did join in the strikers' singing, and their cheering of the wobbly speakers, and their booing of the police.

The Pageant's theme was officially said to have been taken from a remark by one of the women strikers: "We were frightened when we went in, but we were singing when we came out," which refers most clearly to the first scene or episode. There were six of them. In the first, a throng of workers, with their coat collars turned up to suggest a winter morning, assembled outside the factory and gloomily went inside to work. Some carried lunch pails, some dragged umbrellas apparently. The sound of the looms was heard. The program legend read, "The mills alive - the workers dead." And then from inside came the sound of shouting, the cry to stop work and strike, and out onto the stage burst the workers, now intoxicated with sudden freedom. "The workers begin to think," according to the program. The account in *The Independent* runs, "Down from the stage all the entire length of the main aisle the workers marched, cheered all the way by the sympathetic audience of 15,000, working men and their families."

The second episode was entitled, "The mills dead-the workers alive" and showed a line of quiet, determined pickets patrolling the entrance to the deserted mill. But when they halted the few scabs who appeared, the police rushed up and a scuffle began, and a general clubbing ended in arrests. Gurley had warned the organizers never to depict the workers being violent, and by at least one account there was some slapstick in this episode because of the bamboo nightsticks wielded by the police. Then the police marched their captives down the long aisle again, while the audience hissed and booed.

The third episode began with funeral music (the "Dead March" in Saul and a procession carrying the "coffin" of Vincenzo Modesto (Modestino) shot by a wild police bullet. Rebel Funerals, and especially those of martyred workers, were important Wobbly rituals, and Haywood and Flynn personally had persuaded Mrs. Modesto to let them make a dramatic spectacle out of this one-first of all in Paterson, on April 19, attended by fifteen thousand mourners, and now again on stage. Mrs. Modesto, the widow, was not in the audience, but the dead man's mother

and his three children sat in a box, all wearing black. At the head of the line advancing through the audience came a police officer, again greeted with hisses, and then the coffin, carried by strikers, and then the whole thousand and more. On the stage they gathered around the coffin, covering it with the carnations they each of them threw ("the crimson symbols of the workers' blood") and then listening to speeches by Haywood and Tresca, speeches which they had actually made at the actual funeral. Haywood vowed by the blood of the slain man to protect the widow and children, and Tresca, speaking in Italian, promised blood for blood, sangue pers sangue.

The fourth episode was heralded by cries of "Musica!, Musica!" and centered upon the singing, in various languages, - English, German, Italian- of songs which had grown out of the strike. Toto Ferranzano, one of the strike personalities, led the audience in, for instance, "Do You Like Missa Flynn?" He had composed several of the strikers' songs. Of course they also sang the international anthems of revolution, the "Marseillaise" and the "Internationale." The IWW had made the latter its own, with the refrain,

'Tis the final conflict,
Let each stand in his place,
The Industrial Union
Shall be the human race.

These were Italian and German choral groups.

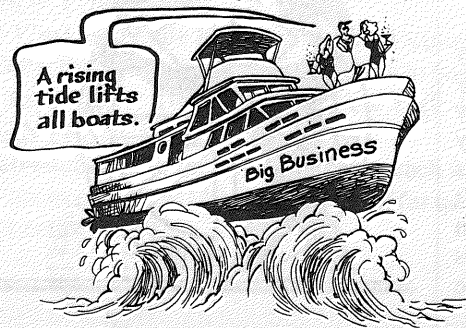
At some point during the performance, Haywood addressed an appeal to the audience for funds to support the Strike. He described the IWW as a "militant, fighting organization," and said three hundred of the performers had spent time in the terrible Bastille of the Paterson jail. Allegedly some seven or eight thousand dollars were subscribed.

The next episode represented both May Day in 1913 in Paterson and the day when the children were sent away from their homes to foster parents in New York. (Hutchins Haggood and his wife took in some of those children.) It began with a May Day parade through the audience and up on to the stage. On the stage they listened to a speech by Gurley Flynn, who according to newspaper reports, entrusted the children, "many dressed in flaming red," to their foster mothers, so that they might have "the roses put in their cheeks, an class solidarity in their hearts." (Flynn had refused a stage career, in order to speak her own piece; here she had both at once.)

Last came a strike meeting with speeches by the strike leaders, set in the turn Hall in Paterson. (There was no change of scenery to support these changes of imaginative location. The appeal was directly to the audience's imagination.) The strikers debated the issue and voted for an eight hour working day, and said the program, "No court can declare the law thus made unconstitutional."

The performance over, the strikers set off for home, but the special train did not reach Paterson until 2:00 AM. They had done what they set out to do that morning. They had cast a new truth and a strong demand in the teeth of Manhattan: a truth of class conflict and a demand for radical change, which contradicted the pleasant half truths of the politicians, theaters, and newspapers of the establishment.

Martin Green



Workers and Words

Some recent happenings in Southeast Michigan have moved me to serious thinking about the old saying that the pen is mightier than the sword. The absence of mass media coverage on critical labor events during the past year is becoming increasingly obvious. In this region we have the mixed blessing of a "liberal" press and numerous institutions of "higher learning", which fill peoples heads with words, mostly useless words.

For instance, several local papers during the past week contained an advertisement of job openings for machinists at Eastern Airlines. Eastern executives were flown in to conduct interviews on October 19th at the Sheraton Hotel here in Ann Arbor. Local Wobblies received a call for support from the Machinists Local (IAM) to help educate any strikebreakers who might show up looking for jobs. The interviews were to be conducted in the hotel lobby.

Three Wobs arrived bright and early and met four Machinists members. The Machinists wore their union jackets with buttons and emblems. The IWW folks were a more motley bunch. Of course the Eastern executives wore suits which could have been sold to pay for six months of my rent and food bills. The Machinists union members were prepared to distribute information about their strike as well as applications for work at Northwest Airlines, a fair employer looking for union workers.

The Sheraton managers approached us and asked why we were congregated in the lobby. The spokesperson for the IAM members explained that we had the same right to be there as the executives. After about fifteen minutes of nervous discomfort, the hotel manager kicked out the Eastern suits, and we experienced a small victory in a big struggle. In the meantime, not a single worker showed up to apply for a scab job.

The International Association of Machinists has been on strike against Eastern for eight months, supported by the pilots and flight attendants, and, after a few brief flurries of mass media attention, have been ignored by the print and tv/radio news. No matter, the absence of any workers willing to sell out other machinists and apply for scab work tells me that word of the IAM struggle has gotten around among working folks.

The next day I accompanied several Wobblies on a trip to Detroit to attend the Wayne State University Conference on Labor History. We set up union books and literature for sale to the academicians in attendance. As is usually the case in such events, the air was full of words...sales were light.

A couple of machinists arrived with information about their strike and T-shirts for sale just as the morning session let out for lunch. They looked as out of place at the VSU conference as we felt. Our torn jeans and union buttons and their union jackets stood out in the crowd of suits and ties as we gathered around the coffee urn. After about fifteen minutes of watching the scholars gathered in small groups discussing their research interests and the latest books on class struggle,

we were approached by a historian who overheard us talking about the strike against Eastern. He asked about the strike with an air of surprise, "When did you go out?" One of the Machinists curtly answered, "eight months ago." A look of embarrassment momentarily came over the historians face, to be quickly replaced with feigned interest in the issues involved.

After a moment I asked the historian if he was aware of the miners' strike against Pittston. He answered authoritatively, "of course — its my area of specialization." He soon excused himself when asked if he was interested in buying a ticket to the IAM fundraiser being held that night; "I don't have a tenure position yet and can't afford to." That historian was the only academician to engage us in conversation during the conference. Most of our literature was sold to members of other groups who were also selling their stuff.

One of the Wobs hanging out at the coffee urn observed that we workers were being treated like large lab rats, suitable for study, but apparently not worthy of interest as human beings. Our talk then turned to the benefit for the IAM strikers which was to be held that night in Canton, Michigan. Their strike fund is empty and they hoped that the appearance of the Reverend Jesse Jackson at the event would spark some media coverage. Instead, the machinists complained that the mass media had been focusing in on Jesse's visit to Detroit Mayor Coleman Young who is running for a fifth term. Jackson's primary reason for coming to Michigan — support for the Eastern strikers — had been ignored despite numerous press releases on the story by the IAM.

Our attention was soon drawn away by the arrival of United Auto Workers (UAW) President Owen Beiber, attired in a finely tailored pin-striped suit just like the ones worn by the Eastern executives the day before. He was late for the luncheon where he was to deliver the keynote address. We bought our lunches at the local food coop, and, unfortunately, missed Owen's words. Perhaps if we had suits and ties, we would have been better received.

The next day, Saturday's papers contained some spotty coverage of the rally in support of the Eastern strikers. The event was fairly well attended and spirited and helped to build up the strike fund. Unfortunately, the mass media focused on Reverend Jackson's speech, not on the issues involved in the strike, and of course bemoaned the "smaller than expected crowd."

In all of this it is heartening to note that Boss Lorenzo cannot find enough scabs to run Eastern or break the strike. The corporation will go belly up before the workers will put their tails between their legs and go back to non-union jobs. The pen may be mightier than the sword, but solidarity is more powerful still. Historians and media hacks may write about solidarity, but it is up to us to make it real.

Mike Hill



Just as the Daughters of the American Revolution yearly perform their high-strutting cotillion as their virgin homage to the American Dream, so each society acts out its own yearly ritual. It is subsidised, it is organised, it is policed, and to participate is by social invitation. From the racial riot of London's Notting Hill blossomed the Notting Hill Carnival and in the crowded winding streets wherein economic and social classes reluctantly interweave, where art galleries, slums, and junk shops vie for the tourist cash and camera shots, the yearly Augustan race Carnival takes place with its half million street audience.

It is a thing of great beauty, noise and minor villainy and the police on display dance with decorated women and hold high laughing children, while the street music roars and the floats move by. It flowered from the first Notting Hill race riot and of its success Authority took over and committees took over and accused each other as always, and the State gave monies and there were always demands that "it should be held within some closed auditorium," and as the night darkened and the lights glowed brighter and the music flooded the crowded streets, the yearly ritualized race riot takes place with the first beer can thrown at a dancing policeman. Hidden away in the dark side streets are the uniformed forces of the State to march in riot-conscious military style; this year the first thrown beer can brought forth four thousand riot shield and baton wielding uniformed police to beat in the lesson to the lower orders that it was now beddy times.

From then on, comrades, it is time for the Press Conferences, the political activists, the rightwingers, the liberals and the sociologists to take over. All this while the pale pink television and lunatic rightwing tabloids pronounce their informed and considered opinion on why the State, in the person of a riot-gear police officer, considered it necessary to whack a young, unemployed, coloured labourer over the head before arresting him.

From then on, everybody not involved fights with the mouth to get into the profitable glory game but ignores history, for I have known Notting Hill all my labouring life and it is and always was a slum.

There within its mean streets was Rag Fair when rubbish was laid on the broken pavements for sale. Half a century ago, the black-shirted fascists held their anti-Jewish race meetings when broken bottles and potatoes with safety razor blades stuck in them

were the weapons of the hour. When fascist William Joyce spoke behind his uniformed body guard until he finished his career by being hung by the British Government as Germany's "Lord Haw Haw," and Joe Batton's gang of street villains carried their cut-throat razors as lords of the Notting Hill gutter kingdom. And I listen to the Liberals, and the tabloids, and the sociologists, and cry crap for it is these over-crowded slums that produce the evil as it did when I was a child all those World Wars ago.

Always the anodyne answer to human problems, be it street carnivals as circus-without-bread, or as Ford's of Britain, whose motown Dagenham plant has been dreamed up as a sop for Ford's demand for a round-the-clock seven-day work week, instead of a 16 hour production day and no close-down on weekends. Ford's claim is that this will put them in line with Nissan, Toyota, Honda, General Motors and BMW, who are also intending to go for 24-hour seven-day production weeks. Albert Caspers, Ford's European vice-president of manufacturing, is planting a ten-year union deal demand on the table for the October pay talks.

The British unions know that this will mean the closing of plants on the European mainland, and with a non-stop moving conveyor line the control of working hours disappear, but Albert of Ford's is demanding it and in return he is offering, not just a street carnival, but a course in gourmet cooking for any of the 45,000 Ford workers who wish to learn how to fry the ol' pork sausage and chips without charring them canteen style.

You think I jest, comrade? Ford's eight trade unions have agreed that in 1990, Ford's will "sponsor" the first three hundred dollars towards the fee of any worker taking, in their own time, an Open University study course. Just give them the three hundred in their pay packet, Albert, and leave them to live their own lives.

Britain's four Coca-cola plants, via America, are negotiating pay rises of almost a hundred dollars a week in exchange for radical changes in work conditions, which will mean speed-ups and sackings. And as I watch, with my black pooch Mick, the Notting Hill glory glory carnival and run when the police charge, I think it was ever thus, comrades; it was ever thus, for the circus and the gourmet cooking in one's-own-time, paid for out of one's own pay packet, and the pay raise if another worker gets sacked.

The IWW Preamble Today: round three

The Working Class and the Employing Class Have Nothing in Common.

The IWW Preamble begins with this simple, blunt sentence. There was a time when virtually any labor organization would have accepted this as a simple statement of fact. Even the Wagner Act—which established the National Labor Relations Board to regulate and control the labor movement—recognizes (though in lawyers' typically involuted language) that labor and management have conflicting interests.

Yet today most "unions" have abandoned this elementary principle, embracing a wide variety of labor-management cooperation schemes and even allowing the bosses to cut their members' wages so as to be better able to compete in the capitalist marketplace. The labor fakers who propose and implement

because they, individually, are mean-spirited and cheap (though many are), but because that's how they make their profits. They live on the labor done by us working stiffly. The higher our wages, the less they have for themselves.

Its hardly surprising, given this fact, that the bosses do everything in their power to increase their profits (which can come only from our pockets), and to keep workers weak and disorganized. Given their control of industry, they are able to threaten us—or any "sympathetic" politicians we might elect to government—with shutdowns, runaway shops, layoffs and the like; confident that somewhere in the world they will be able to find some bunch of wage slaves desperate enough to put food on the table and a roof over their heads that they will agree to sup-

port the bosses in the manner to which they have become accustomed.

No Peace Under Capitalism

Given this unjust social system, in which a handful of employers control the economic life of the society and benefit by pitting the working majority against each other in a desperate struggle for survival, real peace is impossible. Employers and workers will inevitably remain locked in bitter combat,

these schemes are not, for the most part, taking bribes. Rather, their betrayal arises from their failure to understand this basic truth: that the interests of labor and capital are opposed. Instead, too many unions have swallowed the insidious and wholly mistaken notion that labor and management share

common interests, and must therefore cooperate in order to survive in these difficult economic times.

After all, the labor fakers reason, if the boss doesn't stay in business—or if he picks up and moves elsewhere—the workers will starve. And—as many can testify from personal experience—this is only too true. But does the fact that the bosses can shut down our factories, pit us against each other in their relentless search for profits, or starve us into submission really mean that we have common interests? Not at all! It merely means that the bosses are at present stronger and better organized.



REVIEWS

Fear at Work: Job Blackmail, Labor and the Environment By Richard Kazis and Richard L. Grossman

Publisher: The Pilgrim Press, 1982
132 West 31 Street
New York, NY 10001

Price \$10.95

This is an outstanding book dealing with the rapid concentration of wealth into fewer and fewer hands and how this translates into political power being in fewer and fewer hands, which in turn has led to the complete destruction of the democratic processes in the "free" world.

It goes on to explain how this wealth (power) is used to blackmail workers, community activists, and politicians into submission with the very real threat of closing factories and moving to areas "where people want jobs."

The book also gives concrete examples of the all too familiar tactic of corporations using workers against environmentalists and environmentalists against workers. What it doesn't deal with is the myriad other ways corporations divide the working class against itself—white against black, professional against blue-collar, men and against women, skilled against unskilled, employed against unemployed, etc.

However, the authors point to the very real problem facing the American left, which is a serious lack of any class consciousness or cohesiveness in the U.S. labor movement (what labor movement?), and especially among community activists. They also point out some recent examples of mutual support and cooperation between labor and community activists, how that was developed, and the positive results of those coalitions.

I found the book well worth reading and a great book to pass along to middle class environmentalists who cannot understand why workers take and defend environmentally destructive jobs.

The book calls it "economic blackmail," the IWW calls it "wage slavery." I would like to see GA carry a few copies of this book in our literature inventory.

Gary Cox

The Story of the Caterpillar Occupation (in Scotland) By Charles Woofson and John Foster

Publisher: Verso (1988)
29 West 35th St.
New York, NY 10001-2291

In 1956, the very year I began serving my apprenticeship as a foundryman at Caterpillar Tractor Co. in Peoria, Illinois, Caterpillar opened a new plant at Uddingston in Glasgow, Scotland on a friendly "now you have a friend in the tractor business" note. By 1986 Caterpillar along with other multinationals, through the use of blackmail, had the Scottish people by the throat.

On January 14, 1987, management announced, without prior warning, that the plant would be closed and 1200 employees would soon be put on the welfare rolls. What they didn't say was that Caterpillar had made a decision to open 12 new plants in mainland China. Wonder why?

The workers immediately occupied the plant, escorted management to the gate, and locked them out. They controlled the plant for 103 days, even though the company called on its traditional allies (the media, the courts, rightwing dominated trade unions, and divisions in the rank-and-file inside the plant which develop after the first few weeks of any struggle) to defeat the occupation.

The occupation and the tactics used by the workers during the occupation did not come from the political background of the stewards, as the occupation of the docks had in 1971. Few Caterpillar stewards were political leftists. This occupation was the spontaneous reaction of rank-and-file workers to the reality of their situation.

AN HISTORICAL MUSICAL TRADITION

**LA REVOLUCION MEXICANA
THE MEXICAN REVOLUTION
1910-1920 and beyond**

A Collection of Corridos from Early Historic Recordings Edited by Professor Guillermo Hernandez

Four LP Record Boxed Set \$20
Folklyric Records 9041/44
Arhoolie Productions, Inc.
10341 San Pablo Avenue
El Cerrito, California 94530

Long before alphabets were invented, humans had a literary tradition. This literary tradition developed at the same time language developed and it was only thousands of years later that all this vast wealth of literary traditions were finally set down in books. But until then the only way that a people's history was passed on from one generation to the next was by word of mouth. To facilitate being able to memorize many hours of words, this lore would be set to a regular meter and the ballad was invented, a form that exists in one way or the other throughout the world.

For thousands of years before they were subdued by the Spanish invaders, people living in what is now known as Mexico had had such a literary tradition though in some areas a pictographic form of writing had developed. But after the Spanish destroyed or removed from Mexico those pictographic records, the Mexican people were left with only their oral tradition. While there are those who say that the Mexican corrido arose out of the Spanish romances, the fact that the ballad tradition is shared by people all over the World and that the Mexicans had such a tradition of their own, outside of the introduction of



The workers built a D-7 tractor with volunteer labor and Caterpillar parts, painted it pink and donated it to Live Aid. Caterpillar threatened to sue Live Aid for receiving stolen goods if it took possession of the tractor. The tractor was eventually disassembled by the company, repainted yellow, and sold as spare parts.

There is a very interesting section about how the ruling class in Scotland deliberately created high unemployment in an attempt to break the very strong unions.

There is much to be learned from reading about Caterpillar's tactics, the behavior of the trade unions, and the bravery and ingenuity of the militant workers and their supporters involved in this occupation. The book offers important lessons for all of us concerned about the rapidly expanding power of multinational corporations, the viability of plant occupations as a tactic, and necessity of building international class solidarity.

I highly recommend this book.
Gary Cox

European musical instruments and the forcible change of languages, there has been no fundamental difference or innovation in that long-standing tradition.

One of the largest sources of material for Mexican corridos is the upheaval that took place in Mexico in the second decade of this century when the Mexican people after centuries of either living under foreign domination or exploiters of their own race, had decided to rise up and take back their own country. This decade of suffering and hope is indelibly etched in history as La Revolucion Mexicana.

Within this four-record album are recordings from the early 1920s when commercial phonograph recordings were first available to Mexicans living north of the border up till the late 1960s and despite the fact that corridos since have been composed on more contemporary events, the staying popularity of revolutionary corridos is evidenced by the fact that recording artists born over two generations after the Revolution still sing about it. A time-honored practice continues despite urbanization and consumerism and the history of a people is remembered more by traditional methods than by modern academic methods.

Each one of these four records treats a particular facet of the Mexican Revolution. Outlaws and Revolutionaries, the first record, deals with those who were originally rural bandits who made raids upon the wealthy landowners and with the Revolution became insurgent leaders.

That they were able to extract booty from the powerful landlords, gave them folk-hero status by those who composed the corridos. Songs varied from those who actually made a successful raid on a hacienda to the humble ranch hand who bested his patron in a horse race. Also on this record are the many lesser known revolutionary generals who helped overthrow the forty-year Diaz dictatorship.

The revolutionary leader who most caught the fancy of the corrido singer and captured the imagination of the romantic foreign journalists was Pancho Villa. The second record, The Pancho Villa Cycle contains a wealth of ballads commemorating his countless exploits, including one where using a clever ruse he captures a fleet of Yankee airplanes. True to form the government of Freedomland always gave its material support to the oppressors of a south of the border government and the Mexican Revolution was no different.

Local Revolutionary figures (the third record in the set) are the songs extolling the lesser-known regional revolutionary figures who nevertheless have become canonized in the corrido repertoire. "El Corrido de Cedillo" tells of the incorruptibility of one such revolutionary who,

"...the oil magnates driven by their ambition offered Cedillo ninety five million"

to which he defiantly answered,

"...to me these mountains are like highways, we'll blow up the rail road tracks and kill your officers." but unfortunately,

"...his luck ran out on the hill of La Ventana

he died on the morning of January the 12."

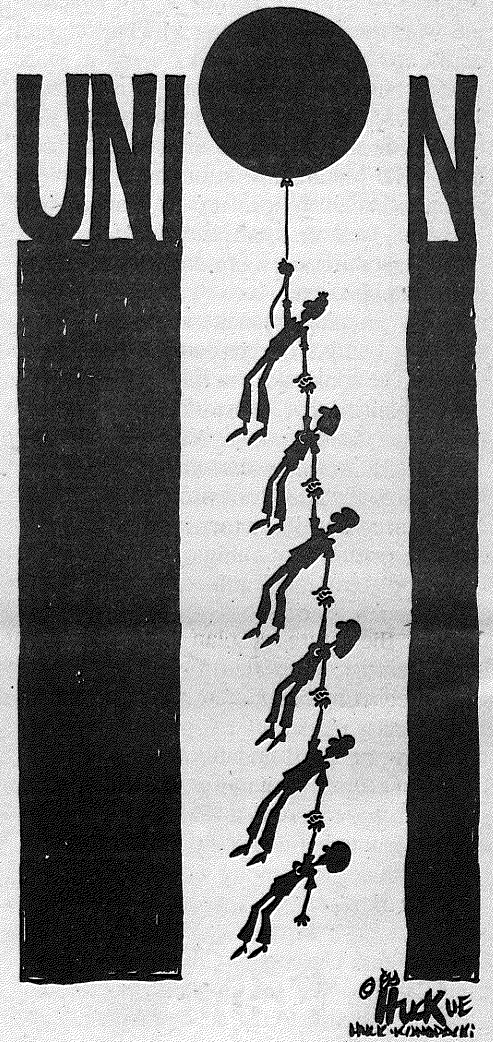
The fourth record, Post-Revolutionary Corridos and Narrative provides an insight into the conflicting partisanship that are to be found in any social upheaval. Since many of these recording were made on the north side of the border, there are included corridos extolling the virtues of those who were being overthrown. One song laments the plight of former dictator Porfirio Diaz who loving his land and people was grossly misunderstood and his bones suffer the indignity of resting in foreign soil. In Corrido de Toral, a religious fanatic who assassinated president Obregon is pictured as a "brave defender of

the faith". He was a member of a counter-revolutionary group who called themselves the Cristeros who did not like the restrictions put on the unbridled power of the Church by the Revolutionary government of Obregon.

While many corridos are devoted to Pancho Villa, for some reason there are very few that have been composed about Emiliano Zapata, who though growing up as a simple peasant, was nevertheless a well-read intellectual who having corresponded with anarchists and socialists in Mexico City, was every bit as revolutionarily sophisticated as the revolutionary intellectuals of Europe.

The one corrido in this set "General Emiliano Zapata" tells of his incorruptible dedication to restoring the land back to the people of Mexico were betrayed by those in power who had forgot ten the professed aims of the Revolution. "Corrido Del Agrarista", recorded in 1929, starts off with a march tempo then tells of the benefits accrued by the agrarian workers since the Revolution:

"... I shall sing the song of the agrarista it will tell you many truths, capital



ist gentlemen."

And in another, "Tiempos Amargos" (meaning bitter times) one hears the contrast between the lot of the farm worker before and after the Revolution.

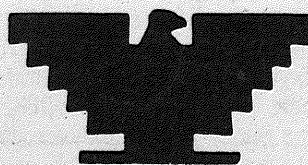
"...These are no longer the times of Porfirio, when they cried for the master. When they'd meet him, they'd shake his hand, and button his pants."

As mentioned before the recordings in this album have been made from the early 1920s up through the late 1960s along with a great variety of musical styles. Folk music buffs in listening to these recording will despite the different mode and another language, find a commonality with these songs and singers. The differences in human culture are only superficial and should serve as an intriguing enticement rather than any deterrent.

Folklyric Records and their parent body Arhoolie Productions are to be not only commended but encouraged to continue documenting the outpouring of grassroots creative production that modern technology enables us to preserve for posterity. It is this reviewer's optimistic prognostication that the inherent creativity of the human spirit will always enrich our human World.

With the skyrocketing costs of recordings today, this four-record set is indeed a bargain.

Carlos Cortez



BRANCH NEWS

Denver/Boulder

The Denver-Boulder branch has been pretty involved in the community the past few months. In September we hosted Wobbly artist Carlos Cortez' workshop at the Radical Information Project Bookstore (RIP), where he spoke on radical labor history. We also hosted there, that month, Yolocamba Ita, the El Salvadoran band, who did a workshop on the politics of their music.

In October we co-hosted, or shall I say ghost-hosted the Pittston Miners' Colorado Speaking Tour. Jobs With Justice, a more active faction of the AFL-CIO, local IWW and the Colorado Labor Forum (P-9 supporters) planned the tour. But when JWJ and local AFL bureaucrats were informed, they cancelled the tour. It seems that, despite the wishes of rank and filers of JWJ (who supposedly the JWJ was formed to empower), their "bosses" would destroy any chance of workers here learning about and supporting Pittston miners (which considering western coal mining history, Pittston could really use) rather than have the names IWW and CLF seen with theirs.

JWJ received much pressure. Local papers who'd written favorably about JWJ and their fight against conservative AFLers threatened to expose them for doing just what their enemies had. Pressure came from the local community as well as from Pittston miners and even Washington AFL bureaucrats.

So the tour was put back on. As is our history, we did much of the work, but "CLF" and "IWW" wasn't printed or spoken in the ads for the event. The tour, however, was the more important thing. It consisted mostly of presentations at local union halls for members only, but there were two presentations open to the public, and there was a caravan going to Virginia on October 21 for anyone interested.

In the future we plan to strategize our actions more around workers in motion as opposed to bureaucrats in perpetual stagnation. As an event that we were given little time to put together, and one that could get some word out about an important struggle, though, we feel pretty good about it. We'll let you know how it turns out.

Dexter Herda

San Francisco

On October 22nd, eight Wobs and supporters took a guided hike of San Bruno Mountain, one of the last undeveloped areas around the bay, and home to a number of endangered species, including the reknowned Mission Blue butterfly. The hike was led by local activist David Schooley, who has hiked the mountain and fought development there for nearly twenty years. He has an impressive knowledge of both the natural and political history of the mountain, and is committed to sharing it with anyone who's interested.

In the years I'd lived in San Francisco, San Bruno Mountain had always just been a faceless brown shape off to the right of highway 101 on the way south to the airport. But once you're hiking on it, an astonishing array of vistas, plants, and animals can be seen. David led us down hidden canyons covered with scub oak, bay trees, and buckeyes, and showed us where a hermit used to live on the mountain. He also took us to an ancient Indian shellmound, where native people had feasted on local shellfish for thousands of years.

In addition to the natural wonders, David showed us the most recent frontlines in the battle against development. On the southeast slope, an entire ridge and canyon had been bulldozed to make way for homes. thirty to forty earthmoving machines sat idled, it being Sunday, just waiting for a nocturnal visit from some outraged eco-activist. While much of the mountain had been bought by the city and country and declared parkland, many sections also remain in private hands. The fight to save the mountain is not over, and local Wobs are now thinking what role they can play in that struggle.



continued from page 1

Contract Agreement Reached in Ann Arbor

cost of living adjustments for the workers.

-decision making

The workers agreed to give up their participation in department manager hirings. The union membership was reluctant to make this concession, but agreed to live with it. In the past they have been able to dispose of unsatisfactory managers, sometimes in a matter of months. Still retained is the right to participate in setting hiring criteria for managers.

Numerous other issues were raised at the table by MFCC negotiators and resulted in mostly superfluous changes in contract language when modified by the IWW negotiators. For instance, a management rights clause was included which, among other things, gives management the right to hire, fire, transfer, and discipline workers and to "retain all powers and authorities normally held by management". This section is followed by a disclaimer - "none of these rights as herein set forth shall be exercised in a manner inconsistent with the express provision of this agreement."

Specified within the body of the contract are the roles that workers play in hiring, discipline, policy making, the establishment of work rules, job descriptions, etc. On setting policies and procedures...two workers, elected by their coworkers and subject to recall, meet regularly with their respective department managers, and make decisions by consensus, or by vote if consensus cannot be reached. Management has the right to veto decisions which are inconsistent with established policy, or for critical business needs. Manager veto has only been exercised once in the past five years, and was quickly met with serious opposition, and was soon overturned.

Workplace-wide policy is established by meetings of the department managers after receiving input from workers meeting in each department. The decisions are then implemented through the respective department decision making groups as explained above. The only areas where the workers do not have a significant share of control are overall

budgeting and marketing strategies. Practically, management must gain the active support of the workers, otherwise implementation becomes problematic. In other words, the black cat can easily find her way out of the bag when necessary.

The unanimous vote for contract ratification demonstrates the support that the Wobs at People's Wherehouse have for their unique brand of shop control. However, they certainly realize that a contract is nothing more than paper. The management and Board of Directors have shown that they respect the contract only to the extent that they encounter time tested Wobbly tactics. The Wherehouse workers' real security is to be found in their solidarity and willingness to do what it takes day to day to protect their rights through direct action at the point where problems occur. The September and October issues of the Industrial Worker describe some of their efforts.

The Michigan Federation of Food Cooperatives was organized on the principles of cooperation with a vision of the future that was much like that of the IWW. Sadly, the cooperative vision of the MFCC has become rather myopic in recent years as a concern for profitability has begun to replace the concern for people's needs. The motto of the Wherehouse, when it was a worker collective was "Food for People, Not for Profit". This was soon erased when managers arrived on the scene, and replaced with the promotion of high margin items and image. In answer to concern over the compromise of principle the present manager responds that you cannot have "socialism in a capitalist society". The IWW membership is coming to the realization that the cooperative commonwealth will only come to be if they begin to build it themselves.

In the mean time, the larger struggle for social justice continues at Peoples Wherehouse largely because of the committed members of the IWW. We congratulate them on their winning a successful contract and on their perseverance in their vision of a future without bosses.



"We'd love to give unions more coverage...
But these days we really have to watch our
OVERHEAD."

Fighter for Social Justice

When John Kuebler died of cancer on June 12 at the age of 66, death, abetted by a racketeering union officialdom and a routinely dilatory National Labor Relations Board, triumphed over social justice. He and another union reformer had been fired way back in 1977. Their charge was promptly upheld by the National Labor Relations Board; the union was held responsible, and they were awarded back pay. Twelve years later, the two men had collected not a dime. Now, death frustrates final satisfaction for Kuebler leaving the case still hanging.

Kuebler was the kind of courageous, principled, persistent unionist that helps keep democracy alive in our labor movement. He was a member of Teamster Local 282 which represents the drivers who deliver concrete and other materials to construction sites in New York City and Long Island. In the mid-70s, he joined in organizing a reform movement, Fear of Reprisal Ends (FORE), to oppose a corrupt Local 282 administration, then headed by its president, John Cody.

Between 1975 and 1981, FORE ran slates against Cody in three local-wide elections. At the height of its strength, FORE polled 42% of the votes. Although the reformers never won a majority, their battles were not in vain. They helped expose fraud in the handling of the local's pension fund and impelled the government to intervene and reorganize the fund administration; local president Cody went to jail on various corruption charges. Fore folded in 1984 but Kuebler never surrendered.

In 1977, he and Charles Curd were fired from their jobs after work records were falsified by an appointed shop steward. Kuebler remained blacklisted for the next six years as the union fought him every inch. Within a year the NLRB found the local guilty and ordered back pay reimbursement for the two men. At that point, they offered to settle with the union for a nominal payment of \$450 each. But the union officials, not interested in resolving the case but only in crushing an opposition, rejected the \$450 bargain settlement and proceeded to spend thousands of dollars, perhaps hundreds of thousands, rather than give their critics a moral victory.

The union took advantage of every step in the NLRB appeals procedure and then up and around the courts including a vain appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court. At every stage, then and later, the union lost, and Kuebler was vindicated.

That first round was only a warmup. Having failed to absolve themselves from responsibility for the firings, the officials initiated a second procedural merry-go-round to contest the amount of the back pay award. At this point, the union continues the process of appealing and could, conceivably, try again to reach the Supreme Court.

By this time, twelve years after Kuebler had been fired, the union, which could have gotten off the hook for \$450, now owes Kuebler more than \$150,000 in back pay and interest charges. And it may have spent at least that much more in legal fees and continues to spend.

Kuebler never lived to collect, but his widow and children seems determined to pursue the case to the end. Whatever the final outcome, the impact of such events on unionists who buck the corrupt system is dismal. If unionists are to be encouraged to fight corruption, the courts, the NLRB, and our lawmakers must begin to understand that the defense of reformers' rights is not an ordinary routine administrative chore but a critical defense of civil liberties in the labor movement and in the nation. Kuebler's death should remind us of that lesson.

Published by the Association for Union Democracy

MEMBER RESOLUTIONS

On these pages are resolutions which were heard and discussed at convention and will be sent to the membership for voting shortly. Welcome to the most democratic union around. Please discuss these referendums in branch meetings. Please vote. Express yourself.

INCREASE UNION DUES

The Denver Boulder Branch proposes that the IWW dues structure be changed to:

\$3/month for workers earning less than \$800/month
 \$9/month for workers earning between \$800 and \$1700/month
 \$12/month for workers earning more than \$1700/month

In addition we propose that the initiation fees be increased to:

\$3/month for workers who make \$800 or less/month
 \$9/month for workers who make \$800-1700/month
 \$12/month for workers who make over \$1700/month

Branches would retain 1/3 of the above figures, which would give branches a small increase in income over existing dues income and give the GA a much larger increase because that is where funds are desperately needed.

While this is a substantial increase in dues, it is not enough to solve our economic problems. Jeff Ditz suggests that we will need \$95,000 in 1990 to pay the Union's bills.

Present membership levels, estimated at 550, and present dues level (\$2.73/month/member) will bring in:

Dues	\$18,000
Industrial Worker	\$7,000
Literature Sales	\$5,000
total:	\$30,000
	(\$65,000 deficit)

Present membership levels, estimated at 550, and proposed dues levels (approximately \$7.50/month/member) will bring in:

Dues	\$49,500
Industrial Worker	\$10,000 (incl donations)
Literature Sales	\$6,000
total:	\$65,500
	(\$29,500 deficit)

Goal for '90
 750 members @
 \$7.50/month/members \$67,500

(Subscription drive)
 IW sales \$12,000

(Literature drive)
 Lit Sales \$8,000

total \$87,500
 (\$7,500 def)

We think that our proposed dues increase, an enthusiastic attempt to increase IW and literature sales, and an increase of 200 members are realistic means to solve our current economic problems. For this to happen it will require a sincere effort by the membership to increase the sale of the IW and literature and an all-out organizing drive coordinated by the general organizing assigned

that responsibility.

Any remaining deficit can be managed by donations from branches and a concentrated effort to get members to donate to the 1% Club.

Failure to deal with this serious economic deficit at this Convention could cause the depletion of the Nelson funds by 1991

In order for the above resolution to be adopted, the following constitutional amendments are required:

Article IV Sec 1(c) change second sentence:
original: Secretaries of chartered branches shall remit one-half of same to the general office and retain the other half in the branch treasury.
proposed: Secretaries of chartered branches shall remit two-thirds of same to the general office and retain the other one-third in the branch treasury.

Article VIII Sec 2(a) change third sentence:
original: Accordingly, initiations shall not exceed \$10.00 nor monthly dues exceed \$5.00.
proposed: Accordingly, initiations shall not exceed \$12.00 nor monthly dues exceed \$12.00.

Article VIII Sec 2(e) change both sentences:
original: For members in North America the initiation fee shall be \$5.00, provided that 50 cents shall be used to defray the cost of providing each member with a copy of the One Big Union pamphlet. Regular dues shall be \$5.00 and minimum dues shall be \$2.00 per month.

proposed: For members in North America the 73 initiation fee shall be \$12.00, provided that 50 cents shall be used to defray the cost of providing each member with a copy of the One Big Union pamphlet. Dues shall be \$3 per month for workers earning less than \$800 per month, \$9 per month for workers earning between \$800 and \$1700 per month, and \$12 per month for workers earning more than \$1700 per month.

Note: It was mandated by convention that "Reference statements about the proposal should be attached to the GOB with a brief explanation of why the committee unanimously approved it." Reasons for unanimous approval of this resolution for referendum by the 1989 convention finances committee include: current deficits at GA, the need to maintain at least two full-time employees, that this dues increase will actually increase the amount of money presently going to branches and thus not infringe on decentralization efforts, that branches have the right to subsidize those members who cannot afford increased dues.

SEXUAL HARASSMENT POLICY

The policy of the Industrial Workers of the World on sexual harassment shall be:

Sexual harassment by IWW members, volunteers, and paid workers in conjunction with union activities is unacceptable.

Sexual harassment consists of unwelcome sexual advances, derogatory statements based on gender or sexual orientation, sexually demeaning gestures, words, innuendo, or acts. Both women and men can be subjected to sexual harassment.

Sexual harassment can range from inappropriate comments on physical appearance to, in its extreme form, sexual assault, threats and/or acts of violence against individuals.

Members or persons working in the IWW General Administration offices who feel themselves to be sexually harassed by a union member or worker or volunteer can bring the problem to the General Secretary Treasurer (GST) who will address the issue with the complained of member, worker, or volunteer as soon as possible.

If problems continue, the GST may, in his/her discretion bar the member from the IWW General Administration office at times when the complainant worker is present. The GST should immediately file charges against the accused and the accused shall be advised of their union rights. Either party can appeal to the General Executive Board if they are dissatisfied with the GST's execution of these provisions. If dissatisfied with the GEB's action, either party may appeal to the convention. If the GST is involved in accusations of sexual harassment as perpetrator or victim the complaint should be directed to the General Executive Board for appropriate action.

The person working in the IWW General Administration office who feels themselves to be sexually harassed may wish to pursue obtaining a "restraining order" against the alleged offender.

All IWW branches and job shops are encouraged to develop procedures for coping with sexual harassment in their own communities and workplaces.



ANTI-STERILIZATION

Resolved, the IWW finds that world capitalism is to blame for aggravating instead of trying to remedy the conditions which give rise to excessive population growth.

For that reason we must condemn as racist and anti-feminist any efforts to put the sole blame on unemployed workers or on the traditional cultural practices of third world peoples.

We specifically reject the idea that women of color and welfare recipients should be singled out, forced or encourage to become sterilized.

PRO-IMMIGRATION

Resolved, all of the workers of the world have the right to travel and to take up residency wherever they please, even if this means crossing national borders

We therefore construe as racist any legislation or statements which would obstruct the movement of workers from one country to another. As for the problems of inequality of living standards between nations and lower wages that are often paid to immigrants, we recommend this solution: all the workers concerned should unite in the same international revolutionary industrial unions of the IWW: the global network of unions that is destined to make the nation state obsolete.



**FIRE YOUR BOSS
 with the general strike**

RESOLUTIONS

MOBILE GENERAL CONFERENCE

Whereas the General Convention (G.C.) is the legislative body of the Industrial Workers of the World and;

Whereas the G.C. has previously been held in Chicago making it difficult for many fellow workers to attend, especially those living outside the midwestern United States and;

In order to further extend democracy and accessibility in the IWW;

The following members in good standing initiate this referendum;

The yearly referendum ballot containing questions concerning the General Convention (or Conference) must include a further question asking members where the G.C. is to be held.

Any IWW General Membership Branch (or subordinate body which is geographically-based) would be eligible to host the G.C. To do so would require a petition, signed by 15 (fifteen) members in good standing, indicating a desire and willingness to host the G.C. All

petitions must be forwarded to G.A. by a particular date. Notices must be posted in both the IW and the GOB informing members that petitions are being accepted to determine

G.C. location. Adequate time must be given before the cutoff date to allow for discussion and debate throughout the union.

Names of locations (ex. Toronto, Chicago, San Francisco) would be placed on the ballot under the question: "Where do you want the 19?? General Convention (or Conference) to be held?"

In the event that only one petition is received, the question would read: "Do you want the 19?? General Convention (conference) to be held in?" Members would vote either "yes" or "no".

In the event that a majority "no" vote is recorded for the above question, or that no petitions are received, the General Executive Board would decide the location of the General Convention (conference).

Correspondence

continued from page 2

the future, humans today would be few indeed, as they may be in the future, not only due to atomic weapons, but due also to total equality in duties.

Warfare to win freedom and justice may yet be forced upon us in the future, and that war may well be not only world-wide; it may engulf the whole solar system. Inasmuch as, apart from their respective procreative functions, there are no differences in either the abilities or the temperaments of men and women, there should be no differences in their duties, penalties and rewards save those imposed by procreative functions. Total equality of both genders will require, in case of such a war, that women, if they are not pregnant, must bear the brunt of combat duty, replete with its mangling, evisceration and slaughter, exactly on par with men.

So many millions of women slaughtered in battle will surely reduce the growth rate of the population! Malthusians, take note!

Should such a war occur, but with pregnancy understandably exempting women (as it would surely exempt men!) would we see all these millions of women mangled and slain in combat, or would we see another Baby Boom? Maybe a bigger one than the last?

Let us focus on the class struggle and forget the old academian theory, regardless how much it is now re-programmed on computers and re-wrapped in plastic.

In Solidarity,

George LaForest

Fellow Workers,

I must take brief exception to the reference in the most recent *IW* to my charges heard at Convention. While I have no doubt that many people were frustrated by the time spent dealing with these (far more than should have been needed for 2 straight-forward issues), the implication that I am in some way to blame seems quite unfair.

I, after all, filed *no* charges with the Convention. Rather, the charges at issue were sent to Convention by the General Executive Board. While I do not understand the reluctance of many members to utilize the union's dispute-resolution process, anyone who feels their time was wasted has only the GEB to blame.

Yours for industrial democracy,
Jon Bekken, X331117

REPEAL GOB (newsletter) RESOLUTION

Whereas the Industrial Workers of the World has always favored the right and exercise of free speech; and whereas the members of this organization should be free to express their views within the pages of our union's internal discussion bulletin without fear of censorship; and Whereas the present policy of censoring the General Organization Bulletin deprives members of the opportunity to acquaint themselves fully with the views and activities of IWW officers and other members; Therefore be it resolved that the so-called Vancouver Resolution, adopted by General Convention in 1984, directing the General Secretary-Treasurer to censor correspondence to the General Organization Bulletin be repealed.

Resolved, That the IWW reaffirm its 1988 Convention resolution supporting the International Labor Conference being organized by the Swedish Workers Central Organization (SAC); that the "World Labor Solidarity" \$5 voluntary assessment stamp be reissued as approved by last Convention to raise funds to subsidize transportation to the conference by delegates representing the IWW and revolutionary unions from Latin America, should sufficient funds be raised for this purpose, with articles promoting this fund-raising campaign to be published in the Industrial Worker and General Organization Bulletin.

The continued sniping and name-calling which appears in the GOB is detrimental to our Union. New members are confused and often quit when they have received one or two GOBs. Other members refuse to read the whole thing, thus missing referendum ballots

and the positive news contained. After a meeting of Vancouver Wobs held to discuss Convention issues, the following resolution was drawn up for presentation at the 1984 General Convention:

Whereas it is not within the parameters of the principles, structure or Constitution in general for the membership of this organization to launch personal attacks on each other and then to visit them on all the rest of us through the GOB; and

Whereas the executive has no mandate to publish such diatribes; and

Whereas regarding disagreement over policies: these policies are democratically arrived at through Convention and/or referendum. To then hold individual members responsible for policies is to call into question the democratic process of our Union;

Therefore be it resolved that the GOB not publish any personal attacks on IWW members. If formal charges of constitutional questions are received, then these would be recorded by the GEB in their report and not in personal letters published in the GOB. The GST must return letters containing personal attacks to the sender along with the address of

the fellow worker(s) concerned.

If any letter is returned under this policy, note shall be made of this rejection in the GOB. Each member of this union shall be notified of this resolution by printing the resolution on the front page of the next GOB.

INT'L CONFERENCE

Resolved, That the IWW reaffirm its 1988 Convention resolution supporting the International Labor Conference being organized by the Swedish Workers Central Organization (SAC); that the "World Labor Solidarity" \$5 voluntary assessment stamp be reissued as approved by last Convention to raise funds to subsidize transportation to the conference by delegates representing the IWW and revolutionary unions from Latin America, should sufficient funds be raised for this purpose, with articles promoting this fund-raising campaign to be published in the Industrial Worker and General Organization Bulletin.

FIRE YOUR BOSS
with the One Big Union

AFFILIATION WITH AIT/IWA

Whereas the Industrial Workers of the World and the International Workers Association (AIT/IWA) share similar goals and objectives; and Whereas affiliation to the AIT/IWA would promote greater international labor solidarity and improved communications with revolutionary unions around the world; Therefore be it resolved that General Convention issue the following referendum:

"Shall the General Secretary Treasurer, in consultation with the General Executive Board, be directed to negotiate the affiliation of the IWW to the International Workers Association, subject to the following understandings (1) IWW members in regions where there are existing IWA affiliates be permitted to maintain IWW membership (2) the IWW will advocate extending IWA/AIT membership to include all revolutionary unions independent of government or party control."

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.

CANDIDATES FOR GENERAL EXECUTIVE BOARD:

GARY COX
SANDRA NICHOL
TED DYMENT
ROCHELLE SEMEL
PHIL HARRIS
JON BEKKEN
MIKE HARGIS
PAT KLEES
DAVE FRAZER
CARLOS MURRAY
ED JAHN

(Nominated but not running:
John Hanson, Mark Kaufman,
Jess Grant, Penny Pixler, Julia
Goode, Moe Fitzsimons, Jackie
Panish, Bili Savage, Doug Slaton,
Brian Mahoney)

VOTE !

CANDIDATES FOR GENERAL SECRETARY TREASURER:

JEFF DITZ

(Nominated but not running:
Gary Cox, Greg MacDaniels, Ted
Dyment, Joe Chang)

MR. BLOCK SEES THE LIGHT

Report on Checking the Turmoil and Quelling the Counter-Revolutionary Rebellion, by Chen Xitong. New Star Publishers, Beijing, 1989.

The All-China Federation of Trade Unions kindly provided a free copy of this helpful overview to the recent events, along with the *ACFTU Bulletin* (August 1989, "Events in Beijing and Chinese Trade Unions), in response to my letter asking what steps the ACFTU was taking on behalf of arrested worker. (The ACFTU can be written at 10 Fuxingmenwai Street, Beijing, Peoples Republic of China.)

The *Industrial Worker* had it wrong again! "A small handful of people with ulterior motives" sought to launch "a planned, organized and premeditated political turmoil in Beijing and some other places." These malcontents "even incited workers and shop assistants to stage strikes and hamper normal social order, thus throwing the Beijing City into a serious anarchic situation." This, of course, left the authorities no alternative but to declare martial law.

The Federation is particularly incensed at the efforts of the "Workers' Autonomous Federations" organized by a tiny minority without going through legal procedures. "The aims and programme of these organizations have nothing to do at all with safeguarding the rights and interests of workers. On the contrary, they blatantly

urged workers and shop assistants to go on strikes..."

Chen's report details the machinations of the lawless anti-government clique, which put up big-character posters without following the Constitutional provisions governing "four big freedoms" (speaking out freely, airing views fully, holding debates, and putting up posters). Illegal organizations were formed, demonstrations held, posters put on walls—some even shouted "down with the Communist Party." (p 12) In the face of such provocations, and such blatant disregard for the leading role of the party of the working class, who could question the government's decision to put down the riot in Tiananmen Square?

Mr. Block

(Readers may also wish to check out *Echoes From Tiananmen*, which presents eye-witness accounts and documents on the Beijing Massacre and its aftermath from a perspective sharply different from that espoused by the scissor-bills and blockheads of the world. It also includes a list of more than 75 Chinese workers presently under arrest. Their address is: Friends of Chinese Minzhu, c/ Hong Kong Trade Union Education Centre, 57 Peking Road, 3rd floor, Kowloon, Hong Kong.)



AVAILABLE from IWW branches

BALTIMORE GMB:

"Daughters of Mother Jones" & "Let's Get Virginia" (w/IWW globe on back) T-shirts L or XL \$12. Check to Baltimore IWW Justice Fund. Mail to: Bili Savage, 114 S Arlington Ave, Baltimore MD 21223. Proceeds to Justice for Pittston Miners Fund

CHICAGO GMB:

1990 Calendar "Solidarity Forever" \$5.25 ea. Quantity discounts (see ad). Checks and orders to: IWW Chicago GMB, PO Box 204, Oak Park, IL 60303-0204.

DENVER BOULDER GMB:

Organizing leaflets "what every worker should know about the IWW". Several leaflets, tell us who you are targeting. 25¢ ea. (for one), 10¢ (2-50); 5¢ ea. over 50.

IWW T-shirts Black on red M-L-XL (50-50) \$10.

Out of the Depths, True story of the Ludlow Massacre in Colorado. Out of print. \$10.

Columbine Memorial Videos Historic scattering of Joe Hill's ashes. \$20.

"Workers' Solidarity" Suspenders Red Reg-XL-XXL \$12.

Prices are postpaid. Make checks to: Denver-Boulder IWW. Mail to: Gary Cox, 11548 Community Center Drive #53, Northglenn, CO 80233.

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GMB:

Domino's Pizza Boycott Info Packet, Domino's delivers contra support, anti-abortion violence, and anti-worker policies. Checks to "Domino's Coalition-LASC", mail to AATU Job Branch, 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109 \$10

NEW YORK GMB

A Workers Guide to Direct Action, Examples & discussion of direct action. 75¢

Collective Bargaining Manual, How to negotiate with the boss. \$2.50

Postpaid from: IWW, Box 183, New York 10028

SAN FRANCISCO BAY GMB:

Introductions to the IWW, 10 cents each from San Francisco IWW, Box 40485, San Francisco, CA 94140 (40% discount for quantity orders) or 10¢ each plus 25¢ postage for entire order

DIRECTORY

branches and delegates

CANADA

ALBERTA

Winnipeg IWW, attn B. Mackay, PO Box 3204 GNPO, Winnipeg R3C 4E7

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver GMB, PO Box 65635, Station F, Vancouver V5N 5K5

Eastside Datagraphics JB 1460 Commercial Dr, Vancouver V5L 3X9 (604) 255-9559

Gleaner Publications JB, Student Union, 100 W. 49th Ave, Vancouver V5Y 2Z9

Mac Underground Pacific Job Branch 6591a Victoria, Vancouver V5P 3X8

The Tools Job Branch, c/o 1536 Kamloops St, Vancouver V5K 3W2

ONTARIO

Ottawa Group, 318 Powell St, Ottawa (613) 231-4392

Toronto GMB, 26A Oxford Street, 2nd floor, Toronto M5T 1N9

meetings first Thursday, 7 pm, phone for location

Blackbird Design Collective JB, 394 Euclid Ave #301, Toronto M6G 2F9 972-6293

IWW Contracting Job Branch c/o Catholic Worker, 2 Vancouver Ave, Toronto

UNITED STATES

ALASKA

Ruth Sheridan, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage 99508

ARIZONA

Signature Press Job Branch, PO Box 92, Bisbee 85603

CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles Delegate, Dorice McDaniels 213-679-2570

San Diego Group, Box 191224, San Diego 92119

San Francisco Bay Area GMB, Box 40485, San Francisco 94140

East Bay Delegate, Richard Ellington, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland 94609

Coreris Cabinets, 5840 Peladeau St, Emeryville

United Stanford Workers Job Branch, PO Box 7152, Stanford 94305

Berkeley Recycling Center Job Branch, c/o Jeff Hoffman, 1560 8th St, Oakland 94607

Mendocino-Humboldt Group, 106 W. Stanley St, Ukiah 95482

COLORADO

Denver-Boulder GMB, 2412 East Colfax, Denver 80206 (303) 388-1065

office open Saturday 9-12, meetings second Sunday of each month

Delegates: Dexter Herda, 910 East 8th #202, Denver 80218

Lowell May, 2201 Eliot, Denver, 80211 (303) 458-0870

Black Sheep Press, PO Box 18131, Boulder 80308

P & L Printing, 419 W. 12th Ave, Denver 80204

Wapiti Press Job Branch, 306 Aspen Lane, Golden 80401

GEORGIA

Atlanta Group, Box 54766, Atlanta 30308-0766 (404) 378-5542

ILLINOIS

Chicago GMB 3435 N. Sheffield #202 Chicago (312) 549-5045

meetings first Friday of each month at 7:30 pm

Champaign-Urbana Group, Box 2824, Champaign, 61820

KENTUCKY

Louisville Group, 2024 Baringer Ave, Louisville, 37581

LOUISIANA

Shreveport Group, Box 37581, Shreveport 71133

MARYLAND

Baltimore GMB, 1054 Hollins Ave, Baltimore 21223

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston GMB, Box 454, Cambridge 02139 (617) 469-5162

Delegate: Barry Roderick, MIT Branch PO Box 213, Cambridge 02139

Whetstone Press, 94 Green St, Jamaica Plain 02130

MICHIGAN

Southeast Michigan GMB, 42 S. Summit, Ypsilanti 48197 (313) 483-3478

People's Warehouse Job Branch, 727 W. Ellsworth, Ann Arbor 48108

Ann Arbor Tenants Union Job Branch, 4001 Mich. Union, Ann Arbor (313) 763-6876

MINNESOTA

Minneapolis-St. Paul GMB, Box 2245, St Paul 55102

meetings third Wednesday of each month

MONTANA

Western Montana GMB, 415 N. Higgins, Room 104, Missoula 59807

office open Monday thru Saturday, noon - 5pm

(800) 473-4000 or (406) 721-3000 A.L. Nurse, delegate

Correspondence to: Box 8562, Missoula

NEW YORK

New York GMB, Box 183, New York 10028

meetings second Sunday of each month at 2 pm (call for location)

The Print Shop Job Branch, 333 Terry Rd, Smithtown 11787

Delegates: John Hansen, 302 Ave C, Brooklyn 11218 (718) 854-2692; Jackie Panish, Box 372, Rego Park

11374 (212) 868-1121; Joe O'Shea, Winkler's Farm, Towner's Road, Carmel 10512; David Sacz, (212)

666-7484; Rochelle Semel, Box 172, Fly Creek 13337 (607) 293-6489; Bob Young, Box 920, Wingdale

OHIO

Southwest Ohio GMB & GDC Local #1 Box 26381, Dayton 45426

GDC Local #3, c/o John Perrotti #167712, Box 45699, Lucasville 45699-0001

PENNSYLVANIA

Philadelphia Group, c/o Tom Hill, Box 41928, Philadelphia 19101

SOUTH CAROLINA

Harbinger Publications JB, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, 29201 (803) 254-9398

TEXAS

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

VIRGINIA

Delegate: Keith Preston, 1105 W. Franklin #8A, Richmond 23220 (713) 741-1897

WASHINGTON

Bellingham GMB, Box 1386, Bellingham 98227

Seattle GMB, 3238 33rd Ave South, Seattle 98144

Freedom Fund Job Branch, PO Box 20402, Seattle, 98102

Spokane Group, Box 1273, Spokane, 99210

Tacoma/Olympia GMB & GDC #4, 2115 S. Sheridan, Tacoma 98405 (206) 272-8119

WISCONSIN

Madison GMB, Box 2605, Madison 53701 (608) 251-1937 or 249-4287

Lakeside Press Job Branch, 1301 Williamson, Madison 53703 (608) 255-1800

IWW PUBLICATIONS

- IWW Songs of the Workers: To Fan the Flames of Discontent** \$5
The 35th edition of the "little red songbook" the most famous Northamerican labor songbook. Classics & new songs. Mandatory on picket lines, great for gifts, pocket size.
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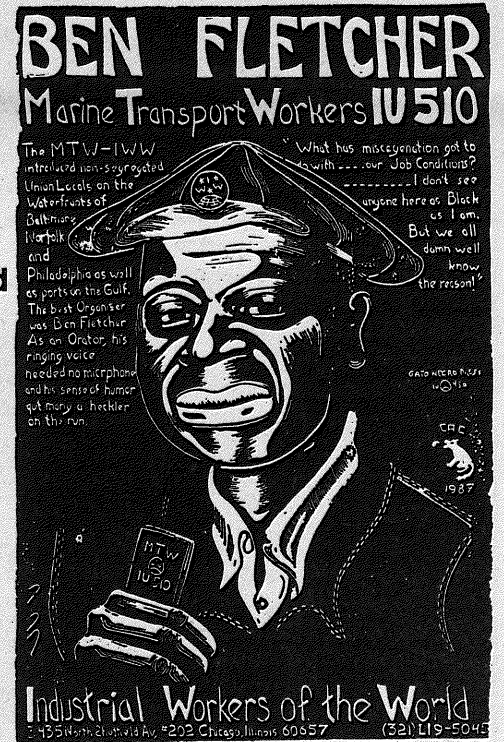
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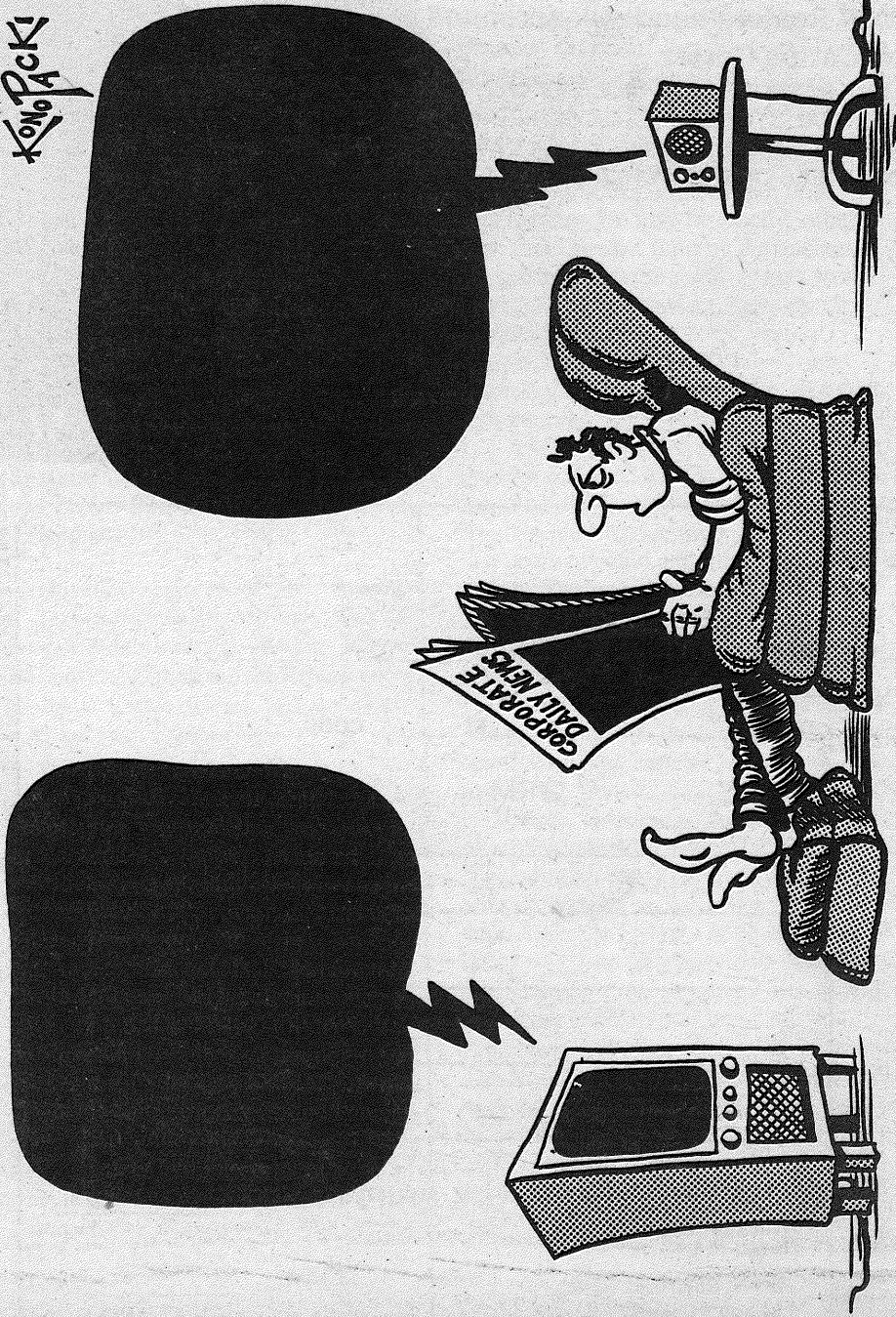
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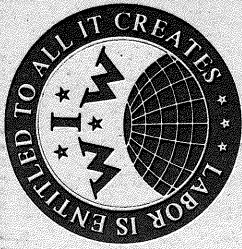
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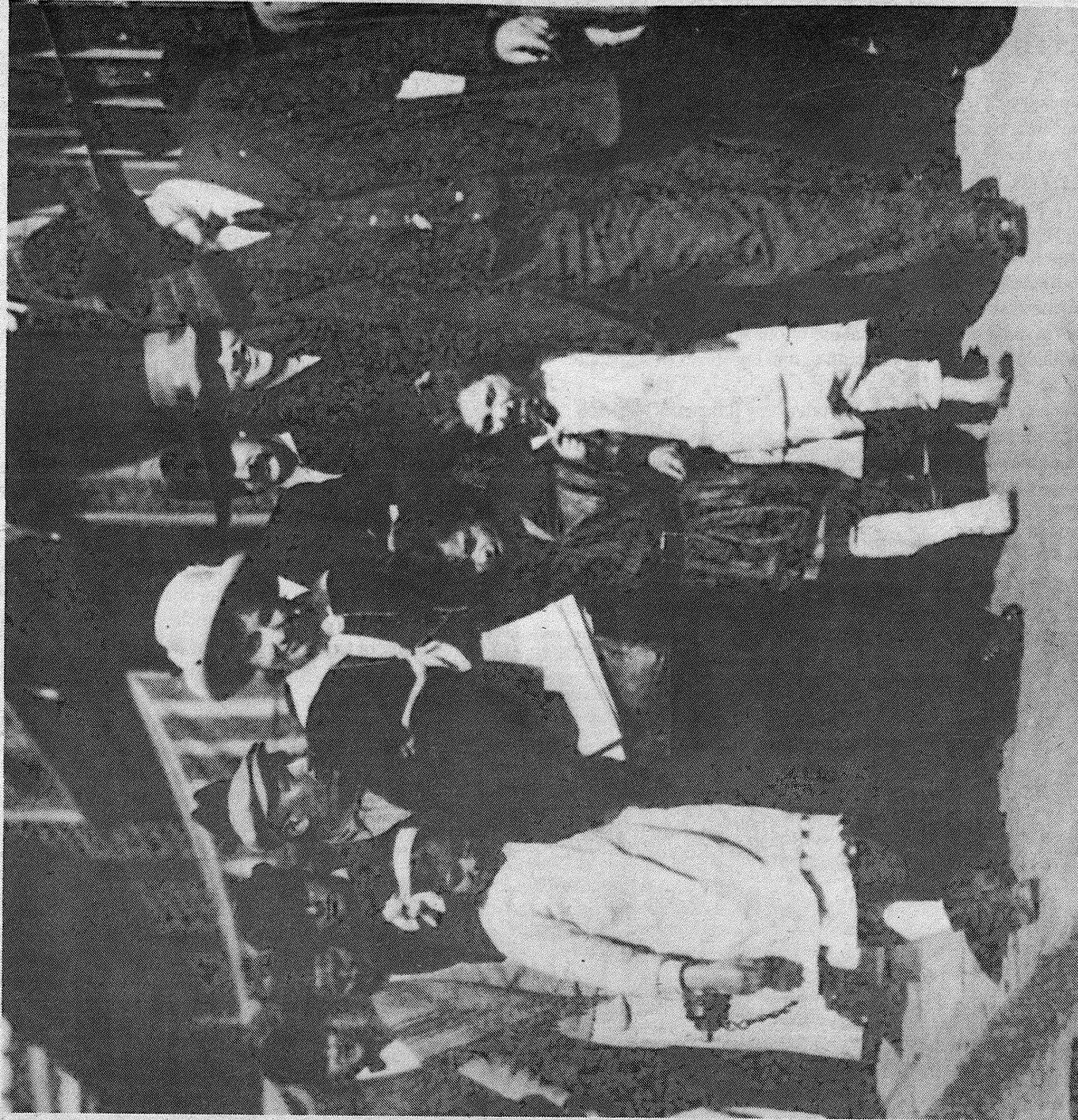
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