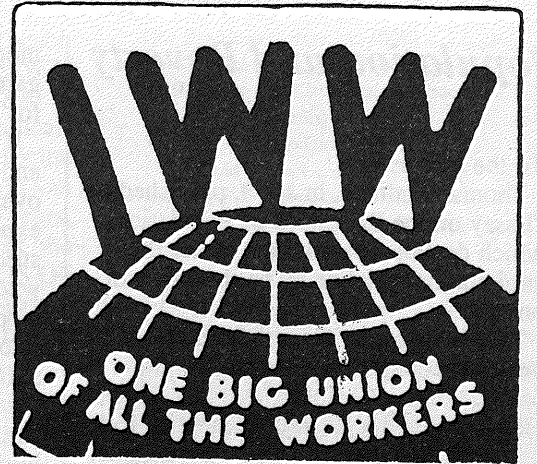


SPECIAL: LATIN AMERICA

★ EDUCATION ★ ORGANIZATION ★ EMANCIPATION

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Industrial Workers of the World



VOLUME 86, NUMBER 6, WH 1513

JUNE 1989

50 CENTS

Nuke Workers Honor Picket Lines

For the past several weeks, security guards at Illinois Power's Clinton nuclear reactor have been on strike, demanding a modest pay hike to enable them to keep bread on the table for them and their families. Illinois Power, like many companies, doesn't hire security guards directly; instead they subcontract the job to companies that pay rock-bottom wages to anyone willing to wear a uniform (makes you feel real secure, doesn't it?).

When the strike began, the union agreed not to picket Clinton's main gate. Instead, Illinois Power set up a small gate to be used by supervisors and other scabs provided by Burns Security. For many days things went "fine." Scabs entered through the gate set aside for their sort, pickets stayed by the scab gate, where there was no chance of their picketing having any effect whatsoever, and union workers waltzed in through the main gate never having to see, let alone cross, a picket line. A neat, tidy arrangement all around, if rather a curious way to run a strike.

But when strikers noticed Illinois Power personnel filling in on their jobs, they decided that things were just a bit too tidy and moved their picket line to the main gate. Illinois Power workers crossed the picket lines with nary a backwards glance.

But more than a hundred workers for another subcontractor working the nuke site decided they hadn't signed on to be union scabs, and refused to cross the line. The next day, Illinois Power went to court seeking an injunction against this outrageous and dastardly act. (To join unions and go on strike are rights guaranteed under law, but to picket effectively is a heinous crime against capital that has always drawn the full fury of the law.) Rather than risk a court order forbidding effective picketing of this sort, union piccards and their lawyers surrendered—agreeing to keep pickets well away from any nuke plant entrance where they might actually have a chance of accomplishing something.

And so once again, the business unions surrender one of the most powerful weapons in labor's arsenal—solidarity—with nary a fuss. Some call this "labor statesmanship;" others, class treason. Whatever term you prefer, its business unionism as usual; and it's about to chalk up another miserable defeat for our fellow workers. But for one glorious day, workers demonstrated the solidarity that built the labor movement—and which offers our best hope for victory.

X331117

US Unions Show Solidarity with Central American Counterparts

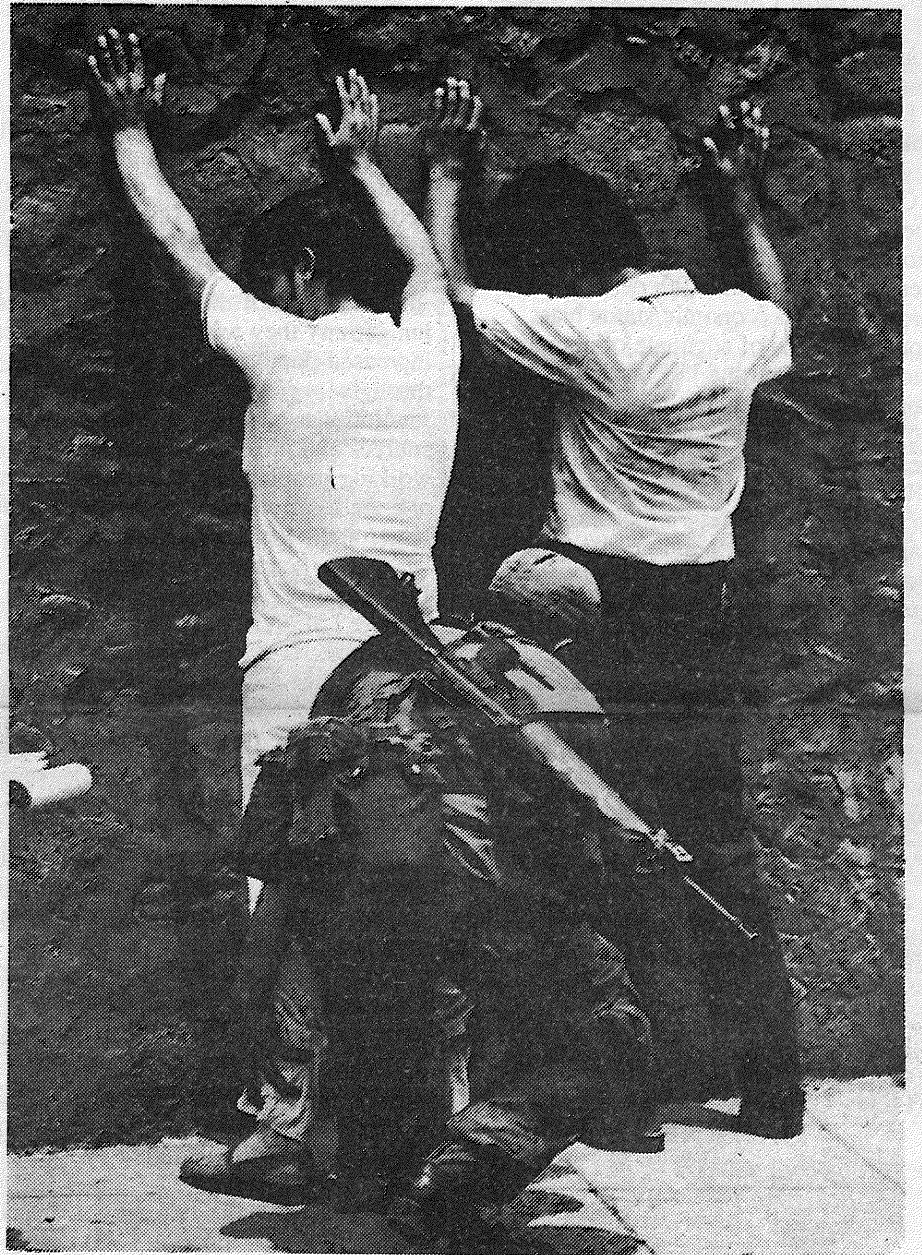
On April 29-30, a new Labor Coalition on Central America was founded in Washington D.C. The movement has several goals: to support the labor movement in Central America; to back worker and human rights; to work for non-intervention and self-determination; to promote a progressive vision of international labor solidarity. The Coalition will serve as a network of existing local labor for solidarity organizations and publish a newsletter beginning in the fall.

Perhaps some of the most exciting union-solidarity work is going on in the organization "Postal Workers for Peace" which includes members of NALC, APWU, and Mailhandlers. The organization has sent delegations to Central America, observed the conditions at the major post office union at Telcor in Nicaragua. They made the following notes and recommendations after their last visit to Nicaragua last year:

"Letter carriers and clerks working for TELCOR, Nicaragua's telecommunications

and postal service, have suffered the full brunt of the Reagan administration's contra war. The '87 PWfP delegation learned that the contras had destroyed twenty-six post offices. Mail distribution trucks have been attacked. The '88 PWfP delegates learned that TELCOR's new telephone line, providing the first service to indigenous communities of the Atlantic Coast, had just been destroyed by contras. Five postal workers have died defending their work places. More than 60 TELCOR workers have been killed by the contras in the years following the 1979 defeat of the Somoza dictatorship.

"Following the victory of 1979, TELCOR employees organized a union and negotiated vast improvements in their wages, benefits and working conditions. For example, the PWfP delegations found that postal workers in Managua now have a low-cost health clinic, eye care, a low-cost cafeteria, daycare and maternity leave, no-interest loans, technical training, equal pay for equal work."



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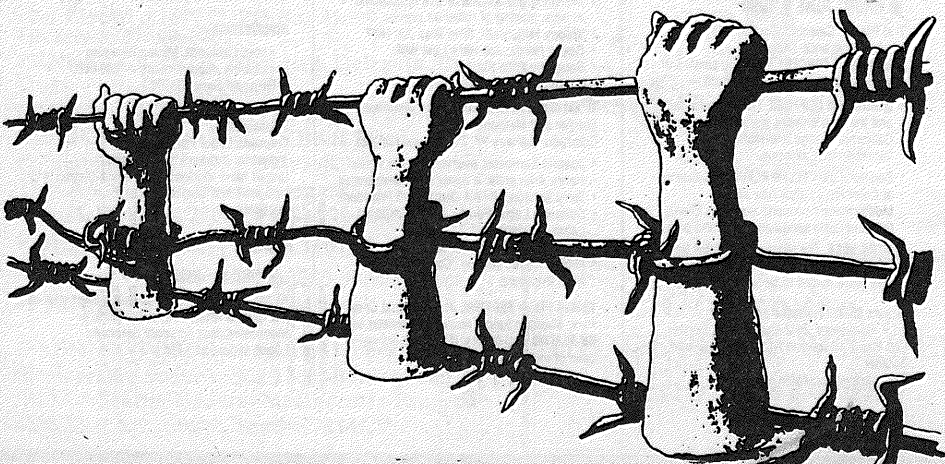
Book Reviews

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Liberty of circulation is as much a part of freedom of the press as liberty of publication.
Justice William O. Douglas

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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CORRESPONDENCE

Population and Poverty

To the Editor:

Thomas Malthus, in 1798, published his "Essay on the Principles of Population" which declared population, rather than exploitation of labor, to be the cause of poverty.

This was correct from the old stone age until the cottage industries age and the passage of the Enclosure Acts by Kings Henry VII and VIII in the 15th and 16th centuries in England, when the peasants, the food producers, were driven from the land, and thus from food production, to provide flax and wool (both inedible) for the burgeoning bourgeois textile industry, and thus profit for the exploiters instead of food for the people. This was quite some time before Malthus published his doctrine.

But the validity of the Malthusian Doctrine surely ended with the industrial revolution and full-fledged capitalism.

Our neo-Malthusians of today, those of the zero population growth (ZPG) persuasion, like their paleo-Malthusian forerunners of the 18th and 19th century, still proceed on an economic status bias, counting those of adequate or abundant income to constitute the "acceptable" population density, but those on the poverty line and below to be the "excess", the unwanted ones.

If hunger today is caused by population in excess of the world's food raising capacity, and if reduction of the population would reduce hunger, then why did hunger in the Soviet Union increase so dramatically after Nicolai Lenin and Joseph Stalin so dramatically reduced the population of the Ukraine, the Soviet Union's primary food raisers?

If hunger is caused in India by population, then why are sacred cows fed while untouchable people go hungry? Why are

monkeys allowed to ravage crops and gardens instead of being shot and used for fertilizer?

If starvation is Africa in the drought and famine of the 1970's was caused by overpopulation, then why did food exports from that drought and famine stricken area reach their maximum height when drought and famine reach their worst? And why was this food imported into well-fed Europe, which did not suffer drought, but whose ruling classes owned the land, the tools, the seeds and the irrigation apparatus with which these bumper (super-abundant) crops were raised by famished workers in a drought?

Those who believe that the Malthusian (ZPG) Doctrine might still be valid today should read two most excellent (and interesting) documentaries by Frances Lappe and Joseph Collins. These are "Food First" and "World Hunger: 12 Myths".

Lappe and Collins correctly comment at one point that "the world produces enough to feed everyone and make most people fat." (Write to Institute for Food and Development Policy, IFDP, 145 9th St., San Francisco, CA 94103)

The workers of the world can end world hunger any they wish, even with a greatly increased population. We can do this through revolutionary action. By taking all resources and means of production into the working people's own cooperative hands, and the more of us there are to unite, the better and sooner we can do this.

In solidarity,
George LaForest
Rockford, IL

From the American Gulag

Dear Friends and Fellow Workers,

Many greetings from the gulag. Please note my new address as I would very much like to continue to receive "The Industrial Worker".

I was transferred from Monroe to this more repressive prison in retaliation for having participated in a class action law suit against overcrowding at that prison. After repeatedly winning in Federal Court the state threatened to close down the prison to force capitulation.

Since 1978 when the suit was filed we have struggled for single cells. The prison

SUBMISSIONS POLICY

The deadline for copy for each edition is the fifteenth of the month. Important articles arriving after that date, but before we go to press, will be considered for inclusion in that issue, but we cannot guarantee their timely publication after deadline.

All copy should be typed and lines double spaced with 1 inch margins all around.

We encourage letters to the editors in response to articles appearing in the Industrial Worker. We only ask that they be kept brief and to the point and avoid personal invective.

The editorial collective tries to answer correspondence but a lack of time and person power (we do this after our regular working hours) prohibit us from answering all who write. We ask for your patience. Submit your letters and articles early!

The Editors

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

was built in 1908 and the cells measure less than 6 feet by 9 feet. In 1986 the prison finally reached its single cell capacity of 656 prisoners. In October of 1988 the state announced it would close half of the living unit cell blocks and stick those prisoners in the remaining cells.

This was done in November 1988. We went to court and won. The court told the state they had to reduce the population to its limit of 348 prisoners.

At this point the administration pulled the stops in the repression and intimidation tactics, using inmate collaborators and informants, it sought to panic the population into capitulation with its threat of closure.

On March 10, 1989 at the meeting of "lifers" (those of us doing life sentences), a notorious collaborator stated a vote was needed in view of the state's latest threat. I spoke out against this, stating that prison closure is our goal and no threat, if they close down the prison then so what? Let's run 400 guards into the welfare lines and I stressed that after so much long, bitter struggle and sacrifices we mustn't give away under threats what we had already won in court. This met with a standing ovation and a unanimous vote of "NO" to capitulation or compromise.

The next day I was slammed into isolation as a "threat to security". To justify this repression (I have a clean disciplinary record) my captors accused me of "actively developing an international revolutionary network advocating 'armed resistance' against the US government" solely because I correspond with progressive people overseas and because I am involved in publishing the "Red Dragon" prison journal. Prison officials have not been able to show my attorney any of the letters or documents which purportedly show my advocacy of "armed resistance". Perhaps because there are none.

I spent 10 days in isolation at Monroe. I was offered the "deal" of informing against my friends there to avoid a transfer. My family had come 4,000 miles from Florida to see me and I was denied contact visits with them. I developed stomach pains, diarrhea, nausea

etc. while in isolation and was denied medical attention for 7 days until the day before I was shipped out.

Here at Walla Walla I have been threatened with placement in IMU (intensive management unit, a sensory deprivation torture unit) if I write "anyone or anything" my captors don't like. Huge amounts of my mail have totally disappeared. More is being rejected or banned for no legitimate reason, especially any progressive or prisoner rights magazines.

All of my outgoing mail is opened, read and photocopied by my captors and a lot of it is not reaching its destination.

I am currently in the process of litigating my transfer back to Monroe as it is plainly and obviously retaliatory. Please feel free to publish all or portions of this.

In struggle,
Paul Wright #930783
PO Box 520 8-C-14
Walla Walla, WA 99362

Boycott Curtis

Dear FWs,

I am hereby recommending a strenuous primary boycott against Curtis & Swartz (Cafe/Restaurant) on Main Street, Northampton, MA.

Their flagrant violations of fair labor practice (e.g. common tip plate, lack of scullery help, "Swiss" system of no "breaks" as per Massachusetts Labor Codes, no dumb-waiter to assist transport from basement cookery) led me to the absolute conclusion that a primary boycott is necessary, Union-wide.

Therefore, please post a notice of this boycott by one observant member under the principle, "an injury to one is an injury to all."

With regards and respect,
Herbert Miller, Jr.
X328548

Industrial Worker

ONE UNION ONE LABEL
ONE ENEMY



The Editorial Collective

Carlos Cortez, Mike Hargis, Penny Pixler, Ingrid Kock

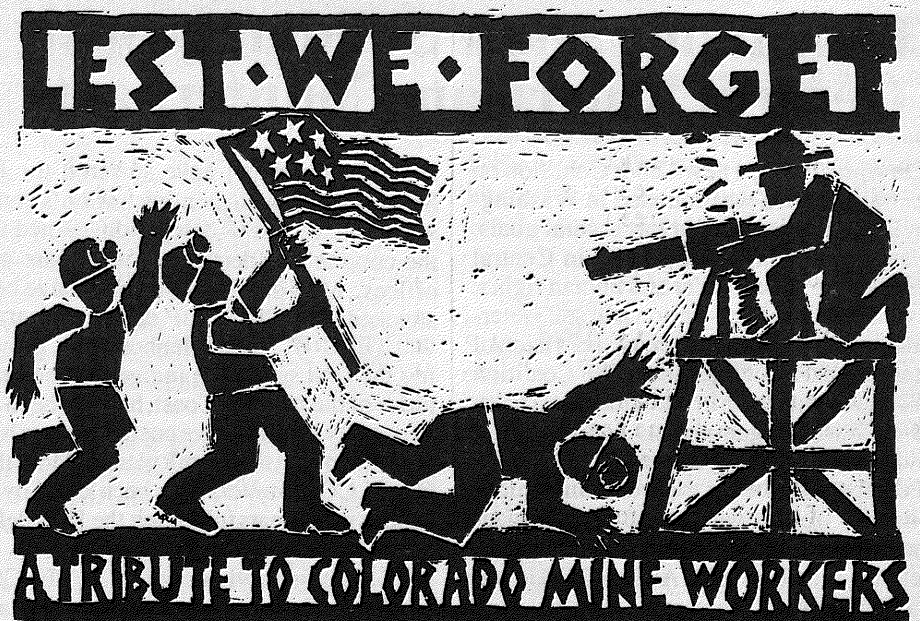
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Stan Anderson, Seattle; Phil Harris, Atlanta; Denny Mealy, Austin; Richard Hill & Gary Cox, Denver; Rochelle Semel, Fly Creek; Paul Poulos & David Zatz, New York.

General Secretary Treasurer

Jeff "Bigfoot" Ditz

The Industrial Worker (ISSN 0019-8870) is the official organ of the Industrial Workers of the World, 3435 N. Sheffield, Suite 202, Chicago IL 60657. Unless designated as official policy, articles in the Industrial Worker do not represent the official position of the Industrial Workers of the World. No paid or commercial advertising accepted. The Industrial Worker is published monthly and is mailed without a wrapper to reduce expenses, but a wrapper may be requested. The deadline for all copy is the fifteenth of every month. Subscription rates: \$6 per year; \$11 for two years; \$16 for three years.



Early morning, November 21, 1927. Colorado coal miners stood up for our rights and paid a price. Sixty-two years later we gather to ensure that those who suffered and died that morning, did not do so in vain.

FRIDAY, JUNE 9, 1989
7-10 PM. St. Cajetan's Church
9th and Lawrence, Denver
LABOR/FOLK CONCERT featuring singers of the Industrial Workers of the World —

- DAKOTA SID CLIFFORD. The voice for labor and the environment from the Dakotas to California. Songs and stories from Sacramento, California.
- Boulder's own ELLEN KLAVER. Audiences at Colorado's Labor Day and Motherfolks concerts welcome Ellen's folk and Latin songs on guitar and banjo.
- MARK ROSS. The singing blindstiff from Missoula, Montana. IWW songs the way they were meant to be sung and more.

Tickets \$5.00, available at:
R.I.P. Bookstore, 2412 East Colfax, Denver
Left Hand Books and Records, 1200 Pearl, Boulder
Paid parking available in Lot G.

SATURDAY, JUNE 10
Northern Colorado's first Miners' Memorial Day
8-10 AM — Lafayette Mining Museum, 108 E. Simpson, open to public
10-10:30 AM — Memorial Program at Lafayette Cemetery.

- Unveiling gravestone of five massacred miners, placing of roses on graves
- Woody Hildebrand: Who Was Joe Hill?
- Dexter Herda: Joe Hill's Last Will
- Songs by Ellen Klaver
- Scattering of Joe Hill's ashes
- 11 AM-NOON — Unveiling State Historical Marker and Memorial Colorado Highway #7, 2 miles west of I-25
- Joanna Sampson: overview of the strike
- Henry Amicarella: a miner's remembrances
- Terry Benson, UMW District #15 President
- Colorado Labor Forum: presentation on Labor Solidarity
- Richard Hill: Columbine Mine poem
- Fergus Stone: singing "Company Mule" from the opera

12:30-3 PM — FESTIVAL in Erie's Coal Creek Park. Mexican lunch, music and theater by SU TEATRO, and others. (Erie High School in case of inclement weather)

12-5 PM — I.W.W. art and photo exhibit, by I.W.W. and Erie Rural Arts Council at Erie High School, 5 blocks west of the park
3-5 PM — I.W.W. movie, Erie High School
5-7 PM — Lafayette Mining Museum open
8-11 PM — SOCIAL with more music at I.B.E.W. Local #68 Hall, 5980 Logan Street, Denver

INFORMATION
• About Lafayette Mining Museum, including appointments — 666-6686
• General: Gary 452-7701
Richard 666-7548

Sponsored by:
Colorado Labor Forum
Industrial Workers of the World
United Mine Workers of America District #15
Lafayette and Erie Historical Societies

SUNDAY, JUNE 11
10 AM-1 PM — 75th Anniversary Memorial of the Ludlow Massacre, at the Miners' Monument near Trinidad, Colorado. Lunch served at 1 PM.

IWW BRANCH NEWS

CHICAGO BRANCH NEWS

The Chicago Branch had the pleasure of playing host from mid-April thru mid-May to Fellow Worker Mattias Gardell, a member of the International Committee of the Swedish Workers Central (SAC), Sweden's revolutionary syndicalist union.

FW Mattias was visiting the U.S. primarily to do research on the phenomenon of Black Nationalism and came to Chicago specifically to investigate the Nation of Islam and its leader, Louis Farrakhan. He also had the mission of making contact with the IWW and finding out about our situation and sharing with us the situation of our Swedish comrades.

Both missions went well. Mattias managed to obtain several interviews with Farrakhan and he made an interesting and informative presentation on the SAC at the Branch's May general membership meeting.

Mattias also made internationalism concrete by helping us lay out the May Industrial Worker and doing other chores around GHQ. He also encouraged the IWW to send a representative to the international conference of revolutionary unionists to be held in Sweden in the spring of 1990.

To say the least, we thoroughly enjoyed Mattias's visit and wish him luck in the future.

San Francisco

In April, we got together for a "Spring Sing Thing," billed as a chance to "Warble with the Wobblies." About a dozen people got together with a couple of guitars and belted out the standards from the Little Red Songbook as well as shared some original songs that songwriters in the group had brought.

Some members of our branch continue to attend planning meeting for the International Anarchist Gathering, "Without Borders," scheduled for San Francisco in late July. We encourage all Wobblies of an anarchist leaning to attend this event. We're hoping to have a workshop on the IWW and have even broached the idea of calling a one-day, city-wide general strike to correspond with the conference, though this idea has met with mixed reviews even within the branch membership.

For May Day, we distributed a couple thousand of the enclosed 11 x 17 posters throughout San Francisco. It was our first major attempt at raising the visibility of our local branch and has been a successful propaganda tool. Feel free to reprint a reduced version in the IW if you see fit.

Best Wishes,
Corresponding Secretary, Jess Grant

DENVER BRANCH NEWS JUNE '89

The news from this colorful "right-to-work" state is both bright and bitter. First, that which may leave an unpleasant taste in your mouth.

Here in Colorado, where a long-standing tradition of treating Labor to free lead poi-

soning at muzzle velocity exists, the struggle for justice in the workplace continues. As the corporate carrion circle Colorado's sagging economy, waiting to swoop down and pick the bones of workers, JOBS WITH JUSTICE continues to strive for the rights of Labor. Picketing and boycotts of Continental Airlines continue in support of the Eastern Machinists' struggle with corporate vulture Lorenzo. Also on the local front, Denver IWW members have given full support to JOBS WITH JUSTICE and the Denver Post Mailers' struggle with Post owner, Texas millionaire, Dean "Dracula" Singleton.

While JOBS WITH JUSTICE and local WOBS fight for the rights of the rank and file, the Denver alternative press, Westword, has exposed a horrible example of "business union" toadyism.

Rocky Mountain States AFL-CIO director, Steve Bieringer, has been exposed as the corporate toad he is. His anti-progressive, anti-rank-and-file warts have been brought to light and include: internal subversion of a JOBS WITH JUSTICE airport action against Lorenzo; efforts to end rank-and-file support for a neighborhood coalition against Martin Marietta's toxic dumping; and a clear case of male chauvinist action against Jan Bell of Service Employees International Union in her efforts to increase women's roles in organized labor. Bieringer, a remnant of the George Meany regime, is a prime example of the futility of "business unionism"—labor divided against itself to the benefit of corporate vampire. Leech-Toad-Capital-Spies such as Bieringer must be purged from the ranks of Labor.

Now to the bright spots on the Denver scene. In spite of Bieringer's efforts, local craft unions, IBEW Local 2300, IBEW Local 68 and the Denver-Metro APWU have donated generously to the Columbine Memorial Fund. The preparations for the Columbine Massacre Commemoration are moving along smoothly and it appears the event will be a rousing success. Miners' families and WOBBLIES from across the country are expected to be on hand for this solemn and festive occasion.

The commemorative stones are nearly complete and will be ready for the unveiling and dedication ceremony on June 10th. The events in Lafayette, Colorado on the 10th will be followed on the 11th with a UMWA commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the Ludlow massacre near Trinidad, Colorado.

Currently, the Denver WOBS have been devoting their energy to the Columbine Memorial. But on the horizon are organizing and membership drives. Also under discussion are ways to develop IWW revenue. The struggle continues!

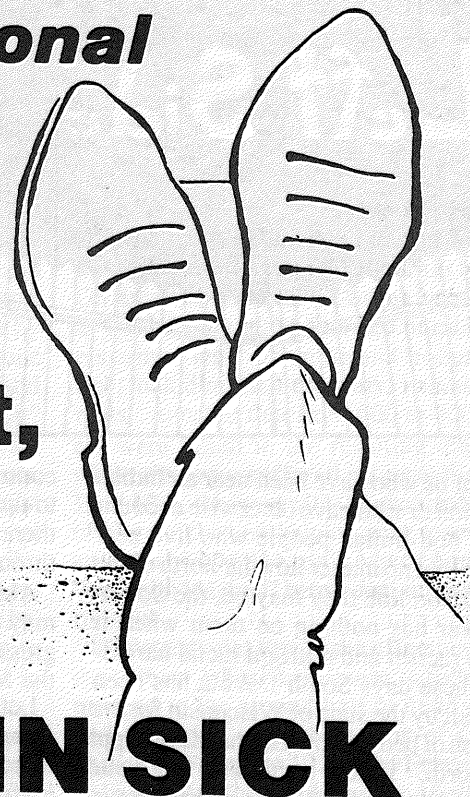
In Solidarity,
Woody Hill
X337293

As Witnessed: 10:49
May 7th

Celebrate International Workers' Day

May 1st, 1989

CALL IN SICK



For more information, or
to join a militant labor union,
contact:

The Industrial Workers of the World
at PO Box 40485 San Francisco, CA 94110

Quality is Job One

I discovered the meaning of "quality" at Ford when I began to work in the quality control department. Quality really is Job One. Anything that is difficult to fix, or isn't easily visible, was put off until a mythical date sometime in the future-Job One.

The true meaning of "Quality is Job One" isn't apparent to most people, least of all the Ford-loving Consumer Reports editors. But, in quality control, when nobody knows when something will be fixed, and it's not something that's immediately apparent—the date on the problem assessment reports immediately became JOB ONE. Not 1990, not even 1991—just that mythical JOB ONE. It isn't so much a date as a commitment to the future, to a glorious time when Ford would care about quality and would fix everything up. Well, everything customers could see, anyway. Quality control is strongest where customers can see it—that's why Consumer Reports always loves Ford. The count the surface defects, the ones they can see, and sell the car the same year they buy it. For follow-ups they rely on surveys that any statisticians worth their salt would laugh at.

Back to Ford. I won't tell you about the every-day occurrences, although there was a time in one plant where a car made it all through the line before someone discovered the Ford emblem had fallen off of the grille. (This is a major problem, much worse than when an Escort's brakes fell off during one of Consumer Reports' tests—an unprecedented experience).

I was talking to some of the engineers one day, and their complaints were typical—the turbochargers on the Escort GTs had died a year after they had bought the cars, and they weren't down with it. The only guy who was happy was a man whose Jeep's engine had died because it sucked the Ford carburetor's seals down the manifold. His car was covered by Jeep/Eagle/AMC/Chrysler. Ford's warranty seems to have the same quality as their cars—they'll fix it for you on that most holy of all days, the Day of Job One

Andrew Davis

Official Ballot Committee Report

We the undersigned members of the Ballot Committee duly elected by the Chicago General Membership Branch examined the 38 ballots that arrived in the Chicago General Headquarters by deadline. There were no ballots disqualified

Question I: On Duplicate Ballots
Yes: 19
No: 19

The referendum fails.

Question II: On Charges
Yes: 20
No: 16
No Vote: 2

The referendum passes.

Question III: On Changing Convention
Yes: 22
No: 16

The referendum passes

Question IV: On Holding Convention/Conference

General Convention: 24
Conference: 10
Neither: 2
No Vote: 2

The IWW will hold a General Convention in 1989

Carlos Cortez X321826
Frederic S. Lee X332955 May 16, 1989

Question V: On Date of General Convention

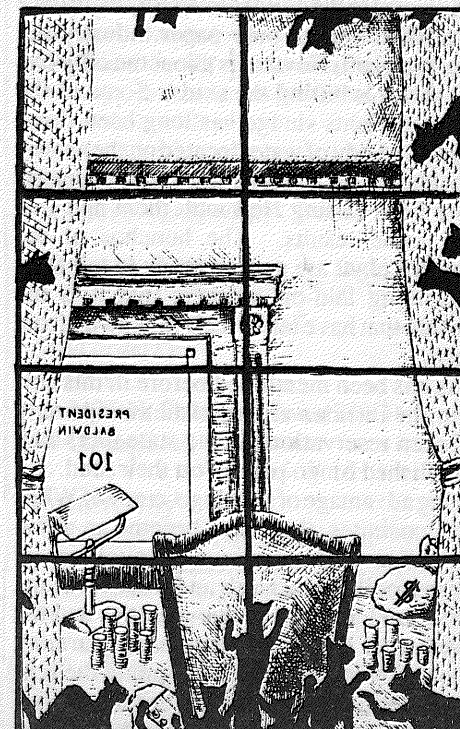
Sept. 2-3: 22
Sept. 9-10: 5
Sept. 16-17: 3
Sept. 23-24: 2
No Vote: 6

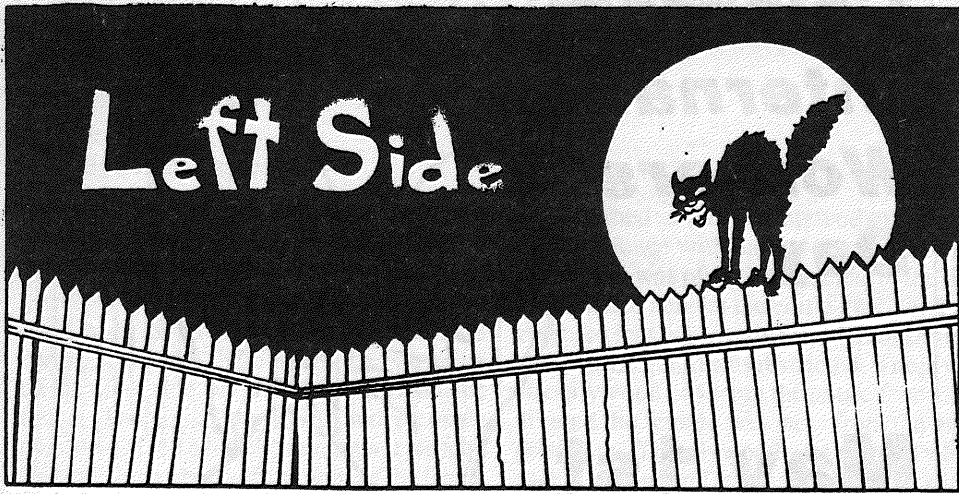
The 1989 IWW General Convention will be held on September 2-3, 1989

Question VI: On Convention Participation

Mass Membership: 36
Delegate Only: 2

The 1989 IWW General Convention will be a mass membership convention.





Those of us who have been near an Indian Reservation or who have otherwise encountered the non-Indian people who live near one know that no matter how far north of the Mason-Dixon line they may be, the Southern cracker has nothing on them when it comes to racism and outright racial harassment. These days South Dakota has been nudged out by the state of Wisconsin for the distinction of being known as the Mississippi of the North. This is something that your scribe who has lived in Wisconsin has known for a long time but only recently, has this little phenomenon gained national attention.

For centuries the Chippewa people have supplemented their larder by spearfishing in Wisconsin lakes which was one of the few rights guaranteed them by treaty upon the loss of their original land base. While the Chippewas are numerically insignificant and the amount of fish they take in which their traditional spearfishing methods do not even make a significant fraction of the tons of fish obliterated each year by sports fishermen and the commercial fishers, they are somehow blamed for the decrease of fish in Wisconsin's lakes.

Along with pollution and the worsening economy the commercial sports fishing industry is taking a beating and a lot of the ordinary working stiffs are having a bit of a hard time because much of their livelihood depends on that industry. The honchos of this industry cover up their own bungling by telling these people that the fish are being depleted because the Indians are doing so damn much spearfishing. Now the Wisconsin version of the "Po' White Thrash" are visiting upon these poor Chippewa fishermen, women, and children all sorts of physical harassment. The state of Wisconsin, ever mindful of its public image and the need to not encourage any further drop in tourism have state troopers stationed at these fishing sites or there would have been a massacre of the Chippewa.

However the governor of that liberal and progressive state is seeking to have that treaty guaranteeing spearfishing rights overturned and another "sacred treaty" will join the trail of broken treaties. Likewise are the Indians being blamed for the depletion of deer in the Northwoods but the truth is that the deer taken by the Indian peoples, in season or out of season, is but a fraction of the deer killed on the highways by vehicular traffic, not to mention the amount of deer killed by White "sportsmen".

Adjacent to the city of Green Bay there once flourished a large pulp paper industry but now the giant, Howard is about the only one left and it is hitting the skids. Some of the Howard plants sludge has long been flowing into a body of water located on the nearby Oneida Indian Reservation and the Oneida have been raising Hell with them and getting some results. The honchos of the Howard plant are getting ready to tell their impending laid-off workers that it is the Oneida that have taken their jobs away from them.

As has been mentioned before in this column, the Oneida were one of the most poverty stricken reservations in the state until they established bingo parlors on their land. By taking advantage of the bingo-crazy of White Wisconsinites, they have become an affluent nation with their own hospital, senior citizen facilities, schools and what have you. Their land lies within two counties and the honchos of these two counties are forming a coalition in the hopes of stopping the economic growth of the Oneida, despite the fact that, in actuality, the Oneida have been

contributing in excess of millions of dollars to the neighboring economy. Despite that, there are still people who are afraid to drive through Oneida land.

Alas, Fellow Worker reader, despite all you may have heard about the liberal and progressive state of Wisconsin, it is definitely the Mississippi of the North!

Let it not be said that the Capitalist System discriminates against Indians or other racial minorities. When the occasion arises, it can joyfully give the Khazook to its own people as well. On a recent visit to Youngstown, Ohio, your scribe had seen a great change compared to what he had seen there over twenty years before. The steel mills have been shut down and many of them dismantled. One of the locals told me she had seen some people break down in tears when wreckers were dismantling the steel mills. There might be those who would wonder why anyone would get emotional over the disappearance of something as ugly as steel mills, but only because they have no realization of how much these steel mills were a part of those people's lives.



Living in Youngstown and the steel mill neighborhood in general, one's life was safely preordained. One would either be working at a steel mill or be married to one who was. One would know where one's children or grandchildren would be working after reaching their maturity. They would be working in the steel mills or be married to someone who was. There was that bit of economic as well as an emotional security for the ordinary working stiffs living there.

The mill owners found it convenient to go elsewhere, to greener pastures where labor is cheaper and more pliable and the people of the Rust Belt can go to the warm place. The media, of course, bravely asserts that those who have lost their jobs in the steel industry can find plenty of opportunity in the "service" industry, otherwise known as "Mcjobs". The same media also tells of the former steel mill workers finding opportunity of going into their own business and give some glowing examples of those who have while glossing over so quickly over the fact that upwards of 90% of new businesses go on the rocks within the first year of operation.

We know of course, that the social darwinists will have a glib answer for that. To yours truly, it seems a damn shame that a great mind such as Darwin was reviled so much by the reactionaries in his own day must now suffer the indignity of masking that rationalizations of today's reactionaries.

Under Capitalism, it makes no difference if you are Indian, sixth generation White Anglo-Saxon, Black, red, white or blue, you can all be recipients of Capitalism's khazzok! In case you are wondering what khazook means, just ask your friendly neighborhood Palestinian grocer, but don't ask him in front of his family!

C.C. Redcloud

Bus Drivers Take More Concessions

Six years ago, bus drivers working for Illini Swallow—a regional bus line serving several small cities in central Illinois and bordering states—agreed to concessions in order to save their jobs and the keep the company's pay rates "competitive." Under that contract, drivers' pay dropped from 32 cents a mile to 28 cents a mile, gradually rising to 30 cents in early 1989.

Fourteen union drivers (members of the Amalgamated Transportation Union) struck April 11th when management demanded a new round of concessions, arguing that pay cuts at Greyhound meant that salaries at Illini Swallow were no longer "competitive." (Watch that word "competitive;" it means the bosses are competing to see which can work us the hardest and pay us the least.) Among the concessions management demanded were a return to the 28 cent mileage rate (the same salary drivers made back in 1978).

The strike forced Illini Swallow to cancel all regular routes in order to focus on its highly profitable charter and tour business. Two non-union drivers and more than 50 part-time drivers (none of whom are eligible to join the union) scabbed to keep charters running, though at least one part-timer refused to cross picket lines.

Two picketing strikers were run down by scabs during the 11-day strike, which ended when the union tentatively approved a contract which reportedly maintained working rules and contract language intact, but contained the pay cuts management had demanded. Workers, however, are quite bitter, having believed management's prom-

ises back in 1983, only to find the bosses coming back for another grab at their paychecks. One driver told reporters that he wouldn't believe anything Swallow general manager Nabil Signora said "even if he was standing on a wholestack of bibles."

And so it goes. Greyhound bus workers originally accepted concessions after a bitter strike, in order to save their jobs and to remain "competitive" with other bus lines. Illini Swallow workers (like workers at other small bus lines) were then forced into concessions to match the Greyhound givebacks. So Greyhound workers took another round of concessions, and once again Illini Swallow follow suit. Wages are now down to 1978 level (and much, much lower if inflation were taken into account), and there's no reason to believe they won't fall lower still before workers wake up, organize, and put a stop to this vicious cycle.

Swallow management was able to wait workers out because it had a large supply of non-union part-time drivers to keep its most profitable line of business—the charters and tours—running. The non-union driver who refused to cross picket lines to drive the University of Illinois's Russian Folk Orchestra to an out-of-town concert had a clearer conception of what unionism, of what solidarity, is all about than do most union members (and virtually all union "leaders") today. If workers want to stop these concessions before we run out of things to concede, we're going to have to organize—and fight—as a class. Otherwise, we can only look forward to defeat after defeat.

JB

An Appeal to North American Stevedores

Under the dictatorial leadership of Mrs. Thatcher, the Conservative Government on April 6th, 1989, declared open war on the UK dockers in announcing the abolition of the Dock Labour Scheme which gives dockers security of employment, guaranteed fall-back pay, and a job for life.

No other advanced industrial country in the post-war world has dared to carry out such a draconian measure. But it could easily be taken up by other countries anxious to cut the cost of freight handling. So far they have been content to nibble away at the edges (like the Contenamar Company in Spain with its private work force) but a major success would give Port Employers everywhere the confidence to go in for the kill. Already the Labour Government in Australia has proposed to abolish their Dock Labour Scheme and replace a generally older work force with younger, more able-bodied men they can exploit more effectively. Indeed, one can discern on the horizon the possibility of an international dockers' strike.

A few months ago we wrote to the Spanish dockers warning them of what was likely to happen in the UK. The letter was published in La Estiba (Number 41, Nov 1988-c/f photocopy) the newspaper of the Spanish dockers. Little did we realize that we were

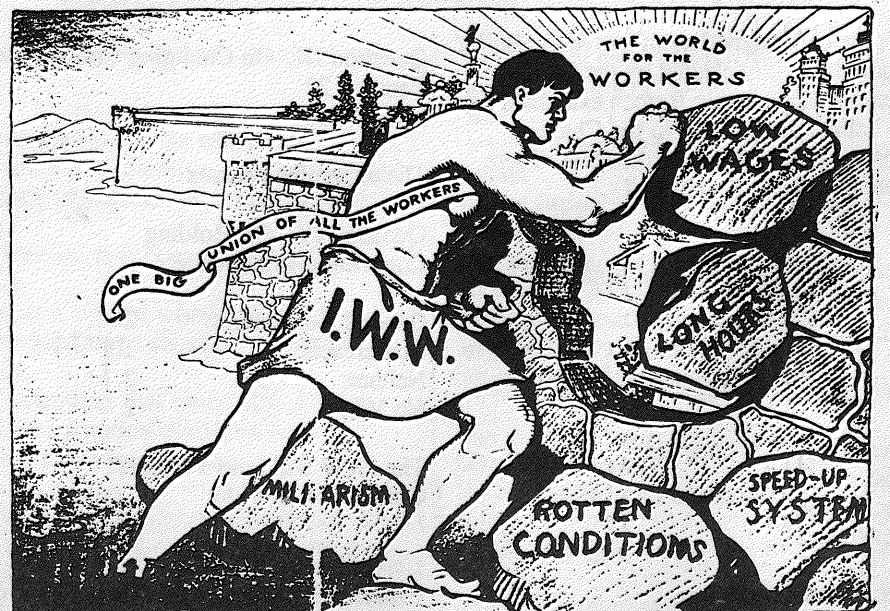
nearly 100% right. In that letter also, we warned that the American stevedores were next in the firing line. Make no mistake buddy, if the Limeys go down today, it's the Yanks next.

For quite a number of years, stevedores' job security around all major North American ports has become increasingly eroded as new port installations have opened well away from main terminals (e.g. Chesapeake Bay on the eastern seaboard) threatening the hard fought for job guarantees of American stevedores. And don't kid yourself, the New York, San Francisco, or New Orleans Port Authorities, etc, will be ardently hoping their equivalents in London/Liverpool, etc, win this crucial fight so they can attack American stevedores more easily.

Now that cut-price, three dollar bill jerk, Frank Lorenzo, Chief of Eastern Airlines has taken something of a fall, don't let de-regulation overtake stevedores and give it a new lease on life.

Organizing a total boycott of all cargo/container shipping bound for the UK is in the interest of all American stevedores and such support is pivotal to dockers in British ports. How About It!

Dave 'n' Stu'
London



Sweatshops Return to Britain

Despite some twenty-three adjustments to the method in which unemployment is measured it still remains a very severe problem in Britain with over two million "officially" recognized as being out of work. Welfare benefits are paid at an absolute minimum and rather than accept this, many join a rapidly expanding, but largely invisible, workforce. This workforce is primarily found on the Council Housing Estates on the outskirts of the larger cities or else with the inner city area itself where unemployment, poverty and human misery are rife. These homeworkers, or outworkers as they are sometimes called, currently number about a million and a half. They are mostly women, often single mothers or caring for dependent relatives. In addition a significant proportion of homeworkers are Asian women whose language difficulties restrict their employment prospects. Their plight is desperate. They are not organized in a trades union of any sort and cannot expect to earn much more than 50 to 70 pence an hour on average. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, at Article 23, states that, "everyone who works has the right to just, favorable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity." Meanwhile this present Conservative administration are preparing to abolish the Wages Councils which afford some small protection to the low paid worker.

The employer is able to set "take it or leave it" terms because they have a limitless supply of takers who have no other option available. At best the homemaker is paid 80p an hour for the more skilled tailoring work but remember they are responsible for their own overheads, heating, lighting and, of course, an industrial sewing machine, which costs at least 300 pounds, for such work carried out in a factory making use of the employers' machinery and so on. The Wage Council has set the rate at 1.98 pound per hour. At the opposite end of the scale are "packers" who earn pitiful sums of money.

Space permits me to mention a few examples of homeworking, however these graphically illustrate its exploitative nature.

Those who knit "exclusive" mohair jumpers, much favored by the daughters of the wealthy, and which commonly retail for between 90 to 150 pounds in London, receive a mere 4 pounds for each one they make (they knit an average of three every two weeks). Whilst the current piece rate for a skirt varies between 40 and 60 pence. Coat and jacket linings pay between 10 and 20 pence.

Those unfortunate enough to be "packers" earn considerably less than this. For example women workers in Halifax (West Yorkshire) receive precisely one pence for packing a selection of 20 Christmas cards, twenty-four cash packs make up a box which on average took one hour to complete. These packs were on sale at branches of Woolworth Pk. for 1.69 pounds each. A spokesperson for Woolworths expressed surprise and the belief that homeworkers packing for Woolworth's suppliers earned more like 2.50 pounds an hour. Investigations were prom-

ised, however the spokesperson suggested that Woolworths would not normally expect to be responsible for the actions of their subcontractors.

Employers, high profile retailers, like for example, Top Shop, C & A, Littlewoods, are primarily concerned with quality control and whilst they employ inspectors to carry out this function, they only seldom concern themselves with the actual working conditions in the workshops.

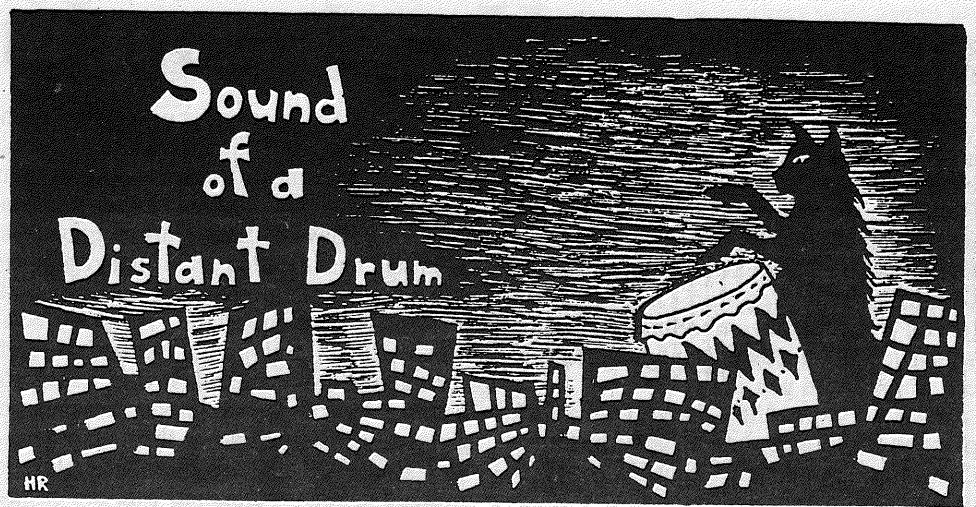
There have been many serious accidents involving homeworkers, including the death of a two year old child who died when a pile of mail order catalogues his mother was packing collapsed on him. A particular type of glue used by homeworkers for fixing felt onto piano hammers has been found to contain benzene which is thought to cause leukemia. In theory therefore the Health and Safety Executive should be able to intervene to ensure at least that the working conditions of homeworkers are satisfactory. In practice, however, there are too few H & SE inspectors to carry out such checks and many have adopted the view that, whilst they have responsibility for places of employment, but where this is also someone's home this is discounted.

Established trades unions have so far been unable to offer much protection to homeworkers. However, the National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers (NUTGW) twice tried to organize the predominantly Asian women homeworkers in the West Midlands. The existence of the NUTGW was publicized in local mosques, initially, by male relatives then, more directly, by Asian women representatives but generally such efforts have so met with little success.

Groups of homeworkers, for example in my native West Yorkshire, are beginning to campaign for protection and better all round employment conditions, but they can expect little support from the Conservative Government. Indeed, many homeworkers are themselves fearful of any organization because they are often working illegally, claiming welfare and avoiding tax. It is a vicious circle that the employer is able to exploit to their full advantage, particularly as both the eligibility for and value of welfare payments are constantly being eroded. In addition, the Wages Councils are soon to be abolished. Fear of losing work also makes the homemaker extremely reluctant to challenge the employer.

The Labour Party, the traditional opposition, are still not a credible alternative to Ms Thatcher and the Conservatives and look set to lose the next general election. They remain seemingly devoid of any policy. Perhaps they could begin by campaigning for good quality, readily available nursery facilities, for welfare benefits which enable the recipient to live decently and for reversal of the Conservatives' employment and trades union legislation. Unfortunately Mr. Kinnock seems determined not to give a lead.

Dan Czunys



The evil world of Machiavellian politics is of continuing interest to us who are Simon pure, accepting the fact that in our own daily living we are as corrupt as the average soap box politician, that is with the exception of myself. As Oscar Wilde wrote, "Men kill the thing they love," and to prove the old one liner right, Britain's wine sipping high camp Tories have ceased plotting in the private rooms of the St. James clubs and are now openly saying in full page spreads in Britain's rightwing national newspapers that it is time for Ma Thatcher to pack her silverware, take down the plastic flying ducks off the wall of Number 10 Downing Street and in good old Stalinist style be put out to graze in Britain's House of Lords. It is true that Uncle Joe hived off those members of his court not worthy of the bullet in the neck in that lonely basement by sending them off to run some small town power station in the heartland Siberia, but we British are more sophisticated in that once trapped with all those company directors, trade union ex-bosses and lost Labour Party firebrands, reputations die. The reason that the high ranking Tories wish to dump Ma Thatcher is heartless and logical in that they hold that she has done their filthy work in breaking Britain's union and destroying Britain's Welfare Society and now she would be an embarrassment to them in the next national election.

One must now act out the mummer's role of the mindless unbiased observer chanting Cassandra style as unpaid Greek chorus whether the old bat will fight and retain power or die under the voting daggers of her life long loving friends in candle lit conference at private dinners. But then comrades, this is not peculiar to Britain's high camp Tories. For us, Britain's unskilled labouring class, there are more urgent problems for three major strikes are being hawked around by the union militants, and at this moment in time, it has rank and file support. Out of the second world war Britain's dockers won the end to the beastly and corrupt system of casual labour for a scheme that guaranteed them a secure job within the docks throughout their working lives. It was open to corruption, but like U.S.A. government employees and Pentagon military top brass, it was a job for life. Ma Thatcher has now abolished the Dock Labour Scheme with a return to the animal style of dock gate casual labour and the dock workers will be forced to take strike action. The dock employees deliberately refused to discuss it with the dock union for

that good ol' Machiavellian reason that if the dock union strikes against Ma Thatcher's ending of the Dock Labour Scheme, then it will be an illegal political strike justifying the calling in of troops and all the rest of the planned set up. But if the dock employers sit down and talk with the dock workers, then it is a legal strike with pickets, police charges, wood burning braziers, and leftwing militants trying to horn in. Ma Thatcher and the employers want a political strike so that they can break the dockers' union as they broke the miner union.

Meanwhile at this moment, all the legal vultures on all sides are pouring over their briefs to decide if it will be an industrial dispute or a political mini-revolution aimed at the very fabric of the Free World and it's share owning democracy. Voting by the rank and file is next week comrades so again we must wait. And within London, as the gentle, sad-eyed American tourists drift in like the first flowers of spring to be plucked in their turn, London waits to see if the threatened/promised public transport strike will take place given the voting of the rank and file. It involves for the first time the Underground and bus workers and it is over money, promotion, and working conditions, and that will be decided next week by the workers voting slip.

Already, the rightwing national press have found their scare story for screams of horror in the suburbs for it is claimed that the Underground strike is to be master/mistress minded by a group of 15 activists who meet in various pubs hence the press name of the "Shepherds Pie" activists. It is "claimed" that they constantly change their meeting places, pay the printing costs out of their own pockets, and use passwords which, if true, can be no more than a throwback to the Tolpuddle Martyrs farm labourers strike of the early days of the Polish Solidarity movement.

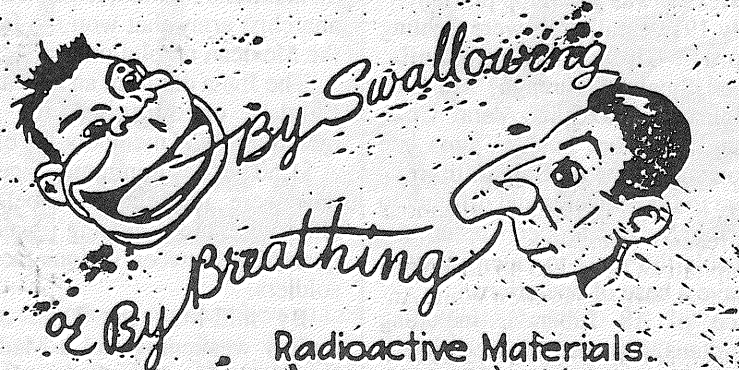
Be it false or fair, workers in Ma Thatcher's Britain fear for their freedom or their jobs and within the next two weeks the dock and transport workers in Britain will decide what action to take. The doctors, High Court Judges, and teachers in Britain threatened strike action and, as always with the middle class, ratted at the last moment and now these same people are waiting as in every society throughout history for the unskilled labouring class to fight their battle.

Arthur Moyses

Activist Returns to Nevada Test Site

The first time I went to the Nevada Test Site, I stood over a nuclear weapon, and was arrested for trespassing. I had hiked about 50 miles through the desert to reach ground zero, the place where the bomb was buried in preparation for a test. I decided to continue my protest last April, when I returned to the Test Site to participate in a large demonstration at the entrance to the Mercury Highway (a road that runs through the Test Site and the Test Site town of Mercury). I hadn't planned any specific action. The thirteen hour car trip brought back memories of my first trip to the Test Site. I remembered how good I felt about the example I was about to set, hoping that I would inspire others to invade the Test Site. In past years, those arrested at the Test Site took several risks: six months in jail, large fines, radioactive contamination, injury, and death. The number of people arrested for trespass-

INTERNAL RADIATION IS RECEIVED



ing at the Test Site has been so great that Nye county has stopped prosecuting trespassers. Now the risk of spending six months in jail and paying large fines has been replaced by the risk of a beating at the hands of the

Wackenhut security forces that guard the Site.

When I arrived at the peace camp, along highway 95, opposite Mercury, it was occupied by hundreds of people. All through the

afternoon and evening the population of the camp increased. In some ways it was like a reunion of peace marchers and back-country activists. Even though most of these people were strangers, I felt a sense of community. The Las Vegas based American Peace Test had done a good job of organizing the camp: we were fed by Seeds of Peace (donations were requested but no payment was required); there was a recycling collection center where you could separate your trash in a socially responsible manner; there was live music everywhere; and a large stage had been constructed on the other side of highway 95, near the cattle guard that marks the entrance to the Mercury Highway.

Saturday morning, I walked across the highway to the stage where a large crowd was listening to music and speeches. One of the speakers urged everyone to get a permit from the Shoshone Indians before trespassing. The Shoshone Indians, whose land is occupied by the Test Site, dispensed these

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Honduran Unionist Speaks

Gladys Lanza is the highest ranking woman labor unionist in Honduras and an executive board member of the United Federation of Honduran workers (FUTH) and an activist with the Honduran Women's Committee for Peace and President of Coordinating Committee of Popular Organizations (CCOP) which is an umbrella organization which brings together student groups, teachers, unions, and peasants.

This interview with Gladys Lanza took place on 4/2/89 and was conducted by Carlos Cortez and Penny Pixler of the IWW collective.

GL: The purpose of this tour is to inform the US people of the situation that we live with in our country: the problems that have been caused by the occupation of the United States army and the Contra and the struggle that our people have been carrying out against this occupation. After informing the North American people, we need to build solidarity with our struggle. It is very important for the North American people to understand the strategic role that our country is playing in the war that the US administration has been carrying out against all the Central American countries.

It is understandable that you may not know much about Honduras, since the media are controlled by the US embassy in our country so the information will not get out on an international level. For a long time our country was known as the "Banana Republic," due to the fact that the banana companies occupied our country like an enclave. This is one of the strong basis of the economy in our country. There are also mining companies that are transnational. These transnationals: the banana and mining companies, control 80% of our economy. And this gives them political power. For many years they controlled our policies.

But the situation for us changed with the triumph of the Nicaraguan revolution. The US government decided to change our status as a banana republic to turn it into a military enclave. The US army arrived in 1981 and has installed 18 military bases in our country. Of course our geographical location is very important. We share borders with El Salvador, Nicaragua and Guatemala. We are also very close to Panama. We occupy an important strategic geographical location for the US government. These 18 bases represent a whole war strategy against the people who are struggling in Central America.

From 1981 until the present date, 150,000 US soldiers have passed through our national territory, carrying out 52 military maneuvers.

The arrival of the US troops is an offense to us. But we are not just talking about a violation of our constitution and a violation of our territory, but also the violation of our women and children and the ecological damage that has been produced in the carrying out of these military maneuvers. Especially in the areas where the military bases have been installed, prostitution has been on the rise and venereal diseases which were unknown to us before have proliferated, such as AIDS and the Flower of Vietnam, which is gonorrhea resistant to penicillin.

With the arrival of the troops has come the use of our children by the soldiers for sexual practices. The teachers in the elementary schools in these regions denounced the fact that children have been coming to school with signs of venereal diseases in their mouths.

Eighty-eight percent of our population suffers from some degree of malnutrition. Seventy percent of pregnant women suffer from anemia. The infant mortality rate in Honduras is the third highest in all of Latin

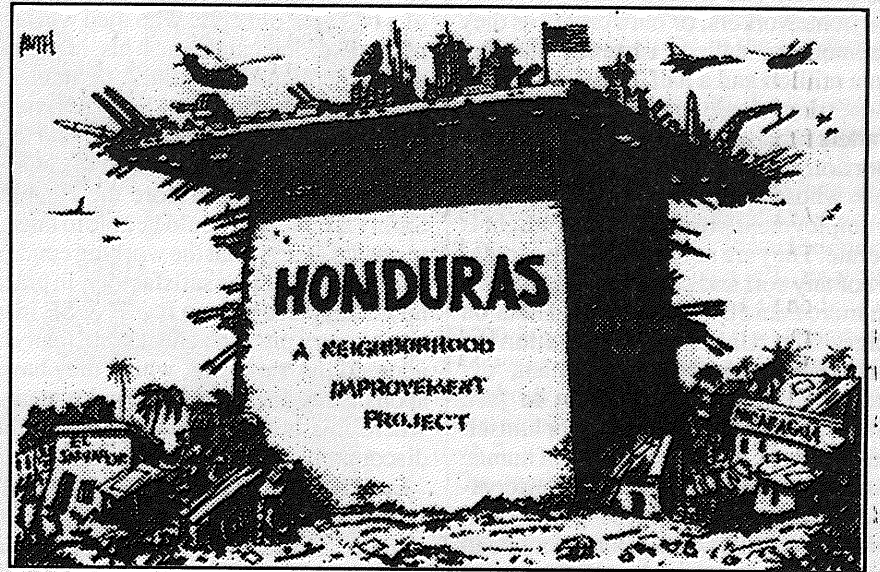
America. Our infant mortality rate in Honduras is 117 deaths for every thousand live births. It is estimated that by the year 2000, one third of our children will suffer some degree of blindness as a result of malnutrition.

Nevertheless, we have had our health budget cut because we have to contribute to the support of these military maneuvers and to maintain the troops in our country and to support hospitals for the Contra which our people have no access to. The Contra have

Our women have to give birth on the floors of hospitals for the lack of beds, and for the lack of medical attention and the lack of medicines. Sometimes they give birth on the streets because they don't even have money for transportation to get to the hospitals. Nevertheless the Contra enjoy all kinds of privileges.

PP: I gather that the Electrical Union is essentially urban. What support do they give to the campesinos?

GL: The peasants are the ones who suffer



very good hospitals and doctors to attend to their wounded. And now the government has turned over a section of one of the largest and best health care centers in the country for the use of the Contra. In order to accommodate it, the health care center has been remodeled to receive helicopters. This means faster health care will be given to the Contra.

the most in our country. Agriculture is the main production in our economy, but it doesn't produce enough because the best lands are owned by the transnational companies. The agrarian reform program right now is frozen because of pressure brought to bear by AID (Agency for International Development) and the International Monetary Fund. So the situation has become even more

The Mexican Revolution in Baja California

By 1910 the situation in Mexico had long been desperate for all but a tiny percentage of its people. Porfirio Diaz had been president of Mexico since 1876, and the ruling class of the country had been entrenched even longer. Most of the population was in debt peonage: bound to their masters by laws stating that they could not leave a hacienda or other workplace while owing money to their employers. Wages were often lower than living expenses and interest rates charged on their debts were typically in hundreds of percentage points per year. Death by exhaustion and starvation was not uncommon even among those who had regular work.

In 1908 there had been as many as 80 small armed rebellions in Mexico, some spontaneous and some organized by the Liberal Party, which had, by that time, come to be influenced by anarchist thought and practice. By 1910 the situation was so bad that a section of the ruling class wanted reforms; they were led by Madero, who owned about 5 million acres of land and had an uncounted number of debt-slaves in his service. He advocated a switch from the Diaz dictatorship to a democracy with rotating presidencies, but not economic or social reform. Predictably, he lost the "election" of 1910, was imprisoned by Diaz, escaped to the U.S., and called for a rebellion beginning in November, 1910.

Both Liberal (anarchist) and pro-Madero guerrilla groups were operating in a number of states in December of 1910. The Liberal headquarters was in Los Angeles, California. The acknowledged leaders, including Ricardo Flores Magon, had just

been released from U.S. prisons. Magon had been born in an Indian commune, spent most of his time in jail for opposing the Diaz regime, was exiled to the U.S. in 1903, and began studying anarchism at about the same time. Around 1905 most of the conservative reformists left the Liberal Party, leaving anarchists and moderates in charge. They published the periodical *Regeneracion*, which was smuggled into Mexico.

In 1910 problems between moderates and anarchists in the party's *junta* became increasingly severe. The moderates wanted an alliance with Madero. The junta (basically a central committee) decided on calling for seizure of land and factories, and a neutral stance towards Madero. Typical of the anarchist influence was the article "To Arms, To Arms, for Land and Liberty" which attacked the idea of private land ownership and advocated seizure of the land by the peasants. Organizing of guerilla bands in Mexico was given top priority.

By early 1911 small units were fighting in Sonora, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Tamaulipas, Sinaloa, Durango, San Luis Potosi, Jalisco, Tlaxcala, Vera Cruz, Tabasco and Yucatan. but the junta had decided to concentrate on Baja California. It was close to Los Angeles and difficult to approach from Mexico proper. Capturing it would enable the junta to enter Mexican soil and have a base of operations.

A force of 18 Liberals, including several Indians, captured Mexicali in the Imperial Valley on January 27, 1911, without a fight. The townspeople gave support as Liberals had been there organizing. This was the first people's victory of the Mexican Revolution. However, a period of inactivity followed

control the rebel army in Mexicali, which was now made up mainly of professional soldiers and IWW members. The experience soldiers figured that Mayol was no threat, and that capturing Tijuana would enable them to capture Ensenada, the capital, and thus control the peninsula.

Probably 100 men defended Tijuana. The rebels advanced with 220. It was a fierce battle ending in a rebel victory on May 9th. ON May 8th Indian rebels, who preferred autonomy to working with the Americans, captured San Quintin. This was the Liberal high point. Only 10% of the rebels who captured Tijuana were Mexicans. Reportedly most San Diegans looked favorably on the rebels. Thousands had watched the battle from just across the border in the US.

Magon stayed in Los Angeles, a major mistake. If he and the junta had gone to Tijuana and convinced the army to march on mainland Mexico, it might have been an anarchist army that won the first phase of the Mexican revolution.

The Junta did print an appeal "Take the Land," encouraging its followers, including IWW members, to colonize Baja. A \$1.50 per day minimum wage and 8-hour day were imposed in rebel-held Baja. Otherwise, the "uprising" was marked by quarrelling between various factions of the soldiers.

By mid-May the Diaz regime was rapidly weakening and a Madero victory seemed near. Diaz resigned May 25th. Magon called for continued fighting for economic change, but massive popular support for this had temporarily disappeared. People hoped Madero would change things. Meanwhile, the rebel army

in Tijuana swelled, to include Joe Hill, about 40 Indians, 30 Mexicans from Juarez and about 50 Italian anarchists. It included 350 men by June, but more than half were non-Mexicans, and of those more than half were adventurer soldiers. There was also a serious ammunition shortage.

Before Diaz handed over power to Madero, the Magonistas were doing relatively well elsewhere, fighting in Nuevo Leon, Chihuahua and Sonora (areas of Northern Mexico to the east of Baja). The rebel army in Mexicali had swollen to about 100: roughly a third Mexican, a third Indian, and a third IWW members. Within days of replacing Diaz, Madero was ready to restore order in Baja, having received permission from the US government to ship his troops US territory to attack the rebels from behind. Greatly outnumbered, the Mexicali rebels disbanded without fighting.

General Vega finally took 500 men to Tijuana. The battle took place on June 22nd; it lasted three hours. The rebels were routed; 106 non-Mexicans fled into the US, during which the rebel army swelled in size partly due to more Mexicans and natives (Indians) joining, but many US IWW members and white soldiers of fortune also joined. Little changed in the way the town was organized. No land belonging to Americans was seized. The governor of Baja eventually marched to Mexicali with 100 soldiers and was easily defeated by the rebels on February 15th. The US had responded by sealing off the border to prevent the rebels from obtaining food and arms. The Liberal Junta responded by proclaiming the revolution, but concentrated on gathering support in the US and Europe, rather than getting arms to the

Honduran Unionist Speaks continued from page 6

complicated because the peasants don't have sufficient land, neither in quality nor in quantity.

There are two very strong peasant organizations. One is affiliated with the AFL-CIO and the other which has a classist (peasant) tendency. There are also other smaller peasant organizations. The important thing is that the peasants in the countryside are better organized than the workers in the cities. There is one single peasant federation which all the peasant organizations belong to, something that we workers in the cities have not achieved, perhaps because they feel the repression and hunger even more strongly than we do or perhaps they have been able to rise above the ideological influences. Achieving unity is what allows people to resolve their problems. So we, the Electrical Workers, are an urban union but we support all the efforts of the peasants and the application of the agrarian reform and their taking of the land.

We know that the peasants are now taking the land by force. This means risking their lives. The landowners and the transnationals have created the state security apparatus. Many members of the apparatus are Contras and they attack and assassinate the peasants: especially the activists in the popular organizations who promote the taking of the land.

Two years ago when the peasants were trying to take land owned by one of the banana companies, the Honduran army got news of it. They entered with their blood thirsty attitude and took many of the campesinos prisoners. One of the peasant women (who was taken prisoner) had just given birth to a baby one month before. Her name is Margarete Murillo, a peasant leader, very beloved in her organizations. (She) has never been able to tell us all that they did to her because of the terrible psychological damage she suffered.

We (the Electrical Workers Union) are affiliated with an organization that has a class-conscious attitude. Another militant union is the medical union which is very combative and which carried out a strong strike this year in order to improve their salaries.

Another union that controls the landing strips and the roads is the transportation union. They have struggled very hard to survive because the government has tried to destroy them.



The government is repressing the worker's movement more strongly at the moment because we are struggling against the measures being imposed by the International Monetary Fund. Our union is struggling against the privatization, the passing into private hands, of state industries. (The electrical generational industry) is a state enterprise and the IMF is demanding that it be sold to a transnational company that is interested in buying it with the pretext of making it solvent.

The transnational companies are developing a policy of what they call "solidarismo" It is a phenomenon that has been developing in the Central American region strongly and has weakened and almost destroyed the workers' movement in Costa Rica. Because of its results in Costa Rica, the bosses have extended it to Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala. The only country where it doesn't exist is Nicaragua. It was developed in order to weaken the unions by buying off the workers.

In Honduras, in the mining transnational, the union was destroyed by solidarismo. The transnational offered the workers money to break their affiliation with the union - this is the organizing of soli-

darismo. The company offered to develop recreation centers for the workers, parties and picnics, outings and supermarkets where they could buy especially electrical appliances. Thus they destroyed the mining union. The workers permitted the organization of this solidarismo movement and then reopened with the name of another transnational, a subsidiary of the first. They began to re-hire the workers who had been let go, but selected the youngest and those who had not been active in the union. Now they are paid half the salary they were paid when the union was active. There is no job safety in the



mines. They don't have the health benefits they had before, neither for themselves nor their families. They live in terrible conditions. It has been a lesson to other workers to make them understand what the implications of this solidarismo movement are.

The transnational banana companies have already begun to do the same thing. Recently they have given to each of the thousands of banana workers a thousand dollars. Then, an internal front was created within

the union, but the workers were aware that this maneuver was being carried out and declared a strike. The company demanded that the strike be declared illegal. Now the workers are being sued by the transnational. The company is demanding the payment of \$32 million, the suspension of the legal representation of the union for four years.

PP: When did these strikes take place?

GL: The miner's union was broken in 1987 and the banana strike took place last year.

PP: What minerals were the miners mining?

GL: In our country, we don't know what kind of minerals they're taking out because the government has allowed the mining companies to take out without any control. We know that gold and silver are mined. When the mining union existed, one of their demands was to know precisely what was being mined and taken out of the country. Gold and silver is not all they take out. There is some mineral used in building nuclear arms. The (miner's) union thought it was uranium. They denounced this and demanded an investigation on the part of the government.

PP: If solidarismo is active in so many countries, who is behind it.

GL: As always, international capitalism. Solidarismo was born in the banana fields of Costa Rica. The banana companies there are the same ones as in Honduras: Castle & Cook whose subsidiary in Standard Fruits Co, and United Brands, whose subsidiary in Honduras is United Fruit Co., and Dole.

GL: We are very confident that we are going to win the solidarity of North American workers. The ones we have spoken to on this tour have given us a real feeling of sister and brotherhood. It doesn't matter if we speak a different language, we are equally exploited. This is the common language that we have. We are part of the world of the exploited people, and we constitute the force that is going to win out over the world of the exploiters.

Revolution continued from page 6

rebels or more propaganda into Mexico.

The third week of February, 1911, the US War Department ordered Brigadier General Tasker H. Bliss to personally check out the Imperial Valley. He talked to the rebels, the people on both sides of the border, and wealthy land owners. His report pointed out that no American property had been seized, that the population on both sides of the border was sympathetic to the rebels and that "pretty much all of the valuable agricultural land in the northern part of Mexican Southern California is understood to be in the hands of Americans."

The Liberals decided to send a small force to Chihuahua, and captured Guadalupe on February 11th. Madero had finally crossed the border into Mexico and attacked and defeated the Liberal army in Chihuahua after both rebel armies had fought the Mexican army to capture Zaragoza. (Madero attacked the Liberals because they refused to recognize him as the supreme rebel commander.) Magon attacked Madero in the press and said "all governments are bad, whether they be called absolute monarchies or constitutional republics." Villareal, a key junta member who wanted an alliance with Madero, resigned, and issued an anti-Magon manifesto.

After holding Mexicali against an attack by a well-equipped army of 500 Federal soldiers led by Colonel Mayon, who then retired to protect American-built dikes and canals further to the east, the rebels decided to occupy the rest of Baja, starting with Tijuana. This move was largely a result of the IWW presence in the rebel army. IWW members saw this as an opportunity to set up an autonomous free zone in Baja. They failed to realize that such an area would never be allowed to exist unless all of Mexico were free.

At this time Magon, and presumably the Junta, wanted rebels to attack Colonel Mayol, who was camping on the Bee River, and then to link up with the struggle in Mexico proper. However, they did not



Magon and other junta members in Los Angeles were arrested June 14th for violating neutrality laws. On June 22nd, 1912, the junta was found guilty and members were sentenced to one year and 11 months in prison.

The failure of the Liberal/anarchist rebellion may have been a foregone

conclusion, given the nature of Mexican society at the time, ranging from the almost universal illiteracy to the extreme concentration of wealth in the hands of a land-owning oligarchy. But with the benefit of hindsight it is easy to see many flaws in the Liberal Party, which can be attributed to inexperience. The liberals did not begin

switching from reformism to anarchism until 1905, and yet they started armed clashes with the government as early as 1908.

The most obvious problem was that they failed to establish a nation-wide network of propagandists. True, repression was severe, but simply printing a newspaper and occasionally smuggling it into the larger towns was insufficient given especially that most Mexicans and Indians were illiterate.

Another problem was a failure to work through anarchist principles, which resulted in an almost Leninist style of organization. The Junta did the thinking, and then informed the men in the field. Worse still, the junta resided in the US which meant it had difficulty both being aware of the situation in Mexico and getting its instructions through to its members. The failure of the junta to move to Baja even after it was captured is a sign of how great this isolation was.

The junta remained somewhat reformist in outlook. While it sometimes correctly urged the peasants to seize the land and reject the authority of any government, it also aimed its propaganda at intellectuals and frequently failed to state its anarchist principles in its newspaper, *Regeneracion*. In 1905 the party produced a program with a slogan of "Reform, Liberty and Justice," advocating education, land redistribution and a minimum wage. In the course of the actual fighting in 1911 many Liberal groups allowed themselves to be absorbed into the Maderista army.

Finally, the Liberals used the same tactics as the Maderistas in the revolution: creating a professional army that would liberate towns. This may at times be appropriate, but the aim should have been to create situations in which people would have seized their own towns or countryside. A full-time army could at best aid this process, it cannot replace it if the aim is to have an anarchist revolution.

Jack Straw

from "ideas & action"

Repression Mounts in El Salvador



Spray-painters take to the streets during the annual May Day march in San Salvador.

Travelling across Central America last fall, my attention was focused on El Salvador. Across all the other Central American countries, the developments in this small tumultuous country were riveting because the country is on the edge of revolution and already experiencing serious civil war. The FLMN has captured over 30% of available lands and is implementing serious social and economic reform in its zones of control.

The military repression is escalating. Especially of union leaders. There are two major union blocks: the National Unity of Salvadoran Workers (UNTS) which is El Salvador's largest grassroots labor and peasant movement, and UNOC, created by the CIA-infiltrated American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD). Interestingly, UNOC is coming closer to UNTS

because of the newly-elected Arena's party anti-labor campaign promises of privatizing banking, increasing agricultural exports and abolishing land reform program.

Two days after Cristiani's election, UNTS was surrounded for two weeks by military troops. On April 18-24, 13 union offices were surrounded. There have been abductions and disappearances as well: on April 22, Jorge Alberto Aberro, a member of the hospital and health care workers was abducted; on April 5, Cristina Gomez, a member of the teacher's union ANDES was abducted in front of her students, her body later found on the street killed by four bullets with acid spilled on it; Jorge Thomas Mazariego, member of the Telecommunications Union was abducted April 9, beaten and interrogated.

These killings and abductions are all part of the Arena party and the military strategy to crush the left, including the union movement. Earlier this year, the Vice-President of Legislative Assembly Ochoa, a prominent spokesperson for Arena said: "The methods of political solution are exhausted. Only violent means remain...Let us not kid ourselves-that's what the armed forces are there for...In 1945 the decision was taken to end a war by dropping atomic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki."

Sources: Alert: Focus on Central America Labor Report on Central America

Guerilla Flotilla Protests Log Exports

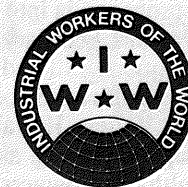
Having demonstrated on the ground and in the air, Earth First! took to the sea to protest what they call "the insane export of whole logs from the America's Pacific Northwest." On Tuesday, May 23rd at 12 Noon, Earth First! and others launched the "No Exports Flotilla" two miles south of Eureka.

The aquatic demonstration parade cruised over to the waters on front of the Allen & Finn/Humboldt Bay Forest Products log export dock for a guerilla theatre performance. At the same time, "landlubbers" rallied around the entrance to the log storage deck.

"Earth First! is taking on the log export issue for several reasons," according to spokesperson Larry Evans. "Over 4.6 billion board feet of whole/unmilled logs were shipped overseas from the Pacific Northwest last year. Based on the US Forest Service's employment multiplier of 3.5 million jobs per million board feet - that adds up to over 15,000 jobs exported from the region. It's obvious to us that timber industries' whining about environmentalist-caused mill closures is just another scam to obscure the truth."

The market for overseas log exports is booming with a 22% percent increase in volume shipped in 1988 over 1987. This has fueled accelerated liquidation of the forest ecosystems of the American Pacific Northwest.

"The myth that Earth First! and other environmental groups are out to deliberately create an economic depression in the Pacific Northwest is total nonsense," said Evans. "We all suffer the social disruptions caused by large scale layoffs. That's why our beef is with the economic system which encourages forest liquidation for profits and greed instead of reasonable need. If this is free trade, we need free trade like we need a hole in our head!"



From the Files of the FBI: IWW in Nicaragua

The following text is translated from a leaflet that was distributed in Nicaragua by the IWW in 1922. It was retrieved from the State Department recently where it was apparently sent by the American Vice Consul in Charge in Nicaragua and not declassified until 1965.

OUT OF A JOB!

FELLOW WORKER!

Are you without work? Are you one of those who walks in the streets looking vainly for a boss? Are you perhaps one of the thousands of unemployed who, in order to live, try to sell the only property that you possess?: your ability to work, without encountering anyone who will buy it? If you are one of the disinherited, and if not, you very soon you will be one being a member of the working class; then we have a message for you.

WHY ARE YOU OUT OF WORK?

Why are we in such an industrial crisis? Why do thousands and thousands of workers remain without work. Why are the factories closing while here as well as in foreign lands there is great need for every kind of merchandise and things to wear. Why do we find bread lines while for thousands of workers and producers in this country there reigns the worst misery while we have all the major resources, machines and means of production sufficient for satisfying all the necessities of all the people in the world. The reason is clear and simple.

TODAY PRODUCTION IS CARRIED ON WITH THE SOLE PURPOSE OF ACHIEVING THE GREATEST PROFIT POSSIBLE.

The difference between the wages of the worker and the total value realized in the sale of his product constitutes profit. The actual wage obtained by the workers today is about 15 cents for each dollar while the other 85 cents stays in the hands of the capitalists. This excess has been accumulating in such a manner that it threatens to choke present society and humanity, because there is no way out or relief in the present state of things. The stores are full of merchandise that its owners cannot sell at a desired price. All of Europe needs this merchandise, but they cannot pay for it. And the capitalists are not disposed to go on with the production in order to make these things even more expensive.

WE HAVE TO GO HUNGRY because there is too much food stored in warehouses. We walk around in rags, lacking the necessary clothing, because these things are held back in anticipation of better prices in the market. In short, we we find ourselves in worse conditions, hungry, without bread and butter, for the simple reason that we have produced too much for everything.

WHY

Today the capitalists who own the factories, the mines, the mills and other interests, feeling that they can't make enough profit to satisfy their insatiable thirst for gold; cannot afford our labor.

It seems like the world has gone crazy! The people go hungry because they have produced more than they can consume!

During the war, everyone was occupied, forced to work overtime and outside of regular working hours. It was considered a crime to be without work. There were dictated "laws against vagrancy." All those of the working class without work were subjected to certain penalties for being so.

They make laws to punish us for refusing to work when the bosses need our labor in order to make profits or fight their wars; but they don't make any laws to punish the bosses when they take away our only means of life, denying us the right to work and throwing us into the streets!

WHAT CAN WE DO IN THIS SITUATION?

Is it that we have to beg in order to live? Do we have to effectively dedicate ourselves to stealing in order to maintain our families? When the bosses refuse us work, they prevent us from making an honest living. Are we going to permit them to achieve their egotistical ends and put us outside the law, or force us to beg or steal in order to obtain our bread.

No, comrades; we are those who have built and perfected the industries and all methods of production and we can and must make use of the industries. Capitalism has demonstrated that it cannot maintain production under this system of profits. We must carry on production in order to supply the basic needs of the people.

HOW CAN WE DO IT?

We have struggled to lessen the hours of labor and to raise wages. These two things we have accomplished.

But, have we benefitted ourselves? No! When wages go up the prices for necessities, like housing and clothing, go up even more. Yesterday we went on strike to get the eight hour day. Today the bosses offer us a 24 hour week. Has our situation improved with any of this? Certainly not; things are getting worse.

We need to organize ourselves to get rid of the capitalist system.

Build the workers' organization to abolish once and for all the system of wage slavery.

We need to organize all the workers and producers in industry into One Big Union, in order to take possession of the earth and the machinery of production and use it for the common good.

The people have already experimented with reforms without satisfactory results. The capitalist system cannot be changed; it has to be terminated. The health and well-being of humanity demand that the capitalist system be put to an end. Production for profit must be done away with forever and replaced by production for use; for the use of the entire human community. We are the ones who have to do this. No one else will do it for us.

THERE IS WORK TO DO, COMRADE!

Help us in our great emancipatory task; unite with us in the struggle to achieve Industrial Freedom throughout the world!

Come to our side and help us to build One Big Union of the workers of the world!

Join the Industrial Workers of the World! Show your solidarity with the I.W.W.!

There is no other way to solve the problem of unemployment!

For more information, write to the General Secretary-Treasurer, 1001 West Madison Street, Chicago, Ill.

-- LATIN AMERICAN BOOK REVIEWS --

Honduras: The Making of a Banana Republic. By Alison Acker (South End Press, 1988) \$10. 164 pages.

This book sketches the history of Honduras. Chapters deal with the role of the banana companies in the country, the rise of the labor movement, the situation of the peasants and the land occupations, and triple military role of the contras own army, the US army and the Contras. The turning point for Honduran labor was in 1954, when a strike by United Fruit workers became a general strike. The strike, coinciding with the US-inspired overthrow of Guatemalan president Jacobo Arbenz, gave the Honduran workers the first taste of potential strength, but it also hastened the intervention of US labor advisors to subvert the unions. Together with old-fashioned direct repression, massive funding of passive, business union style alternate unions made Honduras the headquarters of US unionism in Latin America.

Guatemala: Eternal Spring, Eternal Tyranny. By Jean-Marie Simon (WW Norton & Company, 1987) \$19.95. 250 pages.

This book was written to show the repression and resistance in Guatemala. What lifts this book above others is the photos, all of them in color. Pictures of the soldiers, the corpses, guerrillas training in the mountains, the refugees, the model villages and the camps, the activists, many now dead, the coffee pickers. The most moving photo was one that has been circulated separately in black and white, that of coca-cola workers eating lunch in the cafeteria of the bottling plant in Guatemala City. The workers are drinking Sprite; behind them are photos of eight Coca-Cola union leaders killed between 1979 and 1981.

Urban Workers and Labor Unions in Chile 1902-1927. By Peter DeShazo (University of Wisconsin, 1983) 349 pages. Hard Cover.

This book is a study of working people in the Chilean cities of Santiago and Valparaiso and the labor organizations they created between 1902 and 1927, when the organized labor movement was crushed by a junta. The economic life of the country was dominated by the nitrate industry in the north during this period and the traditional interpretation of Chilean labor history is that the nitrate workers and the *gran Federación Obrera de Chile* (FOCH) were the most active sectors of the labor movement.

DeShazo challenges this conclusion, contending that urban workers were the driving force in the organized labor movement, particularly those influenced by anarcho-syndicalism or the industrial unionism of the Industrial Workers of the World.

In 1918, contact between members of the IWW Marine Transport Workers' IU and Valparaiso dockers led to the establishment of a Valparaiso port workers' branch, duly recognized by the Chicago IWW's GHQ. Other Marine Transport Workers locals sprouted up in Antofagasta and Iquique, and in December 1919 a national convention was held in Santiago which formally established the Chilean IWW. The IWW practice of "syndicalism" clashed with the brand of federalism employed by several important unions in that centralized decision-making to a greater degree and tried to organize industry as a whole, rather than having plant or craft unions. The IWW partially or totally replaced the resistance societies of stevedores, sailors, dockers, teamsters, bricklayers, carpenters, plasterers and painters, reorganizing these workers into maritime and construction industrial departments.

The expansion of organized labor in Santiago and Valparaiso between 1917 and 1921 produced a strike wave that surpassed that of 1905-7 and was not surpassed until the 1950s. On several occasions tannery and shoe workers formed their labor union during the process of carrying out a strike. Unlike earlier strike waves, these strikes often included demands for recognition of a labor union and reinstatement of fired workers as

well as for higher pay. Ideology played a lesser role in the urban labor movement of 1917-20 than it later would. The presence of varied elements within several unions, most notably the FOCH and the IWW, produced rounds of vicious infighting after 1920, but during the initial unionization drives, cooperation generally prevailed. After the world-wide anarchist/communist split in 1921 eventually communist dominated FOCH became the sworn enemy of the IWW and the libertarians.

While labor unions in some industries, notably printing and construction, continued to consolidate their power after 1921, most working class organization experienced as sharp decline in membership and effectiveness as bargaining agents. Government repression of key labor federations, a concentrated effort by employers to roll back union gains and the depression of 1921 inflicted great damage.

Just as the Bolshevik Revolution encouraged many Chilean workers, so it terrified the owning class. In March 1920, an anarchist labor paper was raided by police and its editorial board arrested. On March 21, the IWW, the FOCH, the Shoeworkers Fed-



eration, and most of the anarchist-syndicalist unions held 12-hour work stoppage in protest. On April 20, a group of IWW stevedores wielding knives and grappling hooks disarmed a group of carabinieri whom they found beating a small boy. More police entered the docks and arrested 16 workers. The IWW responded with a 24-hour work stoppage which halted all port operations. In June, 100 IWW dockers struck for higher pay. When employers refused to bargain, the Wobblies paralyzed the port with a general work stoppage and realized all their demands in three days.

In July, the IWW boycotted a major shipping contractor who would not recognize an IWW job delegate, and began a refusal to handle any food products is destined for export. A wildcat strike of cargo handlers on July 13 was followed the next day with another general port strike. Many contractors were willing to concede higher wages but not the recognition so the Wobblies decided to continue the strike. At this junction the government created an "international crisis", claiming that Bolivia and Peru were planning to recoup their territorial losses incurred to Chile during the War of the Pacific. To "defend Chile from her hated enemy", the regime ordered a general mobilization of the armed forces on July 15. During the tremendous outburst of patriotism which followed the mobilization call, the government was able to link labor militancy with foreign inspired subversion.

On July 21, the heavily armed police broke into the Wobbly headquarters and arrested the 200 people in attendance. The general port strike collapsed immediately. Police stood by while mobs brought into the headquarters of the Federation of Chilean Students, an anti-military organization with IWW and anarchist members. In rapid succession the leading working class publications were closed by police raids. Leaders of the IWW and other unions were hunted

down and arrested. On August 2, a dragnet raid in Santiago arrested 67 Wobblies. Jose Domingo Gomez Rojas, a member of the IWW's first Administrative Council, was arrested and died in prison a month later. His funeral, September 30, attracted a gigantic crowd.

The bosses of course took every advantage of the situation. The number of employer associations grew rapidly between 1921 and 1923, and a series of lockouts hit hard at most unions. The IWW was badly damaged by a combined employers' lockout in the marine transport industry on August 18, 1921 and the government's abolition of the "rotation" system used in the docks since 1919 to divide available work equally among the workers. The IWW received two punishing blows in October, 1923, when the port workers' local in Iquique was smashed and a failed strike in the Hack candy factory resulted in the replacement of the IWW by a company union. Only in the printing industry and among IWW tile makers did workers succeed in breaking lockouts to win further benefits.

During the bosses' counterattack, unions decreased in size and became more ideological. By the end of 1923, almost all important labor groups in urban Chile had become defined according to whether they were anarchist or communist. The ultimate result of this onslaught of ideology was a disunited and weakened labor movement. Unable to maintain itself as a separate force—too "centralized" and "authoritarian" for the anarchists and too libertarian to the communists in FOCH—the IWW fell into disrepair after 1925, its only remaining strength concentrated among maritime and construction workers.

Between 1924 and February 1927, urban workers and their unions faced rampant

inflation, two military coups, labor legislation regulating virtually all aspects of industrial relations, several key elections and the continued hostility of employers' associations. Working class discontent erupted in a fourth wave of strikes which peaked during the first half of 1925. The government answered with full-scale repression. In May of 1925, soldiers raided and closed the anarchist and communists presses in Iquique. On June 4th, near the La Coruna nitrate camp a "battle" took place between nitrate workers armed with dynamite and troops of the line, including artillery units. British diplomats estimated that from 600 to 800 workers were killed in the resulting massacre, while the army suffered no casualties. On June 10th, the government declared a state of siege in the coal mining zone to crush the strikes which had begun in May. In the cities, "patriotic leagues" began anti-anarchist activities.

The steady decline of the effectiveness of the urban labor movement which commenced in the second half of 1925 continued unabated until the coups of Colonel Ibanez in February 1927. On February 23, police raided the headquarters of all major unions and the homes of leading unionists in a massive roundup. Only the Pinochet coup in 1973 surpassed its scope and effectiveness. Within weeks, all major labor leaders in Chile had been arrested, gone in hiding or fled the country. For all practical purposes, Ibanez encountered no resistance to his coup. In 1931, after Ibanez's fall from power, labor unions were once more active. In the 1930s and after, however, the Chilean labor movement was dominated by political parties.

plp

Toronto Substitute Teachers Make Gains

On April 27th, members of the Ontario Public Service Employees Union, Local 595 ratified a new contract that broke ground for supply teachers in Ontario. These occasional teachers with the Toronto Board of Education made improvements in wages and hiring practices—two of the major concerns of supply teachers.

For the first time the number of days in one classroom that a teacher must work before they will be paid according to the permanent teacher's pay grid has been reduced from 20 days to 16 days. Interruptions due to illness, religious holidays or participating in professional development days will not result in supply teachers having to start their count over.

All supply teachers will have a pay increase of approximately 10% —4.5% effective January 1st, 1988 and 5.04% compounded effective January 1st, 1989. In addition, after working 50 days, supply teachers will have an additional \$5 per day added to their base pay. After 100 days total, the daily rate will go up an additional \$5. Seniority will finally have an effect in pay.

Seniority will also have an effect in terms of hiring for long-term (16 days or more in the same teaching assignment). Where two or more teachers have similar qualifications, the teacher with the greatest seniority as a supply teacher with the Toronto Board of Education will be offered the position.

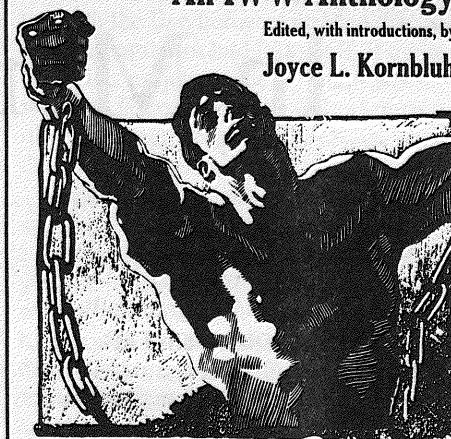
These changes, as well as improvements in grievance procedures and a step towards reducing by attrition the number of supply teachers on the Toronto Board of Education list of occasional teachers, serve as a good base for the next round of negotiations, scheduled to begin in the fall.

Brian Burch

Rebel Voices

An IWW Anthology

Edited, with introductions, by
Joyce L. Kornbluh



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

edited by
Joyce Kornbluh

\$18.95 (please add 10% postage)

Send orders to:
IWW
3435 N. Sheffield Suite 202
Chicago, IL 60657

Published by
Charles Kerr Publishing Co.

Time for a Four Hour Day

Activist Returns to Nevada

continued from page 5

permits to anyone willing to enter their land as part of the protest. Once people had their permits, they lined up in front of the cattle guard and along the barbed wire fence, awaiting the signal to cross over onto the DOE controlled land. There were guards waiting on the other side, about 100 meters from the fence. The signal was given and we made our move. I felt a little adrenalin as I stepped through the barbed wire strands of the fence, but it was nothing compared to what I felt the last time I was on the Test Site. I didn't get very far before I was stopped, handcuffed

and marched toward a compound surrounded by a tall fence with barbed wire around the top. There was plywood attached to the side of the fence nearest the cattle guard and the stage, so that our view of the demonstrators at the cattle guard was restricted. There was also plywood covering the entire fence that divided the female prisoners from the male prisoners. The plywood was painted white so that it would reflect the sunlight back into the cage. There were a few water coolers, two portable latrines, and very little shade in the cage.

DO NOT EAT IN AN AREA WHERE RADIOACTIVE MATERIALS ARE PROCESSED.

EAT in the LUNCH ROOM



As soon as I was placed in the cage, my fellow trespassers removed my plastic handcuffs. I walked along the sides of the cage and discovered that some of the men and women were digging a hole underneath the fence that separated them. It wasn't long before some of the smaller people had crawled through, so that there were women in the men's cage and men in the women's cage. An attempt was made to remove the women by sending a small group of unarmed guards into the men's cage. The guards were quickly surrounded by the men, and being outnumbered by about 50 to 1, they became nervous and began shoving to get out. One guard was so stressed out that he unintentionally knocked one of his partners over. The presence of the women seemed to improve that atmosphere because we soon organized a large group, holding hands, in an attempt to get an accurate body count. It was during the counting that another band of guards entered the cage. This time they were armed with clubs, so we all just sat down and relaxed while they tried to spot the women in the crowd. At one point, they were moving in a tight group, through the peaceful crowd, with their clubs pointed out and their backs to each other. Their defensive technique looked like some kind of battle formation that the Romans would have invented.

After several hours, the guards began loading people onto buses. Some of the men had been through this routine at the Test Site before, and a few of them were determined to get on a bus as soon as possible. These experienced men knew that they had to be handcuffed before they could get on the bus, so they had declined to have their handcuffs removed and had remained close to the gate, expecting to be among the first released. One by one, people were allowed to squeeze through the gate, they were then re-handcuffed, and loaded onto the bus. It wasn't long before someone suggested that the Shoshone elders be allowed to leave next. Enough people at the gate agreed, and the elders were the next out of the cage. As they passed through the gate, the elders thanked us for helping them in their quest to regain

their land.

After a long wait in the sunshine, I was finally loaded onto a bus. During the ride to the town of Beatty, a guard completed and distributed trespassing complaints. Each complaint required the name and signature of a trespasser, and the guard would accept any name that didn't sound too strange. Some of those who had been there before, knowing that they would not be prosecuted, gave their real names. They wanted to have a souvenir to display on their wall. Upon arrival in Beatty, we were subjected to a short lecture by a member of the local police force.

I returned to the peace camp with some friends who had gone back-country before me. We discussed our recent experience and contrasted it with our back-country actions. Marcia and Jimbo described what it was like to be a couple of miles from ground zero when the bomb went off. Jimbo had been walking in a canyon, away from ground zero, so that he didn't see the sock wave, travelling through the ground toward him. He said his first thought, when he had difficulty standing, was that he had been in the sun too long. It was when he was knocked off his feet and heard rocks moving beneath the surface of the desert, that he realized what had happened. Marcia had been sleeping in a cave, when the ground began to tremble and rocks started to fall all around her. Incredibly, no one in their group was injured.

With two Test Site actions behind me, I've decided that before I spend 13 hours in a car traveling to the Test Site again, I will plan an action that will entail a risk level lower than my first action, but higher than my last action. After all, it was the persistence of all those willing to accept the risks associated with direct action that caused Nye county to stop prosecuting trespassers. The success of these actions has made it possible for others to risk standing up for what they believe in.

Brandon Ruiz

In Memory of Abbie Hoffman

I want to hear some music;
I want to dance on some graves;
and I want to thank you, yes,
for leaving so soon and so gracefully,
and with no note because notes are
bullshit.
Yeah, I want to thank you for going
and being, but not becoming
some old yippie Goldwater—
some old media darling—
set up in a fortress of senile pretensions.
I want to thank you man for doing it right
and being, but not becoming
an old leftie Reagan—
some old idiot savant—
some upbeat messenger of impoverished
thought.

I want to hear the music
and thank you for no bullshit about past
lives and the revolution, about my first
teargas and boy at lunch debating the
choice
of mace or a club on the back of the
skull.
And I won't look back; no I'll never look
back.
Back there is a bullshit fairytale land
of endless acid and mescaline dreams—
a past that's guarded by mounted police
strung out in pairs around the concert
hall,
who're seen through our blitzed-out
Aztec eyeballs
as centaurs filled with malevolent
promise.
A promise fulfilled in out adult years.

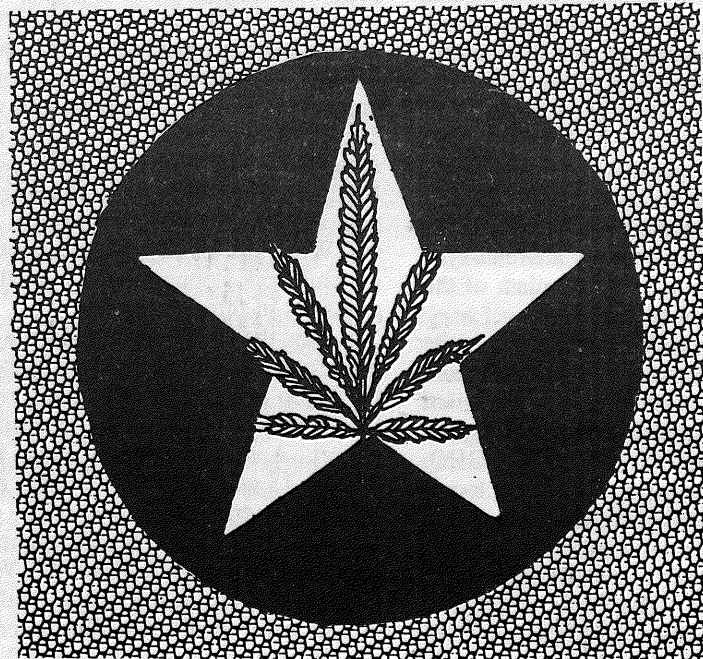
And I only wanted to hear the music:

Ah yes—my country tis of thee,
sweet, sweetest land of drugfree pee.

Oh look what's coming down the street—
got a new Ferrari!
got a new Ferrari!

Arise ye pris'ners of Dick Nixon
Arise ye freaks of yester days
Your mortgage promises salvation
Cash in your IRAs/
No more our long hair's braids shall bind
us
Arise ye slaves afraid to ball
Our fears had very firm foundation
Time and AIDS will kill us all/
We're through with other kids' ovations
Our money has made us men
The liberals writing for donations
Were in the Student Council then.

I only wanted to hear the music
but daddy never let me march downtown.
Yet listen, I believed in our comic prince:
I believed, I believed in the anarchist
wag,
and time will still find me in more ways
than one
another laughing swaying Tail of
Hoffman.
This dream we dreamed without saying
dream,
without saying vision—a bullshit word—
the decades of winters can't freeze away,
a lifetime of suits and payments can't
dull,
an endless noise of commercials can't
kill.
And once I had learned the joking truth
of spelling our name with Kafka's K
no Corporate-paid picture could turn my
eye,
steal my breath my heart with another lie
of goodness inherent in powers that be
or a sober version of liberty;



I hear the music and the song's stone
free.

I have a wish for the other side,
the voice of repression, so neatly styled;
the face of regression, so polished and
fine;
but binding two oceans with palsied
claws,
from acid misted woods of Maine
to the blackened shores of Alaskan
fiords,
and extending that rusty-nailed grasp
to crown a nation's murderhood
from sea to viscous sea—

I have a wish for them and all their kind,
that their dreams may vanish with those
of they
who owned other people or worshipped

the flesh of other men or drew their pay
in days of others' lives: I wish—I
know—
someday they'll perish at the fresh new
hands
of the future's children—young blades
drawn out
and across their ephemeral arteries
til the pale blood falls on history's pages
in dripping hieroglyphs and dries
in a curious kind of lost language—
as a series of indecipherable notes.

Oh, I want to hear the music
they'll play then.
A little slide, a little blues—
Hey,
thank you man.

—Michael Schaffner

DIRECTORY of IWW Branches & Delegates

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA. Vancouver General Membership Branch, PO Box 65635, Station F, Vancouver BC V5N 5K5.
ONTARIO. Industrial Workers of the World, Toronto Gen. Membership Branch 26a Oxford St., 2nd Fl., Toronto, Canada M5T1N9.

GREAT BRITAIN

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

UNITED STATES

ALASKA. Ruth Sheridan, Delegate, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage, 99508
CALIFORNIA. San Francisco Bay Area General Membership Branch, Box 40485, San Francisco, 94140. * Richard Ellington, Delegate, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland 94609. * San Diego IWW Group, PO Box 191224 San Diego, 92119
COLORADO. Denver-Boulder General Membership Branch, 2412 E. Colfax Ave., Denver 80206, (303) 388-1065. Open Saturdays 9-12 noon. Meetings at 7 pm, second Sunday of each month. Educational forums monthly (call for date, time, and location). Dave Frazier, 494-4809. * Dexter Herda, Delegate, 910 E. 8th Ave #202, Denver, CO 80218, (303) 832-7602. * Lowell May, Delegate, 2201 Eliot, Denver, CO 80211, (303) 458-0870.

GEORGIA. Atlanta IWW Group, PO Box 54766, Atlanta, 30308-0766. (404) 378-5542.
ILLINOIS. Chicago General Membership Branch, Abraham Bassford, Branch Sec'y, 3435 N. Sheffield, Chicago IL 60657, (312) 549-5045. Meetings 7:30 pm first Friday each month. * Champaign-Urbana IWW Group, Box 2824, Station A, Champaign 61820.

KENTUCKY. Louisville IWW Group, 2024 Baringer Ave. Louisville, 37581.
LOUISIANA. Shreveport IWW Group, PO Box 37581, Shreveport, 71133.
MARYLAND. Baltimore Area General Membership Branch, PO Box 33528, Baltimore 21218. Rosana Marino, Branch Sec'y. Meets 2nd Wednesday each month. Regional Organizing Committee, Greg Buckingham, Chair, Rt. 1, Box 137 A, Arvonia, VA 23004.
MASSACHUSETTS. Boston Area General Membership Branch, Box 454, Cambridge 02139. (617) 469-5162. * Berkshire Learning Center Job Branch. 35 Curtis Terrace, Pittsfield, 01201.

MICHIGAN. Southeast Michigan General Membership Branch, 42 South Summit, Ypsilanti 48197. (313) 483-3478. * People's Wherehouse IU 660 Job Branch, 727 West Ellsworth Road, Ann Arbor 48104. * Grand Rapids IWW, PO Box 211, Comstock Park 49321. * Ann Arbor Tenant's Union, 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109, (313) 763-6876.

MINNESOTA. Minneapolis-St. Paul General Membership Branch (Nancy Collins, Delegate) PO Box 2245, St. Paul, 55102. Meetings third Wednesday each month.

MONTANA. Western Montana General membership Branch. 415 N. Higgins, Room 104, Missoula. Open Monday thru Saturday, 12-5. (800) 873-4000 or (406) 721-3000. A. L. Nurse, Delegate. Address all correspondence to IWW Branch, PO Box 8562, Missoula, 59807.

NEW YORK. New York General Membership Branch, Box 183, New York 10028. * Rochelle Semel, Delegate, PO Box 172, Fly Creek 13337. (607) 293-6489. * Jackie Panish, Delegate, PO Box 372, Rego Park, 11374. (212) 868-1121. * John Hansen, 302 Avenue C, Brooklyn, 11218. (718) 854-2692. * Robert Young, Delegate, Box 920, Wingdale 12594. * Joseph O'Shea, * Delegate, Winkler's Farm, Towner's Road, Carmel 10512.

OHIO. Southwest Ohio General Membership Branch and General Defense Committee #1, PO Box 26381, Dayton 45426. * SW Ohio General Defense Committee Local #3 c/o John Perotti #167712, PO Box 45699, Lucasville 45699-0001.

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

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

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

VIRGINIA. Keith Preston 1101 W. Grace Richmond, VA, phone: 355-6966. If no answer try 741-1897 and ask for the IWW.

WASHINGTON. Bellingham General Membership Branch, Box 1386, Bellingham 98227. * Seattle General Membership Branch, 3238 33rd Ave. South, Seattle 98144. *

Spokane IWW Group, PO Box 1273, Spokane, 99210. * Tacoma/Olympia General membership Branch & General Defence Committee Local #4 (the "Wesley Everest Gang") 2115 South Sheridan, Tacoma 98405. (206) 272-8119.

WISCONSIN. Madison General Membership Branch, PO Box 2605, Madison, 53701. (608) 251-1937 or 249-4287.

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-Out of the Depths, the true story of the Ludlow Massacre, \$10 postpaid (All proceeds to P-9); Wobbly T-Shirts, \$10 postpaid, from: Gary Cox, 11548 Community Center Drive #53, Northglenn, CO 80233.

-A Workers' Guide to Direct Action, \$5.00 from: New York IWW, P.O. Box 183, New York, N.Y. 10028.

-Introduction to the IWW, \$.10 each, bulk rate 40% prepaid from: San Francisco IWW, P.O. Box 40485, San Francisco, CA 94140.

-Solidarity Bulletin, monthly, \$10 a year from: Vancouver IWW, P.O. Box 65635, Station F, Vancouver, B.C. Canada V5N 3K5.

-Direct Action Bulletin, \$24. for 12 issues from: Toronto IWW, 26A Oxford St., Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5T 1N9.

Farewell Fellow Worker

Nicholas Steelink, age 98, died in Tucson last month. He was a member of the the IWW for 72 years. He was born Oct. 5, 1890 in Amsterdam. He was arrested for syndicalism as a result of his organizing work for the IWW. He was sentenced to two years in San Quentin Prison in California. For 20 years, he contributed a regular column for the Industrial Worker entitled: MUSINGS OF A WOBBLY under the pseudonym Ennes Ellae. We recognize his lasting contribution and mourn his passing.



Preamble of the Industrial Workers of the World

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

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

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

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

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

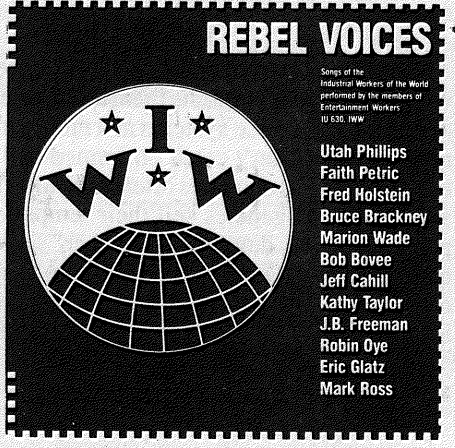
IT IS THE HISTORIC MISSION OF THE WORKING CLASS TO DO AWAY WITH CAPITALISM. THE ARMY OF PRODUCTION MUST BE ORGANIZED, NOT ONLY FOR THE EVERY-DAY STRUGGLE WITH CAPITALISTS, BUT ALSO TO CARRY ON PRODUCTION WHEN CAPITALISM SHALL HAVE BEEN OVERTHROWN. BY ORGANIZING INDUSTRIALLY WE ARE FORMING THE STRUCTURE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



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TEMP WORKERS: ORGANIZE!!!!

by Shelby C. Essex

A temporary worker ("temp") doesn't work for a particular company, but is leased out by agencies by the hour, day, week, month, or year. It's a pure exchange of labor for money—the ultimate in dehumanization.

Temps are paid by the agencies, not by the companies they work for, and can be traded at a moment's notice—even if they've worked the same job for years. Agencies are often jealous of their power, and demand that temps call *them* when they're going to be late or sick.

Most agencies send people to jobs they weren't trained for, forcing them to learn new computer and office systems at a moment's notice. If they can't catch on immediately, their co-workers or bosses often think they're stupid. Many agencies sell their temps expensive, useless degrees in "brother" secretarial/computer schools. There are *some* reputable agencies; Kelly, for example, gives its temps free (but small) training in whatever computer system they're going to use, along with a short test of ability and a "technical helpline."

For nearly every job, there's a temp. Some work in warehouses, some in factories, others in offices; assignments may last for part of a single day to a dozen years. Most of the time, the temp has no idea how long the assignment will last; they can be extended on a daily basis, or cut short by several months. A job may end the second the temp comes in a little too late, or takes a day of sick leave. In general, male temps are sent to industrial jobs and female temps are sent to office jobs—regardless of where they want to work. This article is aimed at the plight of the office temp.

Temps face all the hazards that permanent office workers do—and then some. The hazards increase because the temp often shifts constantly from job to job, and is always new to the safety problems in her current job.

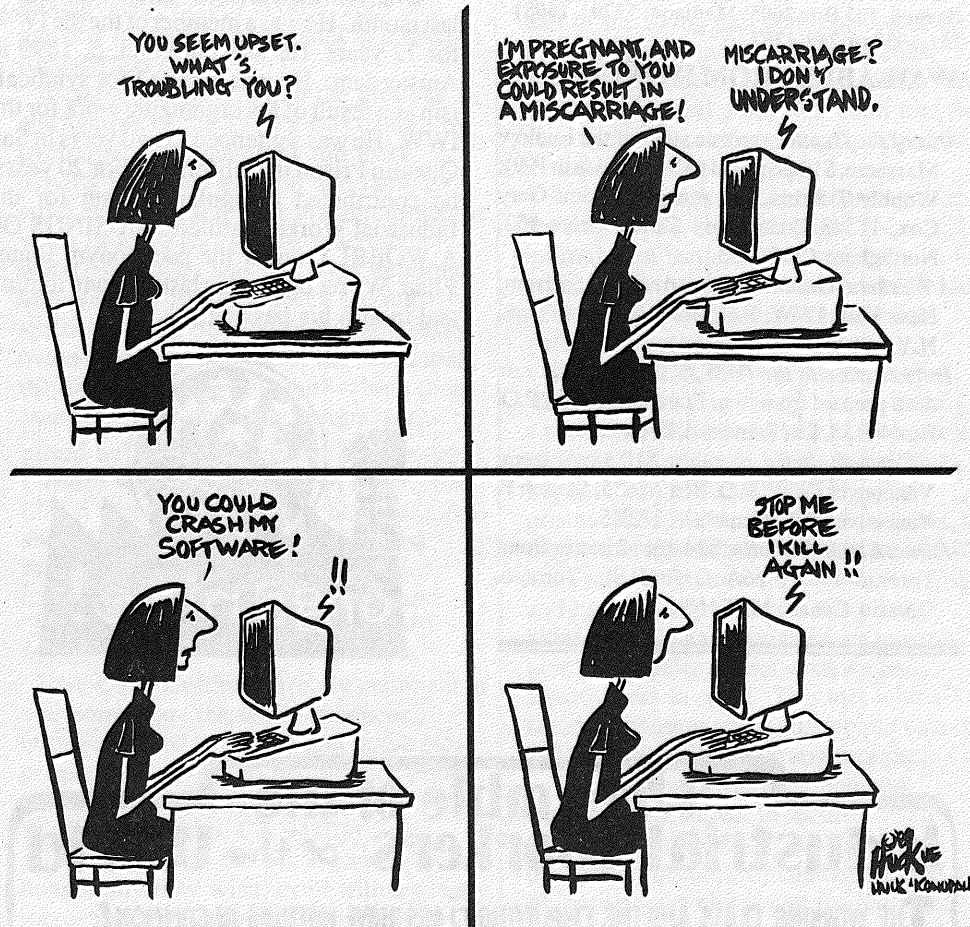
1. Hazards Everyone Faces

All office workers face the "dangers of the photocopier:" exposure to the chemicals used by the machines, to the heated components when removing jammed paper from its inner workings, to electrical shock from non- or poorly-insulated wires or grounded components, and to the possibility of the machine starting up while one is attempting to free that paper. Photocopiers are rarely shut off or unplugged while paper jams are being removed, partly because most people don't know how, and partly because they jam frequently enough to make it seem like a trivial occurrence. These problems are worsened by the temp's unfamiliarity with most copy machines (e.g., not knowing which parts are heated).

Because temps are often hired for short-term assignments (e.g. computerizing past records) their work stations are often given thoughtlessly arranged. Health hazards range from eyestrain due to bad lighting (not enough light, or light aimed in the wrong direction—e.g. at a computer screen, causing strong glare) to back strain from badly designed chair/desk combinations. This is especially common with computer carts, which are meant to be used for a few minutes at a time on the factory "floor," but are often used eight hours a day by a temporary. VDT emissions and eyestrain from ordinary glare or poorly designed monitor screens is also a problem.

Another problem caused by shifting jobs and the resultant unfamiliarity with the workplace is the danger of worsening an injury through delays in seeking first aid. Most temps don't know where to go for first aid or medical treatment from burns, and may not be willing to ask anyone for fear of losing an assignment.

It's easy for a temp to lose an assignment at most companies, and because most temps have to wait for days or even weeks before getting another, they tend to be reluctant to give the employer or agency any excuse to replace them. This is worsened by the agencies' tendency to think of those who have to be replaced more than once to be "unreliable." It not only affects the worker's ability



to quit a job where the workplace is obviously unsafe, but also forces temps to show up when permanent workers would call in sick. Being out for a single day could, and often does, cause replacement, and agencies expect workers to be constantly available. Agencies are skeptical of sick calls, and believe that the worker is merely trying to get a day off. The result is that many minor colds and viruses, instead of being healed by worse, are worsened by the temp's inability to call in sick without paying a price. (This is not universal; there are good agencies and bad agencies, understanding bosses and intolerant bosses).

Many assignments require trips into a warehouse or onto the factory floor; because temps tend to take orders from other secretaries, doing the "dirty jobs" (this applies more to male temps), they tend to be sent into the warehouse more often. At the same time, because they're unfamiliar with it, they have a higher risk of being hurt in an off-road industrial vehicle accident or by falling objects.

2. Stressors

Secretaries learn over a long period of time to tell the phones they have to answer from everyone else's. Temps don't have the time to learn the sound of the phones they have to answer, and have to stop what they're doing and face the phone, find the pad and pen, and remember the phone protocol (which varies from company to company) each time they hear a bell. These actions, which become automatic, are difficult for the worker in a short-term, temporary assignment.

Another problem is remembering the names of one's bosses and coworkers. Temps are expected to learn up to fifteen new names and faces in no time every time they take a new assignment, and it leads to stress when they can't recall whether a person is their manager or coworker, or when someone calls in for a person they've never heard of. Together with the expectation of the managers and coworkers that the temp will be able to function fully from first minute to last, this brings both frustration and stress.

One can lose a job by coming in only an hour late on a single day, after weeks of on-time performance; one can be dismissed for no reason at all; and one cannot collect unemployment insurance, or just step into another job the next day (unless one is particularly valued by the agency for special skills or, more often, personal reasons). Along with the impossibility of collecting unemployment insurance, one also can't collect disability insurance because one is

not considered to be a full-time worker, even after working 40 hours a week for months or years. The medical benefits offered by the agency are minimal, if they exist at all, and generally only available to those who work an above-average work week 50 weeks a year.

Not only does one never know where the next workplace will be, but one also never knows how long that assignment will last, not to mention what the working protocol, lunch hours, general location, travel time, social pattern, or working hours will be. Along with all the previously mentioned factors, this leads to a partial or complete loss of one's perceived control of one's own destiny, and a strong increase in uncertainty and concern over one's future and those who control it, greatly increasing the stress on the individual worker.

Yet another factor which adds uncertainty and stress is the temp's need to learn each office's layout, computer systems, and layout, from booting up the computer or operating the typewriter to finding the bathrooms, cafeteria, photocopier, and supply closet. Some companies make this easier than others, but most share one thing in common: the temp is shown a seat, but is given no further instructions without having to ask first or is given a whirlwind tour by someone who believes he/she has more important things to do.

The temp faces a good deal of cognitive dissonance in addition to the "routine" stressors of uncertainty, lack of control, operating without sufficient knowledge, and environmental difficulties. A temp works for less money, especially when benefits are factored in, than most permanent employees; still, they are expected to work during every minute of their assignment, even as permanent employees are allowed to read books, talk in the hall, take long lunches, etc. Temps are often treated as second class citizens, with different and harsher rules than ordinary workers. Personal calls, while routine for the secretary, are often forbidden or, at least, frowned on for the temp doing the same job. They must take orders not only from managers, but also from permanent secretaries; and they are dependent on the permanent employees for knowledge of operating procedures, locations of supplies, and all the other "tools of expertise." Here, the stress arises from the conflict between one's own position and rewards, and the position and rewards of the permanent employees. This also leads to a feeling of frustration at never being able to speak one's true feelings, at being dependent upon those who enjoy the advantages and benefits but do not need to do the same amount of work.

Conclusion

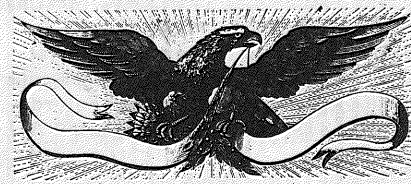
Those hazards which face all office workers are also a risk to temps, only the temporary worker's situation is exacerbated by his/her constant shifting into new and unfamiliar environments. A good deal of the ordinary dangers and special stressors of the temp could be eliminated with little effort and cost by providing the temporary employee with more information and training. Some serious problems may only be solved through policy changes which would be unpopular with the agencies or politicians, and others are being solved through engineering controls.

The lion's share of stress and hazard can be negated with quite easily by the agency and/or the company—but they haven't done it yet. The only way to get a better working life for temps is to give them more influence, more power over their own working destiny. No suggestion on how this can be done has been made—except for unionization. If temps were organized into a union, they could easily force the agencies to give them more power, and to treat them better. The agencies get a surcharge on the temps' hourly rate, and if the temp doesn't work, the agency doesn't get paid. Companies usually don't just use one agency; they use two or three to make sure they can always get temps when they need them. Therefore, if one group of temps goes on strike at one agency—and their fellow temps stand with them—their influence will be enormous.

The best strategy would probably be to attack smaller agencies first, for two reasons. Smaller agencies can't just pack up and leave; they're usually bound to a particular area or region, and can't afford to move out without losing a good deal of capital investment and most of their customers. Larger agencies can afford to shut a single office, but to gain customers, they have to supply the best temps. This means that they usually have to treat their temps better, and have to have more skilled workers. Therefore, it's quite possible that, once working conditions have improved at other agencies, they'll have to follow along and "do one better" to keep their pool of skilled workers and happy customers.

The temps faces a lot of problems, but one solution. The union. One big union that isn't afraid of organizing temps—and that's the I.W.W.

The New York Branch currently publishes a small-scale flier (6 x 9) for organizing temps. 50¢ for the first, 5¢ for each additional copy.



Pittston Miners Rally Against Company Over 1,000 Arrested

In early April, over a year after their contract ran out, Pittston miners in Virginia and West Virginia walked out. Strikers did more than picket: they blocked the roads leading to Pittston plants; over one thousand miners and their family members were arrested in the last week for refusing to move for the coal trucks.

Forty women "The Daughters of Mother Jones," took over the company's regional headquarters overnight. Students left their classes. Local store-owners closed down while arrests were being made.

The miners went out because Pittston's contract offer would have allowed outside contractors to take over work done by union miners, and Pittston would have been able to continue to set up non-union subsidiaries.