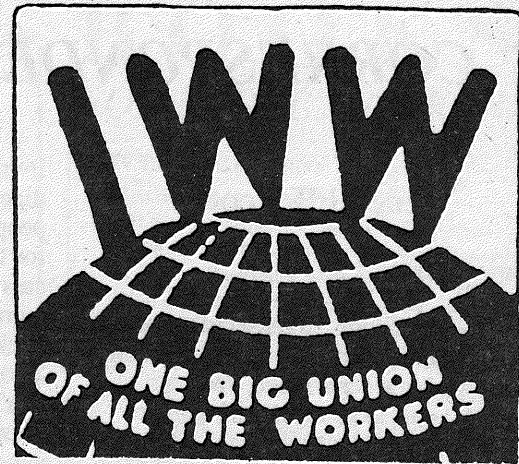


INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Industrial Workers of the World



VOLUME 86, NUMBER 8, WH 1515

August 1989

50 cents

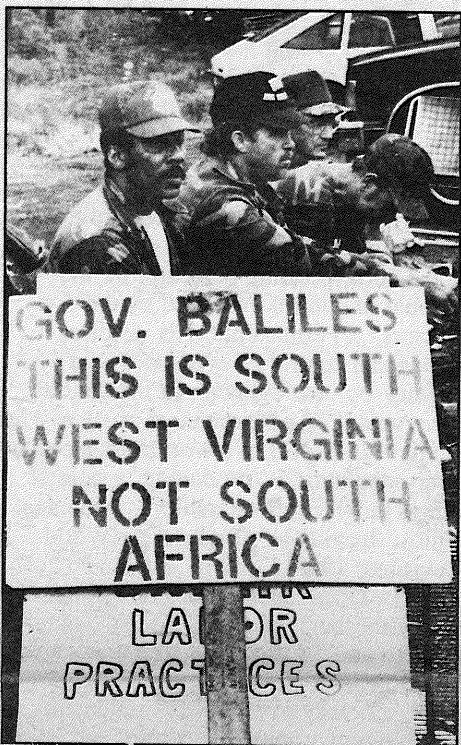
Baltimore IWW Organizes for Miners

Saturday, June 10, Marmet, West Virginia. In a recreational park in this small town east of the state capitol of West Virginia, hundreds of striking coal miners and their family members and sympathizers have gathered for a pre-rally in preparation for a major gathering in Charleston on Saturday.

Many have made the march from Logan; a march commemorating the battle of Blair Mountain and the march on Logan made by striking United Mine Workers of America members back in 1921. At that time, thousands of miners armed themselves, banded together and attempted a march to the capitol to demand better conditions, wages, and the recognition of their union. They were stayed off by the militia and the threat of aerial bombs.

Those were hard and bloody times; West Virginia was in a virtual state of civil war. Bloody Mingo. The Matewan Massacre. Paint Creek, Cabin Creek. Bloody Harlan in nearby Kentucky. Union miners and their organizers were evicted from their company-owned homes, black-listed, beaten, jailed, murdered. Forced, at the very best, to sign yellow-dog contracts. Injunctions hurled at the union and its leaders by state and federal judges, trying to break it through its coffers. (And the union never really attained recognition until Roosevelt's National Industrial Recovery Act in the early 1930s.

We read about these times in our



history books (if we're lucky); we hear about it in songs, we can see movies about it. But here, these memories are still alive — kept alive. Over there, Ed Chamber's nephew is pointed out to me (Ed Chambers, a union organizer, and Sid Hatfield, sheriff of Matewan, were gunned down by Bald-

continued on page 8

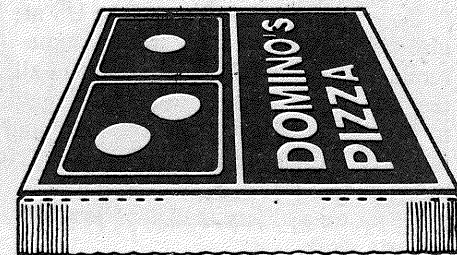
BOYCOTT DOMINO'S

Wobblies, feminists, coop workers and others turned out in force to support a nationwide boycott of the Domino's Pizza corporation at a demonstration outside the company's world headquarters in Ann Arbor, Michigan in July. Passing motorists cheered, honked and stopped to join the picket line and get more information. IWW members passed out leaflets to Domino's workers entering and leaving the corporate complex.

Several community organizations and activists, including members of the three local IWW branches, have formed a coalition to support the nationwide boycott of the pizza chain initiated by the National Organization of Women (NOW). The National Board of NOW called for the boycott in January of this year when Domino's owner Tom Monaghan denied NOW use of public facilities at the compound of his Ann Arbor based corporation. NOW's fundraiser had already been approved and scheduled when Domino's backed out. Pizza company officials stated that the cancellation was due to "Mr. Monaghan's religious beliefs against abortions." In effect the denial of use of public facilities constituted religious discrimination. The Washtenaw County Chapter of NOW filed a complaint with the American Civil Liberties Union on the basis of religious discrimination and the boycott was launched.

The Domino's corporation doesn't just deliver the lowest common denominator pizza. It also raises lots of dough for Tom Monaghan, a staunch supporter of fundamental religion and the ultra-right. Tom delivers his dough world-wide to advance his pet causes.

In Honduras a Domino's pizza



parlor helps finance the export of "American Entrepreneurism" to Central America. Among other interests, Monaghan has bought a garment factory in Honduras where he pays workers less than \$1 an hour to produce pants marketed stateside for nearly \$200 a pair! He also uses his pizza profits to generate support for so-called "refugee" camps along the Nicaraguan border.

In the US Mr. Pizza has used his dough to raise himself into the upper circles of power. He established a "Club Legatus" for rich corporate CEO's who share his religious perspective. He contributes to right-wing causes and politicians like "Right to Life", Operation Rescue and Pat Robertson.

At home in Ann Arbor Monaghan's conspicuous consumption is winning him the reputation of a modern day Robber Baron. Sports cars, jets, helicopters, a village of

continued on page 3

INSIDE

Wobblies in the Woods page 3

FBI Strikes Again page 5

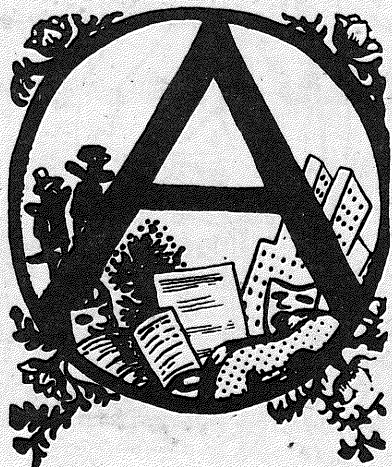
China's Independent

Labor Movement page 6

Unions Invest in Israel page 4

ANARCHISTS MEET IN S.F.

Between July 20th and July 25th, approximately 1,500 anarchists took part in a six-day conference in San Francisco called "Without Borders '89". Many fellow workers from the IWW participated as well, adding a strong and much-needed class conscious presence to the proceedings.



Members of the San Francisco Bay Area General Membership Branch had been working hard for several weeks in preparation for the conference, the fourth annual such event. We facilitated two workshops, produced a Utah Phillips concert, held an old-fashioned street meeting in the downtown area, and had the liveliest branch meeting this city's seen in years.

The conference attendees were a very diverse group of people. This was reflected in the broad range of workshop topics, which included the following -- "Contemporary Relevance of Anarcho-Syndicalism", "Squatting in West Germany", "Breaking Silence: Circumcision as Genital Mutilation", "TV - Totalitarian Technology", "Unlearning Racism Through Co-Counseling", and "Hackers, Crackers, and Controlling Interests".

Wobblies presented two workshops, the first of which was called "Strategies for Workplace Organizing -- A Discussion of Contemporary Theory and Practice". Here we tried to present a variety of perspectives by inviting four panelists from the labor movement to give short talks. The discussion which followed proved as fruitful as the panelists' presentations, as people talked about what had worked for them in organizing on the shop floor.

Our second workshop was more simply "Who is the IWW -- An Introduction". Wobblies took turns telling why they had joined the union, and what it meant to them to belong. We then tried to answer questions from the rest of the folks. We talked about some current organizing drives, and described our vision of a future society under worker control. I believe we successfully refuted our image as an historical archivist's society, and clearly established our viability as an organ for social revolution.

The only other group presenting workshops on labor issues was the Workers Solidarity Alliance (WSA). Some discussion occurred about the relationship between WSA and the IWW, with the net result of a closer alliance between the two. Past differences seem founded more on personalities than politics, and it was encouraging to see the sectarianism melt under the influence of open dialogue.

WSA's strength seems to be agitation rather than actual union organizing. They are not a labor union but instead are part of the International Workers' Association (IWA).

continued on page 12

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

3435 N. Sheffield Avenue
Suite 202
Chicago, Illinois, 60657

ISSN: 0019-8870

Second Class Postage
Paid at
Chicago, Illinois, 60657

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

CORRESPONDENCE

General Boycott

Fellow Workers,

Salutations from Seattle, the only city in the US ever to ever successfully shut down by general strike. We're proud of our local history of worker solidarity and uncompromising militancy. The lessons of the past must never be forgotten.

At the same time, the role of the workers of this land has change over the years and new analysis and tactics are required if we're ever to bring the bosses to their knees. The point of this letter is to propose one new tactic — General Boycott.

Today's workers of the US are also consumers. In fact we consume more than half of all the products of all the world's workers. From Tegucigalpa to Taihoku, capitalists exploit land and labor to feed our insatiable appetite. Too many people have shifted from subsistence farming to less than subsistence factory work.

The loss of indigenous lifestyles and environmental quality is tragic, to say the least. As consumers, we share a power similar to that which we share as workers. There's nothing new to the tactic of boycott and I won't list the various successful boycotts we've seen over the years. But each of these was specific to a single producer. I'm promoting a systemic general boycott. The average Northamerican consumes at least ten times as much as the world average. If 25% of us cut our consumption in half, we would set the bosses on their ears.

Cutting back on consumption doesn't have to mean deprivation. Much of the crap they sell us is useless, even harmful. How many folks in the US die from over consumption? We could learn a great deal about efficient

living from poor people, especially indigenous cultures. Remember that most people on this planet don't feel a need for toilet paper or light bulbs, much less cars or TVs. We could get by. And what a great way to build the strike fund in our pockets! The foremost question is "How do we organize a general boycott?" One obvious first step is through personal example. I have some anti-advertising ideas which I'd be happy to share with anyone who writes. I'm more eager to hear the suggestions of your experienced organizers. Contact me at PO Box 304 Langley, WA 98260 or in these pages.

For the OBU,

Vernon Huffman
X337380

Too Many People?

Dear Industrial Worker:

George LaForest's letter (June '89 IW) is typical of the pro-natalist thinking of Murray Bookchin and of the "Fifth Estate", namely, set up a strawman, call it "Malthusianism," and knock it down repeatedly, wave around a few facts and figures from Frances Moore Lappe's well meaning but naive book "Food First" and consider the issue settled.

First of all, if all the world's resources of low grade grain (used mostly for animal feed) were freed up immediately, if all the ethnic loyalties and other difficulties could be overcome it is probably true that there is plenty of food to feed all 5 billion plus human beings on the planet for the time being, assuming we face no major climate changes in the near future (which is no more certain than any of the other above mentioned factors....) However, as Anne and Paul Erlich say in their work "Earth" (1987); "the carrying capacity for saints would be larger than for real people." The reality is, therefore, what is actually possible to achieve is often significantly different from what we would like to achieve. This is not a "Malthusian" or a right wing statement. It is simply a reality that George LaForest, Frances Moore Lappe, George Bradford and others refuse to address.

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.

SUBMISSIONS POLICY

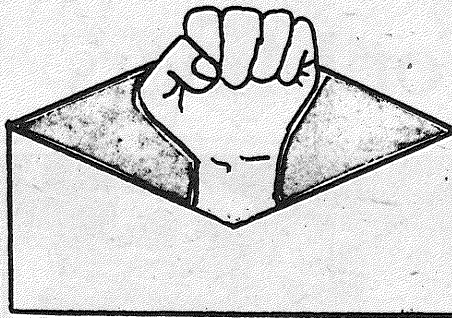
The deadline for copy for each edition is the fifteenth of the month. Important articles arriving after that date, but before we go to press, will be considered for inclusion in that issue, but we cannot guarantee their timely publication after deadline.

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!

Secondly, assuming all the difficulties involved in food production and distribution could be solved, no sane person would argue that food alone sustains a human life. People need space, dignity, freedom, communal self-reliance and a thousand and one other things that diminish at precisely the same rate that over crowding and the resulting tensions occur. China is a good example of a overpopulated country that has recently been in the news. One top Chinese leader was quoted as saying something like: "Even if it takes a million people, this thing must be stopped in its tracks." This is the kind of cheapening of human life that occurs under conditions of severe overcrowding. Or, as Aldous Huxley put it: "Increasing population and advancing technology have resulted in an increase in the number and complexity of organiza-



tions, an increase in the amount of power concentrated in the hands of officials and a corresponding decrease in the amount of control exercised by the electors Permanent crisis justifies permanent control of everybody and everything by the agencies of the central government. And permanent crisis is what we have to expect in a world in which over-population is producing a state of things in which dictatorship ... becomes almost inevitable" (Brave New World Revisited; 1958)

Once again, does this sound like a "Malthusian" or "eco-fascist" statement to you? I think it is true that some people (Ed Abbey, for instance) have made seriously irresponsible statements on immigration, population control and so on. However, it makes no more sense to say that because some advocates of population limitation have made quasi-racist therefore all advocates of population limitation are racists, than it does to say that because some opponents of population control are right wing pro-natalists (see Ben Wattenberg's "The Birth Dearth", for instance) then all opponents of population control are right wing pro-natalists. To recapitulate, I won't caricature your position if you will please stop caricaturing mine.

Bill McCormick
Crozet, Virginia

Bowling Anyone?

US citizens view themselves as the "vanguard" in defending freedom, democracy, and human dignity. This delusion can only be maintained if one is stoned, drunk or very dense. The vanguard of the struggle for freedom is in Poland, South Africa, Central and South America, South Korea and the Philippines. One hundred thousand Chinese are in the streets protesting because a few of their leaders are corrupt. Most of our leaders are corrupt, and we go bowling. Our environment is being destroyed, our democracy is a sham, our standard of living is under severe attack; and we go bowling.

Over and over I hear, "I recognize the problems, but what can I do that is effective without getting put on a list and losing my job?"

Fellow workers, our brothers and sisters in the third world fight for freedom at the risk of being pulled from their beds at night to be tortured and murdered. If all it takes to silence US citizens is a threat that they might get on a list, then there is no hope for freedom in the US. It takes courage, sacrifice, commitment, and mass organizations to win and maintain freedom.

How committed are we to our union? The IWW is in a financial bind just now due to rising costs, an increasing membership, and a long-standing commitment to keep dues as low as possible. Many of us spend more on beer and movies than we invest in our union. The IWW remains afloat financially due to the commitment, the courage, and the largess of its older retired members. For years they have bailed the IWW out by donating large chunks of their retirement checks so us younger, more able-bodied members could loaf and pay ridiculously low dues.

I think it is time to reexamine our priorities. To put the Union back on a pay-as-you-go basis, we must double our dues, double our membership, and begin donating to the 1% Club. In my opinion, anyone who can't pay \$10 per month union dues is not very committed to the IWW. One can make that much selling a small bundle of IWW literature each month. It is time to stop free loading on the retirees. We want to keep our dues low, but we should want to pay our own way. Sell literature if you don't have a job. Sign up a fellow worker. Let's fill the vacuum in the irrelevant US labor movement. Make a commitment! If you are not a member, join! We need your creativity and your energy. To hell with the bosses' lists.

For a meaner, leaner IWW
Gary CoxIndustrial
WorkerONE UNION ONE LABEL
ONE ENEMY

Industrial Worker Collective:

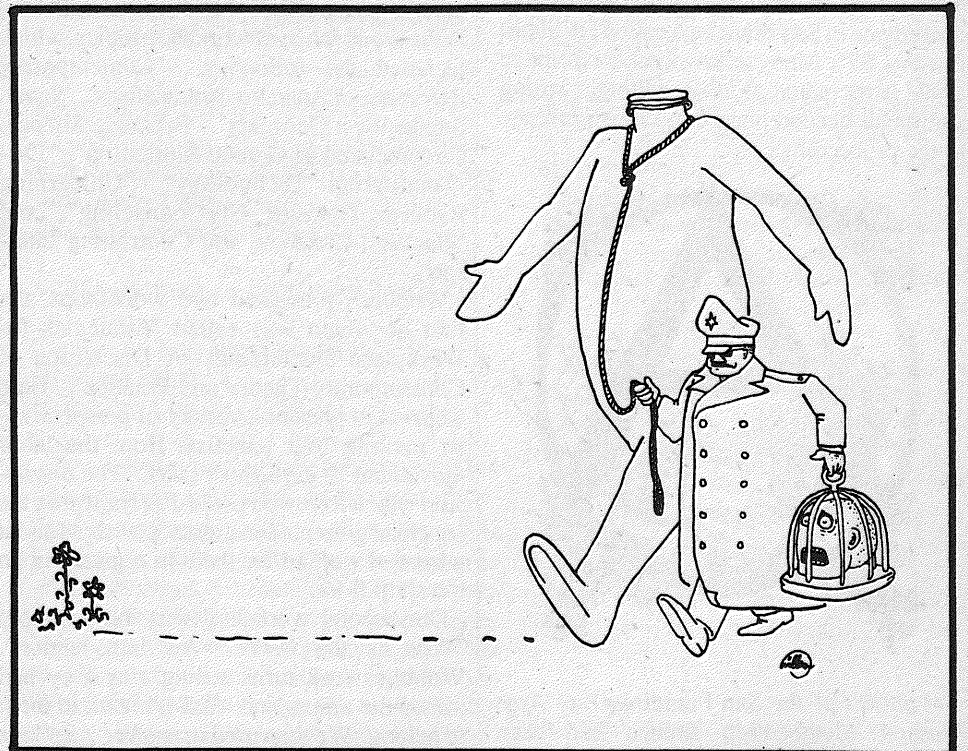
Carlos Cortez, Jeff Ditz, Mike Hargis
Ingrid Kock, Penny Pixler

Contributors:

Jon Bekken, Champaign; Gary Cox, Denver;
Jess Grant, San Francisco; Claudia Green &
Michael Hill, Ann Arbor; Sue McIssac,
Toronto; Billilyn Savage, Baltimore;
Rochelle Semel, New York

General Secretary-Treasurer: Jeff 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.



Correction

The Industrial Worker Collective inadvertently misspelled the name of Cynthia Defigueiredo, of the IFFA, in the May issue of the Industrial Worker. We regret the error.

Wobblies in the Woods

19th century working conditions are alive and well in the tree planting camps of Northern Ontario. Although this may be of great interest to labor historians, for our fellow workers in the reforestation industry, it is a trip into the past they would rather not take. Somehow, the Employment Standards Act got lost on the way to the tree planting camp.

"Okay," I thought, "how bad can it be? It's only for 8 weeks. I'll live." Six days after arriving in camp, I found myself one of 120 planters in a camp with no place to wash, no place to dry our wet clothing, filthy toilets and no day off in sight for at least 10 days — if the contract stayed on schedule.

The reforestation industry in most of Ontario is based on a system where independent contractors bid on plant sites. The contracts, managed by the Ministry of Natural Resources, (MNR), are given to the lowest bidder. In making their bid, the contractor must take into account overhead costs, a profit margin, and a price-per-tree for the planter based on land conditions at the site. There are no ceilings set by the Ministry of Labour, or the MNR to control the lowest price-per-tree that a contractor may offer.

The race to win the limited number of contracts available and to ensure that they may operate for the next season pushes many contractors to grossly underbid. Once overhead and profit are covered, that only leaves one place to cut corners: planters wages, and the quality of living conditions.

At its worst, this system has resulted in naive planters busting their backs for five and a half cents per tree, while living in a bush camp 30 km or more from the nearest pavement. They may have substandard food, unsanitary toilets, equipment that falls apart and no safe drinking water. Add these conditions to a twelve hour work day and you have a Charles Dickens novel. All this misery — blackflies no extra charge — can be had for a mere \$15 to \$18 per day, which is the average "camp cost" demanded by contractors. Some bush camp operations may even expect their planters to come back after 12 hours of intense labour and cook their own meals — and incredible feat for even the most experienced planter — in exchange for lower camp costs.

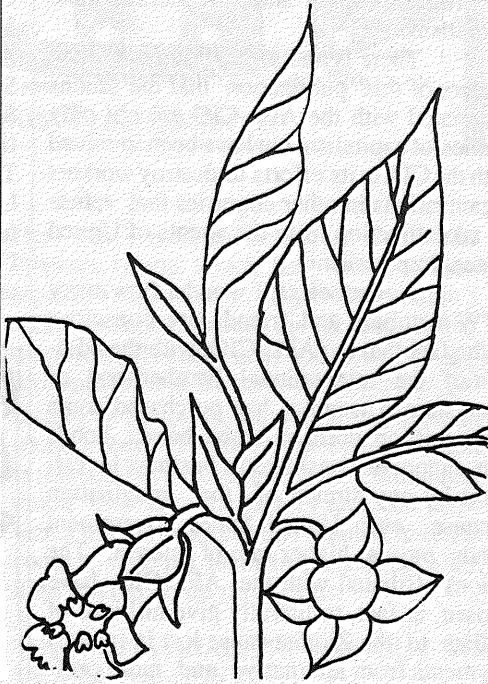
On the day we left Toronto for the camp we were kept waiting for 6 hours for one of the camp buses which was being repaired. The same vehicle broke down 3 more times in the next 10 days, as did the other two camp buses. We found ourselves wasting hours and hours waiting around for a vehicle to move us to the job site or to a new camp. A potential day off was lost, and one day we waited around so long most people didn't even have enough time to cover camp costs.

There was no compensation offered by the company for the time it was wasting. Some days they put as many as twenty of us — with our equipment — in the back of cube vans. Then they would drive us for several kilometres in complete darkness, while we hung on to our wooden seats. One van came to a sudden stop. The benches broke and people went flying. Meanwhile, further on down the road, planters with The Contractor Who Cares are getting nine and a half cents per tree on the same land. They are living in motel rooms and cabins, have showers, meals ready and waiting, sanitary toilets, a place to dry their clothes and dependable rented vehicles that get them to the job site on time. If there are alternatives to the poorly managed bush camp why don't

planters quit and seek greener pastures? When you are thirty miles back in the bush with no money and no transportation, your opportunities are limited.

Many planters have also invested several hundred dollars in camping equipment and feel compelled to make back some of their money they spent just to get there. Lastly there is the principle of "sticking it out": nobody wants to be a quitter. As well,

some contractors include "incentives" in their contracts to make planters think twice about leaving. A common one is the price per tree "bonus" policy. If a planter remains



for the full tree planting season s/he may receive an "extra" penny per tree at the end. But, the extra cent has already been budgeted for; so, when a planter quits s/he is being fined for the amount of the "bonus". The contractor pockets the extra money. Another is to demand a deposit of about \$100 at the point of hiring. This is usually described as an equipment deposit and is only partially refunded, if at all, when the planter finishes the entire season and returns the equipment in satisfactory condition. The deposit is also described by some contractors as a deposit to "ensure that you are committed to us."

There are, however, some unionized contractors and co-ops who are setting a progressive example with more humane working conditions. Studies have been done in British Columbia examining the effect that regular scheduled days-off have on planter productivity. These studies have shown that it is beneficial to increase the ratio of rest-days to work-days. As a result, some contractors have adopted ratios as high as one rest day to four work days. SCREEF magazine, a B.C. treeplanters' journal published by the Pacific Reforestation Workers Association, has suggested changing the bidding system in such a way that the Ministry of Natural Resources sets the price per tree. This allows the contractors to bid on overhead alone, thereby eliminating at least one of the major problems in the present system.

Treeplanters are renowned for their lack of interest in rocking the boat. This is unfortunate because a little strike action in the middle of a contract can go a long way. When a contractor has deadlines to meet and the Ministry is breathing down its neck, planters may find negotiating time is short and sweet and in their favour. On one job site in 1987, planters found themselves in the worst possible camp conditions: no potable water, no adequate shelter, no dishes, non-nutritious food in insufficient amounts. Planters were falling ill. Seasonal temperatures were very low as it was in the far north in September. The camp was accessible by plane only. Despite pleas from the planters the contractor didn't move to change things. Finally they were advised by an MNR employee to go on strike. With only a few days left on the contract, their demands were quickly met. It is too bad they endured what they did for so long.

Sue McIssac

reprinted from "Wildcat" Toronto IWW

Throw a Little Mud at Royalty. Do Ya Good...

Five Denver-Boulder Wobs participated in a demonstration called by the Denver area Jobs With Justice coalition on Friday, June 23, in support of the mailers who had their wages cut by 50% earlier this year by the Denver Post, one of Denver's largest newspapers.

The Denver-Boulder Branch has given the mailers its support for almost a year now in their struggle with union busting Dean Singleton, new owner of the Denver Post. Singleton is a Lorenzo clone who has his philosophy proudly hung on his office wall, which is, "Lo, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil, for I'm the meanest son of a bitch in the valley." Well, he's partly right. It was an uncomfortable demonstration. The Denver Post, while not able to pay a decent wage to its workers, had plenty of money to sponsor a 400 mile bicycle race through the Rockies.

The finish line was located in "Scab City," Colorado — Golden: home and fortress of the Coors Brewery. You remember Coors beer, God's gift to those who prefer rat urine to water. I'm sure the finish line was placed at the Colorado School of Mines campus because it is the citadel of conservative Colorado intelligentsia and located inside the Coors stronghold in Golden.

Jobs With Justice decided to invade this stronghold by meeting the bicyclists as they crossed the finish line with the message that the Denver Post paid for their trip by cutting the wages of its workers — guilt trip extraordinaire. I was the first picket to arrive and had a chance to wander around the area. Banners expounding the generosity of the Post and Coors hung from every fence and tree. It was scab heaven. The feeling was eerie because we were not at a factory gate or in downtown Denver, where I'm more comfortable, but deep in the bowels of the monster capitalist camp surrounded by Yuppies and huge banners singing praises to the worst union busters in Colorado. I felt very out of place but yet deeply satisfied to

be there. Only about a hundred people showed up to welcome the racers, but it was obvious they were not going to welcome a union demonstration; and as more pickets began to show up with signs and leaflets, the expressions began to harden. As the picket line formed with chants of "Boycott the Post", "Boycott Coors", "Ride the Rockies Yes, Denver Post No", the hardened looks turned into vocal epithets of "Get a job", "Get an education", "Go back to Russia", etc.

Working people with a grievance find few friends in wealthy neighborhoods. Workers are losing their homes, but we had ruined their festive mood and their picnic. The irony of this situation is that these same people probably watch the six o'clock news and cheer the bravery of the Chinese workers and students and the Polish workers and students, but see no parallels with the struggles here in this country. Why should they? They think we threaten their privileges. The leader of the demonstration reminded them of this irony. It did reduce the jeering, but not their anger.

What did we accomplish? The news media surgically removed any mention of the demonstration, so we only managed to offend a crowd of 100 spectators and a few bicyclists. On the surface, it was a waste of time and energy. But, Dean Singleton knew we were there and that we will be there at every opportunity we have to expose the hypocrisy of the Denver Post. The Coors family knew we were there — that we had the audacity to invade their turf and throw mud at royalty. Knowing how furious these princes of wealth must be a such insolence was reason enough for me to be there.

But a more important reason for being there was that solidarity is more than

rhetoric, Fellow Workers. It requires putting your body where your mouth is when workers anywhere are under attack.

Gary Cox

Boycott Domino's Pizza

million dollar homes, a radio station, a pro ball club and much much more. Monaghan even has a team of model builders who work to produce in miniature what he hasn't yet acquired full scale. In northern Michigan Monaghan bought 1700 acres of wilderness on Drummond Island and developed it into a resort for his cronies, complete with airport, bank, docks for yachts and a golf course.

Domino's record on labor can at best be called unfair.

Some 20 fatal accidents have been attributed to management's ordering drivers to speed up.

Unionists have picketed Domino's construction sites where non-union labor is employed. The Granite City (Illinois) Trades Council has initiated a community supported boycott in response to Domino's use of non-union labor in building local pizza out lets. UAW workers in Michigan have urged action against Domino's for its use of foreign-made trucks for pizza delivery.

Drug testing, dress codes, surveillance systems, low wages and firing of union sympathizers are the rule. Presently there are three employment related civil rights complaints pending against the pizza company. A civil suit is brewing over pizza delivery drivers being forced to speed to meet deadlines and quotas. Some 20 fatal

accidents have been attributed to management's ordering drivers to speed up. Another civil suit is pending over an employee being physically forced into a barber shop to meet



Domino's hair length requirements. Enough is enough.

In Ann Arbor Wobblies have already leafleted Domino's workers during a picket and plan to continue efforts to build communication and solidarity with them. We are sure we can count on 100% support from all Wobblies in this effort.

Boycott Domino's Pizza. Spread the news. Don't eat another pizza until it's made by organized hands.

Don't eat another Domino's pizza until Tom Monaghan's religious and political agendas are sliced from his corporate and labor practices.



Today as your scribe was taking some old paper and cardboard to the garbage can in the alley, he could not help but think of the hosts of trees that died in order to make this and myriads of scrap paper. On looking in the Yellow Pages for recycling plants there was to be found pages upon pages under real estate and realty before coming upon an inch and a half column of recycling services. This is quite a terse commentary on our modern age!

There is a community here at Old Windy known as North Austin, a former lily-White enclave that is now 75% Black. The first Whites to move out were the liberals who up to that time were loudly proclaiming their sense of brotherly love and equality. It is interesting to note that some of the Whites who still remain were the vociferous bigots who were most opposed to integration and complained about decreasing property values. These erstwhile scissor-bills have somehow stayed to become friends and real honest-to-goodness neighbors of the Blacks who moved in. These after all were the houses these Whites worked hard all their lives to keep up and they may not have been as affluent as their erstwhile liberal neighbors as to pull up stakes and buy a home elsewhere. Having one's own parcel of real estate takes precedence over certain long-held prejudices, besides they got themselves shut of the liberals.

Your scribe is living in a changing neighborhood and it looks like his sense of brotherly love will soon be put to the acid test as more and more White Yuppies are moving in around him. The Capitalist System is indeed alive and well in the legalized bordellos in Nevada. None other than such an auspicious organ (no pun intended) as the *Wall Street Journal* announces the availability of shares in the Mustang Ranch, a notorious house of prostitution. At \$20 a share the Urinal expects the operation to be oversubscribed. The Urinal describes the operation of the Mustang Ranch as follows: "Under the terms of the Mustang Ranch's main business, independent contractors (the women working there) pay the house \$10 a day for 'room and board'.

The company doesn't control the prices charged to its customers; all transactions are individually negotiated by the independent contractor with the client. Payment, either by cash or credit card, is split equally between the company and the independent contractor. The profit is then divided among all the shareholders." Leave it to Capitalist ideology to describe something so demeaning in such glowing terms! While there may be some who see this as humorous, let them dwell upon the utter bottom of the barrel existence these "independent contractors" have been pushed to. But spare yourselves from feeling overly superior to these poor hookers, Fellow Workers. You too, sell your derrieres to the highest bidders and the only difference between you and them is that you may have a longer work life. Under our present economic system, the overwhelming majority of us must sell ourselves to some slob who would, otherwise, command no respect whatever. That goes also for the professional with a college degree. One such professional who was a classmate of yours truly, chided yours truly for having been a menial worker all his life and not having used his mental potential to secure more "dignified" employment. To which I replied, "Yeah, I was the street walker and you were the call girl." When I think of those who will be investing in the Mustang Ranch and of those who edit the *Wall Street Urinal*, I can do none

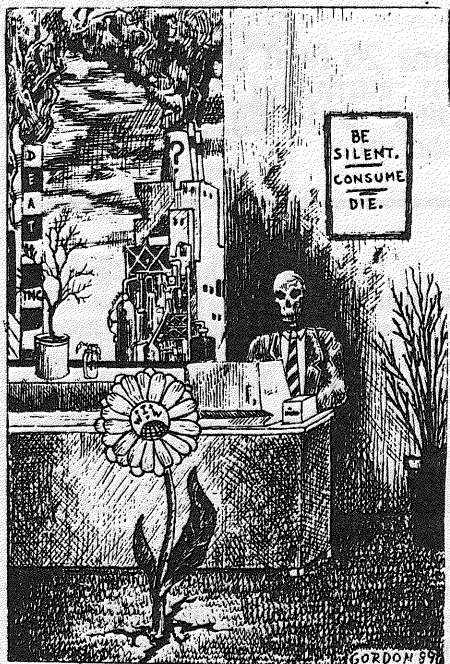
other than take my hat off to the independent contractors back at the Ranch.

Twenty years ago here in Freedomland there were millions of union members earning upwards of \$15 an hour but now some of those same people are flipping hamburgers for \$3.50 or less. Those who still are in unions have to think twice before thinking about going out on strike. Too many of the hamburger flippers are looking for moonlighting opportunities. Those who aren't flipping burgers are dipping their hands in strange fluids that their employers won't divulge the content of for \$5 an hour with no health insurance.

And speaking of chemicals, would you rather feed apple juice to a hungry infant, or be on the board of directors figuring out how to increase profits by diluting the company's baby apple juice product with wastewater from the local nuclear power plant. Sounds a little far fetched, but think of all the stuff being shipped to other countries that are no longer legally sold here in Freedomland. You know Nestle's baby formula and all those goodies. It's an old free enterprise practice that goes back to the days of recycling typhoid and smallpox blankets among the Indians in the last century. But even if you don't happen to be living on an Indian reservation or the "Third World", you still have something disrupt your tranquility and to hopefully disturb your apathy.

Styrofoam is something that along with the atom bomb must be eliminated. In our age of rapidly diminishing landfill area, it is incumbent on us to stop thinking in terms of disposables and go back to reuseables. Our ecology which includes us is dependent upon our rethinking and revising our lives. The Indians who lived for countless millennia here in Freedomland when Freedomland was free believed in keeping the Earth's resources for the sixth generation after them, those that would be there after they were gone. The Indians have been referred to as primitive savages. Those who have taken the land from them refer to themselves as "civilized" but the way they are letting their environment go to pot, they don't even seem to care what happens to their own generation. There is an old German proverb that translates as: "It is a stupid bird that defecates in its own nest!"

C. C. Redcloud



Trade Unions Invest in Israel

If the Industrial Workers of the World had some \$300 million in its treasury, one suspects that this money would be used to educate the working class of this planet on the means at its disposal that could be effectively used to free itself from the rule of capital and bureaucratic state despotism.

There is no need to point out to the readers of this publication that the unions associated with the AFL-CIO are not only toadies of capitalism but have been involved with the CIA in its efforts to destroy workers organizations in other countries that refuse to take direction from the agents of United States imperialism.

Nevertheless, I wonder how many IWW members and friends are conscious of the fact that the AFL-CIO, with the addition of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters to its ranks, has purchased some \$300 million worth of Israeli bonds, bonds that cannot be considered a business investment by any stretch of the imagination because even United States government bonds pay a higher rate of interest. The unions affiliated with the AFL-CIO have chosen, in fact, to literally give millions of dollars to the Zionist cause lost in interest payments from alternative and more profitable investments, millions of dollars that are desperately needed for helping workers on strike survive.

Many IWW members are members of AFL-CIO unions. Because of this, I am going to list every AFL-CIO union that has invested in Israeli bonds, a listing that can be clipped from the *Industrial Worker* for future reference and to alert IWW members to the fact that an AFL-CIO union with which they might be affiliated has been a purchaser of Israeli bonds and thereby a contributor to the slaughter of the Palestinian people that is going on in the West Bank and Gaza. Perhaps workers in those AFL-CIO affiliates might start a campaign to divest union funds from supporting such neo-fascists as Yitzhak Shamir and Ariel Sharon and divert those funds to serving working class interests insofar as that is possible in an AFL-CIO union.

The following list of AFL-CIO unions that have Israeli bonds in their portfolios was taken from *American Jewish Organization & Israel* by Lee O'Brian and can be found on pages 140-141. *American Jewish Organizations* was published by the Institute for Palestine Studies, Washington, D.C. in 1986.

Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America
Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America
American Federation of Musicians
Baker and Confectionery Workers International Union of America
Bricklayers, Masons, and Plasterers International Union of America
Distillery, Rectifying, Wine and Allied Workers International Union of America
Graphics Arts International Union
Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders' International Union
International Association of Bridge and Structural Iron Workers
International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers
International Brotherhood of Painters and Allied Trades of the United States and Canada
International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers of America
International Jewelry Workers Union
International Ladies Garment Workers Union
International Leather Goods, Plastics and Novelty Workers Union
International Longshoremen's Association
International Typographical Union
International Union of Dolls, Toys, Playthings, Novelties and Allied Products of the United States and Canada
International Union of Operating Engineers

International Union of Wood, Wire and Metal Lathers
Laborers International Union of North America
Retail Clerks International Association
Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Union
Seafarers International Union of North America
Service Employees International Union
Sheet Metal Workers International Association
Textile Workers Union of America
United Automobile, Aerospace and Agricultural Implement Workers of America
United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fixing



Industry of the United States and Canada
United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America
United Furniture Workers of America
United Hatters, Cap and Millinery Workers International Union
United Paperworkers International Union
United Steelworkers of America

Three unions not affiliated with the AFL-CIO are listed as having purchased Israeli bonds. The names of these unions are: Amalgamated Lithographers of America
Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's International Union
Laundry, Cleaning and Dye Houseworkers International Union

One of the unions listed above was the International Association of Machinists, presided over by William Winpisinger, who is also connected with pro-Israeli Democratic Socialists of America. In 1984-1985, Winpisinger's union struck El-Al Airlines, the state-owned Israeli air service. Histadrut, which is supposed to be a super Israeli labor union, sent machinists as scabs to the United States in order to break the strike. The International Association of Machinists has yet to divest itself of the bonds of the State of Israel that it has in its stock portfolio. (See *Jews in America Today* by Lenni Brenner, p. 113).

It is indeed criminal that unions ostensibly organized to promote the welfare of American workers are using the money of those workers to promote an ideology - Zionism - which is acknowledged to be racist by intellectually honest persons everywhere and has also been condemned as a racist ideology by the United Nations. It is my hope that IWW members and other readers of the *Industrial Worker* will attempt to get their Zionist-connected unions to divest themselves of their Israeli bonds; failing that, to at least give this well-hidden secret of capitalist labor-faker duplicity maximum publicity in working class circles

Robert Nordlander

FBI Destabilization Strikes Again

Marc Baker, Mark Davis, Peg Millet and Dave Foreman, all activists who have worked with Earth First!, were arrested May 30 and June 1 by FBI agents. Foreman had been released on \$50,000 bond while the other three are being held without bail.

Millet, Davis, and Baker are charged with Destruction of an Energy Facility, Destruction of Government Property, Destruction of Property which Affects Interstate Commerce and Conspiracy. Foreman is charged with Conspiracy to Destroy an Energy Facility. FBI spokespeople claimed that the group was planning to interrupt power lines leading into the Palo Verde and Diablo Canyon nuclear facilities.

FBI agents have questioned people in Tucson, Prescott and Flag staff, AZ, and in Missoula, MT. FBI spokesmen have said arrests are likely in Colorado. It has also been suggested that the arrests were part of a larger campaign to entrap more people.

The FBI infiltrated Earth First! with covert tactics including the use of agent provocateurs. An FBI agent "Mike Tait" tape recorded at least 34 talks he had with various Earth First!ers and attended

numerous Earth First! activities.

Whatever we think of the actions of various Earth First! members, we need to recognize the FBI efforts to squelch an effective movement. The IWW was suppressed in a similar fashion 60 years ago and if it is to rise in prominence, can expect such attacks again.

The General Administration of the IWW has stocked a supply of a new book: War at Home by Brian Glick in an effort to educate our members about government tactics to disrupt organizations.

Glick documents a number of tactics used by the FBI to disrupt organizations including: infiltration, planting false media stories, producing bogus leaflets, pamphlets and other publications, forged correspondence, anonymous letters and telephone calls, pressure through employers, landlords and others, tampering with mail and telephone service (Wobblies take Note!!!!), disinformation, harassment through the legal system, and extralegal force and violence.

He provides the checklist in the sidebar to aid activists in coping with FBI actions. A copy of Glick's book is available from the IWW GA for \$5.

A CHECKLIST OF ESSENTIAL PRECAUTIONS

1. Check out the authenticity of any disturbing letter, rumor, phone call, or other communication before acting on it. Ask the supposed source if she or he is responsible.
2. Keep records of incidents which appear to reflect COINTELPRO-type activity. Evaluate your response and report your experiences to the Movement Support Network and other groups that document repression and resistance around the country. (See page 92.)
3. Deal openly and honestly with the differences within our movements (race, gender, class, age, religion, national origin, sexual orientation, personality, experience, physical and intellectual capacities, etc.) before the FBI and police can exploit them.
4. Don't try to expose a suspected agent or informer without solid proof. Purges based on mere suspicion only help the FBI and police create distrust and paranoia. It generally works better to criticize what a disruptive person says and does, without speculating as to why.
5. Support all movement activists who come under government attack. Don't be put off by political slander, such as recent attempts to smear some militant opponents of government policy as "terrorists." Organize public opposition to all FBI witchhunts, grand jury subpoenas, political trials, and other forms of government and right-wing harassment.
6. Cultivate relationships with sympathetic journalists who seem willing to investigate and publicize domestic covert operations. Let them know when you are harassed. Since the FBI and police thrive on secrecy, public exposure can undermine their ability to subvert our work.
7. Don't try to tough it out alone. Don't let others fret and suffer by themselves. Make sure that activists who are under extreme stress get the help they need (someone to talk with, rest, therapy, etc.). It is crucial that we build support networks and take care of one another.
8. Above all, do not let our movements be diverted from their main goals. Our most powerful weapon against political repression is effective organizing around the needs and issues which directly affect people's lives.



They say COINTELPRO is dead, and has been for years.



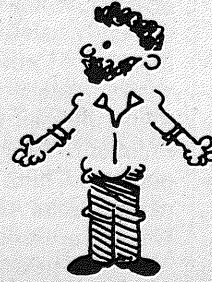
But I don't know.



What about the FBI infiltration into the Sanctuary Movement?



What about their investigation of Physicians for Social Responsibility?



What about the continued breaking into offices of Central American organizations?



If COINTELPRO is dead, then J. Edgar Hoover lives.

© Oakeswiler 1/87

RESOURCE ORGANIZATIONS

For educational materials and campaigns:

- Christic Institute, 1324 N. Capitol St. NW, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 797-8106
- Movement Support Network (an anti-repression project of the Center for Constitutional Rights in conjunction with the National Lawyers Guild), 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, (212) 614-6422
- National Alliance Against Racist and Political Repression 126 W. 119th St., New York, NY 10026, (212) 866-8600
- National Committee Against Repressive Legislation, 501 C St. NE, Washington, DC 20002, (202) 543-7659
- Political Rights Defense Fund, P.O. Box 649, Cooper Station, New York, NY 10003 (212) 691-3270

For legal advice and assistance:

- Center for Constitutional Rights, 666 Broadway, New York, NY 10012, (212) 614-6464
- Civil Liberties Union of Massachusetts, 47 Winter St., Boston, MA. 02108, (617) 482-3170
- Civil Liberties Union of Southern California, 663 S. Shatto Pl., Los Angeles, CA. 90005, (213) 487-1720 (Check to see if the civil liberties union in your area will help.)
- National Conference of Black Lawyers, 126 W. 119th St., New York, NY 10026, (212) 864-4000
- National Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, 175 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10010, (212) 673-1360
- National Lawyers Guild, 55 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10013, (212) 966-5000 or the NLG chapter near you.
- People's Law Office, 633 S. Dearborn, #1614, Chicago, IL. 60604, (312) 663-5046

For help with research and investigation:

- Anti-Repression Resource Team, P.O. Box 122, Jackson, MS 39205, (601) 969-2269
- Center for Investigative Reporting, Freedom of Information Project, 530 Howard, 2d Floor, San Francisco, CA. 94105, (415) 543-1200
- Data Center, 464 19th St., Oakland, CA. 94612, (415) 835-4692
- Fund for Open Information and Accountability, 145 W. Fourth St., New York, NY 10012, (212) 477-3188
- National Security Archives, 1755 Massachusetts Ave. N.W., #500, Washington, D.C. 20036, (202) 797-0882
- Political Research Associates, 678 Massachusetts Ave., #205, Cambridge, MA. 02139, (617) 661-9313

We Are Not Alone

As we've watched the FBI unveil their work over the last few weeks, it's been a revelation to find that the Dark Age of domestic spying and covert disruption never ended. We've seen government techniques developed over generations of social change movements, and discovered new ties to our fore-mothers and -fathers. In recent years, the same techniques were used against the sanctuary movement, the civil rights movement and the anti-war movement, among others. Many of them were also used against early generations of labor organizers, before the labor movement became an arm of Business.

For their campaign, the FBI launched a three-pronged attack on Earth First! intended to: decapitate the movement by removing or intimidating its leaders, tie up group energy in defensive activities, and discredit the movement in the opinions of the public and the media.

For the first prong, they clearly targeted Dave Foreman and others heavily involved with the *Earth First! Journal*. Foreman has been an obvious target, as both the author of *Ecodefense: A Strategic Guide to Monkeywrenching* and as one of the movement's most effective speakers. Foreman has been particularly outspoken in the last year on the subject of Arizona's Mt. Graham, an issue where Earth First! has clearly impeded a major development project. Expecting such an attack, Foreman has been careful and legal for years. Whether he was careful and legal enough to avoid a concerted effort at entrapment remains to be seen.

In the process of taking legal action against those folk, the FBI clearly intends to tie up the energy of the "organization" in court battles and support for same. They

have succeeded in tying up the phone lines of the Journal, and the personal energy of about eight people.

A more successful and insidious drain on the movement's energy is the effect of suspicion and fear. We've already seen some whispering and finger-pointing, with old-timers wondering about newcomers and nobody sure of what they could safely say to a group. Some of this will probably fade with time, but this could be the most lasting effect of the attack.

Major demonstrations and other actions by EF!ers nationwide have sparked support from the public, and often get substantial coverage by the news media. To discredit the movement..., the FBI has tried hard to paint Earth First! with the tar brush of "terrorism" a major buzzword these days. David Small, supervisor of an FBI anti-terrorism squad, said his group was involved because terrorism "includes any individual committing criminal acts under federal, state or local laws in furtherance with their political or social goals."

Consider the implications of that statement. That makes Martin Luther King a terrorist, and likewise Thomas Jefferson. That makes the Boston Tea Party the quintessential terrorist gang action.

That makes blocking a bulldozer into a felony offense, while the chairman of Exxon, because he supports the dominant social paradigm, walks free.

Dale Turner

This article is reprinted from *Earth First! Special Edition* June 16, 1989. The material about Earth First! in this edition of the newspaper has no bearing on, or utility for any legal actions related to the events described.

Of Interest



To Unionists

New York Hospital Workers Strike NY, July 24 Thousands of members of Local 1199 of the Drug, Hospital and Health Care Employees picketed St. Luke's Roosevelt Hospital Center in protest of stalled contract negotiations, after the old contract expired June 30. This was the second of three planned one day strikes in July by members of Local 1199, which sought a new contract for its 47,000 workers at 53 New York City private hospitals. Among the workers' demands was a 17% wage increase over two years. The strikers hoped to be able to extend its picket line completely around the hospital, but were stopped by a court order. After the picket, the strikers marched down Fifth Avenue to the rhythm of salsa, samba and civil rights marching songs to a rally at 99th and Madison Avenue, where the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Dennis Rivera, president of the local, addressed them.

US Cites Ford on Job Safety Detroit, July 7 Secretary of Labor Elizabeth Dole accused the Ford Motor company of violating an agreement it made two years ago to improve the way its records work related problems. Dole said the Occupational Safety and Health Administration had cited Ford for 241 instances of misrecording or failure to record injuries or illnesses at the Ford Electronics and Refrigeration Corp., a manufacturer of cruise control devices and fuel injection systems based in Lansdale, Pa., near Philadelphia. OSHA said it began investigating the Lansdale plant early this year after receiving a complaint that an employee had been exposed to asbestos and that it then discovered the record keeping violations and other health and safety problems. Dole proposed a fine of nearly \$2 million against Ford, but that was merely a grandstanding gesture.

Polish Workers Strike, Warsaw, July 20 Even as the details of Solidarity's electoral gains are worked out, Polish workers continue to express their demands by job action. In Katowice, in the industrial south of the country, thousands of transport struck for more pay. In Gdynia, on the Baltic coast, several thousand shipyard workers agreed to suspend a wildcat strike for better pay and easier working conditions after six hours of negotiations.

Amnesty International continues to seek information about the investigation the Brazilian government claims to be launching about the aftermath of the Movimento dos Trabalhadores sem Terra (Landless Peasants Organization) attempt to occupy land in Itamaraju this spring. AI has received transcripts documenting the torture of eight of the campesinos involved.

SA Union Protests Mobil, Johannesburg, June 19 The South African Chemical Workers Industrial Union held protests outside Mobil Corp.'s New York offices to denounce the way Mobil misled its employees about its disinvestment plans. The union backs disinvestment as a way to put pressure on South Africa's racist institutions, but says Mobil misled its workers before announced this spring that it would sell its local interests to the General Mining Union Corp. The union represents about a third of Mobil's 2800 South African employees, most of whom are non white.

China's Independent Labor Movement

The mass media, recently, bombarded us with reports of the Chinese government's ongoing brutal repression of the student movement. Similar acts of repression by U.S. client states continues, of course, to go either unreported or relegated to the back pages of the better papers.

Equally ignored was Chinese workers' organization of an autonomous labor movement and its suppression by the authorities. Indeed, the timing of the government crackdown suggests that the growing workers movement may well have been its primary target. In June, the Hong Kong Trade Union Education Centre released a report entitled "China's Independent Labour Movement." The report ends with an appeal on behalf of independent unionists in China for labor organizations to demand that the Chinese government halt the ongoing arrests of organizers and workers for their involvement with autonomous workers' federations, immediately release all detained labor leaders, repeal the shoot-to-kill order accompanying arrest warrants, stop the murders and beatings of detainees, and recognize the basic rights of workers to organize and associate freely and independently.

When, in the 1920s, California state authorities secured a standing injunction against the IWW and threw scores of IWW activists into jail on "criminal syndicalism" charges, Chinese maritime workers demanded a halt to the repression, promising a boycott of California products if our fellow workers were not released. Now is an opportunity to reciprocate. Letters can be sent to Premier Li Peng, Beijing, People's (sic) Republic of China and to Ni Zhi-fu, Chairman of the official All-China Federation of Trade Unions, in Beijing.

The Beijing Workers' Autonomous Federation was organized in May of this year, by workers who supported the student demands for greater democracy, an end to corruption, government accountability, and the right to organize. In mid-May, nearly 100 workers erected a tented headquarters on the outskirts of the student encampment on Tiananmen Square. Over their headquarters waved the red banner of the Workers' Autonomous Federation and slogans calling for democracy and freedom of association. Union members included steel-workers, railway and aviation workers, cooks and others. The Federation was soon joined by workers from other cities throughout China in the first open attempt by workers to establish an autonomous organization outside the official All-China Federation of Trade Unions (ACFTU).

At its peak, the federation claimed 100,000 members in Beijing, representing more than forty industries. Several thousand steelworkers at Capital Steel struck in support of the demonstrators in May, and troops had to be stationed to prevent other workers from leaving the plant to join them. "Work-



ers' marshals teams" were organized by the authorities to beat up workers who took part in strike actions. The union distributed thousands of leaflets demanding better conditions for workers, and the right to establish their own organizations. The Autonomous Federation pointed to wide wage disparities between workers and managers, the lack of workplace democracy, unsafe working conditions, falling real wages, and the lack of meaningful workers' representation in the policy-making process. They set up a loudspeaker to broadcast their demands, alternated with revolutionary songs such as the Internationale.

On the other side, government loudspeakers tried to drown out the workers with official propaganda and Martial Law regulations. By June 1st, when Hong Kong unionists first visited the camp, three leaders of the independent workers movement had already been arrested; though demonstrations later secured their release. Even while the government was making conciliatory gestures to the student movement, the government and its "unions" were already denouncing the Autonomous Federation, labelling it an unlawful body composed of unruly elements. Some students also reportedly sought to keep their distance from the workers, hoping to restrict their movement to more respectable elements of society. Despite these obstacles, the federation was hoping for legalization, and trying to muster support from more sympathetic sections of the official ACFTU.

With the attack on Tiananmen Square on June 4th, troops massacred the federation's representatives. Union members had marched to the front of the crowd, carrying their union banners and interposing themselves between the crowds and the government troops. Very few were to survive the massacre. June 8th, the Chinese government announced that the Workers' Autonomous Federation was a counter-revolutionary organization, and that they would arrest all organizers and activists in the

movement. The next day, more than 100,000 demonstrators rallied in Shanghai to protest the crackdown.

Among the protesters' banners were those of the Shanghai Workers Autonomous Federation, with 1,000 workers rallying under their banner. Similar independent union banners were raised in Guangzhou and other cities following the massacre. June 12th, Chinese television showed a badly beaten activist from the Shanghai federation who had been arrested by security police. That same day, the regime called on the official unions to mobilize workers to demolish the independent workers movement all over the country, reporting that 80 people had already been arrested in Beijing for involvement in the movement.

The ACFTU had initially supported the students movement, but denounced the Beijing Workers Autonomous Federation as unlawful on June 2nd, calling on the government to crush the pickets and other federation activities. The regime was only too willing to oblige its lackeys, who doubtless feared erosion of their lucrative racket. The Federation's provisional statutes provide that the union shall be "an entirely independent, autonomous organization, built up by the workers on a voluntary basis through democratic processes, and should not be controlled by other organizations." The union would "address political and economic demands, based on the wishes of the majority of the workers, and should not remain just a welfare organization" (the main function of the ACFTU is to administer benefit programs). The statutes also bound the union to observe Chinese laws, but provided that the union should "monitor the party of the proletariat—the Chinese Communist Party" to ensure that it acted in workers' interests as well as to monitor managers of all state and collective enterprises in order to "guarantee that the workers become the real masters of the enterprise."

The statutes went on to provide that union general assemblies would be the highest decision-making body, with an Executive Committee elected to set the agenda and carry out workers decisions. Any ten members would be able, however, to force any motion onto the agenda or to initiate the recall of the committee.

Finally the report provides a list of workers arrested by the regime as of June 26th—a list that, unfortunately, continues to grow. Among those being held are Bai Dongping, a railway worker and member of the federation executive; Liu Qiang, another WAF leader; Liu Huanwen, a steel worker and picket captain; and three leaders of the Shanghai federation—Gao Jingtang, Zhu Guanghua and Li Xiaohu. At least ten workers had been executed for their part in the movement when the document was prepared, not including the dozens killed in the massacre on Tiananmen Square.

JB

Salvadoran Labor Leader Tortured

Jose Tomas Mazariego, member of the International Relations Commission of the National Unity of Salvadoran Workers (UNTS) and the executive committee of ASTTEL, the telecommunications workers union, was abducted by death squads from the front of the UNTS office on Monday, June 12 at 8:30 pm EST. He was subsequently taken to the headquarters of the Treasury Police where he was held and severely tortured for 72 hours without being formally charged with any crime. Mazariego was released on Thursday, June 15 at 4:30 pm as a result of the widespread response from the U.S. labor and solidarity movements. He had been scheduled to begin a tour across the United States on June 13 sponsored by the New York Labor Committee for Democracy and Human Rights

in El Salvador.

The well-known labor leader was seized the evening before Vice President Quayle's visit to El Salvador to meet with the new Salvadoran President Alfredo Cristiani, of the extreme right wing ARENA party. Quayle, during his visit, underscored the Bush Administration's intent to maintain support for the new government, despite its well known links to the Salvadoran Death Squads. While Jose Mazariego was being held and tortured, the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee approved a new Foreign Aid package of \$386 million dollars for the Salvadoran government.

While being held, Mazariego was badly beaten, sustained acid burns and had

electric shocks applied to his body. His case

is but one example of the increase in human rights violations of the Salvadoran government. Gregorio Osorio, president of the labor federation, FEASIES (Federation of Independent Unions and Associations of El Salvador), was abducted by the National Guard on Tuesday, June 13 from in front of his home. He is still being held without charge and his condition is unknown. According to a report recently released by the non-governmental Human Rights Commission of El Salvador (CDHES), during the first five months of 1989, 1,125 civilians were killed for political reasons; 83 have been "disappeared" and the government now holds 116 political prisoners. During 1988, there were 1,889 politically-related killings.

SOVIET MINERS' STRIKE

The initial miners strike began Monday morning July 10 in the western Siberian town of Mezhdurecensk, when 77 night shift workers at one mine announced a sit in. By Tuesday morning the strike had become city wide, with all five of the Mezhdurecensk mines grinding to a halt and almost 12,000 miners out. Thousands of the miners gathered in the city center to dramatize their demands. The miners demands read like a list of the pent up grievances of the entire community, and included more food in the stores, more supplies of soap, warmer winter clothing, improved maternity leave, anti pollution measures, repair of ecological damage in areas being mined, improved local housing, more disposable hypodermic syringes (the lack of which in hospitals has been suspected in spreading AIDS), local reinvestment of foreign currency from coal exports to improve miners' lives, and a new national constitution with stronger guarantees of liberty to be enacted no later than next year.

A dozen wildcat strikes have been reported this year, including actions by rug weavers in Central Asia, librarians in Moscow and miners in several different towns. But this strike in the Soviet Union's second most important coal mining center about a hundred miles north of where the Soviet, Chinese and Mongolian border meet, won an unusual statement of support from the officially sanctioned Council of Trade Unions, which has been struggling to overcome its reputation as a docile appendage of management. Reportedly the council provided the leaders of the wildcat strikers with office space, a telephone and transportation services. Even more unusual, government ministers sent from Moscow, acted to improve the miners' working conditions.

After four days of protest by "107,000 strikers" the entire population of the city a deputy chairperson of the strike committee, Yuri I. Shikharev, said the strike committee, elected independently by the workers, was considering recommending to the miners to return to work, retained the option to resume the work stoppage if the government reneged on concessions. Strike leaders ordered the town's liquor stores closed.

Meanwhile new work stoppages spread to other parts of the coal rich region. Besides Novokuznetsk, the region's largest mining center with 600,000 residents, new mining strikes occurred at Osinniki, Prokopyevsk, Kiselevsk, Leninsk Kuznetsky, Bereznovskiy and Kemerovo, with workers in related industries coming out in support. A week after the strike started, a region wide strike committee was reported forming in Prokopyevsk to strengthen the campaign. An estimated 110,000 workers were out of the Siberian mines, and the Kremlin sent a Politburo delegation to the region to appeal directly to the miners to end their strike before the economy was harmed.

By July 17, the strike had spread to the Ukraine. Workers had closed eight mines in the nation's richest coal field, the Donets Basin north east of the Crimean peninsula. Several of the Donets Basin mines had been shut earlier this year in a brief wildcat walk-out. Workers resuming the stoppage in the eight mines in the city of Makeyevka complained about food shortages, 10 year waiting lists of apartments, dangerous and outdated mine technology and insufficient pay and vacation time.

By July 18, more than 30 mines were shut down in the Donets Basin, a four fold overnight increase. The Ukrainian strikers contributed a bit of poetic justice to the situation when they succeeded in shutting down the Stakhanov mine. One of the largest in the area, it was named after Aleksei Stakhanov, the miner celebrated in Stalinist times for reputed superhuman efforts in more than doubling his personal daily coal digging efforts. Government propagandists coined the term Stakhanovite to designate heroic producers, but eventually abandoned the campaign as critics uncovered the official hoax. In Siberia, strikers demanded greater militancy from their strike leaders, rejecting their recommendation to return to work in the face

of government concessions and renewing their demands for greater worker involvement in the management of their industry. The city of Prokopyevsk seemed to be the most militant center of the strike and Soviet TV showed throngs of strikers in the city square, vowing to hold out until the government offered believable guarantees of a basic improvement in their standing as workers and consumers. "Half measures!" one worker shouted to describe the concessions make thus far.

By July 20, ten days after the first strike, the wave of wildcats spread across the Soviet coalfields from the Arctic Circle to Soviet Central Asia. The authorities in Moscow announced that a package of economic and political concessions accepted by



the pioneering strikers in Prokopyevsk would be extended to coal fields nationwide. The concessions appeared to have convinced the western Siberian miners to return to work and reportedly, the strikers returned to work in some of the 125 strike closed mines in the Donets Basin.

The quickness with which Moscow agreed to make a deal on several critical items like clothes and soap and sewing machines only galled many Siberians, who have not seen things in their region for almost 10 years. Some miners dated to the loss of consumer goods to the 1980 Olympic Games, when the host city, Moscow, took priority on everything. Others said the real reason was that an infusion of mine mechanization began in 1980, and the government soon neglected the human incentives once offered to Siberian miners. All thought it significant that the government seemed to be able to tap a special horde of consumer goods when a sense of crisis was forced on them.

Whatever the tangible concessions, the most significant fruit of the strike may be the start of a new labor movement. Only 15 years ago a Ukrainian coal miner, Aleksei Nikitin, who tried to organize a protest was arrested and put under enforced psychiatric treatment. A strike leader in Rostov on Don, who declared he was speaking for all the coalfield workers in the southern Russian mining area, called for an immediate national congress of coal workers, with senior industrial managers to be excluded. Another report, from a Ukrainian dissident, said miners who walked out in the western Ukrainian city of Chervonograd, included in their demands the creation of an independent national coal union explicitly modeled on the Polish union Solidarnosc. (That demand was not reported in the Soviet press.)

And even as the western Siberian strikers returned to the mines, miners in new regions began laying down their tools, swelling what has been the biggest show of labor unrest since the 20's. New strikes erupted in 9 of the 13 pits in Vorkuta, in the polar region of Russia; 14 mines in the Karaganda coal basin of northern Kazakhstan; the largest mine in Rostov on Don; at least 11 mines in the Ukrainian region of Dnepropetrovsk; and three mines in the Lvov region of western Ukraine. On July 22, there were still half a million miners on strike, and the shut

down of the Ukrainian mines was reported to be complete. By the 24th, however, half of the 300,000 Ukrainian miners had gone back to work. In the Donets fields, 74 of the total of 121 mines were reported closed, which meant that miners in the other mines had ended their walkouts in the last 24 hours.

By July 24, about half the mines in the Donets coal fields had reopened, but miners from the other half were said to be waiting for the results of a Moscow meeting between a strike delegation and Prime Minister Nikola Ryzhkov. Work was reported to be back to normal in the western Siberian and central Asian mines, but the walkouts continued in the far north Pechora coalfields, and in the Pavlograd and Voroshilovgrad regions of the Ukraine. The legislator in the Supreme Soviet

from the Pechora region read a statement of demands from the striking miners, which included scrapping Article Six of the Soviet Constitution, which establishes the Communist party as the "leading and guiding force" in Soviet society, and holding new elections to replace members of the Supreme Soviet who were chosen by official organizations like the party rather than by voters at large.

President Mikhail Gorbachev reversed an earlier decision to postpone countryside elections for local government councils, suggesting each republic decide on its own when to hold the elections. Early local elections are said to be one of the political demands of the strikers, who say they have no faith in the city and regional officials named to their posts before the advent of competitive ballots. Gorbachev's decision may be an attempt to direct the popular fury behind the strike onto the local party, government and union officials.

The absence of any demand for wage hikes from the miners may seem puzzling until one remembers that possession of money in the Soviet system is less important than being able to spend it. Which depends on who and where you are as to how you hook into the network for distribution of consumer goods. Some regions have priority over others; some people, by virtue of party membership and government position, are entitled to shop in special stores where ample goods are available at low prices. Some things, like tickets to important sporting and culture events, are allocated through organizations rather than being sold.

All of this makes smuggling and cultivation of personal channels - clout - a way of life. But the combination of hierarchy combined with egalitarian rhetoric creates a widespread anger, now erupting in Poland, now in the Soviet Union, that the western boss press interprets as a longing for capitalism, rather than a desire for political and industrial democracy.

plp

(The thing that galled about writing this story was the unctuous tone of approval in the NY Times writers as they noted "how decisively Soviet workers are shedding their timidity," when they would be first to condemn US workers for doing likewise.)

Of Interest



To Unionists

United Flight Attendants Vote Strike, Washington, July 12 After nearly two years of negotiations, flight attendants at United Airlines overwhelmingly voted to authorize a strike. But the Association of Flight Attendants might not be walking out soon in order to speed negotiations: the dragging negotiations are under the supervision of a Federation mediator, who would have to declare an impasse and call for a 30 day cooling off period before a strike could be legally called.

Pediatric Hospital Nurses Strike Oakland, CA, July 12 Some 700 members of the California Nurses Association put up picket lines for the second day outside Children's Hospital, after their previous contract expired June 30. The nurses sought a 26% raise from the hospital, northern California's largest pediatric facility, and rejected by a 4 to 1 margin an offer of an 18% raise over two years. No new contract talks were scheduled.

Vermont Paper Workers Unionize Burlington, VT Word has just now filtered in to the IW that several months back employees at the Burlington Free Press, Vermont's largest daily newspaper, voted 77 to 47 to join the Graphics Communications International Union. The election pitted the 150,000 member union against the \$3.3 billion Gannett Company which has typically fought hard against unions at its 88 newspapers. It was the first time in five years that Gannett has lost a union election, and makes The Free Press the only unionized newspaper in Vermont. Workers at The Free Press complained of low wages, unpaid overtime, and recent reductions in health benefits. They also suspected that Gannett, which bought the 163 year old paper in 1971, has been milking The Press, and its other local newspapers to support other enterprises, notably USA Today, its nationally circulated newspaper.

Is Sex-class Change Possible?...Reality is social; reality is whatever people at a given time believe it to be...Reality is always a function of politics in general and sexual politics in particular that is, it serves the powerful by fortifying and justifying their right to domination over the powerless...The given reality is, of course, that there are two sexes, male and female; that these two sexes are opposite from each other, polar; that the male is inherently positive and the female inherently negative; and that the positive and negative poles of human existence unite naturally into a harmonious whole. Truth, on the other hand, is not nearly so accessible as reality...Truth is absolute in that it does exist and ... it is the human project to find it so reality can be based on it...I have made this distinction between truth and reality in order to enable me to say something very simple: that while the system of gender polarity is real, it is not true. It is not true that there are two sexes which are discrete and opposite, which are opposite, which unite naturally and self evidently into a harmonious whole...The system based on this polar model of existence is absolutely real; but the model itself is not true. We are living imprisoned inside a pernicious delusion, a delusion on which all reality as we know it is predicated.
-- Andrea Dworkin

Vancouver Nurses Strike, Vancouver, June Members of the Hospital Employees Union in British Columbia struck against Vancouver General Hospital in June to press their demands for better pay

Baltimore IWW Organizes Against Pittston Coal Company

win-Felts gun thugs in broad daylight on the steps of the McDowell County Courthouse in Welch in retaliation for the "Matewan Massacre"; no one was found guilty of the murders).

Things really haven't changed much around here and in the surrounding coal-fields, it seems. Sure the country-side is pretty much the same and the miners here, although dressed in camouflage to show their solidarity, still wear the traditional red bandana around their necks to indicate that they are on strike. But this is 1989 and this rally is in support of miners striking against the Pittston Coal Company (in addition to the New Beckley mines in the area); judges in Virginia are handing down injunctions against the union, ostensibly to limit the number of pickets, a private security agency has been hired to protect company property and scab workers, and the state police are in southwestern Virginia to "maintain order". In a word, the Pittston Coal Group is still trying to break the traditionally-militant, industrially-organized United Mine Workers of America.

That evening in Marmet there were speeches by the local politicians, speeches by UMWA local and international officials; there were the "Picket Line Players", composed of striking miners, playing music. That evening in Roanoke, Virginia three leaders of the mine workers, striking against the Greenwich, Connecticut based Pittston Coal Group (Greenwich, where the socially-conscious Leona Hemsley lives) were in jail. Jackie Stump, president of District 28, Cecil Phillips, a strike coordinator, and Marty Hudson, strike organizer, were taken away — in handcuffs, I'm told — and held without bail because US District Judge Glen Williams had issued an injunction against the union's leaders limiting the number of strikers on the picket lines and basically for engaging in civil disobedience actions (Hudson was being held on contempt of court charges). Sitting in the road, blocking coal trucks and the entrances to the mines.

Russell County Circuit Court Judge Donald McGlothlin has fined the union three million dollars for violating his order to limit the number of pickets. In 1983 the Pittston Coal Group was fined only \$47,000 when it was judged to be negligent in the death of seven miners after an explosion in the mines.

Levying fines against the UMWA and its members for their non-violent protests (over 2000 people have been arrested — and fined heavily) for "illegal strike activities", and contempt of court, meaning their participation in the strike. Now the Honorable Judge McGlothlin has decided to issue jail terms for miners just taking their time driving along the winding coal-truck routes in Southwestern Virginia when a scab-driven coal truck is behind them.

It's not against the law for the Asset Protection Company, a private security agency owned by Gerald Ford's son-in-law Charles Vance and who, dressed in their blue jump-suits look like something out of Rambo meets Robo-Cop, to intimidate striking workers. (Word has it that most of these strike-busting specialists are recruited from "Soldier of Fortune" magazine ads.)

It's not against the law for the Pittston Group to cut off medical benefits in the dead of winter for 1500 retired miners, disabled miners, and widows, or to do away with overtime and work "flex time." That just means a miner can now work twelve hours a day in the mines instead of eight (and I thought we won that fight). And, according to Michael Odem, president of the Pittston Group, the miners — many of whom incidentally are ministers — are only "using religion as an excuse" so as not to work on Sundays.

It's not a crime to bring in scab workers to replace union workers (after all, Virginia is a right-to-work state, it's in their constitution).

It IS a felony to throw a stone at a coal truck.

Injunctions, fines, jailing of union leaders (and now miners), gun thugs and scabs. Plain-out union busting. Trying to take back everything that the union has fought for these many years (at least they're not forced to trade solely at the company store). Sounds pretty familiar, doesn't it.

The UMWA called the strike on April 5 against the Pittston Coal Group after having worked for fourteen months without a contract.

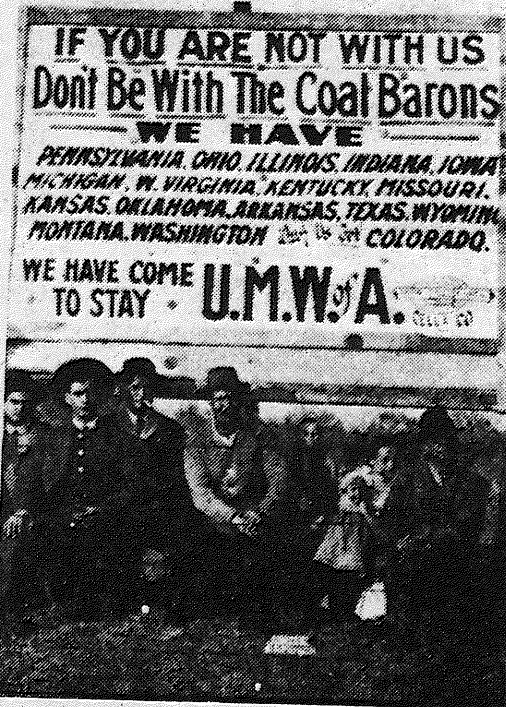
Two years ago, the Pittston Group, under CEO Paul Douglas, Jr., broke with the Bituminous Coal Operators association, which is basically a self-regulatory outfit. Since Douglas took over management of Pittston Group in 1984, which also owns Burlington Air Freight, Brink's Trucks and Brink's Security (all non-union) it has lost money except with Brink's Armored cars. The UMWA claims that Pittston is carrying out a diversification strategy, including transferring coalmining operations to its non-union subsidiary. The Pittston Group mines mostly metallurgical coal, which is mined deep in thin seams, for an international market. They export a lot of this coal to Japan for steel production. They claim that the UMWA is behind the times, clinging to the past, and this is why they should be more understanding to Pittston's demands. Like hell.

I was in Richmond, Virginia, one week after the strike broke. Typically, I had heard nothing about it from the Baltimore paper, even now it's generally given space in the business section. I read about the strike and the situation leading up to it. Medical benefits stripped, re-vamping of the pension plan, working without that contract (giving the Pittston Group, of course, time to refine their techniques). Being a loyal Wob and a coal miner's grand-daughter to boot, I like to keep track of these things. Well, right is right and wrong is wrong no matter who you are. Things weighed pretty heavy on my mind during the journey back to Baltimore. It's one thing to read about this and shake your head and say dang, ain't that a shame. It's another thing to say, what the dickens are we going to do about this? Not only is this an appalling offense against the UMWA and its members, but if the Pittston Group can get away with this, where will it stop? You can bet that there are scores of other companies out there eagerly awaiting the outcome of this strike. And, Fellow Workers, this is only the beginning.

Back in Baltimore, I made a few telephone calls and eventually reached Mr. Don McCamey, secretary-treasurer of UMWA District 28 in Castlewood, Virginia, heart of the strike activities. He informed me of what was going on even then; the calling of the state police (about 300 of them) one week before the strike broke, the arrests and exorbitant misdemeanor fines, the intimidation techniques of the Asset Protection Agency, Pittston being bank-rolled for a 100 million dollar loan (before the strike of course) by the likes of the Crestar Bank of Virginia, the Morgan Trust, and the Chase Manhattan Bank. He told me of the Justice for Pittston Miners strike fund. At the time, the union appeared to have enough money to keep things going. Granted, the miners were only receiving about one-third of their average salary, but there were no mounting fines then.

I told him that I would spread the word here in Baltimore, not only to my fellow union members, but to everyone I could possibly reach: striking workers in Baltimore — steel workers, United Electrical workers — folks with coal in their blood (and there are quite a few from coal-mining backgrounds in town); just plain workers, liberal money. In short, everyone.

We took the issue up at our next IWW branch meeting. We voted to send the Pittston miners money from our funds, as



well as sending some to the Citizen's for Justice fund, UMWA District 30 (see the April '89 issue of the Industrial Worker "Matewan Revisted" by Gary Cox).

Then we became positively inspired. Sent out appeals to progressive groups, labor history instructors at local colleges and universities, local unions — any mailing lists we could get our hands on.

Still, that didn't seem enough. A fund raiser, yes. And T-shirts. We had T-shirts printed, two types. One shirt had a picture of the striking miners from Ludlow, Colorado on the front with the lines "Let's Get Virginia" substituted for "Let's Get Colorado" and the inscription "Justice for Pittston Miners" printed above the picture. On the back is the IWW world emblem, with the words "labor is entitled to all it creates" emblazoned in raised red material. We also made shirts with that grand old hell-raiser of the coal-fields, Mother Jones, on the front, reading "Daughters of Mother Jones." This is what the wives, sisters, mothers and daughters of the Pittston strikers call themselves (and this is not sexist — quite a few men proudly sport this shirt).

The All Mighty Senators, a band that defies all labels but could be called a reggae/new wave/original group with big puppets agreed to perform (they've become something of our house band, performing for our IWW fund-raiser, the Wobbly Hop, last year). We rented a hall from a progressive church, sold beer (some of which was donated), sodas and T-shirts, sought donations above the cover charge and managed to raise close to \$1000 (after expenses it came to \$800). Success. We could express our support and solidarity and have something concrete to show for it.

Wobbly Mark Bevis and I decided to drive to Charleston, West Virginia to attend the UMWA rally on June 11. We drove to Charleston with a \$650 check for the Pittston miners and one for \$150 to the Citizens for Justice clutched in our hot little hands. Plus T-shirts (which we sold out and had to take written orders).

Now let us talk of Solidarity. Besides the striking miners and their families, there were steel workers, striking Eastern Airlines workers (Paul Douglas has often been likened to Frank Lorenzo), food workers, health care workers. The Charleston branch of the Rainbow Coalition was there. And these were just the ones with banners. Thousands turned out for the rally. One pizza place donated half of their days proceeds to the Pittston miners. With all the camouflage clad miners and their supporters, Charleston looked like a city under siege, and indeed it was. But nobody complained, for we all knew it was really the mine workers who were literally under a state of siege, fighting not only for their benefits and for decency in the workplace, but also

fighting to preserve their way of life and communities in the Appalachian coal-fields.

During the speeches in Charleston — and in others since then — my heart just took wing and soared. I heard phrases like "An injury to one is an injury to all" (this from an Eastern worker). I heard how all workers had to stick together. I even heard talk of one big union of all workers. How about that.

Our activities did not end with the rally in Charleston. We are in frequent touch with the UMWA offices in Washington, D.C. seeing what we can do here to publicize the strike and raise funds. I have been invited, as a representative of the IWW, to work with the Baltimore Strike Support Network, a group consisting of workers in all fields who publicize strikes in the area and who attempt to whip up support and enthusiasm — and action — from the rank and file. We walk the picket lines, attend the rallies and try to encourage workers to take more of their union responsibilities into their own hands.

The IWW co-sponsored another fundraiser with the Strike Support Network for the benefit of the Pittston miners. The Baltimore IWW branch sets up a table wherever it can, particularly at street festivals. We spread the word about the strike and about the IWW, we sell our Pittston T-shirts and our IWW literature. We're even thinking about another fund-raising musical event, this time with a 50-50 raffle to raise funds for the strikers against Pittston. We've sold our shirts at labor arts shows (including one at the George Meany Center for Labor Studies, of all places).

People see that the Industrial Workers of the World are just that; many are surprised to see us around at all; many are just as glad to see us around. People stop me on the street and ask me about my T-shirt; I tell them about the Pittston strike AND about the IWW; who we are, what we do, and why we do it. And I don't think I need to explain why, for we all know that an injury to one ...

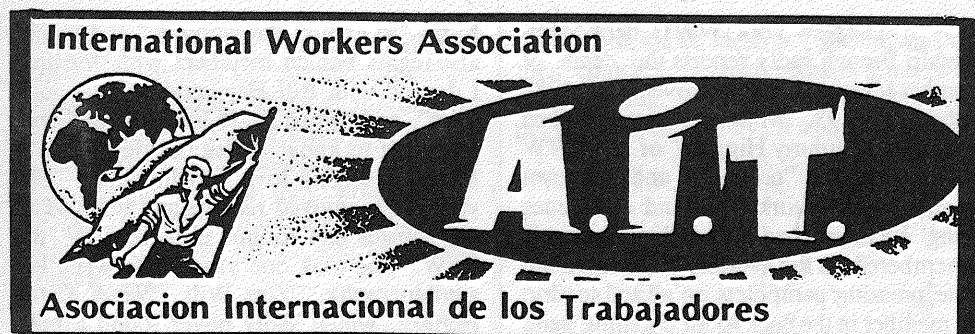
At the time of this writing, negotiations are under way between the UMWA and the Pittston Coal Group, with the assistance of a federal mediator. On July 24, UMWA vice president Cecil Roberts, a negotiator, was arrested along with eighteen other miners for leading a sit-down protest in front of the Moss #3 processing plant. They were charged with obstructing traffic. The UMWA is not overly optimistic about the talks, for they feel that they are not only receiving a "one-sided" treatment from local official, but that the Pittston Group is exhibiting "arrogance and inflexibility" towards the union. In other words, no matter what happens, they still need your support. Judge McGlothlin is deliberating on whether or not he's going to hand down more jail terms and injunctions.

For more information on how to order a shirt, or if you'd like to go ahead and order one, please state style, Miners or Mother Jones, and size, Large or Extra-Large. The price is \$12 postage included. The color is black. Make checks payable to Baltimore IWW Justice Fund, c/o Bili Savage, 114 S. Arlington Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21223, (301) 752-6033. All proceeds go to the Justice for Pittston Miners Fund.

If you would like to send messages of solidarity (along with a contribution, let's hope) directly to the UMWA, please address it to: Justice for Pittston Miners, UMWA District 28, Box 28, Castlewood VA 24224, attention: Don McCamey.

Bili Savage
Baltimore

A Conversation with the General Secretary of the IWA



The following is from an interview with R. Schmitz of Cologne Germany who is the General Secretary of the International Workers Association (IWA or AIT in Spanish). Schmitz was in Chicago in early July and took some time to talk with members of the IW collective.

THE IWA GENERALLY

The IWA was refounded in 1922 for the purpose of coordinating the national anarcho-syndicalist groups and revolutionary syndicalist unions. During the period of the second world war and fascism most of the unions got smashed. We're now reorganizing and making fairly good progress. At this time we have fifteen sections in Europe and Latin America, Japan, Australia, the United States.

What we are now trying to do is complement the geographical structure of international working class is working for multinationals directly and another ten percent indirectly. If we can't get in contact with each other we can't fight the multinationals. They can move whole factories, capital from country to country.

We need sophisticated links between the sections. Direct contact between industrial groups in various countries. Maybe even a structure that is adapted to the structure of a multinational.

INTERNATIONALISM IN PRACTICE

Phillips is a multinational predominantly into electronics, tools, computers. They're about to shut down sixty factories. In some of the sections, Germany, Norway, we got people working in the Phillips factories. And we've got contact with other workers willing to work with us. We're only too happy to work with anybody fighting the multinationals as long as we don't have to compromise with our ideals. They have their ways and we have ours and we cooperate.

The IWA got involved with a strike at a small firm in the north of Scotland that sacked thirty women for demanding better health and safety conditions and fair wages. It took them too long to make contact with our British section, Direct Action Movement (DAM).

The Transport and General Workers Union they were organized in didn't want to help them. They went on strike and were replaced. They were supplying Laura Ashley fashion shops spread all over the world. So we put pressure on Laura Ashley in Europe and overseas. We put pickets outside their shops. When they found out we were going to picket them regularly, like in six German cities, they put pressure on the firm in Scotland to negotiate. So they made offers to the workers. The women held strong. But it was too late to get everything. We nearly won but they found us too late.

In the case of the Brazilian section, COB, after a big transport strike members were put into prison and they expected sentences of up to fifteen years. We put pressure on the Brazilian governments and picketed embassies in various countries. The charges were dropped, so that was a great success for us.

When the multinational AEG (German electronics) began talking about moving production from Berlin to Spain where they also have a factory the workers came to us to make contact internationally.

The AEG workers belong to the Metal Workers Union which has two million members in Germany. That union wouldn't make contact between the factories so the shop stewards came to us and asked if we could put them in contact with workers in the factory in Spain. So we went to our Spanish section, the CNT. They didn't have a union in this shop so they contacted the Communist union that is in the factory and said there were German workers that wanted to make contact. We put them in contact but they didn't have to go through us.

THE INDUSTRIALISTS ARE OUT TO SMASH THE UNIONS

The industrialists are really out to crush the union movement. After the second World War they didn't try to crush the unions in Europe but they domesticated them pretty well. With American corporate practices being introduced into Europe now they want to smash the unions. They're getting so tough, even the reformist unions see they have to get much more radical and organize internationally even to survive.

Many militants don't think in international terms. They often don't see the international aspect, whatever is done locally now is international. Especially with the development of the single European market which will be the biggest single market in the world.



MC DONALDS

McDonalds was expanding into Scandinavia. In Finland they had to negotiate because the unions were so strong and its remote so you have to buy your food in Finland. In Sweden the unions are strong and they said you have to negotiate.

In Denmark it was more difficult they can fly food in. The meat supply came from Germany and it wasn't stopped. first McDonalds refused to negotiate with the Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union. The workers are young. McDonalds has very sophisticated ways of dealing with people of splitting the workers. In Germany we know they even pay people to spy on their co-workers.

The unions got their young members to be active. They made a funny poster and stickers with a dog pissing on the logo. They got taken to court for that. The other unions got involved and said it isn't just those workers its the union busting tactics that have to be dealt with. The construction workers decided they wouldn't go on building McDonalds. They stopped all the construction work. The food supply from Sweden and other countries was stopped. The transport workers refused to deliver inside Scandinavia.

That brought McDonalds to the negotiating table but what they said first was "sign a thirty year contract and agree there will be no major union activities, no solidarity actions, no contacts between workers in different McDonald shops". The union said no way. When they saw there was no way to expand in Denmark they signed an ordinary contract. That taught the young people a good lesson what the union and solidarity can help improve your daily life.

PITTSTON

We were informed earlier than most of the big unions. We've sent it around to our sections. It's difficult to support apart from sending donations. The bosses there are so tough that doesn't help much. The only really efficient industrial pressure would be to stop coal delivery to Japan that would force the bosses to negotiate.

It's outrageous. You hear George Bush defending unionism in China and Poland. But compare that to what the bosses do with the help of the authorities in this country.

WE NEED TO MAKE DIRECT LINKS

In modern factories the different parts are separated. Now you even need control cards to get from one section to another.

We can make direct links. We have to hope that once people get together and see that they have more in common than they might believe then they will develop the democratic structures or rank and file attitudes that opens their minds for a general ideology that says this system needs to be applied in the whole of society and internationally. First people have to see something like that in practice. People tell us your ideology is fine, I wish it to be true but I can't believe it. People tell you, "I'd do it, but this bastard over there he's trying to boss me about." It's a process of learning how to do a thing like that. To learn not to dominate other people. We want to convince people and that's a longer process. We have to accept that to gain in the long run.

All the struggles are linked to each other. If you want to organize all these issues into one organization it might be too much for one individual. The parties do it they have all these issues and set up expert committees whose opinions get accepted.

The traditional IWA approach is to organize workers as workers. Take them as they are. We must not demand that people are now, in order to be able to join the union, are what we want them and ourselves to be in the future. Here we are and there's our final goal, but we can't expect that what we finally expect to reach is a precondition to join. And to change individuals, that applies to ourselves as well as others... the starting point is to take us as we are. The struggles should be organized separately and linked whenever they can.

In my hometown there were two factories going to be closed down and they went on strike and at the same time there was a squat to be evicted. It was two different groups of people and the workers didn't know too much about the squat and the

squatters didn't know too much about the workers. They just knew it was all happening. On one side you have young people without jobs. On the other hand you have older workers in these factories, highly skilled and fairly high wages and with a militant tradition of strikes of self defense against the bosses. It was different personalities.



One day when the workers from these two factories came out on strike the squat was evicted and the demonstration of the workers passed the squat as it was just being evicted. Militant union members sort of invited them into the demonstration but the union leadership didn't want this. At that time there was a possibility to link the two struggles but we didn't succeed because they were too distant from each other and we had the union leadership pushing people on. We would have had to take some time to explain to everybody and bring them in. But if we organized these two categories of people into one organization it could create problems. The CNT has cultural centers like that where people can meet and get to know each other.

The main task for us now will be to promote international solidarity inside and outside the IWA. We'd like people to join but we would never make that a precondition to collaborate. We will work with anybody who would work with us on a comradely and loyal basis.

RESIST



A CALL TO RESIST ILLEGITIMATE AUTHORITY

Help! Help! Help! Typesetter Needed

"Reevaluation of the Urban Guerilla," by Spanish theoretician, anarcho-syndicalist, and revolutionary Abraham Guillen is a 150 page book being translated from Spanish to English by Paul Wright, a prisoner in Washington.

The book analyzes the political and strategic failures of armed movements in the United States and Latin America in the 1960's and 1970's. It is an excellent and much needed book. About one-third of it is already on disk and one-half has been translated. What we need is a responsible person who can key in or typeset the translation as received from fellow worker Wright in order to be able to republish the book in English. (A publisher has not yet been sought since the whole book is not yet translated.)

There is no financial incentive involved, just the satisfaction of advancing theory and debate on why these movements failed.

Anyone interested, please contact:

Paul Wright #930783
P.O. Box 520
8-C-14
Walla Walla, Wa 99362

-- John Perotti

Peace Net: Computer Network for Labor

Computer technology has been used for many years by the corporate elite to access data and simplify communication. Transfer of capital and credit as well as coordination of activities have been made much easier since the introduction of electronic communication.

As the price of this technology has come down individuals have been able to buy and creatively use computers. Many organizations - large and small - now use the personal computer (PC) for word processing and for data manipulation (such as mailing lists and labels). Increasingly individuals and organizations are using computers to communicate with each other using phone line connections. This opens up a breathtaking number of possibilities for local, national and international information exchange and activity coordination.

The participants in the computer workshop at this year's Detroit Labor Notes conference decided to work together to use the potential of this technology to help build the labor movement. A computer "conference" has been set up on a national computer network which will allow progressives in the workers' movement to exchange information and eventually to coordinate activities. The new conference is being called "apc.labor" and will be on the PeaceNet network. A computer "conference" can be accessed at any time and the member can then read or download whatever information had previously been put there. Messages or comments on those of others can be put up either privately through electronic mail (e-mail) or by placing public comments onto the conference.

Within the conference organizations will be able to set up their own "topic" through which they can exchange documents, plan agendas, and relay information to a large group of people very rapidly. Members of a rank-and-file group in a union can communicate with other members of their group and with similar groups around the world.

The potential for this kind of communication is great. The International unions understand this and they have their computer networks. However, access to the technology they control is closed to all but those who follow their script. Participation in an open conference - unhindered by the corporations or unfriendly union bureaucrats - can put this technology to our use and to the use of the movement we are trying to build.

The technology is fairly easy to obtain. Those of us who have access to PCs all have access to phones. Through use of a modem the PC can be connected to the phone line. A 1200 baud (rate of information exchange) modem costs about \$60-100 and a 2400 baud modem (double your exchange speed) costs about \$100-150. A modem can be either internal or external giving you a choice of having it inside your computer or beside you on the desk. With communica-

tions software (\$25-50) your computer can talk to your modem and get you into the international phone networks.

PeaceNet is the most appropriate network for us to join. Through PeaceNet, subscribers can get information on events happening around the world with over 200 conferences on the network, including apc.labor, giving, for example, Urgent Actions for Guatemala or a press release by COSATU in South Africa. Through these conferences your organization can distribute your own information to a fairly wide audience.

Subscribers to PeaceNet will also have access to electronic mail networks around the world. Through gateways to other networks subscribers can easily communicate with sister organizations in Latin America, Asia or Europe. Short letters or long documents can be transmitted quickly and safely and get a response within a couple of hours when a three or four week turn around time - or longer - is considered good through the mail.

As more sections of the rank-and-file movement are connected through computer networks, the possibilities increase for the use of these networks in coordinating activities. Within hours of an arrest on a picket line in Jay, Maine or a police charge in San Paolo, Brazil or a "disappearance" of a union militant in San Salvador supporters can take actions to break any information blockade or to contact those who might be able to help. National actions can be planned with input from a wide variety of sources without the necessity of travel to national meetings.

The computer network will not replace the phone, fax or mail but it does allow real advantages for international communication with networks being set up in Europe, Latin America, and Asia as well as in North America, and with easy national communication among many participants offering a more democratic - and therefore more powerful - tool we can use in our building of a better world. Our apc.labor conference on PeaceNet is a step in that direction.

PeaceNet is accessed by calling a local phone number and connecting to a computer in San Francisco through Telenet. There is a \$10 subscription fee to join PeaceNet and a \$10/hour (\$5/hour after 6pm) online fee with a minimum \$10 per month charge. Information can be obtained from PeaceNet, 3228 Sacramento St, San Francisco, CA 94115 (415-923-0900).

If you want to get in touch with us, if you have questions either technical or organizational, or if you have suggestions for how to use the conference, you can contact me, Wayne Heimbach, Committee for Labor Access, 37 S. Ashland, Chicago, IL 60607 (312-226-3330). If you are already on PeaceNet, my e-mail address is wheimbach.

Farewell Sister Worker MINNIE CORDER

The New York IWW General Membership Branch sadly reports the death of member Minnie Corder on November 8, 1988 at the age of 93. Minnie always described herself as a "Jimmy Higgins" of the IWW - one of the "ordinary" and unknown members who worked behind the scenes doing whatever had to be done. She is remembered as the Wobbly at the literature table, pressing pamphlets on all and sundry; the member in the back room collating hand outs; and as the one who attended every branch meeting until her health failed, and who faithfully paid her dues on time every time.

As such, we look upon Minnie Corder, steadfast and devoted member of the IWW, as one of the true builders of the revolutionary movement who waged a 70 year battle to spread the word of her beloved Industrial Workers of the World. Minnie began working at age 10, sewing talises (prayer shawls) in her uncle's factory in Berdichev, Russia.

In 1911 she came to the United States where she found work stitching buttonholes in a factory in Boston and joined the shop union, the Amalgamated Clothing Workers (ACWU). Her factory activism led ACWU officials to offer her a staff job, supposedly as an organizer. But she soon learned what her duties really were. "Just do as you're told and keep your mouth shut. The tailors don't need to be educated." Minnie responded by walking out the door, turning her back on the union job at twice her factory pay. Minnie put it this way. "I could have been a rich union official. Instead I joined the IWW."

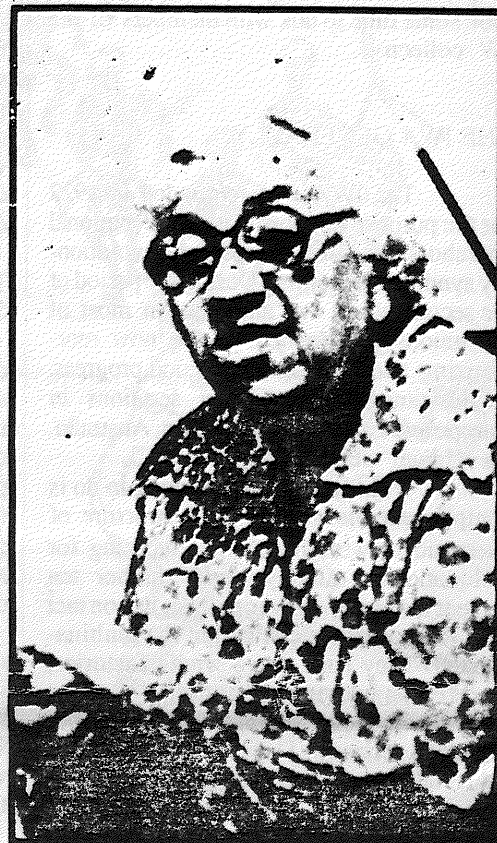
Years later it took a 10 year battle with the ACWU and a lawsuit before the State Supreme Court for Minnie to gain her pension benefits. The ACWU claimed that she had not worked in the ACWU jurisdiction for 20 consecutive years, because during a 5 year bout with the muscle-weakening illness miocedis which affected her hand muscles, Minnie had left the garment factory to do cleaning work in hotels.

In 1916, filled with what she called her "utopian ideals", Minnie joined the Socialist Party only to leave it three years later when her "new religion" did not support labor strikes called by the IWW. From that time forward, Minnie was a devoted Wobbly and a vital part of the history of our union. During World War I, her husband, Joseph Corder was jailed under the U.S. government's sedition laws when his anti-war cartoon appeared in the IWW paper. Minnie also witnessed an attempt by the Communist Party to destroy the IWW after the union decided not to join forces with the party.

"Once we were meeting and they came in with brass knuckles, beat the secretary up, and took our money," she related. Minnie was fiercely fond of describing the various brands of "labor fakirs" who appeared over the years in different guises and

forms "to exploit the workers," and would also regale branch members with "the time I danced with Bill Haywood on the plat form" and "when I met Joe Hill" and "oh, you want to know about Gurley Flynn?" Minnie's second love was literature. She very much enjoyed reading and attended all the debates and forums organized by the IWW. She took one year off to write her autobiography, "You Will Never Grow Hungry" which sadly never found a publisher.

The NY-IWW Branch surprised Minnie once by arranging and videotaping a Branch meeting at her nursing home. Brought down to the meeting in a wheel chair by a nurse, she was soon in fine form regaling members with her recollections of



Minnie Corder

"I could've been a rich union official; instead I joined the IWW and will die a paid up member."

union history. And she went on to organize the nurse who shortly thereafter attended another Branch meeting in the City.

The IWW will surely miss Minnie Corder and the devoted and steadfast union member that she symbolized for us. "The changes are happening very slowly," Minnie once said in an interview, "but I don't care if they take a hundred years, they must come about." "We must have it that one day the carpenter is as important as the doctor who is equal to the steel worker."

(Minnie Corder was interviewed by Mike Herman in November 1979 for the Chelsea Clinton News. That interview is the source for most of Minnie's quotes in this article.)

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.

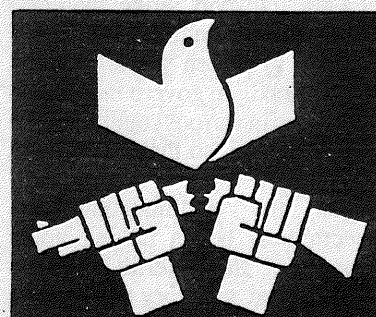
Wobs Invited to 1989 Northeast Annual Gathering

The New York General Membership Branch invites all Wobblies and their families and friends to the 1989 Northeast Regional Weekend Picnic to be held August 11-13 at "Wobble-In." Wobble-In is located in central New York State, about 70 miles west of Albany and 30 miles south of the NYS thruway. It is 70 acres of woodland, sitting off a country road with ample space to pitch tents, with an outdoor group eating and gathering spot, and a mobile trailer complete with indoor plumbing and shower.

Wobblies from different cities and states will have the chance to meet and network with each other in an informal setting around union issues. There will also be time to explore the local area which includes the Baseball Hall of Fame, a Farmer's Museum, and a replica of the home of James Fenimore Cooper. Otsego Lake nearby, offers lake tours, swimming and fresh water fishing.

The New York IWW Branch will provide all meals for the weekend. For detailed travel directions, and to let the New York Branch know you plan to attend, write to:

Wobble-In Outing
c/o PO Box 172
Fly Creek, NY 13337



DIRECTORY

of branches & delegates

CANADA & GREAT BRITAIN

BRITISH COLUMBIA. Vancouver Branch, Box 65635, Station F, Vancouver, BC V5N 5K5
ONTARIO. Toronto Branch, 26A Oxford Street, Second Floor, Toronto M5T 1N9
BRITAIN. Dan Czunys, 13 Wolsey Street off Heslington Rd, YO 5BQ, England

UNITED STATES

ALASKA. Ruth Sheridan, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage, 99508
CALIFORNIA. San Francisco Bay Area Branch, Box 40485, San Francisco, 94140
 • San Diego Group, Box 191224, San Diego 92119 **Dorice McDaniels 213-679-2570**
 • Richard Ellington, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland 94609
COLORADO. Denver-Boulder Branch, 2412 East Colfax, Denver 80206. (303) 388-1065.
 Open Saturday 9-12, meetings 7 pm second Sunday of each month
 • Dexter Herda, 910 East 8th #202, Denver 80218
 • Lowell May, 2201 Eliot, Denver, 80211, tel. (303) 458-0870
GEORGIA. Atlanta Group, Box 54766, Atlanta 30308-0766, tel. (404) 378-5542
ILLINOIS. Chicago Branch, Abraham Bassford (Secretary): 3435 N. Sheffield #202,
 Chicago 60657, tel. (312) 549-5045. Meetings 7:30 pm, first Friday of each month. •
 Champaign-Urbana Group, Box 2824, Champaign 61820.
KENTUCKY. Louisville Group, 2024 Baringer Ave, Louisville, 37581.
LOUISVILLE. Shreveport Group, Box 37581, Shreveport 71133.
MARYLAND. Baltimore Branch, 1045 Hollins Ave., Baltimore 21223. Regional organizing
 committee, Rt 1, Box 137A, Arvon, VA 23004.
MASSACHUSETTS. Boston Branch, Box 454, Cambridge 02139, tel. (617) 469-5162.
 • Berkshire Learning Center Job Branch, 35 Curtis Terrace, Pittsfield 01201
 • Barry Roderick, Box 213, Cambridge 02139.
MICHIGAN. Southeast MI Branch, 42 South Summitt, Ypsilanti 48197, tel. (313) 483-3478
 • People's Warehouse Job Branch, 727 West Ellsworth Rd, Ann Arbor 48104
 • Grand Rapids Group, Box 211, Comstock Park 49321
 • Ann Arbor Tenants' Union, 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor 48109, tel. (313) 763-6876.
MINNESOTA. Minneapolis-St. Paul Branch (Nancy Collins, del.): Box 2245, St. Paul
 55102. Meetings third Wednesday of each month.
MONTANA. Western Montana Branch, 415 N. Higgins, Room 104, Missoula. Open Mon
 through Sat, 12-5. (800) 473-4000 or (406) 721-3000. A.L. Nurse, delegate. Correspondance
 to Box 8562, Missoula 59807.
NEW YORK. New York Branch, Box 183, New York 10028. Meetings second Sunday of
 each month at 2 pm. Call Rochelle, Jackie, or John for location of meetings.
 • Rochelle Semel, Box 172, Fly Creek 13337, tel. (607) 293-6489.
 • D. Sacz, (212) 666-7484
 • Jackie Panish, Box 372, Rego Park 11374, tel. (212) 868-1121
 • John Hansen, 302 Ave. C, Brooklyn 11218, tel. (718) 854-2692
 • Bob Young, Box 920, Wingdale 12594
 • Joe O'Shea, Winkler's Farm, Towner's Road, Carmel 10512.
OHIO. Southwest Ohio Branch & GDC Committee #1, Box 26381, Dayton 45426
 • GDC Committee #3, c/o John Perotti #167712, Box 45699, Lucasville 45699-0001
PENNSYLVANIA. Tom Hill, Box 41928, Philadelphia 19101.
SOUTH CAROLINA. Harbinger Publications, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, South Carolina,
 29201; telephone, (803) 254-9398.
TEXAS. Gilbert Mers, 7031 Kernel, Houston 77087, tel. (713) 921-0877.
VIRGINIA. Keith Preston, 1101 West Grace, Richmond, tel. (713) 355-6966; if no answer,
 ask for the IWW at (713) 741-1897.
WASHINGTON. Bellingham Branch, Box 1386, Bellingham 98227
 • Seattle Branch, 3238 33rd Ave South, Seattle 98144
 • Spokane Group, Box 1273, Spokane, 99210
 • Tacoma/Olympia Branch & GDC #4, 2115 S. Sheridan, Tacoma 98405, tel. (206) 272-8119.
WISCONSIN. Madison Branch, Box 2605, Madison 53701, tel. (608) 251-1937/249-4287.

Subscribe to the Industrial Worker

Name _____
 Street _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Enclosed is:
 \$2 for a 6-MONTH introductory subscription
 \$6 for a ONE-YEAR regular subscription
 \$8 for a one-year library subscription
 \$11 for a TWO-YEAR regular subscription
 \$16 for a THREE-YEAR regular subscription
 \$_____ as a donation to the IW
 Sustaining Fund
 \$_____ for publications listed, as indicated

PLEASE SEND ALL ORDERS TO:

I.W.W.
 3435 North Sheffield, Suite 202
 Chicago, IL 60657

Give to the
INDUSTRIAL WORKER
 Sustaining Fund

SILENT AGITATORS!

The Best, Quickest and Surest
Socialist Makers Ever Produced!
 (don't faint when you see the prices)

1 Set \$.50
 10 Sets \$2.00

Write Now:
 Madison IWW, P.O. Box 2605, Madison,
 Wisconsin, 53701

BOOKS

FOR REBEL WORKERS

IWW PUBLICATIONS

- One Big Union (about the IWW).....1.25
- The General Strike (by Ralph Chaplin).....2.50
- IWW Songs: The Little Red Songbook.....2.50
- Collective Bargaining Manual.....2.50
- Workers' Guide to Direct Action.....3.50
- Unions and Racism.....1.00
- Metal Workers' Health & Safety.....50
- A Quiz on You and the Arms Race.....10
- The IWW: Its First Seventy Years
 by Fred Thompson cloth 15.00; paper 4.95
- History of the IWW in Canada.....50
- The Rebel Girl (sheet music).....1.00

REBEL VOICES
 Songs of the Industrial Workers of the World performed by the members of Entertainment Workers IU 830, IWW

- Utah Phillips
- Faith Petric
- Fred Holstein
- Bruce Brackney
- Marion Wade
- Bob Bovee
- Jeff Cahill
- Kathy Taylor
- J.B. Freeman
- Robin Oye
- Eric Glatz
- Mark Ross

- Rebel Voices
 (LP record/IWW Songs - no discount) 8.95
- We Have Fed You All for 1000 Years
 (LP record/IWW Songs - no discount) . . 8.50
- IWW Preamble and Constitution 1.00

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

IF WE WORKERS TAKE A NATION WE CAN STOP ALL SPEEDING TRAINS EVERY SHIP UPON THE OCEAN WE CAN TIE WITH MIGHTY CHAINS EVERY WHEEL IN THE CREATION EVERY HINGE AND EVERY NAIL FLIGHTS AND ARMS OF ALL NATIONS WILL AT OUR COMMAND

STAND STILL

SORJ E.J. ORGANISERA

IWW POSTERS by Carlos Cortez

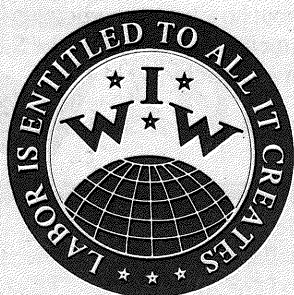
- Lucy Parsons Joe Hill General Strike
- Fat Cat Huelga General Ben Fletcher
- Drafteres of the World, Unite
- \$10.00 each postpaid

BOOKS FROM OTHER PUBLISHERS

- Rebel Voices: An IWW Anthology
 by Joyce Kornbluh.....18.95
- The Yale Strike of 1984-84.....5.95
- Roll the Union On: Pictorial History of Southern Tenant Farmers' Union
 by H.L. Mitchell.....7.95
- Bye! American - Labor Cartoons by Gary Huck & Mike Konopacki.....7.95
- Memoirs of a Wobbly by Henry McGuckin.....5.95
- Haymarket Scrapbook.....14.95
- Haymarket Postcards (set of 28).....12.00
- Altgeld's Reasons for Pardoning the Haymarket Anarchists.....3.95
- Crime and Criminals by C. Darrow.....2.50
- You Have No Country! Workers' Struggle Against War by Mary E. Marcy.....4.50
- Dreams and Dynamite (poems by Covington Hall).....3.95
- Mr. Block: 24 IWW Cartoons by Ernest Riebe.....4.95
- Life & Deeds of Uncle Sam by Oscar Ameringer.....3.95
- Rise and Repression of Radical Labor.....3.95
- The Flivver King: A Story of Ford-America by Upton Sinclair.....7.95
- Lucy Parsons: American Revolutionary.....6.95
- The Right to Be Lazy by Paul Lafargue.....2.75
- The Head-Fixing Industry by J. Keracher.....3.00
- The Soul of Man Under Socialism by Oscar Wilde.....3.95
- The Life of Thomas Skidmore.....3.95
- Labor Law for the Rank-and-File.....2.50

DISCOUNTS ON BULK ORDERS

40% discount on prepaid bulk orders of five or more copies of any item on this list, unless otherwise indicated, 30% discount on similar orders that require invoicing. Postage will be added to all orders that are not prepaid. Please allow three weeks for delivery. Please add 10% extra for postage.



Solidarity Forever: I.W.W. Labor History Calendar

Featuring 16 photos & illustrations and hundreds of dates from world labor history.

\$7 post-paid
 5 or more, \$4.25

orders to: IWW Chicago GMB
 Box 204, Oak Park IL 60303-0204

AVAILABLE

from IWW Branches

OUT OF THE DEPTHS, the true story of the Ludlow Massacre, \$10 post-paid and all of it goes to Local P-9; Wobbly T-shirts, \$10, from Gary Cox, 11548 Community Center Drive #53, Northglenn CO, 80233.

A WORKER'S GUIDE TO DIRECT ACTION, suggestions on direct action and why it's necessary, 75¢ including postage from IWW, Box 183, New York, NY 10027.

INTRODUCTIONS TO THE IWW, 10¢ each from San Francisco IWW, Box 40485, San Francisco, CA 94140 (40% off for bulk); and 10¢ each plus 25¢ postage on entire order, from New York IWW, Box 183, New York NY 10028.

REBEL VOICES, \$4 per year, 1230 Amsterdam #810, New York, NY 10027.

SOLIDARITY BULLETIN, \$10 per year (monthly), Vancouver IWW, Box 65635, Station F, Vancouver, BC V5N 3K5

DIRECT ACTION BULLETIN, \$24 for 12 issues, Toronto IWW, 26A Oxford Street, Toronto, Ontario, M5T 1N9.

MORE IS AVAILABLE! Complete literature lists from Vancouver and New York Branches on various forms of literature. More may be written/typeset on request. See the Directory for more information.



Anarchists Meet in San Francisco

continued from page 1

Some of their members publish an excellent magazine called "Ideas and Action", which serves as a forum for anarcho-syndicalist thought. Their literature calls for the formation of independent, worker-controlled unions (like the IWW), and it is now hoped that the two groups can work in a symbiotic fashion.

Whether the workshops were presented by WSA or the IWW, no more than a hundred conference participants seemed interested in worker-related issues. This raised a number of interesting questions. Why are less than 10% of the anarchists concerned with workers' struggles? How can we, as revolutionary unionists, make our cause more relevant to the majority of anarchists, our natural allies? These are serious questions which must be addressed if we hope to build our union.

Most anarchists hate work, and rightly so. They're more aware than many workers of the humiliation and exploitation that results from working for someone else. But in their rejection of work, many throw the baby out with the bathwater. They forget that even in a post-revolutionary society, someone will have to sew their clothes and cook their



meals. They enjoy being radicals at night, but go into denial about their status as wage-slaves during the day. They're unwilling to take on the difficult task of transforming work into a self-managed, meaningful activity.

Wobblies also did something that hadn't been done in San Francisco for nearly fifty years. We held an old-fashioned street meeting, down on Market Street in the financial district. We had a P.A. system, a police

permit, and thousands of leaflets, and we actually managed to be fairly entertaining. Soapboxing is a dying but not dead art, and still has a lot of potential. There is now talk in S.F. of creating an "Anarchist's Speakers Bureau".

Sunday night was the the Utah Phillips concert, with Earth First! singer/songwriter Dakota Sid Clifford opening. The show, co-sponsored by the IWW and EF!, was a sellout



and a wild success. Utah was completely in his element --half the audience had come from the conference, so he dropped all pretense of singing folk music and did what he does best, telling stories about his favorite anarchists and Wobs from days gone by.

Bay Area Wobblies could not have accomplished as much as we did during the conference without the help of our fellow workers from all over the continent. In particular, we owe a great debt to fellow workers Calvin Woida of Vancouver, Ted Dymont of Toronto, Ingrid Kock and Mike Hargis of Chicago, Jon Bekken of Champagne/Urbana, Mel Most of New York, Dave Karoly and Karen Zapata of Santa Barbara, and Judi Bari of Ukiah. We formed a wonderful impromptu support group, both in the workshop settings and late at night over pints of beer. New friendships were forged, strengthening our union on a powerful, personal level.

Not everyone who attended the conference was an anarchist. It was open to the public -- nobody had to show their anarchist credentials (sic). This was in general a good policy, for it allowed the curious or unconvinced to come and understand more fully what anarchism means. The only problem occurred when a small Trotskyist sect called the Bolshevik Tendency set up a literature table in the main hall. A loud shouting match ensued, and like kids fighting in the schoolyard, a small crowd soon gathered. The BT eventually left, and there were no further disturbances.

There were also charges of sexism and homophobia leveled at some of the men at

the conference. Indeed, my own experience showed that many so-called anarchist men have not yet integrated the lessons of feminism that we were supposed to have learned in the seventies and early eighties. One self-proclaimed anarcho-syndicalist called homosexuality "bourgeois degeneracy", and abortion "infanticide". There were many less blatant examples, mostly men who interrupted and/or talked too much at workshops.

Organizing the conference had a positive, unifying effect on the local anarchist community here in S.F. The various cliques (cultural, political, and intellectual anarchists) were forced to work together, breaking us out of our comfortable isolation. Folks from the bookstore tackled the nuts and bolts of finding a site; the direct action folks from Circle A Cluster coordinated housing; Seeds of Peace, an offshoot of the Great Peace March now based in Berkeley, provided free food for everyone who wanted it. For one week, the conference was a living model of self-managed community.

To the surprise of some, the local alternative media gave us good coverage prior to the conference. To the surprise of no-one the bourgeois media slandered and trivialized the conference, playing up all the old stereotypes of violence and chaos. Unfortunately, some people played right into this expectation, giving the television stations and daily papers all the material they needed to paint us as incoherent nihilists. These people take the elitist position that the press and general public are too stupid to understand what anarchism is. In so doing, they sell the public short, and betray their fellow anarchists who are attempting to articulate the basic principles of anarchism in an accessible way.

The Day of Action (DOA) that happened in Berkeley was an ill-conceived, poorly-executed fiasco. I now understand why the people who had attended last year's gathering in Toronto were so opposed to a confrontational DOA. The bad press caused by headlines like "Anarchists Rampage in Berkeley" undid much of the positive outreach we had spent months nurturing.

Fortunately, there was an alternative DOA in S.F. which had clear goals and principled tactics. Several hundred people calling themselves the "Anarchist Picnic and Gardening Brigade" shared food at the Civic Center Plaza, then marched through the financial district, passing noisily through the lobbies of the Federal Building and Bank of America. We wound up at the former site of the International Hotel, now a vacant lot, where we proceeded to break ground and plant a garden.

To understand these actions, a little San Francisco history is needed. The eviction of the I-Hotel tenants in 1977 was a rallying cry for thousands of Bay Area activists who took direct action to save the hotel. When the Sheriffs finally kicked everyone out in a bloody midnight raid, the landlord razed the building, and the lot has stayed empty for twelve years.

Because this reporter knew the neighborhood near the I-Hotel well, I had led the march carrying a black flag aloft. When we arrived at the site, I gave a short speech outlining the history of the tenants' struggle there. For these two "crimes", I was arrested and charged with "inciting a riot".

Sharing food at the Civic Center confronted a different, more recent piece of municipal idiocy. The city recently imposed an injunction against the group Food Not Bombs in an effort to prevent them from serving free food to the homeless people camped out at Civic Center across from City Hall. Even local cartoonist Phil Frank (published in the daily Chronicle) has been lampooning the insanity of outlawing people's right to share food with each other. Thus the picnic aspect of the Anarchist Brigade.

Next year's gathering will probably be in New York. Wobblies need to start thinking now about how best to participate in it. Ideas or comments may be sent to the S.F. Branch Long live anarchy!

Jess Grant



'89 IWW Convention

September 2 & 3



General Executive Board meeting August 31 & September 1

Calling all Wobblies to the convention!

September 2 and 3 -- that's the Saturday and Sunday before US Labor Day -- are the dates of the convention this year. The IWW convention is open to all members of the Wobblies. The convention will be held at Theater Oobleck on N. Broadway in Chicago.

Members who are coming to the convention are urged to contact the Chicago office immediately in order that your needs for housing and getting around Chicago can be met.

Let us know of any special requirements you have in a place to stay, such as: vegetarian, access, smoking, etc.

Also this year the General Executive Board will be meeting for two days Thursday August 31 and Friday September 1.

All Wobblies are encouraged to arrive early and/or leave late. Good networking & good times will be had. There'll be things you can do to help out and Chicago is an interesting city with labor history sites you might want to check out.

at Theater Oobleck, Chicago

ALL IWW MEMBERS WELCOME

Book Review

Shopping for a Better World
A Quick and Easy Guide to Socially Responsible Supermarket Shopping by Rosalyn Will, Alice Tepper Marlin, Benjamin Corson & Jonathon Schorsch

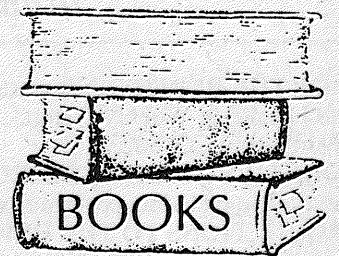
\$4.95 paperback or five copies for \$15.00

Council on Economic Priorities
30 Irving Place
New York City, NY 10003

For those of you Fellow Workers who are really interested where your shopping money goes, this vest pocket sized booklet is an indispensable companion to your supermarket excursions. If you are upset at the prospects of your pocket money helping to destroy the ecology or you want to make sure you're not supporting a union buster this booklet is what you want to take along with you when you go for your groceries.

Within these sixty-odd pages are alphabetically listed the companies and the brand names of their products. There are ten different ratings: charitable giving, women, animal testing, social disclosure, community outreach, nuclear power, South Africa

and Environment. These are arranged in easily readable columns with an extra column that indicates if the company is engaged in union busting, catches dolphins, makes misleading advertisements, clearcuts forests, pays toward daycare and other



things of interest to those who want to know how their hard-earned cash is being used. It also indicates if the company refused to furnish any information.

There are worse ways that you can spend a five-spot.

--Carlos Cortez