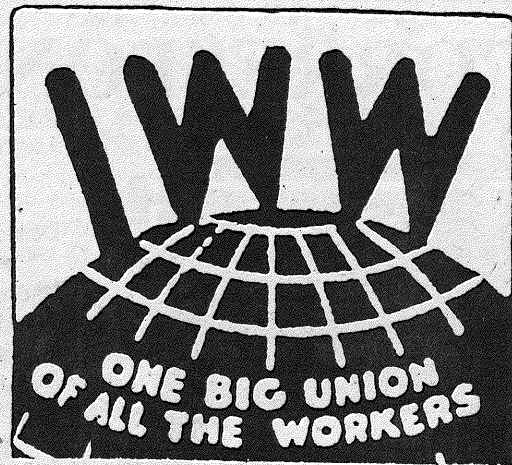


★ EDUCATION ★ ORGANIZATION ★ EMANCIPATION

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Industrial Workers of the World



January 1990 WH 1520

50 CENTS

Rank and File

MILL WORKERS CONFRONT IWA

INTRODUCTION

Unionism was hard won in the Pacific Northwest. In the early 1900's, the IWW stepped in where the AFL feared to tread, and broke the stranglehold of the timber barons on the loggers and mill workers. The companies and the government fought back with terror and brutality eventually crushing the IWW and settling instead for the more cooperative "Business Unions".

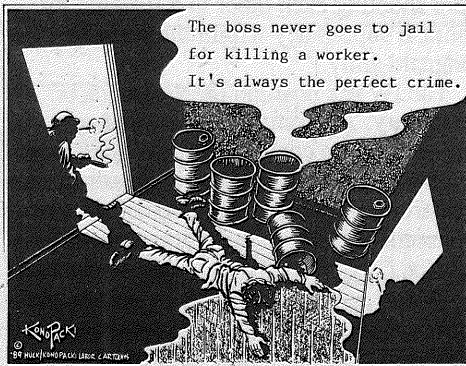
Today these unions have stood by and watched the erosion of the gains the people fought so hard to win. The following statement from five workers at the Georgia-Pacific mill in our area shows the situation timber workers are in today, both from the companies and the "Business Unions". Treva VandenBosch, one of the signers of the statement is an IWW Mendocino-Humboldt member.

IWA RANK AND FILE UNION MILL-WORKERS REPLY

Recently, articles by IWA business Rep Don Nelson and Trustee Park Singleton have been appearing in the local papers, stating their views on events in our union. We respect their right to speak up, and we appreciate their participating in the democratic process. Now we, the rank-and-file union members, would like to exercise that same right and let our opinions be known.

The PCB Spill

Much of the current strife in our union goes back to the PCB spill last February. On Saturday, February 11, Head Millwright Frank Murray was checking the machinery when a capacitor burst, dumping 5 to 7 gallons of PCB-laden oil right in his face. The force of it caused him to swallow quite a bit of it. Fellow millwright Ron Atkinson found Frank with his skin and clothing soaked, gagging on the oil and temporarily blinded, with the



labels, but the company insisted it was just mineral oil. So Frank's stomach was not pumped when he went to the hospital. He was merely washed off and returned to work the same night, still wearing the PCB soaked clothing.

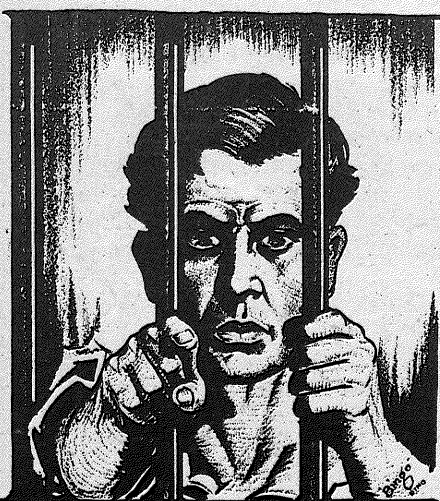
The capacitor continued to leak, spreading PCB-oil on the workroom floor and on the belt leading to the hog, where it was burned and spewed over Fort Bragg in the form of dioxin. The company "contained" the spill by taping a plastic garbage bag under it, and spreading our paper towels on the floor. Ron Atkinson and other millwrights were sent to weld and cut machinery near the PCB-oil and worked standing in PCB's and breathing dioxin fumes during two 10-hour days. Although the union has people designated as safety officers, who are allowed to inspect unsafe conditions during work time, the union was notified but did not get involved, and people continued to work in the area.

On Monday Treva VandenBosch came to work, got oil on her skin and saw the PCB label. Since workers are not allowed to leave their work stations, Treva asked the union safety officer to talk to management for her. He sent word back that it was just mineral oil,

continued on page 4

JOHN PEROTTI:

AN APPEAL FROM LUCASVILLE



My name is John Perotti. I'm a political prisoner, prison activist, IWW union organizer and jailhouse lawyer confined at the Southern Ohio Correctional Facility. (SOCF), Ohio's maximum security prison located in rural southern Ohio. I am presently being held in the J1 super max. control unit, similar to and designed after the infamous Marion Control Unit in Marion Illinois, and the recently shutdown Lexington Control Unit in Lexington, Ky. I have spent 6 1/2 years of the past eight years in J1 and regular isolation due to my activism. I have been beaten by guards, maced, sprayed with high pressure fire hoses, placed in 4 way restraints, kept in a boxcar cell consisting of a solid steel front with only a small food slot opened only to pass food trays

through, and have been subjected to every type of sensory deprivation and behavior modification techniques known in attempts to break my spirit. Yet, I refuse to submit and their constant torture only makes my commitment to the struggle that much stronger.

In September, 1988, while confined in my isolation cell, I was charged by the prison for allegedly stabbing a prison collaborator named Mark McAllister, a snitch who worked with the prisoner. No guard saw me stab McAllister, only taking his word that I did it. He was immediately released on parole. I was then summarily found guilty of this, even after maintaining my innocence and providing evidence I didn't do it, by the internal Prison Rules Infraction Board Committee and placed directly in J1 cell block.

On December 16, 1988, I was criminally indicted for felonious assault

with prior specifications, carrying a 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, to 15 year actual incarceration sentence. There have been hundreds, possibly thousands of stabbings, assaults and murders at SOCF with very few prisoners being criminally indicted, only to be disciplined internally. I was selectively indicted due to my activism and litigations.

The prosecutor offered me a "deal" of a 1 1/2 to 5 year sentence if I pled guilty to aggravated assault. Even though I was scheduled to see the Parole Board in April, and probably be released, I refused to compromise my principles and plead guilty to a crime I did not commit.

On August 28th, 29th, and 30th, 1989, I was tried here in Scioto County, a small, rural, Appalachian county, not exactly what I'd call a jury of my peers. During Voir Dire of the all white jury, five prospective

continued on page 5

Ann Arbor Homeless Coalition Continues Occupation

In the style of this University town, the Homeless Action Committee (HAC) is reaching this "liberal" community about the value of militancy in a political campaign. Though HAC hasn't seen ground broken, or even a significant amount of money put toward affordable housing yet, members are seeing a change in the support and respect they are drawing from community members, housing providers, city bureaucrats and others.

HAC's occupation of a vacant house near a lot slated to be built into a parking structure, and subsequent takeover of a City Council meeting (see article "Homeless Take Direct Action," *Industrial Worker*, December 1989), have catapulted the group into the public eye, increasing exponentially its visibility in the City. The house, called "Day One," is now HAC's organizing center and home to some of its members, both homeless and not.

During a recent sidewalk fundraising effort held in the downtown area, many passersby asked about the house occupation, the pickets at the planned site of the parking structure and HAC's plans for keeping up the pressure on City Council. Church committees, service providers, students, and "Day One's" (the name of the occupied house) neighbors, and others have volunteered food, blankets, furniture, money, etc. to the house. The local housing coalition donated funds and has agreed to set up meetings with religious groups and social gatherings at their own homes to help HAC get its word out.

Workers and administrators of the City's Shelter Association have decided to be more aggressive in presenting the truth to Council about their swelling shelters. In fact, the director of the Shelter Association sent a representative to HAC's takeover of the Council meeting to voice their support and their observations about increasing homelessness in Ann Arbor. A city housing bureaucrat recently contacted HAC to see how she could carefully support HAC's position and goals in her job at City Hall.

"I think we're giving courage to the shelter providers and the City workers to speak the truth—to speak up about what they've known for years about the housing crisis," says HAC member Renuka Uthappa. "Those people may not join us in the streets, but they recognize that we're working to-

ward more affordable the same as they are. Before, these people were very stand-offish with HAC because they were afraid of losing their funding or even their jobs. I think they're beginning to see the value of a militant campaign," says Uthappa.

HAC has also brought attention to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA), a once nearly secret (at least to the general population) body making decisions about the future of the downtown area and how to spend taxes collected there. Similar to other states, the DDA is created under state enabling legislation. Housing is included in the description of what the DDA can do with the revenues it generates, but in reality the local political climate determines how the funds are utilized.

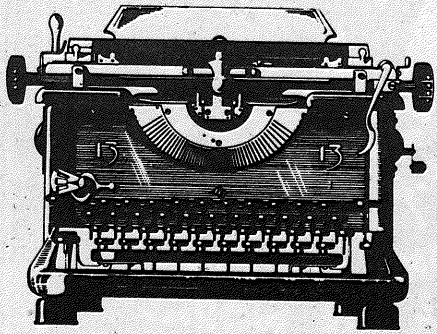
More and more people have started to question the authority and the goals of this City Council-created committee which has opted to channel over \$30 million into parking structures, while no low-income housing has been built in the City in 15 years. People are beginning to put two and two together and realize that the City's priorities are with business and not with the people. Which is exactly what the Homeless Action Committee wanted people to ask.

HAC has not succeeded at getting a meeting with City Council, a proposition they have made for a year now, but they're getting closer. The minority democratic caucus has agreed, but the republicans are still holding out. HAC members have stated they will only meet with the full council, and figure that by the time the republicans finally agree, their expanding base will offer them more clout.

HAC's current objective is to keep up the pressure. The group's newest tactic is guerrilla theatre, which is being staged in restaurants, stores, streets and other places. The theatre is designed to inform people about the scope of the housing problem, the relationship between City Council and business. Traffic disruptions, a speakers' bureau and regular Saturday pickets are also part of HAC's plans to force the City to take some concrete steps to creating affordable housing.

Donations, questions, comments, etc. should be directed to the Homeless Action Committee, 337 S. Ashley, Ann Arbor, MI, 48103.

CORRESPONDENCE



HELP!

In the summer of 1983, Fred Thompson and I appeared on a nation wide television talkshow. I wonder if anyone made a videotape of the show? Inquiries to the Detroit public television station have gone unanswered.

I was the GST that year. FW Thompson, who died in 1986 at the age of 86, was a sparkplug in the IWW even at that age. He did much of the nitty-gritty in IW production work, and always reminded me and the younger members about our roots.

Somehow, he and I got invited to be the guests on a 30-minute talkshow called Late Night America. The host was Dennis Wholley. The topic was "Unions in America Today", but focused mostly on the historic IWW and our current vision and tactics. The result was a flood of inquiries from around the US and Canada. Not to mention a postcard from an old friend of mine I hadn't heard from in ten years. (Her Alaskan village had gotten a satellite dish hooked up that day and it was the first TV show ever shown in the village!) PBS put us up in a suite at a ritzy hotel in Detroit after picking us up in a limosine at the train station. We were "limited" to \$100 a piece for dinner and breakfast at the hotel. There was no way we could eat that much, so the waitress at the hotel coffee shop got the remainder of our expense account after our breakfast.

So anyone have a copy of the show? Let me know! Dave Tucker, c/o Bellingham IWW, PO Box 1386, Bellingham WA 98227

Industrial Worker

ONE UNION ONE LABEL
ONE ENEMY



COLLECTIVE:

Penny Pixler, Mark Kaufmann,
Mike Hill, Ingrid Kock,
Jerry Frazer, Jeff Ditz, Carlos Cortez

CONTRIBUTORS:

Claudia Green (Ann Arbor) John Perotti
(Lucasville) Mike Konopacki (Madison)
Ron Atkinson, Cheryl Jones, Julie Wiles,
Joe Valado, Treva VandenBosch
(Mendocino) Rochelle Semel (New York)
Minor Variante, Jane Scarf (Ottawa)
Jess Grant (San Francisco)

General Secretary-Treasurer: Jeff Ditz

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War on Hate

Dear Industrial Worker:

Along with being active against the war my activities here in Seattle have also included supporting the United Front Against Facism. One of our specific recent goals has been attempting to close down a "hate line" operated by Tom Metzger.

Tom Metzger is the leader of the White Aryan Resistance faction of the neo nazi movement. He has also been named by the FBI as being part of a network of Order leaders who helped plan crimes and received money from their activities. Perhaps this is where he obtained the funds for his "Race and Reason" cable TV shows which have been aired in about thirty cities around the country. He has gained additional TV exposure by appearing on several nationally-broadcast TV shows with his son John, head of the Aryan Youth Movement/White Student Union.

Metzger's Aryan Update hotline (or hate line) is a white supremacist recruiting technique. These hate lines (some are put out by other neo-nazi, KKK leaders) consist of a phone number people can call to hear racist, reactionary garbage. Then, after the listener is treated to a barrage of crude racial slurs and Tom Metzger's sales pitch for his organization and newspaper, the caller has the opportunity to leave a message.

We have attempted to shut down his line here in Seattle by calling and protesting to Bob Gordon, of American Voice Retrieval, the company which is carrying Metzger's message. (Gordon's number is 206-783-1707). We have also attempted to disrupt Metzger's line itself by leaving our own message and consequently taking up his tape time. This has been partially successful. Metzger has countered by occasionally taking his message off the line from time to time and substituting a recording of Sesame Street, no message except "you may leave your message now", "the mail box is full try again later", or other nonsense.

After I began this activity Metzger announced in his message that, "We have a hacker on the line, so if we are not here from time to time, keep trying, since the opposition does not believe in free speech."

Last Friday I gave a ring to see if the creep was back on the line. He was, and after his sales pitch, a litany about how environmentalists are responsible for immigrants coming to the US, he said "The 'hacker' may not realise it, but we now have a name and an address and his illicit activities will soon be terminated!"

Tom Metzger may not realise it, but I have written and spoken against his movement in a serious manner for at least six years now. This activity has taken the form of letters to the Post Amerikan newspaper, leafletting, postering, and working with anti-nazi groups, organizing, as well as taking part in demonstrations. I am not about to cease in response to any threat of violence or other forms of harassment and intimidation. Tom Metzger also may not realize it, but the term 'hacker' applies to persons who gain illegal entry to computer systems and has no relevance to someone who leaves unwanted messages on a publicly advertised phone message line.

If any readers would like to reach out and touch Tom Metzger the number of his Seattle hate line is 206-781-5632.

Sincerely,
Richard S. Mote



Losing Our Bearings?

Fellow Workers,

Some Wobblies seem to have lost their bearings, as illustrated by two articles in the December IW. In the first, FW Kock comes out in support of El Salvador's FMLN guerillas in the course of an article discussing some very real problems with the anti-intervention movement. It has never been the IWW program to support Marxist-Leninist aspiring dictators and their military offensives, or to confuse these—as FW Kock does—with the peasant and workers' movements.

That El Salvador's military government is a brutal regime that survives only by virtue of U.S. military and economic "aid" (paid for with dollars stolen from our modest paychecks) is beyond question. The IWW has repeatedly denounced such force-propped regimes, and urged concrete measures to halt the slaughter of our fellow workers. But we have never made the mistake of supporting the military gangs that seek to catapult themselves into power. (Indeed, the FMLN is a particularly unsavory case—only a few years ago, they were shooting each other in a struggle for political supremacy within the "people's" vanguard army.)

The IWW's position on Nicaragua is exemplary. Convention approved a very clear resolution condemning the Contras and the U.S. war effort, and expressing solidarity not with the Nicaraguan government but with the workers, peasants and indigenous peoples it oppresses by outlawing their organizations, breaking their strikes with convict labor, jailing their delegates, etc. Thus, we fight against U.S. intervention in the region (by protesting and obstructing U.S. weapons shipments, calling on transport workers to refuse to handle war cargoes, etc.), while simultaneously opposing the FSLN regime which denies our fellow workers their basic rights.

Similarly, in FW St. John's report on the struggle for housing, he focuses on governmental—rather than direct—action as the solution. Seizing the City Council chambers for a day, and calling on the government to address the housing crisis, leaves the ball in the politicians' court. It would make more sense to seize available buildings and convert them into socialized housing, to mobilize workers to erect housing on available lands, etc. (This is not hopeless, by the way. A few years ago, Los Angeles building trades unions volunteered their labor to build shelters on public land.) In Champaign-Urbana we have a dual housing crisis—landlords are suffering from high vacancy rates at the same time that the numbers of homeless people are increasing. The politicians can aggravate the problem. But they can't really solve it; that will require the abolition of the wage system.

Yours for industrial freedom,
Jon Bekken, X331117

MORE ON ZIONISTS

To the Industrial Worker:

It is astonishing that a "Zionism" controversy has erupted in the letter column of the Industrial Worker. Robert Nordlander, whoever he might be, tells us that Zionism is racism. This is a lot of crap. Zionism is Jewish nationalism and thereby shares all the unlovely traits of exclusivity and particularity that disgrace all varieties of nationalism. In a world where every country has a social system under which the working majority is exploited by a privileged minority, it is tragic that vast numbers of people are deluded into believing that their interests are identical with all those of the same nationality and that their enemies are the people of differing nationalities. This state of affairs leads to oppression of national minorities, wars of national aggrandizement, suppression of the class struggle in the name of national unity, and general ignorance and misdirection of energies.

This being said, why, in a world in which nationalism is rampant, is Nordlander singling out the nationalism of the Jews? It is hard, under these circumstances, not to detect the vile stench of anti-Semitism.

I am as surprised as most IW readers to learn that Nordlander's long list of unions hold State of Israel bonds. Unlike Nordlander, though, I do not ask why the unions did not invest in "cleaner" and more remunerative government securities. I ask, instead, why unions are underwriting any government. As most wobblies know, the strongest union keeps its treasury in its members' pockets.

Finally, I hope that this will mark the end of Hitlerite sentiments and the necessity of responding to them in the columns of the Industrial Worker.

For the emancipation,

Steve Kellerman

Dear IW,

Zionism is not per se "racism"—Zionism is a form of nationalism—one of the earliest to arise in the 19th century, as a direct result of the infamous Dreyfus case, which taught us that anti-semitism was alive and well in Europe.

While I deplore the racist aspects of Zionism as much as anyone else, it is generally ignored that there was and is a long history of Socialist Zionism—growing out of (for instance) the Bund in Poland & the Hashomer Hatzair, who were the basis of the Fighting Organization which defended the Warsaw Ghetto against the Nazis. They, among others, created the Kibbutz and the moshav-socialist institutions, however flawed (and I am waiting to hear of any human institution that is unflawed.)

The early settlers of Israel bought the land (generally at highly inflated prices) from the then legal owners. This is no more equivocal than the ownership of every acre of the United States, which was stolen from the native peoples. Are we ready to give it back, and return whence we came (which is the case of about six million of us would be in Israel!) Let's have a little less hypocrisy.

The plain fact is that All nationalism is racist, it always implies that messianic superiority of "the people". Look at some of the nationalisms: One discovers in the literature definite right-wing, even fascist aspects—but no one calls them racist or implies they shouldn't exist.

There is an interesting double standard at work: national self-determination is fine for Croatia, Bosnia, Biafra, Kurdistan, Palestinians - for everyone, it would seem, except Jews. And the argument that Jews don't count because they didn't occupy a contiguous territory doesn't hold water.

The fact is that no people on earth has maintained its identity so rigorously as Jews—we see the cultural and psychological cast in Mea Sheari. Israel is a (more or less) successful nationalism—a lesson for all of us that only class struggle can provide the basis for a truly revolutionary society. The horrors being perpetrated in Israel don't "prove" that Jews are as awful as everybody else (I could have told you that)—but that nationalism, if not subordinated to class struggles, is a dead end.

Sororically,
Joanne Forman

Boycott Committee

Wobblies interested in helping coordinate and publicize boycotts are encouraged to contact volunteer coordinator FW David Christian at the Atlanta GMB Post Office Box (see directory, pg 6).

Organizing Manual

A new organizing manual -- "How to Fire Your Boss" -- is in draft form. Send your ideas and experiences, requests for drafts, etc. to project coordinator FW Ted Dymant at Blackbird Design in Toronto (see pg 6)

New Home for Industrial Worker

Production and editorial work on the Industrial Worker is moving to Ann Arbor for 1990. New IW Collective address:

IWW
400 W. Washington #2B
Ann Arbor, MI 48103

ANOTHER VIEW FROM TORONTO

Having just read a report by FW Dymant about Toronto's experiences of building a branch I felt I had to add a little piece to fill in some gaps in his account. This is not to say that he is wrong in his descriptions of the youthfulness and growing pains of most of the Toronto branch but he has in his enthusiasm for the young sector forgotten about us oldies.

Before Ted formed the Blackbird Design job shop he and I had formed a computer collective around an early, primitive 128K Macintosh computer. He was then publishing a slightly disguised anarchist paper called **The Harder they Fall**. A few collectors items of its few issues must still exist. My quarter time share of the computer No Name Collective was spent collecting, writing and disseminating songs. (More about that later) The two other shares were owned by anarchist publication groups. The success of the young computer publishers led Ted and several others to rent, then buy, more Macs and Blackbird Design was officially formed as a collective. This was almost simultaneously led to the formation of an I.W.W. job branch and rapidly following that a general meeting to inform folks that the I.W.W. was organizing in T.O. (that's the local short form for Toronto - if you do say the whole name you should pronounce it 'Trawna' or else you'll stand out as a foreigner). You gotta hand it to Ted for moving fast!

Knowing from Bruce Phillips' music almost everything I knew of Wobbliness at the time, I thought this might be for me too. So I got to be one of the first delegates chosen at the inaugural meeting. But I'm over 35. Almost everyone else was in their early 20's at the most. Not to worry. In the original group was another older FW (Ken Deyarmond) who's delegate I became. We had both come to this with long histories of organizing - he from British Columbia - myself from T.O. We had met at the "anti-missile protests of the 80's" Ted refers to, where we kept an unorganized group of young anarchists and assorted others somewhat organized. (Someone had to do the behind the scenes work. Press conferences do not happen on their own.)

Right from the start, the T.O. branch had begun on a musical note. The inaugural meeting opened with the Rebel Voices film and then the singing of "Joe Hill" led by myself. Since then I've been writing and adapting dozens of songs for the branch. I've collected an equal number also and am on my

way to creating the Canadian Wobbly song-book (just as soon as the Vancouver branch sends its promised contributions).

The song book project started with the peace, poverty and anti-summit work we older Wobs were involved in. Showing the Wobbly banner (which is rather big and was painted by Dymant and myself) at events of other groups and coalitions is important, but the weeks of organizing work that the older Wobs put into helping put together these events was what got us better known in our community. A song written for the **Popular Summit** which was held to oppose the G7 Summit, was the theme song adopted by that Toronto-wide coalition, aired by college radio stations, sung at the main rally, and sung again in jail cells at 3 subsequent days of arrests. Anyway, the first songbook was a 4-sided production from that summer. By the time of our big fund-raising concert with headliner **Utah Phillips**, preceded by local Wobbly opening acts **The Grievous Angels** and with myself as singer-M.C., with a Wobbly sound crew and organizers, the song book idea had grown. Bruce Phillips provided much needed encouragement and the call went out to everyone who could be reached. This was not easy in Canada. While I've belonged for years to the U.S. -based **People's Music Network**, the Canadian network and coffee-house I had helped form years ago had died out. (Never accept government funding I had warned.....) No listing of "radical" Canadian songwriters or songs exists. This is why our new song book is important to us. To recreate and to maintain a vital part of our labour history. And now that I am sure its going to happen even if we miss our January publishing date, I know it will be a good 1st edition. The songbook launching may also coincide with May Day 1990 when the branch plans to distribute Joe Hill's ashes in T.O., possibly in the garment district, (which is about to be destroyed by the Free Trade agreement with your government) and follow up with a concert and dance. If the T.O. Branch hasn't formally asked for a packet of Joe Hill's ashes then this is my formal request.

While our gender balance is still shitty, another older organizer became a Wobbly not long ago. I signed up FW Shapcott who is the prime mover behind the **BASIC Poverty Action Group** in Toronto. We met through organizing, myself with poor students primarily on welfare - he with older homeless folks, An ex newspaper man of

unparalleled energy, Shapcott lives, breathes, eats, organizing work. He's organized three annual conferences for the homeless under the title of "No Place Like Home", which pulled together the homeless and underhoused with housing activists. He's constantly criticized the Mayor and city councilors who, all but one, suffer from mega-project mania while they underfund health, welfare and housing projects. When mega-project mania moved on from our newly completed \$1/2 billion Domes Stadium to proposals for a new Ballet Opera House on public lands previously set aside for affordable housing, a bid for the 1996 Summer Olympics, AND a bid for the Expo 2000, Shapcott started the "**Bread Not Circuses Coalition**" (without dropping **BASIC** or any other project) which has by now mounted enough opposition to the Olympics to get over 30 amendments to the Olympic bid passed at City Council. If the Olympic Committee doesn't radically change their structure, programme, and proposal by the New Year, we hope to scuttle the bid totally, and allow Athens to get the Olympics - and the problems. Needless to say, I've written songs for many of these opposition events, and run collective song writing workshops with the participants of the No Place Like Home Conferences.

While not nearly as technically polished as the Blackbird design collective, FW Shapcott is a prodigious producer of intelligent, incisive, well-researched, propaganda FOR the working class constituents of 'Toronto The Good'.

As if we weren't busy enough, we've also made strong moves into advocacy for the welfare supported students and welfare recipients in general. With the east end based **Welfare Rights Group**, we've launched a successful - so far - attack on new repressive enforcement of policy by the welfare administrators of this fair city who were cutting costs at the behest of the provincial funders of General Welfare but bypassing the City Councilors who really are supposed to administer the programme. With the help of one councilor who's our ally, we blew the whistle on the system's nefariousness.

I wish more young Wobs would get involved in this organizing work with us because it helps to spread the work load, but it also trains future shit disturbers in how to lock horns with the city and provincial governments, to organize with allies in the community and to achieve victories for the workers of Toronto.

Finally, we've made moves to organize with a Province wide anti-poverty coalition, mostly because of Federal and Provincial initiatives to make life more mean for all workers. Unemployment Insurance cutbacks, new national General Sales Tax, etc., threaten to slide Canada back to the status of the U.S. Let's face it, we've always had an image in your country of being an almost socialist haven which let in draft dodgers and sheltered them like Sweden did. Well believe me, Brian Mulroney's deal with Reagan and now Bush is going to see to it that we become a northern version of a banana republic unless workers here get militant very quickly. Have you heard of moves to incorporate Mexico into a continental free trade package? I already have a version of "This Land Is Your Land" which ignores the 49th parallel border in the chorus, maybe a newer version will have to incorporate Mexico too. In our on going anti-Free Trade fight I've represented our views across the country and down to New York City (where they had heard nothing about it). Lately I've represented Wobs at Metro Labour Council events because even the regular unions are getting mad now that workers are getting laid off in large numbers. Speaking briefly, to save more time for songs, I've been promoting the I.W.W. platform of a 4 hour day since no real solutions to the layoffs are presented by the regular unions. They think they can just say NO! to Free Trade and magically achieve something. No mention of this makes it into their literature as yet but I'll keep trying.

Some tentative connections are being made with a Toronto Earth First! group and as always work goes on with native rights groups, most notably FW Joe Chang's work with the **Leonard Peltier Defense Committee**. Joe's also the local Defense Committee secretary and the Branch secretary. We also have plans to help organize for the next May Day in T.O. to reclaim that day for workers of all persuasions. On that day we hope to plant a solid musical tradition firmly again in Toronto's streets. I recently signed FW Richard Fielding, another over 35 member, and author of "Pit Man's Blues" to the Wobbly roster which should make our musical chapter stronger yet.

In the "slower but steadier tradition" but also in the spirit of Joe Hill, yours, Jerzy (George) Dymny

ESTHER DOLGOFF REMEMBERED

(In 1976, when I joined the IWW, Esther and Sam Dolgoff were the first fellow workers I contacted for advice and moral support for re-establishing an IWW branch in New York. I remember that when Esther called me "comrade," I felt a sense of pride to be part of a movement that included her. Already in their '70s at that time, Esther and Sam never missed a branch meeting and lovingly threw their encouragement behind our growing branch. Esther attended every event and did any Jimmy Higgins work asked of her. One long night we stamped numbers on a thousand raffles together.)

That we will miss her? That's a miserable understatement. We loved her idealism, her dedication, her commitment and the caring person that she was. Her space will never be filled.)

The New York General Membership Branch of the IWW mourns still another cherished old-timer, Esther Dolgoff, beloved Wobbly and anarchist, who died in November of 1989 in her home on the lower east side of Manhattan, New York.

Esther, along with her comrade/husband, Sam Dolgoff, spent the better part of a lifetime to achieve a spirit of solidarity between Wobblies and anarchists. All those who were fortunate enough to know her as a valiant participant in the class struggle, believe that she realized that goal.

Esther was born in Russia in 1905. Her father was a brick layer. When she was six months old her parents emigrated to the United States to work the land on a small farm in New Jersey. Later they moved the family to Cleveland, Ohio, where Esther and her sister fought many childhood battles against rampant anti-semitism.

In her late teens, Esther worked in an orphan asylum but was forced to resign after she protested the mistreatment of children in residence there. Esther had hoped to become a doctor, but chose to study instead her second love, literature, and graduated from Ohio's Northwestern University with a Masters in Arts in English — a singular achievement for a young woman from an immigrant family in that era.

Esther's lifetime companion, Sam Dolgoff, tells of their meeting in his book of personal recollections, **Fragments: A Memoir**.

"I first met my comrade-wife Esther on the steps of the Cleveland public library after I got off the freight train I hopped to Detroit. In those deep depression days a speaker made his way as best he could because the meager contributions of the comrades were not enough to pay transportation costs. Esther was on the committee to arrange speakers for the Cleveland Open Forum."

Esther and Sam joined their lives together when she was 23, he 29. The resulting association greatly enriched the anarchist movement and the IWW, as they embarked together on a life of militant activism. Esther's activity continued throughout her two pregnancies, and the raising of their two sons. She always carried that double role which led to her interest in forming and working with women's groups.

Their joint record is remarkable. What follows is just a taste of it. Together they launched the anarchist periodical **Why** (1943); cofounded the **Libertarian League** (1954) which was dedicated to building a revolutionary syndicalist movement and supporting the IWW and the IWA; published a periodical, **Views and Comments** (1950s); cofounded the **Libertarian Book Club** (1950's)

in order to publish and circulate anarchist literature in English. The Book Club published Voline's **The Unknown Revolution**, a history of the anarchists during the Russian Revolution, and republished such out-of-print books as Eitzbacher's **Anarchism**; Stirner's **The Ego and His Own**; and Martin's **Men**.



Against the State.

Esther and Sam's closest associations in the IWW centered around the Philadelphia and New York branches. In the 1930s they attended NY-IWW meetings at the hall on 94 Fifth Avenue. Its walls were decorated with a mural in what Sam describes as the "prevailing proletarian style," complete with the portrayal of a greedy, cigar-smoking boss, and workers chanting "Solidarity Forever." The building housed, along with the IWW, Carlo Tresca's **Il Martello** group and was a cultural center of sorts in which classes were held.

Esther attended all the IWW rallies, was involved in every organizing drive, and active on the union's picket lines as well as those called in behalf of anarchist causes. She was in the front lines of the "Joe Hill Picketline" at the Spanish Consulate to protest the assassination of members of the CNT by Franco, and at Gracie Mansion, the office

of the New York Mayor, to speak out against the official reception given to Martin Artajo, the Foreign Minister of Franco Spain by the local politicians.

A multi-talented person, Esther studied childhood education and was involved in most "progressive education" projects of the day. She also undertook the project of translating the memoirs of Louisa Michel from Yiddish to English. An inspired public speaker she addressed forums on such topics as "The unknown IWW of the 1930's, 1940's, and 1950's." This talk was well received by the anarchist group, **Freespace Alternate U** in New York City.

In the mid '70s Esther and Sam traveled to Tel Aviv, Israel to make contact with anarchist groups. Later in that decade they visited Madrid, Barcelona, and Malaga, Spain and established contact with the CNT which had reorganized after Franco's death. In Great Britain they met with Wobblies in Manchester.

When in New York, the Dolgoff's home was always an informal meeting place for anarchists and Wobblies passing through town. Gracious, warm, and always interested in any news that you could bring them of the revolutionary syndicalist movements, the Dolgoff's were ideal hosts.

For us—the Wobblies of later generations—the Dolgoff's will always represent a sound ideological foundation on which we build for the future. The only "gift" they ever have wanted from us, is that we carry forth their ideals and remain committed to building "the new society in the shell of the old." Farewell, fellow worker Esther Dolgoff.

Rochelle Semel



JOHN PEROTTI

Wob Appeals from Prison

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

jurors told the judge and prosecutor that they were wasting the taxpayer's money by trying me and stated that they could not be fair and impartial. My attorneys, Columbus public defenders Jerry McHenry and Scott Fellen had filed motions to dismiss the Scioto County Prosecutors Office from representing the state, because an assistant prosecutor had formally been my attorney in a separate case, a motion to dismiss the indictment for selective and discriminatory prosecution because I was indicted due to my activism, union organizing and litigations, all protected by the First amendment, and to remove the shackles, belly chain, and handcuffs while in front of the jury. Judge Mitchell, a hardline, conservative travelling judge, summarily denied all our motions without a hearing, and I was tried in shackles, belly chain and handcuffs, surrounded by five uniformed armed deputies, three uniformed armed prison guards and two plainclothes armed bailiffs during the whole trial. So much for the presumption of innocence until being proven guilty. This had a prejudicial effect on the jurors and no reason was given to them as to why the security was so extreme.

The State presented the paroled prisoner, Mark McAllister as their first witness, who told the jury I stabbed him with a crutch-he did not see a knife attached to it, and only saw my face and felt a sharp pain in his stomach. The cell I was in was an open fronted cell, yet he claimed all he saw was my face and the end of the crutch. Upon cross examination, he admitted lying to prison and court officials in the past, but said he wasn't lying about this. He also admitted that his parole could be revoked and he could be sent back to prison if he changed his testimony or lied. He said he had broken numerous prison rules, had been disciplinary transferred from two other prisons and that he had been in prison twice, from the age of 18 to his present age of 26 years old. Over objections by my attorneys, Judge Mitchell allowed him to pull up his shirt and lower his pants to show his scar to the jury. No medical records or testimony was introduced to ascertain the long scar was a result of the stabbing, and guards testified he originally only had a small puncture wound. Three guards took the stand and said McAllister had told them I stabbed him, yet none had witnessed it. They testified there was a set of crutches in my cell, but no knife was found after the first cell search. Upon cross examination, it was shown how all three guard's statements had conflicted with each other, and how they added evidence which was never proven or introduced at trial, all because they were covering for themselves for not properly doing their jobs, which could result in their being fired. Two gave conflicting testimony as to McAllister telling them I stabbed him and why. McAllister testified no guards were around nor stated he told them I did it at first. A fourth guard said that he discovered and removed a knife from the cell I had been in which was wedged in an air vent, nine feet to the top of the cell, all the next day. The state's lab expert testified that there were no fingerprints on the knife, and only a small speck of blood, too minute to determine type, only that it was human. The State then rested their case.

Our first witness was an expert lab technician and criminal investigator who testified there was no blood on the knife, only rust. Testimony was introduced by the state and defense that over 30 knives were found in cell vents and in other hiding places in the same isolation block just a week later and that weapons were commonly found in the prison. A fellow prisoner, John Fryman, testified that Darnell Goodgame, a prisoner who celled in the cell next to mine, had come to him for a knife because he wanted to kill McAllister, who was his "boy" (prison slang for homosexual lover), who had beat him for some money and disrespected him.

Fryman testified he had sold Goodgame a knife for five packs of cigarettes and watched Goodgame stab McAllister, while looking out his cell door. Another prisoner, Larry Pinkerman, who celled next to him he was going to stab McAllister, who was Goodgame's "boy" and would lie to protect Goodgame. Darnell Goodgame took the stand and admitted to buying the knife from Fryman, that McAllister was his "boy" and he his "protector" and admitted to stabbing McAllister because he had beat him for his money, then passed the knife off. The prosecutor had the state patrol summary and asked why he had not admitted to it when questioned. Goodgame replied that he had told the highway patrol that I did not stab McAllister, but didn't admit to doing it himself because he thought he had got away with it, but his conscience bothered him and he wanted to take responsibility for his own actions. The highway patrol report reflected this. Last, fellow prisoner Keith Ledger took the stand and testified that McAllister hated Perotti because Perotti had seen McAllister giving Goodgame oral sex and had told everyone about it, and McAllister did not want to be known as a homosexual. We then rested our case and moved for a mistrial because of the shackles and security, and the fact that Goodgame confessed to the crime. Judge Mitchell denied the motions, and during the trial overruled all our objections, assisted the prosecutor in pursuing his case, and made faces, rolled his eyes and shook his head when our witnesses testified. All my prisoner witnesses appeared before the jury in leg shackles, belly chains and handcuffs, with even two more uniformed and armed prison guards standing behind them while they testified.

After closing arguments the jury deliberated for 2 1/2 hours. They sent out two notes to the judge, one asking to review the transcript of Goodgame testimony, and the other to view the drawing of the crime scene, as a prior motion to allow the jurors to visit the crime scene was denied. Both requests were denied. During deliberations, hollering and shouting by the men (there were six men and six women, the foremen being a former teacher at the prison) at the women, who we believe wanted to vote for acquittal, was heard. At six pm the jury returned a guilty verdict. Judge Mitchell gave me the maximum sentence of 12-15 years actual incarceration to be served consecutively with my present sentence of which I already had four years over the minimum in Ohio.

I'm in prison for a \$7 non-violent robbery, with an added conviction for aggravated assault on a guard, who with eight other guards, attempted to kill me in 1984, one month after they killed our fellow prisoner, Jimmy Haines, and recently killed fellow prisoners Vaughn, Lincoln Carter and John Ingram.

I will now have to serve 12 actual years before even seeing the parole board, who continuously give me more time because of my activism.

We have numerous grounds for appeal, and reversal of this conviction based on constitutional issues and judicial misconduct, as well as many errors during the trial. If I don't get this sentence reversed on appeal, I will die in prison or in trying to gain my own freedom, as I don't have much faith in our criminal injustice system. I'm 34 years old now, came to prison at 19 years of age. I cannot do 12 more years as the administration have made numerous attempts upon my life and have intensified their attacks and repression. I am writing this from the boxcar cell, after being gassed by the guards. Their latest tactic is to isolate me. I am the only prisoner on this side of the block, with the other nine prisoners on the other side. This is so they can attack me with no witnesses, which they did on September 11, 1989.

I am desperately in need of funds to hire

a criminal appeal attorney and investigator to prepare a winning appeal. We have 60 days in which to get an appeal brief in unless I can obtain a continuance. The Public Defender Office is overworked and underpaid and cannot devote the time, research and proper investigation necessary to prepare a winning appeal. I need at least \$3000 to hire a competent appeal attorney. This is a lot of money and I realize that people like us don't have much, but please reach deeply in your pockets to help. I urge you to plan fundraisers and distribute this request to all your friends, comrades, brothers and sisters in the struggle. Time is of the essence. Please do what you can, my future depends upon it. In the meantime I will continue to fight against repression here. Without struggle, there can be no change.

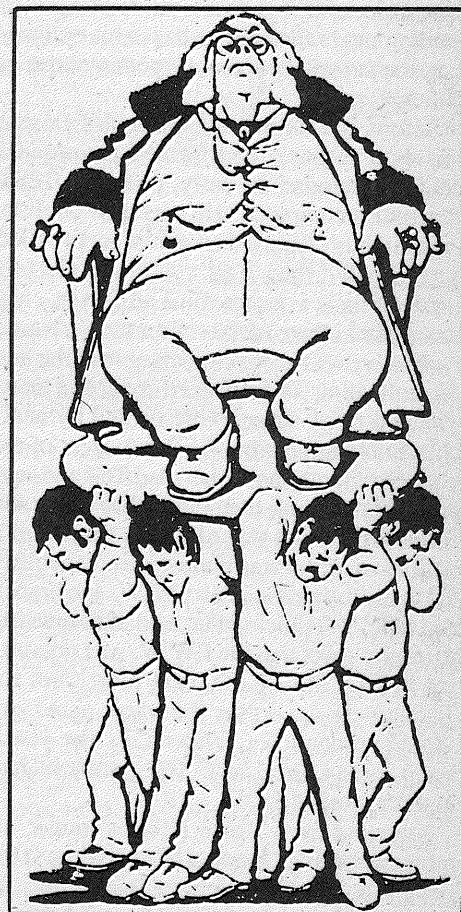
I send my revolutionary greetings and solidarity to all of you, and thank you in advance for whatever assistance you can provide.

John Perotti X333145

Please send checks, money orders, travellers checks, cash to:

John Perotti-Perotti Defense Fund
1142 Hall Ave
Lakewood, Ohio 44107

Letters of Support to:
John Perotti
SOCF 167712
POB 45699
Lucasville, Ohio 45699



Letters of Protest of the unjust trial to:
Judge Mitchell &
Prosecutor Lynn Grimshaw
Portsmouth, Ohio 45662

Ottawa Wob Jailed for Homeless Activism

Our LeBreton Flats Camp for the homeless, which was set up to provide a direct response to the needs of those rendered hungry and homeless due to vicious Welfare cutbacks (see December IW), was raided by Federal Police (RCMP). All our tents and equipment were seized and we were charged with illegal camping. I was also charged with breach of probation from a previous conviction of illegal camping. I spent a dreadful eight days in Ottawa's Detention Centre for refusing to sign a bail order which required me to agree to stay off all Federal Land for the duration of my probation.

My time in jail was spent in solitary confinement for refusing to take off my clothing during six routine strip searches. I refused to submit to these searches (although I did not fight) because I'm not violent and there was no reason for the Ottawa Carleton Regional Detention Center staff to believe I was carrying weapons or drugs nor do I have a history of violence. On two occasions male guards participated in these strip searches in order to humiliate me for non-compliance. I was punished each time for not obeying the order to strip and by the fifth day I was not only still in solitary I also lost all my privileges including my mattress and blankets, toiletries, reading material and phone. At first in order to cover-up the fact that male guards were used to search me they put down in my file that I

was violent and then they changed their minds when the press began to inquire about this issue and they merely deny the use of males.

I have placed a complaint with the Solicitor General, the Ombudsman, and the Minister of Correctional Services with the help of the Federation of Rights and Liberties (a non-governmental agency).

However, on the up side my imprisonment went a far way to raise public awareness of the Welfare cutbacks and their impact on the individual who is subject to them (homelessness and hunger). The political statement we are trying to make is that the system must resume its obligation to provide a basic level of income to those in need or they must stop prosecuting homeless people for such things as vagrancy, trespassing, loitering and illegal

camping.

The IWW Defense Committee Representative, Joe Chang, came to Ottawa while I was in jail to help prepare my defense and was also able to convince the IWW lawyer in Toronto to take the government to court for its attack on Welfare rights. That is, we are seeking a Supreme Court decision that insures that no one goes without food and shelter.

Also in preparing our defense on the illegal camping charges, of which I have 12 at this point, we discovered that the Federal Government does not have deeds to LeBreton Flats as it claims it does. Under the Federal Act which we were charged with, it states that no one is to be convicted if there is a dispute over the ownership of the land. The Algonquin First Nation natives hold the valid deeds to this land. They gave us permission to inhabit the land when we began our action on August 27, 1989. We have a good chance of beating the charges and winning the political welfare issue thanks to the support of the IWW and our good friends the Algonquins.

Jane Scarf
November 1989

YOUR POWER LIES IN ORGANIZATION

BUILD MILITANT UNIONISM

Rank and File Mill Workers Confront IWA in Northern California

continued from page 1

and she should keep working. Eventually Treva climbed up on the machine and read the PCB label closely. She then called the emergency number listed on the label and notified OSHA and the local fire department of the spill. A sample was taken and by Monday evening it had come back positive for high levels of PCB's. Yet management continued to make people work in the area, exposing three more shifts of workers to the poisons.

Halfway through the shift the next day, management roped off the immediate spill area, but continued to run the hog and make people work nearby. When Treva complained that the spill was not contained and people were still being exposed, her supervisor told her to leave the job if she felt it was unsafe.

Treva argued with her supervisor, then walked off the job and went straight to the union office. She was told that Don Nelson was out, and nobody else could help her. She was not even advised of her rights. These rights include the right to refuse to work in an area that a reasonable person would consider dangerous. A decent union would have advised us not to work near the spill, and shut the plant down on the spot. But all attempts to get the IWA to represent us on this issue have resulted in nothing but hostility and excuses.

So Treva tried by herself to get the company to close the mill and protect the other workers, who were still being exposed to the toxics. She singlehandedly picketed the G-P plant, demanding to meet with a high company official who had flown in from Oregon. Finally on Tuesday night the plant was shut down and remained closed for clean-up until Friday. OSHA has since ruled that G-P willfully exposed workers to PCBs and fined the company \$14,000.

Throughout this traumatic incident Don Nelson never once talked sympathetically to the workers who were poisoned. In fact, he accused them of "making a mountain out of a molehill". He publicly defended the company, saying they had been "completely above board", and he testified in the company's behalf at the OSHA hearing. He said on KMFB radio that PCBs are not proven harmful, and published a statement diminishing the incident and saying that "there were no known serious injuries because of this spill." Yet six months later, Frank still had a body PCB level of 386 parts per million, when the EPA standard is .26 parts per billion.

Because he failed to represent us and because he failed to advise us of our rights, we hold Don Nelson directly responsible, along with Georgia Pacific, for exposing at least 18 extra people on three shifts to these deadly poisons. We breathed the fumes, we got it on our skin and clothing, we tracked it into our homes and onto the carpets where our babies crawl. For three days it was burned in the power house and spewed out over the entire community. When we most needed our union, Don Nelson not only failed to be there for us, he actively took the company's side. We cannot forgive him for this. The Strike Vote

With this backdrop of distrust, Don Nelson set out to negotiate our contract last summer. "Negotiate" is actually too strong a word for what Nelson does -- basically, the company proposes the contract and Nelson accepts it. In 1985 the union had gone belly-up to the company, and accepted wage and benefit cuts totalling about 25%. Laborers wages went from \$10.71 an hour to \$8.74, we lost four holidays, and vacations were cut by 30%. Starting wage at the union G-P mill was set at the same rate as the non-union G-P mill ---\$7.00 an hour. Nelson urged us to accept these cutbacks because the company needed more profits to assure us continued employment. We were told that our wage rate would be restored by periodic "bonuses" based on the company's rate of profit.

Since then, Georgia Pacific has made record profits. They are negotiating with the Russians to set up operations in Siberia, and they are engaged in a hostile takeover of a

paper company in Maine. Yet our "bonuses" have come to only about 1/3 of what we lost. Even worse, tying our wages to the company's profits goes against the basic principles of unionism. It makes us work against our own interests, since G-P is making these profits by speeding us up at the mill and overcutting the forest. If they don't slow down to a sustainable level there will be no more G-P forests and no more G-P mill jobs in Mendocino County. Yet to make a living wage, we must serve as unwilling co-conspirators in the stripping of the forests and the destruction of our own jobs.

IWA National President Bill Hubble has denounced these profit/wage plans and urged local unions to fight against them. Yet Don Nelson came back with more of the same in this year's contract. Adding insult to injury, wages are increased by only 3%, 2% and 2% over three years, keeping us well below our pre-1985 levels.

One final disaster in our 1989 contract was the complete elimination of the woods division. G-P has quietly been phasing out union loggers for years, replacing them with gypso's without so much as a whimper from the union. People fought and died to bring unionism to the woods, and the IWA has always prided itself in being an industrial union, combining loggers and millworkers in the same bargaining unit. Now there are no more union loggers in Mendocino County, and wages and conditions in the woods are fast declining. The loss of the loggers to our union was like the loss of our right arm. With L-P setting the precedent by opening mills in Mexico, millworkers will be hard pressed to fight for our jobs alone.

When we saw the contract Nelson had gotten for us, the union members spoke loud and clear with one voice. Management told us it was a good contract, and we should vote for it, but we voted by an incredible 88% to strike. And we were ready to walk. We realized what kind of fight we would be facing and we had a clear strategy of how we could win.

Nelson's reaction was to call a union meeting and trot out the federal mediator and the regional union rep. Then all three levels federal, regional and local did everything they could to talk us out of striking. They told us we would never win, we'd all get fired, and we'd never make back what we lost. Of course, if this were true, we'd never have a union or a contract to start with, but it's pretty hard to win a strike when your union leaders are against you. So, scared for their jobs, people voted to accept the contract. But we didn't like it then, and we still don't like it.

The Arrest of Julie Wiles

No sooner had the contract fracas died down than Don Nelson hit us with his next move. He wanted to raise our union dues by 25%. We already pay \$22.50 a month, which is quite a bite, especially considering how little we get for it. The irony of the dues increase is that our union sets the dues at 2 1/2 times the low wage. So when our wages were cut, union dues went down too. Also, now that the loggers have been lost to the union, there are fewer members from whom to collect the \$22.50. So the union's "financial crisis" was directly related to the failure to adequately represent.

Several of us published a leaflet urging fellow union members to vote no on the dues increase. We tried to post the leaflets in the plant, but management kept ripping them down, even though they let Nelson's leaflets (urging a yes vote) stay up. Union member Julie Wiles then tried to exercise her democratic rights by passing the leaflet out in the parking lot. Nelson's men were passing out their leaflet at the gate, and Julie put our leaflet on the car windshields. She was approached by two Fort Bragg police officers, who told her it was illegal to put leaflets on windshields. Julie replied that she believed it was okay, because the National Labor Relations Act guarantees her right to engage in union activity at the workplace. But she said she didn't want to cause trouble, and would leave anyway.

As she was leaving, though, G-P security chief Lee Goebel came up and demanded that Julie be arrested. The police said it wasn't necessary, since she was leaving anyway, but Goebel insisted. He said he wanted to place her under citizens arrest, on orders from G-P plant manager Don Whitman. Although Julie offered no resistance at any time, the Fort Bragg police then handcuffed her and took her away, as astonished co-workers looked on.

Since then, the union has left Julie to face these charges alone. Nelson has not even filed a grievance against the company for the arrest. He claims that the National Labor Relations Act does not cover her because she was not organizing to bring a new union in, but rather working within the existing union. Fortunately the NLRB lawyers say that doesn't matter and her activities are covered by the Act.

Vote of No Confidence

After all this, the union members voted against the dues increase by a 2-1 margin. This was very definitely a vote of no confidence in Don Nelson's leadership. The duties of our paid union rep are clearly spelled out in our constitution. They involve keeping the finances straight and enforcing the contract. They do not include running for County Supervisor or sitting on county committees. Nelson has published a list of eleven functions he claims he fulfills. Of these only two (Contract and Grievances) are necessary. The rest, including Unemployment Appeals, Cal OSHA, Political Contacts and Political Action are either duplications of services that are offered free by the agency involved, or they are part of Nelson's Democratic Party political agenda.

The Environment

One final subject that we would like to address is the environment. Don Nelson's son Crawdad and other local journalists have been portraying us in the Anderson Valley Advertiser and the Mendocino Commentary as being unconcerned about the destruction of the forest, and, in fact, as being somehow responsible for G-P's logging practices.

This is an insult to us. We are not stupid, and we can see as well as anyone else what the timber companies are doing to the trees. It's our environment as much as yours, and we go to the forest to camp, fish, hunt, and find solitude. Some of our families have lived here for five generations, and we know that our children will not be able to enjoy the forests as we have if they continue to be cut the way they are now.

In fact, our concern for the health of the forest is not less, but greater than that of the general community. Because the loss of the forest will also mean the loss of our livelihood. This is one of the reasons it is so important for us to regain control of our union. We don't have many years left if things keep going the way they are now. Our only hope for continued employment is sustained yield logging. And we will need a strong union if we hope to slow the company down enough so that we can have both jobs and forests in the future.

Who We Are

Much has been made of our supposed anonymity. But both Nelson and G-P have always known exactly who we are. We are IWA rank and file union members, and we work at the Fort Bragg mill. We are not being "stirred up by outside agitators", as Nelson claims, although it is true that we have been forced to turn to community members for support when our union failed to represent us on the PCB spill and arrest issues. One of the reasons we have a union is so that we can act together, without taking the personal risk of standing alone. The fact that we don't all sign our names to everything we do does not mean we are not legitimate. We have good reason to fear retaliation.

IWA Rank-and-File

Ron Atkinson, Cheryl Jones, Julie Wiles, Joe Valadao, Treva VadenBosch (retired) and others.

Of Interest



To Unionists

PIZZA BOSS CHARGED IN WORKER DEATH

Indianapolis December 10

The owner of a Domino's Pizza franchise has been charged with violating two state labor regulations and could be fined \$1000 (underwhelming, eh?) in connection with a delivery driver's death.

The store owner was cited in the June 3, 1989 death of Jesse Colson, 17, of Plainfield, Indiana, who was making a pizza delivery on a rain-slicked road when his company-owned truck struck a utility pole. His mother, Suzanne Boutros, has criticized Domino's policy of guaranteeing pizza delivery within 30 minutes or less, a policy she believes contributed to her son's death. The second citation accused the company of failing to promptly report the worker's death to the Indiana OSHA.

CHICAGO TRIBUNE ORDERED TO REHIRE 74 STRIKERS

An administrative law judge ordered the Chicago Tribune to rehire 74 striking union pressmen and pay them about four years worth of back wages (totaling about \$10,000,000) due to illegal company action during a strike. The ruling stems from the July 18, 1985 strike by about 1000 printers, pressmen and mailers. The company and the printers settled in early 1989. The pressmen and mailers are still technically on strike. The judge, Marion Ladwig, ruled that the Tribune committed initial unfair labor practices on November 13, 1985 when it arbitrarily narrowed the scope of union jurisdiction in a final offer.

Under U. S. law the strike then changed from an "economic" to an "unfair labor practices" walkout. This feeble protection for workers in a legal system dedicated to expanding bosses' rights, meant that no scab hired to replace a striking pressman could be considered a permanent replacement. Between November 1985 and January 30, 1986, when the union -- Chicago Web Pressmen No. 7--made an unconditional offer to return, 74 scabs were hired. No union members were recalled.

THE AIRLINE LORENZO DREAMED OF ...

Seven years ago, Frank Lorenzo sliced labor costs at Continental Airlines by breaking its union contracts, filing for bankruptcy and then hiring back laid off workers at much lower wages. The bankruptcy laws have changed preventing an exact repeat at Eastern Airlines in 1989. Hiring scabs in the ten month long Eastern strike has allowed Lorenzo and Eastern management to accomplish the same thing.

Eastern Airlines has fewer planes and fewer employees than before the strike. It works the equipment more intensely and the workers longer hours. About half Eastern's pilots and flight attendants and almost all the machinists work for as much as two-thirds less than their pre-strike counterparts.

New pilots are paid \$27,500 a year, compared to an average of \$72,000 before the strike. Ramp workers make about \$5 an hour instead of \$15. Second tier flight attendants make \$1000 a month; first tier attendants average about \$2400 a month. Mechanics wages range from \$10 to \$18 an hour, with many of the new hires at the low end. Pre-strike wages ranged from \$11 to \$19 with many machinists at the higher end.

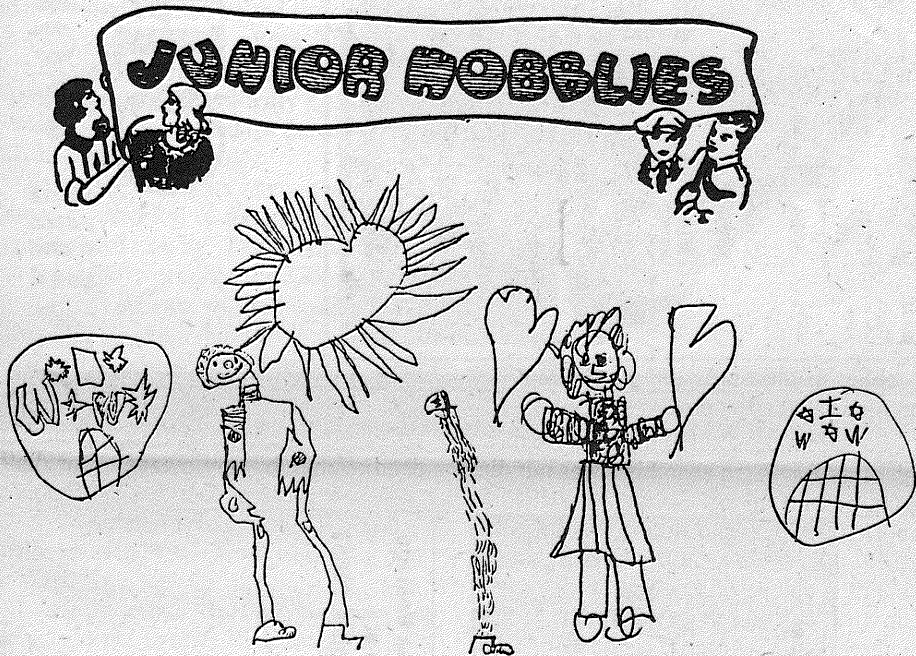
Eastern was able to step up its wage busting plans after August when one faction of the pilots leadership acknowledged that the union had not been able to force Lorenzo to sell Eastern and recommended that union members return to work. Hundreds of pilots did so, along with many flight attendants and a few mechanics. In late November, pilots and flight attendant unions called off their strikes after President Bush vetoed a bill that would have set up a panel to arrange a settlement.

IWW PUBLICATIONS

- IWW Songs of the Workers: To Fan the Flames of Discontent** \$5
The 35th edition of the "little red songbook" the most famous North American labor songbook. Classics & new songs. Mandatory on picket lines, great for gifts, pocket size.
- The IWW: Its First Seventy Years 1905-1975** by Fred Thompson & Patrick Murfin.
\$9 paper \$15 hardcover
A candid and official history of the union this book tells of the victories and the mistakes alike. Learn how we got here. Understand why the IWW makes sense in these times.
- The General Strike** by Ralph Chaplin \$3
"Solidarity Forever" author discusses the need for workers the world over to recognize the power in our hands "in order to make optimal use of our skills and the earth's productive resources without either raping the earth or making slaves of its people."
- The One Big Union** \$2
Basic outline of the structure of the IWW, how it works, how it benefits workers.
- Unions and Racism** by Shelby Shapiro \$2
"Divide and rule is one of the oldest tricks of the employing class. While we're busy hitting each other over the head for one damn fool reason or another, the bosses make hay — at our expense."

QUANTITY DISCOUNTS:
Quantity discounts on IWW published materials are available. Please write or call for details.

Working the Waterfront
The Ups and Downs of a Rebel Longshoreman
by Gilbert Mers
A vibrant and vivid story of the day to day experiences of men on the docks is the kind of vital social history that has been missing from histories of the unions. Mers has been a member of the International Longshoremen's Association since 1929 and the Industrial Workers of the World since 1947. \$20 Available in hardcover only.



- AVAILABLE from IWW branches**
- BALTIMORE GMB:**
"Daughters of Mother Jones" & "Let's Get Virginia" (w/IWW globe on back) T-shirts L or XL \$12. Check to Baltimore IWW Justice Fund. Mail to: Bili Savage, 114 S Arlington Ave, Baltimore MD 21223. Proceeds to Justice for Pittston Miners Fund
- CHICAGO GMB:**
1990 Calendar "Solidarity Forever" \$3.00 each for 1 to 5. \$2.00 5 to 19. \$1.00 each over 20. Checks and orders to: IWW Chicago GMB, PO Box 204, Oak Park, IL 60303-0204.
- DENVER BOULDER GMB:**
Organizing leaflets "what every worker should know about the IWW". Several leaflets, tell us who you are targeting. 25¢ ea. (for one), 10¢ (2-50); 5¢ ea. over 50.
IWW T-shirts Black on red M-L-XL (50-50) \$10.
Out of the Depths, True story of the Ludlow Massacre in Colorado. Out of print. \$10.
Columbine Memorial Videos Historic scattering of Joe Hill's ashes. \$20.
"Workers' Solidarity" Suspenders Red Reg-XL-XXL \$12.
Prices are postpaid. Make checks to: Denver-Boulder IWW. Mail to: Gary Cox, 11548 Community Center Drive #53, Northglenn, CO 80233.
- SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GMB:**
Domino's Pizza Boycott Info Packet, Domino's delivers contra support, anti-abortion violence, and anti-worker policies. Checks to "Domino's Coalition--LASC", mail to AATU Job Branch, 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109 \$10
- NEW YORK GMB**
A Workers Guide to Direct Action, Examples & discussion of direct action. 75¢
Collective Bargaining Manual, How to negotiate with the boss. \$2.50
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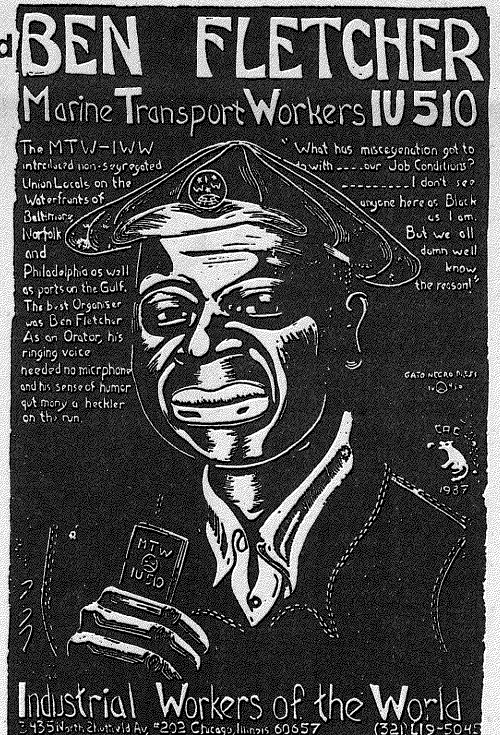
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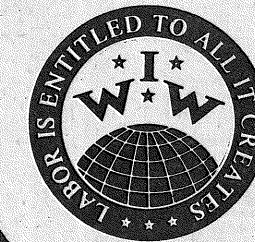
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