

INDUSTRIAL WORKER

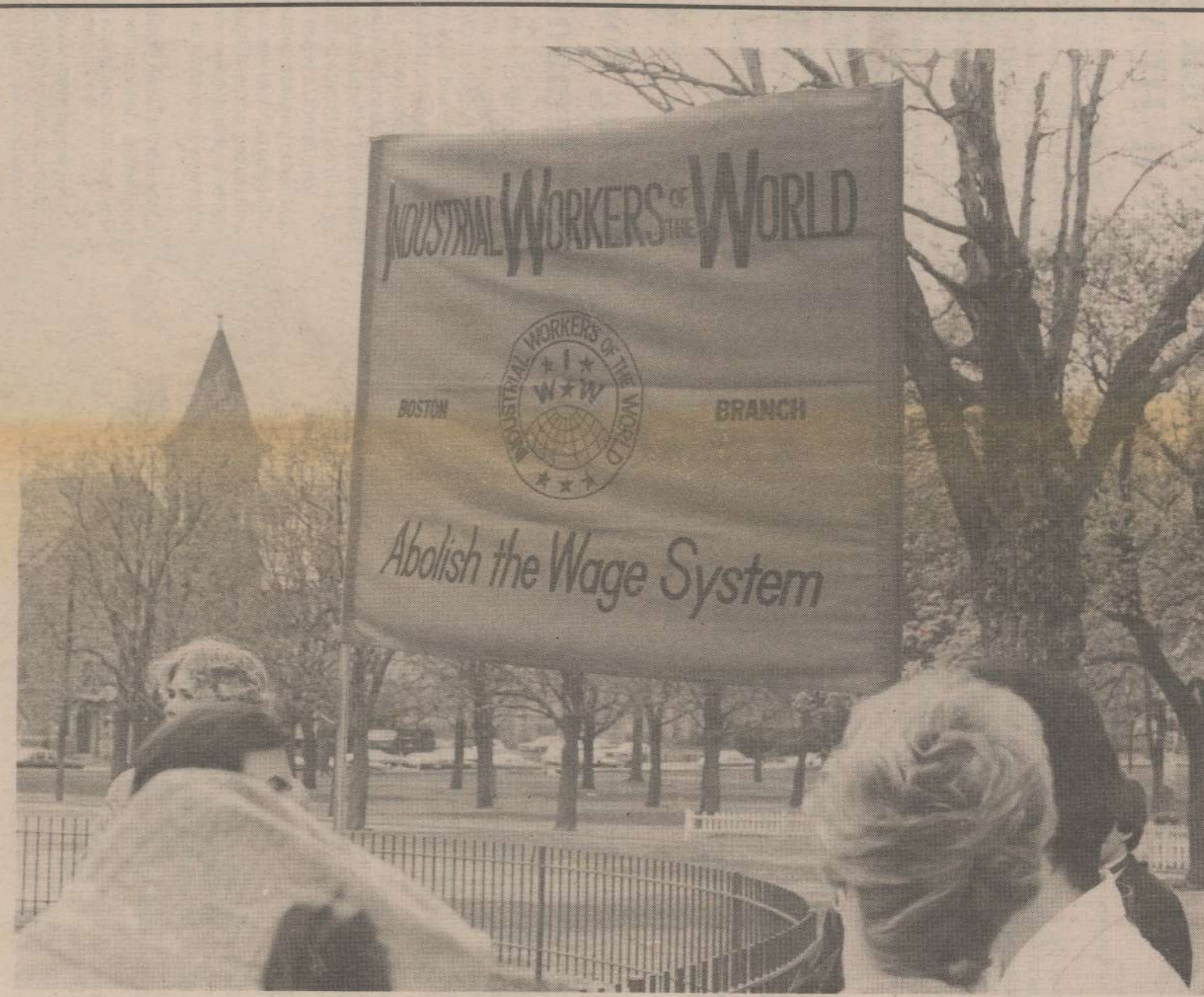


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50 cents



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Stop Genocide in Brazil
 IWW/Earth First! Defends Millworkers
 Ford Murders Workers



INDUSTRIAL WORKER

Industrial Workers of the World



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50 CENTS

STOP GENOCIDE IN BRAZIL

On December 22, 1988, Chico Mendes was assassinated in Brazil. As head of the Rubber Tapper's Union and an outspoken advocate of preservation of the Amazon rainforest, Mendes had become just famous enough to have his murder covered in the international press. But there is much more to his story than what the mainstream press has told.

Brazil has the highest concentration of land ownership in the world. Big landowners possess 80% of all land registered by the government, as opposed to the peasants who produce more than half of the country's agricultural yield with less than 5% of the land.

In recent years the Amazon rubber tappers joined ranks with indigenous inhabitants of the rainforest to protect it from multinational mining interests and large cattle ranchers. To date, more than 400,000 kilometers have been deforested. Less widely known is the enormous human cost of the destruction of the forest.

Figures published by the Minister of Agrarian Reform and Development (MIRAD) indicate that between January 1985, and June 1987, 458 peasants, rural workers, Indians, and their supporters were killed. According to Brazilian photo-journalist Joao Ripper, more than 1,500 Brazilian rural workers have been assassinated and more than 300 live under death threats. In numerous presentations in the Denver area, Ripper showed slides depicting the devastation of the forest, the slave labor conditions of the rubber tappers, and the miners and the Indian people working in the coke ovens. His show documents the mutilation of the bodies of labor activists and Indians who dare stand in the way of capitalism gone berserk.

Specifically, Joao pleaded for our help. He stresses that in the case of the rainforest, the social and environmental issues cannot be separated. The forest cannot survive without the combined efforts of the rubber tappers and the Indians. And the residents of the forest cannot survive without the ecosystem in which they function.



Rubber tappers at work. Photos by Joao Ripper



Families home burned to force them off their land.



Rural peasants in Northern Brazil.



Indian working in coke oven producing coke from Amazon trees for pig iron smelters. The companies charge for food and homes so that workers stay in debt to land owners.



Peasant worker arms himself to protect from company gun thugs.

In northern California, our own Earth First! IWW Chapter is involved in a similar struggle. Loggers and millworkers are beginning to realize that they will not survive unless the timber is protected. Capitalism has not yet resorted to genocide in northern California, however.

Chico was murdered after he was granted, against his will, the protection of the state police. Although they were there at the time, the police made no apparent effort to save Chico from the triggerman who killed him in his home. Since then, rubber tappers have concluded that the only genuine protection for their organizers must come from within their own ranks.

They have developed a plan to assign each threatened unionist with four bodyguards, two on day shift and two on night. In order to provide the bodyguards and their families with the basic human needs, the rubber tappers must raise \$80 per month for each worker, or \$320 per month for all four guards for one leader. According to Joao, this system has already saved lives as the assassins are cowards when facing even odds.

This provides us North Americans with the opportunity to help save both the lives of South American labor organizers and the rainforest that are essential to all of our lives. We are asking that branches and individual members respond to Joao's plea by doing three things: (1) Begin to develop a plan to adopt one of the rubber tapper leaders and to take pledges toward covering his or her monthly protection costs. Mail money orders or correspondence by registered mail or Federal Express with insurance to:

Conselho Nacional Dos Seringueiros
Presidente Julio Barbosa Aquino
Travessa Traumaturgo de Azevedo 51
Rio Branco Centro
69900 ACRE Brazil

or call: 011-55-068-224-2970 or 011-55-068-224-1352 and ask for Rosa for up-to-date information. She speaks English.

(2) Choose representatives from your area to travel to Brazil to meet the activist you adopted and learn the details of his or her struggle.

(3) Start organizing for a visit by one of the activists to your area.

If your branch does not develop a program for helping Brazilians or you are an isolated member and would like to participate as an individual, mail your contributions and pledges to our branch each month. Make checks payable to "Friends of the People of the Amazon" and mail them to: Bill Meadows, 2915 Raleigh St., Denver, CO 80212. Bill is a Denver Wob and acting Secretary-Treasurer of this fund.

As your group makes progress, let Bill Meadows know so we can network our ideas, tactics, and visits in both countries. This is a welcome opportunity to take the idea of international solidarity from rhetoric to actual practice.

Gary Cox/Chris Takagi

PRISONERS START HUNGER STRIKE

On February 14th hundreds of prisoners in Ohio staged a one day fast in solidarity with hunger strikers John Perotti, Michael Day and David Lovejoy. Perotti, Day, and Lovejoy were in the second week of their "death fast" to protest unjust and inhumane prison conditions. All three have been held at a special isolation unit at the Southern Correctional Facility in Lucasville, Ohio.

The fast has quickly grown through many parts of the prison system. While it is impossible to get information out of the prisons, it appears that the strike has spread throughout Ohio and into several other states; including 7 men in Portage, Wisconsin, and 2 men in Walla Walla Prison in Washington state. In Ohio, some prisoners from Levenworth, Lucasville, Lebanon, and Orient have joined the strike.

It is estimated that up to 200 men in the Orient Ohio facility may have joined the strike on February 14th. Originally there were only 10 men who were going to skip one meal, then hundreds who decided to fast for a whole day, and now there are some who are talking about fasting for many days.



The isolation unit which Perotti and others have been held in, known as J1 Supermax Control Unit attempts to break "difficult" prisoners with the use of "Unit Management" and "Behavior Modification" schemes which in practice including regular beatings, CS-gassing and high-pressure fire hosing of prisoners. Liberal use is also made of the "boxcar," a sensory deprivation cell. As well as the beatings, macings and fire-hosing, guards have been responsible for a number of deaths over the years. Jimmy Haines, Day Vaughn, Lincoln Carter and John Ingram are the names of but a few who have been killed in this way. To date no prison officers have been charged or disciplined for these, or any other, killings.

Perotti has been the victim of numerous beatings (see article "John Perotti: An Appeal from Lucasville," *Industrial Worker*, January 1990), the most recent one being on February 2. At 6:30 am in the morning Perotti was beaten-up by a goon squad of 10 men. They came in with shields and tear gas, billy clubs and they beat him in his cell for a half hour. Then they dragged him out of the cell and took his clothes off, put him in a cold shower and beat him again. They then dragged him out of the building and threw him head first into a van where six men beat him. No one has seen him since then although he has been able to send several letters. Prison officials have refused to allow him to have visitors for 10 days, probably so that his wounds from the beatings heal before anyone sees him.

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IWW/Earth First! Defends Millworkers

"You better not think that you can come to Oregon because you won't find a welcome," warned Paul Moorehead of the Western Council of Industrial Workers (WCIC). Moorehead made his threat against IWW-Earth First! Local #1 organizer Judi Bari upon learning that she had been invited to participate in a Labor and the Environment workshop at a Public Interest Law Conference in Eugene, Oregon.

In recent months rank and file mill workers have expressed an increasing reluctance to listen to their union bosses when they tell them that wage cuts are OK, or that clear cutting the forests and destroying the earth is in workers' best interests. No doubt Moorehead and his buddies intend to spread the word about "outside agitators" who are disturbing the profitable arrangement that the WCIC, IWA and other business unions have worked out with the timber companies. "If any member of my union talks to you they'll be out of a job," Moorehead told Bari.

Yet Moorehead's union, the WCIC, no longer represents workers in Mendocino County, California. The union was busted there in 1986, and now only 560 of the counties' 3,000 workers have any union "representation" at all. Most of the 560 are "represented" by the IWA. Despite Moorehead's general disdain for his workers, he (and others, including the IWA, and many environmentalists) have been effective stooges in the lumber companies' manufactured conflict between the workers and environmentalists. As a result most of the timber companies' public support comes from the union itself.

However not all of the workers have been fooled. With the help of the IWW and Earth First!, mill workers are starting to talk to each other and are coming to realize that they don't need union bureaucrats to speak for them, and that only they can defend their jobs. "People came to the IWW because their union wasn't representing them," said Judi Bari.

Bari has notified the press and conference organizers about Moorehead's harassment and attempted intimidation, and has sent a letter to the WCIC requesting them to openly debate what workers really need at the conference. Conference organizers have agreed to stage the debate, but not surprisingly, WCIC hasn't responded yet.

Despite Moorehead's threats, neither the WCIC nor the IWA has done anything to defend worker's rights. In February 1989, five workers at the Ft. Bragg, California Georgia Pacific (G-P) lumber mill were contaminated from PCP laden oil when a capacitor burst (see article "Mill Workers Confront IWA," *Industrial Worker*, January 1990). Despite numerous attempts to get their union, the IWA, to represent them, the workers were unsuccessful. In

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PRISON ORGANIZING PROJECT

ORGANIZING PROJECT

The year 1990 marks the 200th anniversary of the American Prison. Reformers everywhere are planning observances, while bureaucrats, prisonrats and those other less identifiable agents of the monied ruling class call for more tax dollars to build more prisons. In the same breath, however, spokespersons for the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections contend that, ultimately, prisons don't make money. That's like suggesting that all growth industries lose money. Prison bonds are readily available for purchase, and we might safely conclude then that something sinister and illegal is afoot. How else can the state issue and endorse bonds that they themselves have already determined to be worthless?

History

During the latter part of the 1800s, newly arrived immigrants to America existed under conditions so deplorable that the estimated life expectancy of the male immigrant was 13 years of age. Faced with starvation, rampant unemployment, discrimination and subhuman living arrangements some of these immigrants (those more tenacious and industrious than their counterparts) devised a means by which they would survive and prosper. They intentionally set fires, then organized bucket brigades, and extinguished them. This enabled them to bill their respective municipalities for "services rendered". What does this have to do with you? Read on.

Present

Right now we are witnessing the same type of evolutionary phenomenon within the Justice/Corrections system. Beginning in the Juvenile Courts and institutions, the real business is still setting fires. Only here they're igniting the souls and psyches of their unfortunate wards, while they busily appropriate funds and "fan the flames."

Statistics tell us that if you are incarcerated now, you have probably, most certainly, been in jail before. The majority of prisoners entered the cycle in preadolescence. You are from poor, submiddle or middle class homes. The nefarious crimes for which you were first incarcerated include truancy or running away from home. You have become wards of the state. You are the victim of avarice and orchestrated duplicity. You have been "state raised." You were manufactured and designed.

While incarcerated as a juvenile, you were encouraged to adopt and exhibit antisocial behavior. By example, you were taught rote criminal traits and techniques, and then applauded and rewarded when you performed them. People are, of course, products of their environment. Everything criminal that you were taught, you learned compliments of the state. That's a fact, and it gets worse.

Future

Overall, prison populations have almost tripled since the Carter Administration. There are approximately 700,000 adult prisoners in the United States. Roughly 1,500,000 children entered the system in 1988-89. More than twice as many kids were incarcerated than adults. This is a sobering thought, especially when coupled with recidivism indicators. The uneasy truth is that the states are punching out mini-convicts at something approaching the speed of light. The system is prefabricating a whole new workforce for the next century. Young people are being hurled into the system where they're scrutinized and indoctrinated by system bureaucrats exhibiting the same unflinching stare Big Board speculators reserve for calculating projected earning potential, pork bellies, or grain futures.

The Wheel

The fact is that incarcerated people represent more to their respective states in hard cold cash via subsidies, tax revenues, grants and allotments than productive nonprisoner members of the community. Prisons are money trees with razorwire topped fences and barriers around them. A sky high estimate of what it actually costs to incarcerate one prisoner per year ranges depending on level classification, between \$17,500 and \$50,000. Prison laborers work for 10 cents an hour and, upon their release, they're given \$75.

IWW

The IWW, the Industrial Workers of the World, is presently enmeshed in a real struggle to represent us. The IWW adheres to the principle of one union for all people...including prisoners...particularly prisoners because the IWW recognizes us for what we are, incarcerated poor people. We are slave laborers without representation.

Collectively, we have the necessary tools available to us. We can work through the IWW to end the states ingrained 'Revolving door recidivism cycle'. But we have to all come together in one collective unified bargaining front.

Prisoners really run prisons. Collectively we can shut the machine down, but we need the IWW representation. Without representation we're labeled 'unruly prison agitators and troublemakers'. With representation we become a 'unified collective bargaining front'. That's a front with teeth in it.

The IWW is a union comprised of workers of the world...all workers, all people, all races unified together against the ruling class. The IWW is working with us to achieve a worker controlled society in place of our current world situation where workers create all wealth yet receive and enjoy only the mearest taste of the fruit of their labors.

As prisoners, we are incarcerated people laboring under the worst possible conditions. We are fed unsanitary substantial meals, receive less than slave wages while we're ridiculed, harassed, beaten down, physically and mentally, and twisted up inside. The IWW will help change these conditions, but we have to unite.

Our immediate goal is gaining better wages and working conditions for all workers, including prison workers.

Being a prisoner you know that unity in any form is feared by the Prison Administration. It interferes with the programing. The Administration doesn't want a prisoners' union. It is not conducive to the prisonrats overall plan. Rehabilitation translates into empty prisons and unemployment for the prisonrat. A brother or sister leaving prison with a little savings built up and with a little self-esteem has a far better chance of making it in the real world, as opposed to a brother or sister leaving prison used up, mixed up and broke.

The killing part about all this is that opposition to the IWW comes not only from the system fat cat agents of the monied ruling class, but from prisoners too weak, or too steeped in designed neurosis to even care about their own future, or the future of those children, mentioned here earlier who are already earmarked to take our places on the wheel and in these cells.

Today there are close to 700,000 incarcerated people (adults) across America. To give you some idea of what we might collectively do, the United Mine Workers of America has only 225,000 members. We could be three times as strong.

Forget what this system has taught you...It is not 'everyone for themselves'. That translates into 'divide and conquer'.

Write to the IWW General Administration at 3435 N. Sheffield Room 202, Chicago IL 60657 concerning membership.

Industrial Worker

ONE UNION ONE LABEL
ONE ENEMY



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LETTER FROM PRISON: FAST FOR HUMANE TREATMENT

The year 1990 marks the 200th year anniversary of the United States prison system. Over the years prisons have developed into warehouses. Rather than dealing with the problems which lead to crime, more money is appropriated to build more and more prisons. This is not the solution to the problem.

Starting February 14, 1990, St. Valentine's Day, and right after the birthday of Fredrick Douglass, the great Abolitionist, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility Prisoners, Michael Day, John Perotti, David Lovejoy, John Byrd, Eric Swafford, August Liuzzo and others here and in other prisons, will start a fast; a fast of love for the children and families who have suffered in one way or another due to their loved ones in prison. The prisoners are struggling for justice, without which there can be no change.

In an attempt to instill awareness in the people, concerning our prison justice system, we call upon all brothers and sisters of conscience who are concerned about those who are in prison, to help create a chain of fasts. We call upon all grassroots and progressive movements to support this fast. We ask all religious groups, social activists and concerned citizens, to stage meetings and vigils to address the issues of our fast. We ask that you circulate this document and organize a letter writing campaign, make daily phone calls in order to monitor the health of all participants; we also ask for your prayers for us, and for the officials and politicians involved.

Michael Day & John Perotti

Fasting for Human Treatment: 12 Demands

1. We demand out of state transfers for Michael Day and John W. Perotti. Michael Day & David R. Lovejoy, with the assistance of high ranking prison officials, walked out of Ross Correctional Institute in Chillicothe, Ohio. Prison officials then drove Michael Day to a hotel where his wife and child were waiting. A week later the FBI went into Mexico illegally, without authority, beat Michael Day, slapped his wife and child around, then kidnapped them across the border back to the United States.

During his trial, Michael Day exposed the prison officials who assisted him in escaping and the FBI's illegal action and brutality. He now suffers retaliation from the same officials and will only be safe if transferred to another state.

John Perotti, a prison activist, IWW Union organizer and Jailhouse lawyer, has been confined to long term isolation. He was recently set up by prison officials who used a prisoner collaborator. Perotti was sentenced to an additional 12-15 years. He has won lawsuits against high ranking prison officials for physically beating him. As long as he remains in Ohio, he will be kept in isolation where his health and well being are deteriorating. His only chance of survival is a transfer to another state.

2. Abolish the Death Penalty-to exact revenue in the name of the state is cruel and unusual punishment. Innocent men and women are executed in the name of the State while our Government commits acts of Genocide in the US and third world countries without reprisal.

3. Increase prisoner wages and allow collective bargaining for prisoners. Prisoners are worked like slaves, some making only 10 cents an hour. As a result, prisoners cannot assist their families financially, or even afford the basic amenities of life not provided to them by the State.

4. Allow prisoners the right to vote.

5. Stop building more prisons. Use the money earmarked for prison construction for alternative sentencing programs, children and teen youth centers, drug education/prevention education programs, jobs for the unemployed, and other social services agencies and programs geared to prevent crime rather than not meeting/addressing the problem itself.

6. Shut down the control units, which are used to isolate and experiment on prisoners. Reduce the number of solution cellblocks at S.O.C.F. Stop Unit Management and the Behaviour Modification techniques being used on us.

7. Form community citizens committees unconnected with government and State prison officials, to monitor prisoner grievances, Rules Infraction Board and Parole Board decisions as well as investigating the numerous human rights violations occurring daily in the prisons.

8. Reduce the harsh sentencing laws which have led to overcrowding and reject the ruling class' call to build more prisons rather than deal with the problems causing crime.

9. Provide Medical and Psychiatric treatment which meets community standards. Our fellow prisoners are being crippled and killed due to deliberate indifference and negligence of incompetent and uncaring staff. Examples at SOCF are the deaths and crippings of Geady Repress, Downtown Brown, Benjamin Vaughn, Calvin White, Cecil Byrd, Alfred Sanders, Ernest Bonner, Keith Ledger and Lincoln Carter to name a few.

10. Stop the unnecessary and degrading strip searches of prisoners for control movement. Stop the excessive use of chemical mace, high pressure firehoses, restraints, Boxcar isolation cells and strip cells, harassment, beatings and murders of our fellow prisoners by guards. Examples of S.O.C.F. prisoners who have been brutalized or murdered are: Jimmy Haynes, Albert Dotson, Chodes Fluke, Dennis Wolfel, John Perotti, Lincoln Carter, John Ingram, and many more. Prosecute all guards who beat, murder and sexually assault the brothers and sisters confined in prisons just as we are prosecuted for these crimes.

11. Allow Ohio isolation prisoners to possess personal property, receive packages, literature, commissary and all rights and privileges that general population prisoners enjoy. Isolation, according to the law, is not supposed to be punitive. Allow all administrative control, local control and death row prisoners contact visits with their loved ones, more visits per month and at more reasonable hours taking into consideration family and friends who work during weekdays, children who attend school weekdays, and long distances travelled to visit loved ones in prison. Breaking family ties is counter productive to prisoners emotional and mental well being, as well as their loved one's well being.

12. Provide prisoners with written criteria stating exactly what can cause them to be placed in isolation and what requirements must be met to gain release from isolation. Provide separate AC/LC hearings with these same due process requirements afforded at Rules Infraction Board hearings. Stop allowing social workers and "Correctional Counselors" from hearing conduct reports and arbitrarily and capriciously finding prisoners guilty of the reduced charges of Class III Rule 12 violations as this is a ploy to circumvent the appeal process to the Director and denies prisoners the due process required by the constitution as well as blocking prisoners records without proper hearings.

By our fast, we attempt to resolve these points through a pacifist approach. If the points are not addressed, we feel and fear that rebellion and uprising will follow.

Contact Person: Industrial Workers of the World
General Defense Committee Local
Ruben Slaton
PO Box 26381
Dayton, Ohio 45426
(513) 457-2653 or 857-4223

Please write letters of concern and protest, telegrams, and establish phone call networks to the prisonrats listed below. Ask about our physical and mental well being and demand the 12 points be addressed and dealt with.

Terry L Morris, Warden
Southern Ohio Correctional Facility
PO Box 45699
Lucasville, Ohio 45699-0001

George Wilsom, Director
Dept. of Rehab and Corrections
1050 Freeway Dr, N
Columbus, Ohio 43229
(614) 466-6190

Governor Richard Celeste
State House
Columbus Ohio 43215

Soviet Miners Meet the IWW

We had entered the Denver Labor Hall to meet the independent Soviet miners. They were each with an interpreter, speaking to small groups that were dispersed throughout the Hall. We approached the nearest group and I inquired, what future did the independent unionists desire for their country? Would they embrace capitalism? Boris Grebenyuk, Ukrainian vice-president of the Donetsk Strike Committee responded "mixed economies". "And what of syndicalism? Is there any support for a syndicalist movement?" "Syndicaliki Da, we have a few Syndicaliki."

Fellow worker Joel Lewis identified us to the interpreter as members of the IWW. I was buttonholed a short time later by Vladimir, another interpreter who was touring with the group. He broke the ice with the question, "what kind of labor activities does the IWW conduct these days?" I answered evasively, wondering if he was Soviet, from the State Department, with the USIA, or perhaps even CIA. His comments were crisp, precise and intelligent. He guessed our total membership, and gave the number within a hundred. His questions continued. "Do you believe that the IWW's best strategy in this political climate is to support militance in the rank and file of traditional labor unions until the economic circumstances once again make large-scale organizing viable?" At first I was uneasy about Vladimir, uneasy and yet impressed. How did he know so much about us? My answers were not as carefully considered as were his questions.

Then Vladimir introduced me to Sergey, a youthful Ukrainian also from the Donetsk Strike Committee. Sergey spoke of how the Bolsheviks had failed to represent the working class. He spoke of repression, the desire for independent unions, the need for international solidarity. I told Sergey that we, too, had members killed by the Bolsheviks—at Kronstadt, for example. Then Vladimir pointed to the black cat button on my jacket as he explained the IWW connection in fluent Russian. Excitement. The fabled IWW was still alive! Vladimir told Sergey that his hosts, the AFL-CIO, were the union of American "aristocrats" and the IWW, al-

though tiny in comparison, was much more dedicated to the cause of the poor. Vladimir translated a request for IWW literature. Yes, we had some in the car that we'd be delighted to pass on.

We returned to a surprise. The Soviet miners were no longer scattered throughout the hall, they were grouped in a circle. Sergey, Bolat, Gennadiy, Oleg, Alexey. And they were talking about having discovered independent unionism in America. The regional director of the AFL was looking on, seeming a bit nervous. Vladimir took me aside to select some appropriate literature: two calendars, the booklet "One Big Union", two recent copies of the "Industrial Worker", a pamphlet or two, and a unique treasure for the occasion: the article, "Chicago Replies to Moscow". Vladimir translated the article and the circle animatedly debated it, point by point. More of the eight miners gathered to listen. To my amazement, Vladimir then opened a calendar, pointed to a picture of Frank Little, and explained to the Russians that he had died much in the manner of Joe Hill! (Could they have known about Joe Hill?)

Meanwhile the AFL hosts discussed this dire situation in muffled voices — the entire affair had been hi-jacked by a handful of Wobs! Not to worry, there was a solution. A voice clamored, "can I have your attention please? We're going to have a meeting now, beginning immediately, in the other hall..."

There was no meeting after we assembled, just mouthing five minutes worth of platitudes. The President of the Denver Area Labor Federation began, "we're delighted to host such a wide spectrum of the American labor movement..." And that is how the bureaucrats gained their small victory. They'd broken up the dangerous collaboration between independent unionists of the two most powerful countries on earth. But not before the literature was passed! And for the rest of the night, every camera that clicked captured the image of Sergey Andreyevich Naydenov, proud miner and pit foreman of Donetskugol, clutching a brightly colored IWW calendar to his breast. He would not be parted from his new-found treasure. No more surrender to the Bolsheviks.

Richard Hill

JOE HILL IS DEAD! LONG LIVE THE IWW!

Joe Hill is Dead! Long Live the IWW!

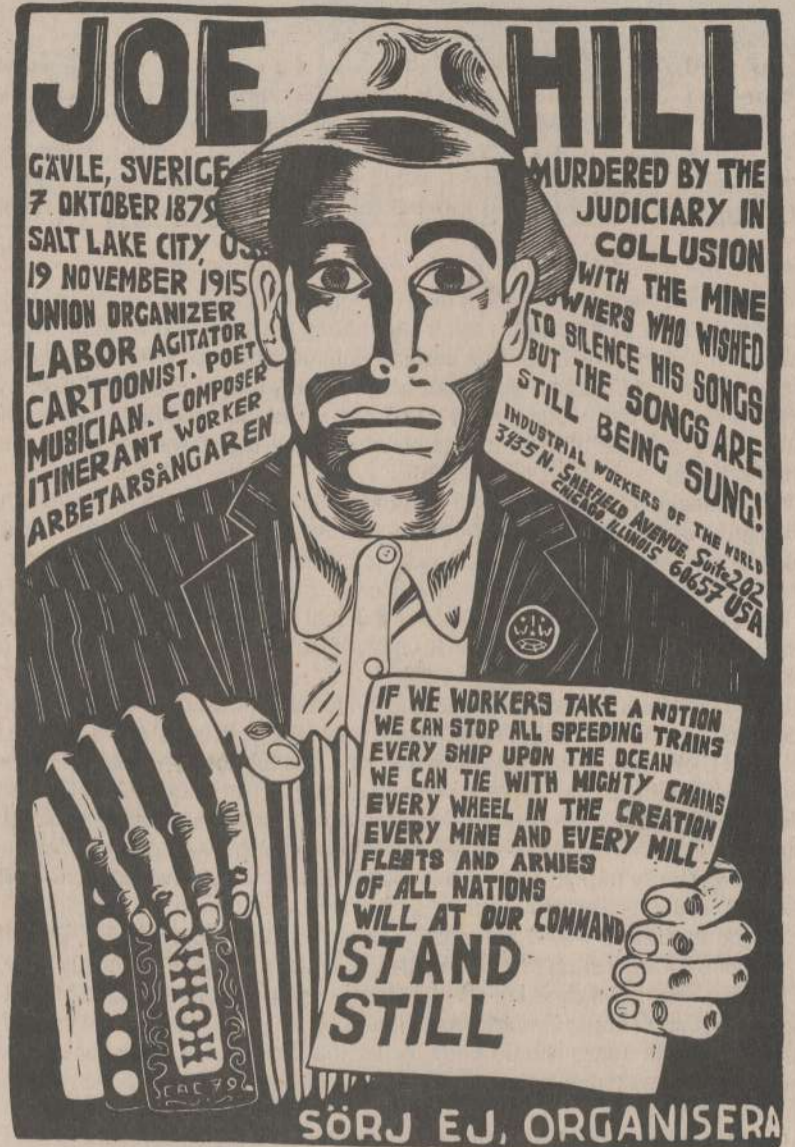
The challenge that the IWW posed to capitalists and their cohorts in the trade unions in the early part of this century has faded so far into the dim tapestry of labor's collective memory that we have now risen again as a safe object of adulation by "progressive" trade unionists. It is our task, as revolutionists bent on reclaiming the steam and glory that was once ours, to confront the graverobbing antics of those who would praise our union's past without acknowledging our current work or the hope we offer the future.

I got a good dose of this phenomenon recently at the Western Worker's Labor Heritage Festival, held this January in San Francisco. Produced by the "progressive" wing of the trade union movement, the Festival offered a sharp and disturbing contrast between the primarily young, activist Wobblies in attendance, and the image of the IWW portrayed by the elderly, non-Wob performers who monopolized the workshops and performances.

Whether it was Earl Robinson playing "I Dreamed I Saw Joe Hill Last Night" for the millionth time, or Pete Seeger rambling on about Patterson and Lawrence, a stranger would have gotten the impression that the IWW had died out in 1920, another historic relic like the Prohibitionists, Suffragists, or Single-Taxers. This in spite of the fact that some of our hottest organizers were right there in the same hall, freshly arrived from Washington, Michigan and Northern California.

Ironically, it was Earl Robinson's fading memory which gave me an opportunity to counteract this dangerous sentimentalism. During his "workshop" on Joe Hill, "Man of Mystery", in which he offered such fascinating historical nuggets as the names of all the Hillstroem children and the ages at which they died, he forgot the words to one of the songs he was playing. I was able to save the day by rushing forward with a little red songbook in hand and announce, while on stage, that we had a table of literature available in the back of the hall.

What do "progressive" trade unionists have to gain from resurrecting the Wobblies? Quite simply, it enables them to sound militant without having to act so. By claiming the IWW's history as their own, they conveniently ignore the ugly fact that the AFL fought



the IWW every step of the way, by red-baiting, purging, and often scabbing on them. Unfortunately, some of this antagonism still exists, as demonstrated by the Festival organizers' unwillingness to book some Wobblies as workshop facilitators.

In all fairness to Robinson and Seeger, they mean no ill-will when they praise the IWW's past accomplishments. They lived through many decades when the IWW was truly a shell of its former self, when the Palmer Raids, and later McCarthyism had decimated our ranks. They can be forgiven their sentimentalism, though I wonder why they don't read the Industrial Worker to stay in touch with current affairs.

In all honesty, us Wobs are often as guilty as the rest of the labor movement of wallowing in our past accomplishments. Some of our own members are content to recall days gone by, unaware that the modern world is crying out for the solutions we have to offer. Or, if not unaware, then paralyzed, by the seeming omnipotence of corporate and state capitalism. Yet we have an obligation to the planet and our co-workers to modernize our message and get it out there where it can be heard.

So let's get our noses out of the history books and start organizing. After all, who was it that said, "Don't Mourn, Organize"? Joe Hill is dead! Long Live the IWW!

JESS GRANT

BAY AREA REPORT

February was a good month in the Bay Area for Wobblies in concert. Utah Phillips appeared twice, once in Berkeley, once in San Francisco in a benefit for the Freedom Song Network, and Sister Worker Patricia Wynne played in Berkeley at a benefit for the same group. Freedom Song Network is a local coalition of singers, songwriters, and musicians who donate their skills to the movement by appearing free at all manner of demos, picketlines, and rallies.

At our branch meeting in early February, we made two financial commitments. We authorized a lump sum as seed money for the organizing drive going on two hours to our north, in the Earth First!/IWW Local #1 area. We also set aside a small amount to help out with the publishing costs of the Anarchist Labor Bulletin, a worthy monthly being produced in the Bay Area by Incendiary Publications. We also spent a good amount of time discussing the current situation at the Ecology Center, a local jobshop which recently got a good contract out of their non-profit employer.

A small worker-owned cooperative of typesetters and graphed artists recently joined the branch, and is in the process of applying for a shopcard. They had done a lot of work for the branch already, at cost or for free, and so this was the next logical step. Their membership greatly expands our pool of available material resources.

Five members of the Seeds of Peace Collective have joined the Branch. Seeds is a collection of Activists who offer logistical support to direct actionists around the continent. They have provided food and portapotties for the Nevada Test Site Actions, the Anarchist Conference, and even worked with the Red Cross in the wake of October's earthquake. While it's clear that Seeds values their diversity and autonomous identity far too much to ever affiliate with the IWW as a group, given the variety of people and causes they work with, it's a wonderful connection to have made, and we welcome them wholeheartedly in to the branch.

The branch is now gearing up their planning for May Day festivities. We plan to work in coalition with Workers Solidarity Alliance, the pagan community, and other class-struggle groups to make this May Day an occasion to remember. Our tentative plans now include a celebrate Sunday in the park, along with a more serious, "call in sick" type action on that Tuesday, the day itself.



ANARCHY

SOME DAY, MEN AND WOMEN WILL RISE, THEY WILL REACH THE MOUNTAIN PEAK, THEY WILL MEET BIG AND STRONG AND FREE, READY TO RECEIVE, TO PARTAKE, AND TO BASK IN THE GOLDEN RAYS OF LOVE.
- E. GOLDMAN



FAREWELL FELLOW WORKER

Henry Pfaff first joined the IWW in 1913. Fellow Worker Pfaff was working in Akron, Ohio in Goodyear's tire curing department one day when he noticed a picket line outside the window. He had been in the country only a couple of years and had never even heard of a strike, but as the foreman tried to sneak them out a side gate at the end of the day, Henry got swept into a crowd of strikers marching to a hall where Big Bill Haywood, Rhode Fisher and other IWW organizers were speaking. So many people joined (including Fellow Worker Pfaff) that they ran out of membership cards and had to issue red ribbons for the new recruits.

Henry spent a few days on the picketline, learning firsthand the purpose of the police and their clubs, before he ran out of funds and hit the road in search of a job. As World War I drew to a close his fellow workers decided they could use a union, and asked FW Pfaff to look into the matter. FW Pfaff turned first to the AF of L, but it refused to have anything to do with the "hunkies." He ended up with the IWW again, after a local anarchist showed up at an organizing meeting with the Preamble and a copy of the Industrial Worker.

"Ever since then, 1919" Henry noted a few years ago, "I've been an IWW member.... I never learned much until I came to New Brunswick and started that union. Before that I was like any other common working man who is mainly concerned with getting more money. The IWW gave me a vision of how we could change America — from a profit motivated society to a cooperative society where no man needs to work for another for his livelihood, but all cooperated together to provide necessities.... We would eliminate all useless work and all work that is detrimental. We would center our collective effort on useful things. Perhaps we would have to start out with four hours a day in the beginning until we got things straightened out. Then we could cut it down to three and before long, to two."

Throughout his seventy years in the IWW, Henry Pfaff strove to put these ideas into practice — working to educate and to

organize his fellow workers. For many years, FW Pfaff was one of the trustees of the Hungarian Literature Fund — originally established to carry out IWW propaganda among the once-numerous Hungarian speaking wage slaves on this continent, but which has more recently turned to English-language propaganda. And he published, a few years ago, a book of political poetry, *Didactic Verses*, which was until recently listed in the IWW Literature offerings published in each issue of the *Industrial Worker*. (I suspect they could still dig up a few copies if you're interested, it used to go for \$2.)

I first came into contact with Henry in 1984, when I was General Secretary. He hadn't gotten his delegate credentials for the year, and wanted to know why. Henry's health wasn't so good any more, and he couldn't see well enough to read or write. Someone came by each week to help with his correspondence. But he wanted credentials on hand, in case someone came by looking to join up. Needless to say, I got FW Pfaff his credentials right away.

"I'm inclined to believe that the IWW saved my life," Henry once said. "If I hadn't been swept into it... I would have probably worked myself to death like a lot of others... Money was never my god. I have learned, day by day, that my nature is inquisitive, not acquisitive. I could not have gained the knowledge I have gotten through the IWW for all the wealth in the world."

Henry Pfaff died on October 12, 1989 in a Buffalo, New York nursing home. He was 93 years old, and had been in a nursing home since February when he was incapacitated by a stroke. It was men and women like Henry Pfaff who built the IWW, and sustained the organization through many hard decades. They faced often brutal repression from the state and the bosses and kept on fighting — because they knew that a better world was possible, and that it would only come about if we built it ourselves. Farewell, Fellow Worker.

Jon Bekken

WHO'S PROCESSING THOSE CHICKENS?

U.S. chicken processing plants generally hire workers from surrounding rural areas, many of whom are poor with no other job possibilities, according to the Institute for Southern Studies, a Durham, NC-based nonprofit research group that offered the following outline of southern chicken cutters and their working conditions:

***WORKFORCE**—in 1987, the poultry processing industry employed 148,400 workers, 73,400 of whom were women. Many are poor, black and single mothers with no other employment opportunities. Most supervisors are white males.

***WAGES**—the average hourly wage of the production line workers is \$5.10 to \$5.60 at most plants, or \$10,608 to \$11,648 a year

***BREAKS**—most plants offer workers a 30-minute lunch and two 10- to 15-breaks in an

8-hour shift. However, during the breaks, workers must remove and clean their aprons, gloves and boots, which can take as much as half of their "rest" periods.

***ILLNESSES AND INJURIES**—rates in the poultry industry are more than twice the average for all workers in private industry, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The two most severe problems are the following:

Cumulative trauma disorders—nerve and tendon damage that can cripple a worker's hands and arms. This strikes 4 of every 100 workers in the meatpacking and poultry industries, twice the rate of other industries. Carpal tunnel syndrome—tendons passing through the narrow channel in the wrist, called the carpal tunnel are overused and press the median nerve that controls feeling to the hand. The disorder is extremely painful and can be permanent.





"Todo el Horizonte para morir" - "All the Horizon in which to die" reads the brightly painted motto on the back of a transport truck negotiating the steep and winding mountain grades in Jalisco in western Mexico. The casual fatalistic philosophy that has permeated Mexican life for some ten thousand years can be no more strongly expressed than by the transport driver plying his daily route. After a half-century of "revolutionary" government, the Mexican working-stiff has little more than his or her fatalistic philosophy to help insure their economic survival.

The city of Guadalajara, "La Perla del Occidente" is fast becoming a besmudged pearl as the car-clogged traffic even forces car-culture Los Angeles into a rear seat. Good ole Yankee consumerism has solidly entrenched itself below the border as well as below the belt. Like other parts of the world, no matter how little handy cash the local working stiff may have in one's pocket, the system always manages to see to it that the working stiff is saddled down with an income-gnawing gas-guzzler. The institution of the company store endures up to the eve of the twenty-first century.

In the city of Guadalajara also to be seen are the monumental frescos of the muralist, Jose Clemente Orozco, one of the "Big Three" along with Diego Rivera and David Alfaro Siqueiros. Jose Clemente, unlike the other two who painted the Revolution in glowing terms, chose to depict some of the crap that went on during the Revolution, and for that was accused of being reactionary. His one massive panel showing a demagogue in spanking new bib overalls, carrying a book and brandishing a saw while exhorting the downtrodden masses to arise, has his foot firmly implanted in the abdomen of one of the downtrodden. One can only ask one's self if that is a portrait of the Party of the Institutionalized Revolution?

In the city of Zacatecas where your scribe happened to be during the "Day of the Revolution" one of the tourist attractions is an old mine built by the Spanish shortly after their conquest of Mexico. The good christian conquistadores upon entering the Land of the Grass People decided that these simple Grass People should be taught industrious ways, and who more than these good christians should know better that Satan finds work for idle hands. Likewise the good Lord also manages to find plenty of cheap labor to help the righteous in carrying out their holy work.

For many years this multi-tiered maze of tunnels had been the living tomb of the Grass People who toiled upwards of sixteen hours daily for a meager ration of their own maize, beans and squash. Whenever a miner was killed or died from overwork, he was immediately cremated so no pestilence would spread to the other miners.

For the glory of christian charity and the royal crown of Spain, generations of Indios have died and later under the "liberated" republic, their Meztizo descendants did some more dying for the glory of the republic, for in this mine there were no elevator shafts. These miners carried upwards of forty kilos of ore strapped to their back, shinnying up sheer rock walls on rope ladders.

Zacatecas, a beautiful baroque city with serene streets and charming neighborhoods was paid for with the blood and broken families of generations of countless Indian and Meztizo miners who it is fervently hoped do not have to share eternity with their sanctimonious protectors. Hell is far preferable!

While the majority of the country's population is either Indian or Meztizo, and outwardly to the tourist trade Mexico capitalizes on its Indian identity. In the North you will see statues of deer dancers and in the south you will see the promotion of the regional customs. One can not help but notice that like the neighbor to the North, the lightness of skin color has a lot to do with one's economic advancement.

The caste system based on percentage of European ancestry that was established by the Conquistadores seems to be alive and well, having survived both the war for independence and the Revolution. After five centuries of colonization, independence and Revolution, the Indian is still at the bottom of the economic heap. This is all the more ironic as it is the Indian side of Mexico that makes the country stand head and shoulders above her sister "Latino" republics. The element that makes Mexico more than just another transplanted piece of European colonization is being sadly short-changed on its own turf.

But when a people have been around for ten thousand years, they just don't disappear overnight. There are those who hold down some job of a sort that would make Freedomland's wage minimum look like fantastic wages. As for those who don't have jobs, they are on the streets peddle whatever they can, be it handicrafts, food, or cheap jim-cracks from Taiwan. They are out there making their hustle.

While the profusion of automobiles gives the impression of a rising middle class, and indeed, not all of the tourists are fair-skinned blonds from north of the Border, Mexico's economic depression manifests itself from between the cracks in the cactus curtain.

The school teachers in the state of Michoacan have been carrying on a struggle for better wages and conditions not to mention more relevant courses to teach. But the Government of Revolutionary Institutions continues to economize on everything but the luxurious lifestyles of its bureaucrats numbering upwards of some two million who have no other aptitude than to be bureaucratic.

While those who remember the Revolution of 1910 are becoming fewer, there are still the second and third generations who fondly nurse its memory, never once confusing it with its misbegotten namesake, the Party of Revolutionary Institutions. Unless they happen to be party functionaries, no Mexican takes seriously the ruling PRI but regards it as the biggest still-out of the ages as they may fondly fantasize of another revolution, knowing full well that with Uncle Sammy's paranoia over falling dominos, any Revolution would have to take place over the prone carcass of old Unkie himself.

By more than mere coincidence, the Border up North serves as a safety valve for the bastards on both sides of the Frontier. There is little danger of an economic upheaval in Mexico as long as discontented workers can escape to the other side and Uncle Sammy need not worry about falling dominoes for the time being. The Party of Revolutionary Institutions is riding high especially with stolen elections but they should take heed from other parts of the world. Nothing is more conducive to Revolution than an institutionalized one!

-C. C. Redcloud

Aristocracy Forever

When I was working in the Retail Clerks Union in the early '70's, the union goons, in typical AFL-CIA fashion, did everything they could to kiss up to the bosses and keep us radicals in line. This union, by the way, later changed its name to United Food and Commercial Workers and went on to smash the P-9 strike. Anyway, at one point they sponsored a contest for "poets and songwriters in the local unions" to write a version of Solidarity Forever about them. I submitted the following entry. I'll never figure out why I didn't win that contest.

Judi Bari

ARISTOCRACY FOREVER (words by Judi Bari)

When the union leaders' pay-off by the bosses has begun
There will be no labor trouble anywhere beneath the sun
For the AFL trade unions and the management are one
The union keeps us down

(chorus)

Aristocracy forever, aristocracy forever, aristocracy forever
The union keeps us down

It is we who have to suffer through the daily drudgery.
While Kirkland pulls a hundred thousand dollar salary
Though he claims to lead the workers he is just a bourgeoisie
The union keeps us down

(chorus)

What do workers hold in common with the labor bureaucrat
Who's a class collaborationist and bosses' diplomat
With the money from our paychecks he is sitting getting fat
While the union keeps us down

(chorus)

They've aligned us with the mafia, the CIA and more
Serving Counter-revolution and oppression of the poor
Till the union doesn't represent our interests anymore
The union keeps us down

(chorus)

In our hands we hold a power they don't even know about
They've forgotten that the workers are the union's source of clout
When the rank and file workers kick the union bosses out
Again we will be strong

Solidarity forever, solidarity forever, solidarity forever
Again we will be strong



Of Interest



To Unionists

British Ford Workers Remain on Strike, London, Jan. 25-One of Ford Motor Co.'s main British plants remained closed in an unofficial strike, even though Ford's 32,000 manual workers voted to accept a 10.2% pay increase (against the recommendation of the union leadership). But as the boss press reported it, about 550 maintenance craftworkers in the Halewood factory in northern England wildcatted because they feared they were losing ground against the unskilled workers.

The Ford pay negotiations are considered a standard for Britain's manufacturing industry, and the engineering union, the country's largest, immediately said it considered 10.2% a benchmark for raises throughout the country.

Czech. to End Arms Exports, Prague, Jan. 24-The Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, Jir Dienstbier, stated the country will end its lucrative worldwide arms exports immediately. "Czechoslovakia will simply end its trade in arms without taking into account what the pragmatists will say, that it will be a blow to the state coffers, that those people will get arms from somebody else if we don't supply them."

Czechoslovakia has one of the world's biggest arms industries, ranking seventh in total weapons export from 1984 through 1988, says the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, an organization funded by the Swedish government.

Dienstbier, who was a coal stoker until November, said he did not know precise figures for Czechoslovakia's arms exports. "There are very many things we don't know about exactly because for 40 years they were very cleverly camouflaged under various entries." But it would not take much cleverness to stop selling submarine guns for hunting antelopes, he said.

Italian Students Protest Industrial Meddling, Rome, Jan. 23-From Palermo to Turin, and in more than a dozen campuses in between, Italian universities are being rocked by student protests. In January, thousands of students demonstrated in at least 17 cities, forcing the wholesale cancellation of classes in many departments. At La Sapienza, the main campus of the university of Rome, protestors occupied eight buildings.

The underlying cause is the quality of academic life, or rather the lack of it in a system that is universally denounced as obsolete, overcrowded, inefficient and at times dehumanizing. The flash point is the proposed Ruberti plan that allows individual campuses the ability to sign research projects and start doing projects with private companies.

Objections to the Ruberti plants reflect widespread cynicism about the concentration of economic and political power in the hands of a few industrial barons like Giovanni Agnelli of Fiat, Carlo De Benedetti of Olivetti, Raul Gardin of the Ferruzzi-Montedison agribusiness group, and Silvio Berlusconi, a TV magnate. A recurring student theme is the way the cause has been treated by the country's leading national newspapers, most of which are controlled by these men.

Cyanide Poisoning Conviction Overturned, Chicago, Jan. 19-An Illinois appeals court overturned the landmark conviction of three bosses found guilty of the death of an employee who suffered cyanide poisoning on the job. The ruling sent the case, which is believed to be the first in which corporate officials were convicted of murder because of a job-related death, back to a lower Cook County court.

The case stemmed from the death in 1983 of Stefan Golab, a 61 year-old Polish immigrant who worked at Film Recovery System's in the Chicago suburb of Elk Grove Village, where cyanide was used to recover silver from used X-ray film. Golab collapsed at work after complaining of dizziness and nausea, and a coroner detected cyanide poisoning.

The defendants were Steven O'Neill, the company's president; Charles Kirschbaum, a plant manager, and Daniel Rodriguez, a supervisor. All were found guilty of murder and reckless conduct and sentenced to 25 years imprisonment, but remained free pending the outcome of the appeal. The appeal court overturned the conviction on the grounds that the conviction was "inconsistent" because of the differing mental states required for a finding of guilt for murder and reckless conduct.

Korea Unionists Arrested in Crackdown, London, Jan. 16-A two-year trend of human rights improvement in South Korea has been reversed, reports Amnesty International. AI reports that 800 political and labor union campaigners have been arrested in major cities in a crackdown on opposition or industrial strikes. Some of those arrested since April of last year have reported that they were tortured or ill-used while in police custody.

Polish Miners Strike, Warsaw, Jan. 17-More than 6,000 miners went on strike for higher pay in southern Poland. The strike was the largest since the government announced drastic austerity measures including price hikes and sweeping layoffs on Jan 1 in its pursuit of a capitalist economy.



IWW/EARTH FIRST! DEFENDS MILLWORKERS

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fined the company \$14,000. Since then, G-P appealed the decision to Judge Sidney Goldstein in District court.

In January, however, the IWA showed its true colors and cut a deal with G-P without even consulting the workers involved. They proposed to drop the appeal and reduce the fine. The five workers responded that in Fall 1989 they had sent a letter to IWA stating that they did not authorize the union representative to negotiate with the company for them. The workers also sent a letter to G-P, OSHA, the appeals judge, and the IWA stating that they would like to have the IWW-Earth First! Local #1 be their official negotiating party.

The first task was to intervene with the judge to stop him from signing the agreement. Since both G-P and IWA had already signed, the judge only needed to rubber stamp the agreement. However, organizers called the judge urging him not to sign the agreement until the workers could make a written point-by-point refutation of the G-P appeal. Surprisingly the judge agreed and gave the workers 2 weeks to submit the written statement. The judges decision is expected by the end of February.

To add insult to injury, Don Nelson (the IWA business rep. from Mendocino County) reintroduced a resolution to increase dues in January (from \$22.50 to \$30.00). The resolution was essentially the same one that union members voted down 2:1 in the Fall, and has been met with heated opposition by workers.

The workers produced a flyer stating "How many times do we have to say no!" and are continuing to oppose the increase. In the meantime, Don Nelson responded with his own leaflet which stated on the bottom that, "A vote against the dues increase is a vote for the IWW." Effectively turning the dues increase vote into a referendum on the IWW, a referendum that they are almost certain to lose. Nelson has also quickly organized a union meeting to explain to the workers why they should vote for a dues increase for a union which refuses to represent its workers.

Anyone interested in showing up at the Public Interests Law Conference to support Bari should give the IWW-Earth First Local #1/Mendocino-Humboldt Group a call. Or just show at the conference which runs from March 1st-4th at the University of Oregon Law Center, Eugene, Oregon. The labor workshop is on March 4th.

Of Interest



To Unionists

Court Bars Random Drug Tests in Transit Systems, Washington, Jan. 19- The US Appeals Court for the District of Columbia overturned new Transportation Department rules that required nearly 200,000 mass transit workers in cities to submit to mandatory random drug tests. It was a narrow ruling, in that it affected only the drug testing program of the Urban Massing Transportation Administration, a Transportation Department agency. Nevertheless, this ruling, overturning a lower court's ruling upholding random testing, is a welcome, if rare, note of sanity. Last year this same appeals court affirmed the Transportation Department's authority to impose similar drug tests on the department's own employees, including air traffic controllers. Labor unions have been continually challenging management's rights to conduct random drug tests as an unconstitutional violation of workers' privacy rights, a legal tactic that so far has met with little success.

South African Rail Workers Settle, Johannesburg, Jan. 26- The members of the South African Railway and Harbor Workers Union and the management of the state-owned South African Transport Services reached a tentative agreement in a 12-week strike that claimed more than 30 lives. A mediator said that the company agreed to recognize the union, the primary demand of the 25,000 strikers who went out on Nov. 2. Nothing was said about the workers' demand that the minimum monthly wage be increased from \$240 to \$600.

3,500 Chrysler Workers Laid-off, Detroit, Feb. 2- The Chrysler Corp shut the doors of its crumbling downtown Jefferson Avenue assembly plant today, amid an atmosphere of uncertainty among the 3,500 laid-off workers. Many of the workers expressed doubt that there would be jobs for them in the plant Chrysler is building to assemble a new line of utility vehicles by 1992. "With 23 years of seniority I don't think they're going to want us," said Tony Young who is 44. "They think we're too set in our ways."

Following the example of the Japanese transplant auto plants in the US, in the last few years before the plant closing, Chrysler introduced more exacting quality control practices and hectored the union into allowing the elimination of work rules restricting management's ability to move workers around. At the same time, some workers reported, Chrysler supervisors continued to stress speed and meeting production goals at the expense of quality. "They say they want everything to be right, but if you stop the line to fix it you're fired," said Ted Grant, an assembler with 20 years' experience.

With the closing of Jefferson Avenue, only one car plant remains within the city limits of Detroit—the Hamtramck assembly plant operated by GM.

Ouster of a Nuclear Whistleblower, Dallas, Feb. 2- The Nuclear Regulatory Commission has disclosed that an employee of the Comanche Peak nuclear power plant owned by TU Electric southeast of Dallas Texas was dismissed suddenly in November after trying to report safety problems to federal officials. The dismissal was first made public Feb. 1 in the regulatory commission's report that the employee, unidentified except as a quality control inspector, was discharged a day after he tried to document and report Comanche Peak's receipt of damaged insulation material from a contractor.

Dismissal of whistleblowers in the nuclear power industry is illegal under the Atomic Energy Act. The Comanche Peak project, which is 10 years behind schedule and more than \$8 billion beyond its original budget of about \$750 million, has a long history of quality-control problems.

East German Health-Care Workers Strike, East Berlin, Jan. 25- Hundreds of East Berlin ambulance attendants and hospital workers held a one hour strike for improved working conditions. To press their demands, they held a rally in East Berlin's Karl-Marx Stadt, blocking traffic with scores of parked ambulances.

Casino Workers Strike, Las Vegas, Jan. 27- About a thousand members of the Culinary Union struck Binion's Horseshoe Club, in the union's first strike since the city wide walkout in 1984. About 300 pickets fanned out at entrances to the hotel-casino, which covers a square block in Las Vegas' downtown. The striking kitchen workers, bartenders, porters and other hotel workers chanted slogans and taunted tourists who tried to enter. "Come on out, losers," one picket yelled, "Shame on you, you slimy scabs. We don't need you here."

Port Strike in Thailand, Bangkok, Jan. 31- The New York Times ran the following one sentence story: "Bangkok port workers said today they would indefinitely extend a two-day-old strike until the government gives them a monopoly to run Thailand's leading commercial ports." Sounds great, whatever is really happening.

Australian Anti-Labor Party

Early in May 1990, the Australian people will head into a federal election. Unlike many elections of the previous decade, this election has worked to crystallize working class politics. The 1990 Federal Election will witness the formal demise of the strong traditional relationship between workers and the Labour Party which has represented the working class and the trade union movement in Australia since 1896.

The Australian Labour Party was among the first socialist parties to succeed in electoral politics. In fact, Lenin is rumored to have commented on its early electoral success in 1921. The Party was born out of the fiercehearer's strike of 1896. But from its very origins, the Party has been committed primarily to electoral success and secondarily to workers struggle. Its belief, which parallels the thinking of many European Social Democratic parties, is that the only road to success for the workers is through control of the Australian parliament. Like its European counterparts, the party has cemented a strong relationship with the centralised trade unions-Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU). The ACTU represents over 90% of all Australia's unionised workers and the country has unionisation rates close to the Scandinavian rates.

As well, the white colonisation of Australia is now just two hundred years old and the population had its origins in the penal settlements of England. Its development has been based on two factors. First, the brutal oppression of the indigenous population. Second, the removal of mineral and agricultural resources for the factories of England and the United States. Throughout this short history, Australian workers have developed an impressive history of industrial strikes and action and these workers have reinforced the need of solidarity. Australia still has one of the highest strike rates in the world.

Workers have traditionally used their militancy and strong unions to improve their wages and conditions. This has been so effective that conservative governments have been unable to implement most anti-worker measures. In this point lies the crux of the recent Australian Labor Party activities.

In a society where working class struggle, as well as the struggles of women and aboriginal people, are regulated by the finances and support of the trade union movement, the most effective manner to introduce anti-worker measures has been to utilise the party which controls the leadership of the trade union-the Australian Labor Party.

The Australian Labour Party under the Prime Ministership of Gough Whitlam in 1972-1975 introduced free tertiary education and free health to all citizens. Whitlam was removed in a constitutional coup after he began action to rid Australia of the 78 US bases on its soil. Eight years later, Bob Hawke, the next Labour Prime Minister, began his term on a program of increased welfare, better job conditions, support for aboriginal sovereignty and the removal of US bases.

In his eight years in office, Hawke, the former head of the ACTU, has privatised most welfare and cut back eligibility and services. He was the first Australian leader to ever destroy a trade union and real wages have dropped 41% in the last five years. He

has actively campaigned against Aboriginal people and has allowed over 116 deaths of aboriginal people in custody to occur without investigation. He has privatised the large government corporations and in 1989 he attempted to break the Pilots' Strike by giving government revenue directly to the strike breakers. Finally, he has promoted US bases and cold war foreign policy in a formerly non-aligned country.

Hawke has been able to effectively accomplish this task until the last year. He has managed this because trade union leaders actively supported his goals. They silenced by violence and unemployment all dissent to the cutbacks and refused to run any campaigns against their "man in Government". Many a rank-and-file militant had their shop-floor campaign ended by leadership backroom deals with bosses. Lawyers entered the industrial arena for the first time in Australian history and shop-floor organisers were replaced by centralised legal deals.

Union leaders silenced dissent by the saying that the Labour Party must be better than the conservative party. The truth was that trade union activity defeated most of the conservative attacks, but this same militancy was now restrained by the fact that "one of their own" was in office. The sphere of influence of the trade unions extended throughout the peace, womens' and students movements. These organisations had close links with the trade unions which offered them resources, training and careers. These movements now became caught in their own internal struggles in relation to their position to the flagrant abandonment by the labour party of its principles. Even Far Left parties were left to choose whether to support the Labour Party or not. Most organisations felt that "the Labour Party was better than the conservatives and therefore we support it." This view turned out to be in complete contradiction to the position of the majority of workers.

Once workers realised that struggle was being damaged by lawyers and trade union bosses they resorted to traditional means. The honeymoon period of the Hawke government came to an end in 1987. Wildcat rank-and-file strikes gradually broke out across the nation. The largest brought whole states to a halt. The Pilots' Strike had been going on from July to the present and has stopped all domestic airline flights. Workers in state and local elections rejected the Labour Party. In Australia, voting is compulsory. Recognising that both parties were conservative, Australian workers in traditional ALP seats risked large fines by refusing to vote. In some seats, non-voting went from 2% to 30% and informal voting jumped to similar levels. In some seats, pensioner party candidates beat incumbent ALP members of Parliament.

The outcome to the election in May 1990 is in some ways irrelevant. More important has been its ability to crystallize the issues of the sell-outs of the electoral parties and the ongoing need for the techniques of direct action. It is the rejection of electoral politics and the return to the traditional methods which are going to shape the next ten years. However, for many movements and left groups the damage is done. In the choice in the mid-80's of which side were you on-the labour party proved it was not on the workers side.



BOYCOTT DOMINO'S



When Ma Thatcher ordered her dreary Minister Kenneth Clark, laughingly called Minister of Health, to take on the protesting ambulance drivers, she assumed that it would be a short, tearful but unbloody battle.

In a pay offer, these men and women had been offered a 6 1/2% pay raise which in cold statistics means a pay cut, for inflation is now between 7% and 10%. Ma Thatcher reasoned that, as in the British nurses' protest, there would be many emotional public tears. We all love a neat, white uniform, the cool hand, and the bedpan, but having destroyed the nurses' claim for a decent pay increase, a small war or a good sex scandal would wipe the nurses' claim and their tears off the headlines.

The old bat was right, and despite all the protests and the badges, the nurses have been conned out of their needed pay raise. The ambulance men and women are now into the fifth month of public protest in their request for a pay increase that will put their take-home pay over Britain's inflation rise. And protest is the correct word, for they refuse to take strike action, and insist on continuing to take their ambulances out onto the street without any pay. It is a great emotional thing that everyone loves from Britain's landed aristocracy down to the well heeled British rural middle class.

While Britain's protesting, unpaid ambulance workers struggle with medical and political authorities to answer calls from the sick and injured, army and police have been forced to provide an ambulance service. The authorities have succeeded in enforcing a lockout by hiding ambulance keys, locking hospital garages, and cutting off radio calls.

It is a protest that the public loves. We wear the "999" badges, to call for support for the ambulance drivers. Backwood Tories stand up in the House of Commons and blather to empty benches for a tiny pay raise over inflation to be honored. Plastic collection buckets are filled with coins, and we all go home to watch the Australian and American TV soap opera in the knowledge that, despite the protest, if we go arse over tip under a car, a police, army or unpaid driver will come along to scoop us up. So protest on sweet lads and lasses, but, cries the liberal bleeding hearts, please don't stop driving as unpaid ambulance drivers. The answer, as I

see it, (he said brooding into the bottom of his Guinness glass in the White Hart pub while the comrades squabble over who should pay for the next round) is that there is no answer in an industrial dispute but complete strike action. If that cannot succeed then it is a Fail Safe matter, but unless one is personally involved in paying for their food and rent, then one should never, no never, offer advice that one does not have to accept the consequences for.

This day Thatcher has handed out huge pay raises to the army, the judges, and the top brass medical boys and girls, but Ma is determined to use the low paid ambulance workers in her losing fight against inflation, for if she beats them down as with Britain's miners, then weaker work forces will have to accept pay raises below inflation.

"It is a sad world my comrades," they say in Central Europe as they watch the defeated tory/communist governments creep back again into that ol' authority. But for the bleeding heart liberals burdened down with the worries of the ambulance protest, the environment, poison in the Free Range eggs, litter, my dog's shit, racism, sexism and violence on TV, there is lip tutting relief on the front pages. The in depth TV analysis for the day in the reading of a high society sex scandal concerning two editors of Britain's top class newspapers and a call girl who, it is said, asked six to seven hundred dollars for no more than, shall we say, a nice and friendly conversation. And for those who take their politics seriously and whose employers include Private Medicine, there are tales from Northern Ireland of Secret Service lying, the destruction of homeless boys taken into care, a killing, the attempt to bring about a coup to take over the Wilson Labour Government.

This day Ma Thatcher will stand up in the House of Commons and attempt to lie it all out of existence, and will demonstrate again the tragic danger of a weak and almost leaderless opposition within a democratic society as countries within central Europe are now beginning to learn. We are the workers and the peasants and we cannot compromise with evil, be it politician, employer or union boss, for comrades, our only salvation lies in our own hands. There will be failures and betrayal but in that battle for liberty and social justice, we must always fill the line.

Arthur Moyses

FORD MURDERS WORKERS IN MEXICO

Gun thugs killed FW Cleto Urbina at the Ford manufacturing complex in Cuautlan Mexico on January 8th. Eight others were shot and 3 severely beaten, requiring hospitalization.

The thugs had attacked the workers in an attempt to break a quicky sit down strike. The strike organized by a commission of workers within the plant was directed against both Ford and the state/company union.

Last year Ford fired numerous rank and file militants. These militants had taken over the union local and were struggling against the corrupt practices of the national executive. The state/company union came to the defense of Ford in firing the union dissidents. Having gotten the union's support in disciplining the workers, Ford went on the offensive. Ford announced they would tax the worker's year end bonuses (previously untaxed) which make up a substantial part of the workers yearly pay. They also announced they would only pay a miserly amount in profit-sharing.

The workers organized demonstrations and work-stoppages in protest. The CTM (the National Confederation of Workers ie. the umbrella state/party/company extortion organization tied to the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party which has ruled Mexico for 60 years) was called in to mediate the struggle. Fidel Velasquez, the chief honcho of the CTM made numerous promises to the rank and file workers commission including a referendum on who would represent the Ford workers. On January 2nd this agreement between the workers commission and the CTM was to be signed but Velasquez didn't show.

When workers arrived for the 1st shift on January 5th they found the Ford complex guarded by 150 armed thugs provided by the state. The thugs attacked the workers, beating many and arresting others. The workers responded with a 3 hour sitdown strike.

Three days later armed thugs attacked workers inside and outside the plant murdering Urbina and wounding 11 others. The workers captured 3 of the gun thugs, who confessed they had been hired by a "union" leader. The workers believe that the attacks were organized by the local CTM union president Uriarte with the collusion of Ford.

The workers have declared a strike and 2000 workers occupied the complex for a week. Currently the workers are maintaining 200 occupiers within the Ford complex. The plant is surrounded by police. On January 18, a mass demonstration was held demanding that the thugs be brought to justice.

Cleto Urbina, who according to co-workers was about 35 years old, was shot three times in the stomach. As his body was taken to the plant his co-workers formed a human chain on both sides of the roadway, vowing they would continue the struggle for which his life had been taken.

Ford produces the Taurus, Thunderbird, Cougar and Topaz within the complex that employees 3,500 hourly workers. Ford has asked the Mexican authorities to void the current contract with the Cuautlan workers "because of the illegal occupation of the complex." Gabriel Abogado, a member of the 20 member workers commission leading the strike says that they will not give up the occupation and that they're attempting to spread the strike to the other Ford operations in Mexico.

Perhaps Owen Bieber and the UAW could be of some service in forcing Ford to deal with its Mexican workers in a just and humane way.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

The strikers' main demands are: punishment for those who organized the attack on the workers, the removal of Uriarte, and free elections for union representatives. The workers also want their economic demands against Ford met.

Solidarity messages can be sent to: Movimiento Democratico de Trabajadores de la Ford, Doctor Lucio 103, Edificio Orion A-4, Despacho 103, Mexico DF, Mexico. The phone number at the plant is (525) 761-8111. Ask for the Workers Commission. The fax number is (525) 286-8926 or 286-8976, Attn: Lic. Manuel Fuentes, their legal advisor.

Messages of protest should be sent to the President of Mexico, Carlos Salinas de Gortari, Los Pinos, Mexico DF, Mexico; and Ford Motor Co., Paseode la Reforma 333, Mexico DF 06500, Mexico.

IWW Preamble Part 3

This is the third in a series of articles on the Contemporary Relevance of the IWW Preamble. The first, which ran in the October 1989 IW examined the historic context in which the IWW's Preamble was written, noting that many unions once recognized in their Constitutions the fact that the interests of labor and capital were irreconcilably opposed. The second, published in November, discussed the economic basis of this conflict, which stems from the fact that the employing class lives off the labor of the majority compelled to work for wages.

No Peace Under Capitalism

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

But not only can we not hope for industrial peace under capitalism, but boss rule guarantees military conflicts as well. The bosses need strong military and police forces—both to do battle with other capitalists (like the thieves they are, they show little reluctance to do battle with each other for a bigger share of the spoils) and to keep their working classes in line. And hungry and desperate people are easy prey for the militarists and the pocketbook pay-triots.

Because capitalism is an international system, the U.S. must assist subordinate governments around the world in maintaining "order," lest U.S. employers lose the ability to continue plundering our fellow workers overseas. Since the bosses run the show, us working stiff's very generously pick up the tab for this international racketeering operation.

"A struggle must go on until the workers... organize as a class, take possession of the earth... and abolish the wage system."

Some unions have declared themselves content with a struggle to ameliorate the conditions under which we work and live. Arguing that it is not practical to overthrow wage slavery altogether, they seek better rations, more comfortable chains, and better working conditions. The IWW does not ignore such demands. Clearly, given the miserable wages many of us earn, and the deadly conditions under which we labor, few workers can afford to ignore the battle for better conditions here and now.

But important as such struggles are, they do not address the fundamental problem. Where workers are well organized and determined, we may well be able to wrest better conditions from the bosses. But the bosses will grant such improvements only for the moment—they are constantly looking for ways to reverse these gains. So long as their control over industry remains intact, they will do everything in their power to drive our wages down, to speed up production, and to break our organizations. Given their economic interests, no other course of action makes sense.

In many ways, it's like a contest between two armies—on one side are the bosses, on the other the workers. So long as both armies remain mobilized, armed and determined to prevail, continued warfare is inevitable. There may be occasional truces, but they will not hold. One side may hold the advantage for a time, but if they let down their guard they will soon be forced to retreat.

In this class warfare the business unions would—at best—urge us to seek advantageous truce terms, and to maintain our vigilance lest we be crushed. The Industrial Workers of the World finds this unending class warfare, and the massive suffering that it entails, unacceptable. Instead, we propose prosecuting the class war to its logical conclusion: taking control of the factories and workplaces which we built, and which cannot operate without our labor.

"The trade unions [are] unable to cope with the ever growing power of the employing class... [and] allow workers to be pitted against [each other]"

Regrettably, the business unions have demonstrated themselves utterly incompetent to defend workers under modern industrial conditions. Deferring to no-strike clauses and anti-labor laws, they routinely scab on each others strikes. Holding to the misguided belief that labor and management share common interests, they allow their members to be pitted against other workers—around the world, and even (as in the auto workers) in the same union. The result is falling wages, steadily worsening working conditions, massive unemployment, unorganized workers, and defeat after defeat.

Consider, for example, the Hormel strike of a few years ago. Each plant in the Hormel chain works under a different contract, expiring at different times and providing for different wages and working conditions. When Austin, Minnesota meatpackers decided they could not go along with the concessions Hormel demanded—and could no longer endure the brutal working conditions that routinely sent workers to the hospital—they were left to fight their battle on their own.

To be sure, their union (the United Food & Commercial Workers) and other unions made donations to the strike fund for a time, staving off actual starvation. But the other Hormel plants continued working (with two brief exceptions) throughout the strike, enabling the



company to fill its orders with little difficulty. Unionized truck drivers hauled the goods manufactured by these union scabs—and later products from the struck plant itself—without incident. Unionized butchers and retail clerks (often members of the very same union that was on strike) put the scab goods on the shelves and sold them to customers without so much as posting a notice that these were tainted goods. What sort of unionism is this?

Nor are the Food and Commercial Workers alone in pursuing these bankrupt policies. Building trades unions routinely work on construction jobs with nonunion workers, insisting only that the scabs enter through a different gate so they do not have to cross picket lines. Air transport workers have taken defeat after defeat as pilots, flight attendants, ground crews, air traffic controllers, ticket agents and other unionized crafts scab on each others struggles. In one of the few U.S. industries to be almost fully organized, auto workers locals compete with each other to offer management the most attractive work rules and speed-ups in order to prevent work from being shifted to even more compliant locals.

And, despite the fact that we now live in a global economy, virtually no attention has been

paid to the urgent need to help workers in other countries to organize to win better conditions. Instead, the AFL-CIO pours money into propping up class-collaborationist union centers built on its own model, while more and more jobs shift overseas in search of workers desperate enough to work for a few dollars a day.

Such policies were recognizably wrongheaded and obsolete eight decades ago, when the IWW was organized. In the intervening decades they have only become more so.

So the labor movement is in a mess. Anyone can see that. But does the IWW offer a practical solution?

"These conditions can be changed... 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..."

The IWW solution is straightforward—it proposes that workers organize industrially (that is, that all workers in each industry belong to the same union) and practice solidarity with one another. Rather than allowing the bosses to divide us, and to pick us off one at a time, the IWW proposes that we stick together: that workers refuse to handle scab goods, refuse to work scab jobs—in short that we do whatever it takes to ensure that our fellow workers prevail in their struggles with our mutual enemies, the employers.

All workers, all over the world and in every industry, have common interests and are interdependent. The steel industry, for example, depends upon workers in a wide variety of trades to carry on production—from engineers and millworkers to accountants and secretaries. The IWW proposes that all of these workers should logically belong to the same union, and should support one another in their struggles for better conditions. The steelworkers also depend upon workers in agriculture in order to eat, and upon transport and manufacturing workers to make their products useful. What could make better sense but that all these workers—that all workers—should stand together in their struggles, recognizing that an injury to one is the concern of all?

This goal, the IWW argues, can best be realized by organizing all workers into genuine industrial unions, united into One Big Union. Such an organization could wield immense industrial power—no employer, and no government, would have the strength to stand before it. It is for this reason that the employers and the governments of the world have been so ruthless in their efforts to crush the IWW, and why many workers have fought so tenaciously to keep it alive.

Abolish the wage system

The IWW Preamble goes on to criticize "the conservative motto, 'A fair day's wage for a fair day's work,'" declaring that we instead demand abolition of the wage system. To many workers, of course, a fair day's wage might seem a very attractive proposition just now. When adjusted for inflation and taxes, wages have been declining for many years. The average worker today earns less—much less—than he or she did fifteen years ago. At the same time, productivity has continued to soar. Average working hours have remained the same for nearly five decades, during which time productivity (the amount we produce for each hour on the job) has doubled twice over.

Given those facts, we must conclude that the business unions no longer demand—or at least have had no success in winning—"a fair day's wage for a fair day's work." Surely a fair day's work, given the increase in productivity, could not be any longer than four hours work (one could easily make the case for an even shorter work day); while there is no reason why a fair day's wage should continue to decline year after year—to the point where in some parts of the world today it is insufficient even to feed the worker it is paid to.

Yet the wage system is intrinsically unfair, and the concept of a fair day's wage an impossibility.

What, after all, are wages? The wage system is based upon paying a worker will a certain amount (a wage) in exchange for working for the boss. Wages can be based either upon the time put in on the job (in which case the employer has a built-in incentive to speed-up production) or by the item produced. In either case, workers are paid only a fraction of the value of the items they produce. (In many jobs, of course, it is no longer clear just what is being produced. The principle of the thing, however, remains the same—the worker is always paid less than the value of his or her labor. Otherwise, the boss couldn't make any money.) Some of the difference goes to overhead, and to paying a host of intermediaries necessary to make sure the boss gets his full share—the rest goes straight into the boss's pocket. Fairness does not enter into such a system—it is based upon stealing from the workers.

Nor is there any logical basis upon which to set wage differentials. Who is to say that the labor of the garbage collector is worth less than the labor of the doctor? Both are engaged in the business of preserving people's health, and people would die much quicker if the world's garbage men refused to carry on than if the world's doctors and nurses went on strike.

Workers are entitled to all that they produce. But production is no longer carried out by independent yeomen. We do not—and can not—grow our own food, make our own clothes, and build our own houses. Instead, production is social—we work together to produce the goods and services we need (and, at present, to produce a great many items for which we have no conceivable use). All of us are interdependent, and anyone who does productive labor (or is incapable of working) is every bit as entitled to the good things of life as any other worker.

"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."

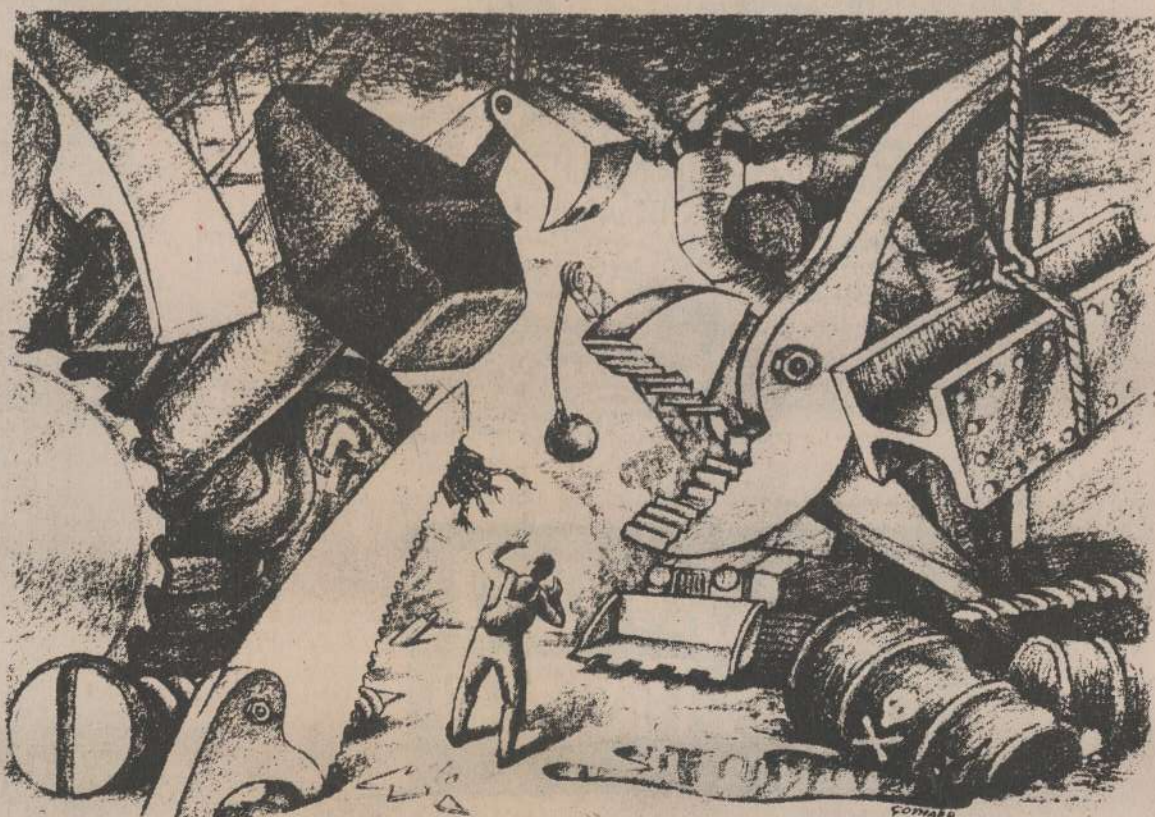
So justice demands that we do away with capitalism and the wage system. And basic survival demands that in the meantime we build and maintain a fighting organization—a union—to prevent the bosses from driving our wages down to the starvation point and to prevent them from driving us to our deaths on the job. But how do we go about accomplishing these goals?

The Industrial Workers of the World maintains that both goals can best be accomplished through the medium of the revolutionary industrial union. Only industrial organization provides the working class with the means to defend its immediate interests under capitalism. But through industrial organization we can do much more.

The IWW proposes that the people who do the world's work are best suited to make the decisions about how, and toward what ends, that work ought to be carried out. Democratically controlled unions, organized in the workplace and bringing together all workers in each industry and in all industries, offer the most logical way for workers to administer industry.

As we battle for better working conditions, and as we fight for ever greater control of industry from the shop floor, we create the basis for a new society. In the course of those struggles, we gain experience in self-management; we build and strengthen our organization; and we develop and practice the skills necessary to run industry on our own. "By organizing industrially," as the IWW Preamble concludes, we are indeed "forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old."

Jon Bekken



PLANT CLOSINGS HIT MIDWEST

Among Midwestern states, Indiana, whose low unemployment insurance and worker's compensation costs have made plant location "experts" and business lobbyists consider it a haven for companies wanting to escape other Great Lake states, had the highest rate of plant closing and worker dislocation in 1989. With a workforce 49% of Illinois', Indiana got 81 plant shutdown notices affecting 10,129 workers.

Plant and office shutdowns hit Illinois second hardest, with Chicago burdened by a disproportionate share. Illinois received 148 shutdown notices affecting 19,601 workers. Though Chicago houses less than 25% of the state's workforce, the city received 39, or 26.4% of the state's facility shutdown notices.

Ohio, which has a workforce 93% as large as Illinois, had 105 shutdowns (71% of the Illinois total), affecting 14,524 workers. After adjusting for workforce size Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin came in descending order.

The Federal Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act took effect Feb 4, 1989, requires companies of at least 100 workers which are closing a plant, eliminating a department with at least 50 employees, or permanently laying off one-third of their workforce, to give 60 days' notice to their employees, and to state and local governments. The law also requires that government job training agencies send rapid response teams to help the dislocated workers find new jobs. In 1987, a Government Accounting Office study found that blue-collar workers got on the average a week's notice of impending plant shutdown and white-collar workers got an average of two weeks.

Incidents of noncompliance with the planting closing notice act seem to be rare. Workers can sue for full pay and benefits for as many days as they didn't get proper warning of a shutdown. Communities also can sue and get up to \$500 a day in civil penalties. This winter two suits have been brought in Chicago. Workers at Stewart-Warner Corp. sued in November after a first wave of layoffs. The gauge-making company had announced plans to move production to Mexico. In early January, United Steelworkers of America Local 1010 sued Inland Steel for the way it laid off 94 blast furnace workers in East Chicago last June. Though the blast furnace is slated to reopen at the end of March, the unions contend that the company gave the workers only five hours' notice of the long term shutdown.



POLISH RESERVE ARMY

Swelling the ranks of the New Vanguard: The Unemployed

For decades, Poland and other Eastern European countries have boasted that whatever amenities they lacked, at least they had no unemployed. Now, as the governments are instituting reforms faster than the workers can form unions to represent themselves, the new economies are being created at their expense. According to theories of the new directors of Poland, many of that country's industries, notably the auto and steel industries, have bloated payrolls and must make sweeping layoffs to remain competitive. The government economists have discovered the argument that people will work harder knowing that they can be tossed off their jobs onto the street and that an army of unemployed is waiting to replace them. These same economists claimed that Poland can sustain unemployment of up to 5%, about 900,000 workers, without causing explosive social tensions.

Before the explosions, the jobless will get 70% of their most recent wages for three months, 50% for the following six months, and 40% thereafter. If unemployed workers turn down two jobs appropriate for their skills that are offered by the unemployment office, they lose their benefits. Unemployed workers who enter job training programs get 100% of their former salaries. Men over 60 and women over 55 who get laid off will get 75% of their last wages until normal retirement age, 65 for men and 60 for women.

Take Note:

The Industrial Worker Collective plans to have the following special theme issues in the next three months:

April: "Voices of Women" issue. We are soliciting articles from women. We have some suggested topics but encourage other ideas too. We suggest as possible themes: Reproductive Rights, Rights on the Job for Women, Women in the IWW, Women in IWW workplaces, Lesbian Women in the Workplace, Homeless Women, Women with Disabilities.

May: We are encouraging branches to purchase ads in the May Day issue of the newspaper. Suggested rates: \$40 for a two column ad; \$75 for a quarter page ad; \$100 for a half page ad; \$175 for a full page ad.

June: Workers' Culture Issue. We are soliciting articles on all aspects of workers culture.

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."

BOOKS FROM OTHER PUBLISHERS

Solidarity Forever: An Oral History of the IWW by Bird, Georgakas & Shaffer \$10
Stories from early Wobblies in their own words. Frank Cedervall, Phil Melman, Sophie Cohen, and many others.
Rebel Voices: An IWW Anthology by Joyce Kombuh \$19
The early years of the IWW told through the articles, essays, poems, songs and artwork of the time. This 1988 re-issue includes an updated guide to books written about the Wobblies and an essay on Wobblly cartoonists by IWW member Franklin Rosemont.
The Yale Strike of 1984-85 by Gilpin, Isaac, Letwin & McKivigan \$6
Clerical workers at Yale organized one on one and beat that corporate university. A large organizing committee and reliance on the rank and file made the success possible. Must reading for rank and file organizers.
Memoirs of a Wobbly: On the Road for the Revolution by Henry McGuckin \$6
The story of an early Wobbly organizer riding the rails, stirring things up, and building the future. Inspiring and down to earth story.
Roll the Union On: Pictorial History of the Southern Tenant Farmers Union by H.L. Mitchell \$8
Founded in 1934 STFU was the first fully-integrated, multiracial union in the modern South. Dramatic, first-hand account of rural men and women using IWW traditions of workers' solidarity & direct action to organize against racism and murderous landlords.
Bve American! by Gary Huck and Mike Konopaki \$8
These 150 labor cartoons by Huck and Konopaki blend outrage, wit, artistic skill and political understanding to burn through the layers of illusion and rhetoric that shield Bush, Reagan and their corporate masters.
Labor Law for the Rank and Filer by Staughton Lynd \$3
This book fits in your pocket so you can bring the facts about labor law on to the shop floor with you. Mandatory. Buy several and pass 'em around at work.
Labor Law Handbook by Michael Yates \$8
A question and answer format provides information about many of the legal questions that come up in organizing. (But remember, legal advice is for getting out of trouble, not for ruling out tactics.)
War At Home: Covert Action Against US Activists & What to Do About It Glick \$5
The Hoover-Palmer raids were just the beginning. McCarthyism, COINTELPRO, secret police, they're still with us today. Practical advice on how to protect your organization.
Haymarket Scrapbook by Dave Roediger and Franklin Rosemont \$15
The Haymarket Affair of 1886-87 has had a vast, varied and enduring influence on the labor movement in North America and around the globe. This heavily illustrated anthology brings together speeches and articles of those who were there and discussions by many of today's finest labor historians.
Lucy Parsons: American Revolutionary by Carolyn Ashbaugh \$9
Feminist historian Ashbaugh's decision to recover the herstory of women rebels led her to write the first biography of Lucy Parsons, a black woman who was a working class organizer and leader for many decades.
Mr. Block: 24 IWW Cartoons by Ernest Riebe \$5
Cartoon tales from early IWW publications of the block-headed worker who puts his faith in his class enemies.
You Have No Country! Workers Struggle Against the War by Mary Marcy \$5
Marcy was editor of the International Socialist Review, the most influential revolutionary journal of its time. These articles analysing the social/economic causes of war and libertarian anti-war struggle were a major cause of the suppression of the journal by the US government in 1918.
Rise and Repression of Radical Labor by Daniel Fusfeld \$4
Concise description of the radical labor movement in the late 1800s and early 1900s.
The Flivver King: A Story of Ford-America by Upton Sinclair \$8
Sinclair's novel traces the stories of Henry Ford and an autoworker who hires into Ford in 1903. Sinclair writes of Ford's facsimism and the oppressive nature of factory work.



IWW Posters hand by Carlos Cortez \$10
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Branches and members may request bulk discounts on pre-paid orders of IWW published items. Other movement publishers often grant discounts on (pre-paid) orders where five or ten copies of a single title are ordered.

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1740 W. Greenleaf
Chicago, IL 60626

South End Press
300 Raritan Center Parkway
Edison, NJ 08818

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

AVAILABLE FROM IWW BRANCHES

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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.
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Out of the Depths. True story of the Ludlow Massacre in Colorado. Out of print. \$10.
Columbine Memorial Videos Historic scattering of Joe Hill's ashes. \$20.
"Workers' Solidarity" Suspenders Red Reg-XL-XXL \$12.
Prices are postpaid. Make checks to: Denver-Boulder IWW. Mail to: Gary Cox, 11548 Community Center Drive #53, Northglenn, CO 80233.
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN GMB:
Domino's Pizza Boycott Info Packet. Domino's delivers contra support, anti-abortion violence, and anti-worker policies. Checks to "Domino's Coalition--LASC", mail to AATU Job Branch, 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109 \$10
NEW YORK GMB:
A Workers Guide to Direct Action, Examples & discussion of direct action. 75¢
Collective Bargaining Manual, How to negotiate with the boss. \$2.50
Postpaid from: IWW, Box 183, New York 10028
SAN FRANCISCO BAY GMB:
Introductions to the IWW, 10 cents each from San Francisco IWW, Box 40485, San Francisco, CA 94140 (40% discount for quantity orders) or 10¢ each plus 25¢ postage for entire order.

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BOOKS FOR REBEL WORKERS



JUNIOR WOBBLIES
Illustration of children holding signs: CORPORATE DAY CARE, P PROFIT, EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, F FAIR WAGES, K. DOWN THE KHAM, P POOP ON PATRIARCHY, G GAY RIGHTS, J JUSTICE, H HONOR LABOR, PEACE, A. DIVEST APARTHEID, B A WOMAN'S BODY IS NOT AN OBJECT TO BE THING, C COMPARABLE WORTH, D. NO DRAFT, A ACCOUNTS, B BANK, C COMMERCIAL.

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UNITED STATES
ALASKA
Ruth Sheridan, 4704 Kenai, Anchorage 99508
ARIZONA
Signature Press Job Branch, PO Box 92, Bisbee 85603
CALIFORNIA
Los Angeles Delegate, Dorice McDaniels 213-679-2570
San Diego Group, Box 191224, San Diego 92119
San Francisco Bay Area GMB, Box 40485, San Francisco 94140
East Bay Delegate, Richard Ellington, 6448 Irwin Court, Oakland 94609
Coreris Cabinets, 5840 Peladeau St, Emeryville
United Stanford Workers Job Branch, PO Box 7152, Stanford 94305
Berkeley Recycling Center Job Branch, c/o Steven Rodriguez, 4156 Howe St Oakland 94611
Mendocino-Humboldt Group, 106 W. Stanley St, Ukiah 95482 (707) 485-0478
COLORADO
Denver-Boulder GMB, 2412 East Colfax, Denver 80206 (303) 388-1065
office open Saturday 9-12, meetings second Sunday of each month
Delegates: Dexter Herda, 910 East 8th #202, Denver 80218; David Frazer Box 6, Rollinsville; Gary Cox 11548 Community Center #53, Northglenn
GEORGIA
Atlanta Group, Box 54766, Atlanta 30308-0766 (404) 378-5542
ILLINOIS
Chicago GMB 3435 N. Sheffield #202 Chicago (312) 549-5045
meetings first Friday of each month at 7:30 pm
Champaign-Urbana Group, Box 2824, Champaign, 61820
MARYLAND
Baltimore GMB, 1054 Hollins Ave, Baltimore 21223
MASSACHUSETTS
Boston GMB, Box 454, Cambridge 02139 (617) 469-5162
Delegate: Barry Rodenick, MIT Branch PO Box 213, Cambridge 02139
Whetstone Press, 94 Green St, Jamaica Plain 02130
MICHIGAN
Southeast Michigan GMB, 42 S. Summit, Ypsilanti 48197 (313) 483-3478
People's Warehouse Job Branch, 727 W. Ellsworth, Ann Arbor 48108 (313) 761-4642
Ann Arbor Tenants Union Job Branch, 4001 Mich. Union, Ann Arbor (313) 763-6876
Industrial Worker Collective 400 W. Washington #2B Ann Arbor, MI 48103
MINNESOTA
Minneapolis-St.Paul GMB, Box 2245, St Paul 55102
meetings third Thursday of each month (Nancy Arthur Collins, delegate)
MONTANA
Western Montana GMB, 415 N. Higgins, Room 104, Missoula 59807
office open Monday thru Saturday, noon - 5pm
(800) 473-4000 or (406) 721-3000 A.L. Nurse, delegate
Correspondence to: Box 8562, Missoula
NEW YORK
New York GMB, Box 183, New York 10028
meetings second Sunday of each month at 2 pm (call for location)
The Print Shop Job Branch, 333 Terry Rd, Smithtown 11787
Delegates: John Hansen, 302 Ave C, Brooklyn 11218 (718) 854-2692; Jackie Panish, Box 372, Rego Park 11374 (212) 868-1121; Joe O'Shea, Winkler's Farm, Towner's Road, Carmel 10512; David Sacc, (212) 666-7484; Rochelle Semel, Box 172, Fly Creek 13337 (607) 293-6489; Bob Young, Box 920, Wingdale
OHIO
Southwest Ohio GMB & GDC Local #1 Box 26381, Dayton 45426
GDC Local #3, c/o John Perrotti #167712, Box 45699, Lucasville 45699-0001
SOUTH CAROLINA
Harbinger Publications JB, 18 Bluff Road, Columbia, 29201 (803) 254-9398
TEXAS
Delegate: Gilbert Mers, 7031 Kemel, Houston 77087 (713) 921-0877
VIRGINIA
Delegate: Keith Preston, 1105 W. Franklin #8A, Richmond 23220 Ask for IWW at (804) 741-1897
WASHINGTON
Bellingham GMB, Box 1386, Bellingham 98227
Freedom Fund Job Branch, 4534 1/2 University Way NE, Seattle
Spokane Group, Box 1273, Spokane, 99210
Tacoma/Olympia GMB & GDC #4, 2115 S. Sheridan, Tacoma 98405
WISCONSIN
Madison GMB, Box 2605, Madison 53701 (608) 251-1957 or 249-4287
Lakeside Press Job Branch, 1301 Williamson, Madison 53703

Preamble of the Industrial Workers of the World
THE WORKING CLASS AND THE EMPLOYING CLASS HAVE NOTHING IN COMMON? THERE CAN BE NO PEACE SO LONG AS HUNGER AND WANT ARE FOUND AMONG MILLIONS OF WORKING PEOPLE AND THE FEW, WHO MAKE UP THE EMPLOYING CLASS, HAVE ALL THE GOOD THINGS OF LIFE.
BETWEEN THESE TWO CLASSES A STRUGGLE MUST GO ON UNTIL THE WORKERS OF THE WORLD ORGANIZE AS A CLASS, TAKE POSSESSION OF THE EARTH AND THE MACHINERY OF PRODUCTION, AND ABOLISH THE WAGE SYSTEM.
WE FIND THAT THE CENTERING OF THE MANAGEMENT OF INDUSTRIES INTO FEWER AND FEWER HANDS MAKES THE TRADE UNIONS UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE EVER GROWING POWER OF THE EMPLOYING CLASS. THE TRADE UNIONS FOSTER A STATE OF AFFAIRS WHICH ALLOWS ONE SET OF WORKERS TO BE PITTED AGAINST ANOTHER SET OF WORKERS IN THE SAME INDUSTRY, THEREBY HELPING DEFEAT ONE ANOTHER IN WAGE WARS. MOREOVER, THE TRADE UNIONS AID THE EMPLOYING CLASS TO MISLEAD THE WORKERS INTO THE BELIEF THAT THE WORKING CLASS HAVE INTERESTS IN COMMON WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS.
THESE CONDITIONS CAN BE CHANGED AND THE INTEREST OF THE WORKING CLASS UPHELD ONLY BY AN ORGANIZATION FORMED IN SUCH A WAY THAT ALL ITS MEMBERS IN ANY ONE INDUSTRY, OR IN ALL INDUSTRIES IF NECESSARY, CEASE WORK WHENEVER A STRIKE OR LOCKOUT IS ON IN ANY DEPARTMENT THEREOF, THUS MAKING AN INJURY TO ONE AN INJURY TO ALL.
INSTEAD OF THE CONSERVATIVE MOTTO, "A FAIR DAY'S WAGE FOR FAIR DAY'S WORK," WE MUST INSCRIBE ON OUR BANNER THE REVOLUTIONARY WATCHWORD, "ABOLITION OF THE WAGE SYSTEM."
IT IS THE HISTORIC MISSION OF THE WORKING CLASS TO DO AWAY WITH CAPITALISM. THE ARMY OF PRODUCTION MUST BE ORGANIZED, NOT ONLY FOR THE EVERY-DAY STRUGGLE WITH CAPITALISTS, BUT ALSO TO CARRY ON PRODUCTION WHEN CAPITALISM SHALL HAVE BEEN OVERTHROWN. BY ORGANIZING INDUSTRIALLY WE ARE FORMING THE STRUCTURE OF THE NEW SOCIETY WITHIN THE SHELL OF THE OLD.

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