



# INDUSTRIAL WORKER

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## Chico Mendes' Killer Released

### Rubber Tappers Union Calls 'Earth Summit' Boycott

On February 28, an appeals court in the Brazilian state of Acre ordered a retrial for Darly Alves da Silva, the man convicted of planning the murder of Chico Mendes. Darly's son, Darcy Alves Pereira, remains in prison because his conviction was based on his confession to the murder. The news of the retrial was celebrated with fireworks all over the country by the Democratic Rural Union (UDR), the party of extreme right-wing ranchers and large landowners that has raised considerable sums of money for weapons to use against unarmed peasants and rural union leaders.

This news creates a climate of danger all over the Amazon for union leaders and others who work in solidarity with them. The conviction of Darly Alves had the potential for sending a message that violence with impunity was coming to an end. The reversal of this conviction is part of a larger strategy on the part of rural elites of Northern Brazil to undo all of the advances made in recent years by rubber tappers, Natives, environmentalists and rural unions.

According to Osmarino Amncio Rodrigues, Secretary General of the National Council of Rubber Tappers (CNS) the union is extremely concerned that local authorities will reduce the sentence dramatically or even let the murderers free. Legal grounds for such a court decision have not been made public, but CNS and Brazilian environmentalists in general believe that high level officials will fake some so-called "legal reasoning."

Antonio Macedo, coordinator of the extractive reserve of the Jurua River region and CNSU Vice-President Pedro Ramos de Souza have suffered several murder attempts. In addition, the near-fatal shooting of CNSU adviser Gumerindo Rodrigues has not yet been brought to justice, and the recent murder of rural unionist Joao Bosco of Tarauaca adds to the list of over 1,000 rural workers and activists killed since 1980. Father Ricardo Rezende of the Land Pastoral Commission, Alternative Nobel Prize winner, recently stated that impunity in Brazil remains absolute.

Although Mendes, a rubber tapper, is known in the U.S. and Canada primarily as an environmental activist he was mostly a defender of the rights of the rural poor. Mendes was president of the Xapuri Rural Workers Union, a member of the CNS, a member of the national council of the Trade Union Congress (CUT), an activist in the Workers' Party and committed to defending the Amazonian eco-system. He was assassinated December 22, 1988.

The continuing violence against worker/environmentalists in Brazil is part of a trend taking place around the world. The bosses know that a people's movement which combines class consciousness and ecological reasoning

(see Chico Mendes, p.2)



New York City: Women Demand Voice at 'Earth Summit'.

### Working Woman's Response To UNCED: 'Fuck You - Fuck Your Process'

By Gale Force

Good News! It's only going to cost \$125 billion to save the Earth! Just sit back, don't worry & be happy - the leaders of 160 nations are getting together this June in Rio, to decide the capitalist free market solution to the global environment and "development" crisis.

700 women and men, and lots of police, gathered at Columbus Circle in NYC on March 8 for International Women's Day to send the message that UNCED must deal with real issues.

For 5 weeks during March and early April negotiations are going on in NYC to hammer out "Agenda 21"—the United Nation's 'action' plan that will perpetuate the mess we're in well into the next century. Then the (mostly) boys will meet for photo-ops and autographs this summer in Rio. This farce will strengthen the global slave trade economic system between North and South, and will not even challenge the biggest offender, militarism. Who can take seriously a plan that conveniently leaves out the planet's biggest polluter and consumer of natural "resources"?!

It's an affront to the intelligence that these (mostly) male automatons would actually think that they are fooling anybody with their posturing on issues of extreme urgency, that people are raging about.

The big block to any "progress" in negotiations on finances, biotechnology, technology transfer and other issues is the United States—which hasn't even announced if Bush plans to grace the event with his presence. Recently, the US has announced that it will actually increase its carbon dioxide emissions by 20% over the next decade, thereby contributing in a major way to global warming.

Who's going to manage the \$125 billion, provided they can scrape up that much? None of the wealthy nations are opening the coffers—feeling a little stingy after the Gulf War only a year ago. The World Bank's Global Environmental Facility (GEF) will manage most of this fountain of "sustainable development" (sustaining "development" but nothing else). And the process of extraction and exploitation carries on. (see UNCED, p.3)

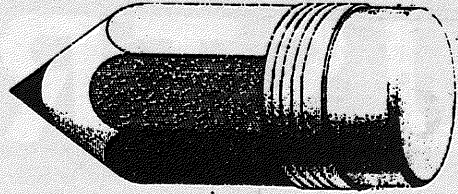
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# Letters



Dear friends,

No doubt some of you will be aware of the existence and work of the Kate Sharpley Library and Documentation Centre, in existence for the last 8 years. In 1991 the Library was moved from a storage location in London to Northamptonshire, where we are now in the process of creating a complete computer data base of the entire collection. A working group has also been created to oversee the running and organization of the Library.

The Library is made up of donations from deceased and living comrades, and comprises several thousand pamphlets, books, newspapers, journals, posters flyers and unpublished manuscripts, in 20 languages, covering the history of our movement over the last century. It contains detailed reports from the IWA/AIT/IAA, The Anarchist Federation of Britain (1945-50), Syndicalist Workers Federation (1950-79), and Cienfuegos Press among others. Newspapers include near

complete sets of Freedom, Spain and the World, Direct Action (1945-), Black Flag and many others.

The Library also has a sizeable collection of libertarian communist and council communist material.

We appeal to all anarchist groups and publications to add our name to your mailing lists, and all comrades and friends to donate suitable materials to the collection. We hope to be open for consultation in 1992.

The KSL is named in honor of Kate Sharpley, a First World War anarchist and anti-war activist. All mail for the present to:

KSL  
BM Hurricane  
London WC1N 3XX  
England  
(To receive our new Bulletin send SASE)

Hullo! Hullo!

I am currently putting together a compilation tape of Wobbly songs. However, this tape promises to be a bit different than the folk versions that are currently available. What I am looking for are bands and musicians that push the Wobbly songs a bit further into musical realms that are not seen as traditional territory for labor songs. Imagine a hip-hop version of "Preacher and the Slave", a grungy garage rock take on "Mr. Block", or a speed metal rendition of "We Have Fed You All..." The possibilities are endless. So if you are interested, send me a well recorded cassette of your rendition of your Wobbly faves (please try to send more than one tune). All of those included on the tape will receive one copy plus a discount on any ordered.

I am a field delegate and a Wobbly for about 3 years (I tell you that so you will see I'm not a gross opportunist or profiteer). The tape will be priced to cover the expenses of production and any profits will go to the Wobbly Bureau of Investigation. O yes, I cannot stress enough that I am not looking for regular folk versions or even electrified renditions ala Billy Bragg. I want something different. Any questions, just write. - Scott Soriano, 1114 21st St., Sacramento, CA 95814.

# Chico Mendes

cont. from page 1

challenges their power. Through propaganda they confuse the issues and worker/environmental organizers like Mendes are portrayed as environmentalists without class concerns. Through violence they maim and kill and seek to scare off other people.

The National Council of Rubber Tappers calls upon all concerned organizations and individuals to boycott the United Nations Council on Environment and Development to be held in Rio de Janeiro this June. CNS believes that Chico Mendes' legacy is crucially responsible for the fact that Brazil has been chosen to site the United Nations Conference, and the impunity of Chico Mendes' murderers is not only an offence to the United Nations declaration of human rights, but it also indicates that the Conference is a farce.

CNS is requesting all of us committed to human rights and environmental conservation, to urgently fax letters of protest to the following Brazilian authorities.

Below is a suggested text, followed by addresses.

Your Excellency:

I am writing to express my deep concern about the recent decision by the appeals court in Acre to overturn the conviction of Darly Alves da Silva, accused of having planned the murder

of Chico Mendes. That conviction had sent a message to the world that Brazil is a nation that takes seriously the preservation of human rights and of the environment. If Darly Alves goes free, the message will be that the ranchers in the Amazon can act with complete impunity. Such a message will also result in danger to many more people who are presently working to strengthen democracy in Brazil. I urge you to do all in your power to ensure that the legal process will reaffirm justice.

Please send to:

Exmo. Sr. Presidente da Republica  
Sr. Fernando Collor de Mello  
Palacio de Planalto  
70150 Brasilia, DF, Brasil  
(Fax: 011-55-61-224-3755)

Exmo Dr. Ministro da Justica  
Sr. Jarbas Passarinho  
Esplanada dos Ministerios  
Bloco 23  
70064 Brasilia, DF Brasil  
(Fax: 011-55-61-321-5145)



# IWW DIRECTORY

For those unfamiliar with IWW terminology, we offer these definitions: Job Shop—an IWW-organized group of workers at a particular workplace—either worker-owned, or owned by the bosses. GMB—General Membership Branch, a chartered branch of members linked by locale, rather than workplace. IWW Group—a group of IWW members in the same locale, not large enough to be a GMB. I.U.—Industrial Union, the IWW number assigned to a particular industry. DElegate—an IWW member authorized to collect dues and to sign up new members.

## AUSTRALIA

### NEW SOUTH WALES

Sydney Area IWW Group—Delgate: Ray Elbourne, Cnr Dittons Lane and Old Illawarra Hwy, Sutton Forest 2577, (048) 682883  
Jura Books—110 Chrystal St. Petersham, Sydney

## CANADA

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver Group—110-511 Gatensbury St., Coquitlam, V3J 5E7, (604) 936-1927. John Barker, contact.

Eastside Datagraphics Job Shop (I.U. 450)—1460 Commercial Drive, Vancouver V5L 3X9, (604) 255-9559.

SE British Columbia IWW Group—P.O. Box 54, Balfour, V0G 1C0. Contact: David Everest (604) 229-4978.

## MANITOBA

Winnipeg IWW Group—B. Mackay, P.O. Box 3204, GNPO, R3C 4E7.

## ONTARIO

Kingston IWW Group—472 Albert Street, K7L 3W3, (613) 544-2382. Delegate: Brad Waugh (613) 549-6094.

Ottawa IWW Group—388 1/2 Kent Street, K2P 2A9, (613) 231-2922.

Toronto Group—11 Andrews Avenue, M6J 1S2, (416) 941-9945. Meetings first Thursday, 7 pm, each month, phone for location.

Blackbird Design Collective Job Shop (I.U. 450)—394 Euclid Ave., Suite 301, Toronto M6G 2S9, (416) 972-6293.

## UNITED KINGDOM

### ENGLAND

IWW Delegate—D. Czunys, 13 Wolsley, York, YO1 5BQ.

IWW Delegate—F. Lee, 22 Vicarage Lane, Belgrave, Leicester, LE4 5 PD, Phone: 0533-661835

## UNITED STATES

### ARKANSAS

IWW Delegate—P.O. Box 1403, Conway 72032.

### CALIFORNIA

Los Angeles contact—Dorice McDaniels, (310) 679-2570.

IWW Local 1/Mendocino/Humboldt GMB—Delegates: Judi Bari, P.O. Box 656, Willits, 95490. message phone: (707) 468-1660.

Riverside Group—Delegate: Kathy Light (714) 369-9799.

San Diego IWW—RMR Kroopkin, 2675 Fletcher Parkway #211, El Cajon 92020, (619) 460-2907.

San Francisco Bay Area GMB—1095 Market St., #204, 94103 (415) 863-WOBS.

Berkeley Recycling Center Job Shop (I.U. 670)—M. Carlstroem, 2515 Piedmont #8, 94607.

ASUC Recyclers at UC Berkeley, 620 Eshleman, 94720. Delegates: Kiri Soares and Karen Burnes (510) 642-4895.

New Earth Press Job Shop (I.U. 450)—1640 Addison, Berkeley, 94702. Delegate: Dave Karoly (510) 658-5377

Typesetting Etc. Job Shop (I.U. 450) — 1095 Market St. #210, SF CA 94103 (415) 626-2160.  
Santa Barbara Area IWW—S. Menard, (805) 968-8456.

## COLORADO

Denver/Boulder GMB—2412 E. Colfax, Denver 80206, (303) 388-1065. Office open Saturdays 9-12. Meetings, second Friday each month, 7 p.m. Delegates: Cliff Sundstrom, 910 E. 8th Ave. #202, Denver 80218. (313) 832-7602. Dave Frazer, Box 6, Rollinsville 80474. (303) 258-3732.  
P&L Printing Job Shop (I.U. 450), 2298 Clay, Denver 80211, (303) 433-1852.

## FLORIDA

Miami Area IWW Group, P.O. Box 1856, Miami Beach, 33119, (305) 534-7175. Delegate: J. Lewis.

## GEORGIA

Atlanta IWW Group—340 Elmira Place, 30307. (404) 524-1243.

## HAWAII

Honolulu Area IWW Group (808) 732-7027  
Delegate: D. Goldsmith

## IDAHO

Boise IWW Group—Delegate: W. Cohan, 2701 N. 29th St., 83703, (208) 343-1699.

## ILLINOIS

Chicago GMB—(New World Resource Center) 1476 W. Irving Park, 60613 (312) 549-5045. Meetings, first Friday 7:30 pm.

## LOUISIANA

New Orleans Area IWW Group—R. McCarthy, P.O. Box 15734, 70175-5734, (504) 899-0014.

## MAINE

Lewiston IWW Group—Contact: M. Lunt (207) 786-6273.

## MARYLAND

Baltimore Area GMB—R. Bey, Black Shield, Box 1681, Glen Burnie 21060, (301) 367-3024.

## MASSACHUSETTS

Boston GMB—23 Gorham #3, Somerville, MA 02144, (617) 629-2922. Meetings, second Sun. 2 pm. Delegates: Nora Smith, Dani Mavronicles.

## MICHIGAN

SE Michigan GMB—Albert Parsons (313) 769-0695 and Michael Kozura, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn, MI 48126, (313) 581-2065.

Ann Arbor Tenants' Union Job Shop (I.U. 670)—4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor 48109, (313) 763-6876. Delegate: Jeff Gearhart (313) 994-5477.

People's Warehouse Branch (I.U. 660)—727 W. Ellsworth, Ann Arbor 48108, (313) 769-8629. Delegates: Carol Landry, Mark Kaufmann (313) 483-3478.

N. Michigan—John Patterson P.O. Box 245, Conway 49722-0245.

## MINNESOTA

Minneapolis / St. Paul IWW Group—Box 2391, Loop Stn., 55402, (612) 339-5002. Delegate: Chris Shillock.

Duluth Area IWW Group—1514 N. 8th Ave. E., Duluth 55805. Delegate: Jack Rosenquist.

## MISSISSIPPI

Gulfport IWW Group—Contact: C.G. Streuly (601) 896-3515.

## MONTANA

IWW Contact: Mark Ross, 111 W. Quartz, Butte, 59701.

## NEVADA

Tahoe Area IWW—Larry Steinberg, P.O. Box 1114, Dayton 89403, (702) 246-3120.

## NEW YORK

New York GMB: Delegates: Brian Mahoney, 1717 N. Thompson Drive, Bay Shore, NY 11706 (516) 586-2103. Rochelle Semel, RD 1, Box 158-B, Hartwick, 13348 (607) 293-6489.

Socialist Party USA National Office Job Shop (I.U. 670)—516 W. 25th St. #404, NYC 10001. (212) 691-0776.

## OHIO

SW Ohio IWW Group—D.E. Slaton, Box 26416, Trotwood, 45426, (513) 854-0051.

## PENNSYLVANIA

Lehigh Valley GMB—P.O. Box 4133, Bethlehem 18018, Delegates: Lenny Flank Jr. (215) 759-7982, Mike D'Amore (215) 434-0218, Dennis Good (215) 921-2459.

Philadelphia Delegate—Tom Hill, P.O. Box 41928, Philadelphia 19101.

Wooden Shoe Books and Records Job Shop—112 S. 20th Street, Philadelphia 19103, (215) 569-2477.

## SOUTH CAROLINA

Harbinger Publications Job Shop (I.U. 450)—Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd., Columbia 29201, (803) 254-9398.

## TEXAS

Austin IWW Group—P.O. Box 49523, 78765 (512) 416-9619.

## UTAH

Salt Lake IWW Group—Tony Roehrig, P.O. Box 520514, Salt Lake City, UT 84152-0514. (801) 485-1969.

## VERMONT

Burlington Contacts—Anne Petermann and Orin Langelle, P.O. Box 804, Burlington 05402, (802) 658-2403.

## WASHINGTON

Bellingham GMB—P.O. Box 1580, 98227  
Tacoma/Olympia GMB & GDC Local 4—2115 S. Sheridan Ave., Tacoma 98405, (206) 272-8119.

Seattle IWW Group—P.O. Box 95686, 98145-2686, (206) 525-1336. Delegate: Wayne Taylor. Street of Crocodiles Letter Press Job Shop—P.O. Box 20610, Seattle 98102, (206) 726-5924

## WISCONSIN

Madison GMB—Box 2605, 53701, (608) 255-1800. Delegates: Tim Wong, Jerry Chernow. Lakeside Press Job Shop (I.U. 450)—1334 Williamson, Madison 53703, (608) 255-1800. Delegate: Jerry Chernow.

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# Anything To Avoid Democracy

## Bosses Kill Co-op Federation

Ten years of class war at the Michigan Federation of Food Cooperatives (MFoFC) culminated on February 29, when an illegal and fraudulent vote was taken to dissolve the Federation. The IWW General Distribution Workers (IU 660) has been the union at the MFoFC's "Peoples Warehouse" since April of 1983. The constant shop floor struggle along with periodic attempts to break the union provide the backdrop to the February 29th decision.

A worker/consumer coalition (spearheaded by IU 660) attempted to forestall the consolidation of MFoFC with North Farm Cooperative of Madison Wisconsin, but were unsuccessful. MFoFC was a wholly owned consumer cooperative operating in the lower peninsula of Michigan and parts of Indiana and Ohio. Its decision to consolidate with a producer cooperative out of Wisconsin signals the death of the consumer cooperative movement in Michigan.

IU 660 had been agitating for a reconstruction of the Federation for nearly two years. This agitation had resulted in a worker/consumer alliance which was threatening the clique control of the Board of Directors. Rather than see a rejuvenated democratic movement take control of the Federation, the new age rightist and middle management elitist who controlled the Board of Directors pushed thru an illegal vote to dissolve the Federation and consolidate with North Farm Cooperative.

IU 660 became the collective bargaining agent of the workers at the Peoples Warehouse in April of 1983. The union existed for nearly two years prior to becoming the bargaining agent. In the ten years we have been organized on the shop floor, we have been engaged in a near constant struggle against the management and Board of the Federation. Our day to day war for dignity and respect as workers has been punctuated by periodic struggles for survival, as management and the Board have attempted to break our Union.

The Federation was to celebrate its 20th anniversary this year. Originally launched by "new wave" co-ops in the late 60's and early 70's the Federation reached its peak of membership in the early 80's. Founded by social activists

in Ann Arbor, Lansing and Detroit the MFoFC represented the most radical consumer ownership structure allowable under the capitalist system. Ownership in the Federation was held in "common" with one member one vote. The Bylaws of the Federation explicitly stated that the Federation and its member co-ops were "anti-profit". The slogan of the "Peoples Warehouse" since its inception has been "Food for People Not for Profit". All member co-ops had to be "non-profit" entities, and until 1981 the workers of the Federation "collectively managed" the economic enterprises of the Federation.

In the late 70's and early 80's the Federation experienced rapid growth, going from a 2 million dollar enterprise with under 100 member co-ops to over

Resisting discriminatory and retaliatory management practices has occupied most of our union work on a day to day basis. During contract struggles we have launched offensives to expand participatory management while defending our egalitarian pay structure. Our commitment to defending our egalitarian pay structure (everyone, receptionist, warehouse, truckers, millers and order takers all make the same base wage with family size and overtime being the only basis of pay differentials) proved to be intolerable to management. Utilizing every divisive tactic imaginable, from promoting racism and sexism in the workplace to simply pandering to the scissorbills who think they are worth more than the next person, the board and management attempted to undermine our commitment to equality.

Three years ago the Board of the Federation committed itself to

last 8 months ending in the dissolution of the Federation.

So fearful of our threat, the Board of Directors embarked on a business plan geared to place us into bankruptcy rather than allow any resources to fall into the hands of our alliance. This last battle really began nearly two years ago when they replaced Souchy with a G.M.

by the name of Fairchild. Several members of the branch warned that this guy would be just like all the others and we needed to stay on the attack. Most members of the branch were exhausted by the previous struggle and desired a truce as much as the Board and Management seemed too. Our shop floor struggle dampened as we attempted to find grounds for cooperation with the new management. Our educational efforts among the consumer owners also slowed down. This attempt at a truce in the end proved to be our undoing. By the time we realized that "cooperation" was all a subterfuge on there part we had lost valuable months, that in the end we were unable to make up for.

The last two months have seen as bitter a struggle in the work place as any that have preceded it. Attempts at physical intimidation of order takers and receptionists by management lackeys is common, at least 6 of my fellow workers have been threatened with criminal prosecution, the fear of being set-up for theft is pervasive, (they have attempted to set up people for drugs in the past, so being set-up for crimes is a real possibility), all of this with the goal of restricting our right to free speech. The Board and Management don't want the member owners to know how badly they have ruined the Federation.

Despite the threats and intimidation our solidarity has remained unbroken. We continue to work "by the rule", and since they have begun laying off we have refused to work overtime. Though they are pulling our worksite out from under us, we expect our union to survive. We are developing a variety of mutual-aid projects to help us all while on unemployment, and intend to expand these projects as more and more of Michigan joins us on the unemployment dole (G.M.s Willow Run assembly plant is two miles from my home, and the 6,000 UAW members working there will be joining me and my family in the next year).

AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL, SOLIDARITY FOREVER!

## 10 Years of Class War

8 million and nearly 500 member co-ops in less than 3 years. This growth radically changed the composition of the Federation. Many of the new co-ops were religiously based and most were from rural areas (organized by the cooperative extension service of the Michigan Department of Agriculture). By 1981 the Board of Directors of the Federation were dominated by right wing pro-capitalist middle management types, "new age" mystic and outright racist KKK. (From the early 80's thru 86 the Board President was rumored to also be a Grand Dragon of the KKK - members of his co-op would later be tried in the late 80's with various right wing groups for armored car robberies and murder.)

In 1981 this right-wing board of directors formed an alliance with several opportunistic staff members to destroy the worker collective management. This triumph by the Board led to the establishment of a "traditional" management structure. The staff of the Federation reduced to the "simple" role of workers began looking for a new method for continuing their struggle. They found that method in IU 660 of the Industrial Workers of the World.

Our primary role as the union has been to put into practice the ideal of "an injury to one is an injury to all."

destroying the union at all cost. They brought in an entirely new crew of managers (we have eaten up and spit out nearly a dozen General Managers in our 10 years of existence). Chief among them was a union buster by the name of Souchy. He was fresh from destroying two UAW locals (over 600 union members lost their jobs thanks to this scumbag), and I'm sure he thought we would be a push over. 18 months of nearly constant war on the shop floor resulted in us winning substantial pay increases and everyone of the union busters they had hired being let go. The cost of this war to the cooperative though was quite substantial with nearly \$200,000 in losses for the year.

It was during this struggle in 1988 and 1989 that the union decided it would no longer remain confined to the shop floor. We formed an education committee to agitate and educate among the consumers owners. This led to the formation of the worker consumer alliance for democratic cooperation within the Federation. This alliance broke the hegemony of the pro-capitalists on the Board of Directors and was looking to the establishment of a new radical majority on the Board with the elections this spring. It was this reality looming on the horizon that led to a series of decisions by the right wing majority on the Board over the

## The Warehouse is Dead -- Long Live the IWW!

by Martin St. John  
member IWW IU 670

The demise of People's Warehouse is a warning and reminder to all of us: corruption and backward politics can show up anywhere, even in "progressive" organizations. But just as



none of our victories are complete, so our losses aren't total either. The ten year struggle at the Warehouse saw many Wobbly victories with effects, locally and throughout the Federation and the IWW, going far beyond the shop floor.

Sellouts using our words are not unique to the Warehouse, or to the co-op movement.

I went to the meeting where the murder of the Michigan Federation of Food Cooperatives (MFoFC) and its warehouse, the People's Warehouse was consummated. I never worked at the Warehouse. I was a consumer member of a buying club, and a member of IWW IU 670.

The Warehouse wobblies were not alone. Some consumer members understood what changing the slogan from "Food for People Not for Profit", to "Food for People" meant, and fought that tendency in their local co-ops.

Talking in the hallways to members of another buying club, one of them said, "These yuppie scumbags have no understanding of cooperatives and how they relate to unions and anarchism."

At one extremely frustrating point, a Warehouse Wobbly ran up the auditorium aisle screaming at people to listen to what was really happening. And while I wonder why we didn't all scream most of the afternoon, I also know we couldn't have awakened anyone. The battle was lost long before

that meeting.

What I smelled at the meeting was a union busting. I heard "cooperative movement people", with so much responsibility they were able to destroy from above, say, "A cooperative is a corporation and we're going to run it like one." It was clearly a sign that the movement character that birthed the Warehouse and the Federation had lost out to the "pragmatic" business types.

It was the KKK type managers' alignment with opportunists on staff that set the Federation on the road to ruin. But it took new age, wu-wu fascists in cooperative drag to kill it.

It took people who use our language and symbols as a shield to destroy a piece of our movement. They don't wear sheets, but ... like any scabs, they conspired in secret, told lies in public, to do the movement damage, while the workers busily took care of the day to day organizing and advancing the food co-op movement.

Wobbly singer Utah Phillips says, "The planet is not being destroyed, it is being killed, and the killers have names and addresses." Same here. We know who they are.

Two MFoFC board members have also held responsible positions in the housing co-op "movement" -- they sold out there, too. One of them has recently been hired at a newly unionized local enterprise with "progressive" roots -- to bust the union. Wanted-poster

type warnings are being posted. The other is maneuvering to pick up some financial goodies from the demise of the Federation. He may yet learn that Wobblies have long memories.

The IWW members at the Warehouse spread the sparks of industrial democracy for ten years. They fired bosses, served the people, and struggled to build and defend a collective resource. They will continue to have an effect, in the local community and the IWW, beyond their own numbers. To them the class struggle is a daily thing, an everyday life thing, waged in lots of little battles, uncompromising, maybe only partially won but always worth it, always building.

### ANOTHER DAY, ANOTHER STRUGGLE

The Warehouse IWW carried on a decade long struggle in the best wobbly tradition. So with revolutionary love to my friends and comrades at the Warehouse, who are now joining the thousands of other unemployed workers around here -- thank you for fighting the good fight, we'll be together again for the next one, we'll slay some more scabs and bosses together. And maybe, just maybe, we'll dance together into a liberated future. The fascist -- whether Bush-ist or wu-wu -- alternative is nothing we want to see. NO COMPROMISE!

UNCED:

continued from p. 1

Of course, all this planning is behind closed doors. Women, workers, aboriginal peoples--effectively excluded from any meaningful participation or voice. Women led by Bella Abzug had to force their way into the NYC sessions on women. Once inside they discovered that nothing of importance was being said -- just a bunch of sedate bureaucrats going through the usual motions.

Throw a wrench in this minimalist and bogus process! Actions are happening all during the NY 'Prepcomm'. Organize!

# International Notes

## SUGAR WORKERS STRIKE IN JAMAICA

A nationwide strike by 8000 sugar workers has shut down Jamaica's sugar industry. The workers are organized into 3 unions, the National Workers Union (NWX), the Bustamante Industrial Trade Union (BITU) and the University and Allied Workers Union (UAWU). Workers at all 9 of Jamaica's "sugar estates" are organized and striking.

Workers are refusing to budge from the demand for a 200% wage increase. The bosses Federation is offering a 50% increase. Cane cutters are fed up with poor working conditions. With the inflation rate shooting up, the amount earned from cutting a ton of sugar cane is not enough to buy a loaf of bread.

The strike was timed to match the harvest of the cane in order to put pressure on the bosses.

## SALVADORAN UNIONIST MURDERED

Nazario de Jesus Gracia, 34, was tortured and killed March 1 by unknown assailants who broke into the offices of the Federation of Independent Unions of El Salvador. The federation's secretary general, Jose Antonio Chavez, said the murder was "in the typical death-squad style. ... We are very worried about this because it could be the prelude to a bloodbath." Right-wing death squads connected to El Salvador's armed forces and security corps, and trained and funded by the US government, murdered thousands during the 1980s.

## TIN MINERS STRUGGLE IN BOLIVIA

The state mining corporation, COMIBOL, was created after the 1952 Revolution in Bolivia that nationalized mines formerly held by tin barons. COMIBOL controlled 75% of the country's mining until 1985.

COMIBOL being a government corporation was used to create jobs for party members, and became increasingly bureaucratic. The ratio of surface to underground workers went from 30:70 to 65:35 in two decades, and no new mines were opened since COMIBOL was created. With a crash of tin prices in 1985, many mines were closed, leaving 23,000 jobless.

After 1985 a process of privatization began, under pressure from international financiers. COMIBOL became a holding company, and the Bolivian government adopted a new "mining code" which provides attractive terms for private investors. It enables investors to obtain mining rights and to take all capital profits out of Bolivia.

The miners' union, FSTMB, has been the strongest opponent of privatization. Bolivian governments have never provided basic services to the population, but the constant struggles and fighting spirit of the miners' union, FSTMB, forced COMIBOL to provide health care and education in the mining centres. These social services for miners and their families are now seen as too expensive. The FSTMB union, as well as independent mining cooperatives say the new investment code is a sellout of natural resources.

In August 1985 as part of the IMF restructuring plan to de-index wages and outlaw strikes, a state of emergency resulted. In the words of Gonzalo Sanchez de Losada (IMF flunkie), "we captured the trade union leaders and deported them to the interior of the country... We closed down Comibol, the state mining consortium and fired 24,000 workers in addition to some 50,000 public employees."

Edgar Ramirez of the miners union says, "We believe that minerals belong to Bolivia, and the wealth they produce should benefit the country, not private companies. We fear that if COMIBOL is closed, we will have fewer services and have to live under worse conditions." The union has managed to stall the plans of some foreign companies. But development "experts"

say the union has no viable plan to get COMIBOL into a competitive position.

Advocates of COMIBOL restructure admit that a state run corporation could be equally competitive. "(Bolivia) has developed very little capacity to negotiate," says Mr. Jordan of the Centre for Mining Studies and Development. "The government has a tendency to accept whatever is offered in an indiscriminate attempt to attract capital, without imposing conditions. So the companies interested are those that seek to maximize short-term earnings..." (sources: IDRC Report; Third World Resurgence)

Last month, Industrial Worker reported that miners had agreed to end a 42-day strike, after the army was used to back the government. The union failed to stop privatization, but obtained a promise from the government to stop attacking coca farmers, and a wage increase.



## KENYA POLICE BEAT WANGARI MAATHAI

### Critical Condition

March 3 - 50 women were clubbed and gassed by police in central Nairobi. The women had been on hunger strike to free political prisoners. Wangari Maathai, 53 is a well known environmental activist and member of the Forum for Restoration of Democracy, an opponent of the government who was arrested recently for helping expose plans for a military coup. Maathai severely beaten and was in critical condition in hospital. Despite the beatings and gas, women stayed in the park and hurled insults at the surrounding police men.

ANKARA March 3 - A coal mine explosion killed at least 13 miners and injured at least 52 others. The methane blast was at Incirharmain Pit in northwest Zonguldak province. Rescue operations were hampered by gas buildup.

## YEMENI UNIONS CONDUCT GENERAL STRIKE

The General Federation of Trades Unions is demanding a 25% cost of living increase and a 12.5% increase in pensions. A general strike was held March 1 with another scheduled for March 15. The March 1 strike shut down all airports and the largest seaport at Aden.

## GENERAL STRIKE IN LEBANON

Lebanese workers held a nation wide general strike on March 6 called by the Confederation of Trade Unions. Most schools and businesses were shut down for the day. Beirut International Airport was closed for two hours. The CTU called the strike in response to a rapidly rising cost of living and threaten to engage in an open ended general strike if the government fails to lessen the economic pain of working people. During an open ended general strike workers would be able to produce and distribute goods in a better way than the current "free enterprise" system.

## SOUTH KOREAN DRAMATIST JAILED

The Nationalist Artists Association (Sonduk Bld. 3 floor, 3-2 Dangju-dong, Chongno-ku, Seoul, South Korea; Fax 02-735-2408) in South Korea has appealed for international support for Park In-bae, a 38-year-old stage director sentenced to two years in prison on charges of violating the publications law by issuing unauthorized cassette tapes ("Collection of Labor Songs" and "The Iron Worker") containing protest songs which the presiding judge ruled "ignite labor activists to go on radical strikes." Park was chairman of the Seoul Workers Cultural Movement Association (Sonomunhyop), an umbrella body of 10 drama, music, dance and fine arts groups. He is also a diabetic, and the Nationalist Artists Association fears that he will be unable to survive the prison's primitive medical facilities. They ask that people send statements of solidarity, and protest letters to the government urging

amnesty for Park In-bae and other political prisoners and protesting repression of artistic expression.

## POLAND ANARCHISTS: NO TO CAPITALISM

The following is excerpted from a Polish Anarchist Federation resolution adopted at its 1991 national congress: "While the economic breakdown is getting deeper and the social and political crisis sharper, it becomes clear that the world of working people does not accept the situation imposed by the post-Solidarnosc power camp. The testimony of this are the increasing wave of uncoordinated and spontaneous strikes... as well as the legal means used by the ruling crew to limit the possibility of organizing in trade unions and to smash strike actions and protests organized outside of and apart from the official structures..."

"The ideological model of so-called privatization, imposed by the 'apparatchicks' of the former 'Solidarnosc' and the private financial mafias of the former Communist Party will lead in fact to full and ultimate expropriation of the workers, that is giving the social wealth into the hands of a narrow group of enriched and privileged functionaries... eagerly undertaking 'capitalist' and 'liberal' phraseology.

"Giving back the ownership rights of the social wealth into the hands of a not numerous group of contemporary 'oligarchs,' or leaving it in the hands of servile state functionaries, is giving into the hands of this group the whole political power—that means giving it the possibility to form the whole social system. This is the end not only of the syndicalist movement, of the influence of the workers on economic administration (not to mention workers undertaking the factories...), but also the end of freedom and democracy for all and the coming back to the totalitarian practice of unlimited power by a narrow group of the privileged. We have to mobilize all the forces to prevent this..."

"Only the general strike can lead to a radical change in the direction of the economic and social transformations in

Poland, Only the general strike can stop the stealing of social wealth by the old and new nomenclature [those appointed by the Communists to administrative positions]. Only the general strike can lead to the undertaking of the workplaces by the workers. Then only the general strike can guarantee the full realization of human rights and smash down the dreams of some about a red, black [church], or even a green dictatorship! No organization nor their alliances can realize the general strike. It will be the work of the workers themselves.

"But it is possible to accelerate its break-out by joining workers' struggles for everyday economic interests, the struggle against bureaucratic administrative structures and the unions' nomenclature, and the struggles to respect workers rights. And particularly:

"Clear and as far as possible practical support for wild [cat] strikes; contacts with every independent unions... directly with the workers or during actions, to [encourage] the general overtaking of social property by the workers and overtaking of the social functions of the state by the syndicates and other social organizations; actions towards changing the trade unions and collective conflicts bill—which means abolishing state permission and control over union activity..."

"These matters are not narrow party or group interests, but the future form and freedom space of society and the influence it will have over decisions directly concerning it."

The congress also adopted resolutions opposing continued repression of dissidents, increased church control over society, continuing control over the media, compulsory military service, narcotics laws, and increased taxes. It is increasingly clear that, despite the celebrations of the politricksters and the bosses, our East European fellow workers are not interested in trading in their Stalinist bosses for a bunch of capitalists. (Information from: On Gogol Boulevard)

## GREECE PUBLIC WORKERS STRIKE

Athens - Public service workers unions in Greece are responding to a government imposed wage freeze with work stoppages and strikes. In addition to cancelling all wage increases in 1992 the government is planning strict enforcement measures including fines and firings of those who oppose it. Strike actions include a 48 hour strike by bank, post office, railway and telecommunications workers, a 24 hour strike by water company and refinery workers and two strikes by power workers. Urban transport workers are conducting rush hour work stoppages.

## GREEK POLITICAL CRACKDOWN

More than a hundred Greek anarchists and student militants were arrested in three separate incidents in a week-long show of force by Greek authorities. Many have already been convicted and imprisoned. Others mounted a hunger-strike and were released pending appeal, while others were released without charge.

On October 26, 1991, students demonstrated against proposals for education "reform" at the Polytechnic. By tradition, but also by law, police are prohibited from entering the campus, but school authorities granted permission for police to enter the campus when a fire broke out. Police then attacked the crowd, arresting 32 people. The cause of the fire has not been determined, but the head of the school has said he thinks the fire was started by police.

Under Greek law, anyone "caught while committing a crime" can be sent directly to trial, making defense difficult to prepare. The 32 defendants were convicted within a week, and given penalties ranging from fines to seven years in jail (the latter for throwing a box on a fire).

On Nov. 2, 33 more people were arrested as they were putting up posters to protest the original arrests, speedy trials and harsh sentences. The slogan

for one of the posters read: "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a politician, journalist or cop to tell the truth." A second poster compared the framing of the anarchists on arson charges to the 1933 burning of the Reichstag in Germany by the Nazis, which was blamed on the communists. They were charged with illegal posting, obstructing traffic, mobilizing people against the state, spreading false information, and damaging public property.

These 33 defendants immediately began a 10-day hunger-strike, demanding their release. The trial began Nov. 4, two days after their arrests and all 33 were convicted of the illegal posting charge and sentenced to 6 months in prison. They were released Nov. 13 pending appeal. No one has ever before been convicted on this charge--everyone posters, including political parties.

More than 45 people were arrested at the demonstration the posters were promoting, but were released without charges. These acts of repression in Greece are not likely to be isolated to students, especially considering that Greece has been hard hit by the recession, privatization, and the implementation of a structural adjustment program ordered by the International Monetary Fund/World Bank. Greece has seen recent general strikes, a spate of other major strikes and resistance to Greece's role in the Gulf War. (from Ecomedia Bulletin)

#### EUROPEAN UNEMPLOYMENT RISES

Brussels - Unemployment in the 12-nation European Community continued to rise in January with the overall average at 9.3 % up from 9.2 % in December. The unemployment rate rose 10 % between January 1991 -- when it was 8.4 % -- and January 1992. Unemployment did not lessen in any EC member state over the year. Largest increases occurred in Italy, Belgium, Denmark and France (7 - 10 %), and especially Ireland (13 %) and Britain (30 %) according to Eurostat, the statistical office of the EC.

#### WOBBLY ART IN VIENNA

IWW artists Carlos Cortez and Mike Konopacki were featured in an art show called "The Other America" in Vienna Austria throughout the winter. The show, which has also appeared in Berlin, London and Stockholm, was held in the educational center of the Arbeiter Kammer (Worker Chamber). Austrian Wobblies ensured that workers who attended the show are now aware the IWW is a living organization, by distributing copies of the unions' introductory pamphlet and a leaflet detailing the worker/environmental organizing in Northern California.

The Arbeiter Kammers were established following World War I in every Austrian state, to serve as information and social centers. Another relic of those days are the Betriebsrate or shop stewards in almost every big factory and shop. While 75% of workers are union members, there are no strikes. "A reason," says IWW member Gunnar Nattkamper, "for presenting the IWW in Austria."



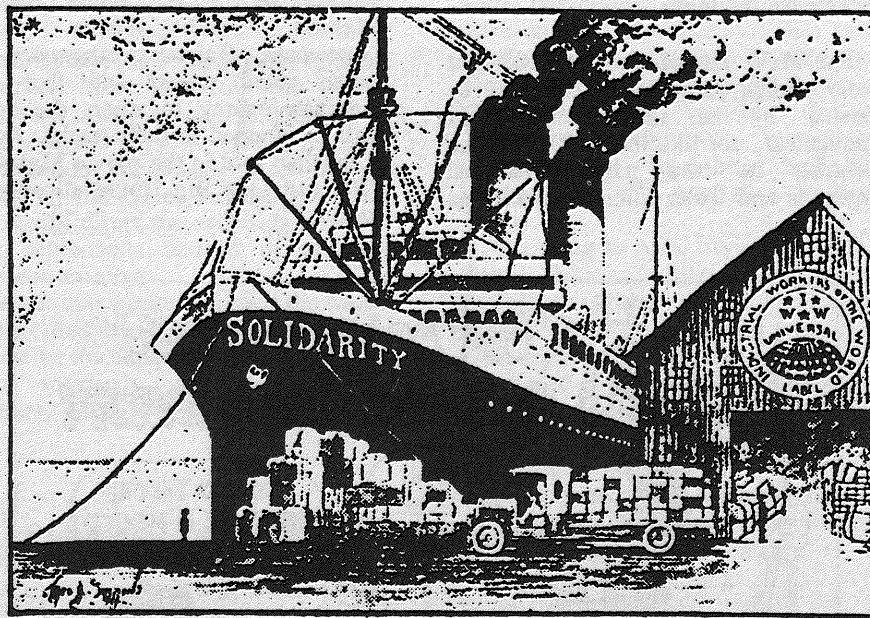
#### 15,000 GERMAN BANK WORKERS STRIKE

Demanding a 10.5 % pay increase, 15,000 bank employees across Germany struck on February 28. According to Hartmut Friedrich of the German Employees Union (DAG) 2000 workers in Berlin shut down 80 of 500 bank branches. In the state of Saarland more than 250 banks were paralyzed by the strike. Bank workers also struck successfully in Mainz, Freiburg, Goetting, Munich, and Frankfurt. Unions are demanding a 10.5 percent increase for 430,000 bank workers. Bosses, who had offered only 5 % are now indicating a desire to settle for the 6.34 % negotiated in the metal working industries.

#### EAST GERMAN WORKERS OCCUPY SHIP YARD

Rostock - Fearing unemployment as a result of privatization, ship building workers in the former East Germany seized 2 ship yards. On February 24, 6000 workers at a shipyard and a diesel engine factory in Rostock, and a shipyard in Wismar took control of their workplaces. On March 1 the main gates of the Neptun-Warnow Werft shipbuilding company just north of Rostock were blocked with heavy anchors by the 3400 workers there.

The occupiers are continuing to do the work, in an effort according to works council chairman at the Neptun-Warnow shipyard, Bernd Heydrich, to avoid jeopardising the few remaining ship building orders for the company. A major demand of the workers is that the state of Mecklenburg-West Pomerania take action to support the formerly East German state-owned shipyards.



#### SWEDISH SYNDICALISTS UNDER ATTACK

The Central Organization of Swedish Workers (SAC) reports that the new right-wing coalition government is continuing the social-democrats' anti-labor policies, attacking health care and unemployment benefits, freezing wages, etc. Although the government cannot "afford" social programs, it has loaned several million to the NordBanken to subsidize bad loans to stock speculators.

SAC postal workers have returned to work after a management lockout. When management introduced a new mail sorting machine into the workplace without consulting the workers, SAC members refused to operate the machine. After a few months (including brief sympathy strikes by other postal workers), the bosses put guards at the doors to keep out union members and refused to negotiate, declaring that SAC is a "non-negotiable" organization. Workers ultimately agreed to work the machine in order to end the lockout, but did secure an agreement for better work schedules and that workers would be able to participate in future reorganizations. SAC is launching a magazine for postal workers.

SAC also reports that it has won a struggle at one of Sweden's largest breweries. Although there were only a few SAC members in the plant when SAC put a dangerous machine under blockade, workplace solidarity and sympathy protests from all over the world have forced management to replace the machine with a much safer one. In the course of the struggle SAC also signed up several new members in the brewery.

#### REVOLUTIONARY UNIONS IN FRANCE

The French National Confederation of Labor (CNT) recently won back pay for employees in sports and leisure centres after the local government increased deductions and eliminated holiday pay.

A majority of workers at the SPES company voted for CNT candidates in elections to workplace committees (in France unions in larger workplaces are

not allowed to represent their members directly, instead they must work through "representative" councils). The bosses responded by circulating a leaflet in the name of the "Employees and Members of SPES Workplace Committee Delegates Free

Organization" that indicates that the CNT has them worried: "We say No! to gratuitous and political violence... No! to a joke union... We say Enough! to all of this. We are counting on... [workers] to build SPES for tomorrow through dialogue and negotiation..."

Meanwhile workers at the Paris metro are also turning to the CNT. A CNT candidate was elected in the recent elections, and the company is responding with transfers and racial insults against CNT supporters. The CNT is working to expand its organization to other metro workplaces. (from Direct Action #77)

defeated. The franchise shopfronts will be self-serve, and customers will only be able to buy stamps in bulk and in plastic packages. It is expected that franchises will open and close according to the whims of the market. Relocation of suburban delivery staff from local post offices to large delivery centres is likely to reduce sorting and delivery standards.

"The sale of our public assets is very short sighted, because leasing will be more expensive in the long term," says KAPP spokesperson Phil Young. "We are not opposed to change, but these changes don't make any sense. They are driven by the ideology of privatisation."

KAPP may be contacted at PO Box 100, Carlton South 3053.

#### Union calls for ban on 'nerve gas' pesticide

By Bronwen Beechey  
Green Left Weekly

MELBOURNE - The Australian Workers Union says the health of fruit pickers is being endangered by uncontrolled use of the pesticide parathion, and is demanding that the government ban its use. Parathion is used in the fruit industry to kill codling moth.

Dr. Yossi Berger, AWU health and safety officer, said this: "Parathion was originally developed in the 1940s by Nazi Germany for use as a nerve gas. There is well-documented evidence of its toxicity, and in fact it was banned in Malaysia in the 1950s. Bayer Australia (the company that sells the chemical), is claiming that the variety of the pesticide they are using, methyl parathion, is safer than ethyl parathion, which they withdrew from the market several years ago. While it is true that methyl parathion has a slightly higher lethal dose (i.e. it takes more to kill you), both ethyl and methyl parathion are classed by the World Health Organisation as highly toxic.

Parathion acts on the nervous system, disturbing neural communication. The early symptoms of exposure are similar to those of influenza, which Berger points out make it particularly dangerous because workers often don't realise that they are poisoned. If the exposure continues or a large amount is absorbed, the symptoms develop to convulsions, respiratory failure, coma and death.

The most recent case of poisoning occurred in the South Australian fruit-growing town of Renmark, where two workers required medical treatment after a 20 kg. container of parathion burst. "We are aware of about six or seven cases in Victoria over the last 10 months," Berger says, "but there is very little documentation. This is one area that we want the inquiry to cover."

Bayer spokesperson Roger Loveless claimed in the January 30 AGE that "a fair bit of hysteria" had been whipped up. He stated that the pesticide "is being used responsibly and people that are using it know what they are doing."

"How does he know that people are using it responsibly?" says Berger. "Anyone who has worked with pesticides will tell you that a lot of farmers have a John Wayne sort of attitude - they won't wear protective clothing, they don't mix the concentrate properly, they just go out and spray everywhere. Conditions for fruit pickers are notoriously bad - we've had cases where the employer hasn't provided drinking water or proper toilets, or has expected workers to stay in accommodation you wouldn't put a dog in. If the employers won't provide decent accommodation or facilities for their workers, they're not likely to worry too much about exposing them to chemicals."

If exposure to parathion is so dangerous, what is the effect of eating fruit that has been sprayed with it?

"Not enough studies have been done on the possible effects of pesticide residue in food," Berger said. "We do know that around Shepparton, crops are being sprayed about every three weeks with little regard for withholding periods before harvest."

#### ENGLAND - WHERE'S THE MAIL?

During a prolonged strike at Grunwick's in London, strike-breakers were moved in to handle the mostly mail-order film processing work. Local postal workers attempted to suspend deliveries to the factory to support the strikers but were prohibited from doing so by legal maneuvers. Three months later, postal workers in Sydney, Australia, were surprised to find that sacks of mail--recently unloaded from a mail ship--contained packages for a firm called Grunwick in London.



#### Australian Postal Workers Fight Cutbacks

By David Johanson Green Left Weekly

MELBOURNE - Rank and file postal workers have launched a campaign called Keep Australia Post Public (KAPP) and are calling for support in their fight to save Australia's post offices and their jobs. Under Australia Post management's latest gimmick, Retail Post, 25% of post offices could be closed.

Australia Post has launched this program of closure and mass retrenchment at a time when it is recording record profits (\$144 million last financial year). While Prime Minister Paul Keating proclaims jobs as the number one priority, Australia Post is planning to shed at least 1800 jobs in five years, in the process turning the postal network upside down and risking severe damage to one of the world's most successful and profitable public utilities.

The Australia Post plan involves replacing traditional, full-service, post offices with business centres, amalgamated delivery centres and new retail franchises. Staff fear these changes will severely reduce the quality of postal advice and service.

It is expected that 77 Victorian country post offices will be among the first to go if the proposal is not

## THE GLOBAL REALITY of MultiNational Production

by x341341

Lately, people in the US have been treated to another round of "Buy American" nonsense, from corporate executives as well as "labor unions". Labor militants, however, see this "Japan-bashing" for what it really is -- a smokescreen for the bosses.

The very people who scream the loudest about halting the Japanese "takeover" of the US are making money from it. The US auto executives, those overpaid incompetent cry-babies, constantly rail against Japanese car-makers, but never acknowledge that they own a good chunk of those Japanese industries. General Motors, for instance, owns 38% of Isuzu, and the Ford Motor Company owns 25% of Mazda. Chrysler owns 11% of Mitsubishi. For these people to cry "buy American" is ludicrous. Car companies are no longer "Japanese" or "American" -- they are "Japerican" and "Ameranese".

Not that there isn't a certain logic to Chrysler's cry of "Buy American." After all, if you buy a Chrysler, Lee Iacocca and his cronies get all of the

money, but if you buy a Mitsubishi, poor Lee only gets 11% of the money, and we all know he can't pay back his government bail-outs that way.

The Japan-bashers would have a hard time defining just what products are "American". The Plymouth Laser sports car and the Mitsubishi Eclipse, for instance, are made in the same factory in Illinois. The Ford Probe and the Mazda MX6 are made in the same plant in Michigan. My father, who drives a Honda, was once confronted by an irate worker who demanded that he buy an "American car". My father calmly responded, "This car was made in Kentucky". Apparently, the "Buy American" crowd thinks it is more "patriotic" to buy a Ford that was assembled in Korea from parts made in Brazil and Mexico than it is to buy a Mitsubishi that was made in Illinois. I fail to see the logic.

The IWW has always declared that international corporations can only be beaten by an international labor movement, not like the AFL-CIO that protects its own narrow national interests and treats foreign workers as

enemies. It makes no difference to us whether our labor is exploited by a Japanese owner or an American one, or by a partnership of both - they are one enemy.

The real fight is not between the Americans and the Japanese. It is between those who work for their living and those who have other people work for their living; Japanese workers work for their living; American owners don't. That's all we need to know.

The solution lies not in some protectionist "Buy American" program, but in One Big Union of all the workers in the world. An auto worker in Detroit has much more in common with an auto worker in Osaka than either has in common with their bosses. As long as Ford and GM have repressive non-union countries to move to, they will do so.

If however they face a united international labor movement, they will no longer be able to move their corporate assets around the globe to seek out maximum profits. When workers in the US, Canada, Britain, Mexico, South Africa, Brazil, Guatemala, Taiwan, Singapore and Japan stand united and face their common enemy together, the bosses will be stopped in their tracks. As Joe Kennehan said in the movie *Matewan*, "It's just One Big Union all over the world."

## RUSSIA

**MEDICAL STRIKE:** Perm doctors decided January 14th to support the all-Russian medical personnel strike called for January 29th. Before the strike the union passed through all the proceedings provided for by the law, but neither the conciliatory commission nor the court of arbitration could solve anything. The medics' main conclusion was that it was impossible to go on as before because more and more often they have to state: "The patient died because of the lack of the medicines."

Medical establishments in Samara organized pre-strike actions - rallies and pickets of the local administration from the 27th to the 31st of January - leading to a general strike of the medics of the region for February 5th. The budget for medical care in the region is only 28% of that of previous years. On January 28th all the patients of the largest city hospital signed an appeal supporting medical personnel. Other hospitals also got patients' signatures.

**STRIKE A'LA KIEV:** Many enterprises have stopped production in connection with the new economic situation and have forced their workers to go on unpaid leave. But according to the law on forced leave, the administration has to pay workers two-thirds of their wages. Independent unions insist that the law be implemented. Thus the association of the Solidarity Trade Unions of the Ukraine threatened the administration of the "Promsvyaz" plant that the 5,000 workers now forced to go on leave would return to the plant and pretend to work. They were paid the money due them.

**VORKUTA:** Auxiliary workers of the "Yur-Shor" mine stopped work on January 8th not satisfied with the wages of 1400-1800 rubles a month. They demanded back pay and a wage increase to 75% of the miners' salary (4000 rubles). The miners along with the administration tried to work out a new system of wages [based on piece rates].

Miners are concerned with the government's decision to turn mining enterprises into holding companies with 100% control belonging to the State. A delegation of "Yur-Shor" will visit Moscow to present its own program for mines' development based on worker's participation in their ownership to the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) and the Innovation Council of Russia.

## RUSSIA

**KNOWLEDGE IS POWER:** A seminar for the activists of independent union and workers' organizations was held for the first time in Moscow on January 17th - 21th. It was organized by the workers' movement information center "KAS-KOR" jointly with the Swedish Workers' Center (SAC), a Swedish syndicalist union numbering more than 13,000 members. Twenty workers' organizations and independent Trade Unions from Russia, the Ukraine, Belarus, Lithuania and Estonia participated in the seminar. They discussed problems of the history of the workers' movement and unions, union activities in the West, and problems of privatization, social security, and collective agreements.

**KASAKHSTAN SHAKHTINSK-KARAGANDA** A month-long strike at the "Tentetskaya" and other mines was settled January 16th. The chief demands put forward by the strikers are the following: wages sufficient to buy enough food to restore physical strength, provision of food and items of urgent necessity, 15% of coal output to be the miners' collective property. Coal managers have rejected their demand to receive a part of the extracted coal, and claim that other questions concerning food and goods supplies are outside their jurisdiction. The striking miners then met workers at other mines. As a result, miners from Kazakhstanskaya, Shakhtinskaya, Saranskaya and other mines joined the strike.

The strike ended January 16th when the government met the chief demand of the strikers, giving 15% of the extracted coal to the miners as their collective property. But the Central strike committee is continuing its activities. It consists of 20 members who will see to it that all the demands of the miners are met. The administration has failed to meet some miners' demands. If all the demands are not met, miners will resume the strike.

**CATCHING THE FISH:** A strike committee of fishermen has been created in Kamchatka Peninsula. The Russian government has signed an agreement with Performance Contracting Group, a US firm, giving it the right to fish in Russian waters for 10 years and to catch 330,000 tons of fish annually. This will lead to the unemployment of thousands of Russian fishermen, which in turn will result in closures of fisheries and dismissals of port workers. As many as 75% of the region's population may ultimately lose their jobs. The strike committee is asking American fishermen for support and demanding that President Yeltsin prohibit foreign fishing ships in Russian waters.



## THIS WOULD BE TRULY REVOLUTIONARY Gender Equality & Radical Unions

Fifty percent of the world's population are women.

Seventy five percent of the work is done by women.

Ten percent of the wages are paid to women.

One percent of the property in the world is owned by women.

These figures were on feminist posters, probably from the seventies. I don't know the source, and figures are always abstract and dependent on how you use them.

Still, I'm convinced that there is a reality behind these percentages. I have heard scientists claim that by the year 2000, poverty can be personified by a 15 year old non-white woman. Globally, women are an economic underclass. People are subject to economic and social oppression - what revolutionary unionists are fighting - not only for class or race reasons, but also depending on gender.

It's still women that do most of the unpaid and therefore invisible house work. Women get paid less than men even if they do the same kind of work.

Above all, men and women don't have the same jobs and you can criticize this because of the different experiences we have. But the catastrophic thing is that our work is valued so differently.

Many more women than men work in the reproductive sector, taking care of children, the elderly, and the sick. That is nothing a capitalist can profit from - capitalism only values productive work,



even if reproduction is necessary. Therefore the workers movement/unions has had the productive sector as the main area of struggle.

The Syndicalist and Anarchist movement claims to be against wage slavery, so hopefully we can come to an understanding that we all are working people and must be valued accordingly. It certainly is not obvious. Our structures and ideologies are also products of a world where half the population, the male population, has been held up as the norm. In SAC's declaration of principles this problem is only mentioned in a comment, not in the main text. Only in one sentence; "Women are still discriminated against in the labor market."

If I, as a woman, am supposed to take the revolutionary struggle for a better future seriously, then we have to present a well thought out view on the relationship between women and men - economically, politically, and socially. This would truly be revolutionary.

The hierarchy between men and women is one of the oldest examples of power and oppression.

To actively question the relationship between the sexes is not easy and puts solidarity to the ultimate test. I believe equality is an absolute concept. We must still be a class based movement but need the will to change our mutual relationship without becoming enemies. - Ann Ighe (Goteburg SAC), to the Stockholm 1990 conference.

# RAIL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

## JAPAN RAIL UNION APPEAL

The following is adapted from a circular received from the Anarchosyndicalist Network: "We, an anarchosyndicalist group in Japan, work for movements based on anti-authoritarian socialism. We strongly support a railworkers struggle which, if defeated, would mean that Japanese capitalists will be able to more easily rule and enslave the workers in Japan, and also in the world. We appeal for solidarity with them to those who also fight to realize a self-managed society.

The government and (privatized) Japanese Railway companies intend to destroy anti-capitalist and anti-war unions, Kokuroo, Zendooroo, Chiba Dooroo, etc. Kokuroo has a long history of internationalism. For example, Kokuroo and other unions fought against the Vietnam War, and more recently has fought together with Korean workers.

For a long time the government has planned the privatization of Japanese National Railways and the destruction of the militant unions. In 1987 they successfully privatized JNR and divided it into several companies. At the same time, many militant workers were given a choice of "voluntary" resignations or being sent to "concentration camps" where there was no work for them except to weed the grounds. This was

intended to humiliate the workers, and thus force them from the railroads. Since then, many have been fired outright. Kokuroo felt as if its members had been made prisoners of fascists, but was not strong enough to strike. Instead they have turned to the public for support, and resisted as best they could. The drastic reduction of workers on the railroads has resulted in several accidents.

Before privatization Kokuroo had 200,000 members, they have now been reduced to 30,000. The union has filed many complaints of discrimination against union members with local labor relations commissions (which include representatives from government, unions and employers). In 1989 the Sapporo Commission ordered JR Hokkaido to re-employ 1,704 Kokuroo members. But the company has ignored the order. More than 100 such orders have been issued across the country, to little effect. Now the national Commission for Labor Relations is taking up the issue, but has indicated that it will direct the railroads to make cash settlements instead of rehiring Kokuroo members.

We ask that workers around the world support this struggle. We ask you to protest to the Japanese government, to show solidarity with the fighting workers, and to spread information

about this dispute. Letters should be sent to Prime Minister Miyazawa Kiichi, care of the nearest Japanese embassy (in the U.S.: 2520 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington DC 20008; in Canada: 255 Sussex Drive, Ottawa ON

Also, please send greetings of solidarity to Kokuroo, 1-11-4, Marunouchi, Chiyodaku, Tokyo, Japan.

### AUSTRALIA

## Privatization

By Dick Nichols / Green Left Weekly

The State Rail Authority of New South Wales is moving to fire workers and eliminate 600 cleaning positions prior to privatising all cleaning work on Sydney's metropolitan trains.

Up till now the SRA has achieved staff reductions of over 10,000 by attrition. But the recession has made workers more reluctant to take early retirement, and last week SRA officials were pressuring cleaners to sign "voluntary" redundancy agreements, claiming that everything had been okayed with the Australian Railways Union.

According to ARU organiser Andrew Baker, this was "a blatant lie," designed to demoralise and confuse the cleaners, many of whom are migrant women.

Cleaners at Sydney Central have also been told that the time for voluntary redundancies has come. When they approached ARU delegates, they were informed that they had brought the matter on their own heads by agreeing to voluntary redundancies in the first place. Cleaners were angry at the implied threat of sackings as well as the measly offer of two weeks' pay for every year of service, up to 26 weeks. The fact that the SRA waited for the depth of recession to restructure its cleaning operations is not lost on the cleaners.

Many of the cleaners have been with the railways for over 10 years, and their chances of finding another job are negligible. Their most likely new line of employment would be with the new, private cleaning contractors - on 60% of their present pay! (Private canteen staff on contract to the SRA presently receive \$6.70 an hour with no holiday or sick pay or penalty rates.)

According to Baker, rail services could be brought to a halt unless the planned sackings are cancelled. A mass meeting of cleaners is planned.

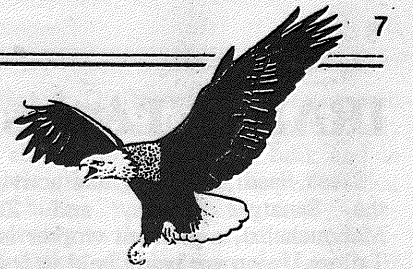
The story here is that we will become freer if we refuse to handle chemical, biological and nuclear weapons and other machines of death. We are for a peaceful democratic solution: all it would take is for the morning shift not to show up in those industries.

International Law makes all biological and chemical weapons illegal. That law was brought into being as a result of the First Canadian Division who were chemically bombed at YPRES, April 1915. That means they are hot cargo. We must refuse to handle them.

The Canadian Labor Relations Boards have a majority of boss-appointed board members. Imagine: the workers who form the majority in society are kept to a minority position on the labor relations boards. The bosses are a minority, and are dictating who can be a union or not. Thus, for the Canadian Railworkers the 5-person freight crew and the caboose that every Railworker agrees is necessary, goes wanting.

We must continue the struggle on every front. That includes making the labour boards truly representative with a majority of workers and 50% female members. With local worker democracy, we will win the struggles against chemicals and for a 5-person crew!

BACK TO RAIL FROM RUBBER  
- Canadian Railworkers Union



## THE AKWEKS\* FUND

Send donations for the legal defence of the Mohawks and their allies by cheque, money order, bank draft or telex to:

The Akweks Fund  
c/o The Canadian Rights and Liberties Federation  
323 Chapel Street  
Ottawa, Canada  
K1N 7Z2  
tel.: (613) 235-8978  
fax: (613) 237-5969

For more information, send a cheque or money order for \$5, payable to The People of the Pines Defence Fund:

Akweks Defence Information  
P.O. Box 633  
Kanehsatake Mohawk Territory  
Kanehsatake, Quebec, Canada  
J0N 1E0  
tel.: (514) 479-8321  
fax: (514) 479-8322

\* Mohawk for "the sacred eagle"

## 5,000 REMEMBER 5 KILLED AT FORD

March 14 - Michigan Wobblies took part in a march and rally in memory of 5 unemployed workers killed by National Guard in 1932. The 5 were shot down by the state, as part of a large group of unemployed trying to take over a Ford Motor Co. plant in Dearborn.

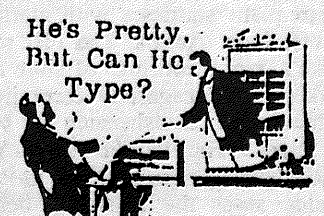
Today, 60 years later, unemployment is worse than ever as the auto giants pull out money and jobs, and move to cheap climates. The state of Michigan has recently taken the lead in attacks on workers, by cutting off welfare support to single able-bodied persons. Many workers have become homeless as a result, and some have died from exposure to cold.

5,000 people marched again to the gates of Ford's River Rouge plant. United Auto Workers were the majority. There was no response from Ford management. Gerry Brown, Democrat Party presidential candidate, also participated in the march. Local Wobblies say they didn't mind too much letting the politician come along, since Brown refuses to accept donations more than \$100, and has the support of some unions. - IW

## PIZZA-PIZZA BOYCOTT SUCCEEDS!

The Lubicon Cree Nation of northern Alberta have called off their boycott, after the pizza chain cancelled its paper contract with Diashawa Corporation. Diashawa is the multinational which is opening pulp mills and clearcutting the Lubicon Cree Territory.

April 22  
**NATIONAL DAY OF OUTRAGE!!!**  
Organize in your community for the Day of Outrage against the Forest Service. Folks across the US will converge on the US Forest Service to confront and expose, by whatever means necessary, the continued destruction of national forests. Decide what is appropriate in your community, and organize! Write EF! Day of Outrage, POBox 411233, San Francisco, CA 94141-1233, (415) 921-3578.



He's Pretty.  
But Can He  
Type?

### CANADA

## Rail Workers Unite with Ecologists

The present struggles of the railworkers to get chemical poisons off the right-of-ways coincide with the global struggles to save the planet. The strikes of the rail workers against chemical sprays has not been publicized by the boss press, but the laws are being changed because of the organized fight back of the people.

It's only in the last 20 years that the ecology movement and trade unions have begun to get together. It is the unity of these two groups which will create a revitalized Canadian Railworkers Union. We have seen its emergence on the Canadian Pacific Railways in the Kootenay Mountains when the people sat on the tracks to stop trains with poison spray, and in the South Thompson-Savona area where a Shushwap Nation group stopped doubletracking by Canadian National Railways, and were able to get money used for ecology restoration.

The foundation of labor unions is the improvement of living and working conditions. It must now be said that the workers don't like being poisoned while at work. That is not in their collective agreements. That is why CNR crews have been striking on Vancouver's North Shore and refusing to haul boxcars destined for spots beside sprayed right-of-ways. These crews are winning and bringing about favorable conditions for all workers around this area.

20 years ago ecology workers of BC were jailed, beaten and thrown into insane asylums and in Latin America, shot dead for suggesting non-polluting workplaces. Hopefully this move toward fascism will be stopped cold. Favorable conditions produce favorable people. Now we must press the governments to forbid chemical poisoning of railways, parks, highways, and waterways.

Union rates can be paid to workers to take out the weeds and insects without pollution. The alternatives to chemicals are available and should be used. The bosses of the chemical corporations have however not fully come round to the democratic principle, and are pushing for the military enforcement of pollution as a way of life.

In the present context, this has the form of sending agents into the unions,

political and cultural organizations, and agitating the workers to fight the ecology people. This is thought of as legitimate by the big corporations.

A comprehensive law forbidding chemical poisoning of the right-of-ways is long overdue. Peaceful change is preferred, and that depends on the polluters ceasing their violence against nature and all life. Not since Ned Ludd and the Chartists has such a huge popular movement come into being for so just a cause. It is up to organized labor to grasp the initiative and bring an end to pollution everywhere in all forms.

I have been working in the community to explain to ecologists that the Railworkers struggle for a correct crew size is also related with the pollution struggle. We hope to bring enough of that movement to UNITE with the crews and fill them to full size again.

Victory to the Vancouver Parks Board people, Strathcona community gardens, DERA, and people who love democracy enough to attend meetings and vote to cancel poison sprays in the parks. Railworkers are benefitting directly from their actions.

Canadian Railworkers Union is fully in favor of hiring women equally in every department of the Railways and Running trades. This coupled to the equal pay clause is something every union member should put forward. It is long overdue that Canadian railworkers resist the bosses propaganda that "only men" can do the jobs on the railway. That rightwing attitude is harmful to the working people by dividing them against each other. Work is not male or female, it is simply necessary to get things done.

It does not take much imagination to see that to elect one man and one woman per constituency would double political democracy.

The Canadian Railworkers Union supports the herstorical and historical struggles for a universal 4-hour workday with no loss in pay. That is possible because it will cause no loss in production.

Railway workers have the power to liberate society because of their unique products. Peace and justice for all workers will be brought about by 1) closing down all armament production in every country 2) equal powers for women and men throughout society and 3) all technology turned to life support.

## IRAN - Letters

Saeed Saedi, a welder and activist in the Sanatgar union, and Zahed Manouchehri, a garment worker in the Tailors Union are being held in Iranian prisons. No information is available about their condition, and fellow workers are afraid their lives are at risk. The Islamic Republic of Iran recently executed two other union activists, Jamal Charagh-Vaissy, a utility worker in the Sanatgar union, and bakery worker Abdollah Bayvaseh. The only crimes of these workers were union organizing.

All workers are asked to write letters of protest to the Islamic Republic of Iran, and to send them to your local Iran Embassy. -WSA

**APACHE SURVIVAL COALITION** needs money & letters of protest to save Mt. Graham (Dzil Nchaa Si An), a sacred Apache traditional land. The Vatican City, U. of Arizona, Max Planck Institute and the Arceti Observatory of Italy, have chosen this site to build a telescope as a monument to Christopher Columbus. Info: Apache Survival Coalition, PO Box 11814, Tucson AZ 85734. Protests to:

Dr. Manuel Pacheco, Pres.  
University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ 85721  
(602) 621-1514

**People's Park Defense Committee** - Over 300 people have been arrested for defending People's Park since August 1991. Andrew Barnum has been incarcerated for over 72 days, and Carolyn "Blue Sky" Johnson is still in custody. Send letters of support and donations to help raise \$2,000 bond for these prisoners. Defense Committee, c/o Acts of Resistance, 537 Jones #1584, San Francisco CA 94102.

**Wobbly Bureau of Investigation** - Donations and support to conduct an independent investigation of the bombing of IWW organizers Judi Bari & Daryl Cherney May 24, 1990, and to pursue the lawsuit of Bari vs. Held (FBI agent). W.B.I., PO Box 7544, Santa Rosa, CA 95407.

## AIRPORT SABOTAGE

As a result of poor wages and conditions in the baggage handling industry, workers are supplementing their pay with the luxury goods carried by travellers. Most US baggage handlers are non-union employees of contract companies hired to load and unload planes at \$5 an hour or less.

Airline companies are paying \$6 million each a year in theft claims to passengers. Ramp workers who sort bags in the terminal, drive them to the planes and load them find it easy to open them on the way. Passengers have watched out the window as their suitcase is rifled on its way up the conveyor. Cameras, golf clubs, liquor and cash are frequently pilfered. An airline executive estimated that a total of \$40 million annually is paid out for theft claims by airline companies in the US.

And that's not half the picture, because airlines won't pay for a lot of lost items, such as jewelry and cash. (In reality, airlines will refund losses to the rich, but not to the poor flyer. "We're not going to hassle some guy over a few hundred dollars if he buys \$30,000 worth of tickets from us every year," said an airline official.)

Airlines usually don't pursue legal cases against the employees caught liberating luggage, because they don't want the publicity. "We just fire them," they say.

In response to the workers' direct attempt to supplement their slave wages, police are mounting cameras in the baggage sorting areas. In major airports, police plant suitcases with alarms that go off when opened. The FBI recently broke a "bag theft ring" of more than 20 workers at Chicago's O'Hare airport.

Thievery is easiest inside the belly of the plane. The worker stowing bags inside opens them, while a co-worker outside stops the conveyor belt as a warning should cops approach.

MUSIC reviewed by Orin Langelle

### TIMBER

Darryl Cherney  
with Judi Bari & George Shook

Wobbly & Earth First!er Darryl Cherney, who was injured in the car bombing assassination attempt on Judi Bari in May 1990, has released his latest recording, TIMBER. This 14-song set is dedicated to Judi Bari and all the wounded warriors defending the planet against corporate tyranny.

Folksinger Cherney, whom I know to be very comfortable strumming his guitar and singing under a full moon around a campfire, seems equally comfortable for this studio session as he counter-attacks the government and corporations with indicting anger that is also mixed with necessary humor. George Shook provides excellent banjo picking and Judi Bari continues to play a fine fiddle.

TIMBER personifies in lyrics some of the most important occurrences of the radical movement in the last few years, especially with "Who bombed Judi Bari?" and "Arizona Power Lines". In the former a scenario is drawn describing the people who are behind big timber, Bari's fight for the workers and the Redwoods, and finally alludes to the FBI cover-up of the bombing. AS Cherney states in this song, "For seeking justice is our plan, and we'll avenge our wounded comrade, as we defend our ravaged land," is clearly a harbinger to the lawsuit filed by Bari and Cherney against the FBI. In

Prisoner Little Rock Reed has requested letters in support of visiting rights for his elderly (80 years plus) grandmother. She is accused of conspiracy to violate the prison rules because she wanted to give him \$40 which someone else had given her to give him. Reed is an activist for native american prisoners.

Letters to:  
Reginald Wilkinson, Director  
Dept of Rehab & Corrections  
1050 Freeway Drive N.  
Columbus OH



DARRYL CHERNEY  
with  
JUDI BARI & GEORGE SHOOK

"Arizona Power Lines" Cherney comments on the Arizona Five Conspiracy charges that stemmed from activists being caught in the desert with a blowtorch trying to topple a power line tower. The ecological sabotage was set up by FBI infiltrators and informants in an attempt to discredit the radical environment movement and arrest EF! co-founder Dave Foreman for writing a book, ECO-DEFENSE: A FIELD GUIDE TO

Gwen Jacob, a 20-year old University of Guelph education worker, has called for women to take off their shirts this summer. Jacob was fined \$75 for walking around topless last summer in Guelph, Ontario. She has been outspoken about the issue, and says mass action now will win this right for women. She suggested women may organize to bare their breasts on Parliament Hill.

"I didn't just take my shirt off," said Gwen. "I took off a patriarchal definition of who I am...and what I'm supposed to do."

superfluous toys of the rich flow under their hands when their own stomachs are empty. They'd be stupid if they didn't help themselves in any way they can, since their employer refuses to pay a living wage. Maybe this is what they mean by the trickle-down theory of economics.

Air passengers in the US are being warned that in effect, any wealth they can't carry on their person may be distributed to someone who needs it more. (Adapted from Wall Street Journal)

## NEWFOUNDLAND FISHERS PLEDGE DIRECT ACTION

Fishers tired of lobbying the government have decided to sabotage foreign fishing boats instead.

"No more demonstrations in St. John's," say the fishers. "The demonstrations will be action."

Last year the federal government reduced quotas on cod, and on Feb 25, 1992 reduced them by another 35%. Canada's government says cod stocks are seriously lower than predicted, so the quotas must be lowered to protect the species and the future industry.

It sounds like a simple case of "jobs vs. environment" - but since when did Canada's rulers ever care about the ecosystem? Can anyone think of a single other instance when the Canadian government stepped in to protect a natural species? The explanation gets more clear when we listen to Maritime fishers. The fact is, fleets of foreign fishing boats have been dragging more fish than ever before from the Grand Banks. No other country, only Canada,

feels compelled to reduce its quotas.

If there was really a cod shortage, the Canadian government would have to act against these foreign fleets who are depleting the stocks faster than ever. This they are not doing. The government's assistance to the region is to give money to multinational corporations who will come in and put the local fishers out of business.

The government keeps repeating that it "can't put fish in the sea" - why not? Ever heard of fish farming? The harp seal, which feeds on cod, may also become a target of fishers trying to protect their livelihood.

John Efford of the United Fishermen of Newfoundland and Labrador predicts that fishers will go outside the 200-mile limit into international waters, to do what must be done: cut the nets of the foreign boats. Efford says the United Fishermen have already consulted with Icelanders who cut the nets of British fleets a few years ago.

### MONKEYWRENCHING.

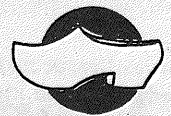
Last summer while attending the conspiracy trial in Arizona, I had the pleasure of spending some time with one of the defendants, Peg Millet. I asked Peg how she felt about being mentioned in "Arizona Power Lines" and if she felt the song would have a detrimental effect on the trial. She said she really liked the song and that Cherney had called her up and sang it over the phone to get her okay before he put it on TIMBER.

Another song that deals in infiltration is "He Looked A Whole Lot Like Jesus". Cherney is absolutely hilarious in this one and the relevance of the message is quite clear: looks can be deceiving.

In "Earth Night Action" the corporate Earth Day 1990 is exposed with a breath of fresh air as dissidents from Santa Cruz stood up to the hypocrisy and decided to act and topple power lines on the west coast.

TIMBER futher blasts Maxxam, Louisiana Pacific, and the rest of the timber industry while standing up for the earth and the plight of the working class. Cherney even puts new lyrics to Florence Reese's old union song, "Which Side Are You On?"

TIMBER is action-packed and places Cherney as a legitimate folksinger of the 90's. This resident of Ecotopia (formerly northern California) does not get his material from news clippings; he is actually there on the front lines. I highly recommend this recording to all Wobs and radicals as it is destined to be a classic reflection of our times.



### AUSTRALIA

## LOCKOUT AT TEXTILE MILL

4 Feb- The lockout of textile workers at the Alliance Mill at Milton continues. When the workers arrived back after the Christmas break they found notices on the mill doors and windows informing them that if they signed a contract to effectively lower their wages and conditions they could resume work. The contract also specified that no redundancy payments would be made; the union is expecting 20 to 26 layoffs for redundancy.

Those who had signed before Christmas went in by the back door. Next day workers mounted a picket at



the factory gates and stopped trucks from entering or leaving the mill. Until the police arrived.

That morning, management had arrived to find all the mill padlocks filled with superglue, and broken bottles slung about. Because they were locked out, workers applied for and received unemployment benefits. Bruce Munro, general manager of the Alliance Group, recently complained that "their ability to receive the benefit seemed unfair under the Employment Contracts Act. When it was the workers who were taking industrial action in the form of a strike, their employer was not entitled to similar compensation." (Yes, we can imagine the entire employing class turning up for the dole with their pockets empty and unable to pay for the housekeeper and gardener.)

As of Feb. 4, six more workers have signed the contract. Out of the original 40 who refused, 21 are left. So it may be only a matter of time before they are forced back to continue the struggle inside the mill, where it may be more effective. Mr. Munro would have real problems if superglue turned up in the machines. -Direct Action(Aus)



## PRISONER WORKERS & Slavery

### LUCASVILLE

Prisoners in this joint, Southern Ohio Correctional Facility (SOCF) Lucasville, Ohio, definitely need some outside support (union) to protect them from the exploitation of their labor. For example, Ohio Penal Industries (OPI) contracts with private companies, and those private companies and OPI are making immense profits from the prisoners' labor. OPI does not even give the prisoners the small amount of money they are legally entitled to according to the contracts with the private companies. For instance, Weastec contracts with OPI. Prisoners here have recently been awarded (in numerous separate claims) back-pay because OPI and Dept. of Corrections lied to the prisoners about how much money they were supposed to be paid for their work for Weastec. The prisoners were supposed to make a commission and receive a percentage of the profits, according to the Weastec contract. The prisoners didn't know this (TOP SECRET for security reasons of course) and they were paid only a scant portion.

One prisoner won a lawsuit about it, and suddenly all the prisoners who worked for Weastec filed their own claims. Every prisoner who filed such a claim has been paid hundreds or thousands of dollars, and apparently they are all settling out of court, so there's no telling how much money they were actually entitled to.

The prisoner who has been handling everyone's claims, has been kicked out of OPI, in retaliation for his activities.

At this time, the main concern of prisoners is a new policy of forced racial integration of cells. Prisoners should not be forced to live in a single-person cell with someone they can't get along with. This policy is encouraging violence, and it is a violation of amendments 1,4,8,9, and 14 of the US Constitution, as well as violating the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for Treatment of Prisoners. There is no reason for the administration to force people to live in a cell with each other if they can't get along, regardless of race. It is no more than a tactic to encourage violence so the administration can use the violence as an excuse to lockdown the prison. There has already been numerous assaults as a result of this policy, and one killing.

The warden refuses to discuss any of his policies with any prisoners. He simply ignores the complaints he receives, or he states, "This is my prison and anyone who does not comply with my policies will be treated accordingly." Among the hundreds of complaints he refuses to discuss (or investigate) are:

1. Prison officials in the mail room intentionally destroy incoming packages such as TVs, radios, and typewriters. The Ohio Court of Claims has ruled repeatedly that the mail room officials here are destroying these items intentionally. Yet Warden Tate refuses to remove the mail room supervisor or staff, and the destruction continues. The taxpayers are paying for all this.

2. Prisoners and guards have found stacks of prisoners' incoming mail (personal and legal letters, photos, money orders, etc.) placed intentionally by the mail room staff in the trash cart at the incinerator. Tate refuses to do anything about it. He has received hundreds of complaints, but he simply forwards the complaints to Sgt. Judy Allen, supervisor of the mail dept. The complaints are usually against her personally, so why would Tate forward them to her except to encourage her to retaliate against the complainants?

3. Medical care is pathetic. Prisoners are not allowed to see doctors, and Tylenol is the cure-all.

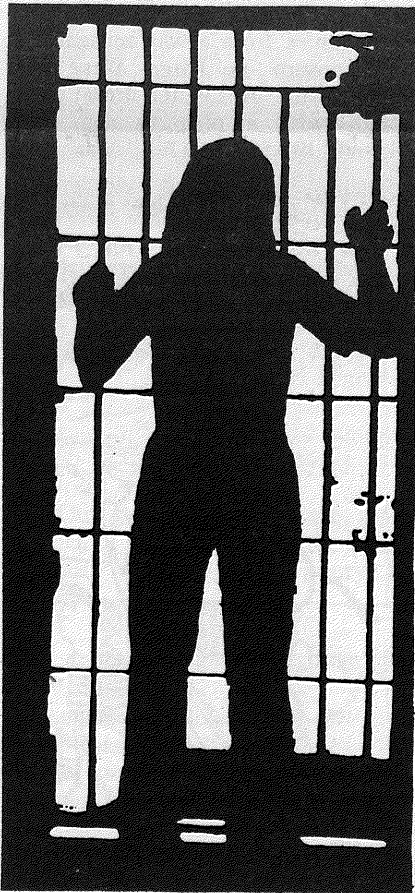
4. They have random cell shake-downs for the purpose of destroying prisoners' personal property. For example yesterday, when we came in from

recreation, we found that the guards and state police had ransacked all the cells, destroying much personal property. This was random, and no contraband was found.

The list is much longer. The prisoners are terrorized by the thought of being locked away in isolation for long periods, and they know that if they complain, they will be set up and placed in long term segregation to break their resistance. For this reason, it is doubtful if you will find many who want to get involved with IWW. Most of them are a bunch of chickenshit motherfuckers who will let the administration do anything to them. They're scared to sign non-violent petitions, and 90% of the prisoners in this joint will openly declare that anyone who files a grievance or a lawsuit about conditions is an idiot and a fool because they will not only lose their suit but more years of their life by being retaliated against when it's time to see the parole board. That is the general mentality of the prisoner population today.

The only way it can change is for the prisoners to see strong outside support. For the IWW to organize prisoners you have to make the prisoners believe that you are faithful enough and strong enough (dedicated enough!) to raise hell on the outside and let the public know the truth. That is the only way you will attract enough prisoners to make a difference. There is no one in Ohio pulling for the prisoners on the outside. No one.

In solidarity, Little Rock Reed (c/o Native American Prisoners Rehabilitation Research Project, 2848 Paddock Lane, Villa Hills, KY 41017)



MANCI

Here in the states prison is a multi-million dollar industry. Even one of our retired Supreme Court Justices has been a great advocate of using prisoners in the workforce, to promote rehabilitation.

In theory, I agree. Good work habits do promote more responsibility, self-esteem and deter recidivism. Here at MANCI prison (Mansfield Correctional Institution) the only jobs are maintenance and a few vocational schools. Here there are no OPI's (Ohio Penal Industries), who produce and sell for profit over 400 articles from soap to office furniture, using prison labor. Ohio prisoners are paid only 10 cents an hour - \$17 per month.

Prisoners working on work-release programs have 75% of their wages deducted by the Dept. of Corrections, for room and board at the prison.

As it stands, prisoners do not receive enough wages to purchase basic hygienic articles. Their families also suffer on the outside, often forced onto welfare to survive. Even in Cuba,

prisoners' families are supported by the labor of those imprisoned.

Yet Ohio profits from prisoner labor by selling their products to the public at prices undercutting those of mainstream industry. The US now has more prisoners than any other country in the world. We were workers before we went to prison, and will be workers when released.

It should also be pointed out that prisoners are often exposed to toxic chemicals and unsafe working conditions. Health care is almost non-existent. Here at MANCI there is one doctor for 1,900

prisoners - and doctors who work for prison industries are the ones who can't find employment anywhere else.

In order to organize prisoner workers in the IWW, we need help from outside. This includes actively lobbying the state legislature to increase prisoners' wages and job opportunities.

It includes one on one correspondence of members with prisoners to exchange ideas and educate prisoners to the big picture of our union and the economy,

## TIN WIS COALITION

### Unions, Environmentalists & Natives Form Historic Accord

The Nuu-chah-nulth Tribal Council has joined forces with Canadian Paper Workers Union, the BC Council of Carpenters, BC Federation of Labor and the Western Canada Wilderness Committee, to press for a total transformation of forest industries.

The partners agreed on the principle of sustainability as common ground: Workers seek economic and social sustainability; Natives are looking for political and cultural sustainability; and environmentalists want ecological sustainability.

For workers, the struggle has been to gain control over their work and livelihood in a system where their work is used to make products that must be sold for more money than the workers are paid to make these products. Company owners use this money in another form of struggle, to ensure that they get enough profit to re-invest and make further profit. This is the logic of the economic system although most economic textbooks don't discuss it. Owners ensure further profit by finding ways to be more productive. This can be through increased output per person via more "efficient" technology, and by controlling costs of production, for example by locating cheaper materials and labor.

Since the basis of this industrial-economic system is about acquiring ever more resources and allowing some peoples' desires to control others, it must eventually pull the social and cultural systems of the world along with it, or it will collapse. Hence the saying, "grow or die".

Sustainability, community control and social solidarity are the goals of the Tin Wis Coalition formed in 1991. It is about creating a different system which ensures a stable community and meaningful work life, sovereignty & respect for different cultures, and respect for the natural processes which permit soils, water, forests, air, and animals to function together not only for us but for all life.

Tin Wis is a process for working together to create a fundamentally different and sustainable system.

A major initiative of the Coalition is the drafting of a Forest Stewardship Act, to create standards in the forest industries. The Act includes the following points:

1. forests should not be cut faster than they can regenerate.
2. fewer permanent jobs are better than more temporary jobs.
3. logging must not damage other forest resources.
4. public management of forest use through local and regional Citizen Boards.
5. forest products should be manufactured near the forest.
6. Native people to participate on Citizen Boards.

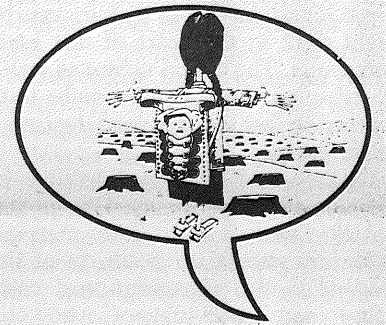
etc. It includes letters to prison officials regarding conditions of confinement. We also need a dues reduction for prisoners, who only make \$3 to \$17 a month.

Prisoners need to see practical results or they tend to lose interest, when no one seems to care.

Remember: prisoner unions are a threat to prison officials, and we suffer retaliation and isolation just from being members. I'm living proof of that, but I accept the risk.

What I'd like is a list of fellow workers who would correspond with prisoners, for sharing the ideals and goals of the union; exchanging thoughts and educating them to the effects of the capitalist system on the people - how sexism, racism, and class differences are promoted by the present capitalist, imperialist system. We also need someone to send IWW literature to prospective members.

There are many more ways the union could be of support, but these are the basics. Stay strong. - John Perotti



### SOUTH ISLAND FOREST ACCORD

A similar accord was reached in September 1991 between IWA Canada Local 1-80 CLC, Carmanah Forest Society, Environmental Youth Alliance S. Van. Is., Friends of Carmanah/Walbran, Sierra Club of Canada, Western Canada Wilderness Committee, and fishery workers both Native and non-native in United Fishermen & Allied Workers Union. The South Island Forest Accord calls for new jobs in diverse forest industries, old-growth protection, ecotourism, and a ban on exports of raw wood, as well as respect for Aboriginal territory.

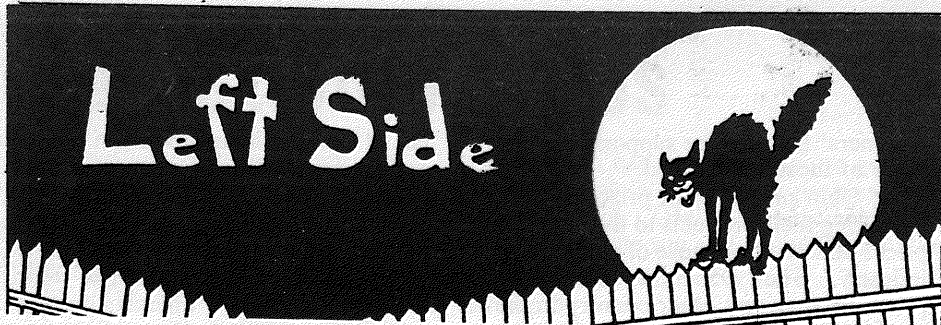
Timber corporation Fletcher Challenge announced 30 layoffs of Local 1-80 workers just after the accord was announced. A worker reports that Fletcher is trying to get rid of the union and has tried to divide workers from ecologists over the years.

### WEST KOOTENAY FOREST ACCORD

Signed in October 1991 by IWA local 1-405, other unions and environment groups, is based on the S. Is. accord. It was discussed as the basis of a provincial accord, but IWA-Canada was reported to have problems with the wording.



"That's the way it is, Pierre. They make it into paper that ends up in the garbage after it's used. Try not to think about it."



Here in Old Windy, just across the river from the Loop there is a housing development called Presidential Towers. This development has been built on what was formerly the eastern ramparts of Chicago's Skid Road and while these newer architectural monstrosities can be said to be more aesthetically pleasing than the former run-down fleabag hotels and flophouses, little concern has been expressed over the former residents, unless expressed by the former residents themselves, wherever they may have gone to.

Despite the well-known reality that any new housing that close to the center of a major metropolis can only be for those with the big bucks, this development has been built with millions of dollars of federal subsidies plus low-interest construction loans and the privilege of purchasing city property at bargain rates. Wouldn't you like to be able to obtain your own little patch of roosting space for \$30 a square foot?

Not only that but the local donkeycrat congressman had engineered through Congress a waiver of the requirement that 20% of the units of this development be made available to low-income renters. These spanking new buildings have replaced the erstwhile fleabag hotels and flophouses, and the practitioners of civic pride need no longer quake at the thought of the casual tourist having to look upon urban blight right in the heart of this lovely metropolis. The casual visitor as well as the urban patriot may even come to the conclusion that the skid road denizen no longer exists.

Whether said skid road habitue has miraculously been elevated by upward mobility, moved on to other metropoli or simply starved to death, is of little concern to the aforementioned casual visitor and civic patriot who cling fervently to the "out of sight, out of mind" ethic.

The past few decades, however, have witnessed a surging population boom in the ranks of those hapless individuals whose only guaranteed security are the streets and alleys. The cancer cells that formerly were located deep within the vital organs have finally ruptured and are now spreading over the entire body as the undertaker gleefully licks his chops in joyful anticipation.

The solid citizen in olden times had only to stay away from certain notorious areas of the city to avoid the

unpleasant sight of poverty and deprecation, but now finds him or her self averting her or his gaze right within the comfort of one's own well-manicured neighborhood, especially if they drive past the dumpsters at their local supermarket. It is there where you will find the homeless and down-and-outers delving in among the soggy greens, rotten fruit, and spoiled meat for their sustenance. Said solid citizens, if bothering to see what these scavengers were up to, would in all probability lose their appetites for the next few meals while muttering how could something like that take place in Freedomland? How could someone sink so low as to eat garbage? However I remember one old Hobo telling me if one gets hungry enough one will willingly eat the pudenda of a polecat.

Thus an increasing number of Freedomland's Citizenry is subsisting on what his or her fellow citizens throw away. Many supermarkets now, in order to discourage this unpleasant practice have taken to pouring slop over their discarded produce or put locks on their dumpsters. However that in no way obliterates the increasing amount of hungry people whose only source of nourishment is subsisting on what is discarded. Nor is it any longer possible to confine these hapless ones to those parts of the city where the more fortunate seldom venture.

With many wage-earners being reduced to the minimum wages of the "service industries" or no industry at all, the presence of the homeless and the garbage pickers is not about to disappear. With the erstwhile jobsites being exported to sweatshops below the Border or to "Third World Countries", the highest standard of living on the Globe becomes more of a myth every day.

Nevertheless the incumbent politicians keep prattling that Freedomland is the best place to be while their opponents keep pointing out what a mess they have made of everything until they themselves become incumbents. These dumpster diggers are basically salvagers of what can still be utilized, as unpleasant as it may appear to those of us who are not as yet quite so unfortunate.

Somehow through the ages the poor and downtrodden have always managed to survive. But how much longer! - C.C. Redcloud

## "Worker Ownership" in Pittsburgh

When Continental-Ralston-Purina shut down the 100-year-old Braun Bakery in 1989, Pittsburgh bakery workers decided to go into business for themselves. Three years later City Pride Bakery—which organizers boast is jointly owned by neighborhood groups, regional investors and workers (in that order, but keep reading)—is on the verge of opening with 300 jobs, 50 more than were lost when Braun Bakery was closed.

Workers first turned to the courts to block the destruction of the Braun facility, but quickly learned that years of neglect had rendered the facility and its equipment dilapidated and worthless. Working with the Steel Valley Authority, they then shifted their efforts to launch a new corporation based on an employee stock ownership plan (ESOP). A majority of the new company is owned by the bakery's managers and capitalists, who will make all day-to-day decisions. Workers can buy up to 30% in the new company through the ESOP, and will be recruited from former Braun employees and residents of nearby low-income neighborhoods. Organizers say they will be paid a "family wage with decent benefits" but make no mention of union pay levels or how much will be deducted from workers'

paychecks for the ESOP.

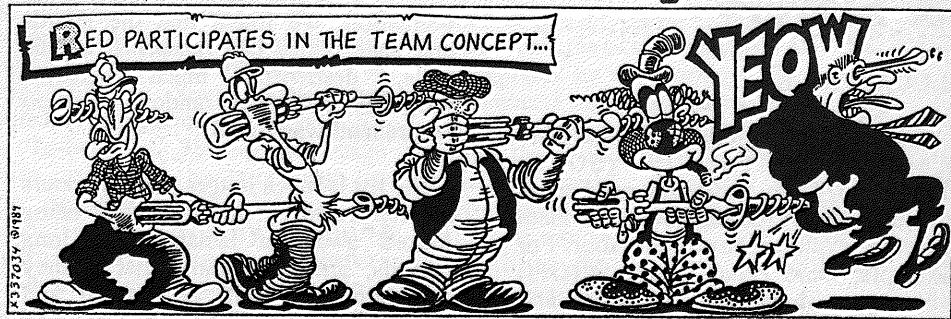
The remaining ownership shares will be available to neighborhood groups. (Note that this is almost exactly the opposite order from that given out by the organizers).

The start-up was assured when local grocery store chains promised to do business with the new company. Although managers and "investors" hold a majority of the stock, they put up only \$2.6 of the total \$8.8 million in financing. The remaining funds were raised through a \$2.8 million bank loan and from local, state and federal agencies and several foundations. The Federation for Industrial Renewal and Retention is promoting this as a great victory for working people and communities. But the figures given in the preceding paragraph make it clear that the workers have been had again. The capitalists gain control and ownership of a facility that has been built by tax dollars, loans (probably going to pay for the workers' share, though details are not given), and the willingness of desperate workers to work for less than union scale. With "worker ownership" like this it will be a long road indeed to industrial democracy—not to mention an expensive one.

## Wage Slave COMIKS

Red 'n' Noses

by X330734



## BOSSES SHUT DOWN WORKER RAG Clown Made Homeless

Bosses across the US and Canada rejoiced in late February over the demise of one of the few independent worker publications, the renowned *Wage Slave World News*. Noted for its exposes and uncompromising worker humor, *Wage Slave* was edited in Madison Wisconsin by Mike Konopacki. Over worked and under paid at his job the editor found it impossible to continue the grueling monthly volunteer work publishing his "trashy journalism for the working class".

The *Wage Slave* will be missed by millions of workers. Each month avid readers were treated to news available no where else. *Wage Slave* disclosed the fact that the top rated TV series 'The Simpsons' is drawn by slave labor in Korea! In an exclusive interview series, star Bart Simpson told *Wage Slave*, "Don't have a scab man!" and starred in a pro-union rap song.

*Wage Slave* targeted much of its muckraking on the AFL-CIO. Where else could you see photos proving that Lane Kirkland and the presidents of SEIU and IBEW are not real people but just dummies from a wax museum? It was exposure in *Wage Slave* that prevented the AFL-CIO from going through with a plan to sell Lane Kirkland's services as a faith healer who

could heal those who touched a picture of his hands.

Designed in the eye catching mode of super market tabloids — the only US newspapers which bypass addiction to advertiser dollars to actually pay their way with newsstand sales — the *Wage Slave* probably never won any design awards but should have.

Red the Clown who appeared regularly in the feature 'Red 'n Noses' told the *Industrial Worker* "I never died!" and promised to continue his mission to sabotage the bosses in both management and unions.

In 1991, Red the Clown had his first Out-of-Wage-Slave experience when he appeared in the leftist weekly, *The Guardian*. Three weeks later the humorless authoritarians at *The Guardian* issued an apology for publishing the cartoon under the guise of a bizarre p-c attack. Red returned to the *Wage Slave*, but now the wage slave status of editor Konopacki has thrown Red out in the street.

Red is rumored to be calling upon thousands of other unemployed and homeless cartoon clowns to ride the rails to Madison and surround the offices of Konopacki's employer until demands are met to raise the cartoonists' wage and cut his hours.



## Lazy Workers?

Are American workers over-paid and under-worked, as many economists would have us believe? A study released by the Economic Policy Institute ("The Overworked America: The Unexpected Decline of Leisure") reports that the average American worker puts in 138 more hours on the job every year than she did in 1969. The picture gets even worse when commuting time (up by 20 hours per year) is figured into the equation. Paid time off—vacations, holidays, sick leave, etc.—fell by 15 percent in the 1980s to an average of 16 days a year. Workers in most European countries get paid vacations of at least five weeks. When you total up all the losses, U.S. workers are spending 158 hours more each year on work—or an extra month. "Americans are starved

for time... Increasing numbers of people are finding themselves overworked, stressed out, and heavily taxed by the joint demands of work and family life."

Why? As the report notes, real wages (take-home pay adjusted for inflation) has been falling steadily since 1973, forcing many workers to take on second jobs and work overtime. If you look at the large and growing numbers of unemployed workers, at the enormous labor power wasted in tracking the flow of money and keeping an eye on us workers, and at the mountains of junk produced each year, it's clear that (were we organized and determined to do so) we could implement a 4-hour workday tomorrow without any harm to our living standards. Instead, the bosses are sweating us harder and paying us less. Anyone for revolutionary unionism?



# iww books & music

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As a young man in the 1910s McGuckin went on the road for the revolution. He tells of street meetings, jails, strikes, riding the rails and building the IWW. \$6

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Barry Crimmins  
Biting political commentary will make you laugh and cringe at the Reagan & Bush years. A Wobbly style stand up comedian who really stands up. cassette

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**TIMBER**  
Darryl Cherney  
w/ George Shook & Judi Bari  
A rockin' Wobbly reports from the front lines of radical labor & environmental organizing. Corporate terrorists, displaced workers, FBI infiltration, and direct action. Includes "Who Bombed Judi Bari?", "Arizona Power Lines" and more.

**SMASH THE STATE & HAVE A NICE DAY**  
Citizen's Band  
These Wobblies from Olympia Washington were a big hit at the '91 IWW Assembly concert. Standouts include "Industrial Strength Tranquilizers", "Red Emma", and FW Dakota Sid's underground classic "Bullshit".

**ALL USED UP**  
Utah Phillips  
Work, love and people songs from "the old guy". About getting by, skid row, being a real anarchist and struggling for a better world.

**GREENFIRE**  
Dakota Sid Clifford  
Veteran musician/activist sings about the "Greenfire" in a wolves eyes, being a "Legendary Folk Rumor", small towns and growing older. Dakota's neighbor Utah guests on the insurrectionary "We Want the Whole Thing Back."

**FOOD PHONE GAS LODGING**  
Charlie King  
Long time Wobbly & folk singer on corporate lies in "Buy Buy This American Car" and the return of "Are You Now, or Have You Ever Been?" in this look at modern America.

**A WORLD TO WIN**  
Tom Juravich  
Fine album from a Philadelphia union radical includes "Rob A Train" Eddie Holewa's new classic of unemployed frustration, and other gems like "Threads of Justice", "VDT", "Borderlines", and "A World to Win".

**WE ALL ... EVERYONE OF US**  
Sweet Honey in the Rock  
Gospel rooted, a cappella, six women who'll have you up dancing and singing along. "More Than a Paycheck", "I'm Gon' Stand" and the "Ella's Song."

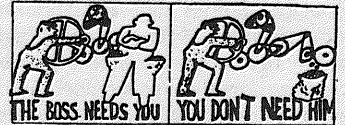
**UNITED WE BARGAIN DIVIDED WE BEG**  
Anne Feeney  
Energetic and musically varied hellraiser from Pittsburgh, with a reggae "Bread and Roses", a rocking version of FW Harry Stamper's "We Just Come to Work Here", country "Your Nursing Heart".

**I'LL BE THERE**  
Si Kahn  
Folksinging organizer from South Carolina, eleven songs, about the long struggle for freedom and the hope it takes to make it, features "Generations" and "What Will I Leave Behind".

**DON'T MOURN, ORGANIZE**  
Compilation of Joe Hill songs and stories. Billy Bragg, Haywire Mac, Paul Robeson and a new song by Mark Levy about the return of Hill's ashes in 1988.

**WOMEN'S WORK**  
Linda Allen  
Women's work is always more than just a job — with strong hands and hearts, women build ships, heal, care for children, lead the struggle — "Rosie the Riveter Revisited", "Night Charge Nurse".

All cassettes only. \$9 each (some are available on CD. write if interested.)



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## LITTLE RED SONGBOOK

Songs of the Workers: to fan the flames of discontent

The 35th edition of the Wobblies infamous little red songbook. Forty classic and new labor songs — for picket lines, union meetings and shop floor solidarity actions. Features songs by Joe Hill, Phil Ochs and Utah Phillips. Including "There Is Power in a Union", "Pie in the Sky", "The Internationale", and "Solidarity Forever" (including the verses union bureaucrats fear). Back pocket size to carry to picket lines or work. Sing loud. Available with special cover commemorating the murder of Joe Hill by the bosses and state. Please note which cover you prefer. \$5 each or 5 to 39 \$3 ea. Over 40 \$2.50 each.

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Exciting live recording captures the high energy of today's IWW musicians working for an IWW audience. Good music, good politics, and a good time. IWW IU 630 members featured include Utah Phillips, Faith Petric, Bob Bovee, Marion Wade, Eric Glatz, Kathy Taylor, Jeff Cahill and more. Twenty IWW tunes including "Power in a Union", "The Organizer", "Popular Wobbly", "Mr. Block", "Preacher and the Slave", "Hold the Fort" and more. \$9 cassette only.

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### 1992 I.W.W. Labor History Calendar

"Solidarity Forever" calendar, with 12 photos, and more than 300 dates commemorating American and world labor history.

1992 CALENDARS - WHILE SUPPLIES LAST  
The 1992 IWW Labor History Calendar is available for \$3 for the first one, \$1.25 each for additional copies, while supplies last. Box 204, Oak Park IL 60303-0204.

Industrial Workers of the World  
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Available from Denver/Boulder GMB  
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Columbine Memorial Video (scattering of Joe Hill's ashes). \$20.00.

"Workers' Solidarity" suspenders (red, Reg., XL-XXL). \$12.00.

Prices are postpaid. Make checks to: Denver-Boulder IWW

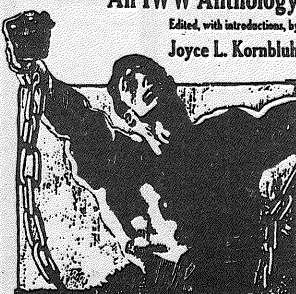
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Domino's Pizza Boycott Info Packet. \$10.00.  
Make checks to "Domino's Coalition—LASC," and mail to AATU Job Branch, 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, MI 48109

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An IWW Anthology  
Edited, with introductions, by Joyce L. Kornbluh



## NEW CANADIAN LABOUR SONGS



For use in rallies, pickets, and organizing. The Little Red Songbook is now totally Canadian.

The Canadian Wobbly Songbook includes: Arlene Mantle, Rick Fielding, Faith Nolan, Len Wallace, songs from St. John's Newfoundland (Jim Payne) to Campbell River, BC (Dave Bostock, Harris Taylor), 40 great songs with music and chords for \$5.

Order yours from: Jerzy Dymny Canadian IWW Songbook 11 Andrews Avenue Toronto, Ontario M6J 1S2 Canada

## KNOW YOUR ENEMY

Bob Haas, Levi's executive, was showing a visitor around the factory in Mexico.

"What did you say to that woman just now?" asked the visitor.

"I told her to work faster," said Haas.

"How much do you pay her?"

"\$2 a day."

"Where do you get the money to pay her?"

"From selling Levi's, of course."

"Who makes the Levi's?"

"She does."

"How many Levi's does she make in one day?"

"\$200 worth."

"Then instead of you paying her, she is paying you \$198 a day to tell her to work faster..."

"Huh? Well, we own the machines."

"How did you get those machines?"

"We sold Levi's and bought them."

"And who made those Levi's?"

"Shut up! She might hear you!"

XXX

At the auto parts plant, they X-ray each worker at the end of the shift - to see if there's any work left in them!

(SPARKS Rank & File Public Transport Workers Paper, PO Box 92, Broadway, 2007, NSW, Australia)

## INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY is just a matter of choice.

The following resolutions were adopted by the 1991 IWW General Assembly:

1. "The 1991 IWW General Assembly reaffirms the IWW's opposition to all forms of human oppression, including but not necessarily limited to those based on race, ethnicity, gender, nationality, creed, age, physical ability or sexual orientation.

2. "While the IWW gives its full support to international cooperation between workers, the IWW declares its opposition to the Free Trade Agreements between the governments of Canada, the United States, and Mexico. These agreements have highlighted the inequalities that exist among workers internationally, and therefore we find that our best response is to organize workers internationally. We support direct action taken by workers in opposition to these agreements."

3. "On the occasion of the Columbus Day Quincentennial, we endorse the sovereignty of all indigenous peoples and are in solidarity with groups opposing 500 years of Euro-centric colonialism."

4. "In addition to the exploitation of labor, industrial society creates wealth by exploiting the earth and non-human species. Just as the capitalists value the working class only for their labor, so they value the earth and non-human species only for their economic usefulness to humans. This has created such an imbalance that the life support systems of the earth are on the verge of collapse. The working class bears the brunt of this degradation by being forced to produce, consume, and live in the toxic environment created by this abuse. Human society must recognize that all beings have a right to exist for their own sake, and that humans must learn to live in balance with the rest of nature. This will only be accomplished when the working class takes control of human production and redirects it to the long-term benefit of all rather than the short-term profit of a few."



### 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 the 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 means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the Earth.

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 a 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 everyday 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.

## Join the IWW

**No Bureaucrats**—Aside from the modestly paid General Secretary-Treasurer and the office worker who staff our General Administration, the IWW has no paid officers. The General Executive Board is elected annually by the entire membership, and its job is to oversee the running of union affairs, not to set policy. All officers may be recalled at any time by referendum.

**Real Democracy**—All policy decisions are made by the members themselves by referendum. All branches maintain full autonomy on matters within their jurisdiction. Job branches (IWW groups composed of workers at a single job-site) set their own demands and strategies in negotiations, free of meddling internationalists or sell-out business agents.

**Low Dues**—Our dues are structured on a sliding scale basis. Unemployed and low-income workers pay \$3 a month; those making between \$800 and \$1,700 per month pay \$9; and members making more than \$1,700 per month pay \$12 monthly dues. Initiation fees equal one month's dues, so a low-income worker can join for as little as \$6.

**To Join**—Fill out the questions below and mail this form with your check or money order to IWW, 1095 Market Street Suite 204, San Francisco, CA 94103.

- I affirm that I am a common worker without direct power to hire and fire.  
 I agree to abide by the constitution and regulations of this organization.  
 I will study its principles and make myself acquainted with its purposes.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

State/Prov. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Initiation \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Dues \$ \_\_\_\_\_

\* Membership includes a subscription to the Industrial Worker.

## Performers paid, Mohawks Benefit

All the necessary elements came together for a successful music event Feb. 22. The "People's Drum" was played by Red Thunder Singers, there were 2 solo folk artists as well as a jazz duo, and the Parliament Hill-Billies.

After the expenses were paid, and musicians paid a small wage, the show earned \$966, which has been given to the Akweks Fund. This fund is to help pay the legal defense of 49 persons charged with various offenses in the defense of Mohawk lands at Kanehsatake (Oka, Quebec) in September 1990. The community was under siege for 78 days, first by police, then by the Canadian Army. Three other defenders have already finished their trial; Ron 'Lasagna' Cross received a 4 year sentence, and one of the Lazore brothers a 2 years and some months sentence. Both the defense and the Crown are appealing the sentences.

The primary aim of the Akweks defendants is to present a political defense based on treaty land rights. Some native people would prefer to keep politics out of this trial, mainly because the people picked up guns (though they never used them). While the majority of so-called social justice groups refuse to aid the defenders because they didn't just lie down and give up like good victims, about 200 people came out to our show.

It was clear they had all come to show solidarity with the defenders of The Pines. We of the IWW wanted to support the defenders, because we recognize that our Mohawk friends are victims of the same upper business class as mistreats workers. Besides, whether Native or Black we are all fellow workers, and every one of the 49 defenders are persons who work for a living, whereas the people who were attacking them were politicians.

We wanted to pay the musicians, and we did. Not as much as we hoped, because more acts kept adding their names to the billing, so the payroll had to be split among more performers. Two music workers refused any pay. At their suggestion, the 4-man drum received \$50, while the other players were paid \$25 per person. Some of the musicians then donated part of their pay to the Akweks Fund.

We also wanted to bring together different styles of cultural expression, and we succeeded. The Hill-Billies spoke for the Euro-colonial radical working class, by singing the Ballad of Joe Hill and some of his songs, as well as some Daryl Cherney tunes and some originals including "Feel like I'm Fixin to Buy".

The door was "pay what you can", but people donated generously. We made a lot of money on food, which was a collective effort of about ten people who brought a well-balanced variety of healthy eats. We used no throw-away containers. The IWW was the main sponsor, we had our flag there and literature.

The success of this small venture was due to the wide but invisible support in the public for the Kanehsatake action. People were grateful for a chance to show their support.

We would like to provide more venues for music workers to earn a wage - we hope a better wage next time - and in the process, to establish solidarity on the part of music workers when it comes to employment for commercial clubs. At present, there are virtually no venues here for live alternative music, and with a little energy we could take over the music industry in Ottawa and have it controlled by the music workers themselves. -x337405

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