



# Industrial Worker



★ Education

★ Organization  
OCTOBER 1993

★ Emancipation  
ONE DOLLAR

Vol. 90 No. 1564

## IWW Temple Grad Student Fired for Union Organizing

IWW organizer Anthony Newkirk, a Ph.D. candidate at Temple University who has taught there since 1989, first as a Teaching Assistant and then as a part-time instructor, has been told by Temple administrators that he will no longer be permitted to teach there.

Newkirk was active in efforts by the Graduate Student Employee Association (AFSCME) to organize Temple T.A.s during a 1989-90 organizing campaign, and served as GSEA liaison to the faculty union during the faculty's month-long strike. Although more than 800 of Temple's 1100 graduate employees signed authorization cards and GSEA conducted a 2-day strike in Fall 1990, that drive ultimately collapsed. When it became clear that Temple would not voluntarily accept the unionization of its graduate employees,

AFSCME professional organizers abandoned the drive, refusing even to return workers' phone calls.

In Fall 1992, convinced that business unionism could not effectively meet graduate employees' needs, Newkirk joined the Education Workers Industrial Union 620 of the Industrial Workers of the World. Last Spring Newkirk and other IWW members launched an organizing drive based on grassroots, departmental organizing which has held several successful meetings.

The university has decided to make an example of him in an effort to intimidate its graduate students. As the IWW's delegate at Temple University, as a long-time graduate student organizer, and as an educator, Newkirk was told he was no longer welcome to teach at Temple. Although Newkirk had

received positive student evaluations for several years, some students allegedly complained about his teaching methods last Spring, providing a "justification" for the history dept. chair, Dr. Hilty, to ban him from future teaching assignments.

Graduate students at Temple have no rights. Newkirk was not given a review, an opportunity to contest the decision, or even an opportunity to investigate the nature of the complaints. And although Newkirk was a part-time employee, not a graduate assistant, the University has cruelly contested his right to receive unemployment benefits because of his student status. **Please write:**

**Dr. Carolyn Adams, Dean of College of Arts & Sciences, Anderson Hall 12th floor, Temple University, Philadelphia PA 19122**

Ask that Anthony Newkirk be given an open and public hearing to clear his name, and that he have the opportunity to continue his work as an educator. The IWW's Philadelphia General Membership Branch (4722 Baltimore Ave., Philadelphia PA 19143) requests a copy of your letter, noting, "These letters of support are very important to us because they will establish that graduate students are not alone... and that there is solidarity among workers."

--Excerpted from the (forthcoming) Fall 1993 issue of the Education WOB: Workers Organizing Bulletin Education Workers Industrial Union 620 Industrial Workers of the World (IWW). For information: Box 762, Cortland NY 13045



"I'VE ALWAYS BEEN TOO LIGHT FOR HEAVY WORK AND TOO HEAVY FOR LIGHT WORK!"

## Work Place Murder on Rise

Depressed and frustrated workers are killing their bosses at twice the rate of a decade ago. And more rank-and-file workers lives are endangered by angry co-workers or armed robbers.

In the USA, workers kill about 2 bosses a month on average -- up from one per month just 10 years ago. According to James Fox & Jack Levin, authors of *Mass Murder: America's Growing Menace*, the problem is likely to get worse, as more middle-aged workers are squeezed out by job cutbacks and few replacement jobs are available. They cite a study of 31 states in 1991, which reports homicides accounted for 14% of a total 3,822 job-related deaths. The same study gave homicide as the 3rd leading cause of workplace death in New York City. (contributed by Steve Kellerman)

## Dying For Wages

- Transport accidents 30%
- Worker struck by objects, vehicles 17%
- Homicides 14%
- Falls 11%
- Miscellaneous 9%
- Compression by equipment or objects 7%
- Electrocution 6%
- Explosions 3%
- Toxic or caustic substance 3%

Source: USA Bureau of Labor Statistics, Census of Total Occupational Injuries

## Around the Union



## Santa Cruz IWW Supports Mushroom Workers

by X342281

On August 19, fellow worker X341697 made phone calls to get more details about a *Santa Cruz Sentinel* story of a strike in progress at Sunrise Mushrooms, in Pajaro Valley. The workers are members of the Independent Union of Agricultural Workers, a local independent union of 1200 members and 8 job shops. Though the said rag agreed for future articles to call the scabs *replacement workers* instead of *new employees*, the term used in the story, the *Sentinel* was unable to provide even a contact number. The article also failed to mention that the "union leader" Pete Maturino, who sheriff deputies called the "main instigator" of problems at the picket line, was actually the IUAW's elected president.

3 Santa Cruz Wobblies, with the help of Santa Cruz Refuse & Resist, drove out to visit the picket line that same day. At issue for the 145 workers in the job shop are wage cuts from \$5 to \$4.75 per hour, piecework rate cuts from \$1.50 to \$1.20, and cuts in employer subsidies for benefits, and a one year instead of 3-year contract. Though the company had agreed to \$1.35 piecework during 7-month negotiations, bargaining had reached an impasse. The company implemented its conditions, and the union members voted to strike.

"When you're fighting for \$5 an hour, things are *bad*," remarked Maturino. "The Sunrise owners are making it into a personal struggle... We're willing to work with them if they're losing money, but we want to see the books... and see them a year from now, and re-negotiate if they're doing better..."

Sunrise Mushroom company president Douglas Ganner has been steadfast in demands for a 3-year contract at reduced pay rates. Maturino says, "Some of us have been here for 20 years... these are skilled jobs... this isn't right. We need moral support."

After visiting the picket line, FW X341697 called IWW General Headquarters from a pay phone and informed Secretary-Treasurer Harry Siitonen of the situation. The same day Siitonen conversed with Maturino and faxed a letter of support.

On August 24, a Wobbly contingent joined a rally of over 200 IUAW

protestors with red flags in front of Watsonville City Hall. When the city council was convened, they packed the chambers and demanded that Mayor Oscar Rios intervene and mediate. One immigrant mother of two children, speaking to the council through translation, "I've never asked for assistance from the American government since I arrived," but that living on the reduced wages would be nearly impossible. "I believe that you as our representatives of this city are obligated to help us," she concluded. The council pushed through a resolution supporting the IUAW's right to strike and agreeing to mediate the conflict, with very little discussion and no dissent. It was obvious that the mobilized people power quashed the usual reluctance of the state to acknowledge the needs of working people.

The next day, Wobblies followed up on the issue by visiting La Familia Center, Barrios Unidos, and speaking with the publisher of *El Andar*, a large local Spanish language monthly due to go to press in a few days. Copies of an IUAW flyer, faxed to Santa Cruz that morning, were given out. Two days later, FW X341697 posted the IUAW flyer throughout the neighborhoods in Santa Cruz where Sunrise Mushrooms company has recruited scabs. Another Wobbly translated the flyer into English. On August 27, Santa Cruz IWW branch approved its own letter of support, which says: "We see your struggle as part of the larger struggle of all workers against those employers who deny through their actions that labor is entitled to all it produces, and in that struggle, an injury to one is an injury to all."

Contact is continuing between Santa Cruz IWW and IUAW, and our support has been well received by the leadership and rank-and-file alike, despite cultural and language differences. Solidarity has been strong from workers in neighboring farms: "We don't like what's happening here, and we don't want it to happen to us," said a worker from another farm. As of September 9, negotiations remain stalled and the strike continues. Says Francisco Guerrero, "We'll stay here until we die of hunger."



Letters from industrial workers to Industrial Worker



"I LEFT MY LAST JOB AS A TESTER IN A TOILET SEAT FACTORY BECAUSE IT TOOK TOO MUCH OUT OF ME!"

Friends:  
Today I received the Industrial Worker and found it well worth reading, as usual. I used to read it when I lived in Minneapolis, where it was for sale at Schneiders News Stand. It had a letter to the editor from me back in April 1991. Enclosed find some cartoons which I recently drew up.  
-- James Gardner Erickson

Dear Friends,  
Oh! Thank for your newspaper. Here's some news: In Colombia, several telephone union workers are jailed as terrorists because of sabotage during last year's strike. Current laws equal labor strikes with guerillas bombing of facilities. Another bad situation is in Uraba region, near Panama's frontier, where Banano

Enterprises workers have been killed in a war between Popular Liberation Army guerillas and their former comrades at right-wing People's Commandos, who re-inserted into civil life (?) but now are allied with the Army and the right-wing death squads.

About Proletkult Distro, we want some literature we can copy by ourselves, as Wobblies Spanish language flyers. We'd like to distribute your paper, but our economic situation isn't good. The same for music, we can receive a tape and copy it ourselves to distribute it. We can trade, too, so -- if you want -- we can receive some IW's -- air mail is best/fastest/cheapest way. Here in Bogota isn't a market because English language people is mainly mainstream guys, not interested in radical labor news. We distribute English language stuff by mail.

can send us cash or trade us stuff -- the latter is best because US\$ is stolen many times. --Solidarity, David, Resistencia Redskin

Here is a sample of music cassettes available from Proletkult Distro, D. Moreno, AA 56385, Bogota 2 DC, Colombia. \$4 each.  
Blaggers I.T.A.--Live At "The Square" Harlow 1/5/92 (12 songs)  
Sumpfpapste--See What It Is (14 songs)  
No Al V Centenario-- Mexican Compilation, 20 bands.  
Disolucion Moral--Revolucion Oi! (19 songs)  
Worm--Good Thing Going (13 songs)  
La Cruda--De Marte (14 songs)  
2.5 Children Inc.--Good Mourning America  
Comrade--Red London  
Minoria H.C.--Mayoria Ekivokada (20 songs)

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IWW Industrial Union Directory

**FOREST WORKERS IU 120**  
IU120 Aardvark Sawmill Co. -David Everest, PO Box 54 Balfour BC V0G 1C0 Canada. (604)229-4978  
**BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IU 330**  
IU330 Custom Wood Screen Doors Artisan Shop- Paul Kay, 606 Alamo Pintado #3262, Solvang CA 93463. (805)688-0123  
**PRINT & PUBLISHING WORKERS IU 450**  
IU450 Blackbird Design Job Shop -394 Euclid Ave. #301, Toronto ON M6G 2S9 Canada. (416)941-9945  
IU450 Harbinger Publications Job Shop -Delegate: Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd., Columbia SC 29201 (803)254-9398  
IU450 Lakeside Press Job Shop -1334 Williamson, Madison WI 53703. (608)255-1800  
IU450 New Earth Press Job Shop -1921 Ashby Ave. Berkeley CA 94703. (510)549-0176  
IU450 P&L Printing Job Shop -2298 Clay, Denver CO 80211. (303)433-1852  
IU450 Street of Crocodiles Letter Press Job Shop PO Box 20610, Seattle WA 98102. (206)726-5924  
IU450 Typesetting Etc. Job Shop -1095 Market St. #210, San Francisco CA 94103

**FOOD WORKERS IU 460**  
IU460 Fairhaven Co-operative Flour Mill Job Shop 1115 Railroad Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225  
**MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS IU 510**  
IU510 West Coast MTW -- Sea Dive Job Shop Delegate: Colin Dewey 60 Walter St. San Francisco CA 94114  
**FREIGHT TRANSPORT WORKERS**  
MARITIME IU510 - RAIL IU520 - TRUCKING IU530 MUNICIPAL IU540 -- AIR IU550  
Industrial Transportation Research & Organizing Project Arthur J. Miller, PO Box 5464 Tacoma WA 98415-0464  
**EDUCATION WORKERS IU 620**  
IU620 Education WOB (Workers Organizing Bulletin) EWIU 620, PO Box 762, Cortland NY 13045  
IU620 UC Berkeley Recyclers Job Branch 620 Eshleman, Berkeley CA 94720  
**ENTERTAINMENT WORKERS IU 630**  
IU630 General Organizing Committee Coordinator Jim Barclay 75A Elm St., Worcester MA 01609  
IU630 Boulevard Bingo Job Shop -Delegate: Tina Gaffney (215)821-5622  
IU630 Buskers Rag Newsletter PO Box 1400, Brewster MA 02631  
IU630 The Living Theatre Job Shop -PO Box 20180,

New York NY 10009 - 8959. Tel: (212)865-3957 Fax: (212)865-3234  
IU630 Musicians & Performing Artists Reference Library -Worcester Public Library, Salem Square, Worcester MA 01608  
IU630 SF Bay Area Jazz Musicians' Service Organization (510)704-0234  
IU630 Workers Stories & Workers Lives Job Shop c/o SE Michigan GMB, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn MI 48126  
**GENERAL DISTRIBUTION WORKERS IU 660**  
IU660 Aron's Records Job Shop -Los Angeles CA. delegate: Andrew Willett (213)255-9094  
IU660 Jura Books Job Shop -110 Crystal St. Petersham, Sydney NSW, Australia  
IU660 Time Tested Books Job Shop 1114 -- 21st. Street, Sacramento CA 95814. (916)447-5696  
IU660 Wooden Shoe Books & Records Job Shop 112 S. 20th St. Philadelphia PA 19103. (215)569-2477  
**PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS IU 670**  
IU670 Ann Arbor Tenants Union Job Shop 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109. (313)763-6876  
IU670 Berkeley Recycling Center Job Shop M. Carlstroem, 2515 Piedmont #8, Berkeley CA 94607.  
IU670 Socialist Party USA Nat'l Office Job Shop 516 W. 25th St. #404, New York NY 10001.(212)691-0776

Industrial Worker



Industrial Worker Collective

Articles may be submitted to any of the following editors:  
IW Coordinator: PO Box 4217, Stn E, Ottawa ON K1S 5B2 Canada. Deadline for copy, 10th of each month. Tel: (613) 231-2922.  
E-Mail: indwrk@web.apc.org  
Chicago IW Editors; Literature Dept: 1476 Irving Park, Chicago IL 60613.  
E-Mail: jditz@igc.apc.org  
International & Book Reviews: PO Box 762, Cortland NY 13045.  
E-Mail: jbekken@apc.igc.org  
Humor & Cartoons: Wage Slave World News Box 1217 Madison WI 53702  
E-mail: huckkono@igc.apc.org  
Denver IW Editors: 2412 E. Colfax, Denver CO 80206.  
Peace/Nukes/Conversion: Mother Courage Productions, 4720 S. Findlay, Seattle WA 98118  
Tel: (206)723-0403  
Feature Articles Planning: Michael Kozura, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn MI 48126. Tel: (313) 581-2065  
Mail Coordinators: Madison GMB.

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IWW Directory

Job Shop: IWW organized workplace. GMB: General Membership Branch. Group: IWW members in the same locale. IU: Industrial Union. Delegate: member who collects dues and signs up new members.

**AUSTRALIA**  
NEW SOUTH WALES  
Jura Books -110 Crystal St, Petersham, Sydney, NSW  
Sydney Area Group -Del: Ray Elbourne, Corner Dittons Ln. & Old Illawara Hwy, Sutton Forest NSW 2577.  
VICTORIA  
Melbourne Area Group - PO Box 1738Q GPO, Melbourne, Victoria 3001.  
**CANADA**  
BRITISH COLUMBIA  
SE BC Group-POB 54, Balfour,V0G 1C0. Contact: David Everest 604/229-4978  
MANITOBA  
Winnipeg GMB - B. Mackay, PO Box 3204, GNPO, R3C 4E7  
ONTARIO  
Blackbird Design IU450 Job Shop- 394 Euclid Ave #301, Toronto M6G 2S9 416/972-6293  
Kingston Group -472 Albert St. K7L 3W3 613/544-2382.Dl:Brad Waugh 613/549-6094  
Ottawa GMB-POB 4217 Stn E, K1S 5B2. 613/231-2922  
Toronto Group-11 Andrews Ave M6J 1S2. 416/941-9945 Meetings 1st Thurs. of month 7 pm; phone for location.  
**UNITED KINGDOM**  
Leicester Del: F.Lee 22 Vicarage Lane Belgrave, LE4 5PD. 053/366-1835  
Swindon/Bristol/Oxford GMB Contact: Kevin Brandstatter, 9 Omdurman St. Swindon, Wilts SN2 1HA  
York -Delegate: D.Czunys, 13 Wolsley, York YO15BQ.

**UNITED STATES**  
CALIFORNIA  
Berkeley:  
Berkeley Recycling Ctr IU670 Job Shop - M. Carlstroem 2515 Piedmont #8, 94607  
New Earth Press IU450 Job Shop- 1921 Ashby Avenue, 94703. Delegate: Dave Karoly 510/549-0176.  
UC Berkeley Recyclers Industrial Union 620 Branch- 620 Eshleman, 94720. Delegate: Daniel Widener.

IWW Local 1/Mendocino-Humboldt GMB-Delegates: Judi Bari, POB 656 Willits 95490.(msg:707/468-1660); Herb Jager 114 E. Laurel, Ft. Bragg 95437 (707/937-3457).  
Greater Los Angeles GMB -Delegate: Andrew Willett, 1136 Arbor Dell Rd. Los Angeles CA 90041.  
Sacramento- Time Tested Books IU660- 1114 21st St, 95814. 916/447-5696

San Diego Group - RMR Kroopkin, 2675 Fletcher Pkwy #211, El Cajon CA 92020. 619/460-2907  
Santa Cruz GMB-PO Box 534, 95061.  
San Francisco:  
SF Bay Area GMB - 1095 Market St. #204, 94103. 415/863-WOBS  
Typesetting Etc. IU450 Job Shop - 1095 Market St. #210, 94103  
West Coast Marine Transport Workers IU510 Delegate: Colin Dewey 60 Walter St., 94114. 415/864-6037.  
**COLORADO**  
Denver:  
Denver/Boulder GMB-2412 E. Colfax, 80206 (303/388-1065) Office hrs Sat.9-12. Meetings 1st Thur.@month 7 pm Del:Cliff Sundstrom, 910 E 8th Ave #202, 80218 (303/832-7602). Brendan Ruiz,PO Box 370663, 80237-0663.  
P&L Printing IU450 Job Shop- 2298 Clay, 80211. 303/433-1852  
**FLORIDA**  
Delegate: J. Lewis, 345 Ocean Dr. #1103, Miami Beach 33139  
**GEORGIA**  
Atlanta Group - 340 Elmira Pl, 30307. 404/524-1243  
**HAWAII**  
Honolulu Group- Del: D. Goldsmith Box 469 University Sta. 96822  
**IDAHO**  
Boise Group - Delegate: W. Cohan, PO Box 822, Caldwell ID 83606.  
**ILLINOIS**  
Chicago GMB -New World Resource Ctr 1476 Irving Park, 60613. 312/549-5045. Meetings, 1st Friday 7:30 pm.  
**LOUISIANA**  
Baton Rouge Group- Del: Steve Donahue 729 Bungalow Lane 70802. (504) 389-9572.

**MARYLAND**  
Baltimore GMB -R.Bey, Black Shield, Box 1681, Glen Burnie 21060. 301/367-3024  
**MICHIGAN**  
Ann Arbor Tenants Union IU670 Job Shop- 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor 48109. 313/763-6876.  
SE Mich. GMB- Delegates:Albert Parsons 313/769-0695; Michael Kozura, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn 48126. 313/581-2065  
**MINNESOTA**  
Minneapolis/St. Paul Group - Box 2391, Loop Stn, 55402. 612/339-5002  
Duluth Group - 1514 N. 8th Ave. E, 55805. Delegate: Jack Rosenquist  
**MISSISSIPPI**  
Gulfport Group-C.G.Streuly 601/896-3515  
**MONTANA**  
Butte- Contact: Mark Ross, 111 W. Quartz, 59701. 406/782-4465  
**NEVADA**  
Tahoe Group - Larry Steinberg, PO Box 1114, Dayton 89403. 702/246-3120  
**NEW JERSEY**

Paterson Group-PO Box 8532,Haledon NJ 07508. Del: Matt Bolton 201/790-3076  
**NEW YORK**  
Central NY Group-POBox 762, Cortland 13045  
NY GMB-Delegates: Brian Mahoney 1717 N.Thompson Dr, Bay Shore NY 11706 (516/586-2103); Rochelle Semel, RD 1 Box 158-B, Hartwick 13348.(607/293-6489)  
Socialist Party USA Natl Office IU670 Job Shop- 516 W. 25th St. #404, NYC 10001. 212/691-0776  
**PENNSYLVANIA**  
Lancaster Group-PO Box 2084, 17608  
Boulevard Bingo IU6 Job Shop- Delegate: Tina Gaffney 215/821-5622.  
Lehigh Valley GMB-POB 4133 Bethlehem 18018. Tel:215/253-5057. Delegates:Jeff Kelly 215/866-5728; Mike D'Amore 215/434-0218.  
Reading Group-PO Box 8468, 19603. Delegates:Dennis Good: 215/921-2459; Rick Page.215/562-3487  
Philadelphia:  
Philadelphia GMB- 4722 Baltimore Ave. 19143. (215)747-0855.  
Temple University IWW Group-2106 N. Broad St. 19122. Contact: Anthony Newkirk (215) 765-3511.  
Wooden Shoe Books & Records IU660 Job Shop - 112 S. 20th St, Philadelphia 19103. 215/569-2477.  
**SOUTH CAROLINA**  
Harbinger Publications IU450 Job Shop- Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd. Columbia 29201. 803/254-9398  
**TEXAS**  
Austin Group - PO Box 49523, 78765. 512/416-9619  
**UTAH**  
Salt Lake Group - Tony Rochrig, PO Box 520514, Salt Lake City 84152-0514. 801/485-1969  
**VERMONT**  
Burlington Group-Anne Petermann, Orin Langle POBox 804, 05402. 802/658-2403  
**WASHINGTON**  
Industrial Transportation Research & Organizing Project- Arthur J. Miller, PO Box 5464, Tacoma 98415-0464  
Seattle Group-POB 20402, Seattle 98102. 206/367-0477. Delegate: Stan Anderson.  
Street of Crocodiles Letter Press IU450 Job Shop- PO Box 20610, Seattle 98102. 206/726-5924  
**WEST VIRGINIA**  
Delegate: Rick Wilson, 1019 2nd St.W. Huntington WV 25701  
**WISCONSIN**  
Lakeside Press IU450 Job Shop- 1334 Williamson, Madison 53703. 608/255-1800. Delegate: Jerry Chernow  
Madison GMB-Box 2605, 53701. 608/255-1800. Del: Tim Wong, Jerry Chernow



# Around the Union

**600 HEALTH SERVICE WORKERS - LU 610**  
**EDUCATIONAL WORKERS - LU 620**  
**RECREATIONAL WORKERS - LU 630**  
**RESTAURANT, HOTEL AND BUILDING SERVICE WORKERS - LU 640**  
**ALL WORKERS EMPLOYED IN HOSPITALS AND HEALTH RESTORATION SERVICES**

**NOTICE: TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT**  
 ALL WORKERS EMPLOYED IN TRANSPORTATION DEPARTMENT

**300 OF GENERAL CONSTRUCTION**  
**500 TRANSPORTATION COMMUNICATION DEPARTMENT**

## Aron's Records Are You Now, Or Have You Ever Been...

After the IWW filed a request for a Union election with the NLRB, life became very interesting at Aron's Records in Los Angeles. Management was taken unaware by the union effort and was not pleased. Within a week of the filing it became apparent that one employee who had been involved in the Union effort early on had switched sides. This individual began circulating an anti-Union petition with the cooperation of one of the supervisors. Employees were told that conditions would be better once the Union was defeated and that signing the pro-boss petition was the best way to go. Nothing was done with this petition except it was probably used by the bosses as a sort of head count. The gathering of signatures on this petition was done by the aforementioned employee and supervisor during work time and in work space, after IWW organizer/employee Andrew Willett was told not to leaflet except in the break room or outside after business hours or during breaks only. Unfair labor practice charges have been filed against management (not that this means much).

On June 28 a 6-hour hearing took place to resolve issues disagreed upon between the Union and the owners. The first issue that management raised was its belief that the IWW is not a labor organization. The bosses' lawyer asked FW Willett if he is a member of the communist party and then read from the IWW Preamble with a tone of

horrified shock, and inquired as to whether FW Willett subscribed to the philosophy of the Preamble. Of course the answer to this question was a calm, sure "yes." The appropriateness of certain individuals and job classifications within the proposed bargaining units (the body of employees who are able to vote and be represented). The hearing resulted in favorable rulings for the Union on most issues, including the IWW's existence as a labor organization.

Since the hearing some employees no longer work there and new ones have arrived. Of the new employees, one is the niece of one of the store's owners, and another is this niece's best friend, while yet a third is the daughter of the financial advisor for another of the owners. Draw your own conclusions.

The election August 20, was a close issue and could have gone either way. There had been an atmosphere of euphoria in the shop at times, and one of back-stabbing paranoia at other times. When the votes were counted there was not enough Union support for NLRB certification. But at least 1/4 to 1/3 of the employees remain in favor of unionizing the workplace, and the struggle continues.

### Other Doings in Los Angeles

Some fellow workers have been active in the attempt to organize delivery drivers of the *L.A. Weekly* newspaper with the IU530 of the IWW. The paper plays at having a liberal, pro-labor image but is simply in the business for advertisers' cash. The drivers are paid between \$50-\$100 each Thursday for a long hard day's driving in their own vehicles on their own gasoline. They have no benefits or job security and are the only workers associated with the paper who are not unionized. They are also the only workforce of the paper who is mostly Hispanic. First the Wob

organizers were thrown out of the company lot by a supervisor. Then on a following morning the same supervisor attempted to shout the Wobs off the public sidewalk adjacent to the lot. The poor over-excited man was unsuccessful of course, and simply provided entertainment for the drivers.

On Sunday, Sept. 26 the Los Angeles GMB will host a benefit downstairs at the Grassy Knoll coffee house. The benefit will feature local Wobs and others performing music, skits and poetry. Proceeds will go toward establishment of a community center out of which the local IWW, Free Association Society (an anarchist education group), and Food Not Bombs can operate. Keep on the lookout for more news on the above events, and others such as a Film Workers Organization for IU630. --X341813

### Chicago Branch

*War Zone News* is being produced and distributed by fellow workers with short news items about the struggle at Staley. The P-9 network is being revived to aid workers who are locked out. Efforts to link up other labor struggles in Illinois and the midwest are being made. The Chicago GMB voted to send \$150 to AIWA 837 Staley workers.

### British Wobblies General Membership Branch

We had a long discussion on our structure in Britain and ultimately resolved not to set up a British Section but to establish General Membership Branches with a General Organizing Committee to coordinate activity. To this end members in the Swindon area (in its widest sense!) signed a petition to establish a Swindon-Bristol-Oxford GMB, as the first GMB in Britain. (Kevin Brandstatter, *GOB* Jul-Aug93).

Across the Atlantic in Canada, Ottawa members have also petitioned for GMB status.

### Bingo's "New Boss" Violates Contract

Boulevard Bingo workers reported September 4 that management was refusing to negotiate, violating the contract agreement made in July. The contract recognizes the IWW as the bargaining agent for the workers, as well as agreements on back pay, grievance procedures and work rules.

Management of the Bingo hall has been taken over by its co-owner, Allied Air Force. AAF's purpose as a non-profit organization is to preserve old airplanes. The hall is open only 2 days a week since Pennsylvania Assoc. of Songwriters, Composers & Lyricists (PASCAL) had its charity license revoked by the state. Apparently the state figured PASCAL president Havassey was not being very charitable with the proceeds from the Bingo. The revoked license went into effect immediately after Havassey signed the IWW contract.

The agreement specified management must contact the Union to negotiate further points of the contract by August 31. But no contact had been made.

The new AAF boss was rarely seen on the shop floor; an improvement over Havassey's style. Floor supervisors refused to discuss grievances, saying they would give them to the boss. But the boss was not talking. Scabs hired during the dispute were still on the job; some had agitated for an NLRB election to try and decertify the Union with scab votes -- now that the Union has won slightly better conditions!

**100 OF AGRICULTURE AND FISHERIES DEPARTMENT**

## IU 630 Entertainment Workers General Organizing Committee Notes

excerpts from Corresponding Secretary James Barclay

The GOC will soon have enough active members (25) to form an Industrial Union administration. FW Clayton figures if we each bring in one new member we can do it up. A new member wants to start a Boston/Cambridge GMB. Poet, activist, teacher, heavy into the poetry slams scene.

4 more pamphlets laid out on Copyrights, Trade & Service Marks, Anarchism, Personalism. Planned are *Staying on the Road*, *How to Organize*, *The Performer/Audience Connection*, and a new improved IU 630 pamphlet. (Already available are *Street Artists Guide*, *Negotiating the Performance Contract*, *How to Gig in a Coffeehouse (Sort Of)*, and *The Musician's Survival Kit*. Pamphlets are \$1 apiece and may be reproduced for free distribution, but may not be sold.)

Did you see Pete Seeger's column "Johnny Appleseed" in the latest *Sing Out*? Yep, he called us "International Workers of the World." He should know better. He has been sent a copy of *Industrial Worker* and invitation to join the IWW (What can he say? "No?")

Contacts made with Santa Cruz Street Artists. IU630 needs women! Recruit some today. Trying to set up an IWW recruiting concert and open mike at Worcester's Coffee Kingdom. Paul sent some stuff on Tom Scribner, the Wobbly inventor of the musical saw.

I will be putting together a shorter contract for all performers, a really bare bones thing called "Basic Entertainment Services Standard Artist Performance Contract." On the reverse side will be lines for additions or other stuff so it can be tailor made to the event and the performer. Easier on the eyes and just as legal as the longer version. Let's start using our IWW contracts.

### Songbook Peek

The IWW Songbook Committee reported to Chicago GMB that 65 out of 100 songs have been typeset; a Konopacki-designed cover with the Sabo-Cat had been chosen.

### Len Wallace Shares Production Costs

IWW musical performer Len Wallace of Windsor, Ontario is bold about asking people to buy his cassettes and CD's. So bold, he wants the money before the products are made.

"...recording is often a problem for independent artists because of enormous upfront costs -- studio time, manufacturing, printing, packaging," says Wallace. "The fact that world capitalism is in economic crisis doesn't help. I, however, have a partial solution."

"Governments around the world are slashing budgets... unlike those governments I say, prime the pump and let's get production moving! Give me the capital and I'll not only make you a product, but I'll get it distributed to you!"

FW Wallace includes the advance-purchase offer with his announcement of his latest upcoming cassette/CD release. Accordion and bodhran back up vocals.

"We're talking speed-drunk Celto-Slavic fusion and polka-thrash that's so politically charged it'll give you red diaper rash!" says Wallace of the new recording. Original titles on the new release include "Men of the Midnight Shift," written about the 1992 Westray mine disaster in Nova Scotia; "Cold Piece of Steel," about auto workers; "Leaving the Fishing Behind," and "Back Breaking Day."

Len offers a discount for advance orders, \$6 cassette and \$10 CD. To find out more about how FW Wallace controls production in spite of capitalist monopolies, contact: Len Wallace, 346 Randolph St., Windsor ON N9B 2T6 Canada. Tel: (519)973-3981.



**600 PUBLIC SERVICE DEPARTMENT**

## UNION SECURITY The Bargaining Unit

**400 OF MANUFACTURE AND GENERAL CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT**

Excerpted from IWW Collective Bargaining Manual... Copies available for \$2.50 from IWW New York Branch, RD 1, Box 158-B, Hartwick NY 13348.

The bargaining unit is the group of employees represented by the Union in collective bargaining. A bargaining unit that includes all the employees essential to the operation of the workplace is absolutely necessary to maintain strength on the job.

The U.S. National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) defines the bargaining unit as: "... (a) mutuality of interest in wages, hours, and working conditions... the Board looks to such factors as the duties, skills, and working conditions of the employees involved, and especially in any existing bargaining history."

If an employer recognizes and bargains with a Union without an NLRB election, the parties to the agreement may define the bargaining unit as they wish. When management challenges a unit, the NLRB looks at job functions, work locations, and the conditions of employment in deciding whether workers have a "mutuality of interest."

**Who gets excluded from the bargaining unit? Supervisors are excluded.** Under the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) they are not considered employees. The NLRA defines a supervisor as: "any individual having authority in the interest of the employer to hire, transfer, suspend, layoff, recall, promote, discharge, assign, reward, or discipline other employees, or responsibility to direct them to adjust their grievances, or effectively to recommend such action, if in connection with the foregoing the exercise of such authority is not of a merely routine or clerical nature, but requires the use of independent judgement." *Managerial employees are excluded* if "their position with the employer presents a potential conflict of interest between the employer and the workers... closely related to or aligned with management." *Confidential employees are excluded.* "Confidentiality" is defined as having ability to "determine, formulate, and effectuate management

policies in the field of labor relations".

There are other miscellaneous exclusions.... The general principle is that management will want to keep as many workers out of the unit as possible, labelling them managerial, supervisory or confidential. But employees who organize and direct work for themselves or are given a fancy title are not necessarily supervisors or managers. Confidential employees must have direct access to labor relations information, not simply work on payroll or personnel records.

... One of the constant running battles between the union and the employer will always be the employer's attempt to get more and more key people out of the bargaining unit and thereby weaken the union's effectiveness in a strike. Be prepared for the employer to try and nibble away at union jobs each negotiation, and consider the long-term effect on the union before granting exemptions in return for something else the union wants.

Remember that you do not have to worry about defining a bargaining unit if the employer agrees to recognize the Union as the exclusive bargaining agent for the employees.

The sample bargaining unit-recognition clause below meets NLRB requirements. Do not include phrases such as "for employees in the classification listed in this agreement," because the employer may try to exclude certain employees by changing their job titles or invent new job classifications with the introduction of every new machine. "All employees" should take care of future changes in the workplace and the workforce.

### SAMPLE RECOGNITION CLAUSE

"The employer agrees to recognize the Union as the exclusive bargaining agent for all employees, excluding supervisors and guards, as defined in the Labor Management Relations Act of 1947."



# International Notes

## Guatemala's New PepsiCo Union

19 August, workers at Embotelladora La Mariposa S.A. (PepsiCo franchise in Guatemala) filed a legal document requesting respect for workers' dignity, freedom of association and labour stability. On the same day they gave a copy of the constitution of their union, Sindicato de Trabajadores Embotelladora La Mariposa SA (SITRAEMSA) to the General Inspectorate of Labour. These are the normal steps to begin the process of union recognition.

The reaction of the company management was severe:

21 Aug: No union information was allowed into the plant. 23 Aug: Management blames the foundation of the union on Coca-Cola salesmen. Since then management has issued 4-5 bulletins a day, denouncing various unions including IUF affiliate FESTRAS and the IUF itself. The mass media has refused all statements from the union (Pepsi is a major advertiser). 23 Aug: Persons in vehicles without license plates and with polarized windows began to put the IUF Guatemala office under surveillance.

24 Aug: Raul Rodriguez, of the union executive, was kidnapped for 6 hours, threatened with death and forced to sign a withdrawal from employment and from the union. Union general secretary Fabio Mazariegas and 2 other workers (one, Adan Rodriguez, was imprisoned in the factory for 36 hours), were threatened with death by 2 of the company's owners.

31 Aug: Crisanto Garcia was held 5 hours by one of the owners and the Manager of Human Resources, who forced him to sign his resignation.

2 Sept: During the night armed men came to the home of Crisanto Garcia, threatening his wife.

Members of other unions leafletting the Pepsi Cola plant in support are being photographed by uniformed men and followed by black vehicles with polarized windows. Salesmen from the Pepsi plant are being ordered to steal or destroy at least 150 cases of Coca-Cola bottles weekly. The intention is probably to encourage confrontations between Pepsi and Coke sellers, and weaken solidarity among their unions. The Coca-Cola franchise and the union that represents its workers have decided to avoid being provoked into fights.

Mariposa SA belongs to a family group controlled by the Castillo brothers, one of the most powerful groups in Guatemala, who control other beverage, food and finance companies.

We must only recall how many workers' lives it cost to win the struggle to unionize the Coca Cola franchise in Guatemala City. Therefore, we are asking for urgent action to safeguard the new union and the lives of its leaders and members.

1. Hold PepsiCo accountable for repressive actions of its franchise in Guatemala. Write:

Mr. Wayne Calloway, CEO PepsiCo  
700 Anderson Hill Rd.  
Purchase, NY 10577 USA  
Fax: +1 914 253 2070

2. Request urgent intervention of Guatemala's President:

Lic. Ramiro de Leon Carpio,  
President of Guatemala, Palacio  
National,  
Guatemala, Guatemala  
Fax: +5022 519702

3. Please send copies to the IUF,  
Rampe du Pont-Rouge 8, CH-1213  
Petit Lancy, Switzerland, Fax: +41 22  
793 22 38, Phone +41 22 793  
22 33. --Dan Gallin, IUF Gen. Sec.  
(International Union of Food,  
Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant,  
Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers'  
Associations (IUF) is a federation of  
226 trade unions in 90 countries,  
representing 2.3 million workers.)

## INTERNATIONAL EARTH NIGHTS

OCTOBER 31st TO NOVEMBER 5th



MAKE IT A HALLOWEEN  
TO REMEMBER

EARTH LIBERATION FRONT

## Russia's Mafiosi Capitalism

Irina Glushchenko & Renfrey Clarke  
(excerpts)

Moscow now has one of the worst crime rates of any major capital. Official figures report 3 murders a day; 80 per day for Russia as a whole, more than twice the US murder rate and 25 times the British. Russian Interior Minister Victor Yerin said murders in 1993 were up 50% over last year. According to Yerin, this year has seen a 200% increase in gun crimes. In a society where the possession of a hunting rifle used to be strictly policed, illicit firearms from pistols to assault rifles are now abundant and cheap. Often the arms traffic starts at factory gates, with workers stealing weapons and components to supplement tiny wages. Youth crime and rapes are up 16%.

The crime rate increase has proceeded in close step with pro-capitalist reforms. When a country in catastrophic depression boasts a large crop of new, big-spending dollar millionaires -- 20,000 of them in Moscow alone -- it's obvious that a great deal of the new "biznes" consists of the theft of state property. Russia's new economic elite consists partly of "mafiosi" -- often people who accumulated large ruble hoards through racketeering in the 1980s -- and partly of former party and state officials who gained their original capital by corruption. Today, it is often impossible to draw a clear line between banditry and business.

"There is now no doubt that organised crime in our country has reached major dimensions, and has penetrated all...the structures of power," observes Mikhail Slinko, investigator for the Moscow prosecutor's office. Slinko distinguishes several types of organised criminal formation, from small gangs of burglars and extortionists to "mafia formations," combining both legal and illegal activity. Such syndicates always have a legal cover, in the form of various commercial structures.

According to Yerin, Russia now has 3000 criminal gangs, including 150 major syndicates. The power and boldness of the latter are highlighted by reports that organised crime is aiming to seize control of Russia's commercial banking system. "In the recent period ten leading bankers have been murdered or have been the targets of

assassination attempts," *Izvestiya* reported in July.

In fact, Russia's commercial banks have always been closely associated with mafia structures -- and not simply because the capital deposits often derive from criminal activity. Without the help of mafia groups, many banks in Russia would be unable to operate. In Russia's chaotic commercial world, legal action as a means of recovering debts is usually worthless. Russian bankers are not noted for their sentimentality.

Organised crime thus feeds off business, and businesses often use banditry as part of their operations. The type of competition flourishing in the country was illustrated in August when the warehouse of the Russian-German firm Bauklotz, Moscow's largest operator in the hugely profitable building materials trade, was demolished by an explosion.

Like racketeers in the West, syndicate groups generally aim to divide up territory and raise prices to the maximum possible. The large criminal component reinforces the strong element of monopolism in the country's economic structures -- and high prices are among the results. The criminal groups also have a massive impact on the general price structures in Russia through heavy payments most small and medium-sized business are forced to make to protection rackets. The commercial kiosks that line Moscow's major streets normally pay a third of their takings in order not to be fire-bombed.

Of the huge profits made by Russian criminal groups, barely a kopeck is invested in production. Sums not squandered on luxury consumption are converted into hard currency and deposited in Western banks.

The features of the system emerging out of Russia's "reforms" -- monopolism, high prices, impoverishment of the population, capital flight and collapsing production -- have been explained quite satisfactorily by economists as the result of applying neo-liberal dogmas in the highly specific conditions of the Russian economy. But it is curious that exactly these features should also reflect the operations of the criminal elite.

## Boycott Timex!

Nearly 350 Timex workers have been picketing their Dundee (Scotland) factory since February, when the transnational sacked its entire production force. Timex has announced its plans to shut the factory down and transfer the work overseas; the workers insist that the plant remain open with no cuts in wages or working conditions.

Postal workers are reportedly refusing to make deliveries to the Dundee plant, and local bus drivers are refusing to cross picket lines. However, the business union which "represents" the Timex workers has condemned mass picketing and threatened to expel them from the union if they do not conduct their struggle "wholly within the civil and criminal law."

## Nigerian General Strike Ends

National Labour Congress president Paschal Bafyau angered many unionists Sept. 2 when he announced that the 6-day nationwide strike that brought black Africa's largest economy to a halt would be called off. Bafyau justified the decision by arguing key strike demands -- the release of detained pro-democracy activists and a freeze in a 1,100 percent petrol price hike -- had been achieved. But many unions denounced the agreement as a sellout because union demands for a restoration of democracy were not met.

The strike paralyzed Lagos, Nigeria's economic nerve-centre and former capital. Bank and hospital workers joined civil servants, air and sea port staff and other key workers in striking. 29 vessels were stranded at Nigerian ports as a result of dockworkers downing tools.

## Sri Lankan Dockworkers

Sri Lankan workers at the Colombo dockyard have been fighting for over 2 years to get the company to recognize their Independent Dock Workers Union. Management has responded by firing the union president and other officers. Colombo Dockyard Ltd., a government-owned company recently sold to the Japanese transnational Hiroshima, employs 1200 workers for ship repair work. The IDWU initially sought recognition in August 1990, management only responded to their repeated requests for negotiations in March 1992, by firing 3 union leaders. Two have since been reinstated, but the company continues its refusal to negotiate wages and working conditions with the union. When workers began a series of demonstrations earlier this year to demand that the new owner negotiate, Hiroshima responded by firing several union activists and forcing others onto leave.

## Japan: Rising Unemployment

Japanese corporations are slashing jobs, cutting benefits, closing factories and moving production to lower-wage countries in Southeast Asia. The unemployment rate is only about 3% this year, but that doesn't account for the "peripheral economy." These workers, including many immigrants and women, are actually the majority of the Japanese work force. Women still face many barriers to work in major industries. Immigrant workers from Southeast Asia, who were brought in to fill low-paying jobs during the 1980s, are being thrown out of work. Sound familiar?

Nissan has begun closing plants and cutting jobs. NTT, the telephone monopoly, is cutting 33,000 jobs by 1996. Electronics giant Sanyo is laying off 3,000. Today 70% of color televisions made by Japanese companies are built by workers in other countries. So are 30% of VCRs. Toyota produced 20% of its autos overseas in 1992, compared to about 40% for GM. Sony, with 35% of production outside Japan, is following in the steps of IBM, which has 46% outside the U.S.



# IWW Poisoned Workers Project

Growing numbers of workers around the world, are becoming "chemically disabled" due to toxic exposures in their workplaces. Though this disability is most commonly associated with heavy-industry and farm workers, there has been a growing incidence among office workers due to "sick building syndrome." Victims can also be found throughout the entire range of occupations, from grocery workers and bus drivers to nurses and teachers.

Chemicals have become so pervasive in our economy that no workplace is entirely safe from toxics exposure. Wherever you may live and work today, you will find poisoned workers.

Poisoned workers have been struggling bravely, often with few allies, against a system consistently unresponsive to their needs. They have difficulty receiving proper medical treatment from doctors more aligned with the interests of the pharmaceutical chemical corporations than with the interests of their patients. Workers are often told there is nothing really wrong with them, that it is "all in their head," while being sent right back to the toxic work environments that poisoned them in the first place. Once poisoned to the point where they can no longer work, workers compensation typically denies them benefits after a long and

painful bureaucratic ordeal. Unable to work and denied compensation, many poisoned workers have lost their homes, their families and even their lives.

Responding to member initiative the IWW General Executive Board has authorized the official status of an important project to deal with the critical toxics problems confronting workers and working class communities. The Industrial/Environmental Toxicology Project will focus on the growing numbers of workers and communities being poisoned by various industrial processes. IETP will provide tools for organizing and coordinating actions around industrial toxics issues.

Special sections for the *Industrial Worker* will be produced, to put a human face on these issues, show how specific workers and communities are being poisoned, and how they are organizing to defend themselves. Industrial/Environmental Toxics information packets will be offered for sale, as well as relevant books, pamphlets and videos. The purpose is to provide members throughout the Union with all the information and resources needed to actively pursue toxics issues on the job and within their communities.

The ultimate purpose of the Industrial/Environmental Toxicology Project is quite clear: to Stop the Poisons! Given the essentially malignant nature of capitalism, that ultimate goal won't be reached without also achieving the larger goals outlined in the Preamble of the IWW. Make no mistake about it: to struggle resolutely and uncompromisingly against toxics is to struggle against capitalism itself. As we fight for interim goals such as proper compensation, accommodation and treatment for poisoned workers, and restrictions on the use of toxic substances, we are also building a working class movement more and more conscious of the need for a healthy sustainable economy. A healthy economy will be attuned to the cooperative symbiotic relationships of human communities and broader ecosystems.

The IWW brings a tradition, spirit and understanding essential to building such a working class movement. It is incumbent upon us to get out into our communities and work on these issues.

The IETP invites the active participation of all Wobblies. We are attempting a task which involves the redefinition of both the environmental and labor movements. This requires that we go beyond the current limited constituencies of both

movements and do what the IWW has always done: organize the unorganized. It means joining forces with communities most impacted by environmental degradation and for the most part ignored by mainstream environmental organizations. Poor communities without the political clout tend to be disproportionately non-white. A realistic environmental-labor coalition must understand and combat economic racism. Again, this requires that we go outside of our limited constituency and listen to those most directly impacted.

The IETP and its initial director, Stan Anderson of the Seattle Branch, will be subject to the supervision of the GEB. It is open to participation by all IWW members, and the project director will be elected once the group attains larger size. The project will report regularly to the membership through the GOB and also submit material to the *Industrial Worker*. The project will initially be paid for by its own fundraising activity.

For further information and to join the project, please contact: The Industrial/Environmental Toxicology Project Industrial Workers of the World PO Box 20402, Seattle WA 98102 (206)367-0477

Stan Anderson for the IWW Industrial Environmental Toxicology Project

## Industry on the Run

Economic globalization — the integration of national markets and production chains — is a gradual process, barely perceptible to most of us. Its march is tracked by esoteric statistics and trends such as the percentage of world trade conducted between two affiliates of the same corporation, the number of markets served by an average production facility, and the shifting organization of corporate management structures...

Runaway jobs represent the most direct consequence of globalization. The nationality of a work force is changed but everything else — machinery, distribution networks, consumers, and the sources of capital — remains the same.

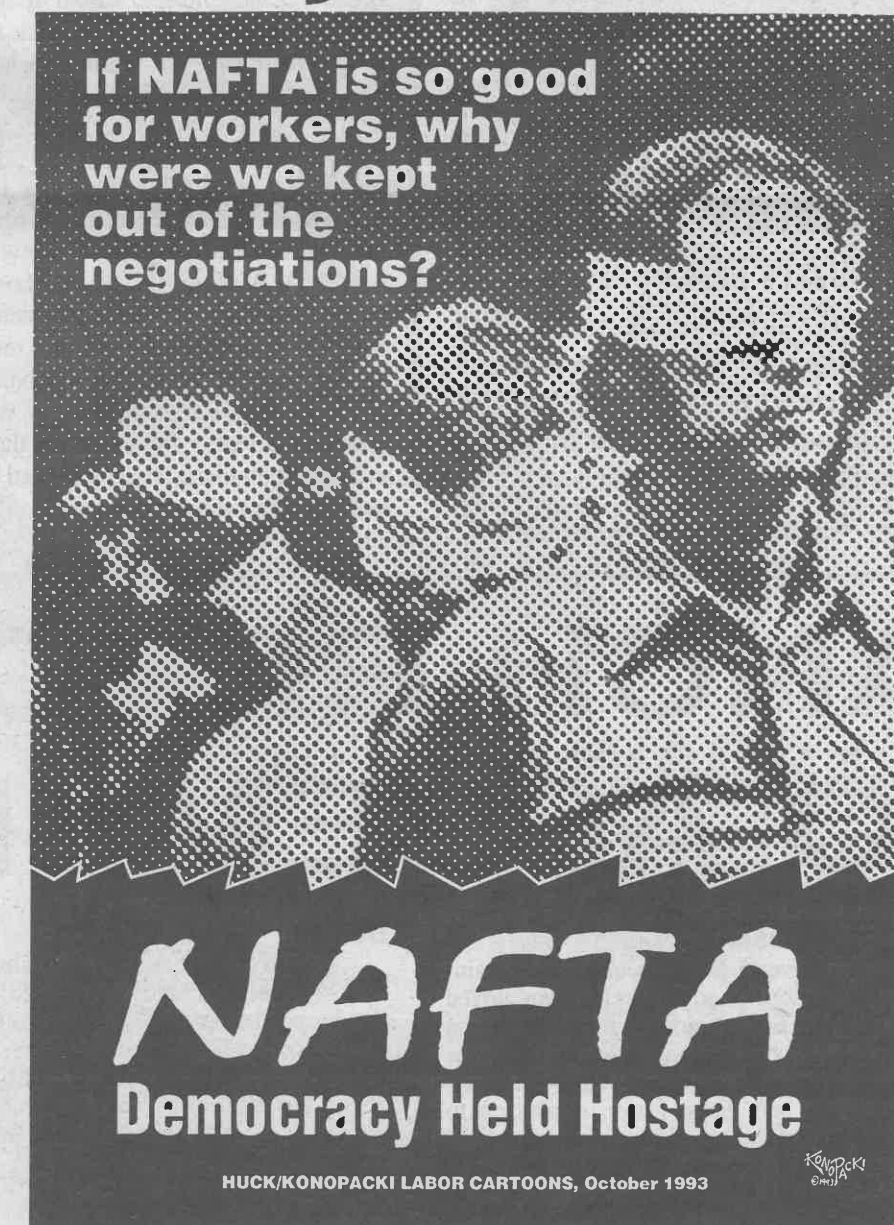
### The Low Wage No Union Solution

The primary factor driving firms to relocate to developing countries is the desire to slash their wage bill. If labor savings were not a primary consideration, the costs of moving machinery, transporting products, and learning to operate in another country would usually make running away a losing proposition.

The significance of low wages was made clear by the rapid expansion in Mexico of foreign-owned, export-oriented plants, called maquiladoras, after Mexico cut its minimum wage from a high of \$1.53/hr to \$0.68, in 1983, and then to a range around 50 cents from 1986 to 1990...

Although the majority of runaways perform labor-intensive activities such as bundling wires for electric appliances or cars, sewing garments, processing coupons, or assembling toys or electronic components, this is no longer the only type of work that is relocated. Automatic insertion machines and surface-mount technology have been added to circuit board assembly lines, clean rooms to the semiconductor industry, and robots to metal machining processes. As dozens of state of the art Mexican facilities demonstrate, Mexican workers are quite capable of turning out high quality, high technology products — but receive only a fraction of the wage that their counterparts earn in the United States.

A joint MIT-Harvard study in 1980



found that "a new work force that is nearly impossible to organize is perhaps the most prized side benefit of a new plant site, and it is the controlling consideration for many companies."

Mexican policy makers and the leaders of government affiliated unions are well aware of the attractiveness of a stable, cooperative work force. The Mexican government has expanded its efforts to rein in labor activism beyond the maquiladoras in order to establish favorable conditions for foreign investment throughout the economy.

Workers in Mexico are rarely able to read the English-language warning labels on barrels of chemicals, and they usually lack the education and industrial experience that would lead them to question the safety of their jobs. Those who speak out are typically fired and blacklisted.

Some of the most hazardous industrial activities are among the most prominent segments of the maquiladora sector. More than 50,000 Mexicans assemble printed circuit boards or their components, an activity that exposes many of them to toxic solvents and solders, some

of which are known to cause cancer. The value of furniture production — in which workers inhale sawdust, lacquers, and paint fumes — in the maquiladoras increased nearly seven fold from 1982 to 1990. Plants producing plastics, rubber products, or other chemicals multiplied 20 times in the same period.

excerpted from "Industry on the Run" Fall 1993, Resource Center Bulletin Box 4506 Albuquerque NM 87196 (505)842-8288 Fax: 505/246-1601

### COURTS SERVE CAPITALISTS GM PLANT SHUTDOWN

The General Motors Willow Run Assembly Plant has been dismantled. The work has been transferred to an Arlington Texas plant where the union local made major concessions on work rules, job classifications, and length of the work day.

The local trial court had held that in negotiating a series of tax abatements GM had created a situation where the Township granting the abatements could rely on the company to keep its promises to keep the plant open. "Why else," asked the Township attorney, "would any municipality give financial breaks to a corporation?"

The Court of Appeals declared the lower court decision a "mistake" and ruled that GM has a "natural" right to engage in "hyperbole and puffery" (lies) in seeking financial gain, and that the Township had no legal right to expect GM to do what they'd said they would do.

This kind of legal strategy may still be a useful tool in local struggles against corporate flight. It will not make gains as a legal strategy alone, but only when it is just one tool used by self organized workers who bring their friends and neighbors into the struggle.

The UAW GM department, headed by Steve "Puffery & Hyberbole" Yokich, tried to avoid the whole issue. Yokich will probably rename this defeat a "victory" as he runs unopposed for union president next year.



# ASSEMBLY NOTES

## RANK & FILE DEMOCRACY

IWW annual assemblies are unlike other union conventions in some important ways.

Any member can attend. This is not allowed in the mainstream unions where appointments or elections keep control in the hands of the ruling caucus or clique.

Officers are not allowed to run things. Unlike other union conventions where the bureaucrats run the show—at Wobbly conventions unionwide officers are allowed voice but no vote.

The members gathered at an IWW assembly set the agenda and choose from themselves the folks necessary to keep things running smoothly.

Until this year the annual assembly, and before that the conventions, were the legislative body of the union. A recent referendum means that enactments of the assembly must go to a union wide referendum to be upheld or overturned. The change meant that this year the assembly was a chance for people to meet face to face and discuss the long list of matters on the unions agenda without pressure of finalizing decisions. That was valuable to many participants. Enthusiastic discussion greeted all the proposals and differences were aired.

The general spirit of the Assembly was positive with most members interested in finding common ground to work together.

The space at the Women's Building was clean and bright and set up well for the assembly. The Bay Branch was hospitable, getting people to and from airport or train station and providing housing. It was good to have all the junior Wobs from Winnipeg in attendance.

## '94 Assembly – in your town?

Although a recent change in the unions constitution calls for the assembly to pick the next site before it closes we didn't do that again this time. Instead the group decided to ask branches to take more time to consider hosting the assembly. Holding the assembly entails housing 40 to 90 people, setting up a site to meet at, and getting people to and from the train station and airport. This has meant that all assemblies have been held in, or near, major cities.

Traditionally members attending the assembly are responsible for their own food and entertainment. Some years branches have produced concerts in conjunction with the assembly.

The 1992 assembly outside Ann Arbor was held in a state forest group camping area with bunkhouses. The Michigan Branch set up an outdoor communal kitchen, hired two members to cook throughout the weekend, fed everyone, and even paid for a keg of beer. Overall this was drastically cheaper for

continued on page 8

## ATTENTION WOBBLIES !!

### 1994 ASSEMBLY

### SITE BIDS WANTED

The 1993 Assembly has asked that branches consider hosting the 1994 General Assembly, proposing site and date, and informing the General Headquarters. Proposals received will be put to a vote early in 1994. For more information please contact the San Francisco office.

## WOBBLIES MEET IN SAN FRANCISCO: BUILDING

# Report on 1993

"Coming into Los Angeles. Bringing in a couple of ..." Oops, wrong song. But it's the one that kept tripping through my head during the five hour flight from Detroit to the annual assembly of the IWW. "Welcome to San Francisco ladies and gentlemen," the flight attendant announced over the p.a. system, "the city which everyone loves to love." Before the weekend was over I shared that sentiment.

Bob met me at the airport, having arrived a few hours earlier by train. A friend from his days in the Bay Area a decade before drove us back to his house in Berkeley. Jet lag took its toll and by midnight clock time and 3:00 am body time I was more than ready for my sleeping bag.

Up six hours later and off on a BART ride into the city where we got directions from passers by to the Women's Building where the Assembly would take place. At the door were familiar faces from last year's assembly in a Michigan woods, old friends from earlier struggles, and new faces of those yet to be met.

The Assembly began with songs led by FWs Darryl Cherney, Judi Bari, and Bruce "Utah" Phillips. Could it be a Wobbly gathering without the music that is woven through the union's history? The requisite reports were given. And even of report began with a song as FW Bari lamented, "The FBI stole my fiddle and I want my fiddle back!" to introduce the outline of activities of the Wobbly Bureau of Investigation.

The WBI arose following the bombing of a car containing Bari and Cherney who had been having a little too much success reaching out to loggers in Northern California. Bari and Cherney were promptly arrested for bombing themselves. When those charges proved too ludicrous for even our Alice in Wonder-



land government, they were dismissed and the two filed false arrest charges against the FBI in an attempt to expose FBI and timber interest involvement in the bombing. The IWW loaned \$25,000 to carry out the investigation, spread the word, and begin the lawsuit and the WBI was created. A congressional investigation into the FBI's role in the bombing has been initiated.

Branch and group reports followed and we heard of negotiating contracts, organizing workers, strike support, forest rescue efforts, anti-nuclear activity, organizing of major demonstrations, free speech fights, organizing among clinic workers, graduate students, restaurant workers, copy shop workers, and exotic dancers, providing food for the homeless, video projects documenting our his-

# BRANCH REPORTS TO ASSEMBLY

## Philadelphia PA

A network of copy shop workers is growing. Copy shop workers have lousy pay and conditions, and access to great resources for propaganda. Other organizing efforts include folks working as erotic dancers and graduate students. The branch keeps an office in a squatted building and has worked in solidarity with Food Not Bombs and has delivered food to striking workers.

## Winnipeg

The branch has been doing solidarity support work with steel workers including chasing scabs away. Most members are active shop floor minority Wobblies in other unions. The branch does street theater, works with Food Not Bombs and the Black Wolf Society (an indigenous youth group), organized a major Mayday demonstration with 15 foot puppets and lots of people. For next Mayday the branch is organizing a commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the 1919 Winnipeg General Strike. Be there or be square.

## Southeast Michigan

Several members have taken training as benefits advocates for unemployed workers. The branch is following up on lousy work places found through this activity. The branch is active with solidarity and direct action assistance to workers through Jobs With Justice. A campaign around a livable wage is in the planning stage.

## Mendocino County CA

Members are active with a cooperative intended to promote sustainable logging. The coop unites landowners wanting to cut trees "responsibly" with loggers and equipment owners using such methods. (A funding request for \$4600 was made on this proposal.)

## Salt Lake City

The group anticipates getting a branch charter this year, has formed a Food Not Bombs chapter, and is leafleting shoppers on behalf of the Van Huesen boycott.

## Denver

Branch members are organizing a Wobbly concert for November 11th, active in ancient forest defense, opposition to the Rocky Flats weapons facility, the Radical Independent Bookstore and have begun a publishing project. (A funding request for \$50,000 to purchase a union hall has been made by this branch.)

## WBI-GDC

The Wobbly Bureau of Investigation lawsuit has brought to light FBI photos proving the FBI lied in the original charges and revealed other instances of likely evidence destruction. (A funding request for \$8000 was made in relation to this activity.)

## Santa Cruz

The branch has engaged in clinic defense (see Sept '93 IW), is involved with SEIU in organizing among clinic workers, is publishing a local newsletter, and had several members active with

organizing at the End Up in San Francisco and is young and energized.

## San Francisco Bay

Workers from New Earth Press attended a progressive printers network gathering with IWW printers from Colombia SC and Madison WI. UC recyclers recently signed a contract gaining a 15% raise and working with custodians to stop the university's attempt to fire the recyclers and speed up the custodians. (Some branch members have made a funding request for \$10,000 to start a nite club cooperative.)

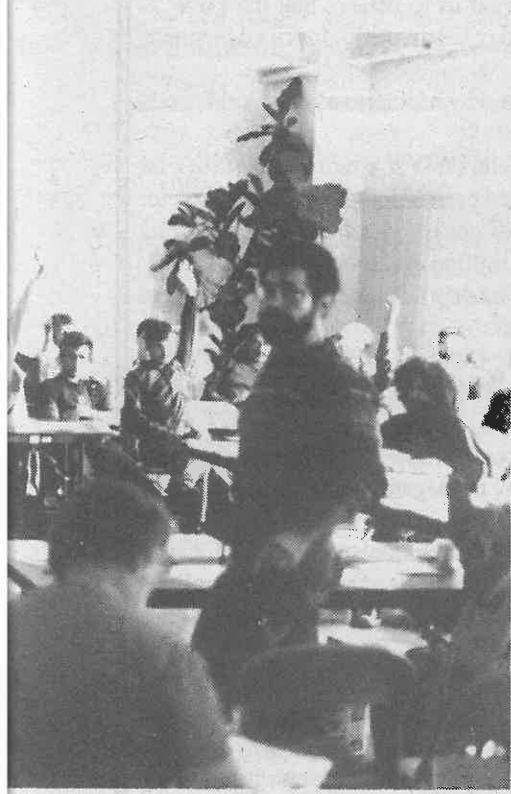
## Chicago

Members are active with the local Staley Workers Solidarity Committee building material support and spreading propaganda. Organizing activities continue among graduate student employees at a local university. Members maintain the unions lit operation and will set up an IW production office if the membership votes to improve the publication.



SOLIDARITY &amp; LOOKING FOR A BREW &amp; A BURGER

# 1993 IWW General Assembly



tory and educating about our present activities, support for the Van Huesen boycott, gay rights activities, advocacy for unemployed workers denied their benefits, and on and on from Philadelphia to Winnipeg to Santa Cruz. It was definitely the most inspiring part of the assembly.

We broke for lunch and people went off in clusters. I discovered that while San Francisco has some great Chinese, Mexican, Arabian, Korean, El Salvadoran, Nicaraguan, Japanese, and many more restaurants, a guy from the midwest with a craving for a hamburger is hard pressed to fill his need.

The afternoon was taken up with reports on requests for funding of projects from several branches and groups of members. The projects discussed were: buying a Union hall in Denver, a loan to start a Union hall/bar in San Francisco, financing the video "Older is Bolder" which interviews senior Wobs and anarchists on their lives in the movement, further funding for the WBI, and funding

for a co-op of sustained growth loggers and small landowners in Mendocino. There was some lively and occasionally heated discussion about whether it is the role of the union to engage in entrepreneurial capitalism and whether funding for a co-op including landowners constituted class collaboration. The will of the membership on these issues will be determined by referendum later in the fall. The only major sour note of the assembly came when one Wob was threatened with assault by another outside the hall for having challenged the "chutzpah" of one branch in making extravagant claims about its request. But hey, could it be a real Wobbly assembly without some Wobs coming close to blows? Overall it was definitely the most congenial and healing of the three IWW assemblies I have attended.

During the break some of us hopped into the back of a covered pickup for a trip to the IWW office where the walls are adorned with Wobbly memorabilia including the official pardon of Tom Mooney for a bombing over seventy years ago and a picture of a Wobbly baseball team from another era. It's nice to explore your roots and discover the continuity. Off to supper where I found my elusive hamburger and discovered that it's best to stick to the local cuisine and save cravings for the all American meal until return to the midwest.

The evening concert provided delights from Jess Grant, Darryl Cherney and Utah Phillips with anecdotes about old wobs and songs and stories about IWW struggles past and present.

Sunday morning's session included presentation of a letter from the Union's office worker criticizing one group for requesting further funding for a project when the vast majority of its members were not paying their dues and when the Union was getting no credit for its earlier solidarity and contributions. More discussion, criticism, defense; but overall the tone was one of problem solving and difficult matters were approached un-

flinchingly but in a positive way. Union building, rather than Branch-bashing, seemed to be the theme of the Assembly.

In the afternoon nominations for the General Executive Board and General Secretary Treasurer were presented. Thirty five names were placed in nomination for the GEB. Some who were present declined. The rest will be contacted to see if they want to be among the 21 who will stand for election. The final selection promises to be among the 21 who will stand for election. The final selection promises to be diverse geographically and politically. There was no attempt by any one region or political grouping to pack the GEB as has happened in the past. An audit committee was selected to do the annual check of the Union's financial records. Selection of the site for next year's assembly was deferred until people could discuss it in their branches.

Winnipeg members presented a delightful anti-NAFTA skit. The assembly closed with the traditional rousing singing of the Wobbly anthem which has become that of the entire North American labor movement — "Solidarity Forever"!

And I went off to play tourist. Got my ride on the cable cars, felt a chill as I walked in the footsteps of Kerouac, Cassady and Ginsberg, finally got to see the City Lights Bookstore, was introduced to a great bar called Specs in the alley across the street where a sign on the wall proclaims "This is a Union Bar" and an IWW banner hangs on the wall, either given to the owner by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn or picked up at a yard sale depending on whose folklore you choose to believe. Then off to dinner with a fine group of fellow workers at Harry's Hunan Restaurant — the best Hunan food in the US according to a neon sign at the door and reviews on the wall. And who am I to argue? It wasn't hamburger, but it was great. Another stop at Specs, a ride back to Berkeley, talk into the wee hours reminiscing about old struggles in Michigan and speculating on the future, bed and up for the trip back to Ann Arbor where I found out that Bob had been transferred from the train to a plane on his return because someone was bombing railroad trestles in Nevada. Hope it was for a good cause.

Fred Chase  
Ann Arbor Delegate



PHOTOS BY ROBERT RUSH

## Nominees in Upcoming Election



**THE WORKING  
CLASS & THE  
EMPLOYING  
CLASS HAVE  
NOTHING  
IN COMMON**

The following were nominated to serve on the unions General Executive Board. The seven member GEB is elected annually. To serve on the GEB members must have been IWW members for at least 18 months and have maintained continuous good dues standing for at least 12 months. The GEB oversees the functioning of the union between annual Assemblies. No more than 21 of the following will appear on the ballot. Nominees not present at Assembly have been notified and some may decline. If more than 21 remain after declinations, then the 21 with the highest number of nominations — number in parentheses — will appear on the ballot. No one can run for or serve in more than one IWW office.

Stan Anderson, Seattle WA (20)  
Jon Bekken, Cortland NY (15)  
Darryl Cherney, Garberville CA (20)

Fred Chase, Ann Arbor MI (33)  
Mike D'Amore, Burlington VT (29)  
Mike Dunn, San Francisco CA (20)  
Ray Elbourne, Australia (26)  
Jack Freisen, Winnipeg MAN (28)  
Tina Gaffney, Bethlehem PA (23)  
Greg Giorgio, Upstate NY (10)  
Jess Grant, San Francisco CA (17)  
Mary Ellen Grue, Baltimore MD (18)  
Bob Helms, Philadelphia PA (31)  
Obo Help, San Francisco CA (20)  
Art Kazar, Chicago IL (12)  
Ingrid Kock, Dearborn MI (16)  
Carol Landry, Ypsilanti MI (21)  
Orin Langelle, Burlington VT (16)  
Fred Lee, England (30)  
Bruce Mackay, Winnipeg MAN (28)  
Deke Nihilison, Santa Cruz CA (28)  
Rick Page, Bethlehem PA (26)  
Anne Petermann, Burlington VT (20)

Penny Pixler, Chicago IL (23)  
Brendan Ruiz, Denver CO (25)  
Robert Rush, Berkeley CA (19)  
Harry Siitonen, San Fran CA (32)  
Matt Teeter, Bethlehem PA (24)  
D.J. Watkins, San Francisco CA (6)  
Andrew Willett, Los Angeles CA (23)  
Tim Wong, Madison WI (12)

The following were nominated for General Secretary Treasurer. The GST is elected annually. To serve as GST a member must have been IWW members for at least 36 months and have maintained continuous good dues standing for at least 18 months. The GST is responsible for the day to day operations of the union, for its general office (currently at San Francisco), and the chartering of branches and credentialing of delegates.

Jon Bekken, Cortland NY  
Colin Dewey, San Francisco CA  
Robert Rush, Berkeley CA





## more notes on '93 assembly

from page 6

members than buying meals in city restaurants and carrying on conversations in bars. That set up – Wobblies living together for four days – provided many more opportunities for people to meet and exchange stories and strategies than any urban assembly can with people bunking at individual members homes. The trade off was that the Michigan members had to put a huge amount of time and energy into making it work.

Another solution might be to get a “retreat” setting where there would be electricity and a kitchen. This would drastically reduce the amount of work, although purchasing food and cooking for 40 to 90 people would still be a factor.

A notice will appear in the next internal union newsletter (the GOB, General Organizational Bulletin) asking branches to make proposals to host the 1994 assembly. If you need more information please contact the General Headquarters.

### Auditing Committee

The annual rank and file auditing committee was elected by the Assembly. It's members are David Karoly, Ray Levy, and Tai Miller with D. J. Watkins serving as alternate. This committee is charged with reviewing the financial records for the past year and making recommendations for improvement. It will report to themembership through the GOB.

### re: WBI

A lengthy debate about the relationship of WBI to the rest of the union resulted in the following motion being passed by the Assembly: “WBI and GDC and all associated entities shall provide a full reporting of activities and moneys including the matter of FW Bruce Sloan within 60 days to the GOB and all GEBs.” This motion passed 24 to 1 with 14 abstentions.

## High Tech Jobs? High Tech Layoffs!

Electronics jobs in the U.S. fell for the 4th straight year, according to the 1993 Computer Industry Almanac. At the end of 1992, electronics employment was 2,291,000, down 99,000 workers from December 1991. The only industry sector reporting growth was prepackaged software, which added a modest 2,270 jobs. A Computerworld survey found that pay is falling as well.

IBM laid off another 35,000 workers in July, while Fujitsu announced plans to cut 6,000 workers (11% of its payroll). Tandem intends to cut 15% of its workers in 1993, and has cut wages by 5% across the board. Digital Equipment is closing a 600-worker diskdrive factory in Germany, while disk drive maker Quantum announced in August that it was laying off 7% of its workforce.

Mead Data Central (provider of Nexis and Lexis databases) is “streamlining” 400 workers out of their jobs, while AT&T is closing 40 operator centers and phasing out 4,000 jobs. Sprint is cutting 1,000 jobs in its long distance

### Industrial Worker Proposals

One of the important items before the assembly was a proposal to improve the *Industrial Worker*.

Over the past year and a half a growing number of Wobblies in various branches have worked together to produce and improve the *IW*. This summer the decentralized *IW* Collective put together a proposal for improving and expanding the paper and its distribution. The proposal was sent to referendum by member petition and will appear on the upcoming union wide ballot.

A counter proposal for the *IW* was offered by members from the Bay Area branch. This proposal would cut the *IW* to a quarterly or bimonthly, 8 or 12 page, zine style, 8 1/2" by 11" publication. Efforts to gain bookstore distribution and expanded subscriptions would be abandoned. Content would be limited to branch activities and how-to information.

Supporters of both proposals were in attendance. Advocates of downsizing the *IW* contend a publication is unnecessary, though sometimes beneficial, for organizing new members, maintaining solidarity and getting out the word. They hope to balance the unions income and expenses by cutting the *IW* budget by 75%.

Advocates of an expanded *IW* believe that a lively labor press is necessary to rebuilding the labor movement and that the *IWW* can play a unique, perhaps leading, role in that rebuilding. Advocates of improving the *IW* see the *IW* as a vital part of the union, believe all *IWW* income and membership would fall with a quarterly, mini-*IW* and propose increasing the budget by 30%, taking steps to increase income, and building the *IW* to 24 pages.

The Assembly approved the report of the *IW* Collective which calls for expansion of the publication and the transfer of subscription functions to Madison, Wisconsin as soon as possible.

## What Price A Worker's Life?

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has determined that Charlie Streeter's life was worth only \$1,000. FW Streeter was murdered by Cortland Asphalt Products (NY) when his bosses ordered him to drive a payload from which they had removed the front brake system rather than spend the money necessary to repair the brakes. The payload plunged over a bridge, sending the fellow worker to his death.

The following editorial originally ran in the January 1986 *Industrial Worker*. It remains relevant:

## Is the IWW Obsolete?

“The IWW? Wobblies? Didn't they die out in 1917? Or was it '39? Or maybe 1950?”

Now and then one still runs into pundits pretending that the IWW is a musty relic of bygone years. For some reason they want us to believe that the IWW is obsolete, and that the only hope for workers today lies in the high-priced business unions.

But somehow we've never felt obsolete. The way it looks to us, the world needs the IWW now more than ever.

Think about it for a minute... Which is obsolete: IWW solidarity, or the artificial separation of workers into ridiculously antiquated craft unions? Which is obsolete: IWW rank-and-file control, or the domination of unions by self-seeking autocrats whose bloated salaries sometimes reach half a million dollars?

Which is obsolete: IWW direct action, or labor's acquiescence to repressive legislation and reliance on capitalist politicians?

Which is obsolete: the IWW call for One Big Union of All Workers, or a “labor movement” deliberately restricted to less than 20% of the workforce, and utterly indifferent to the unemployed?

Which is obsolete: IWW internationalism, or the labor fakers' racist, chauvinistic and economically idiotic “Buy American” propaganda directed against our fellow workers in other lands?

Which is obsolete: IWW revolutionary industrial unionism, or the old, class-collaborationist, business-as-usual pseudo-unionism that is so busy playing politics and offering concessions that it has little to offer workers besides wage cuts and dues increases?

What is obsolete, it seems to us, is not the revolutionary IWW, but the reactionary “labor” apologists for wage slavery, imperialism, war, and similar abominations.

The IWW is a union without bureaucrats, gangsters, lawyers, advertising agents or other parasites—a union of, by and for working men and women fighting for more of the good things in life, and therefore for the abolition of the wage system.

That kind of thinking just doesn't get obsolete. If you haven't already joined up, do so today!



## Spanish Syndicalists Win Trucking Strike

The Confederacion Nacional del Trabajo (CNT), the Spanish syndicalist union won a strike last May against a Barcelona trucking firm. The conflict began May 14 at AGEM Mercabarna, a firm which employs about 1500 workers. The strike was called jointly by union members belonging to the CNT and CCOO after the workplace assembly rejected the company's offer of a 2 percent pay raise. The strike was illegal, as it did not follow the procedures outlined by Spanish labor law. Under Spanish law all labor negotiations are supposed to be conducted through enterprise committees (bureaucratic workplace organizations based on the principles of class collaboration, similar to those of the old Franco regime). The UGT, the socialist union tied to the current government, immediately denounced the strike as “political,” even though the strikers' only demands were a 7.5 percent pay raise and increased economic benefits.

After three days, during which worker support for the strike was solid, the employer agreed to a 5 percent increase. CNT membership at Mercabarna increased as a result of the strike, with 50 new workers joining the CNT union section. This victory appears to have given

the CNT some momentum in the industry. Within a few days of settling the strike at Mercabarna, the CNT transportation and communications union held a meeting of all its sections at another transport company, SEUR, to discuss the possibility of calling a strike in Zaragoza.

Meanwhile the CNT remains active in other industries as well. In Barcelona, the CNT entertainment union took part in a strike of movie theaters, called jointly with the CCOO, UGT, and CGT. The movie workers managed to close all but one theater in city. In the health industry, the CNT continues to work for the reinstatement of members of a strike committee (composed of CNT, CGT and GAS union members) of the Vall d'Hebron hospital. Twenty-one workers have been suspended for one year without pay for labor law violations. Efforts to win reinstatement for the strike committee members were hampered when another union, the CGT, attempted to cut its own deal with management. The other two unions, however, continue to support the former strikers.

(Source: *Solidaridad Obrera*, newspaper of the Catalan region of the CNT, June and July 1993)



## Hotel, Restaurant Workers Organize Contra Costa

What started as an organizing campaign at H&H Round Table Pizza several months ago has expanded to include the "invisible work force" in the hotel and restaurant industry.

Contra Costa County, east of San Francisco, was once a "bedroom community," for people working in SF Bay area. In recent years the County has seen massive "growth," as developers took advantage of its potential. Hotels, motels and restaurants have moved in, many of them "upscale," along with offices and corporate headquarters.

The result has been a drastic increase in the "invisible" work force: the workers who prepare the food, wash dishes, clean rooms, ensure the availability of soap and toilet paper in the rest rooms, and so on. The majority of these workers are students, women, semi-retired folks; most are Latino, African-American, Asian, and Pacific Islanders. One commonality all these folks have is they are exploited beyond all reason.

At recent panel hearings, not yet

organized workers described horrendous conditions in their workplaces. Sponsored by Locals 28/50 of the Hotel Employees & Restaurant Employees Union (HERE), the hearing was held at the IBEW hall in Pleasant Hill. A week earlier, the Locals had helped 5 former employees of an Antioch restaurant file a class-action lawsuit charging wage and hour violations. Jim Dupont, international trustee of HERE, says the area is ripe: "I've never seen workers more interested in organizing," he said. "The area picked us. There's a new urgency, and not a week goes by when we don't get several people calling us."

Scott's Seafood Grill & Bar in Walnut Creek is one site where the organizing campaign is in full swing. Gus Gomes, organizer, stated that Scott's has repeatedly harassed Latino workers, and recently threatened them when they tried to hold an election. In addition, they have received no overtime pay, no sick pay, and there is no job security. All this in a restaurant with

\$6 million annual gross receipts. A woman who works at Walnut Creek Holiday Inn as a room cleaner, said it is one of the lowest paying major hotels in the area. Citing an average \$5.25 hourly, having to pay \$35 a month for single health coverage, making ends meet is a constant struggle. In addition, while suffering the "standard" supervisory intimidation, there is extreme favoritism on the job. She explained that often new workers will get more hours than those who've been there longer. If they complain, they are told to go elsewhere.

In one particularly gut-wrenching testimony, a Latina, (masked to protect her identity), stated that where she works there is no overtime pay, no breaks and constant speed-ups. She told of being assigned 15 rooms to clean, and when nearly finished, was THEN told there would be "a few more." Management ensures the no-overtime policy by PUNCHING WORKERS TIME CARDS! As if all that isn't enough, she is a mother supporting 4 children -- 2 of

them undocumented -- so health care takes most of her pay check.

This last addresses the issues of the well known, long-standing situation of undocumented immigrants, and the disreputable management practice of complete disregard for their well-being and dignity. Viewed as cheap labor, they are harassed, intimidated, abused and in most cases threatened with deportation if they "start trouble." In some cases, such as was seen with recent immigrants from China, many are FORCED into indentured servitude in order to pay for their passage, and slave for subminimum wages. They are forced to live in crowded, cramped apartments under the worst conditions imaginable.

This campaign to organize workers is not only for wages, it is also about human DIGNITY. It's about adequate health care, education and decent living conditions. It's about free speech and above all else, it's a struggle for RESPECT.

--Dave Collins x340864

### Book Review

## Dorothy Day: A Radical Devotion, by Robert Coles. Addison Wesley publishing.

Robert Coles offers a fascinating look at one of America's nearly forgotten heroes in *Dorothy Day: A Radical Devotion*. Well written, spiced with personal observations of Day and her own words about a lifelong struggle to relieve the pain of the homeless and destitute, Coles puts Dorothy and Peter Maurin's Catholic Worker movement in a realistic context. Its radical political associations are secondary to the simple compassion of listening, feeding and comforting disenfranchised wage slaves.

A simple bowl of soup, someone to visit with and a place to lay your head; the Catholic Worker "hospitality houses" still offer a little direct aid against the many manifest alienations of the industrial suicide.

Coles speaks passionately about

Dorothy Day's own struggles to escape the bourgeois socialite life of her early years in Greenwich Village. The young novelist and reporter was, however, just gearing up for a lifetime's battle for her own spiritual resolve, as a devout but questioning Catholic, and her sense of identity with the working class.

This period of elbow rubbing with the likes of Eugene O'Neill, John Reed, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and others was the jumping-off point for a 50 year run as the literary and spiritual grand dame of the Catholic Worker movement. The *Catholic Worker*, a monthly newspaper of religious, political and sociological news and opinion, still sells for its original 1¢ tag in the New York City area. Many local versions are published by other Catholic Worker groups.

As some readers of the *Industrial Worker* know, Day was often on the side of the IWW and other labor struggles. Her sense of economic injustice as a moral imperative in modern society put her on the picketlines and the front lines of many causes for the working class. The book does contain a gross error, however. The author refers to our union with the silly, redundant faux pas: "International Workers of the World." It's hard to imagine that a man who worked with and extensively interviewed Dorothy at several points in her later life could commit such a blunder, but there it is.

Dorothy Day's "localist politics," her total, unwavering commitment to fight the forces of injustice, questioning authority within the church and

government, and her patience, compassion and strength are a great example to anyone with an urge to effect real change.

FWs Utah Phillips, "Rochester Ric" Garren and Jim Barclay are a few of today's Wobs that bring the good word of Catholic Workers to many in their travels. Catholic Workers and Wobblies have always had a strong connection, no matter their religious or spiritual convictions or lack thereof. And Coles' loving treatment gives plenty of justifications for being comrades-in-arms.

Dorothy Day gave us all a lot to strive for. She said it plainly: "The biggest mistake, sometimes, is to play things very safe in this life and end up being moral failures."

--Greg Giorgio, X341883

## Blockade Stops Clayoquot Clearcut

MacMillan Bloedel Ltd. suspended its clearcut operation at Kennedy Lake, in Clayoquot Sound region of Vancouver Island. A 9-week blockade with hundreds of arrests was successful in shutting down the destruction of this unique rain forest. Mac-Blo said it was a "temporary indefinite shutdown." About 25 timber workers were affected.

6 British environmentalists were arrested Sept. 9, after blockading the office of British Columbia in London to protest Clayoquot clearcuts. Vancouver Island Peace Campers are getting ready for winter with a big heated tent. Every environmental group in Canada has mobilized to help save Clayoquot Sound for future generations.

### Jobs, Trees, & Us

Wobblies at Clayoquot Sound sent *Industrial Worker* a booklet of the Pulp Paper & Woodworkers of Canada; they "felt that some of the info could be used in the IW. The PPWC's policy seems to be pro-Selective Logging as opposed to the International Woodworkers Association which just wants/pushes for more access to more trees faster."

PPWC has 16 locals in British Columbia, head office in Vancouver. Its 7,500 members mostly work in pulp & paper mills, with some in sawmills, plywood, recycling, and miscellaneous service industries. Following is from *Jobs, Trees & Us -- The PPWC's Forest Policy* (1993).

"We don't have to choose between jobs and trees. If our forest industry was managed properly, we would have plenty of both. But there is a crisis in our forests, and the forest companies want us to think we must choose either jobs or trees. The crisis is real enough: \*\*\* If we keep cutting trees at current rates, our forests will disappear forever. Forest company methods, like clearcut slashing and burning, are wiping out

our forests. Replanting a single species of trees and tending them with herbicides is not the solution.

\*\*\* Forest companies use technological change to make less people cut more trees faster. Production goes up, while jobs are disappearing throughout the pulp and wood industries.

We need to create more jobs while cutting fewer trees. We are exporting jobs by exporting logs and chips. We could stop wasting our wood, and develop industries that create jobs here turning trees into value-added products.

We need to act now, to protect our jobs and our forests. We must make different choices about what happens in our forests. Do you want to live in a world without forests?...

#### Exporting logs means exporting jobs

When we export BC logs, we export BC jobs. Not only that, we are exporting our very best wood, because international markets demand high quality logs. We are exporting the logs that should be remanufactured into value-added products...

By exporting raw logs, we're exporting at least 2,500 to 4,000 jobs every year. This is based on one direct job for every 1,000 cubic metres of timber cut. We're still exporting raw logs and wood chips to foreign buyers. To protect jobs, we must stop these exports.

...By developing industries that add value to our wood products, we could create new businesses in our communities and provide long term jobs.

#### What's wrong with clearcutting?

Large scale clearcutting is the cheapest, fastest and most profitable way for timber companies to log our land. About 90% of B.C.'s publicly owned forest land is now logged by clearcut. Not only do modern clearcutting methods use fewer people and bigger machines, they are also an environmental disaster.

\*\*\* Clearcuts are too big. A modern clearcut averages 40 to 100 hectares

(100 to 250 acres) and some clearcuts are 1,200 acres or more. A total of more than 600,000 acres was clearcut in 1988-89 alone.

\*\*\* Modern heavy duty equipment means too much road building and causes soil erosion.

\*\*\* Nearly 1/3 of clearcut areas are burned. Companies say slash burning helps prepare for replanting. But slash burning damages soil, increases soil erosion and hurts watersheds...

We need a whole lot less clearcutting and a lot more partial cutting and selective logging. We need strict limits on the size of clearcuts. We need to limit the damage caused by unnecessary road building. Cable yarding systems, which move logs by overhead cables instead of skidding them on the ground, would fit the bill in some areas of B.C. We need to stop slash burning...

#### Poisoning the Forest

Chemical poisons are used widely throughout BC forest lands to kill plants and animals which the forest industry classifies as weeds and pests. When clearcut areas are replanted, herbicides are often used to wipe out shrubs and other "weeds"...

Pesticide use has increased dramatically in BC... these pesticides accumulate in the food chain and reach water tables... we need to stop the widespread use of poisons in our forest lands.

#### Public Forests Under Private Control

A handful of private companies are calling every shot that counts, when it comes to making decisions about our publicly owned forest lands. We need to gain public control over these decisions.

...Crucial decisions -- like the allowable annual cut (measured by the amount of timber that gets to the mill, not the area clearcut) and the rate of stumpage companies pay for the timber they remove -- are made in back rooms, without public scrutiny or control.

...The timber companies are in business to make profits. If they cared

about sustaining our forests, they wouldn't clearcut twice as much as they replant, or export raw logs and chips, or waste so much wood.

We need new rules, to limit the damage done by corporate greed.

#### A Better Way of Doing Things

Merv Wilkinson has lived and worked for more than 50 years at Wildwood, his 55-hectare forest near Ladysmith on Vancouver Island.

Since 1935, Merv has selectively logged his land 9 times, removing about 1.25 million board feet of timber. And Wildwood is still a diverse forest, with nearly the same volume of timber standing (1.5 million board feet) as in 1935.

He estimates that 250 acres of coastal forest like Wildwood would keep two people working and financially solvent, permanently.

"Based on this formula, the 40.9 million hectares of available forest land in BC could furnish 320,000 jobs," says forester Herb Hammond. "Wildwood-style forestry could probably easily provide 5 to 6 times the number of jobs currently furnished by timber companies."

To obtain PPWC's booklet, contact: PPWC National Office, 201-1184 West 6th Avenue, Vancouver BC V6H 1A4

## \$5,000 Reward

Western Canada Wilderness Committee is offering a \$5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest, conviction and imprisonment of any forest company executive, BC forest service district manager or BC registered professional forester for illegal logging-caused damage to salmon habitat or any other illegal logging activity. For more information, contact: Western Canada Wilderness Committee 20 Water St., Vancouver, BC V6B 1A4.



## Letters

continued from page 2



Dear Friends,

My name is Daisy Benson. I am currently serving a life sentence at California Institution for Women, for the accidental shooting of a friend. I was deprived of a fair trial due to the administration of excessive and mind altering medications, without a doctor's orders, without informed consent, without due process of law.

One hour after completion of the initial booking process at county jail, I was approached by a nurse who instructed me to get a cup of water. The nurse handed me a paper cup containing various pills and said, "This will calm you down." I had not requested medical attention, nor had I been evaluated by a medical doctor. I was not hysterical, but sitting in a chair quietly weeping. After ingesting the medications I became nauseated, agitated, frightened and confused. My vision blurred, muscles began to twitch, and I began to rock back and forth uncontrollably. When I refused the medications, I was stripped of clothing and placed in the "rubber room" until I agreed to take the medications. After continued excessive doses I began to experience audio and visual hallucinations, tremors, drooling, loss of coordination and memory, disorientation, anxiety, hives and headaches.

In the courtroom I was unable to comprehend what was happening and cried and rocked back and forth uncontrollably. When I took the witness stand the juror's faces appeared to be melting and I thought the District Attorney had animals crawling on him. The effects of the medications left me unable to assist in my own defense and no defense was presented for me.

After arriving at the state penitentiary I immediately went into withdrawals from the massive quantities of addictive drugs forcibly administered to me at the county jail. It took me two years to recover. I later learned I was not the only pretrial detainee who had been forcibly administered mind altering drugs. We formed a group of which I am now spokesperson. The 47 women in this group have all obtained their medical records which document this illegal and unnecessary drugging. The FBI has commenced an investi-

gation into our claims, and my own case is now before Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals (case no. 93-15524).

None of the group is seeking to avoid responsibility for the actions for which she was originally arrested. We seek a fair trial, to which all Americans are supposed to be entitled, but which was denied to us. Any information or input pertaining to this issue would be gratefully appreciated. Thank you for your time and consideration.

--Daisy Benson (Women Prisoners Convicted by Drugging), PO Box 1919, Lower Lake CA 95457.

According to Joan Moss in the *Clear Lake Independent* (June 15, 1993), "...a doctor who has been corresponding with her (Daisy Benson) was visited by 5 armed officers who came to his home and told him... we are all Revolutionists trying to overthrow our country."

Moss quotes the doctor as saying that later, "I was arrested by plain clothes officers who would give no identification. I was taken to jail and charged with trespassing for being in a public law library, for Jay-Walking (supposedly observed while I was walking to library), and for unlawful disposal of medical waste... they also seized all correspondence and files with Benson."

Dear IW Coordinator,

There is no one reason for the branch's decision to cancel the bundle, but to be honest a few of us (I include myself) felt the IW was not the best tool for LV IWW because of the Wage Slave. I am being very diplomatic in my wording because I know that my feelings on this subject are much stronger than most.

It would be difficult for me to find the words to describe how much I

loathe the Wage slave. Before I begin, I must say that I have heard that it is working well for some folks, so this is not a pitch to kill it, nor will one be coming from me.

I personally think the Wage Slave is mildly amusing and I must admit that it has its limited use among people in the know -- you know, like you, me, Jon Bekken, Judi Bari & all of the other few hundred of us in the Joe Hill Society. But beyond our limited group, I can't see the appeal. In fact I think it would scare most ordinary factory workers away. I'm talking about folks who have never heard of Sam Gompers & therefore have no clue why the Golden Mask of Sam Gompers is funny. Also, true stories like the Big Bird smoke plume/factory fire thing, get lost among fake stories about Elvis invading an auto plant or space aliens losing their job & peddling VCRs.

I think that's enough for now except for one thing; I honestly believe the dislike for Wage Slave goes beyond the Lehigh Valley. I agree that, in order to move forward the IW must achieve a median between the contributors and the membership. If you truly believe that the dissent against the Wage Slave is small & its critics old fashioned, then I think it is the fault of the folks around this union for not telling the collective what they have told me, and I'm sure, each other. I've heard cheers indirectly, however the jeers have passed my ears first-hand. I don't propose to assume that I speak for a cross section of folks in this union, I'm just passing on my opinions. -- Solidarity & Regards, Mike D'Amore

Dear Industrial Worker,

I greatly enjoy reading the *Industrial Worker*. As an educator, I feel responsible to inform my students of reality in the workplace. Without the IW I would be unable to fill in the gaps left by the ruling class media. I hope you will continue your excellent work as I look forward to your paper every month.

--Sincerely In Solidarity,  
Howard Olson

### Notes from IW Coordinator

Fellow Workers,

Democracy is a great (native) American heritage. Let's extend the virtues of good ol' American style democracy right on into our work place, and start having elections for boss! Talk about your corporate restructuring. The Industrial Worker Collective has

forged an effective method of decentralized operations. Your help is welcome in a number of areas and capacities.

Current operating procedure: On page 2 is a list of editors who specialize in certain topics. You may send articles, photos, letters etc. to them. The Ottawa Coord. functions as general depot for any & everything, you can always send it here. The idea is to spread out work and the editorial decision making, and give you a choice where to send your contributions. Editors are similar to human beings -- they have different interests and priorities.

Mailing is done by Madison GMB, but the subscription office is located at San Francisco. Further re-arranging is expected in future so watch for changes of addresses & functions.

Comments & suggestions are invited regarding any aspects of Industrial Worker.

### BUILD INDUSTRIAL UNIONS!

When we, as IWW members, say we want more of the good things of life, we're not just talking about getting the bosses to come over with a bit more cash. We're talking about building a decent world and a sane society within the shell of the old. A sane world run by working people for the common good is an aim that CAN be achieved by making possible the efficient management of modern industry by ORGANIZED LABOR.

Only with the sort of industrial unionism that welds working people together in ONE BIG UNION is this possible.

A detailed explanation of Industrial Unionism and the IWW can be found in the union's pamphlet, *One Big Union*. (Copies now available from IWW Lit -- see page 11.)

Oi!

WE ARE THE REDS!  
SOMOS LOS ROJOS!  
NOUS SOMMES  
LES ROUGES!

ANTI-NAZIS!

RESISTENCIA REDSKIN

español  
français  
english

INFO. CONTACT:  
RESISTENCIA REDSKIN, D. MORENO,  
AA 56385, BOGOTA 2 DC, COLOMBIA

### Preamble to the IWW Constitution

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.

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

We are glad to communicate with you through e-mail. From our point of view electronic communications is necessary for using by anarcho-syndicalists, which would like to build One Big Union for All World.

Our address:

<krazchenko@glas.apc.org> is in collective using. You can write to this address for:

- Confederation of Anarcho-Syndicalists (KAS) & International Secretary Mike Tsovma
- Labor Information Center "KAS-KOR"
- Russian Labour Review
- KAS-KOR Monthly Digest
- Radio Show "The Workers Chronicle," which are closely connected with a-syndicalists.

We will be happy to establish contacts with sections of IWW on the more close basis. In Solidarity,

--Kirill Buketov, Member Executive of  
Labour Inf.Center "KAS-KOR",  
Member KAS Moscow Branch

## Be a Wobbly-Join the IWW

**Real Democracy!** All policy decisions are made by referendum. The IWW has one paid officer, the General Secretary-Treasurer (GST), who is paid the same wage as IWW office workers. The 7-member General Executive Board (GEB) is elected annually by the entire membership. All officers may be recalled at any time by referendum. IWW workplaces & branches make their own decisions about bargaining and strategy.

**Low Dues!** Monthly income under \$800: Dues = \$3. Income \$800-1700: Dues = \$9. Income over \$1700: Dues = \$12. Initiation fee: Same as one month's dues. A low income person can join for as little as \$6.

**To Join:** Mail this form with a check or money order to IWW, 1095 Market Street, Suite 204, San Francisco, CA 94103.

- I affirm that I am a worker and that I am not an employer. \_\_\_\_\_
- 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



# MUSIC

**AS SEEN ON NO TV**  
**Chris Chandler**

Funny, biting, young and raw. Chandler sings of the "Whole Wheat Left", growing up in the "Watergate Generation", and laughs at Dan Quayles "Republican Woodstock." More street than studio. Fun.

**IT TAKES A LOT OF PEOPLE** (tribute to Woody)

**Larry Long & Children**  
Live album of Woody Guthrie songs and songs written by Long and children of Oklahoma as tributes to Woody. "Bound for Glory", "Oh Freedom", & "This Land is Your Land".

**I HAVE SEEN FREEDOM**  
**Si Kahn**

Long time organizer & folksinger Kahn sings of people and struggle. "John Brown", "El Norte", "They All Sang Bread and Roses" and 13 more songs.

**GOOD NEWS**

**Sweet Honey In the Rock**  
"Biko", "Chile Your Waters Run Red Through Soweto" and nine others on this gospel based, a cappella, irresistible album by six activist women. ALSO AVAILABLE "We All ... EVERYONE OF US"

**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 to the IWW in 1988.

**ALL USED UP**

**Utah Phillips**  
Classic Utah Phillips album. Wobbly songs, bum songs and love songs. "Dump the Bosses Off Your Back", "Pretty Boy Floyd" and 17 more!  
ALSO AVAILABLE: "WE HAVE FED YOU ALL FOR ONE THOUSAND YEARS"

**OUT OF DARKNESS**

**Tom Juravich**  
Coal mining songs from this excellent Philadelphia IWW musician includes "Tell the Boys at Pittson", "Blair Mountain", "Company Store", "Ludlow Massacre".  
ALSO AVAILABLE: "A WORLD TO WIN".

**HAYWIRE MAC**

**Harry McClintock**  
Songs and early Wobbly stories from Haywire Mac, friend of Joe Hill and first to sing "Preacher and the Slave" in public.

**REBEL VOICES: IU 630 IWW**

Exciting live recording captures the high energy of today's IWW musicians. Good music, good politics, and a good time.  
Includes Utah Phillips, Faith Petric, Bob Bovee, Marion Wade, Eric Glatz, Kathy Taylor, and more. Twenty IWW tunes "Power in a Union", "The Organizer", "Popular Wobbly", "Mr. Block".

**SMASH THE STATE AND HAVE A NICE DAY**

**Citizens Band**  
A Wobbly band from Olympia Washington. Great stuff. "Red Emma", "Industrial Strength Tranquilizers", "Gas Wars", and "Bullshit."

**HARD-PRESSED IN THE HEARTLAND**

**Peter Rachleff**  
Rachleff was a participant and observer in the hard fought struggle of P-9 against the Hormel Company and the UFCW. A heartbreaking but empowering story. Though the Hormel strikers lost their strike suggests the necessary outlines for the rebirth of a militant, community based unionism that can succeed where business unions fail. \$12

**CRYSTAL GAZING THE AMBER FLUID**

**Carlos Cortez**  
Long time IWW artist Cortez' poetic take on life in the late 20th century. Poetry expressing the IWW slogan, "Let's make this world a better place to live". \$4

**REBEL VOICES**

**Joyce Kornbluh, ed.**  
Re-issue of Kornbluh's important anthology of early IWW art, articles and songs. Includes a new article on Wobbly cartoons by Franklin Rosemont and an updated bibliography. \$22

**STRIKE!**

**Jeremy Brecher**  
The history of US workers struggle from the workers point of view. Argues that class upsurge is based in everyday life and rank & file initiative. \$15

**LITTLE RED SONGBOOK**

35th edition of famous IWW songbook. Forty classic & new labor songs. — for picket lines, union meetings and shop floor. Joe Hill, Phil Ochs and Utah Phillips. Including "There Is Power in a Union", "Pie in the Sky", "The Internationale", and "Solidarity Forever". Back pocket size to carry to picket lines. Picket Line or Joe Hill cover. \$5 each or 4 to 39 \$2.50 ea. Over 40 \$2.00 each

**JUICE IS STRANGER THAN FRICTION**

**T-Bone Slim**  
Funny and irreverent, Slim's popular writings for the *Industrial Worker* of the 20s and 30s are collected here for the first time and introduced by Franklin Rosemont. Hobo, barge captain, and Wobbly. Working class wit. Says Slim, "Wherever you find injustice, the proper form of politeness is attack." \$8

**SOLIDARITY UNIONISM**

**Staughton Lynd**  
Critical reading for all who care about the future of the labor movement. Lynd offers no easy answers, rather a faith in working people and an argument that building solidarity today means nurturing resistance in the face of corporate power. Looks for ways unions can be incubators of the impulse toward solidarity. \$7

# BOOKS

**Upcoming this autumn. You can preorder.**

**New Huck/Konopacki**  
3rd book \$11

**New Fred Thompson's**  
letters \$9

**Reprint A Year in the Life**  
of a Factory \$9

**WAR AT HOME**

**Brian Glick**  
A handbook on resisting FBI repression. Concise descriptions of FBI methods & advice from an activist lawyer on what to do about it. \$5

**WORKING THE WATERFRONT**

**Gilbert Mers**  
Longshoreman and IWW member Gilbert Mers tells the story of his forty two years on the Texas waterfront as a rank and file radical. Workers history as it should be told. Hardcover only. \$20

**THE GENERAL STRIKE**

**Ralph Chaplin**  
Chaplins musical version of IWW preamble has the line: "without our brain & muscle not a single wheel can turn". He expands that idea in this '33 essay on the revolutionary strike. \$2

**AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT**

**Sam Dolgoff**  
Veteran house painter, anarchist, and IWW organizer Dolgoff traces the history of libertarian desire & offers his wisdom on energizing a new & radical, rank and file, labor movement. \$5

**MEMOIRS OF A WOBBLY**

**Henry McGuckin**  
The memoirs of a rambling Wobbly organizer of the 1910s. How they hoboed, organized and lived. Free speech fights and "fanning the flames of discontent." \$5

**SOLIDARITY FOREVER**

**Bird, Georgakas & Shaffer**  
Stories from the early Wobblies told in their own words. Fred Thompson, Frank Cedervall, Phil Melman, Sophie Cohen and two dozen more. A long memory is a dangerous thing \$10

**WOMEN IN THE GLOBAL FACTORY**

**Ehrenreich & Fuentes**  
Analysis of how multi-national corporations are shaping the lives of women workers. Points to the task of building a feminist future from a global perspective. \$5

**SABOTAGE IN THE AMERICAN WORKPLACE**

**Martin Sproue, editor**  
The inside story of modern American work places. Candid and anonymous first person accounts of direct action, rebellion, and sabotage in everyday life and every kind of work place. A book your boss does not want you to read. \$12

All cassettes only. \$9 each

## books & music for rebel workers

available from

# LOCAL BRANCHES

**CANADIAN LITTLE RED SONGBOOK**

40 great songs by Arlene Mantle, Rick Fielding, Faith Nolan, Len Wallace & others, with music & chords \$5.

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**San Francisco Branch**

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& color: red or white  
or pink

**New York Branch**

RD 1, Box 158-B  
Hartwick NY 13348  
**Workers Guide to Direct Action 75¢**  
**Collective Bargaining Manual \$2.50**

**IWW T-shirts**

black & red, M,L,XL,  
50/50 \$14

**Out of the Depths**

book about Ludlow  
Massacre \$10

**Columbine**

**Memorial Video**  
(scattering of Joe Hills  
ashes) \$20

**Denver/Boulder Branch**

2412 E. Colfax,  
Denver CO 80206

## 1994 IWW Labor Calendar

A revolutionary labor calendar with 14 striking photographs of labor struggles from around the world and hundreds of notes to remind you of important dates in our struggle against wage slavery.

\$7.50 per copy. \$4.50 each for 5 or more (postpaid)

send your order to: **IWW Calendar**  
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## Farmers Need Freedom!

*excerpts from Alok Sharma in Radical Chameleon*  
 The astonishing quality of the hemp plant is its potential benefit for the future, which can be recognized from its past usage. The first draft of the USA Constitution was written on hemp paper and the first American flag was made of hemp fibre. The first law pertaining to Cannabis was at Jamestown Colony, Virginia in 1619, which ordered all farmers to grow hemp seed. From then to the early 1800s similar laws were enacted across the States, to help the USA become economically independent from Britain.

For 200 years, hemp was legal tender for paying your taxes in America, and during certain periods you could be jailed for *not* growing it.

## How Hemp Industry Can Help Environment

If we chose to use hemp again, such as in the production of clothes, paper products and rope, we could stop some of the continual destruction of our environment. Use of hemp for pulp and paper would stop the massacre of our forests. Hemp is 77% cellulose, while wood is only 60%. The yields for paper are 4 times higher than wood per acre. In 6 months, one acre of hemp yields 2.5 to 5 tonnes of paper. It takes 30 years for one acre of trees to yield from 7 to 14 tonnes of paper.

This is not a new discovery. Until the 1880s, hemp produced about 85% of all the world's paper. Paper made from cannabis is much stronger than wood paper, which allows it to be recycled more times. Hemp is still used for making British paper money.

No jobs would be lost by switching from wood processing to hemp processing. Re-training the workers would be easy. This would also put many farmers back to work growing a viable crop that does not need heavy pesticides.

Fibre from the hemp stem is extracted to make rope and durable clothing. The first Levi jeans were made from hemp cloth. The dried stalks that remain after fibre removal are 77% cellulose, and can be made into paper without the use of dioxins, into non-toxic sealants and paints. Hemp seeds produce an oil for cooking and fuel, and are a greater source of protein than soy beans (USDA). In 1942 American farmers were encouraged to grow hemp; a government film called "Hemp for Victory"

## documented the growing methods.

The biomass conversion process of hemp to ethanol fuel can also be adjusted to produce methanol, ethyl acetate, acetone, tar, pitch, creosote or charcoal. Hemp cellulose is useful in stock feed, plastics and other chemicals. Using hemp for fuel would help our environment, and save us from obnoxious wars over petroleum.

## Hemp & Your Health

During the 3,000 years before 1842, marijuana extracts were the most commonly used medicines in the world; cannabis has the ability to stop an asthma attack, cure glaucoma, and reduce epileptic seizures. Research suggests that cannabis may relieve multiple sclerosis, nausea and herpes.

All this causes one to wonder why the plant was originally outlawed. Governments and corporations do not wish the public to learn the true reasons for outlawing the marijuana plant. In 1936, Popular Mechanics magazine announced the invention of a new machine for processing hemp fibres, and predicted that hemp would become the world's largest cash crop.

Multinational corporations were not amused. Dupont for example, had just invented a plastic fibre making machine. Tobacco and alcohol industry owners were already pursuing the ban of marijuana for recreational use. After much lobbying on the part of business, marijuana was outlawed in 1937.

The current "War on Drugs" is not a war on all drugs. There are more arrests under the USA Narcotic Control Act due to marijuana than any other drug. Yet it is easier to get crack or cocaine on the streets than pot. There are more Black people in jail in the USA than in South Africa; the "War on Drugs" is mostly "fought" in areas where people of color live. The Canadian government has decided to make its hemp laws stricter, turning a blind eye to the evidence and imposing a covert information ban which denies people the right to make intelligent decisions.

Learn more about the real benefits of hemp, and demand the right to control your own body. Demand legalization of hemp for environmental and medical reasons. Act up and make it happen -- we can stop the destruction of our world. Fight for the Freedom to Farm!

# Industrial Worker

☆ Emancipation  
 ☆ Organization  
 ☆ Education

It's time to get organized!



Vol. 90 No. 1564



OCTOBER 1993

ONE DOLLAR

Temple Grad  
 Student Fired for  
 Union Organizing page 1

**WAGE SLAVES**  
**WORLD NEWS**  
 TRASHY JOURNALISM FOR THE WORKING CLASS

## LISTEN TO MAMA

Join-a da I.W.W.!

Have-a da Whale Pie!



Hispanic  
 Workers  
 Organize  
 Hotel &  
 Food  
 Service  
 Industry  
 page 9

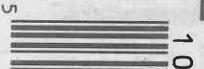
Pepsi  
 Workers  
 Form  
 Union in  
 Guatemala  
 page 4

Women  
 Forced  
 to Take  
 Drugs  
 Before  
 Appearing  
 in Court  
 page 10

**EAT MORE**

With the IWW,  
 do-it-yourself Industrial Union

Keep Trees and Jobs Tool! page 9



0 74470 83350 5



**AMAZING  
SECRET  
REVEALED!**

# *Wage Slave World News*

TRASHY JOURNALISM FOR THE WORKING CLASS

OCTOBER, 1993

VOL. 4, NO. 7

# GET RICH QUICK!



**THE  
WAGE SLAVE  
DISCOVERS A  
MAGIC MIRACLE  
MONEY MAKER!**



## **REBEL READERS REVOLT!**

***Workers' paper is  
accused of treason,  
editor is attacked!***



# Workers' paper accused of "treason"!

# REBEL READERS REVOLT!

Revolts by workers against their labor papers are nothing new. According to a long lost "Mr. Block" cartoon from 1913, fellow workers in Stockton, California staged a rebellion against *Solidarity*, a west coast IWW paper.

This tale of unrest, dredged from the bowels of Wobbly history, shows the IWW's best-loved and most enduring comic character, Mr. Block, taking over as editor to placate the disgruntled masses.

Here's the text of the rebel readers' letter:

Stockton, Cal., Sept. 30, 1913

Fellow workers:

This communication is to notify you of the action Local 73 has taken that affects the whole organization, and our reasons for so doing. We have cut out "Solidarity" as a means of reflecting that which is in our minds, as we are convinced that so long as any paper looks to other sources than the membership for its editorial inspirations, just that long will it fail to represent the membership. The fellow workers on the coast are intelligent enough to know that which is best for them. To continue support to "Solidarity," then, constitutes treason to the millions of uneducated who look to us and accept "Solidarity" on our recommendation.

Finally, the members of this local want their press to remain in such financial condition that it is dependent on the weekly receipts from the members. Then we KNOW that the papers, depending on us, will take good care to cater to our views.

We are trusting that you will take immediate action for a free press.

Yours for the Revolution,

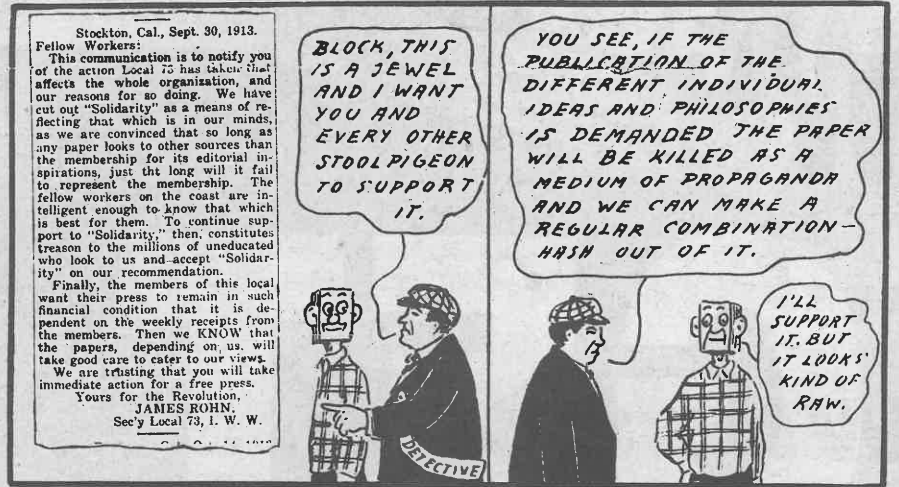
JAMES ROHN

Sec'y Local 73, I.W.W.

(Courtesy of the Archives of Labor and Urban Studies, Wayne State University)

## Mr. Block

He becomes an editor



# WORKERS P.O.ed OVER P.O. PEE PEE POLICY!

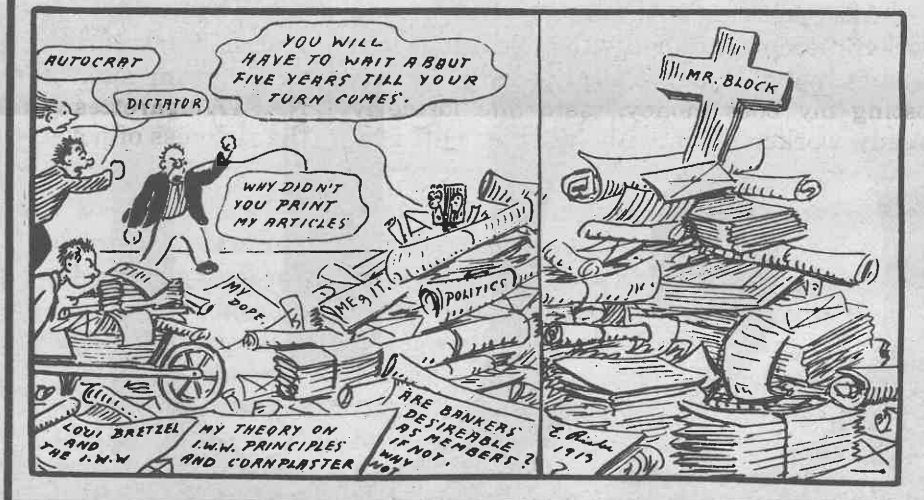
POSTAL WORKERS IN VILLA PARK, Illinois are P.O.ed over outrageous new work rules that demand they raise their hands and request permission before using the restroom!

In a fit of pique, the pee-pee punished postal peons complained to their congressman, Henry Hyde, Republican of Illinois.

A Hyde staffer told the peeved parcel pushers that the Congress-

man does not get involved in labor matters, although Mr. Hyde, who thinks Genghis Kahn is a liberal, does vote on laws destroying workers rights.

The congressional staffer explained to postal workers he unfortunately couldn't document their phone conversation because he had his hand in the air waiting permission from Congressman Hyde to use the restroom.



**NOW YOU TOO CAN WRITE**

Wage Slave World News

**SENSATIONAL NEWS STORIES!**

Are you sick and tired of the same old "objective" news that we're fed everyday from "respectable" newspapers.

Are you amazed that more working class people read the *National Enquirer* than the *Industrial Worker* and all the left press, COMBINED!?

Do you have a sense of humor? Are you interested in news that's exciting and fun?

Then the **WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS** is for you!

Got a weird workplace tale, a sensational story of working class frustration, a rebellious report, some scandalous scuttlebutt, a tattletale of toil?

Send it to the **WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS!** Post Office Box 1217, Madison, WI 53701-1217.

**SENSATIONALISTS OF THE WORLD UNITE! YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT YOUR BOILERPLATE!**

**WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS**



**VOL. 4, NO. 7  
OCTOBER, 1993**

Official organ of  
the Sensationalist  
Workers of the World  
Editor: Mike Konopacki  
Writer: Jeff Ditz

This is a constitutionally protected magazine of political satire. Any similarity to actual persons is intentional.



# Smoking NAFTA cigarettes will make you rich... ...beyond your wildest dreams!

**SMOKING A NEW BRAND OF CIGARETTE is guaranteed to make North American workers rich beyond their wildest dreams, say leading economic experts!**

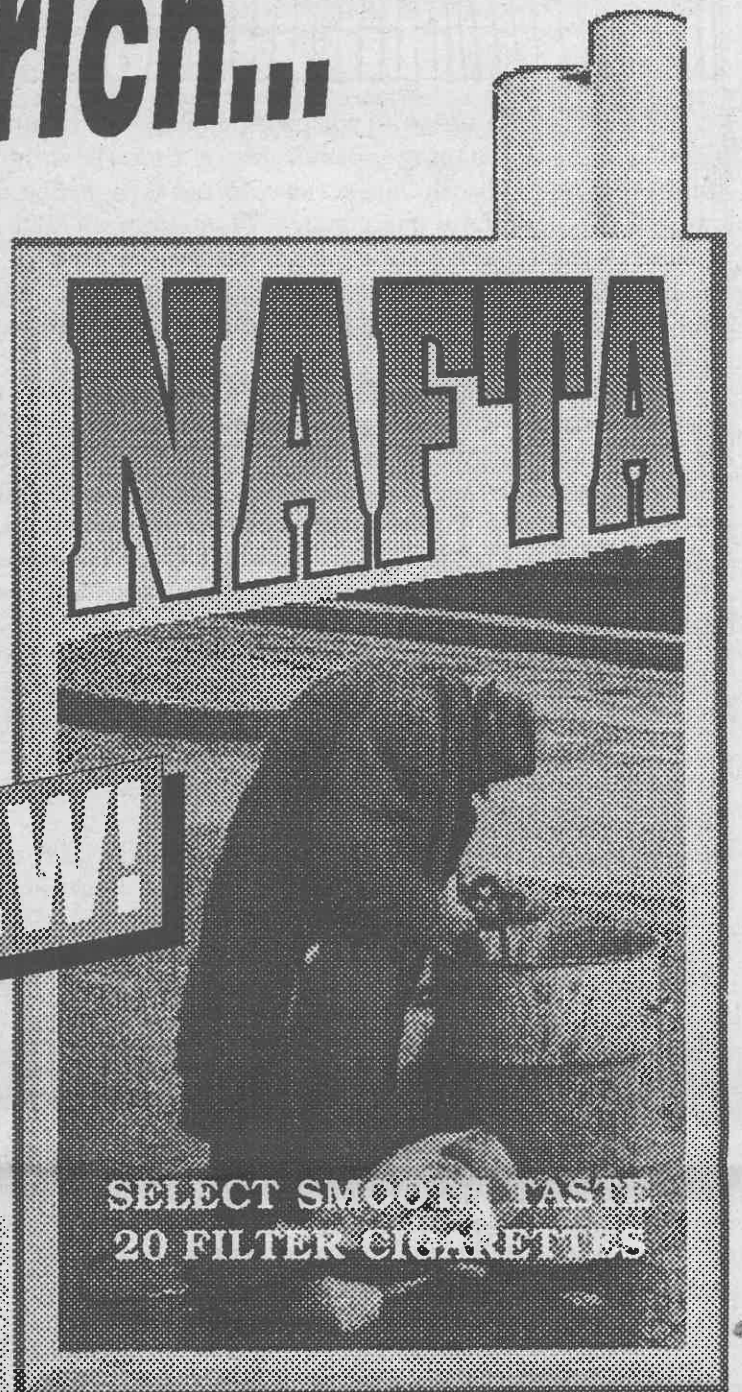
"NAFTA cigarettes have an amazing blend of tobaccos that, when smoked, make you rich in the knowledge that Corporate North America knows what's best for North American workers," says one incredibly brilliant economics professor from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. "No more do workers have to suffer with the realization that their personal greed has nearly destroyed the North American economy."

After smoking NAFTA cigarettes, greedy workers become satisfied with a declining standard of living. "I never used to care if I was costing my boss money," said one formerly greedy worker. "But with just one puff of a

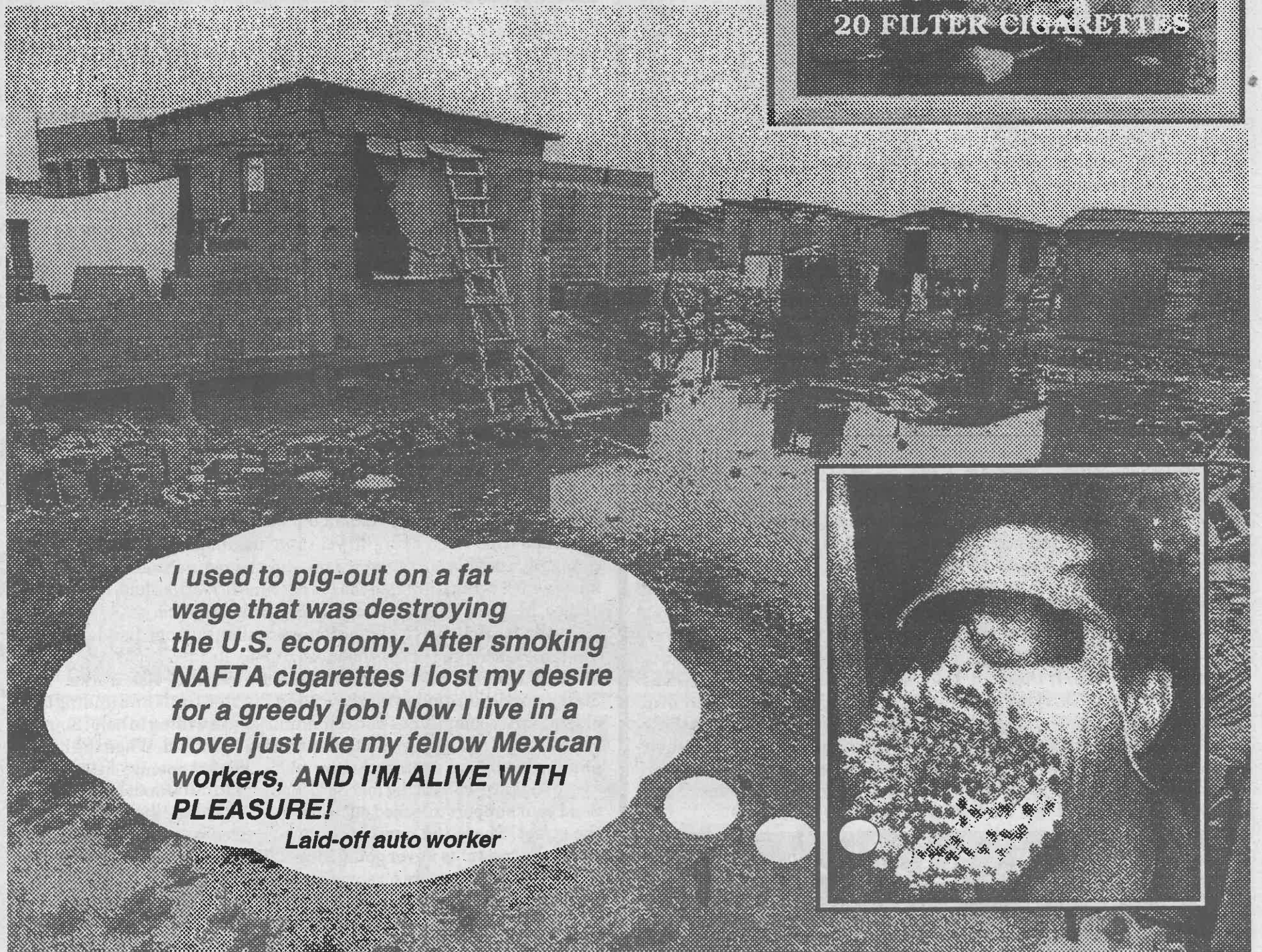
NAFTA cigarette, I began to realize that it was my own personal greed that made it impossible for North American businessmen to compete on the global market. It was also making my boss less rich than he deserves to be."

Thanks to modern economic research, workers no longer need to suffer from such thoughts. With NAFTA cigarettes workers can taste the richness of poverty.

**NEW!**



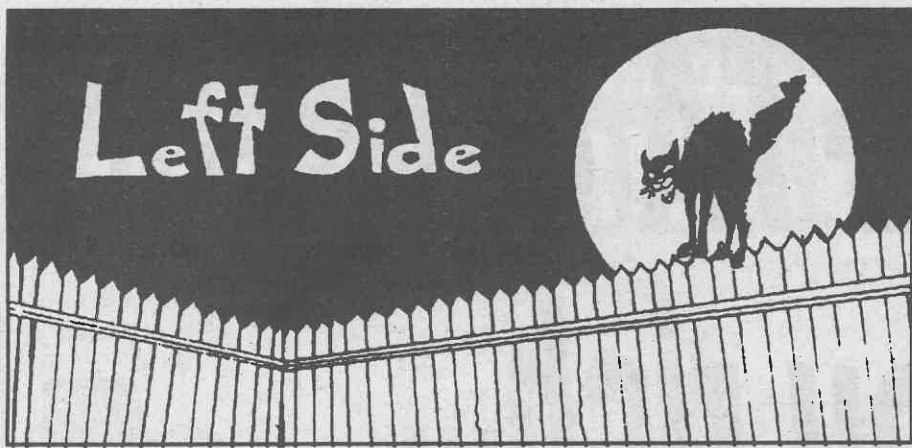
**SELECT SMOOTH TASTE  
20 FILTER CIGARETTES**



*I used to pig-out on a fat wage that was destroying the U.S. economy. After smoking NAFTA cigarettes I lost my desire for a greedy job! Now I live in a hovel just like my fellow Mexican workers, AND I'M ALIVE WITH PLEASURE!*

*Laid-off auto worker*





Here's something for all you good people to mull over even if Georgia Pacific Lumber Company doesn't give a tinker's damn. It takes two hundred trees to absorb the average annual carbon dioxide emissions of one lone Freedomland gas guzzler. There sure as Hell must be other materials that could do the job of building as well as wood without depleting our beautiful and stalwart fellow creatures. There's lots of rock and lots of gumbo that can't grow anything that could be used to build houses.

Despite the fairy tale of the Three Little Pigs there are some people who are turning to the construction of straw houses. The process is amazingly simple. A basic house needs 300 standard three-wire bales, skewered onto steel beams, then wired, plumbed and sealed like a wood frame house. These houses are quiet, energy-efficient and are all of twenty percent cheaper. The only limitations are they can't be more than one story high and the walls must be 18 inches thick. But thick walls make good insulation for extremes in temperature.

Here in Freedomland soot is responsible for some 60,000 deaths a year according to Harvard University and the Environmental Protection Agency. Most of these deaths are among the elderly and children with respiratory problems. This soot comes mainly from industrial plants and diesel vehicle exhausts. However very little air clean-up expenditures are focused on this number one killer by pollution.

Staughton Lynd wonders, in a review of the book *Democracy From the Heart*, if the Movement of the 60's died when the idea of non-violence died. He believes that most of the movements decline came about not because of government repression or other external obstacles but "from the deep inability of movement participants to behave like brothers and sisters toward each other". Put that in your craws, all you World-savers who are always squabbling over minute ideological differences instead of trying to work together on points of agreement and realizing who the real adversary is.

If all the fundamentalists had their way there would hardly be any schools or libraries left. Fundamentalism appeals primarily to parents whose children are entering puberty, who are feeling a loss of parental control. The big bugaboo of course is open attitudes toward sex as well as anything that would encourage independent thinking.

The approval of the position of Assistant Secretary of Energy is in jeopardy because the candidate for that job had belonged to a group called "Marxist Feminist" some years back. The moss-backed politicians who are concerned about having someone from the "radical left fringe" are really worried that she might want to make private Energy Department contractors more accountable.

Over the past couple of decades one of the latest red-hot commodities is American Indian spiritualism. There are those of the more affluent Freedomland citizenry who have been forking out their shekels to "genuine" Indian "holy men" to learn and practice the spiritual ways of those whom were divested of their long standing real estate. These "holy men" do not bother to educate their newfound neophytes about the struggles of contemporary Indians to retain what is left of their land rights. These holy men know only too well that tweaking the consciences of their fair-skinned congregations might result in a loss of revenue.

Andi Smith, writing in the Chicago based *Daughters of Sarah*, says that the New Age Movement is part of the very old story of White racism and the genocide of the Indians. There are those who are very much disinclined to look into their own cultural roots for sources of spiritual strength as they wish to disassociate themselves from their whiteness and become Indian if only in spirit. "In this way," she writes, "they can escape responsibility and accountability for white racism. They do not want to be part of our struggles for survival against genocide, and they do not want to fight for treaty rights or an end to substance abuse and sterilization abuse." "They do not want to do anything that would tarnish their romanticized notions of what it means to be an Indian. Moreover, they want to become Indian without holding themselves accountable to Indian communities. If they did, they would have to listen to Indians telling them to stop carrying around sacred pipes, stop doing their own sweat lodges, and stop appropriating our spiritual practices. Rather these New Agers see Indians as romanticized gurus who exist only to meet their consumerist needs." Your scribe speculates on the possibilities of consumerist opportunism. Can you imagine some con-men getting themselves a pair of scissors and doing a land office business in Germany?

by C.C. Redcloud

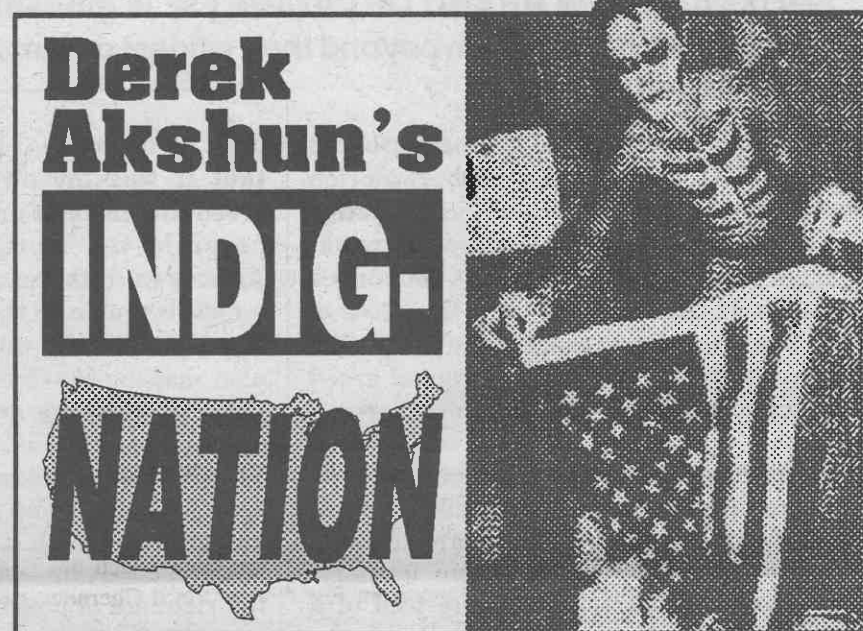
The governor of Illinois has solved joblessness. "Unemployment, isn't up," he says. "There're just more people looking for work." Right, and the folks who "aren't unemployed" aren't hungry. They're just looking for food. In souplines and dumpsters, from friends or family. The state serves working people all right - on a platter to big business.

The rules at the unemployment office these days say you have to take any crummy job you're offered. The Illinois Department of Unemployment Insecurity sends workers to a place called the Defender Company, which claims to be a janitorial enterprise but really rents out scabs. This means untrained folks are ordered by the state to scab on locked out, skilled chemical operators in an unsafe plant.

That's what they call "free enterprise". The state works free for the bosses enterprises.

The good folks on strike and locked out from the factories, mines, utility companies and chemical plants have worked for these companies fifteen or twenty years. They're middle-aged, got mortgages, kids, a car. And a shitload of worries. These are men and women who held onto their jobs despite the lousy conditions, layoffs, boredom and the lack of safety. They made it. Two decades building profits for the company. Now they're obsolete.

The corporations are letting fly with a new campaign in the class war. And fed up, pissed off, Joe and Jane America have had enough. You don't have to be a "leftist" to notice the bosses getting richer, yourself working harder and slipping further behind. Or to feel the brutality of twelve hour shifts. Workers say the giant sugar company



Tate and Lyle which owns Staley is using the colonial labor tactics they learned running sugar plantations, and earlier, running slaves. The Staley workers are also saying "it stops here."

When I hired into a Michigan auto factory almost twenty years ago there were 17,000 people working there. Today there's 3000. It makes whole towns crazy when factories are down. Thousands of lives shattered. Broken marriages and broken lives. Some friends of mine robbed an armored car. Others wound up in jails and hospitals. One or two went crazy. Some made their escapes.

The union dudes made their escape too. The yoU Aint Working has no shop floor strategy, 'cept to keep their decaying bureaucratic fiefdoms together overseeing an orderly retreat.

In July the Michigan Court of Appeals said it doesn't matter if GM lied to Ypsilanti. Since everyone knows GM lies, no one should trust them. So if GM wants to shut down Willow Run and move the work to Texas they can. Property rights, y'know.

That's 4500 more folks out. Where the hell do they expect us to go? What the hell do they expect us to feel? I for one feel like Jesse James. Not cowboy macho, just frustrated enough to rob a damn freight train. There's something awful wrong with a system that places the "rights" of capital ahead of the needs of people.

The frustration brewing in people is going to go somewhere. Perot looks a lot like a fascist trial balloon. The great upsurge of the 1930's came at a time when being 40 years old meant getting laid off, when company unions were everywhere and the mainstream ones didn't know which way to turn. Maybe it's not time to feel like lone hero Jesse James. Maybe it's time to feel like Big Bill Haywood.

Albert Meltzer, a revolutionary unionist from London, says Thatchers crushing of the business unions has led activist workers towards revolutionary unionism because nothing else works. The Staley workers are following the P9 and Pittston trails and finding the old solidarity committees and communities are willing to help. Southern Illinois is a war zone. South Central isn't pacified. When the hicks and the homeboys get together on who's the real enemy - look out.

What are we waiting for? Someone else to do it for us? Not likely. Send your support to locked out workers in southern Illinois and down the street. Share the news of those struggles with folks where you work, the "news" is never going to do it. And however secure your job looks remember: you're on some bosses hit list too.

Make a start, c'mon, we got a world to win.

-Derek