

Industrial Worker

January 1995

#1575, vol. 92 no. 1

EDUCATION

ORGANIZATION

EMANCIPATION

A Call to Reclaim May Day...

Shut Down the World Bank

We see today that the main purpose of the Cold War was to prevent our movements for a better life, our class and our organizations in the First World, the East and the Third World from coming together. Such alliances could seriously threaten the existence of all exploitative institutions, whether they are ruled by corporations or by the state, whether they call themselves capitalist or socialist.

The end of the Cold War was the result, at least in part, of the refusal to accept this division by people in the First, Second and Third worlds. But the end of this form of rule has only led to the whole world coming together under the tyranny of one global system of exploitation managed by the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank (IMF/WB), and backed up by the military repression of the United States, the UN, and virtually all the governments of the world. These institutions were consciously created at the Bretton Woods Conference in the U.S. in 1944 to constitute a capitalist international. The Communist and Third World nationalist bureaucracies gradually became active collaborators with the IMF/WB, using foreign debts to discipline their own working classes. The IMF and the World Bank are this year arrogantly celebrating their 50th anniversary.

We at Neither East Nor West-NYC and Workers' Solidarity Alliance/New York & New Jersey are inviting you to join us in organizing a day of action against the IMF and the World Bank to be held on (or around) Monday May 1, 1995. We have chosen May Day because we wish to reclaim the tradition of worldwide working-class unity. The May Day tradition (which began as a commemoration for the martyrdom of anarchist activists following a general strike for a shorter work week in the



"I couldn't find Hitler's brain....so I brought you the GATT Treaty instead."

United States in 1886) has become somewhat hollow for those raised on Communist-bloc war parades, empty leftist marches in Europe and parts of the Third World, and Law Day in the U.S.

Now more than ever, we need to work together independent of official borders. Our hope is that worldwide coordinated actions will help to expand this badly needed planetary alliance against those institutions which have done so much damage to people, communities, cultures and the environment all over the world. In choosing this day, we are also building on an older May Day tradition of celebrating the annual

reawakening of the earth in spring. We are reclaiming our planet from these desecrators of the land who expropriate and exploit us.

We especially hope to bring the role of the IMF and the World Bank to the attention of North Americans and others from the western countries who are less aware of the role of these organizations even within their own countries. The IMF and World Bank are located in the U.S. They are funded primarily by the richest governments. The

suffering of people in First World countries is the result of IMF and World Bank policies no less than in other parts of the world.

Throughout the world, the growth of homelessness, loss of farms and jobs, destruction of neighborhoods and communities, slashing of social programs and education, de-capitalization of local industries, creation of artificial famines, and repression of labor and other social movements have all grown as a result of IMF/World Bank policies.

We also hope that this day of action can help build autonomous contacts and networks between peoples in every part of the planet. Such contacts have until recently been limited and made more problematic by the division of the world into two Cold War blocs, and by the political loyalties which developed around this division.

Nearly every country in the world, regardless of political ideology, "capitalist" or "communist," has been devastated by "structural adjustment programs," the debt crisis and development schemes organized by the IMF and World Bank. All over the world, people are beginning to express their hatred of these bureaucrats and their policies. Demonstrations and revolts against the IMF/WB have already taken place in dozens of countries ranging from Russia to Mexico, from Melanesia to the West Bank, from Lagos to West Berlin.

continued on page 6

Boulevard Bingo Sued

Fellow Worker Lenny Flank has filed two counter-suits against the Boulevard Bingo in response to their SLAPP suit. (The bingo hall sued FW Flank on the theory that an IWW press release on the National Labor Relations Board's decision to charge them with unfair labor practices somehow damaged this union-busting outfit's reputation.) Flank's first suit charges defamation and false light, on the grounds that Boulevard Bingo owner Joseph Fillman's attorney made deliberately false statements to the press about the IWW and IWW organizer Flank. The other counter-suit is a RICO (racketeering) action, charging that Allied Air Force and PASCAL (the joint owners of the bingo hall) have conspired to deny me my legal right to organize a union at Boulevard Bingo.

Meanwhile, the original libel suit against FW Flank has not yet been dismissed. The branch is not at all worried about losing the suit, which is a totally bogus attempt to use the courts to harass FW Flank and divert energy from the IWW's organizing efforts. But the local judge has proven unsympathetic to the IWW and there is some concern that he might dismiss the countersuits on the grounds that FW Flank can't show any damages. (Is someone's reputation injured by being accused of lying by a sleazy union-busting boss?)

Meanwhile, the judge continues to refuse to toss the Bingo Hall's libel suit out of court, allowing Fillman's lawyers to drag things out in order to maximize their harassment before their inevitable defeat. The suit is currently set for trial for January 23rd, but it may well be delayed.

The Lehigh Valley IWW Branch needs to raise about \$2,000 in the next couple of months, for legal expenses, both to defend against the libel suit and on a counter-suit to force Boulevard Bingo to compensate the branch and the bingo workers for the economic and other damages they have suffered as a result of Boulevard Bingo's union busting, its harassment of union activists, etc.

The expense of defending the suit has forced the branch to suspend publication of its newsletter and cut other expenses to the bone. Donations to help with legal expenses should be sent to: Lehigh Valley IWW, PO Box 4133, Bethlehem PA 18018.

Time for the 4 Hour Day

With the U.S. elections just behind us, many are in full-scale panic. No doubt the Republicans will do all in their power to club the working class and unemployed into even worse conditions, and to rip the last remnants of the social safety net out from under our feet. But the Democrats were committed to much the same program — as are "labor" and "socialist" parties around the world.

The simple, brutal fact is that the employing class feels it has the international working class at its mercy. As a result, they demand massive corporate welfare schemes before they will even consider locating a plant (or maintaining one that already exists). They demand that governments (only to happy to oblige) crush unions, reduce jobless benefits, etc., in order to drive wages down to their lowest possible level.

This is the simple, vicious logic of capitalism. The boss who pays the lowest wages, forces workers to put in the longest hours, spends the least amount possible on workplace safety and environmental protection, that employer has a "competitive advantage" that can be combatted only by an ever-descending spiral of falling wages and conditions or by organizing the workers of the world as a class to assist our fellow workers at the bottom in improving their conditions, thereby helping all workers.

The most important decisions that gov-

ern our lives are not made by politicians or at the ballot box; they are made by us and our fellow workers on our jobs and in our communities (or, when we don't make them, by the bosses). When workers decided we would no longer put up with 10 and 12 hour work days, employers were forced to accept the 8 hour day (later they passed a law). In the 1930s, U.S. workers were well on the road to winning the 6 hour day before that effort was abandoned.

Today 10 and 12 hour days are increasingly common. But productivity continues to improve. The result is that we are quite literally working ourselves out of our jobs. More and more workers find themselves relegated to the industrial scrap heap, where they must either starve, turn to crime, or offer their labor so cheaply that some boss decides to take them on (either instead of buying a machine, or to replace workers who earned better wages).

Wages fall. Bosses close factories and relocate the work in areas where desperate workers will toil long hours for little more than a crust of bread to hold off starvation for another day. This is the logic of capitalism. It cannot be cured by appealing to politicians. It's up to us to decide whether we will continue to put up with this rotten system, or whether we will build the industrial power that will enable us to demand what is rightfully ours.

From The Desk Of...

Lag time between production and distribution of the *Industrial Worker* puts me in a bit of an awkward spot here. I told the IW editor that I wanted to write a monthly column during my stint as General Secretary-Treasurer to let people know how we're doing and what I think we might consider to improve the Union. I'm writing this in late November for the January issue. The results of the election will be known by the time you read this, but not as I write it. But since my only opponent is the perennial candidate "Write-in," and having heard of no major campaign in that direction, it seems appropriate to begin acting as if I am going to be elected because time is short. I'm hoping I won't be reading this in January with a sheepish Thomas Dewey grin on my face.

The transition period between election in mid-December and taking office on January 1 seems too brief to me, especially in years when election also means the office will be moving, as is the case this year. I think we'd be well advised to consider moving the date when elected officials take office back to February 1. It would allow us more time for learning the ropes and making necessary changes.

And I think it is healthier for the Union when there are more candidates for the general secretary-treasurer and general executive board positions. So I'm asking you to start thinking now about whether you can accept nomination at the 1995 Labor Day assembly of the Union. Check the IWW constitution for the qualifications, make sure your dues are paid up, and let's see if



we can increase the number of well considered and eligible candidates in September. Yeah, a lot of the duties are boring and bureaucratic; but they are also necessary for the continuing survival of our Union. So prepare yourself to take your turn.

I'm presently looking for an office for General Headquarters. It will most likely be in Ypsilanti, MI, a town about thirty miles west of Detroit with a long and proud labor tradition, home of workers who came north during WWII to build planes at nearby Willow Run Airport and stayed to build cars cars after the war.

Next month I should be able to announce the new address and phone number. In the meantime correspondence can be addressed to the Industrial Worker distribution post office Box 2056, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Phone calls can be made to my home phone: 313-662-1529. I use an answering machine to monitor my calls. So start leaving a message. If I'm home, I'll pick up. If not, I'll call you back. Or you can send me e-mail at 73174.77@Compuserve.com.

I'll be spending the last week of December in San Francisco, learning the rou-

tine and picking up some words of wisdom from outgoing GST Robert Rush. My thanks to him for a job well done. It has been a pleasure working with him during the past year when I was on the General Executive Board. After the training we'll pile all the office equipment in a u-haul and I'll head back to Michigan, ready to rock and roll.

I think 1994 was a good year for the Union. We've had some increase in membership. We're still spending a bit more than we're taking in, but the rate of depletion of the reserves is decreasing. There weren't too many major controversies. Differences about how we should spend the Union's money will be decided by referendum, for the short run at least, by the time you read this. Organizing drives among film, copying, health food workers, and people of color are in progress. Hopefully there will be some successes to announce in the near future.

I'll be doing my best to help make 1995 even better for the Union. I'll be the first full-time GST for the Union in recent years. So the buck stops here. If I can be of help, let me know. If you're mad at me, let me know that too. I'll do my best to resolve the issue. If I can't, I'll explain why and what further recourse you have. I'll try to assume that every member is doing what he or she thinks best for the Union, although I know that some of us will have some major disagreements about what is best. I ask you to do the same with me. Criticize me, but don't assume I'm the enemy. I'm hoping we can

all focus on our common enemy, the employing class, and not spend a lot of energy on internal conflicts.

My best wishes for a happy and productive new year to all of you fellow/sister workers, to our Union, and to our class. May it be a year in which we make great strides in driving the bosses crazy.

Fred Chase
1995 IWW GST

LETTER:

Fellow workers,

According to the November 15, 1994 *Wall Street Journal* p.1, "A survey by Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Co. finds 69% of workers see themselves as very committed to their employers, but only 38% say their employer is committed to them."

I think that this sort of corporatist ideology, i.e. that there exists a common interest between the employing and working classes, combined with the nationalistic tendencies embodied in the pro-187 (which bars undocumented workers from education and other social services) vote in California, indicate a fascist trend lurking under the thin veil of bourgeois democracy in the USA.

Workers need to be clear about the fact that as sellers of skills, they have nothing in common with their buyers, the employing class. To the extent that we can make this point, we can fight corporatist tendencies at the grass roots level.

Mike Ballard

I.W.W. DIRECTORY

Job Branch= 5 or more members in workplace
GMB=General Membership Branch
IU=Industrial Union Del=Delegate
GOC= Organizing Committee.

IU 120: Forest Workers
IU 450: Print & Publishing Workers
IU 460: Food Processing Workers
IU 510: Marine Transport Workers
IU 610: Health Workers
IU 620: Education Workers
IU 630: Entertainment Workers
IU 660: General Distribution Workers
IU 670: Public Service Workers

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

Sydney Area Group- Del:Ray Elbourne, Corner Dittons Ln. & Old Illawara Hwy, Sutton Forest NSW 2577.

VICTORIA

Melbourne Area Group-POB 1738Q GPO Melbourne, 3001.

CANADA

MANITOBA

Winnipeg GMB- B. Mackay, PO Box 3204, GNPO, R3C 4E7

ONTARIO

Ottawa GMB- 388 1/2 Kent, K2P 2A9. 613/231-2922 <indwrk@web.apc.org>
Toronto Group- 11 Andrews Ave M6J 1S2. 416/941-9945 Meets 1st Thurs 7 pm; phone for location.

UNITED KINGDOM

GOC British Isles/IU620 Contact: F.Lee, Secular Hall 75 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LE1 1WB. 0533-661835

IU610 Contact: Harry Girling, c/o Ipswich Community Resource Ctr, 16 Old Foundry Rd., Ipswich IP4 2DU

IU660 Contact: Ray Carr, 22 Brunswick Square, Herne Bay, Kent CT6 5QF

Swindon Region GMB/IU670 Contact- Kevin Brandstatter, 9 Omdurman St.Swindon, SN2 1HA; Tel: 0793-610707. Stuart Craft, Box A, 111 Magdalen Rd,Oxford. Davey Garland, Box23, 5 High St.Glastonbury Somerset.
York- D.Czunys, 13 Wolsley, Y01 5BQ.

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

IU330 Custom Wood Screen Doors- Paul Kay, 606 Alamo Pintado #3262, Solvang 93463(805) 688-0123

IU660 Time Tested Books- 1114 21st St, Sacramento 95814. 916/447-5696

Mendocino- Bill Meyers, delegate. 707/884-1818.

San Diego Group- PO Box 49735, San Diego, CA 92159. 619/284-WOBS

Santa Cruz GMB- PO Box 534, 95061 <sciww@ucscb.ucsc.edu>

IU450 New Earth Press Job Shop- 1921 Ashby Berkeley 94703 (510)549-0176

IU620 Job Shop UCB Recyclers- 620 Eshleman B'k'ly 94720 Daniel Widener

IU670 Berkeley Recycling Ctr. Job Shop- M. Carlstroem, 2515 Piedmont #8, 94607

Los Angeles GMB- Meets 2nd, 4th Sundays. Location call (24hr):213/368-4604. Andrew Willett 1136 ArborDell Rd.90041.

IU630 Film Workers- Miguel Sanchez, 1724 Westmoreland LA 90006 (231)368-4604

SF Bay Area GMB- PO Box 40485, 94140 415/863-WOBS iww@igc.apc.org

COLORADO

IU450 P&L Printing Job Shop- 2298 Clay, Denver 80211. 303/433-1852

Denver/Boulder GMB- 2412 E. Colfax, 80206. Ofc hrs Sat.9-12. (303)388-1065

Meets 1st Thurs.7pm. Del:Cliff Sundstrom 910 E.8th Av.#202, 80218. 303/832-7602.

Brendan Ruiz,POB 370663, 80237-0663

GEORGIA

Atlanta Group- 340 Elmira Pl, 30307. 404/524-1243. Lorenzo Ervin Kom'boa, del.- 218 Adair Ct. #5, Decatur GA 30030. 404/687-8324

HAWAII

Oahu Group- POB 11928,Honolulu 96822 Tel:808/247-8584.<annies@igc.apc.org>

ILLINOIS

Chicago GMB- 4043 N.Ravenswood#205 60613.(312)549-5045. Mt.1st Fri. 7:30 pm.

LOUISIANA

Baton Rouge Group- Steve Donahue 729 Bungalow Ln 70802.(504)389-9572.

MARYLAND

Baltimore GMB- R.Bey, Black Shield, Box 1681, Glen Burnie 21060. 301/367-3024

MASSACHUSETTS

IU630 GOC- Jim Barclay, 75A Elm St. Worcester 01609

MICHIGAN

SE Mich.GMB-Box2056, Ann Arbor 48106. IU630 Workers Stories Workers Lives Job Shop- Albert Parsons (313)769-0695

IU670 Ann Arbor Tenants Union Job Shop- 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor 48109. 313/763-6876.

MINNESOTA

Duluth Group-1514 N. 8th Avenue E, 55805. Del: Jack Rosenquist

MISSISSIPPI

Gulfport Group- C.G.Streuly601/896-3515

MONTANA

Butte- Mark Ross 111 W.Quartz 59701. (406)782-4465

NEW YORK

IU670 Socialist Party USA Natl Office Job Shop- 516 W. 25th St. #404, NYC 10001. 212/691-0776

Capital District Group- POB 74, Altamont NY 12009. (518)861-5627

Rochester- Del: Ric Garren 716/232-4005. NYC GMB- Del: Wade Rawluk, 5610 Netherland Ave #4D, Bronx NY 10471. 718/796-3671. Rochelle Semel, RD 1 Box 158-B, Hartwick 13348. 607/293-6489

PENNSYLVANIA

IU630 Boulevard Bingo Job Shop- Tina Gaffney (215)821-5622

Lancaster Group- PO Box 2084, 17608 Lehigh Valley GMB-POB 4133 Bethlehem 18018 (610)515-0181. Del: Trish D'Amore 434-0128. email: len.flank@father.com

Reading Group- PO Box 8468, 19603. Del:Dennis Good (215)921-2459; Rick Page (215)562-3487

Philadelphia GMB/ IU450 Duplicators Network- 4722 Baltimore Ave. 19143. (215)747-0855.

IU660 Wooden Shoe Books Records Job Shop- 112 S.20th St.19103. (215)569-2477. <ulrike@templevm.bitnet>

SOUTH CAROLINA

IU450 Harbinger Publications Job Shop- Meril Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd. Columbia 29201. 803/254-9398

TEXAS

Austin Group- PO Box 49523, 78765. 512/416-9619

UTAH

Salt Lake Group- Tony Roehrig, PO Box 520514, Salt Lake City 84152-0514. 801/485-1969

VERMONT

Burlington Group- Anne Petermann, Orin Langelle POB 804, 05402. (802)658-2403. <peacejustice@igc.apc.org>

WASHINGTON

IU460 Fairhaven Co-op Flour Mill Job Shop- 1115 Railroad Ave. Bellingham 98225.

Industrial Transportation Project- Arthur Miller, POB 5464, Tacoma 98415-0464 Stan Anderson, delegate- POB 20402, Seattle 98102. 206 367-0477

WISCONSIN

IU450 Lakeside Press 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

Industrial Worker

THE VOICE OF
REVOLUTIONARY
UNIONISM

Articles may be submitted to the IW at the following addresses:

Industrial Worker Coordinator
4043 N. Ravenswood #205
Chicago IL 60613 USA
(312)549-5045 email:
jbekken@igc.apc.org

Canadian Labor, Video &
Music Reviews, Women's
Issues: 388 1/2 Kent, Ottawa,
ONT K2P 2A9 Canada
(613)231-2922
indwrk@web.apc.org

Distribution: Industrial Worker,
P.O. Box 2056, Ann Arbor MI
48106

ISSN 0019-8870 Official
monthly publication of the
Industrial Workers of the
World. Second Class Postage
Paid SF, CA & other mailing
offices. Postmaster: send
address changes to:

Industrial Worker, 1095 Market
#204, San Francisco CA 94103
(415) 863-WOBS
Individual Subscriptions \$15
Library Subs \$20/year
(Member sub included in dues)

Articles not so designated do not
represent the official position of
IWW. No ads. Donations welcome.

Press date Nov. 22, 1994

Demand Freedom for Leonard Peltier

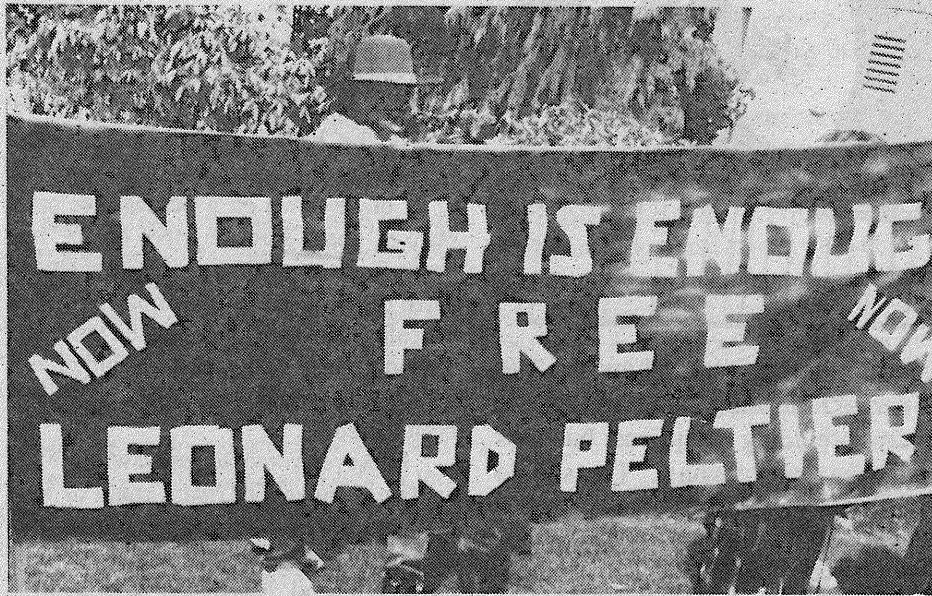
What does it take to free a man when indisputable evidence shows that he was framed by the U.S. government? This I wondered as I stood waiting to speak on the case of Leonard Peltier for the fourth time in two days. I walked upon the stage and stood before the microphone and looked out at the scene before me. We had gathered at Peace Arch Park on the U.S. Canadian border to demand freedom for our brother. On both sides of us was the border traffic, backed up both ways. People looking out their windows wondering about the sight before their eyes. Banners flying, leaflets being passed out, signatures being gathered upon petitions; a sight to warm one's heart, but sadness still engulfs me, for what does it take to free a man?

I told the people of the frameup of Leonard. Of how the defense had disproved the government's case against Leonard and of the proof of overwhelming government misconduct. I told them about the statement by U.S. prosecutor Lynn Crooks who stated in court at the last appeal that the government did not know who shot the FBI agents, which in reality was an admission that the government's case against Leonard had been fabricated. Then I got into what was behind the shootout and the case against Leonard—uranium for weapons of mass destruction and the contamination of the ground water and the Cheyenne River. I proclaimed President Clinton a hypocrite for going around the world acting like he was a man of peace, all the while continuing the war on the original people of this land.

There were many fine speakers who spoke on that day, including the wife and son of Joseph Stuntz Killright, the young Indian man who was murdered by an FBI sniper on that tragic day. A Native woman from Canada spoke on the support for Leonard in Canada, which included a number of labor organizations. The Native drummers strengthened the spirit of all who were there that day, including many motorists who honked their horns in support of us.

The rally at the border was another step in a renewed campaign here in the northwest for Leonard. This renewed struggle started with a rally in Olympia in the summer of '93 and more rallies in Tacoma (June '93), Portland (Nov. '93 and June '94), Seattle (March '94), Tacoma (April '94), Olympia (May '94), and the October "International Leonard Peltier Solidarity Week" in which there were rallies in Olympia, Tacoma, Seattle, Everett, Mt. Vernon, Bellingham and then the March On The Border and the rally at the Peace Arch.

The morning of the March and Rally at



the border started out cold with the clouds threatening rain. Many of us gathered in Bellingham where we started off with a car caravan (including one old bus), from there we headed out to the Lummi Nation where a number of other cars joined up with us. We then drove the 30-some miles together to a park in the town of Blaine. From there we marched to the border with the drum in front, followed by a banner, then a delegation of young people (including my 7-year-old son, Dylan), then Native Elders with the rest of the people following them. The two-mile march made its way along the water and into the town of Blaine and on to the border. As we made our way to the border a few people saw us and parked their cars and joined in. The cops were not very pleased to see us and threatened to arrest one of our organizers if we did not follow their commands. Once they saw that there was no stopping us they ended up directing traffic.

What will it take to free Leonard? We have yet to find out. I look back over my years of involvement with this case, remembering all the support that has been received and that has not been enough. Over the past year there has been not only the rallies here and in many other places, but also a march in Washington last June where over 3,000 people marched in front of the White House. There was also a walk across the U.S. which gathered 60,000 signatures on petitions. I am especially pleased by the support of labor organizations, for Leonard is also a worker who worked as a farm worker, a carpenter and a shipyard worker. The United Farm Workers of Washington, the United Auto Workers, workers from the Tacoma Carpenters Union showed up at our Tacoma rally with their banners; many affiliates of the International Workers Asso-

ciation (AIT) and the IWW have aided us in their struggle.

What will free Leonard? The united voice of the people will free him. People from all across the world have spoken in support of clemency for Leonard. And if Clinton turns Leonard down again, new words will be heard. **We will not take no for an answer!** You too can join in this united voice for justice by writing letters to President Clinton (The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania, Washington DC 20500) and demanding that he grant clemency. For more information on Leonard's case, to send donations, or to find out how you can get involved, write to: The Leonard Peltier Defense Committee, PO Box 583, Lawrence KS 66044.

Arthur J. Miller

Wobblies Squat UK Cinema

Recently, prompted by the approach of the Criminal "Justice" Bill (which, among other unjust provisions, would criminalize squatting), several people in Oxford launched a direct action campaign to occupy empty properties. The Oxford Wobblies and local class struggle anarchists played an important role in this campaign.

Oxford has a pressing need for accommodation: rents are pushed through the roof by commuters, rich students and the privileged elite of the university. For young and unemployed people there are few cheap recreational facilities, especially for music or film. Yet there are currently over 900 empty commercial and residential buildings in Oxford, 900 empty shells the majority of which could be used by the community. This is the reality of capitalism in our workplaces and communities — perfectly good resources squandered because the rich can't make a fat profit out of them.

Plans were made to occupy Oxford's oldest cinema, the Penultimate Picture Palace, which had closed six to eight months earlier, and a disused nurses home in East Avenue (with 12 bedrooms plus communal rooms) which had been empty for several years and vandalized by local kids. It was hoped to stage a week-long cultural protest against the Criminal Justice Bill in the cinema with free films and music, while the nurses home would provide longer-term residential and community resource space.

On the night of Sunday July 31, East Avenue House was legally entered and 20-30 people swiftly moved in to secure it. Police arrived to be politely and firmly told that this residential squat was covered by Section 6 of the Criminal Law Act of 1977. They left. Work began immediately on reconnecting essential services, cleaning, etc., and continued the next morning with support from many local estate (housing project) residents.

The next day seven people entered the cinema, only to meet the guardians of pri-

Around Our Union

Slave-Driving at Kinko's Copies

An IWW activist who has worked at a West Coast Kinko's for several years reports harassment from local management who are demanding that he take on managerial responsibilities for his area without compensation. Since the bosses have scheduled more work than can be done in a 40-hour work week, the fellow worker was told to work on customer appointments outside of store time (a clearly illegal proposition).

Other Kinko's workers report on resistance to a new uniform dress code and to management's refusal to schedule time for workers to review the safety manual they are required to read (instead, Kinko's apparently wants workers to read the manuals on their own time or risk losing workers' compensation in the event of any injury). The local IWW branch is working with Kinko's workers to provide legal and other support to workers facing mandatory (and unpaid) overtime, harassment, etc. Local Kinko's workers are organizing a meeting to discuss the problems, and are gathering material to document harassment and other management practices.

Burning Fuse

This article is condensed from *Burning Fuse* #2, "An unofficial and irregular journal compiled by Wobblies in Britain. The October 1994 issue features articles on the Criminal "Justice" Law, Posties Fight Back, Signal Workers Strike, Efforts to force unemployed workers into scabby and hazardous jobs, Anarchism & Black Revolution, Squatting, and Workers Control.

Copies are 70 p. from the IWW General Organizing Committee, Secular Hall, 75 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LE4 5PD.

vate property in the shape of Thames Valley Police. Six were arrested for "criminal damage" (the usual pretext) and released without charge hours later once the building had been resecured.

Worse was to follow then the filth arrived at East Avenue House in force, claiming reports of a break-in. Cops in riot gear smashed their way in, arresting everyone inside. All but one were released hours later without charge. A large crowd of local residents and supporters witnessed the attack; three of them were arrested when a couple of police cars had their tires slashed. One bystander was assaulted by cops when she tried to photograph them.

Later that night, with nine people still in custody, about 40 others gathered at the station to demand their release. They occupied the lobby and resisted ejection until police used fire extinguishers against them. Outside in the street they were repeatedly baton charged by 30+ cops, with reinforcements including dogs arriving rapidly. Most protestors were from the East Oxford area and had to retreat through the city harassed by the pigs. Eight were nicked and charged with Affray. (The affray charges are slated to be tried in late January.)

By the end of the night, with 23 arrested
continued on page 7

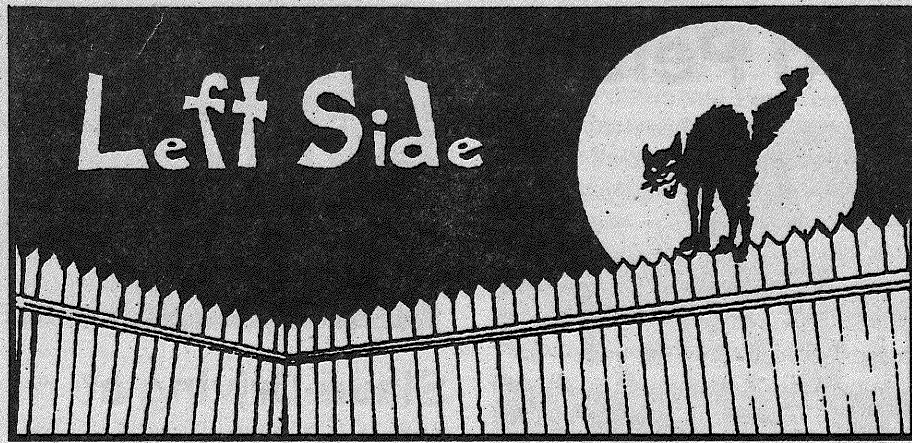
PREAMBLE TO THE IWW CONSTITUTION

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 interests of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all 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 the 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.



According to a recent article in the Chicago-based *Student Lawyer*, "No nation may claim that any part of the Moon is part of its territory, but," adds writer Lance Frazer, "there is no language specifically forbidding any private business from claiming ownership of part of the Moon and the resources on it." That should be an object lesson to any of you who may think that your "vote" counts, that is, unless you happen to be on the board of directors of some large corporation.

In case you are already aware that your "vote" is a non-choice you have, here's another for those of you who aspire towards "freedom of choice." Some young dude in a suburb of Seattle was rushing his girlfriend to an abortion clinic when he was pulled over by a state trooper who proceeded to try to talk them out of the abortion and detained them for 90 minutes to make sure they would miss their appointment. The state trooper then "prevailed" upon them to follow him to a church where some woman continued to exhort them not to go through with their plan.

Your humble scribe finds it highly interesting that so many of these "right to lifers" who rail so indignantly against abortion, birth control and other forms of population control are the same ones who clamor for the death penalty and the building of more prisons. Are they unable to draw a connection between unwanted births and the rising crime rate that is definitely related to worsening economic conditions?

Some time back it was written that it costs less to send a person through Harvard University than to keep this person in prison for a like amount of time. The tragedy, of course, is that the biggest criminals, those who never get to see the inside of a prison or any other kind of lockup, are University graduates! However, if the rest of us could organize properly, we might be able to prevail upon those highly educated miscreants to put their education to more constructive purposes.

This writer is often asked: "Yes, but what are all you world-savers going to do about the rampant population explosion that threatens to engulf this planet?" This old Wobbly has a handy answer in the form of a counter question: Take a look at the areas with the lowest birth rates. It's the poorest countries that have the highest birth rates, while in the more affluent areas the birth rate is considerably lower. It is also in the countries that have the most abject poverty that you also find some of the richest people. Anybody who is able to apply their primary school arithmetic should be able to arrive at a conclusion as to the inequitable problems of our human population.

A certain politician, State Senator James Phillip of Illinois, in an attempt to rationalize the economic disparity between certain segments of the population, said, "Minorities do not have the same 'work ethic' that 'we' do." ("We" meaning whites.) He was agreed with as being "totally correct" by a minority person in the letters column of the daily blurb, but it is best to print the salient portion of the letter:

"As a 'minority' myself, I have always viewed the Judeo-Christian work ethic as one of the profound evils in the World, which has led Western civilization to the brink of extinction. Modern industry, propelled by the work ethic-motivated masses, has rendered planet Earth almost uninhabitable because of war, pollution and the relentless scramble for profits.

"As far as I'm concerned, the senator has said and done nothing wrong. His statement only lets the world know just how different work ethic-bred European types are from so-called minorities like me, who would like to see the brakes finally applied to this planet's all-consuming industrial monster."

Your scribe couldn't have stated it better himself, but at the same time hastens to state that a minority is not always a poverty-stricken one. Those whose unearned wealth and influence control the lives of the rest of us are the most minuscule portion of our human population. They are the "minority" who make the majority decisions for the rest of us. By educating and organizing ourselves, we could be in a position to educate "them" to become productive members in our human society. However, if they choose to jump out of windows, as they did in 1929, that's their red wagon.

As for your scribe, there ain't no way he can hurt himself by jumping out of his basement window.

—C.C. Redcloud

Union Busting at NASSCO Shipyard

The "employee-owned" National Steel and Shipbuilding Co. (NASSCO) is destroying the last vestiges of unionism at its San Diego ship yard. In 1988, NASSCO signed a three-year contract including provisions for employee stock ownership, profit sharing, "quality circles" and a weakening of the grievance system.

That contract expired three years ago, and NASSCO has refused to bargain a new

one. Instead, wages, working conditions and benefits have been disappearing as managers drive their "employee owners" into ever greater speedup and exploitation. (Workers actually own only a fraction of the firm, and have absolutely no control; actual ownership rests in the hands of top managers and the banks.) One NASSCO worker says his fellow unionists have learned a bitter lesson: "Once workers open the

Criminalizing Poverty

Former San Francisco police chief and current Mayor Frank Jordan's anti-poor law went down to a narrow defeat in the recent elections, though a similar measure passed across the bay in "liberal" Berkeley. Hizzoner's bill would have made it illegal to sit or lie down on a sidewalk or on a blanket, chair, stool or other object, between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m. in several designated districts. The proposition exempted the cafes that have put chairs and tables on the sidewalks, and other such authorized uses. Thus, only poor people would have been barred.

However, voters added a law requiring welfare recipients to rent a room or lose their benefits to a growing body of legislation outlawing poor people in San Francisco. (General Assistance pays \$345 a month, just about enough to rent a bunk in a fleabag "hotel"—leaving next to nothing for food and other necessities; thus many welfare recipients have "chosen" to live on the streets.) Scores of people have been arrested for serving meals to homeless people in public places, and police are cracking down on panhandlers. Apparently it offends the consciences of the shoppers to encounter the homeless, the unemployed, the cast-offs discarded by our Capitalist society. Rather than address the very real social problems, it is much easier to simply drive the poor from the streets.

There is, of course, plenty for all. Our cities are filled with abandoned buildings and unemployed construction workers; more than enough to create housing for all. Crops rot in the fields or in government warehouses while people go hungry in the streets. People tramp the streets in search of work, while others are forced to work 40 hours or more each week.

But it could be worse. In Brazil, store owners hire off-duty police to shoot and kill homeless street children in order to keep the sidewalks clear for shoppers. Perhaps we should be careful not to give hizzoner any ideas...

Direct Action for Housing

They broke through the boarded-up doors, changed locks, carted in beat-up sofas and fridges with food to last a week, and called it Home Sweet Home. It sure wasn't no dream house, but it beat sleeping on the street.

May 2, 1994 saw the California Homeless Network's (CHN) initial drive to take over vacant buildings held by the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). A series of meetings between CHN and HUD had yielded trifling results.

Direct action was in order. Simultaneous actions were taking place in San Jose, San Diego, Long Beach, Sacramento and San Francisco. Here in Los Angeles, four "clean" (never been arrested) street people and two CHN supporters took over a dilapidated duplex in down-at-the-heels Pico-Union district.

"Sure, we're trespassing on federal property, and that's a crime," proclaimed activist Bob Leonard. "But it's a crime that these buildings are left vacant."

Cruising police cars sent squatters scuttling inside to bar the doors. But the flock of

**SUPPORT THE
WORKERS' PRESS
Contribute to the IW
Sustaining Fund**

door to labor-management cooperation, the foot in the door soon becomes an iron heel that stomps on the right to organize, bargain collectively and to strike.

"What looks like a little collaboration ends up a big swindle. Don't take the bait!"

supporting witnesses discouraged confrontation. Almost a week passed before the team of six was ousted without incident.

HUD predictably stalled further talks.

So kindly and courageous, and so ill-conceived — this drive to shelter the homeless! In the name of logic, justice and common sense, civil disobedience was indeed justified. But who said logic, justice and common sense rule the real world? Watch your dreams filter through the corridors of official Bumbledom and flush down the drain to Oblivion.

You thrust a loaf of bread into the grateful hands of a hungry homeless man. But there are so many beseeching hands, so many eyes cast upward to the murky sky which is their roof.

Try to remember, this most prosperous nation is plagued with debt which forbids squandering money on indigents. But please spare a few bucks for bullets to restore democracy in some far-away dictatorship.

—Dorice McDaniels

Our History Is UNION MADE

THE CRIME OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

BETWEEN 1876 AND 1896 FORTY STATES DECLARED IT A CRIME TO "ROVE ABOUT" WITHOUT EMPLOYMENT.

BUT THE NORM FOR MOST 19TH CENTURY WORKERS WAS TO BE JOBLESS AT LEAST PART OF THE YEAR.

IN THE CITY OF BUFFALO ALONE, 21,735 MEN WERE SENTENCED TO HARD LABOR OR PRISON ON THIS CHARGE BETWEEN 1891-1898!

SHAMEFULLY, THE SAME SOCIETY THAT MADE UNEMPLOYMENT INEVITABLE ALSO MADE IT ILLEGAL!

KONOPACK!

© 1987 HUCK/KONOPACKI LABOR CARTOONS

Dimes and Dollars

Dimes and Dollars! dollars and dimes
An empty pocket's the worst of crimes!
If a man is down, give him a thrust—
Trample the beggar into the dust.
Presumptuous poverty's quite appalling
Knock him over! Kick him for falling!
If a man is up, oh, lift him higher—
Your soul's for sale and he's a buyer!
Dimes and dollars! dollars and dimes!
An empty pocket's the worst of crimes.

—Charles P. Shiraz, 1877

Published in *The Socialist* after the Chicago city council passed an ordinance making it a crime to beg or seek work.

Notes from the Class War Front: Decatur, Illinois

Having spent the past two weekends in Decatur, Illinois with the locked-out Staley workers, I felt compelled to write you of my experiences. Although my membership is new, my heart has always been with you—now my spirit is as well. There were so many Wobblies (old and young!) there, I was really surprised.

I was proud to take part in both supporting marches. It was invigorating to witness a sea of red shirts in support of the Staley, Caterpillar and Bridgestone/Firestone and other workers from Decatur.

You are already aware of the plight of our fellow workers in Decatur. It seems no one is working; either they are locked out, on strike or in support of those who are either. It's a poor community. The homes are not palatial manors, but workers' homes. They can't sell the homes—there's no one to buy them. They can't move—there's no where to go. They can't get another job—there aren't any. They are trapped in the American dream in the heartland of the United States. It's hard not to feel sorry for them. It's difficult not to become so completely involved you lose sight of your own lot in life. You can't help but see that merely by the grace of God, you, yourself, could replace them in a heartbeat. It's frightening.

What's even more frightening is in Chicago we can fill Wrigley Field to its capacity to see the Cubs lose game after game. We can fill Soldier Field to capacity week after week to see the Chicago Bears. We can fill stadiums, theaters and countless other places where people conjugate to have a good time. Yet, for something as important as showing support to our fellow workers, we can't get 10,000 people to stand with us. How do we make each other see?

Those thousands that were there for the past couple of gatherings made a difference in the Decatur workers' lives, though. Both times I came away with a sense of gratitude from those wonderful, brave folks I can't possibly describe. The mere fact that thousands of people drove there from wherever—Chicago, Springfield, Iowa, Missouri, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Kansas, Tennessee, Louisiana, Texas, California, and other places as well—as a sign of solidarity was quite amazing to them.

A wife of one of the locked-out workers asked me where I was from. I told her Chicago and she started to cry. She was touched that so many people drove from so far away to help them. I told her how thankful I was to be with them. She and her husband were so taken with us they asked us to stay at their home with them instead of driving back that night. It was a moment I'll never forget. Such openness and gentleness. It was touching. Every time I sign my time card, every time I look at my paycheck, I think they are not as fortunate. I can't get them out of my mind.

As I stood outside of the union hall in Decatur last Saturday listening to the speakers, I was amazed at how many people came over to me and began a conversation. One Caterpillar worker took his union button off his jacket and gave it to me, thanking me for supporting him. I gave him my union button off my jacket so he wouldn't forget me. We traded addresses and will keep in touch. I wish I could share that feeling with people who weren't there.

Did our being there help those people get their jobs back? Maybe not this week. Maybe if we had been 250,000 strong, instead of only a few thousand, maybe then we would have made more of a difference. But if nothing else, those locked-out, on strike people saw us and realized they aren't alone, that people care about them. Perhaps seeing us made them stronger for a little longer. Perhaps seeing us made the scabs realize how insignificant they are.

(Staley workers recently marked their second year without a contract, and celebrated a small victory—a decision by the unionized Miller Brewing Co. to stop using scab-made Staley corn sweetener in its beer. A major hit for Staley. Miller spends millions a year on corn syrup. Writing and calling Miller did make a difference.)

Even though we promised a peaceful demonstration, the police were attired in full-dress riot gear. They even had a helicopter buzzing the crowd and a prop plane flying overhead to menace and intimidate the crowd. I came upon two full-dressed policemen. I gave them the peace sign. They grunted something under their breath. I came out of the crowd and walked towards them and they struck a textbook position, as if I were going to kill them or something.

It was comical. I said, "Peace, my brothers!" I couldn't see what expression they had on their face because they were all covered up. I walked closer and they took an even more stringent military pose. I told them how uncomfortable they looked and asked why there were so dressed up. No answer. No movement. One looked like Darth Vader, the other, in a mismatched riot outfit looked out of place. I thought some humor might disarm them, so I said: "Hey, don't you realize you look like part of the Village People? Come on, lighten up, will ya?"

"Village people," the mismatched one said. "We look like the Village People—the queers that sing YMCA?"

"Yeah, you look like them! I'll bet you're a lot cuter, though, without all that headgear on. How about taking it off and let me see your face? Come on, no one's gonna hurt you."

To my amazement they took off part of their uniforms and tried to act like civilians. They were just kids, not more than 21. Dressed for Halloween, yet ready to kill.

Perhaps we can help our fellow workers. These people are trying to exist on \$60 strike benefits, plus small contributions. With the holiday season upon us and winter closing in the families need our support. Financially, naturally, but even a letter of support to let them know they're not alone is a big help. This lockout/strike strikes at the very heart of the IWW creed—an injury to one is an injury to all!

Please send support in any way, shape or form to:

Dan Lane
Food and Assistance Fund
UPIU Local 7837 Campaign Office
3080-B Kandy Lane
Decatur IL 62526

Help spread the word. We can't make a difference if we don't know what's happening.

Kathleen Evans-Mazur
X341846

Dispatch from the Staley Workers

A report in the November 11th *Chicago Tribune* opens as follows:

"Decatur, Ill.—A large middle-age man with short-cropped hair stood in the middle of the wide bridge that passes through A.E. Staley's smoke-belching corn processing plant in this central Illinois prairie town.

"One big union!" he bellowed, evoking an antiphonal chant from the crowd around him. "One big union?"

"This was once the cry of the Industrial Workers of the World, the militant Wob-

blies, who stirred fear in the captains of American industry..." (The article was flanked by reports on the editor of the outlawed *China Labor Bulletin* and the imprisoned president of Indonesia's independent union federation; but they kept this page of labor news far from the front page, in section 5 with the comics, horoscope and Dear Abby.)

Apparently union solidarity still fright-



Cat workers block street in front of Staley, June 4, 1994.

ens the bosses. About the time that article appeared, Staley went to court seeking criminal sanctions against UPIU Local 7837 President Dave Watts and Corporate Campaign Inc. Director Ray Rogers (Rogers has been advising the local and other Decatur unions since June 1992). These two men face six months in jail and up to \$1,000 in fines if the company gets its way.

To quote FW Elam again, "the only way for unions to survive is for all workers to stand together... It's one big fight." While Staley returned to the bargaining table after Miller Beer announced it would stop using A.E. Staley products, the union reports no progress at the bargaining table. Production at Caterpillar is continuing, aided by scabs and unionized plants that continue to work while their fellow workers are on the street. One Big Union solidarity is indeed the way to go.

The following is from a report by UPIU Local 7837 written on November 4th, as the lockout entered its 16th month.

Greetings and Solidarity to our Brothers and Sisters from UPIU Local 7837's Campaign Office in the heart of the Decatur War Zone.

As usual, things are busy here. Our committees — for Adopt-a-Family, Food & Assistance, Children's Christmas, Religious & Community Outreach, to name a few — are busy every day fighting the company and meeting the needs of our members during this lockout. Our "Road Warrior" coordinators are dispatching Local 7837 members all across the country to speak to unions and supporters, raising money, gathering support for campaign boycotts, and spreading the message of solidarity. Road Warriors have traveled to over thirty states and met tens of thousands of active union supporters. Even today, we have Road Warriors heading out to Florida, Utah, and California....

On June 25th, 5,000 Local 7837 members and supporters massed outside Staley headquarters. While the crowd roared their disapproval of the company's policies, nearly 100 of the demonstrators sat down in front of the main gate as a form of nonviolent civil disobedience. The police, in full riot gear, sprayed the unarmed protesters with painful pepper gas and struck others with clubs. Several children and reporters were gassed as well.

This attack by the police, "officially condemned" by a policemen's union in Boston and publicized to every union in the country through direct mail and videotapes, has been a lightning rod for union members around the country. The company keeps

trying to break our spirit, but our solidarity, support, and power keeps on growing. Our union has also been working closely with striking Caterpillar and Bridgestone/Firestone workers here in Decatur. Over 4,000 workers from Staley, Cat, and Firestone are walking picket and our unions have pulled together to help meet the financial needs of our members and join in actions against the companies.

Since the June 25th Rally, here are a few of the things that have taken place in our struggle:

July: While the city government has done nothing to investigate Staley's unsafe plant, they continually harass the union... the City is suing the local for a picket shelter that was built to protect our members from the cold and rain; the City arrested and tried eight union members for picnicking in a public

park near a Staley executive's home (the park was shut down and turned into a tree sanctuary the next day). In one of our first tri-union efforts, Staley, Cat, and Firestone workers marched through the neighborhoods of company executives to remind them of the ways they have hurt our homes and families. The police announced that they would never allow us to march in these neighborhoods but, faced with union solidarity, they backed off.

August: While preparing for a national mobilization, union members organized protest activities for the "Decatur Celebration," an annual three-day street festival that serves as PR for local corporations. We made it clear that a Company Town like Decatur has nothing to celebrate and let the community and unresponsive elected officials know that we are still here and will not give up. On August 15th, a local judge issued an injunction against our union to stifle peaceful protests and demonstrations.

September: Three thousand people joined together for the largest Labor Day parade we have ever had.... The local newspaper challenged the company and the union to meet in public for negotiations. The union publicly accepted the challenge but the company would not respond. One night after a Tri-Union meeting at our Hall, we had mini-rallies at the three plants in labor disputes. Then we formed a caravan up and down the main street that joins these plants and closed traffic for over an hour. Responding to an announcement that the City Council would restrict public demonstrations by requiring unions to apply for permits, hundreds of union members filled the City Council to kill the proposal. The Council backed down!

October: October 1st was the two and three year anniversaries of the contract at Staley and Caterpillar respectively. A rally was held at the UAW hall and large wooden signs of "Best & Final Offer" were burned in effigy... October 4th Miller Brewing, a major Staley customer and target of national protest activities, announced that they would no longer do business with Staley after their contract ends later this year...

October 15th — An estimated 5-7,000 people (the police say 5, we say more like 7) from 35 states converged on Decatur for a national mobilization. Staley, Cat, and Firestone completely shut down their plants. The police, who brought in reinforcements from surrounding counties, planted people in the crowds, followed union members' trucks around town, and monitored the demonstrations from planes and helicopters.

continued on page 8

East European Syndicalists Meet

By plane, train, hitching and even by bike, comrades arrived in sweltering Prague for the "Third Meeting of Central and Eastern European Anarcho-Syndicalists" July 7-10. Comrades from the Czech Anarcho-Syndicalist Federation (ASF), with support from Germany's Free Workers Union (FAU), arranged the meeting, which attracted about 80 participants; half from the erstwhile Stalinist nations of Central and Eastern Europe (the former GDR, the Czech Republic and Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Ukraine, Belarus and Russia). Bureaucratic and money problems kept comrades from Bulgaria, Croatia and Serbia from attending.

The majority of the participants support the program of the International Workers Association (IWA), or sympathize with that revolutionary syndicalist international.

There were three chief working languages for the meeting: German, English and Russian. All serious (and not so serious) business was successively translated into those languages. This wasted time and energy which we could have put into more substantive work. Communication for everybody limped along except for a few multilingual attendees. Amateur interpreters tried to facilitate communication among the polyglot participants, but the task proved unmanageable.

Aside from this, the meeting proved



disappointing. Because of inadequate exchange of information, ASF and FAU coordinated the organizational details of the meeting poorly. As a result confusion reigned even with regard to practicalities such as meals and lodging, not to mention the substantive side of the meeting. There was not a well-defined agenda or process for decision-making, which added to frustration and led to considerable waste of time.

Participants reported on the situation in their countries. Other topics were also taken up, but there wasn't an opportunity to discuss these in depth. Instead, most were

touched upon in the framework of country-specific reports and discussions—for instance, various kinds of strikes in a talk on the situation in Russia; ecology in a talk on Eastern Ukraine; privatization in a report on the Czech Republic. Insights about other issues were picked up more during evening give-and-take accompanied by good Czech beer, and of course comrades will be keeping touch in the future.

On the last day, a wrap-up discussion evaluated the meeting. Participants agreed that it was good to bring together syndicalists and other grassroots activists outside of party or union frameworks. They stressed

that future meetings should concentrate more on the theoretical foundations of anarcho-syndicalist activity. Also, working together on concrete campaigns would be a welcome development.

On July 12 ASF organized an informal follow-up for the Czech press. Even journalists from major bourgeois papers attended. Did the gentlemen afterwards identify anarchism with chaos in their articles? Maybe, the meeting was somewhat chaotic. But that's only the surface picture; let's demonstrate in practice our deep collective conviction and intensify our struggle for a free self-managed society without state and capitalism. The Prague meeting was a step along that road.

The above is an edited report by Will Firth of the FAU-IWA's Eastern European Work Group. It was provided by Neither East Nor West.

Reclaim May Day...

Protest World Bank & IMF Devastation

Continued from page 1...

The time has come to act together for an end to the IMF and World Bank.

The statist solutions of the past are repudiated, and nearly every government has collaborated with or surrendered to the IMF/WB, and has imposed austerity and repression. Only a new movement everywhere, for a world without supranational government, can free our lives from the authoritarianism and exploitation which go by the names "structural adjustment," "privatization," "liberalization," the "free market," the "global economy," "budget austerity," "democracy." We are finally able to pay attention to the man behind the curtain.

How we envision the campaign:

- We are *not* "in charge" of this project. We are volunteering to act as facilitators for communication on the project. We want to start talking about the kinds of action that different groups would like to do and what resources they have available.

- Not everyone has an IMF or WB office to protest at. But everyone has various state or corporate offices that enforce IMF/WB policies.

- Of course all groups have autonomy to pursue their own other demands, etc.

- Your protest doesn't have to happen exactly on May 1, just near enough.

- We would like everyone to contact us as soon as they have some ideas about what they are going to do, so we can start passing on the information to the other groups. We will do several mailings about the proposed plans, and will be sending out some kind of IMF/World Bank information packet (if you can help with this, please let us know).

- We are also not dictating the kinds of action to be taken. If your group feels it would be most effective participating in the traditional May Day actions in your locale, or in a larger anti-IMF/WB action in your area, do so by all means and pass the news on to us.

- Please contact us to let us know what you think, so we can start planning for May Day 1995.

- When it's over we'd like reports and photos from the various actions so we can report back to all that participated.

- We'd like to see May Day '95 as the launch point for *ongoing* anti-IMF/WB battles, plus any other coordinated activity.

Send replies to Neither East Nor West-NYC, 339 Lafayette St #2, New York NY 10012 USA (718/449-7720). This call is also available in Russian, Japanese, Spanish, Serbo-Croatian, French and German.

Unionists Storm Taiwan "Labor Fed"

The opening ceremony of the 8th delegate congress of the government-backed China Federation of Labor (CFL) received unexpected greetings from members of Taiwan's independent unions.

On the morning of March 27, two dozen workers entered the hall as CFL Labor Bureau head Chao Shou-poh was about to make his speech. The unionists, carrying banners denouncing the CFL's betrayal of Taiwan's working class, took over the stage and announced that the congress was "illegal." The protestors then presented the congress with four gifts—a castrated cock, a vase, some soft-limbed lobsters and beancurd—to dramatize the CFL's status as a puppet of the ruling regime. The presents certainly make clear the independent unions' view of the federation as impotent (castrated cock), decorative (vase), no-standpoint (soft-limbed lobster) and soft (beancurd).

Security guards attempted to force the protestors from the hall. In the confusion the gifts scattered all over the stage and the disoriented cock flew out of its cage. A protestor was hit in the head with the vase.

The protestors say the castrated cock flapping around in confusion reflected the reality of the CFL. After several minutes, the protestors withdrew and continued their protest outside the hall.

Independent unionists demand that the CFL should be dissolved, as its existence violates the Trade Union Law which requires that unions represent workers' interests. They say the CFL is a lackey of the government and the employers, and that workers are ashamed at being forced to belong to it. The CFL is the only legally recognized union federation in Taiwan, and it is directly controlled by the ruling KMT party.

(Asian Labour Update)

Guatemalan Repression

Unionists Felix Gonzalez, Debora Guzman (his wife), Julio Coj, Jose Gil, and 49 workers of Lunafil S.A.—textile factory in Amatitlan, Guatemala—have been subjected to repeated death threats and other acts of intimidation since May 1994, when

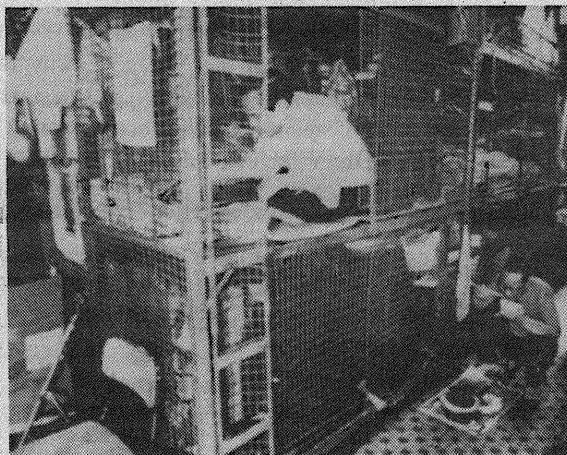
they began a protest outside the factory against what they consider an illegal and unjustified closure with the loss of 200 jobs.

On October 6 masked men intercepted Debora Guzman and threatened to kill her within 48 hours if her husband, Felix Gonzalez, and Julio Coj did not stop their union activities. The next day the offices of the Union Sindical de Trabajadores de Guatemala (UNSI TRAGUA), to which Lunafil's trade union is affiliated, received several phone calls. The callers said they were holding Guzman. Other members of the family of Debora Guzman and Felix Gonzalez have also been subjected to acts of intimidation, including gunfire. No official investigation has been opened.

Unionists have been a long-term target of human rights violations in Guatemala and recent months have seen a renewed wave of abuses. In a previous dispute at Lunafil in 1988, workers occupied the plant after negotiations broke down. On May 27, 1988, Julio Coj was shot at when riot police were trying to end the occupation.

Amnesty International asks that people express concern at the threats and acts of intimidation against Felix Gonzalez, Julio Coj, Jose Gil and Debora Guzman; urging the government to act to guarantee their safety and that of their families, and that of all Lunafil workers, especially those demonstrating outside Lunafil S.A.; and calling for a full investigation and prosecution of those found to be responsible.

Write President of the Republic: S.E. Ramiro de Leon Carpio, Presidente de la Republica de Guatemala, Palacio Nacional, Guatemala, Guatemala; Minister of Interior: Lic. Danilo Parrinello Blanco, Ministro de Gobernacion, Despacho Ministerial, Of. No. 8, Palacio Nacional; Director General of National Police: Lic. Salvador Figueroa, Director General de la Policia, Nacional 6 Avenida 13-71, Zona 1 Guatemala, Guatemala. They also suggesting sending copies to the Guatemalan embassy in your country and to UNSI TRAGUA, 11 Calle 8-14, Of. 34, Tercer Nivel, Zona 1, Guatemala.



Thousands of Taiwan workers, known as "Cagemen," live in quarters like these. Taiwan is spending \$2 billion to build new luxury apartments. Asian Labour Update

Child labor in Brazil

A U.S. Labor Department report states that Brazilian products exported to the States are manufactured using child labor. 1300 children below 14 years of age work manufacturing shoes in Franca, Sao Paulo. Many of the children have contracted diseases due to the bad working conditions.

Other areas that employ children illegally are the textile and clothing industries. These two sectors exported US\$250 million last year to the States. A Brazilian columnist, noting he is sure to be denounced as unpatriotic, says the U.S. government would do the country a favor by boycotting products made by underage children when they should be in school. For many unscrupulous business people the only language they understand is that which punishes them in their pockets (money).

Malnutrition: A Brazilian researcher found that 78% of young people in the town of Matriz da Luz, State of Pernambuco, suffer from malnutrition. The town has a population of 10 thousand people. 2500 children in the village suffer permanent mental and physical damages because of the malnutrition. Most of families in the town earn their living from cutting sugar cane; the average family monthly income is less than US \$160. With the low income a typical basic diet of manioc meal, sardines and sweet potatoes is reduced to just sugar cane juice two days per week.

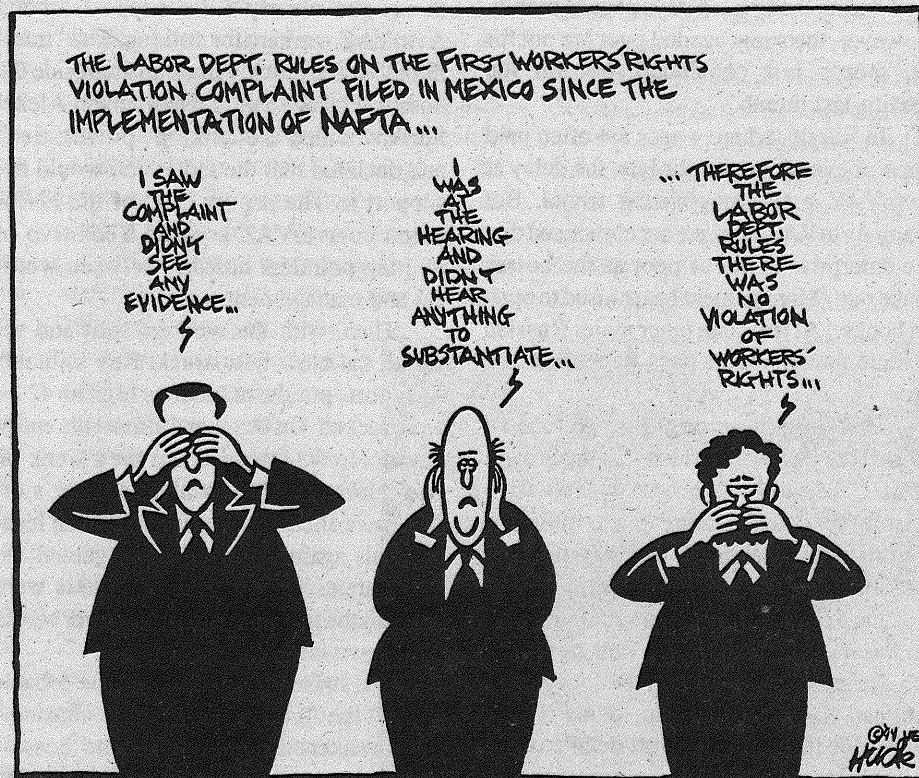
GATT's World Trade Booby Traps

It is safe to say that the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) is not a favorite topic of conversation at the family dinner table. While President Clinton considers GATT important enough to call Congress back to Washington after the November elections to vote on it, most people have only the dimmest idea of what it's all about. Yet it could affect the future of their jobs, their wages and standard of living.

Congress will be voting on a new World Trade Organization (WTO) established by GATT, which would have extraordinary legislative, executive and judicial authority to regulate world trade and could impose economic sanctions on any country that violated its regulations by a two-thirds vote of the 123 member nations. Its advocates claim that lowering world trade barriers will increase U.S. exports and mean more jobs for our workers.

The principal opposition to WTO is the same coalition that fought against the North American Free Trade Agreement: labor unions, environmentalists, consumer advocates, liberal religious groups and farm families. Also in opposition are conservative Republicans and the followers of Ross Perot. Their prime objection is that WTO would endanger current American laws that protect workers, consumers and the environment. There would be strong pressure from WTO tribunals to lower U.S. protective standards on the grounds that they are barriers to free trade. If the U.S. became a WTO member, its federal and state laws would have to conform to WTO rules and regulations or face possible sanctions...

Membership in WTO would also increase the budget deficit, since it would



mean the loss of \$11 billion in U.S. tariff revenues over the next five years and even more thereafter.

Support for the trade pact by the business community is virtually unanimous, especially among multinational corporations. They see the removal of trade barriers as providing fresh opportunities for lowering their labor costs and avoiding the expense of complying with environmental, safety and health laws as they expand their share of the global market.

The AFL-CIO has called on Congress to defeat WTO, charging that there will be an enormous loss of jobs, particularly in the

domestic textile, apparel and electronic industries.

The trade legislation is expected to be voted on in the Senate on December 1. Under the "fast track" congressional rule, senators will not be able to introduce amendments, but will be limited to voting yes or no on the bill. Because the world trade agreement was conceived and negotiated secretly, critics have urged Congress to postpone its vote until the July 15, 1995 deadline, which would give it some time to take a closer look at the fine print and the many side deals in the trade agreement.

— Harry Kelber

OK to Kill Workers, Though There is a Modest Fee...

An outcry from campaign groups, trade unions and the Labour Party has greeted the "derisory" fines arising from the prosecution over the St John's bridge disaster which killed two workers and seriously injured five others last autumn. British Rail and Tilbury Douglas were each fined a meagre 25,000 pounds and ordered to pay a total of 25,000 pounds costs. This after the inquest jury ruled that the two men were unlawfully killed and that there was gross negligence on the part of at least one of the engineers involved in the bridge's demolition.

Among the many demonstrators outside the court, Rose Dunn, chair of the Construction Safety Campaign, said: "These fines are ridiculous. It is cheaper to kill your workers than to work to safer standards. A director should be in jail for this."

The decision looks still more sick in the light of the recent 6-month jailing of a tube train driver who made a genuine mistake leading to a "runaway train" incident, with no resulting injuries. It seems that while workers are imprisoned, employers can escape with fines that, as George Brumwell (General Secretary of UCATT) put it, "are barely a slap on the wrist for a company that turns over 250 million pounds a year."

Bengal Workers Seize Plant

Jute Mill workers in a small industrial city in the Indian province of West Bengal took direct action last Dec. 19 to end a lockout aimed at busting their union. The workers opened the mill gates at the Kanoria Jute Mills in Howrah, West Bengal, took control of the mill and announced they would start production. Production started Dec. 22, and continued for three days until

the Calcutta high court ordered a halt at the company's demand.

The workers' demands were that the company pay back wages owed to the workers (including rents and bonuses), withdraw all punitive measures against leading workers and reopen the mill.

Many people believe that bosses are necessary, that they provide us with jobs. But the truth of the matter is quite different. Workers provide a living to the capitalists, and in the process provide them with the economic means to try and starve us into worse conditions or to throw us out of our jobs altogether.

Capitalists are not only unnecessary, they are rapidly destroying the planet on which we all live in their mad quest for ever-greater profits. Their madness is perhaps most clear in the pages of the financial press, where they go into buying frenzies at any sign of human misery (higher unemployment, crop failures, etc.), and succumb to panic at the smallest sign of prosperity.

Let's ship these plutocrats back to Pluto before it's too late!

Unionists Jailed

Four Indonesian unionists were sentenced to long prison terms in October and early November, as the government continued its crack down on independent unions. Several others are in prison awaiting trial.

Mochtar Pakpahan was sentenced to three years imprisonment Nov. 7, just days before U.S. President Clinton left for Jakarta to attend the summit of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum. Although the U.S. government criticized Indonesia's human rights record during the visit, no real pressure was brought to bear on the government.

"Pakpahan's sentence is clearly designed to kill the free labor movement," said Sidney Jones, executive director of Human Rights Watch/Asia. "By locking up an effective organizer, the Indonesian government may think it is going to prevent

labor unrest... But the labor situation is already explosive, and denying the right to organize is just going to make it worse."

Pakpahan, leader of the independent trade union SBSI (Serikat Buruh Sejahtera Indonesia) was convicted of incitement for his alleged role in a mass worker's rally in Medan, North Sumatra last April 14 and 15. The rally, planned as a peaceful demonstration, turned violent. The violence is widely believed to have been instigated by paid thugs working with the local military. Pakpahan was not in Medan at the time.

Amosi Telambanua, local chairman of the SBSI's Medan branch, was sentenced Oct. 31 to 15 months in prison for inciting workers to riot. Telambanua encouraged workers to carry out demonstrations and strikes, the judge hearing the case ruled. He incited workers by urging them to demand higher wages and urge local governments to allow the workers to join unions of their choice, Reuters reports. "Workers not only demonstrated but damaged buildings and cars, causing tension," the judge said.

Two other Medan SBSI leaders were sentenced earlier in October, Ms Hayati, treasurer, was sentenced to seven months and Riswan Lubis, branch secretary was sentenced to eight months.

Ripe for the Picking

Fruit of the Loom has found a new frontier in the search for low-wage labor: Ireland. While Irish wages remain somewhat higher than in such low-wage havens as Red China, Vietnam or Indonesia, Ireland offers easy entry to the European market and the advantages of a Third World economy.

Workers at Fruit of the Looms' Buncrana factory (northern Donegal) work on a straight piece work basis, and are often forced to work long hours of unpaid overtime to make their quotas. Base pay (for those who make the quotas) is about \$148 a week, out of which are taken payments for

NAFTA Complaints Hit Black Hole

U.S. Labor Secretary Robert Reich dismissed the first two complaints filed by unions under NAFTA. US and Mexican unions accuse Honeywell and General Electric of thwarting union organizing drives by firing dozens of workers and using other illegal tactics, and say that the Mexican government condones such actions and fails to enforce its own labor protection laws. The companies and the Mexican government objected to review of the unions' charges under NAFTA, saying that the complaints concerned corporate, not government, action, and hence did not fall under NAFTA's provisions.

While Irasema T. Garza, secretary of the Labor Department's National Administrative Office (NAO) said that the "timing of the dismissals appears to coincide with organizing drives," she said that available evidence "does not establish that the Government of Mexico failed to promote compliance with or enforce the specific laws involved." The director of the AFL-CIO's task force on trade expressed disappointment with the Clinton Administration, saying it had failed to make the most of even the limited NAFTA labor accord.

GATT & Child Labor Prohibitions

Congress has been considering a bill to outlaw imports of products manufactured by children under age 15, the Child Deterrence Act. Child labor accounts for a large and growing proportion of products sold on world markets. Such legislation would be illegal under the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, as it would interfere with the world flow of goods and services.

Some GATT supporters argue that this problem should be addressed by seeking a multinational labor standard through the new World Trade Organization. But even some Democrats are having trouble swallowing that one. Senators Tom Harkin and Howard Metzenbaum argue that GATT would actually increase child labor throughout the world. "If a Third World country wants to compete in the global economy, what does it have to compete with? Cheap labor. And the cheapest source of labor is kids," said Harkin.

"If we are to adopt the GATT treaty... we must ensure that it addresses the problem of forced child labor," Metzenbaum said. "Otherwise, we send an unmistakable message to U.S. and foreign manufacturers: go right ahead and exploit the world's children, and then bring the fruits of their labor to our markets, and we will meet you with open arms."

"union" dues (SIPTU signed a contract to "represent" the workers before the plant was built; when a reporter asked SIPTU to comment on conditions at the plant, they referred her to company management).

But Ireland has other advantaged besides low wages and company unions. The Irish Republic paid \$43.5 million to Fruit of the Loom, which got another \$42.1 million from the British government to build a yarn factory in Northern Ireland. Fruit of the Loom used the money to build and equip the plants, which employ nearly 2,700 low-paid workers.

One wonders what the workers might have been able to do in the way of job creation had those funds been made available to them. But while local officials gush about the "delightful" opportunities open to business in Ireland, workers are finding the situation far from delightful. Indeed, the Buncrana plant has been plagued by turnover as workers flee at every opportunity.

Russian Auto Lockout Signals New Era

In Russian workplaces, the era of "social partnership" is ending. The period that is opening up will be one of firings, lock-outs and union-busting, as bosses turn on workers and force them to pay the costs of capitalist "reform."

This is the lesson of a brief but bitter struggle that broke out in late September at Russia's largest car-producing enterprise, the AvtoVAZ complex in the city of Togliatti on the central Volga. On Sept. 27 about 2,000 workers among more than 100,000 at the complex went on strike and shut down the central conveyor line, demanding payment of back wages.

The bosses hit back with devastating force. Several dozen workers who were identified as ring-leaders were sacked. Almost the entire workforce was locked out for a week. When production resumed October 10, it was entirely on management's terms.

Though output at AvtoVAZ has fallen markedly in recent years, the enterprise is still solvent, and by Russian standards even prosperous. Average wages are more than twice those for the vehicle industry as a whole.

The great majority of the workers at AvtoVAZ are organized by the "traditional" vehicle industry union affiliated to the Federation of Independent (former Communist) Trade Unions of Russia (FNPR). This union has continued to act much as it did during the Soviet era — as a social policy arm of management.

Combining forces with the AvtoVAZ directors to place pressure on the government, the union has won some concessions from Moscow, including increased protective tariffs for Russian car makers. But as the economy continues to collapse, the possibilities for individual sectors of securing their positions by lobbying the state are ebbing fast. The new wisdom, voiced forcefully by government ministers and semi-official newspapers, is that enterprises must compete in the marketplace or go under.

This message has not been lost on the AvtoVAZ directors. The concessions that can no longer be begged from the government, the managers have decided, must be wrung out of the workforce. From early this year the screws have been on, as the bosses have sought to take back long-established benefits. The social development fund, providing leisure and education facilities for workers and their families, has been cut back. So too have production bonuses.

But the most spectacular victory the AvtoVAZ bosses have scored has been to convince the FNPR union that before workers are paid, they should first be made to lend their wages to the company. Under an agreement reached in early 1994, wages are

Staley Update...

Demonstrators were shuttled to all three plants that day, shutting down traffic for the whole afternoon. Following the smaller demonstrations, the ralliers then marched to the "Staley viaduct" and reclaimed it for fallen workers as the Workers Memorial Viaduct. The banner said "in memory of Jim Beals" who died in the Staley plant after being ordered back into a vessel he had complained was unsafe. The rally proceeded from there to the Firestone plant and then to a major intersection, where demonstrators sat down and blocked traffic for several hours....

We will continue to fight for our jobs, justice and a safe place to work. We will not give up! We fight for all workers everywhere — now and in the future!

In Solidarity,
The Membership of UPIU Local 7837

paid during the first ten days of each month. However, the sums handed over are not for the month just concluded, but for the next-to-last month.

In Russia, where wages are often paid three or even four months late, the delay at AvtoVAZ may seem almost trivial. But many AvtoVAZ workers are convinced that the enterprise is not as poor as the bosses make out. (Management has refused to open its books.) At least one other major Russian vehicle manufacturer pays its workers on time.

Discontent among the AvtoVAZ workforce has been reflected in the growth of the "alternative" labor union Yedinstvo ("Unity"). Based among plant militants, Yedinstvo has taken up battles which the "traditional" union has shunned.

On September 27, some 2000 workers on the main assembly line walked off the job demanding payment of their wages for August. Subsequently, the demand was raised for the release of full details of the salaries paid to senior management. Although the stoppage was spontaneous, Yedinstvo leaders were invited to act as "consultants."

AvtoVAZ had little reason to fear anything short of a lengthy stoppage. Plagued with non-payments by dealers, the enterprise was having to continue delivering cars because it lacked storage space. A halt to deliveries would give the firm a chance to discipline problem customers.

Thus, outside of the assembly brigades,

there was clearly little support among AvtoVAZ workers for striking. The "traditional" union quickly lined up alongside the bosses. FNPR Deputy Chairperson Alexei Surikov called the strike a "provocation" and declared that the federation would not support it. The deputy head of the FNPR union at AvtoVAZ accused Yedinstvo of igniting pointless hostility between workers and management.

Then, with the workers split and se-dated, the blow was struck. Key militants — reports put the number as high as 42 — were sacked. On October 4 almost the entire workforce was stood down for a week on two-thirds pay. The local prosecutor's office was called into action to threaten legal reprisals against strikers. Management issued threats that unless all workers were back on the job October 10, the plant would shut down indefinitely.

The strike soon crumbled. The debacle has left the AvtoVAZ workforce considerably weakened. Shocked by the bosses' onslaught, many workers at the complex have undoubtedly decided that resisting the dictates of management is futile. In choosing the tactic of the lockout, the AvtoVAZ bosses clearly sought to foster these views, and to spur recriminations and splits among employees. Many workers have accepted the line — pushed endlessly in the local media — that the loss of sorely-needed wages was the fault of "irresponsible" militants who "forced" management to shut the plant down.

As the center of resistance to the AvtoVAZ bosses, Yedinstvo has clearly taken a severe blow.... The "traditional" unions prostrated themselves before the bosses, condemning the strike and clearing the way for the victimization of militants. For this, they were rewarded not with "social partnership" but with a kick in the teeth felt by almost every worker in the complex. If there are any workers left at AvtoVAZ who still believe in the FNPR and its strategies, their number cannot be large.

The AvtoVAZ workers will not overcome their defeat easily or soon. However, this was a defeat on the scale of one enterprise, not of Russian industry as a whole.

Strike activity in Russia, though still limited, is showing a definite tendency to increase. The non-payment of wages is arousing such broad discontent that even the FNPR was forced to schedule a national day of protest for October 27.

But if further struggles are not to end in fiasco, both the political and tactical quality of labor leadership in Russia has to improve markedly. Above all, the illusion of a mutually beneficial accommodation between labor and capital must be laid to rest.

The forlorn hankering after "social partnership" must be replaced by a sober appreciation of the ruthlessness of the class adversary Russian workers now confront. If labor leaderships cannot cope with this "new thinking" they must be laid to rest as well.

By Renfrey Clarke

Wobs Squat Oxford Cinema...

rested, 17 still in custody and many injured, it looked like the scum in blue had successfully crushed the action. But they'd also angered a good chunk of the local community and had sparked one of the biggest public order incidents in the city centre for years. Because they underestimated the organization and political motivation of these particular squatters, there were caught out by the sudden and massive media interest, finding themselves having to publicly account for their actions.

The following Saturday over 200 local people formed an angry and defiant march against the police, refusing to negotiate for permission or over the route and destination of the march. Against mounted police, cordons, etc., the crowd successfully occupied a city center square, forcing the police to back down.

At this stage, the actions had put homelessness, empty buildings, inadequate community resources and the role of the police at the top of the agenda. For once press and media reports presented squatting in a positive light. Large numbers of local people united in response to what was seen as an act of unprovoked police aggression against their community.

Nor was this the end, for on Sept. 3rd the old cinema was successfully reoccupied and renamed Section 6 Cinema. This time the police stayed well away, sensing the uproar that would result if they tried a quick, forcible eviction. This occupation lasted four weeks — one attempt at eviction was successfully resisted by people barricaded inside—before the squatters themselves decided to leave.

So for 28 days the building was a liberated zone in the heart of East Oxford. Although unsuited to residential accommodation, eight young homeless people used the upstairs projection room as a temporary home. The large ground floor hall was opened as a free community venue.

Those with experience of squatting were well aware of potential problems. Though the common purpose of a free community space united everyone, some clear differences emerged.

Many wanted to use the space for late night dance parties, which was fair enough, but it meant more work for those clearing up afterwards and led to complaints from a neighboring old peoples' home. Anti-social elements were attracted and the question of whether the place should be open as a gen-


eral doss house for people off the streets led to some tension. This was mostly between some users and what might be loosely termed the syndicalist element, who argued that the space just wasn't suitable as night shelter accommodation and there simply weren't enough people willing or available to put the work in to run one. Neither were we willing to stand back and watch drongos or thieving wreck all the hard work. As a result, some called us authoritarian, "hey, that's not anarchy, man." It was also difficult to hold collective meetings in the cinema, due to the presence of pissed/drugged up people and because many were unused to or opposed to this method of reaching decisions.


On the whole, though, the place ran reasonable well. A daily lunchtime cleaning slot was set up to sweep, vacuum and mop out the toilets. Rubbish removal was sorted. Things that needed fixing were fixed.

While many occasional users never lifted a finger to help, others turned up with tools, materials, etc., and quietly got on with whatever needed doing. A good example of the autonomous capacity of the working class to maintain its own services...

continued on page 9

SOLIDARITY FOREVER
I.W.W. LABOR
CALENDAR
1995





Women Workers: The Struggle Continues

Women textile strikers attempt to disarm national guard trooper trying to break up picketing at Lenoir Mills, Gastonia, North Carolina, April 5, 1929.

"A handsome and thought-provoking labor history calendar... Whether historical or contemporary, foreign or domestic, the pictures are provocative and relevant for the new year. They prod us to remember our history, tie our militant past to militance in the present, and prompt us to seek out more information about the events portrayed."

— Public Employee Press

\$7.50 each, \$4.50 each for 5 or more

send orders to: IWW Calendar
Box 204, Oak Park IL 60303-0204

Business Unions or Workers' Unions?

Readers of the *Industrial Worker* may be interested to hear about a recent (failed) organizing drive of theatre workers in Toronto. Recently, the Toronto Star reported that "front house" workers (i.e. ushers, candy bar staff, cashiers) of several Toronto theatres completed successful unionization drives. The workers became affiliated with the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE). This union represents projectionists, movie production workers, and stagehands of major entertainment productions.

At the time (late 1993 and early 1994), I was delighted. I was an usher at an independent theatre which is affiliated with Famous Players. My manager was a pathetic, greedy, stingy person who the workers could not stand. He would hassle us for the smallest imperfection in our duties. Many workers were very enthusiastic at the prospect of joining a union.

When I phoned the president of the local, however, my initial euphoria was quickly dashed. He told me that I should gather at least 55% of the workers together, outside of work, and meet at a coffee shop. No literature was given to us. No organizers, no support. I was basically told: Give

me the people, and then get back to me. That is unrealistic, especially considering the fact that the majority of theatre workers are in high school. It is ridiculous to assume that students can find a time when they can all meet with a bureaucrat.

Many of the people who initially were quite interested in joining IATSE soon got "cold feet." The time lapse allowed time for parents to exert pressure on workers not to join. Arguments that stemmed from a lack of confidence in organizing soon took hold.

Finally, I convinced IATSE to give me the cards necessary to sign people up. It was too late. Several months had passed by the time the cards were given to me. By then, people had started to quit as a means of protest against our employer. I often wondered why it was that IATSE did not take us more seriously. If they had provided us with organizers, literature, and cards, the less confident workers would have been more likely to want to join the union.

I soon found out that because the theatre was family owned, and that IATSE had a friendly relationship with the family, our drive was given a low profile. I was informed that even if we did get 55% of the workers to agree to join, we would be out-

numbered by instant workers who were related to the family. I don't buy that argument.

IATSE treated the theatre workers as if we were a group of children who could not organize on our own behalf. All we wanted was some support. All we received were lectures about how our chances were minute.

For those who don't know, IATSE used to be among the most radical of unions. That was before McCarthyism. After McCarthy, the reds were kicked out. IATSE has evolved into a typical craft union. The

union has become more of a hiring hall than a fighting organization. As a worker, I was very disappointed at how the union bureaucracy treated young people, especially young militants.

We need a different type of unionism. The unionism of the CLC is based on a middle layer of hacks that mediates the interests of labour and capital. Unions must once again become fighting organizations. We need unions that kick the bosses' butt, not kiss it!

Comrade Brian

Direct Action Gets the Goods

The first two weeks saw a full program of films—all free, though donations were never in short supply. A video projector was borrowed and videos hired from local outlets. This itself was an act of defiance, with no license and no copyright paid—but as a local paper put it, "defying the law is second nature to these people." The anarchists/syndicalists were largely responsible for holding a Saturday children's matinee, attracting a wide section of the community and giving many parents a much-needed break.

We also screened "In the Name of the Father" (exposing the role of the British state in the case of the Guildford Four), with an excellent set by an Irish band afterwards. We staged one of the cinema's last events, the "Come What May Cabaret," which again drew an audience that extended beyond the confines of any single sub-cultural group. Many said that events like the kid's cinema made all the other hassles and pressure worthwhile. Even by its physical presence, the cinema served as a god vehicle for propaganda. Anti-CJM and IWW and CNT posters were pasted outside.

At a final meeting in the cinema, however, we decided to pull out. Time and energy spent over four weeks had delayed other projects and work. Much had been achieved by proving our ability and willingness to resist eviction. But with the possession order issued, people had drifted away. The burden of keeping the place going fell onto fewer shoulders, more so when some of the sleepers found more permanent accommodation, making it difficult to maintain a 24-hour presence.

Also the projector equipment had to be returned, and people became cautious about donating equipment in case of a raid/eviction. Having to hire out equipment became a burden, so it became difficult to maintain a regular program.

Because of these factors, the danger of anti-social elements taking over the place increased, with the media waiting to destroy everything we had set out to achieve. So the barricades were set up for the last time, leaving a concealed route in should people need to return.

Our interest in the cinema has not ended. We challenged the owners, Donnington Hospital Trust, to prove their claim that they'd let the building to someone who

would run it as a cinema (citing us as responsible for preventing the building coming back into permanent use), which they have failed to do. They know that if essential repairs are not carried out, action will be taken. There is now a broad community interest in the building's future, and if the owners leave it to rot or try to lease it as anything other than recreational/cultural space, they're in for a shock!

Despite the problems, we came out of this experience feeling that good and useful work was done, especially in terms of young/unemployed people organizing on a spontaneous basis. While far from being a revolutionary situation, pushing forward the boundaries through such actions is a small but important step towards reclaiming our communities and our lives for ourselves.

— Oxford IWW

McLibel or Truth?

The libel lawsuit brought by the McDonalds burger chain against London Greenpeace activists Helen Steel and Dave Morris is slated to continue through February (it is being heard intermittently before a judge, the courts having ruled that the case is too complex to be heard by a jury). The McLibel Support Campaign (c/o Caledonian Road, London N1 9DX) is calling for pickets at McDonalds stores everywhere to protest the continued legal persecution of these unemployed fellow workers.

The case stems from leaflets distributed by London Greenpeace suggesting that McDonalds food is unhealthy (Steel and Morris appear to be of the vegetarian persuasion) and that rainforests were being cut down in part to provide grazing land for the cattle to feed McDonalds' voracious demand for beef patties.

Since the FWs are unemployed and have no funds to hire attorneys, they are representing themselves. They have already had several successes, forcing McDonalds to turn over documents and other material proving mistreatment of food animals. A veterinarian hired by McDonalds to refute claims of mistreatment testified that chickens at one McDonalds supplier suffer extremely high injury rates and in many cases are literally boiled alive. Other McDonalds expert witnesses have testified that

continued on page 10

Rank-and-File Teamsters Need Their Own Voice

The following article by San Francisco Teamsters for a Democratic Union activist Terry Post indicates that some rank-and-file Teamsters are beginning to rethink TDU's traditional strategy of trying to reform the Teamsters union by electing better officers. While it is no doubt better to have officers who aren't crooks, a union capable of effectively defending the interests of its members requires an entirely different approach — one which shifts the locus of power from union headquarters to the rank and file through our economic power on the shop floor (such as the IWW has always advocated):

Since 1976, the rank and file of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) have had a place to go when they were fed up with sweetheart contracts, lost grievances, unsafe working conditions, corrupt officials, undemocratic locals and crooked elections — Teamsters for a Democratic Union (TDU). Over that period, the rank and file have come to expect that TDU will always be at the forefront of every Teamster battle, be it on the picket line, in the union hall or on the floor of an IBT convention.

But change came to TDU in 1991 in a dramatic way when the Teamster rank and file elected the Ron Carey "reform" slate to run the IBT. With many members of the newly elected General Executive Board being well known TDU members, TDU suddenly found itself on the inside of the infamous "Marble Palace" (IBT headquarters in Washington, D.C.) making policy, negotiating contracts, organizing new members and collecting and spending millions of dollars in members' dues.

This put the entire TDU organization in an unusual (and unexpected) position. No longer just rebellious dissenters who held few local union positions — and certainly no national offices — TDU found itself having to constantly defend and/or justify every move the Carey administration made. TDU became Ron Carey's cheerleader.

Defending the new IBT administration was no easy task, as TDU has had to keep up with Carey as he leaps from crisis to crisis. He had a failed attempt at raising the dues by 25 percent. UPS'ers struck over working

conditions (but many locals controlled by the "old guard" didn't strike). Freight drivers struck for over three weeks (the jury is still out on this one).

Now Carey wants to eliminate all four Area Conferences (a stronghold for "old guard" enemies) and the IBT is going broke. Through all of this, TDU has stuck by the Carey administration 100 percent. There lies the problem. Policy makers within TDU have chosen not to criticize the Carey administration or to conduct a national debate in the pages of *Convoy-Dispatch*, TDU's national paper.

Consequently, the entire organization is dangerously close to abandoning its nearly two-decade role as the voice of the rank and file in exchange for the role of cheerleader for IBT President Ron Carey. Should this happen, and should Ron Carey be defeated in 1996, it will be virtually impossible for TDU to recover its credibility as a militant, principled, independent labor organization.

So what went wrong? Basically, Ron Carey became TDU's first (and maybe last) opportunity to become the unthinkable — ruler of the Teamsters Union. Carey's slate was made up of many TDU leaders, testimony to TDU's influence within the IBT.

But from the moment TDU made a conscious decision to keep a low profile at the 1991 IBT Convention (it was "Carey's show") the national leadership of TDU abandoned its previous role as the militant overseers of the IBT and quickly became the uncritical proponents of Carey's programs, policies, actions and direction.

The election of Ron Carey brought immense hope to the rank and file. TDU'ers can take tremendous pride in the effort we put forward to get Carey elected. But it hasn't worked out like we planned or envisioned. Never before has the IBT been in such dire straits. Never before has TDU had to make such difficult decisions.

But the total lack of debate within TDU about the direction of the IBT juxtaposed with the "old guard's" tiresome justifications for their bloated salaries and multiple pensions simply polarizes the issue. Slowly but surely, this polarization will take us to that day when the ship just might sink while the rats argue over the last piece of cheese.

Subscribe to the Industrial Worker

Subscriptions are \$15 per year (12 issues)

Enclosed: \$ 15, 1 year \$ _____ donation to the IW Sustaining Fund

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ State/Prov _____ Post Code _____

Send Subscriptions, Renewals and Bundle Requests to:
Industrial Worker Distribution, PO Box 2056, Ann Arbor MI 48106

San Francisco Press Strike Won

Eight striking unions settled San Francisco's 11-day-old newspaper strike Nov. 12, signing a four-year contract after having worked the past year without a contract. Each of the striking unions reports some gains for their members. Apparently left out in the cold by the settlement are 917 newspaper carriers whose planned firing was a prominent part of the unions' pre-strike publicity campaign. Although San Francisco newsboys were unionized in the 1940s, their union no longer survives.

While the final issue of the strike newspaper issued by the unions, the *San Francisco Free Press*, effusively praises conservative Mayor Frank Jordan's efforts to mediate the strike, union solidarity played a much more important role. Only eight of 2,600 union members crossed the line, demonstrating that it is possible to organize solidarity—at least for the short haul—even when workers are misorganized in a crazy quilt array of craft unions.

Many Bay Area communities who refused to accept the scab newspapers published by the San Francisco Newspaper Agency (which issues the *Chronicle* and the *Examiner*). Owners of corner stores refused to allow scab papers to despoil their shelves. The publishers couldn't even give their papers away. When scab drivers tried to drop off free bundles of *Chronicles* at the Mill Valley Depot bookstore, even trying to pass them out to people drinking coffee, "We kicked their butts out of here," the woman behind the counter said.

The agreement provides for modest pay increases and Teamster job protections (the Teamsters were set to lose their jobs along with the carriers). Under the pact, 2,600 advertising representatives, truck drivers, printers, reporters and other workers will get an average 3 percent per year pay raise through 1998. Managers can modify the newspaper delivery system with gradual job reductions through attrition. All strikers are to get their jobs back, unless management is able to get them convicted of strike-related felony charges. (One striker, Kent Wilson, died while attempting to cut the power to a newspaper circulation office; several others have been arrested on charges of harassing scabs.)

Meanwhile, management is sending its goons back home, their union-busting lawyers (King and Ballow) back to their fancy offices, and their scabs back to the sewers they climbed out of.

Local Wobblies, of course, joined the picket lines and posted almost-daily updates on the strike to the *iww.news* electronic mailing list. And the IWW showed up in the strike newspaper as well. The Nov. 7 edition of the *San Francisco Free Press* featured "Music to Walk the Line By," which encouraged readers to stop by the IWW office. "You can't have a strike without the songs," the article began, going on to discuss the labor songs of Wobbly bards Joe Hill and Ralph Chaplin, alongside lesser lights such as Woodie Guthrie and Earl Robinson.

AFL a Paper Tiger

Labor unions have not punished members of Congress who voted for NAFTA, National Writers Union president Jonathan Tasini reports in *Capital Eye* (Oct. 15). "In fact, in some cases, money flowing from labor PACs to those members who supported NAFTA increased in the period after the vote on Nov. 17, 1993.... Dan Rostenkowski[s] labor PAC money more than doubled after the vote."

The voters, of course, were less forgiving, sending an unknown Republican to Congress by a substantial margin in a district that had voted Democratic for decades.

Women Amidst the Soviet Rubble

Gender Politics and Post-Communism: Reflections from Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union, edited by Nanette Funk and Magda Mueller. Rutledge, 1993, 335 pages.

Picking through the rubble left after the collapse of state communism, women in Eastern Europe are torn among three flawed value systems. The first is the remains of communist ideology; as unemployment and corruption grow in the new (dis)order a certain nostalgia grows for the old order. Second, there are the values of the (idealized) pre-communist past: the patriarchal family, nationalism and either the Catholic or Orthodox version of Christianity. Third, there is the imported ideology of free enterprise, consumerism and the trappings of "democracy."

This book is a collection of essays by women in Bulgaria, Romania, the Czech and Slovak Republics, what was formerly Yugoslavia, the former German Democratic Republic (GDR), Hungary, Poland and the former USSR. The writers describe the present situation of women in their countries (in short, bad and getting worse) and try to offer some sort of overview.

In the former state communistic countries, women were declared to be "emancipated." This meant the right (and the obligation) to work outside the home for wages, although in mostly unskilled, low status jobs for less than male wages. Sometimes emancipation meant the right to abortion, although not in Ceausescu's Romania, and not if the current state policy happened to be that if women had several children they could stay home and take care of them, opening up more jobs for men and reducing funding needed for childcare centers and kindergartens.

Other times, if the state needed women as workers, abortions would be re-legalized (although performed without anesthesia unless the woman made a private deal with the doctor), some childcare funding would come through, and pregnant women who worked would be offered maternity leave with their jobs reserved for them when they returned. Emancipation also meant that a certain percentage of elected positions were reserved for women, even though those women were powerless tokens.

Emancipation had nothing to do with sharing housework or childcare between spouses. Nor did any state feel any obligation to provide for contraception other than abortion or to allow women the opportunity to buy tampons or disposable diapers.

Consequently, to some women in post-state communistic Europe, the idea of

Boycott McDonalds...

McDonalds serves junk food (big news, that), that the firm has had repeated troubles with false advertising claims in the U.S. (they had claimed McDonalds food was "nutritious"), etc.

McDonalds concedes that it has no hope of obtaining monetary damages from FWs Steel and Morris (even if the case does not continue falling apart). Rather, they are simply trying to shut them up. Charges were dropped against several other London Greenpeace activists when they agreed to stop criticizing McDonalds. But these fellow workers have refused to buckle under, and as a result they are forcing McDonalds to spend hundreds of thousands of pounds to back up their efforts at censorship.

Meanwhile, French workers are suing McDonalds for interfering with their right to unionize. July 9th, workers struck a Massy McDonalds for 24 hours to protest the "blackmail, racist and profits system," returning to work after the company agreed to resume negotiations and honor French law on dismissals.

the full-time housewife, whether the old materfamilias variety or the modern western variety, looks appealing. But even if women wanted to continue working, and surveys in the former GDR and USSR have found that the majority of women do not want to quit work even if they could afford to do so, women are being fired from their jobs at rates disproportionate to men and face less opportunity for re-employment. However, few Eastern European men's wages are enough to support a family on a single income. In today's Poland, the average family needs 2.6 wage earners to maintain itself. Not surprisingly, prostitution is becoming much more common, seen by some as liberation from communism's enforced asceticism. In regards to sexual liberation, and social change in general, even a vocabulary to discuss them is lacking.

So far most eastern European women reject feminism as akin to the discredited "emancipation" offered by the communists. The communist "Women's Associations" are dead or moribund. Few women have been elected to office in the new "democratic" governments and neither they nor their male colleagues make women's situation a priority. Continued exposure to the new realities of capitalism and old and new style patriarchy will doubtless inspire indigenous organizing by women in Eastern Europe to protest their interests.

Penny Pixler

Fighting for Peace

One World or None: A History of the World Nuclear Disarmament Movement Through 1953, by Lawrence Wittner. Stanford University Press, 1993, 456 pages.

Activists, students and scholars have long awaited the publication of Lawrence Wittner's *One World or None*, and they will not be disappointed. Other works have been published on the struggle over the use of the Bomb during World War II and on the activities of peace movements in individual countries. This ambitious monograph is the first of three volumes collectively titled *The Struggle Against the Bomb* and devoted to the history of the global movement against the development and deployment of nuclear weapons. Drawing upon a vast array of primary and secondary historical materials (some of them previously classified), Wittner not only tells us much about the history of international resistance to nuclear weaponry from 1913 to 1953; her also grapples with the question of "why, despite the clear necessity of freeing humanity from the threat of nuclear destruction, that movement was not more effective" (p. xi).

In *One World Or None* we learn that protest emerged even before the Bomb became a reality. The Bomb had its critics as early as 1913, when a novel by H.G. Wells portrayed a destructive atomic war whose survivors espoused a world government. We also learn that during the 1930s a small group of scientists waged a secret struggle to control the development of the Bomb. Soon after the dreadful; atomic bombing of Japan, Wittner writes, the secret struggle

Book Review

against the Bomb bloomed into a global, though non-aligned, crusade whose constituency not only argued against the traditional practice of nations securing their interests by marshaling superior military might, but also pressed for the elimination of nuclear weaponry and for the concept of one world government. By the late 1940s, moreover, there emerged a Communist-led nuclear disarmament movement, a larger and better financed movement than its non-aligned counterpart. Meanwhile, even the leaders of the great powers expressed a certain degree of concern for nuclear peril.

Although the disarmament movement appeared to have early promise, it made little progress. Wittner maintains that the disarmament movement helped to generate the popular demand for globalist solutions and to prevent further use of the Bomb. But by the early 1950s the nonaligned movement had faded substantially—if not from sight, then from significance. The movement's decline did not derive from any diminution of the nuclear menace. As we well know, by the 1950s the United States and the Soviet Union had embarked upon insane, costly efforts to produce new weapons of unprecedented destructiveness. Given no adequate controls and nuclear proliferation, the atomic clock ticked onward. The *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*, with a circulation of around 20,000 in 17 countries, "placed the hands of their famous doomsday clock at the most alarming setting in its history: two minutes to midnight"

Pirate Press

The publishing arm of the Lehigh Valley Branch offers several publications ranging from short pamphlets on organizing tactics to book-length treatises on socialist theory and economics. Proceeds support local organizing efforts.

For a catalog, write PO Box 4133, Bethlehem PA 18018, or email len_flank@father.com

T-SHIRTS Sab-Cat

\$8 each. Lehigh Valley Branch, PO Box 4133, Bethlehem PA 18018.

Sabo-Cat, Wobbly Globe, Hand-clasping workers

\$12 each, 100% cotton. State size (S, M, L, XL) & color (red, white, pink) San Francisco Branch, PO Box 40485, SF CA 94140.

IWW Globe Black & red, M, L or XL. 50/50, \$14. Denver/Boulder Branch, 2412 E Colfax, Denver CO 80206

Canadian Little Red Songbook 40 songs by Arlene Mantle, Rick Fielding, Faith Nolan, Len Wallace & others, with music & chords. \$5. Toronto Branch, c/o J. Dymny, 11 Andrews Ave., Toronto ONT M6J 1S2

Available from IWW Branches

BOOKS

Workers Guide to Direct Action 75 cents. **Collective Bargaining Manual** \$2.50. New York Branch, RD 1 Box 158-B, Hartwick NY 13348

Introduction to the United States: An Autonomist Political History by Noel Ignatiev. \$3, Denver/Boulder Branch

Workers Guide to Direct Action \$2.95. **Workers Guide to Organizing** \$2.95. Lehigh Valley Branch.

(p. 388). According to Wittner, "One World might well provide the answer to the nuclear menace, but in the early 1950s, relatively few people seemed ready for it" (p. 329).

Why was the movement not more effective? Anyone searching for the answers should read Wittner's book. A long-time labor activist, a former president of the Council on Peace Research in History, and a Professor of History at the State University of New York at Albany, Wittner really knows his stuff. His book is a major contribution to our understanding of the history of the global disarmament movement, casting light on it from a fresh angle. Researched prodigiously, written in clear English prose, and often redolent of Wittner's classic *Rebels Against War* (published in 1984), *One World or None* sets the stage for the story of accelerated protest against the Bomb—covered in Volume 2, which will carry the history of the nuclear disarmament movement to 1970, and in Volume 3, which brings the story up to the present. *One World Or None* is obligatory reading for all those who resist nuclear insanity and wish to assist in building the foundations of a more humane world.

Blaise Farina

Nicaraguan Women

Sandino's Daughters Revisited: Feminism in Nicaragua, by Margaret Randall. Rutgers University Press, 1994. 311 pages.

In 1979 Randall wrote *Sandino's Daughters*, a book of conversations with Nicaraguan women about their struggle against the Somoza dictatorship. In this book Randall again interviewed these women and others after the electoral defeat of the Sandinista administration. The women tell their stories, bold, tragic, surreal, passionate. Most of them served in the Sandinista government. Instead of being crushed by the UNO victory, these women remain determined to create a more just and

egalitarian society. Ironically, the fall of the Sandinista government gave women more space to organize as feminists, more freedom to speak about sex and sexism, and more openness to discuss the strengths and weaknesses of the Nicaraguan revolution.

While all mentioned the war the US waged against Nicaragua as a reason for the Sandinistas' defeat, most of the women interviewed here criticized the Sandinista national directorate for maintaining a top-down military command structure even in peace time. For several of the women interviewed in this book, the FSLN's refusal to allow the women's association AMNLAE to elect its own leaders symbolized the addiction to control that caused the downfall of the Sandinista revolution.

If the Sandinista leadership could not allow AMNLAE autonomy, an organization whose members were unswervingly loyal to the goals of the revolution and who were veterans of the war of liberation, how much less could they deal with popular

criticism or autonomous labor unions? One would like to read something about the relationship between the unions and the Sandinista government, but this reviewer is not aware of any English-language books that have been written about that. One must all the more appreciate the courage and the honesty with which these women have analyzed their experience.

Penny Pixler

VIDEO Older = Bolder: Anarchist Elders

This documentary by Wobbly film-maker Zimya Toms-Trend features veteran Wobblies discussing their struggles and ideas...

28m, VHS, \$32.50 post-paid from IWW Literature, Chicago

Books for Rebel Workers

Hard-Pressed in the Heartland.

by Peter Rachleff
Rachleff participated in the hard-fought struggle of P-9 against the Hormel Company and the UFCW. The Hormel workers' struggle suggests the possibility for the rebirth of a militant, rank & file, community-based union. \$12

One Big Union.

by IWW.
The basic introduction to the structure and methods of the Industrial Workers of the World. \$2

Rise and Repression of Radical Labor.

by Daniel Fufeld.
A concise history of the U.S. movement from the 1877 strike wave through the 1918 red scare trials, deportations and murders. \$5

Crystal Gazing the Amber Fluid.

by Carlos Cortez.
Long-time IWW artist Cortez's poetic take on life in the late 20th century. \$4

Solidarity Unionism.

by 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. \$7

Rebel Voices: An IWW Anthology.

edited by Joyce Kornbluh.
A compilation of articles, cartoons, songs & poetry from the IWW press. \$22

Sabotage in the American Workplace.

edited by Martin Sprouse.
Tales of resistance on the shop-floor to speed-ups, bump pay and the drudgery of wage slavery. \$12

Mask of Democracy: Labor Suppression in Mexico.

by Dan LaBotz.
Recent rank & file insurgencies, maquiladoras and NAFTA all get attention in this timely book. The need for international labor solidarity is inescapable. \$14

Labor Law for the Rank & Filer.

by Staughton Lynd.
Revised and updated for the 1990s. A classic self-help manual. The subtitle says it all: "building solidarity while staying clear of the law." \$7

Progress Without People: In Defense of Luddism. by David F. Noble.
Technology is a political question, and too often workers and others are

excluded from the decisions. A detailed analysis of technology's effects and working-class responses. \$15

Strike!

by Jeremy Brecher.
A history of U.S. workers' struggle from workers' point of view. Argues that class upsurges are based in everyday live and rank & file initiative. \$15

Memoirs of a Wobbly.

by 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—An oral history of the IWW.

Bird, Georgakas & Shaffer, eds.
A compilation of interviews with former and veteran Wobblies. Badly transcribed, but interesting reading. \$11

Break Their Haughty Power.

by Eugene Nelson.
Fictionalized biography of Joe Murphy, who was an IWW member between 1919 and 1924. \$12

Fellow Worker: The Life of Fred Thompson. Compiled by D. Roediger.
Autobiographical reflections and philosophy from a Wobbly elder who bridged the generations. \$10

Workers of the World Undermined.

by Beth Sims.
Exposes AFL-CIA's role in supporting U.S. foreign policy while undermining international solidarity. \$9

Labor Suppression in Mexico Today

With the new North American free trade zone stretching from the tip of Alaska and the northern coast of Canada to the southern tip of Mexico, the plight of our Mexican fellow workers is all the more urgent. In this important look at the Mexican labor scene (*Mask of Democracy*, \$14), Dan La Botz draws on interviews with scores of Mexican rank-and-file workers, union officials, women's organizers and human rights activists to illustrate the perilous position occupied by Mexican workers, and the long history of ruthless government repression designed to hold down wages and working conditions in order to keep Mexican labor more "competitive" on world markets.

This is but one of the many titles available from the IWW Literature Department...

Mad in the USA.

by Gary Huck & Mike Konopacki.
Their third collection of cartoons. "These unbeheldden bozos are the best class-warrior cartoonists of our time." \$12

Working the Waterfront.

by Gilbert Mers.
Longshoreman and IWW member Gilbert Mers tells the story of his 42 years on the Texas waterfront as a rank and file radical. Workers history as it should be told. Hardcover: \$20

The General Strike.

by Ralph Chaplin.
Chaplin's musical version of the IWW Preamble has the line "without our brain and muscle not a single wheel can turn. He expands that idea in this 1933 essay. \$2

Food Not Bombs.

Subversive (veggie) recipes and how-to information for feeding the hungry in this society where food is a privilege. \$9

Power!

by MacShane, Plaut & Ward.
A history of black workers and their unions in South Africa, following their struggle to improve everyday life and transform the system through the mid 1980s. \$8

Juice is Stranger than Friction.

by 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. \$8

The American Labor Movement: A New Beginning.

by Sam Dolgoff.
A veteran IWW organizer traces the history of labor militance and offers his vision for building a new, radical, rank-and-file labor movement. \$5

Music/Song

Good News. Sweet Honey in the Rock

All Used Up. Utah Phillips

Smash the State and Have a Nice Day. Citizens Band

Don't Mourn, Organize! Songs of Joe Hill by various artists

Rebel Voices. Songs of the IWW sung by IU 630 Wobs

I Have Seen Freedom. Si Kahn

We Have Fed You All for 1,000 Years. Utah Phillips.

As Seen on No TV. Chris Chandler

It Takes A Lot of People. Tribute to Woody Guthrie by Larry Long & children

A World to Win. Tom Juravich

Greenfire. Dakota Sid and Travers Clifford

Food Phone Gas Lodging. Charlie King

Justice. Toshi Reagon

Out of Darkness. Tom Juravich

Look to the Left. Anne Feeney

All Cassettes: \$9 each

BUTTONS — \$1 each
Fire Your Boss!
Black Cat/Direct Action

ORDER FORM:

Name _____
Address _____
City/State/Postal Code _____

Quantity	Item	Price

return to: IWW Lit
4043 N. Ravenswood #205
Chicago IL 60613

total of above _____
add 10% shipping _____
TOTAL ORDER: \$ _____

U.S. Funds Only

