



Industrial Worker

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For All Workers in All Industries

From Philadelphia to Los Angeles

Wobblies "Attend" Presidential Conventions



Wobblies march in Philadelphia, PA, during RNC protests. Hundreds were arrested, being held for outrageous bail costs, in the days that followed this legal demonstration.

Wobblies Lead Fight Against Corporate Personhood

by Bill Meyers, X337515

When the IWW was formed in 1905, one of the big issues of the day was something called "corporate personhood." The issue has been long forgotten by most union activists, but "we never forget." Organized by two IWW members, myself and Jan Edwards, an activist group put the issue squarely back on the table. On April 25, 2000, the City Council of Point Arena, California passed a resolution against corporate personhood. They did this because the community demanded it after a year-long grassroots education and organizing campaign.

Corporate personhood is the theory that corporations have the same constitutional rights that real, "natural persons" have under the U.S. Constitution. This theory, having the force of law, has been a key structure allowing corporations to dominate the American political system and win victory after victory over the working class and its labor unions.

After the Civil War, lawyers for the railroad corporations sought to protect themselves against regulation and taxation. Their efforts converged on the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution. This amendment had been intended to give full civil rights to former slaves. The railroad corporation lawyers claimed that corporations were the "persons" referred to in this amendment, and were therefore entitled to "equal protection" and the same due process procedures as real people (or at least, at the time, male people). In 1886, in the landmark case Santa Clara County v. Southern Pacific Railroad, the Supreme Court agreed with them. Showing its key role in making the US govern-

ment a dictatorship of the rich, the Supreme Court had already ruled that the 14th Amendment did not make women equal. And in the infamous Plessy v. Ferguson in 1896, it would rule that in fact ex-slaves and their descendants were not persons protected by the 14th Amendment, leading to a century of Jim Crow discrimination.

Throughout the 20th century the US legal system has been shaped by this doctrine, much to the detriment of workers and unions. A fairly recent example was the overturning of an attempt during the 1970's to insure safe working environments. OSHA, authorized by Congress, started a system of random, unannounced inspections of workplaces. Obviously if corporations were told in advance when inspections were going to be, given the infrequent timing of such inspections, safety measures might be in place only rarely. The Supreme Court ruled that random inspections violated the constitutional rights of corporations, which rights these artificial entities have only because they are (wrongly) recognized as persons.

In 1905, the founders of the IWW did not meet just to revoke corporate personhood and other abuses by the bosses, but to abolish wage slavery. Given that, workplace organizing must continue to be the primary IWW activity. At the same time, however, we must teach people about how the system of corporate dominance works, just as the early IWW did. To be better able to explain corporate personhood to fellow workers please take the time to send \$3.00 to cover postage and copying for a printed copy to Bill Meyers at POB 1581, Gualala, CA 95445, USA.

WOBBLIES PROTEST RNC IN PHILADELPHIA

A WEEK OF ACTION

Thousands of protesters, representing a wide variety of groups and views, marched through the streets of Philadelphia to bring their message to the Republican Party, the citizens of the US and the world.

On July 29, in the midst of more red, white and blue bunting, flags and elephants than the law should allow, the Ad Hoc Coalition for Universal Health Care, a Philly-based group headed by doctors and other health care professionals, drew at least 3,000 people to a march and rally.

The following day, July 30, the much-hyped Unity 2000 march took place. For months, the organizers had claimed that it would be the largest of the week's events. It would prove to be the largest protest ever at a nominating convention.

On July 31, the Kensington Welfare Rights organized march occurred. Once again, thousands of protesters took to the streets.

These organized marches were a good forum to allow protesters to send their message, in an organized way, to the media (with the police presence on the sidelines). On the following days, tactics would change.

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WOBBLIES PROTEST DNC IN L.A.

THIS IS NOT SEATTLE

The LAPD expected 20,000 "veterans of Seattle" to descend upon the city during the August 14-17 Democratic National Convention. L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan warned downtown merchants to board up their windows and be on the lookout for black-clad youth displaying the circle A logo. The police prepared for another Seattle. They wanted total control of the city they "protect and serve."

"The police have their shit together here," said Shon, a Wobbly from Sacramento, Calif. "The police made huge mistakes in Seattle, and we leapt into those gaps and used them to make pretty big points and issues. The police here aren't leaving any gaps."

Before the DNC, a legal battle was waged over free speech. A square mile area around the Staples Center, was declared a "no-protest zone." The ACLU, a civil rights group co-founded by Wobbly Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, successfully fought the City's limitations on free speech and an area was provided for demonstrators near the Center.

In Philadelphia, police infiltrated and raided the building where activists gathered

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CAW Are Accused of "Raiding" SEIU Locals

can workers make their own decisions?

On August 31, 2000, Canadian Auto Workers (CAW) President Buzz Hargrove, in a letter to Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) President, Ken Georgetti, outlined the CAW's position on charges of "raiding" SEIU locals whose members legitimately voted to reaffiliate with the CAW. "I wish to make it clear that the CAW is still committed to finding a solution to this dispute," Buzz Hargrove wrote. "Any solution must respect that the workers must make the final solution."

The paper outlines the CAW position on ways that accusations of "raiding" could be handled by official bodies such as the CLC. "One option for the CLC is to continue to ignore the democratic wishes of the SEIU members and continue the expulsion of the CAW. The other option would be for the Executive Committee to make the decision to support the right of all affiliate members to legitimate dissent including a CLC conducted vote to join another affiliate of their choice. Legitimate dissent would mean a decision made by the membership without interference or soliciting by another CLC affiliate. If there is a question of whether the dissent is legitimate, the role of the CLC umpire would be to investigate and decide whether there was interference by another CLC affiliate. If there was interference, raiding charges would apply. If no interference is found, then the CLC would move ahead with a Quebec type protocol procedure. If there is no cooperation or compliance by the affiliates involved, then there must be an agreed upon procedure that gives the CLC president the power to take action placing protective custody over the dissenting group to ensure their rights are protected."

* * * * *

At a meeting of the Canadian leadership of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) at the Delta Chelsea Hotel on February 20, 2000, elected representatives from SEIU locals across Canada voted on a resolution to disaffiliate from their U.S.-based SEIU and merge with the 243,000-member CAW. The accusations against the CAW by the SEIU began, and the CLC took action on April 14, 2000, by enacting "full sanctions" against the CAW. What these sanctions meant is that all representatives of the CAW were removed from executive bodies of the CLC, Provincial Federations of Labour and District Councils, effective July 1, 2000. The sanctions also preclude all CAW members from participating in education functions, conferences, conventions, Labour College and committees.

True expulsion, of course, would have meant an end to dues collection from the 243,000 aforementioned members by the CLC. What has transpired since these actions has been attempts to place blame and to thwart union members' wishes by calling the vote illegal.

The real question seems to be, if workers are dissatisfied with their Union's performance, what is their recourse? If they have appealed to their Union's leadership to no avail, do they have the right to disaffiliate and take matters into their own hands? Who, if anyone, is "at fault?" It is the opinion of this writer that the "blame," in this case, belongs to the SEIU leadership who, in the opinion of the workers they "represented," failed to take into account the needs and desires of those workers.

"[The decision to disaffiliate by the 30,000 Ontario members of the SEIU] does not

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Firestone Tires Made by Scabs

According to the New York Times, the defective Firestone tires from Decatur, IN were made by scabs. "Firestone is now recalling and replacing 6.5 million light truck tires installed mainly on Ford Explorers, including all 15-inch Wilderness tires made in Decatur for the Explorer since 1996. The Firestone data shows that the Decatur plant had its worst quality problems from 1994 through 1996, when hundreds of replacement workers were employed there during a long dispute between Firestone and its unionized workers."

Editorial Policy Statement

The following editorial statement is a product of not only active collective members, but vocal general membership and recommendations from the board as well. It is a living document and we welcome members' involvement in its growth and evolution:

Submissions will be prioritized as follows:

- 1) Articles about specific IWW organizing campaigns. Submissions by members who are not regular contributors will be considered at the top of this category.
- 2) News regarding related labor activities by other workers.
- 3) Other news regarding activities of workers that will be of interest and relevance to the goals of the membership of the IWW.
- 4) Factual accounts will *always* be considered for publication before opinion pieces.

Unacceptable subject matter:

- 1) The use of personal attacks against individual members of the union, branches or ROCs, or the constitutional democratic processes of the union.
- 2) Any copy which endorses physical violence against human beings.
- 3) Copy which employs the use of stereotypes to describe a person or group of people; (for example: ageist, homophobic, racist, sexist, etc.)

Logistics:

- 1) Absolutely no more than 2,000 words for an article. No minimum. A good average size is 500 to 800 words.
- 2) All copy is subject to editing for length only. No content changes.
- 3) Copy may be submitted as a hardcopy, on a Macintosh 3.5 disk or via email. All disk submissions should be as "text" files. Our temporary email address is: iww@provide.net, all submissions via email should have "for industrial worker" under the subject heading.
- 4) Advertisements: Advertisements will be taken as long as they do not contradict the basic IWW principles. Call GHQ at 215 763-1274 for rates and details.

The Industrial Worker is now, for the time being, a bi-monthly publication. The next deadline for submission will be the *third weekend of November*. Please be prompt with your submissions. The earlier the better, that way we can alert you to editing changes, etc.

- IU 120: Lumber Workers
- IU 330: Building Construction Workers
- IU 450: Print & Publishing House Workers
- IU 460: Food Processing Workers
- IU 510: Marine Transport Workers
- IU 560: Communications Workers
- IU 610: Health Service Workers
- IU 620: Education Workers
- IU 630: Entertainment Workers
- IU 640: Restaurant & Hotel Workers
- IU 660: General Distribution Workers
- IU 670: Public Service Workers

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

AUSTRALIA

IWW Regional Organising Committee—P.O. Box 152, Birdwood, SA 5234. roc@iww.org.au <http://www.iww.org.au>
Sydney—PO Box 241, Surry Hills, NSW 2010.

NEW SOUTH WALES

Bellingen—PO Box 78, Bellingen, NSW 2454.
Sydney—PO Box 241, Surry Hills, NSW 2010.

QUEENSLAND

Brisbane GMB - c/o Solidarity Infoshop 264 Barry Pde, Fortitude Valley, QLD - gmb@brisbane.iww.org.au

TASMANIA

Bracknell c/o Bill Bartlett, 27 Emma St, Bracknell, TAS 7302. billbartlett@vision.net.au

VICTORIA

Melbourne GMB—PO Box 145, Moreland, VIC 3056, Vic, melbourne@iww.org.au. Delegates: Margaret Creagh, margaret@iww.org.au; Zelda Da: zd@xchange.anarki.net; Ben Debney: ben@iww.org.au

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Del—Mike Payne, Quininnup WA 6258. Perth—PO Box 1629, Morely WA 6943 Albany—PO Box 5325, Albany WA 6332

BRITISH ISLES

IWW Regional Organising Committee—IWW, PO Box 4414, Poole, BH15 3YL

ENGLAND

Swindon Region GMB & Research Councils IU 620 group—del: Kevin Brandstatter, 9 Omdurman Street, Swindon SN2 1HA, 01793-610707

Pioneer Co-operative Retail Society Job Branch and General Distribution Workers IU660—c/o Ray Carr, 42 Winifred Rd., Poole, Dorset BH15 3PU.

CANADA

ALBERTA

IWW Edmonton GMB—10905 - 106 Avenue, Edmonton, AB T5H 0R2. Phone: 780.421.0726. iww-edm@iww.ca, <http://edmonton.iww.ca>.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Vancouver IWW—P.O. Box 4755, Stn Terminal, Vancouver, BC V6B 4A4
Victoria GMB—P.O. Box 8283, V8W 3R9
pager: 250/360-9803. vicwob@hotmail.com

MANITOBA

Winnipeg GMB—IWW c/o WORC, PO Box 1, Winnipeg, MB R3C 2G1, Canada.

ONTARIO

Ottawa GMB—388 1/2 Kent, K2P 2A9. 613/231-2922. bh295@freenet.carleton.ca
Toronto GMB—PO Box 108 Station P, Toronto, ON M5R 3S8, Secretary: Adam Tworowski 416-654-1778. Contact branch for meeting days/times. toronto.gmb@iww.ca.

IU 670 Toronto Action for Social Change—P.O. Box 73620, 509 St. Clair Ave. West, M6C 1C0. 416/651-5800. burch@web.net

GERMANY

Hamburg IWW—c/o Zentrum, Thadenstrasse 118, D-22 767, Hamburg. Del.—Daniel Zimmermann, Kreuzstrasse 17, D-47 225, Duisburg Rheinhausen.

IRELAND

IWW Ireland—PO BOX 178, Cork, Ireland iww@ireland.com

ITALIA

Delegato Andrea Benetton—Via Molino 1, 21047 Saronno (VA). Tel. ++39-02-96709372. andbene@tin.it

POLAND

IWW Polska—PO BOX 47, 04-520 Warszawa 106

UNITED STATES

ARIZONA

Desert Tortoise GMB—c/o Feral Press, P.O. Box 1212, Tucson 85702.
Phoenix IWW Group—c/o Aaron, 1309 S. Farmer Ln., Tempe, AZ 85281. aaron@iww.org, (480) 305-9580.

CALIFORNIA

Humboldt County IWW Group—PO Box 3503, Eureka 95502. 707/441-3819.

Los Angeles IWW—PO Box 207, San Pedro, CA 90733-0207. 310/831-6023.

Mendocino County—Bill Meyers, del., PO Box 1581, Gualala 95445.

Monterey—Ray Brown, IU 330 delegate, 1231 4th St., 93940. 831/333-9803.

Santa Cruz GMB—PO Box 534, 95061. phone: 831/427-5566.

San Francisco GMB—PO Box 40485, S.F. 94140. office: Redstone Building, 2940 16th St. (at Capp) #216-2, S.F. 94103. 415/863-WOBS. staff@iww.org

San Francisco Bay Ports Marine Transport Workers IU 510 Branch—PO Box 194163, Ricon Hill Station, SF 94119.

East Bay GMB and IU 670 Berkeley Recycling Center Job Branch: 2022 Blake St., Berkeley 94704, 510/845-0540. Meets Thursday evenings at 7 p.m.

COLORADO

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

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Tampa Bay IWW—PO Box 20872, St. Petersburg, FL 33742. www.onebigunion.org

GEORGIA

Metro Atlanta GMB—PO Box 80405, Chamblee 30366. 404/746-7956

HAWAII

O'ahu GMB—POB 11928, Honolulu, HI 96828, Del: Mike Long, phone: (808) 396-1078, e-mail at: mlong@hawaii.edu

ILLINOIS

Chicago GMB—1340 W Irving Park Road #287 60613. 773/549-5045. Meets 2nd Friday 7 pm (call for location).
Springfield, IL—Pete Fox Del., PO Box 2407, Springfield, IL 62705. iwwspringfld@excite.com

INDIANA

Bloomington IWW Group—Secret Sailor Books, 202 N. Walnut St., Bloomington, IN 47404. secretsailors@yahoo.com.

KANSAS

Lawrence GMB—PO Box 176, 66044.

KENTUCKY

Ben Fletcher/Louisville GMB, 7904 Brownsboro Rd., Louisville, KY 40241. (502) 327-7382, (502) 451-3459.

LOUISIANA

Restaurant Workers IU 640—c/o Jeffrey Brite, 3805 Houma Blvd., Apt. C-202, Metairie, LA 70006. jbrite@acadiacom.net

MAINE

Jim Ellsworth, RRI Box 20, Clinton, ME 04927. jimells@mint.net

MARYLAND

Baltimore GMB—1443 Gorsuch Ave., Baltimore, MD 21218. bltgmb@iww.org. 410/243-3118, Box 2.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Area GMB & Education Workers IU 620—PO Box 391724, Cambridge 02139. del: Steve Kellerman 617/469-5162 Meets 2nd Sunday of each month at 2 p.m.

MICHIGAN

Huron Valley IWW—c/o Fred Chase, 422 N. River St., #1, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. 734/483-2788. fredchase@provide.net.

Detroit IWW—6135 Regular, Detroit, MI 48209. 313/215-5633. Meets Monthly. iw@iww.org.

Grand Rapids GMB—c/o Alles-Curie, 7063 Brewer NE, Rockford, MI 49341. sboveriver@earthlink.net

MINNESOTA

Duluth GMB—c/o Laverne Capan, 1522 N. 8th Ave. E., 55805-1115.

Minneapolis-St. Paul GMB—1708 E. 26th St., 55404. Dels. Sam Adams 612/724-9158, Andy Gifford 870-9168, Don Kurth 869-4139.

MISSOURI

St. Louis GMB—PO Box 63211, 63163. Del: Richard Burke, 314/849-3530, rburkemo@earthlink.net.

MONTANA

Butte—Mark Ross, PO Box 233, 59703. 406/782-4465. IU 330 Del: Dennis George, dengeo@montana.com

NEW YORK

Upstate New York Regional GMB—PO Box 74, Altamont 12009. 518/861-5627.

NYC GMB—Del: John Korber, 342 21st, No. 3L, Brooklyn, NY 11215.

Rochelle Semel, Del., RD 1 Box 158-B, Hartwick, NY 13328. (607) 293-6489.

Rochester—Del: Ric Garren, 716/385-6681.

NORTH CAROLINA

Greensboro GMB—Dave Coker, del., POB 10093, 27404. 910/574-2905 davecoker@usa.net

OHIO

Cincinnati—Mark Damron, del., PO Box 42233, 45242.

Dayton—D. E. Reuben Slaton, PO Box 26416, Dayton, OH 45426.

costs are the printing and mailing, whereas shirt sales subsidize pre-production and mailing supplies, a cost of approximately \$100 an issue. We would encourage the future editor(s) of the paper to continue this endeavor.

Before we take questions from those in attendance, you may have heard through the grapevine that we have decided not to run for a second term as the IW Collective. It really is time for us to focus more on our local organizing. The paper takes up an amazing amount of our energy and time so we had to make a choice. Also we want to share the experience. Our biggest fantasy is that a non-US editor(s) would run. We have been putting our feelers out about this idea and would be willing to do the mailing from inside the US in order to minimize costs.

We have computer equipment that we will send to whomever gets the job:

1) an IBM compatible laptop (donated by FW Ken Novack);

2) A Vistascan scanner for a Mac with System 8 software (donated by FW John Eaton);

I.W.W. DIRECTORY

OREGON

Eugene GMB—POB 371, Eugene, OR 97401 e-mail at: iwwlu@efn.org (541) 343-7828

Portland Building Construction Workers IU 330 Branch—POB 33674, 97292.

Portland GMB—POB 15005, Portland, OR 97293-5005. email: pdx@iww.org 503/796-3474

PENNSYLVANIA

Lancaster GMB: PO Box 796, 17608. lancaster@jones.iww.org <http://jones.iww.org/lancaster/>

Philadelphia GMB—PO Box 42777, Philadelphia, PA 19101. phillyiww@iww.org. Meets monthly, call for meeting time and place. 215-763-1274

RHODE ISLAND

IWW Providence GMB—PO Box 5795, Prov., RI 02903. IWW pager# (401) 332-5404.

SOUTH CAROLINA

IU450 Harbinger Publications Job Shop—Merll Truesdale, del., P.O. Box 8325, Columbia 29202-8325.

TENNESSEE

Knoxville—U.T. Station, Box 16010, 37996 e-mail at: iwwknox@dog.com

TEXAS

Lucy Parsons GMB—304 W. 55th St., Austin, TX 78751. 512/467-7360. delgin@io.com.

UTAH

Salt Lake City GMB, PO Box 520835, SLC, UT 84152-0835. slcgmb@iww.org. 801-485-1969

VERMONT

Montpelier—Bob Heald, del., PO Box 1285 05601. 802/229-1719

VIRGINIA

Richmond Group—c/o Tom Williams. 2404 Boyle Ave. 23230. 804/285-3699

WASHINGTON

Industrial Transportation Project—Arthur Miller, POB 5464, Tacoma 98415-0464
Olympia GMB—PO Box 2775, 98507. 360/956-3713. olywobs@hotmail.com <http://home.earthlink.net/blacknred/>
Seattle Industrial District Council—5215 Ballard, NW, Seattle, WA 98115. (206) 706-6250. email: bp172@scn.org
General Defense Committee—P.O. Box 16716, Seattle WA 98116.

WASHINGTON, DC

Ground Zero GMB, P.O. Box 1187, Washington, DC 20013-1187, 1.202.215.2065, email: iwwdc@hotmail.com

WISCONSIN

IU450 Lakeside Press Job Shop—1334 Williamson, Madison 53703 608/255-1800.
Madison GMB—c/ Lakeside Del: Jerry Chernow

WYOMING

Jackson—Teton Jack Langan, del., POB 4056, 83001. 307/733-4553

Industrial Worker

THE VOICE OF REVOLUTIONARY INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

Industrial Workers of the World
PO Box 13476
Philadelphia, PA 19101 USA
215/763-1274 • ghq@iww.org

General Secretary-Treasurer:
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Eaton, Robin Hood, Jim Rehberg,
Jeff Ditz

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iw@iww.org

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IW Collective Statement continued

3) And a color inkjet printer for a Mac (this we have never used, looks old, can't vouch for its functionality).

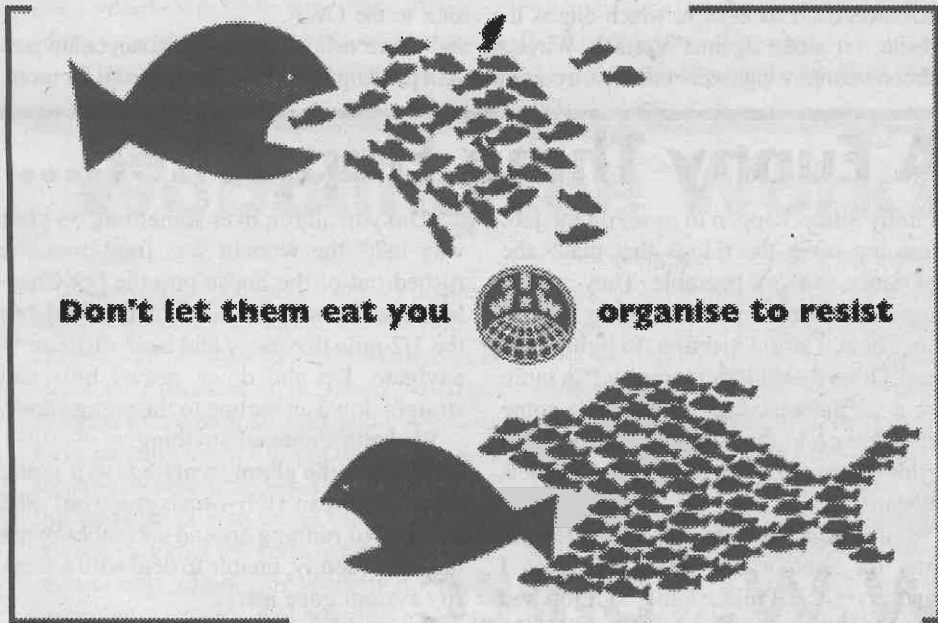
We would like to thank everybody who contributed articles, contacts, photos, letters, information and criticism since the commencement of our term. This is your paper and you helped all along to make it what it is today.

What would we hope for the future? We hope that the paper begins to include more

and more articles in other languages, something we hoped to do, had some success with and some difficulty. Possibly the new editor(s) could raise money for the paper by reprinting columns in collected form or some other idea. And finally, that the new editor(s) continue to respond to, and communicate with, the membership of this union.

Remember, make the paper your paper, and continue to fan the flames!

The IW Collective, Detroit, MI



UK IWW

The IWW is still going strong in the Co-Op. They recently won a backdated payrise for a member through constant pressure on management and then by dropping hints that the matter would be taken further via a more direct route if nothing was done.

Management backed down and gave our member the money they were owed.

Unfortunately there has been a spate of redundancies in the Co-op, though so far they haven't hit any of our members.

We are currently working on a newsletter called Shopfloor to help spread the IWW message to more shop and supermarket workers.

Portland IWW

As part of the effort of the union at Harry's Mother, General Membership Branch members have met twice to research existing contracts. Working with five contracts—including the ILWU contract with Powell

books—they are cutting them up into articles dealing with specific areas, such as pay, benefits, sick leave, and grievance procedures. Then, when workers are writing a contract or looking over a boss' offer, they can see how various other contracts deal with the issue. The resource could prove useful in many situations throughout the IWW as well as locally in Portland.



East Bay IWW

The IWW Industrial Union Summit will take place on the weekend of

October 14-15 (pending authorization from Seattle IWW) in the Bay Area. It has been a long time since the IWW branches in the Pacific Northwest have been able to meet on a proactive basis for building the organization.

Housing may be available with local Wobblies, if you cannot afford lodging. If you would like to attend, please contact the East Bay IWW office (510) 845-0540. so that we can better accommodate your needs.

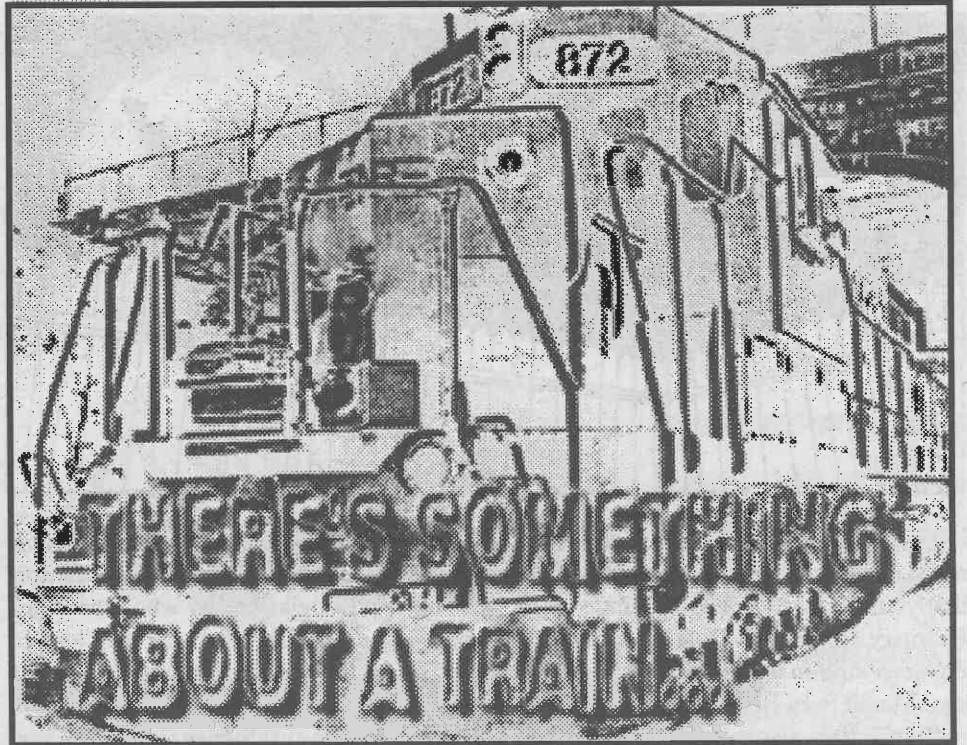
PREAMBLE TO THE IWW CONSTITUTION

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.



Hobo Rendezvous 2000 — Wobbly Heaven

Elko, Nevada, old railroad, mining, and cowboy town of the high desert, was the setting for the Hobo Rendezvous 2000, a three-day gathering to celebrate the songs, tales, and way of life of the hobo. What made this weekend particularly noteworthy is the fact that no fewer than nine of the musicians who gave performances were Wobblies! Headlined by Utah Phillips, numerous other fine IWW musicians, including Eddie Jeff Cahill, Al Grierson, and Larry Penn were on hand to tell stories and sing their songs.

In addition, six or seven other Wobs showed up, and we signed up another half-dozen or so, including two of the scheduled performers. On Sunday afternoon, more than a dozen of us met under the shade of an ash tree, exchanged names, shared backgrounds, caught up on dues, and welcomed our new Fellow and Sister Workers into the union.

Wherever you looked that weekend, you were sure to see Wobbly buttons, T-shirts, tatoos and other regalia. The spirit of the union was in the air. With workshops like "Hobo as Travelling Worker — A 135 Year

History," and "How They're Running — First Hand Accounts of Recent Rail Riding," questions of union organization, the class struggle, fightback, and the IWW would invariably be raised.

Throughout the three days, we heard and sang the songs of Joe Hill, Woody Guthrie, Haywire Mac McClintock, and Utah Phillips

to name just a few. It was exciting and inspiring to take part in a festival which was not just a tribute to the past, but one which managed to blend history and nostalgia with current day-to-day realities of life, work, and struggle. Wobbly history

and Wobbly ideas kept cropping up all weekend, in the discussions, tales, songs, and poems, from the main stage (an all-girl band from New Mexico, the Dollie Ranchers dedicated one of their songs to the IWW), in the workshops, and around the jungle fire in the evening.

Plans are in the works for a Hobo Rendezvous 2001, possibly in Wisconsin next summer. Anyone interested in participating, please e-mail baltimoreder@hotmail.com.

Baltimore Red X341189

A Quick History of the South African IWW

The South African Industrial Workers of the World was established in 1911, and grew out of an organisation called the South African Industrial Workers Union. The General Secretary of this union was Tom Glynn, a motorman on the Johannesburg Tramways. The Tramwaymen became IWW after a successful one day strike showed the strength of organising industrially. The subsequent summary dismissal of strike leaders Glynn and Glendon sparked off a second strike of Industrial Unionists, which failed. The Johannesburg council set out to break the union, called in the police, banned public meetings and ran the trams with scabs under police protection. Glynn was sentenced to 3 months imprisonment for inciting a strike, but won an appeal against the conviction.

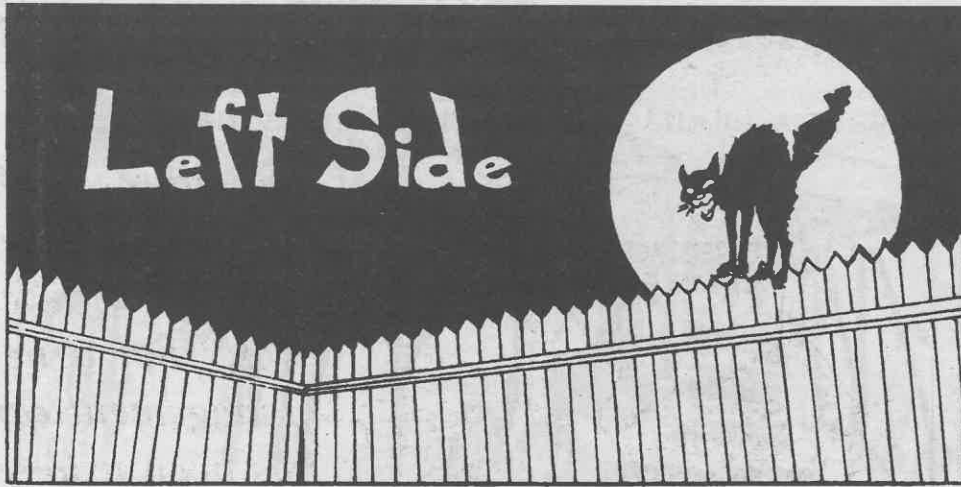
The IWW in South Africa was closely associated with the radical paper the *Voice of Labour*, and organised mainly among unskilled poor whites and among groups like bookmakers. Andrew Dunbar was a Natal railway worker, originally from Scotland, who led several thousand men out on strike in 1909. He went on to become a General Secretary of the IWW in South Africa. The IWW in SA launched several strikes but seems to have collapsed about 1913.

About 1917-18 the Industrial Workers of Africa was formed, and this was initially called the IWW. This was the first black trade union in South African history. Also of interest is the Durban Indian Workers Industrial Union formed by Gordon Lee along the lines of the IWW. It organised among printing, tobacco, laundry and dock workers.

Tom Glynn is a name well known in Australian Wobbly history as he was later to become the first editor of our Australian paper *Direct Action*. He appears to have been active in radical journalism in South Africa as well, (perhaps with the *Voice of Labour*?) He was later jailed as one of the framed-up "Twelve", and served a lengthy jail sentence. Tom Glynn died from illness contracted in his time in Long Bay, and is buried in Sydney's Botany Cemetery.

Information in this quick history comes from 'Class and Colour in South Africa' by Jack and Ray Simons—thanks to our Wobbly historian Mike for finding this. I have also referred to Verity Burgman's 'Revolutionary Industrial Unionism—The IWW in Australia'. If anyone has more of the South African IWW story please get in touch with Direct Action, the Australian IWW paper—because there is clearly a lot more to this story. What we'd really love is a photo of the early days in SA, or even directions of how to find one.

Wal Larkin.



Those of you who are having a hard time making a go of it on your social security checks, not to mention those who are having a hard time making it on your paychecks, take comfort that your surplus value is keeping somebody in clover. Douglas Ivester who retired last February from Coca Cola after laying off six thousand employees, received close to eighteen million dollars plus three million dollars a year. John B. McCoy who retired this past March from Bank One after terminating over five thousand workers was handed ten million dollars, also receiving three million dollars a year. However Sidney H. Kosann, who receives a salary of \$300,000 and lives in a \$500,000 home, filed for unemployment compensation right after closing his plant and laying off all the workers.

So you wonder why prices keep going up! Even conservative apologists for the present economic system will concede that the crime rate goes up as more people are out of work, not knowing where the next meal ticket is coming from. Many of those who have been so long unemployed, in their desperation and naivete have resorted to emulating the tactics of their economic overlords and gone into robbery themselves. Unfortunately, those who participate in street crime victimize only those of their own class. The ones who they should really go after are well enough removed from them. As one old wag once remarked; if you steal a loaf of bread or a bottle of milk, you will go to jail but if you steal a railroad or a bank, you will be nominated to run for office and the system continues to flourish.

However, our present economic system, in its ingenuity to perpetuate itself, has come up with a new wrinkle, the privatization of prisons. In effect those of us who are fortunate to be paying taxes are told that we are no longer supporting the criminal element of our society through our taxation, which are being run by private entrepreneurs. Your scribe has been invited to various "correctional" institutions to speak to the inmates. I have spoken to kids who just got messed up and I have spoken to "lifers" and I have come to the obvious conclusion that the people whom society really needs protection from, never get close to prison. I have been to towns where the number one industry is the local prison.

Recent statistics have come out, the sad fact that Freedomland has the second largest prison population on this Planet, outdone only by the former Soviet Union. So much for state socialism! Here in Freedomland, small municipalities as well as states have been advertising for prison builders to consider their localities. Privatized prisons offer the advantage of having the prisoners engaged in manufacture while paying them pittance rather than a decent union wage which some workers get on the outside. This, of course, has the potential of bringing about a situation where there will be even more unemployed who have the option of either turning to crime or becoming part of the prison system, either as prison guards or prison inmates. Freedomland may no longer have to take second place to Russia.

Throughout humanity's turbulent history, especially since the establishment of the institution of property, class societies have always managed to maintain a permanent under class which through intimidation and fear, serve to keep those who are a little better off in line. You see why we keep agitating for a classless society.

Earlier this Summer your scribe had been at an open forum in what was one of the classic soapbox outdoor parks. Many issues were discussed but the final and closing debate was on the question of Capital Punishment, whether it should be maintained or abolished. There were passionate as well as humanitarian arguments, both pro and con. When the debate finally ended, your wily scribe upon observing the still live but unguarded microphone, jumped upon the podium to say that Capital Punishment is ineffective insofar as those who are the most meritorious of receiving such never get arrested, much less brought up on any charges. Those are the heads of states and the moneymen they front for. A case in point is our horny saxophone player who as commander-and-chief ordered the slaughter of retreating Iraqi troops and the bombing of Iraqi civilians, and the SOB he was opposing still remains fat and sassy.

Draftees of the World, unite! You have nothing to lose but your generals!
C.C. Redcloud

OPPRESSION

by Jimmy Santiago Baca

Is a question of strength,
of unshed tears,
of being trampled under,

and always, always,
remembering you are human.

Look deep to find the grains
of hope and strength,
and sing, my brothers and sisters,

and sing. The sun will share
your birthdays behind bars,
the new spring grass

like fiery spears will count your years,
as you start into the next year;
endure my brothers, endure my sisters.

Chicano and Native American, born in New Mexico, Baca ran away from an orphanage at eleven. Arrested at 20 for drug possession he was sent to Florence, a maximum security prison in Arizona. While there, he requested permission to take literacy classes and study for a graduate equivalent degree. He was told his request would be granted, but his subsequent pleas were answered with an assignment to field labor. When he refused, he was sent to the notorious "dungeon," where—in four years in solitary confinement—he taught himself to read and write.

Get 'Em Sabo Kitties!!

2600 & www.verizonREALLYsucks.com

After the passing of internet anti-squatting laws it became illegal for a person or entity to reserve a domain name for the sole purpose of re-selling it later. This law, like all others, was made to protect the rights of the rich. Some of the proof to this effect is in the case(s) against the hacker's quarterly, 2600.

Verizon Corporation, has "personally" attempted to reserve all domain names that may conceivably be critical of it. At \$70US a pop, Verizon has reserved over 760 domain names, from screwverizon.com to verizonsucks.com. A move many consider to be internet squatting since the company has no use for such sites. 2600, showing that free speech cannot be stopped by corporate lackeys, has reserved verizonREALLYsucks.com, which directs the visitor to the CWA website, on strike against Verizon Wireless; and verizonsouldspendlessmoneyonlawyersandmoreonimprovingitsnetwork.com, a comment on a pending lawsuit. Visit 2600.com for more.



A Funny Thing Happened...

Funny things happen to us all on the job. These are often the things that make the experience of work bearable. They are the situations we tell each other over a beer, dinner or at a union meeting, to lighten the mood. Often these stories represent far more than a simple anecdote, and include some sort of lesson to the listener, or reflect the worldview or the teller far better than facts and statistics.

What is funny for one person is often not funny for another. For example, when I found myself in Philadelphia on a job and went out to the bar with a bunch of friends, none of whom had any money, the bill arrived and I realized what to do with the emergency cash the boss gave me back home. Funny for the workers, not necessarily funny for the boss.

One time I was leasing a truck to do a particularly heavy job. At the end of the day, I filled the vehicle with diesel instead of unleaded fuel. Not funny at all at the time, but absolutely hilarious later when I related both my confusion and the dark sooty smoke erupting from the engine, while the truck blocked some major intersection unable to move.

Many situations hold no humor at all at the time, and only in retrospective retain the grin that may have been appropriate in the first place.

One time a fellow worker and myself were unloading some very expensive chandeliers for an import company. We pulled up, opened the boxes and an unnecessary amount of packing material came pouring out, all over the windy parking lot. We panicked, recognizing the environmental disaster taking place. The client continued, directing us to unload her wares so that she could be on her way. The cops showed up in a rage, writing us a ticket in silence. After he left, the woman apologized. "What are you apologizing for," I said, "of course all the trash belongs to the poor workers and all the fancy shit the trash is protecting is yours. Sure, may be bullshit, but not surprising at all."

This whole situation may not have been worthy of retelling if she hadn't paid the ticket.

* * * * *

"OK guys," my boss was talking, "be real careful with that thing. The last time I transported a piece by this guy, it arrived in about 500 pieces." Bridget and I were loading a sculpture on its way to suburban Charlotte, NC. It was times like these that I really liked my boss. When he described a disastrous situation from when he used to wrangle freight through giggles and grins.

The sculpture was wrapped in some opaque material. Bridget and I had no idea what it looked like. We were both simultaneously worried and chuckling at the prospect of installing it.

"Whoa, this is gonna be a bitch," I said. "Sure!," said Bridget.

* * * * *

"Did you all run over something on your way in?," the woman was frantic as she rushed out of the house into the hot Charlotte sun. It hadn't been too hard to find, but the 1/2 mile driveway had been difficult to navigate. Up and down gravel hills and straight down an incline to the garage door.

We hadn't noticed anything.

"Well, some alarm in my house it going crazy! I just can't tell what is going on!" She was sort of running around and rubbing her brow frequently, unable to deal with a security system gone awry.

Funny thing was, we couldn't hear anything unusual as we entered the house.

* * * * *

She set us to moving sculptures around to make room for this thing. Her home was filled with wierd statuary. Things like huge stainless steel can openers and such. We learned far too much about her divorce and her wealth and her inability to deal with cold in the short amount of time we intersected her life. In this business, this type of testimonial to the "help" is far too ordinary.

* * * * *

Time came for us to move the sculpture in question. Our hands were sweating profusely. The woman had disappeared as Bridget grabbed the two-wheeler and moved into position in front of the ramp, "Quickly, before she gets back, let's move this thing."

"OK," I said, "if it gets to be too much, just holler and I'll grab it."

Well, the moment the two-wheeler hit the incline, the sculpture went flying with Bridget underneath it. At the bottom of the ramp, Bridget's shoes flew into the air and the thing rolled heavy off of the handcart and onto the gravel below.

"Are you all right!," I exclaimed, but Bridget was already laughing.

We wrestled the monster back onto the handcart and rolled it snickering into the house. *How many pieces would fall out of it when it was unwrapped*, we wondered.

The woman appeared as we cut the packing material away. I gasped. The piece was cracked all over and really messed up. I had my back to the woman and gave Bridget a worried smirk. We almost burst into laughter together.

"Oh!," the woman shouted, "it is more beautiful than I remember!"

"Y-y-yeah," said Bridget, "and it looks great in here, too!" She surreptitiously grabbed a few stray pieces of the sculpture and dropped them in her pocket.

* * * * *

We were hysterical as we pulled onto the highway. The woman had been so happy that she had tipped us well for a job well done. The phone rang, it was the boss.

"How did the delivery go? Everything smooth?"

"Sure," said Bridget, "but a funny thing happened..."

Solidarity, Gator

red_gator@hotmail.com

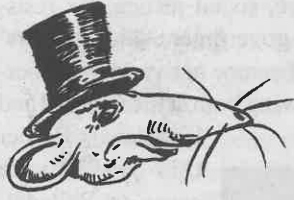
WILCO!



FROM THE BIG ROAD

One More Dirty Rat McFarlane Toys' "Death Row Marv"

McFarlane toys, creators of the popular Spawn action figures, has released a new, extremely popular, action figure.



Flip the switch and a surge of electrical current slams into the figure strapped in the chair. He convulses. His hands tremble. His eyes glow red. His teeth clench. And then he utters his last words. "That the best you can do, you pansies?"

"Kids really love Marv," said Island's Rick Varo. "Teen-age girls think he's cute, which terrifies me."

"It's not just kids, either," he said. "We get guys in suits. We get moms. Old people. They come in looking like they had a rough day, but after they juice Marv they leave with a smile on their faces. It's a happy kind of thing."

As far as we can figure it, this means that whether or not Marv gets the chair or not, is about as arbitrary as it is in "real" life. Teach your children well...

Wobbling the Works

"Scabs"

This word has become especially disgusting to me in the past month for a couple of reasons. The Philadelphia school district is stubbornly insisting on the kind of contract reforms that administrators and politicians have recently taken a liking to — they want to pay teachers based on the test scores of the students. It's an awful idea, especially considering that the state has been punishing our city schools for years by not properly funding them. Anyhow the teachers, my mother being one of them, have pledged to strike. But a few wingnut scissorbills have pledged to teach despite a strike, if one were to occur. Scab on my mommy? Let me at 'em!

Shortly after seeing the news broadcast of this story, I was packing up to go to the IWW's General Assembly. I didn't make it — the car I was riding in had a tragic accident. As I sit writing this column, I occasionally fidget with the now quarter-sized scab on my head, and it reminds me of the whole miserable affair. Scabs are horrible, miserable things.

Ever wonder about your legal right to actually call a scab a scab? Since management-types have taken to using SLAPP-suits regularly to harass unionists who are legally picketing, I was curious to see if the use of the word was ever litigated. And it was — a judge deemed it factually true to call a picket line crosser, in this case a pilot, a scab (this was a libel case) in the 1999 11th Circuit case of *Dunn v. ALPA*.

Weingarten Rights for Non-Union Workers

"Weingarten Rights," the right for workers covered by the NLRA to have a union representative present at an "investigatory interview" with a boss, have recently been deemed to also cover workers in non-union workplaces. Investigatory interviews are meetings between a boss and a worker when the boss is trying to collect information that could later be used in some kind of disciplinary action. On July 10, the NLRB ruled in *Epilepsy Foundation of Northeast Ohio* that a worker who does not have union representation may request that a fellow worker be present during an investigatory interview.

This is not at all a bad development for workers, so long as we understand the limits of our legal protections.

When an investigatory interview occurs, there are three basic rules:

RULE 1: The worker must make a clear request for a union rep (this is usually detailed in your contract) or a co-worker to be present before or during the interview. The worker cannot be punished for making this request.

RULE 2: After the worker makes the request, the boss can only do one of three things and still be within the law: 1) Grant the request and delay questioning until the union rep or co-worker arrives and has a chance to consult privately with the worker; or 2) Deny the request and end the meeting

immediately; or 3) Give the employee a choice of (a) having the interview without representation or (b) ending the interview.

RULE 3: If the boss denies the request for a union rep or co-worker to be present, and continues to ask questions, he commits an unfair labor practice and the worker has a right to refuse to answer. The boss may not discipline the employee for such a refusal.

People often draw parallels between their civil rights and the rights they have on the job. Weingarten Rights might remind some folks of what we know as Miranda rights in civic life — you know, when the cops say, "You have a right to remain silent, anything you say can and will be used against you..." and so on. To anyone who's ever been arrested, this is pretty much a joke. But the fact does remain that the occasional arrest gets tossed out for the simple fact that a suspect wasn't properly Miranda-ized.

No such remote possibility exists with Weingarten. It is the sole responsibility of the worker to be acquainted with this right, so spread the news around. If you don't know about it to demand it, then that's your tough luck — the boss has no obligation whatsoever to inform the worker of Weingarten. So, it's up to us. IBEW made up a nifty card, it fits in a wallet and reads: "If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, or affect my personal working condition, I respectfully request that my union representative, officer, or steward be present at the meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions." There's phone numbers on the other side of the card.

The irony of Weingarten is that if an interview happens with no observer even after a worker asserts Weingarten but does not refuse to answer questions, and the meeting results in a firing, the firing is not necessarily illegal. It's the fact that the meeting happened without an observer present that is the illegal bit. So, you might full well win an unfair labor practice case if you are denied an observer in an investigatory interview, but your firing could still be upheld. The only consequence to the boss is that the Labor Board could order a posting notifying workers at the shop that their now-fired co-worker's Weingarten rights were violated. So, shut up! If you assert your Weingarten rights and the boss tries to deny them, don't say a word in the interview. Not a peep.

Weingarten is basically good for helping workers avoid a he-said/she-said problem if a boss does decide to take disciplinary action. Some bosses are less likely to get nasty if there is someone else on the worker's side in the room, but then again, some bosses are more likely to get nasty in that case. Weingarten is not good for getting you off the hook if a boss decides to take disciplinary action after a properly-held interview. That's where our solidarity comes in — the most tried and true method for preserving our rights.

--Alexis Buss

NANCY LUDD'S CORNER

Tales of Sabotage & Direct Action in the Workplace



So your workplace hasn't been exactly "taken over," but a new management team has been ushered in to "take care of business." What sorts of options do you have before a possible firing? How 'bout after?

I had been working at an inner-city Kinko's for years, mostly on the midnight shift. The job was maybe not "great," but you have to understand that this was before the corporation had gone through such an extensive restructuring, (at least in our area). At that point in time our store was still full of "freaks." We had the highest profits in the region and the most intelligent and machine-savvy staff around, but, as we all found out over time, we didn't fit the new corporate image.

Even during the three years that I was employed with Kinko's, the "sabotage" that I noticed on the job was amazing. I'm not sure that you can call it sabotage, but every activist in the city came to us for copies.

This was during the Gulf War so the amount of printed matter coming out of our community was huge. It was good to know that just about every time I saw a flyer or billboard modification we were somehow, although peripherally, involved.

Late in 1991 things began to get strange. Our store was constantly haunted by regional management hanging around to check out our customer relations skills and how we ran the machines. People were being sent home regularly to change their clothes and there was a constant impetus to "smile more."

We thought of everything we could do to stop this invasion of our workplace by these corporate lackeys. Of course we felt like the store was running smoothly and efficiently already. We were not plagued with negative customer comments, as a matter of fact it was quite the contrary. Our clients seemed to like us just the way we were.

I came in one night to work and discovered that my manager had been fired for shouting an expletive at the regional manager. Mind you, I knew this guy was just a manager but he had stood up for us on many many occasions. He was also, for many of us, a friend before we started working for him. There was a letter on my timecard telling me to call the cops if I was to see him in or around the store and to not let him in under any circumstance.

I wrote a letter back to the regional explaining that not only did I disagree on a philosophical basis with the police and that they would not be called, but that I didn't know her "from Adam," and would be far more leary of her presence than his.

She was not amused.

She fired me.

I called her up and asked for my job back the next night. My coworkers had explained that she was desperate because no one had offered to take my place on the night shift. She was unrelenting at first and then said that she would accept an apology if I were willing to admit I was wrong. That was not something I was willing to do. I hung up.

She called back about an hour later and asked me to come into work that night. I agreed and didn't show up.

At this point many of the workers were getting upset. We set up a meeting with the UE (United Electrical Workers). Unfortunately, we couldn't get enough of the workers at the store, let alone the region, to agree that unionizing was a viable option.

After I had exhausted my appeals to come back to work, (even after not showing up the first time, they asked me what had happened, I pretended to have forgotten, and pulled the same thing; I knew from my insiders that no worker was harmed by my shenanigans and that the regional manager was working around the clock), a new strategy of "sabotage" was in order. Many of us, some who had been fired and some who still worked in the store, decided that we could really affect the profit margin of the store to discredit many of the decisions that had been made.

We began to collect corporate "originals" that could be handed in to be copied. We focused on very simple jobs, the type that you love to have come in if you are a worker because they take very little supervision and set-up time. We amassed about 20 good solid fake documents and then went to town.

Folks on the inside were in counter positions who could receive documents from customers. We had connections in a courier company who could claim to be bringing documents from corporations who had good-standing credit. If people came in from out of town, we would have them bring in an original to be copied.

The backroom filled up with boxes labeled either "waiting to be picked up," or "to be recycled." (I admit that this was not the most environmentally friendly action).

A few weeks later, some of our insiders invited us into the back to use polaroid cameras to take photos of the debacle. It was truly spectacular.

No we didn't get our jobs back, but I don't think that was our aim. It was apparent to those who remained, whether coworkers or managers, that we had made an impact on profits.

For me it was important to recognize how easy it can be to impact the profit margin of a large corporation. We are so often told they are untouchable. Yet for the workers, who know how a company operates on its most basic level, all we need to do is figure out an easy way in, and strike.

RNC Philadelphia Protests

continued from page 1

THE POLICE BEGIN RAIDS

The Philadelphia police, in a move similar to police tactics in Washington, DC, during IMF/World Bank protests, began to raid organizers' spaces throughout the city. Most notably the legal defense offices and the puppet space, where 75 arrests took place as police dragged protesters and puppets into the street. Local residents were surprised and angered by the police reaction with one woman saying, "I just don't understand. When we call the police for a real situation, it takes them hours to show up. What are they here for now?"

Now the police had successfully moved people off of the streets and into the jails, in most cases with no charges filed. The next few days would show a virtually unreported (in the corporate media) police department gone awry.

AUGUST 1st DAY OF ACTION

Organizers had planned to use tactics developed in Seattle and Washington, DC, to bring strategic intersections in the city under protester control. Groups of 5-50 (mostly), entered the streets of Philadelphia. The arrests began immediately.

Police dressed in normal uniform clothes began arresting anyone on the street (particularly those dressed in black). Blockades would appear and disperse under constant threat of attack by "wandering squadrons" of police.

At some key intersections, protesters held strong for periods of time, knowing that arrest was imminent. Approximately 282 protesters would be arrested by the end of the day.

THE ARRESTS CONTINUE

As the week went on, arrests and actions continued. By the end of the week, although police still officially put the arrest number at 282, legal defense teams put together for the protests estimated the number at 465.

It was assumed that police were quoting

only the numbers from August 1st and not, for instance, the 75 from the puppet arrest or the scores of people arrested in the following days (including 50 on Wednesday demanding medical attention for arrestees.)

CORPORATE MEDIA SILENCE

The corporate media remained almost completely silent about any goings on in Philadelphia during the week except the Republican Convention. The only mention on NPR in the weeks following was a brief story questioning the outrageous bail that protesters were given (anywhere from \$1,000 to \$1,000,000 in a couple cases.)

"These people aren't terrorists," said the NPR commentator.

The interesting thing is that to protest in this country has been reported on by the media in such a way as to approach the level of terrorism. We are losing our rights to assemble and are painted as the aggressors.

Things that were not reported on in Philly are the same as things that were not reported on in the past years' actions. Police violence (one protester had part of his ear removed by police, and another had her face dragged across pavement). Illegal jail treatment, (one HIV+ protester was denied medication, while scores of others were left to literally bleed in their cells). Denial of basic legal rights, (like Seattle, legal defense lawyers were denied access to their clients, some even during trial). Plus innumerable other offenses by the state.

As one protester put it, "I don't mind being arrested for my right to speech and assemble, I expect that, but having my body brutalized illegally by the state, I am not about to keep quiet or calm."

Like the other cities where this year of protests has occurred, activists in Philly continue to feel the presence and harassment of the cops.

Solid,
Hammer Deren

Farewell Fellow Worker Bruce Andrew Baechler

Bruce Andrew Baechler was born in Connecticut on March 29, 1955. Through Bruce's connections to Quaker peace movements, at 16 he joined a round-the-clock peace vigil in front of the White House in Washington, DC. He received his mail addressed to Sidewalk, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. Around this time Bruce's views on government, pacifism, and other issues took shape. He became a vegetarian, an anarchist, and a tax and draft resister. Rather than registering with selective service and requesting conscientious objector status, Bruce totally refused to participate in the system. After a dramatic arrest during a Friends Meeting for Worship, he was convicted and served 13 months in a federal prison in Morgantown, WV. Bruce signed up as a Wobbly in 1978 and quickly threw himself into the work of building the union — especially into several organizing drives in southeast Michigan, including organizing a bankworkers' strike in Ann Arbor. In 1983, Bruce served on the IWW's General Executive Board. He was well-known as a practical and calming influence. His talents for bookkeeping were

put to work more than once. Bruce spent much of his adult life in North Carolina and Texas where he supported a myriad of causes relating to peace, social justice, tax resistance, smaller government and workers' rights. He also became active in the Libertarian Party, serving both at the national and local levels. Earlier this year, Bruce came to Philadelphia and worked regularly at General Headquarters. He was an invaluable help getting things up and running. Bruce was working on creating a new database for the union and had also co-founded the IWW's Finance Committee, which was organized to advise the union's officers on financial matters. On September 1, 2000, Bruce and three others on their way to the IWW's General Assembly were involved in a single car rollover accident near Zanesville, OH. Bruce suffered a fatal heart attack a few hours later. He was a thoughtful, gentle, and highly principled person who tirelessly fought for liberty. He will be missed by many.



**DON'T MOURN
ORGANIZE!**

WHEN WILL WE EVER LEARN?

It's amazing how short our attention spans are. It seems that most people see political & social corruption as relatively rare events that appear to occur often because there just happens to be lots of politicians & corporations around. In fact, the scandals are endless, & if we could see the big picture, we'd see that since The System's been around the abuse has ALWAYS been there.

Still, most ordinary folks like to think that... The overall System's OK, even though there's a lot of abuse. I'm sticking with this System because I'm used to it, it's what I expect, and this System will turn out fine, even if there's a lot of hurting going on in the meantime.

You can't blame them for wanting to think this way, after all, The System keeps telling them that at the very least they're trying to make things better. Awww, please forgive me Honey. Just give me another chance; I promise that I'll do right by you. I didn't mean to hurt you all of those times... Well, I guess I could...

Wait! Don't these endless and vicious cycles strongly resemble the suffering of someone who has battered-wife syndrome?



Let's take some advice from the experts folks. Let's leave the rotten no-good exploiter & find some self-esteem, take matters into our own hands, and live our lives the way we really want to--in freedom! Wh-where do you think you're going? Come back here! Wherever you go and whatever you do I'll be watching!



Just wait till I get my hands on you! You can't make it without me! What will my fortunes be like without you?



The Nihilist Princess a novel by Louis M. Gagneur

Reintroducing best-selling 19th century radical feminist author Louise M. Gagneur! In *The Nihilist Princess* she fictionalizes events taking place in the nihilist movement in Russia, which sought to free people from the Czar, the aristocracy, and the capitalists. Wanda Kryloff, the daughter of a cruel aristocrat, becomes a nihilist heroine. This early feminist novel will excite anyone interested in the history of literature, feminism, or radical politics. \$12.00 quality paperback



Anarchist Farm Jane Doe

"What could be more charming than a bunch of wild animals monkeywrenching logging equipment and domestic critters overthrowing their farm? ...It's goofy; it's funny and it's damn smart." — *Earth First! Journal* \$10.00 quality paperback

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kylekellahshehskes@hotmail.com

Democratic Convention: Los Angeles, CA

before the Republican convention. In Los Angeles, the ACLU won an injunction preventing the police from similar actions.

Despite these legal victories, the massive police presence had a chilling effect on free speech.

Adam Welch, a Wobbly from San Jose, Calif., protested the WTO in Seattle and the IMF in Washington, D.C. The massive police presence in L.A. overwhelmed him.

"Being intimidated is worse than being attacked because you fear what's going to happen more than actual rubber bullets," he said. "There's a very concerted attempt by the police to disrupt the protesters or intimidate the protesters from getting out the message."

Police lined the sidewalks as demonstrators marched. And they blocked off intersections to prevent people from joining or leaving marches. When marchers stopped, police quickly surrounded them all sides creating confusion and tension. FW Welch said these police tactics often unnerved him.

"The police are inciting the crowds or are provoking the crowds into a situation where they can justify brutal force against the protesters."

Steve Toff, Secretary-Treasurer of the San Francisco GMB, was also in Seattle. Like FW Welch, he felt the enormous police presence in L.A.

"They didn't beat us or gas like Seattle police did, but it was almost more intimidating because there were so many cops everywhere."

FW Welch says protesters learned a lot from the Seattle protests, but so did the police.

"In addition to the protesters learning how to organize a better movement, the police are learning how to use more elaborate tactics to contain the protests," he said. Unlike Seattle, the many messages of the DNC protests were blunted by police tactics. "They've stifled the protests in L.A. The police contained the protests in a way that the protests don't have an effect or they have a reduced effect."

CAGING FREE SPEECH

The no-protest zone in Seattle was a source of confrontations between police and demonstrators who were angered by restrictions on their right to protest. In L.A., the ACLU's legal victories forced the City to allow demonstrations near the Staples Center. However, the limitations of that victory quickly became apparent.

The protest area was a fenced-in, unbearably hot parking lot which resembled a prison exercise yard. Rob, a Wobbly from Santa Cruz, Calif., joked about the protest area. "I think free speech should be limited to a one foot by one foot zone in each city and people should sign up on a list and take turns," he said.

For FW Toff, the area was a disaster waiting to happen. "The very first night they used the protest pit was the

first night they started beating people," he said "It's a little cage to contain us."

On Monday night radical rock-rappers Rage Against the Machine performed in the protest area. According to police, some concertgoers taunted police and climbed on the fence. Police also claim that individuals lit fires and broke up concrete to hurl at police behind the fence. The LAPD pulled the plug on the concert and ordered the crowd to disperse. Police told the audience, estimated at over 10,000, to leave the area within 15 minutes. Concrete barriers impeded the large crowd from exiting quickly.

According to eyewitnesses, police did not wait the full 15 minutes. Officers moved in swiftly and with force. Mounted police crushed people against the fence and officers fired "rubber" bullets and pepper spray

pellets into the crowd.

The National Lawyers Guild, religious groups and the Justice Department were on hand to observe the demonstrations. And the LAPD, under federal scrutiny, was supposed to be on their best behavior. Still, police had the upper hand and played by their own rules.

"The police are in a strange situation here," FW Shon said. "They're under federal investigation for police brutality, so they have to do everything by the book, and the book leaves plenty of room for police brutality."

On Wednesday morning he found himself trapped between the pages of that book.



Wobs in Los Angeles prepare to march with many others in protest of Big Brother politics.

PLAYING BY THEIR OWN RULES

As he walked to the Convergence Center, FW Shon was stopped by unidentified law enforcement officers. They were looking for someone who "incited a riot" at the concert. FW Shon was thrown in the back seat of an unmarked car and driven away. The car stopped on a side street. He was searched without his consent and questioned for two hours. He was never placed under arrest.

"They had me pegged me for somebody who was inciting a riot by climbing a fence," FW Shon said. "They tried to get me to admit to being this guy. They said things like, 'So where were you before you were on the fence? Where did you go after you were on the fence?'" He denied the accusations.

"They asked me about my politics. They said, 'So you're against the government?' I said, 'I'm not going to talk about this right now. Maybe when I'm free we can meet in a bar and talk.'"

Disturbed by the incident, FW Shon planned to leave L.A. that afternoon.

WHOSE STREETS? OUR STREETS!

On Wednesday activists gathered outside the Ramparts police station. The Ramparts Division, located in an impoverished downtown neighborhood, is under federal investigation for allegations of corruption and civil rights violations.

In an act of civil disobedience, activists negotiated with police to be arrested. Thirty-eight were arrested for blocking the entrance to the police station.

Later that afternoon an anti-police brutality march rallied outside the Ramparts headquarters. Anarchists burned a U.S. flag as

legions of police stood guarding the building. Demonstrators then marched to the Staples Center.

When the procession reached the barriers of the officially designated protest area, the demonstrators stopped. Remembering what happened Monday night, they refused to enter the area. They would hold the street.

Police declared the march unlawful and ordered the crowd to move into the protest area. Although many had entered the area, most demonstrators stood their ground.

FW Toff recounts what happened next: Holding a red and black syndicalist flag, FW Toff was in

the middle of the intersection when police rushed in and pushed the crowd back. Toff and his companion were shoved by baton-wielding police officers and nearly knocked to the ground.

The police surrounded the demonstrators in the street and cut off the main body of the march.

For over an hour a standoff ensued. Those in the protest area cleared a path for the march to enter. However, those marchers in the street argued with police to let those in the protest area out to join them.

During negotiations, a homeless activist dressed in white robes and draped in an American flag was shot in the chest with a pellet-filled beanbag. He lay in the street next to his flag.

Finally, police retreated and the two groups rejoined, joyously marched up the street and returned to Pershing Square, a downtown park. Police on foot, on bicycles and in patrol cars ringed the park in an ever-tightening cordon. After a few tense moments the police dispersed and a small triumph was won for free speech.

SOLIDARITY AT TWIN TOWERS JAIL

The final night of the DNC ended with a concert in the protest area. But demonstrators vowed not to forget the 200 people arrested that week. Hundreds made the long trek to the Twin Towers jail. As the march came up a hill, the police quickly moved into formation. A squad of heavily armed riot police arrived to cheers of officers blocking the streets. The demonstrators came up the hill, riotously thundered through an underpass and marched on towards the jail. Flanked by the storefronts of bail bondsmen, the imposing Twin Towers jail loomed at the end of a dark city street. The only light came from the window slits of the medieval-looking jail. An African-American man jumped onto a sound truck and told the tragic story of his brother's death inside the jail. Sheriff's deputies had choked the man's brother so ferociously that his eyes popped out of his head. The crowd then stood in silent solidarity with the man's brother, their jailed comrades and with prisoners everywhere. The blades of a police helicopter chopped the night air as its spotlight washed over them. Many demonstrators began to leave when a black-clad anarchist urged them not to go. "Our comrades are in that prison right there," he said. "If you want to go home and abandon them, that's your choice. We need to keep solidarity with our comrades. We're not going to let the police scare us away from our comrades." The crowd chanted, "Drop the charges now!" However, with only a hundred protesters left—surrounded by hundreds of police—it was tactically impossible to force release of the prisoners. The crowd eventually dispersed. The police violently descended upon the stragglers in the tunnels of the nearby subway station.

—Aaron Rothenburger

For more on the DNC protests, go to www.la.indymedia.org or www.d2kla.org

Sally Kaye Rosemont Dies at Age 87

Longtime friend of the Industrial Workers of the World, Sally Kaye Rosemont, Chicago jazz accordionist/pianist/vocalist and pioneer radio comedian, passed away on September 9 at the age of 87. The city's dailies paid warm tribute to Sally's many accomplishments as musician and entertainer. The *Sun Times* obituary even acknowledged that this woman who had been the Chicago Theater's "Boop-boop-a doo Girl" of 1929 was always politically a "progressive," and cited in particular her activity in the movement against the Vietnam War. Sally, as President of the Organized Women Musicians (a feminist group within the Musicians Union) initiated a direct action campaign to replace war toys with musical toys at department stores. "Our success really amazed us," she is quoted as saying.



At Sears and several other big stores they actually took down displays of toy missiles and bombers during the holidays and put plastic saxophones and toy pianos in their place." Unpretentious, modest, and yet forceful, such actions as these did much to help the antiwar movement grow. In Sally's view it showed "what a few determined women can do."

None of the newspaper obituaries mentioned that Sally was an ardent admirer of Emma Goldman and Lucy Parsons, or that she was a longtime friend of the Industrial Workers of the World. From the early 1960s on, with her husband, the late Henry P. Rosemont, she regularly took part in IWW contingents on antiwar and other demonstrations, and attended Chicago IWW Branch socials and picnics. Unlike most non-members on such occasions, Sally always brought some home-cooked dishes of her own, and helped afterward with the clean-up.

As a rank-and-file unionist as well as civil rights and antiwar activist, she walked many a picketline, and often led the picketers in song. Sally was also an active supporter of that well remembered Wobbly outpost of 1960s Chicago, Solidarity Bookshop. On her 80th birthday in 1992, Sally attended a poetry reading by your scribe, with at least five members of her family in tow.

For decades Sally lived a block and a half away from Forest Home Cemetery in Forest Park, where the Haymarket Martyrs and many Wobblies are buried. After the ceremonies on May Days and Days on which a Fellow Worker's ashes were scattered there, she would always invite the assembled Wobs and anarchists over for coffee, sandwiches, and good discussion. Well into the 1990s, working-class rebels from many lands found Sally's place a welcomed oasis.

Sally willed her remains to medical research. Eventually her ashes will also be scattered at Forest Home, where her husband Henry's were scattered some years ago.

Sally Rosemont was a fine musician and a great Rebel Girl. We'll all miss her. -F.R.

New Report Cites Numerous Violations of U.S. Workers' Rights

Workers' Rights Routinely Violated
August 31, 2000

ITHACA, N.Y. — Workers' basic rights are routinely violated in the United States, asserts a comprehensive study by a Cornell University expert on labor law.

The study shows U.S. labor law is poorly enforced, has loopholes and fails to meet human rights standards. The report is being released by Human Rights Watch on the eve of the annual Labor Day holiday in the United States.

U.S. labor law is feebly enforced, riddled with loopholes, and fails to meet the basic human rights standards that the United States demands of other countries, says Lance Compa, a senior lecturer at Cornell's School of Industrial and Labor Relations (ILR). Compa, who teaches courses in U.S. labor law and international labor rights, conducted the study for Human Rights Watch with support from that organization and the Ford Foundation.

Compa's 217-page report, "Unfair Advantage: Workers' Freedom of Association in the United States under International Human Rights Standards," was based on field research he directed in California, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Louisiana, Michigan, New York, North Carolina, Washington and other states. Compa and a small staff of researchers examined workers' rights to organize, to bargain collectively and to strike under international norms. It found widespread labor rights violations across regions, industries, jobs and job levels.

"The significance of the report," says Compa, "is it's the first time that workers' rights in the U.S. have been looked at through the lens of international human rights law. The report shows the United States comes up short in many areas. Unless we correct those shortcomings, it will be difficult for us to pressure other countries to upgrade their labor standards."

Compa points out that the U.S. government has called for "core labor standards,"

including workers' freedom of association, to be included in the rules of the World Trade Organization and the Free Trade Agreement of the Americas.

He identifies two key areas where the United States fails to meet core labor standards:

- 1) employers commonly fire workers who try to form unions; and
- 2) millions of workers are excluded from the laws protecting the right to organize.

The report shows that each year thousands of workers in the United States are fired from their jobs or suffer other reprisals for trying to organize unions, says Compa. And millions—from farmers to domestic workers to supervisors and managers—are excluded by law from organizing and bargaining, and the numbers are growing.

Some employers resist union organizing by dragging out legal proceedings for years, the report reveals. In fact, Compa and his researchers found U.S. labor laws have become so weak that companies often treat their minor penalties as a routine cost of doing business, not a deterrent against violations.

Despite those hazards, however, some workers have succeeded in organizing new unions in recent years, the report said, but only after surmounting major obstacles.

Compa is co-editor of the book *Human Rights, Labor Rights, and International Trade* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 1996). He was the first director of Labor Law and Economic Research at the trilateral Secretariat of the Commission for Labor Cooperation in Dallas, Texas, where he oversaw labor law and policy studies under the North American Agreement on Labor Cooperation (NAALC), NAFTA's labor-side agreement.

The report is available on the Human Rights Watch web site: www.hrw.com.

Reflecting on the Service Industry in Australia

This interview appeared in *Slave Magazine*, PO Box 10093, Greensboro, NC 27404 USA www.slavemagazine.com issue number 4. (Note: the original is much more in-depth. Please contact the above addresses for a copy).

The interviewee, Rowan Mitchell has spent time in East Timor as part of the east timorcommunity computer project team see www.solidarity.infoshop.org.au/etccp/

D: Why don't we just start out with Dishpig stuff, cause that's pretty easy. Could you just explain what the dishpigs are bascally?

R: Alright, Dishpigs formed about two years ago in 1997, when two of us who worked in a restaurant decided we were gonna attempt to organize the casual working staff in kitchens around Melbourne that the usual unions don't Organize, like smaller cafes. It is several things to different people. It's an agency, social club, and it's a union. It's made up of kitchen hands, dishwashers, we have a couple of waiters, and a couple of cooks as well. We all pay dues depending upon how much money you make per week. So if you make a hundred dollars a week, you pay five dollars a month, if you earn over two hundred dollars a week you pay ten dollars a month. The area in between is a negotiable area depending on how much more than a hundred dollars you make in a week. We also have a medical fund as well. If you want to take part in that medical fund you pay double your dues.

When me and the other guy decided we were gonna try this out, the first thing we decided was to look at all the ways we had organized over the last 10 years (just to go back, both of us had been involved in labor organizing for years) and we weren't gonna do any of it, because those tactics obviously hadn't worked. If they had we would control the means of production in Australia as a whole.

The second decision was to make it fun. Again, because we looked back at the last 10 or 15 years of political organizing and realized being a martyr to the cause was not

gonna attract people to any organization. If the only thing you can offer people is hard work, they're not gonna take part in it.

The first social function we had was a Dishpig picnic where we had ludicrous competitions like waiting competitions and mud wallowing and anything we could think of that was humorous and amusing. We also had music and food.

Initially there was only the two of us in one restaurant, but we slowly but surely recruited people in until eventually we became more than 50% of the restaurant.

The advent of the medical fund helped, because very often in Australia restaurant workers are working under the table and not entitled to government work cover. So if you injure yourself at work, you don't get paid. If you injure yourself under the medical fund and you have steady shifts, then you'll get paid up to 80% of your pay for up to four weeks. We also make it explicitly clear to everyone who joins, that we can only pay it until we run out of money.

The agency side of it was decided, because we thought, *how are we gonna organize and not let the management know we are organizing?* So we promoted ourselves as an agency.

The people who run the restaurant we work for (being yuppies) are really supportive of the idea of us starting our own business, so they let us put our business cards up on the counter and refer us to other restaurants. This has been very successful in getting ourselves into other restaurants. We now have 20 members, 8 of which work in the restaurant I'm in, and the others spaced out in restaurants around Melbourne. That's the agency aspect, and it's been really successful in helping us broaden our base without seeming threatening to management.

The union aspect is very much the core of Dishpigs. The people who are the movers and shakers in Dishpigs are the ones who want to see it become a union.

On the basis of that, we have a few basic agreements in Dishpigs. Solidarity is guaranteed and expected from anybody who joins. That means if someone loses their job and asks for industrial action, for example to walk off our jobs in support, we will do that! You never scab on another worker and you never take another worker's job that has been fired. Another aspect is we constantly trade shifts. If someone needs time off to do something we'll organize amongst ourselves to make sure that person gets time off. We will not accept or refer workers for jobs below minimum wage.

That's the basic agreements that are required to become one of the Dishpigs. You are also expected to pay your dues on time. If you go to the social functions you usually get your dues back. If you go to the pub, you'll get a drink card worth 10 dollars. Not everyone goes to the social functions, so we use the left over money to produce our newspaper called Dishrag.

D: So basically Dishpigs is essentially a labor union from the bottom up. You have no international funding. It is workers on the job organizing directly and controlling what happens to them.

R: Yeah, basically that's why I say it's a different thing to different people. For instance, in our restaurant they got wind about what was going on and brought in some dishwashers without going through us. That was to try and break down solidarity growing on the shop floor. We were able to sign up both those dishwashers within two weeks. One joined because he liked to go out to the pub and drink beer. So he joined purely for the social club. The other joined because he thought the medical aspect was gonna be beneficial to him. But Dishpigs is always gonna be what the members want it to be; it's direction is decided by the people at the meetings.

WHEN WILL WE EVER LEARN?



by KYLE KELLAHSHEESKEE

CAW Accused of "Raiding"

continued from page 1

constitute a membership "raid" in any meaningful sense of that word," writes Hargrove in a letter to CAW activists. "The CAW did not try to recruit these members. In fact, for several years we resisted approaches by dissident SEIU leaders to join our union, encouraging them to try to find a resolve to their long-standing grievances internally." After years of attempting to speak to the leadership of their international union, Canadian members learned of constitutional changes that parts of the U.S.-based leadership were attempting to enact which would have further undermined their autonomy.

The real question seems to be, if workers are dissatisfied with their Union's performance, what is their recourse?

"So the SEIU members, wanting not only a Canadian union, but also a militant union that would lead a real fight against the concessions and wage freezes they have endured for years, voted to join the CAW. This democratic expression has been made in several ways; including a unanimous vote in February by over 800 elected rank-and-file leaders from the eight locals involved; a near-unanimous vote by over 11,000 members in workplace ballots in March; and ongoing support for the CAW in government-sponsored workplace certification votes averaging over 95 percent."

The debate over this situation continues. Many issues are at hand; one, will the CLC recognize the democratic rights of the SEIU locals to determine their own future as union members and activists; two, will the CAW be invited back to the ranks of the CLC; three, do they want to be CLC affiliated; and four, what will this do to the, sometimes, imaginary united front that unions portray, regardless of country, when oftentimes they have decidedly different ways of approaching democracy and members' rights to a certain level of autonomy within the organization.

"The goal of a unified labour movement certainly remains," states a CAW paper, "but all sides also agree that there cannot be unity at any cost. And, given where we find ourselves today, the question of unity is really the last question to be answered, not the first: we can't simply put the genie back in the bottle. It has become increasingly apparent that real unity will take some serious and fundamental changes in how we operate as a labour movement, including finding some agreement on how we address issues of democracy and how we forge a labour movement that is united both in words and in action."

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General Assembly 2000 Comes to Louisville, KY

Wobblies from all over the United States, and many parts of Canada, converged in Louisville, KY, for General Assembly. Due to extremely unfortunate circumstances, GST Alexis Buss could not be in attendance. The car carrying FW's Alexis Buss, John Bekken, Jim Crutchfield and Bruce Baechler was in an accident in Southern Ohio en route to Louisville. FW Baechler died in the accident. The loss of this Fellow Worker remained in the minds of those who were in attendance throughout the proceedings.

The absence of any charges to be dealt with, as well as the lack of the GST and FW Baechler to answer questions regarding the state of the union and GHQ, enabled some portions of the Assembly to move by quickly since no questions could be asked. When FW Damron announced that there were no charges to hear at the Assembly, the floor erupted in applause.

On Friday, September 1st, the plenary session was called to order with FW Bill Bradley acting as temporary chair. Committees were elected and, despite a minor disagreement dealing with the use of Robert's Rules of order, things proceeded rather smoothly. The evening was spent getting together with old Wobbly friends, and meeting new ones, at a get together at FW's Terry and Mona Tapp's home. Sharing stories from each others' work experiences, catching up on news from ongoing campaigns and singing the songs of our history were the order of the evening.

The next day we started business. We elected chairpersons, an unusual situation because the Assembly elected two FW's to chair, FW Heather Hall and FW Breeze Luetke-Stahlman. This was the first time in recent memory that the Assembly elected women to chair.

After preliminary business, we heard reports. The report from GST Alexis Buss was read by FW Mark Damron. It explained both the physical and economic situation at the office in Philadelphia. The office, over the past year, has had many hours of work put into it to make it what it is today. The office is functioning much more smoothly than it had been in its first months after the move. Financially the Union is doing better than it has in years, although the GST is still not being paid for her work. The Assembly agreed that this is something that must be dealt with swiftly.

In the afternoon, Branches gave their reports. Although all Branches reported on interesting developments in their local areas, the report from Jeff Boat worker FW Terry Tapp was extremely interesting. Jeff Boat workers have been involved in many concessions on the job regarding safety. Over a year ago, workers began agitating on the job and refused to work during electrical storms. Doing welding on barges on the water during thunderstorms is simply dangerous, and the workers refused to do it. There were walkouts and sit-downs which the company tried to fight by stripping breaks from the workers. The workers stood up to

these as well. The workers are responsible for making their working conditions more bearable, and some rather heroic incidents have taken place, and the situation has created a fertile ground for Wobbly principles to flourish. FW Tapp explained to the Assembly that the old Teamsters Local which is in the shop has been screwing the workers for years and they are sick of it. Jeff Boat is part of the largest Teamsters Local in the country, and many workers there want a Wobbly presence. He has been asking Wobs for the past year to come down to Louisville and work.

The Assembly heard a report from a member of the Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC), requesting an IWW endorse-

ment of Assembly) is running unopposed; Industrial Worker editor, which has two candidates running for a two year term, FW John Bekken and The Ohio River Valley Collective represented by FW Terry Tapp.

Nominated for the GEB, and please note that this includes those FW's who may remove their names from the running, were FW's Vicki Valis, Breeze Luetke-Stahlman, Joshua Freeze, Mark Damron, Kim Toombs, Jeff Brite, Carl Aniel, Sam Adams, John Eaton, Robin Hood, Deke Nihilson, Ken Novack, Ellen Chase, Ringo (Lawrence, KS GMB) and Rowan (Australian ROC).

Nominated for the International Solidarity Committee were FW's Wal Larkin (Australian ROC), Rowan (AusROC) and Bill Bartlet (Tasmania).

Conflict Mediation Committee nominees were FW's Bill Bradley, Nick Patti, Heather Hall, Robin Hood, Mona Tapp and Betsy Law.

Finally sites for GA2001 were: Philadelphia, PA; Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN; Melbourne, Australia; Tucson, AZ; Portland, OR; Boston, MA; and Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The date for GA2001 will



Wobblies gather outside of the main meeting space for GA 2000 in Louisville, KY. Despite unfortunate circumstances, General Assembly proceeded smoothly.

ment of the Mt. Olive Pickle Boycott. An inspired presentation was given. Over 2000 workers of Mt. Olive, North Carolina have taken out cards already in an attempt to improve their working conditions, which are criminal at best. Those in attendance were given examples of these workers' conditions by the representative ranging from disease-ridden housing and filthy living conditions, to wages which keep the institution of slavery alive. The Assembly voted to endorse the Mt. Olive Pickle Boycott, with many members agreeing to take part in actions that FLOC has been planning at major grocery store chains in the region.

The Assembly also unanimously voted to endorse a Boycott of Colgate/Palmolive products initiated by the Missouri Prison Labor Union (MPLU). The action is being taken [by the MPLU] in response to Colgate Palmolive's failure to provide a letter of endorsement in support of the MPLU and/or aims and objectives for three points which are summarized as follows: 1) The establishment of minimum wage pay for all Missouri prisoners; 2) Abolishing all forced labor and abuse perpetrated by the Missouri Department of Corrections in particular, and the State Government in general; and 3) Colgate Palmolive's active involvement in persuading the State of Missouri Legislature to impose a Bill or Moratorium on all executions of prisoners in the state of Missouri.

Candidates for all offices for the upcoming year were made. These included the GST, for which FW Alexis Buss (at the

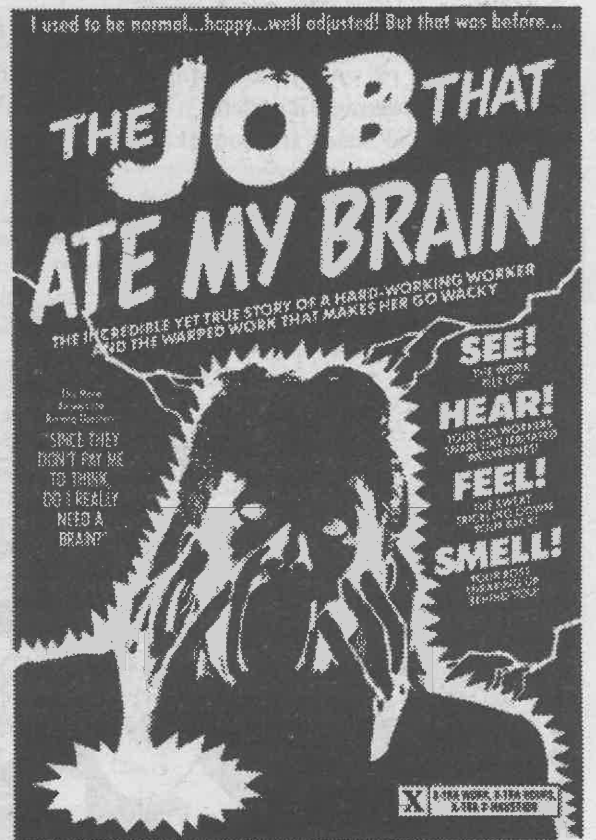
time of Assembly) is running unopposed; Industrial Worker editor, which has two candidates running for a two year term, FW John Bekken and The Ohio River Valley Collective represented by FW Terry Tapp.

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Finally sites for GA2001 were: Philadelphia, PA; Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN; Melbourne, Australia; Tucson, AZ; Portland, OR; Boston, MA; and Toronto, Ontario, Canada. The date for GA2001 will be different next year because of concerns that Labor Day weekend is a difficult, and extremely inconvenient, time for workers in the Service Industry to attend. The new date will be August 3-6, 2001.



Report on Workers' Rights Worldwide Released Murder, Harrassment & Unsafe Conditions

continued from front cover
workers were unfairly dismissed or refused reinstatement, because they were active members of a trade union. At least 140 strikes or demonstrations were repressed by governments; while 80 of the 113 countries mentioned in the survey restrict the right to strike altogether.

According to the report at least 140 trade unionists were assassinated, disappeared, or committed suicide after they were threatened. It says that nearly 3000 people were arrested, more than 1,500 were injured, beaten or tortured and at least 5,800 were harassed because of their legitimate trade union activities. Another 700 trade unionists received death threats.

What follows is only a sampling of this year's casualties in the worldwide fight for labor rights.

The Americas

The Latin American continent remains the most dangerous place in the world for trade unionists. 90 trade unionists lost their lives, twice as many as any other continent.

Workers' rights are routinely ignored in the export processing zones (in particular in Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala, Mexico and Honduras) and strikes are severely repressed: 726 trade unionists were injured or beaten for trying to enforce their rights in 1999 alone. Those defending the workers' cause are constantly harassed by the authorities and employers.

In Colombia, 76 trade unionists were assassinated or reported missing. These included 23 trade union leaders, 52 grass roots union activists, and a union bodyguard. There were 676 death threats, 13 attempted assassinations, 22 kidnaps, 28 forced exiles. The authorities also used unnecessary force to end strikes, 149 people were injured and 418 arrested.

In Argentina, mass demonstrations in several provinces to demand the payment of wages were brutally repressed by the police, leaving five dead and 25 injured.

The situation for trade unionists in Guatemala remains very dangerous. Three of them were assassinated and there were at least 20 death threats against trade union leaders. Violence was particularly bad against workers in the banana plantations, where transitional corporations tried to destroy the trade unions.

In Costa Rica, banana workers trying to form unions risk the sack, and are put on black lists. The suppression of labor unions enables employers to ignore safety regulations, sometimes with dramatic results. The use of, otherwise forbidden, pesticides has led to the death of numerous workers. Cases of sterility and of women delivering deformed babies were also reported.

In the United States, freedom of asso-

ciation and the right to strike are severely restricted. At least one in 10 union supporters campaigning to form a union is illegally fired. The instances of extreme exploitation have increased in particular of foreign workers recruited through private employment agencies. About 40% of public service employees are refused the right to strike and to bargain collectively. Workers regularly face harassment.

Africa

Nearly four out of five arrests worldwide took place in Africa. 80% of the world total of prison sentences for trade union activities were in Africa. The legislation of 23 of the 31 African countries covered contains restrictive measures on the right to strike. Trade unionists are frequently harassed in Africa. The survey lists 834 cases, in nearly two thirds of African countries, a higher average than any other continent.

An overriding feature in Africa is government interference in trade unions internal affairs. In Libya, Sudan, and in Equatorial Guinea the ban on independent trade unions remained.

In Ethiopia, two leaders of the teachers' union ETA died in prison because of poor conditions, while another received a 15-year prison sentence, as part of continual harassment of the ETA.

In Morocco, 23 trade unionists were sent to prison after striking over labor law violations, 21 of whom had been tortured by police in detention.

In Swaziland, trade unions continued to be repressed, and the SFTU and its leaders were regularly harassed. The police detained the entire national executive committee of the Swazi Teachers Union, accusing them of "un-Swazi" behaviour because they had carried a coffin during a march.

Zimbabwe was another country where respect for trade union rights deteriorated dramatically, and three leaders of the ZCTU were attacked following a strike. Strikes were declared illegal, and those taking part severely harassed.

Asia and the Pacific

At least 37 trade unionists lost their lives during strikes and many others were wounded in 1999. All the countries in the survey have legislation limiting the fundamental right to organize. In some countries such as Bangladesh and Pakistan workers have no trade union rights at all in the export processing zones. Strikes and demonstrations are fiercely repressed. 19 of the 25 countries in the region have anti-strike legislation. In 40% of countries, trade unionists were beaten or injured as a result of their trade union activities. The authorities frequently intervened in trade union affairs, as according to the survey, nearly half of all

cases of interference took place in Asia.

China represses any attempt to form independent trade unions. Many trade unionists remained behind bars or were sent to prison without trial. At least 164 independent labor activists were sent to "rehabilitation through labor" camps. Hundreds of Chinese workers were injured during clashes with the police as they were protesting against the closures of factories, which have resulted in millions of people losing their jobs.

In Indonesia, although the trade union situation has improved, the police and military still brutally intervene in most strikes.

In South Korea, 230 people were arrested, more than 150 were injured and over 650 were harassed in anti-union repression.

Australian trade unionism suffers from continual attacks at national and state level through the introduction of repressive legislation to deprive unions of their rights.

There was no improvement in Pakistan's poor trade union rights record, and in 1999 the government added to the already severe restrictions. A wide range of workers cannot belong to unions, and in the country's export processing zones workers cannot form unions, bargain or go on strike.

In Turkey the police have a record of continually repressing demonstrations.

Middle East

Trade unions are virtually non-existent in the Middle East, according to the ICFTU's trade union rights' survey. In all the cases examined by the ICFTU, legal barriers prevent workers from organizing or from holding strikes. In Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, foreign workers, who make up at least two thirds of the labor force have virtually no rights and are not covered by any of the existing collective agreements. The situation is slightly better in Kuwait, where workers who have been in the country for five years are allowed to join unions.

In Israel, the government used the law to ban strikes in the public sector, and Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza Strip who work in Israel cannot join Israeli trade unions nor can they organize their own unions in Israel.

Europe

Seven people in Europe lost their lives owing to their trade union activities, while another two committed suicide to draw the authorities' attention to the conditions they faced. In one quarter of the countries examined trade unionists were injured or beaten. In nearly half of Eastern Europe, the government interfered in the trade unions' internal affairs. This interference amounted to about one third of the world total.

In Belarus, President Lukashenko has

established total state control over trade unions, making it impossible to start independent trade unions, or for unions to carry out legitimate activities. Trade unionists have been arrested for taking part in demonstrations or threatened with the sack if they do not leave the union.

In Russia, four trade unionists were assassinated. Throughout the year the authorities refused to listen to the strikers' demands, often over the non-payment of wages.

In Malta, the entire leadership of the General Workers Union as well as striking workers were charged with criminal offences, during the six-month industrial dispute, and 80 trade unionists were injured and 41 arrested.

Restrictions on trade union rights persisted in Western Europe. In the United Kingdom companies used anti-union legislation still on the statute books to interfere in union affairs. 300 strikers were fired during a dispute with Lufthansa sky chefs, the world's largest catering company.

Belgium is mentioned for court decisions which undermine the right to strike, and Germany and Switzerland ban the right to strike for certain categories of civil servant.

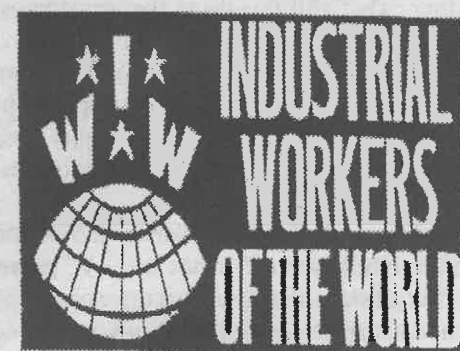
This is definitely not the time to back down. Fellow workers all around the world need to continue to build the ties and strength to overcome these atrocities. An injury to one is an injury to all.

Sadly, these statistics come as no surprise.

For more information, you can contact the ICFTU Press Department at +32 2224 0202 or +32 476 62 10 18.

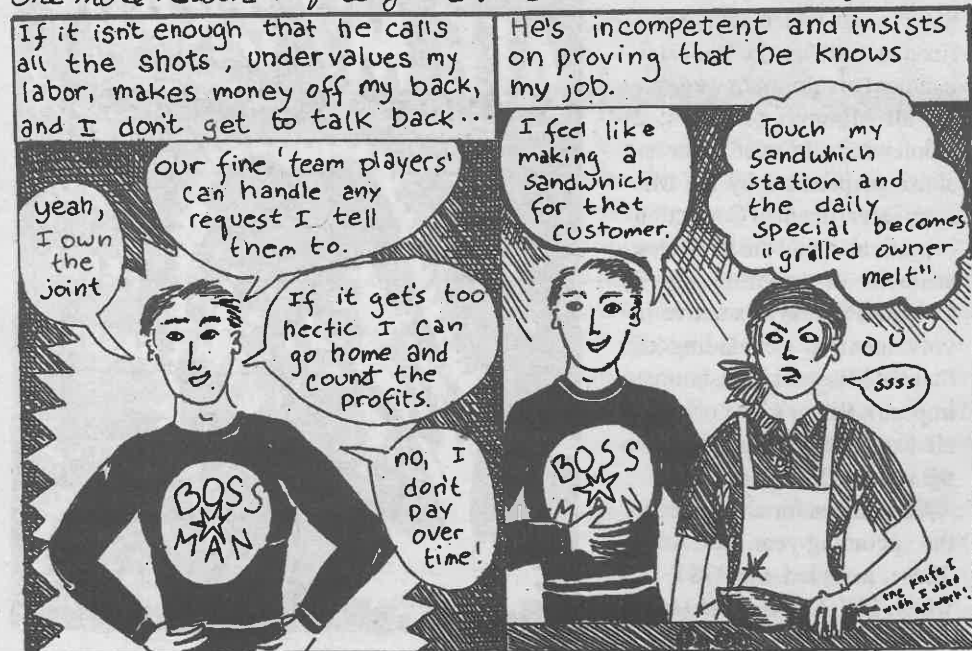
FW Robin Hood

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Wildcat, says 'Direct Action!' above graphic. Black on white. (M, L, XL) \$12 each, SF GMB, PO Box 40485, San Francisco CA 94140

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British Isles 36th Edition Int'l Songbook £4, post-paid. A selection of literature is available from: IWW, 75 Humberstone Gate, Leicester LE1 1WB

BOOKS FOR REBEL WORKERS

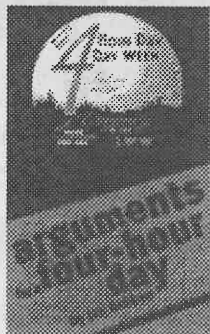
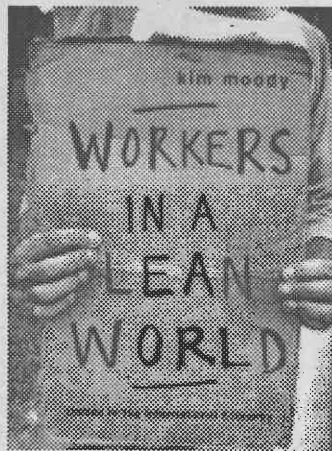


New This Month

Workers in a Lean World: Unions in the International

Economy by Kim Moody **\$20.00**

This excellent book tackles the issue of corporate globalization. It includes a dissection of the methods that multinationals use to downsize and compel workers to accept less pay for more work. Moody emphasizes the need for the international coordination of unions and provides inspiring examples of cross-border organizing from North America, Latin America, Europe and Asia. In this age of open borders for capital and closed borders for workers, writings like this are critical to our understanding of how we can begin to take back our world.



Arguments for a 4-hour Day

by Jon Bekken
16 pp. **\$2.50**

The IWW first began demanding the four-hour day in the early 1930s, after decades of fighting for first the eight- and then the six-hour day. At the time, the six-hour day seemed destined to become the norm - the U.S. Senate even passed legislation to adopt it. But with U.S. entry into WWII, the labor movement's fight for shorter hours was almost totally abandoned. Now workers put in longer hours on the job than we did 70 years ago. This pamphlet reviews labor statistics which show the four-hour day is both practical and necessary.

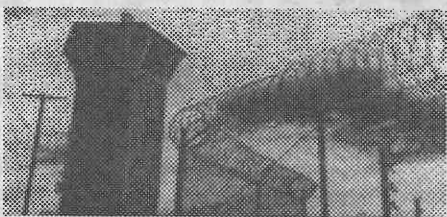
Best of Temp Slave!

edited by Jeff Kelly
162 pp. **\$11.00**

Temp Slave! is a legendary zine among contingent workers of all kinds. This book is a diverse compilation of writings by workers who live the drudgery, danger and insecurity that has come to define the word "temp." Dishwashers, construction workers, office workers, a temp Santa, and others discuss their on-the-job experiences candidly, with humor and serious reflections on the nature of day-to-day labor. The chapter "Work!" gives practical suggestions on how to survive laboring as a temp. Even with the recent U.S. ruling that temporary workers are eligible to join workplace unions, the practical advice from these seasoned temps is invaluable and applicable wherever one finds a temporary master.



LISTEN UP! Spoken Word Compact Disks



The Prison-Industrial Complex

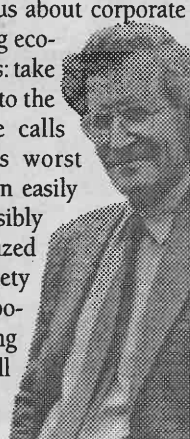
Angela Davis 54 minutes **\$15.00**

Former political prisoner Angela Davis discusses how anti-drug and -immigrant policies are tied to transnational corporations. She argues that a delusional fear of crime and the fear of young people of color are being manipulated to create one of the fastest-growing and most profitable industries - the prison-industrial complex. Davis also traces her own path to activism and discusses how "ordinary people" must step forward and correct the injustice system.

Free Market Fantasies: Capitalism in the Real World

Noam Chomsky 56 minutes **\$15.00**

Tired of the endless talk of the "free market" and its virtues? So are we! And so is Noam Chomsky, who talks to us about corporate welfare and the prevailing economic dictum of our times: take from the needy, and give to the greedy. Spin magazine calls Chomsky "a capitalist's worst nightmare." Here we can easily see why - he argues sensibly for the need for an organized working class to run society for human need, not corporate greed. Full of damning facts and statistics that will wake you up in a cold sweat for weeks.



IWW Literature

Little Red Songbook 36th Edition

103 labor songs to fan the flames of discontent from around the world, with music. Includes songs by Joe Hill, Billy Bragg, Anne Feeney, Utah Phillips, and more. **\$10.00**

One Big Union An introduction to the structure, methods and goals of the Industrial Workers of the World. **\$2.00**

A New Union Vision by Arthur J. Miller A discussion of the present-day need for democratic, revolutionary unions. **\$2.00**

Labor History

The Fragile Bridge: Paterson Silk Strike, 1913

by Steve Golin
A discussion of the challenges faced in the relationship between workers and the radical bohemians of Greenwich Village. A good discussion of the "self-activity" of the workers involved in the strike. **\$17.00**

The Great Bisbee Deportation by Rob E. Hanson Wobblies so worried the authorities of Bisbee, Arizona, that the state ran them out of town. This comprehensive account brings the events of the day alive. **\$2.00**

Solidarity Forever by Stewart Bird, Dan Georgakis, and Deborah Shaffer Oral histories of IWW members. **\$10.00**

The Legacy of the Bunker Hill Mine by Arthur J. Miller Bunker Hill Mine's turbulent 100-year history is examined in this first-hand account of nightmarish working conditions, environmental devastation, and theft of indigenous lands. **\$2.00**

Strike! by Jeremy Brecher A classic text - a history of American workers' struggle from a working-class viewpoint, arguing that class upsurges are based in every-day life and rank and file initiative. **\$22.00**

Rebel Voices: An IWW Anthology Compiled and edited by Joyce L. Kornbluh Culled from Wobbly periodicals from the movement's founding in 1905 to the present, Rebel Voices presents pamphlets, stories, songs, poems, courtroom testimony, skits, cartoons and illustrations that bring the story of the "minutemen of industrial unionism" to life in native accents. - Detroit Labor News **\$24.00**

Juice Is Stranger Than Friction: Selected Writings of T-Bone Slim.

T-Bone Slim was one of the IWW's best-loved columnists. Working-stiff, hobo, and revolutionist, T-Bone created a language all his own to lambast the plutocrats, scissorbills and faddists of his day. This collection includes columns, aphorisms & excerpts from organizing pamphlets. Funny, dazzling, biting and lyrical, T-Bone Slim is as readable today as ever. **\$12.00**

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Union Democracy

Democracy Is Power: Rebuilding Unions from the Bottom Up by Mike Parker & Martha Gruelle. This book offers practical ideas of how the rank and file can run unions. Major discussion of Teamsters for a Democratic Union experiences in this area. **254pp \$17**

On Strike at Hormel: The Struggle for a Democratic Labor Movement by Hardy Green Tells the stirring story of the Hormel meatpackers' fight in the 1980s. Local P-9 not only had to take on the bosses but also the bureaucracy of the UFCW. **268pp \$15**

Democratic Rights for Union Members: A Guide to Internal Union Democracy by H. W. Benson. Useful guide (although it could use more discussion of direct action ideas) to the legal rights of union dissidents who are jerked around by local or international bureaucrats. **244pp. \$15**

Organizing Help

The Couriers are Revolting!

by Des Patchrider
A lively and candid pamphlet on how the Dispatch Industry Workers Union organized English bike messengers from 1989 to 1992. Eventually this effort petered out but their innovative style of organizing provides an inspiration to all of us. **26pp \$3.50**



A Troublemaker's Handbook: How to Fight Back Where You Work and Win! by Dan La Botz. An encyclopedic work on worker initiative and organizing on the job. Goes beyond business unionism as the latter cannot deal with today's climate of intensified corporate aggression. Shows that sitdown strikes still aren't dead and immigrant workers can be organized. **262pp \$17**

No Justice, No Piece!: A Working Girl's Guide to Organizing in the Sex Industry by the hell-raisin' hussies who organized the Exotic Dancers at San Francisco's Lusty Lady Theater. Tales of the working conditions at the peep show which inspired a successful SEIU drive, direct action strategies for dealing with wrongful firings, and easy-to-read explanations of the legal process. **\$5.95**

Cool Stuff

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To Join mail this form with a check or money order for initiation and first month's dues to IWW, PO Box 13476, Philadelphia, PA 19101, USA, or contact your local delegate. **Dues:** Monthly income under \$1,000: \$6 per month; income \$1,000-\$2,000: \$12 per month; over \$2,000: \$18 per month. Initiation Fee is the same as one month's dues. A low-income worker can join for as little as \$12.00.



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For All Workers in All Industries

Workers' Rights Worldwide in Jeopardy

State Sanctioned Murders, Harassment, and More

On September 13, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions released its annual Trade Union Rights Survey. The shocking survey details violations of trade union rights in 113 countries during the period from January 1, 1999 to December 31, 1999. The report documents violations, by country and region, mostly concentrated in export processing zones engaged in production of goods for sale in the United States and throughout the West.

Abuses compiled in the survey range from murder to subtle legislative arrangements that sell out workers. Some 12,000

continued on page 10

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CAW Accused of "Raiding" SEIU Locals
Does the CLC know what's best for the workers?

Dishpigs in Australia
an interview excerpt

Louisville, KY hosts General Assembly 2000
FW's in accident en route

Plus: The Left Side Wobbling the Works
Wilco! & Nancy Ludd



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Fellow Workers Beware!
What we're told are "options" are the talking heads of capitalism!

The workers are meeting the beast in the streets: Protesters face-off with the Republicrats in Los Angeles & Philadelphia.

Fellow Workers

Although the police force is made up of workers, once you begin to examine their historical loyalties, it becomes immediately apparent who they take orders from. The rich. Make sure your children know their class history as well.

