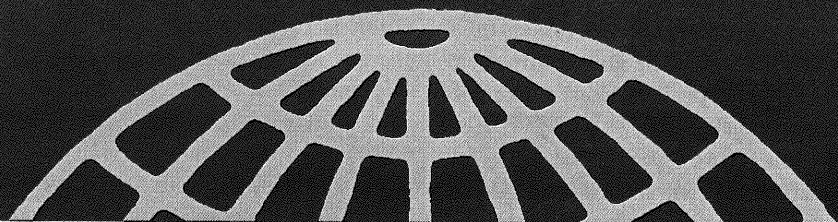


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Hubert Harrison and IWW-type unionism

BY JEFFREY B. PERRY

Hubert Harrison (1883-1927) was a brilliant writer, orator, educator, critic, and radical political activist and he is one of the most important, yet neglected figures of early twentieth-century America. The historian Joel A. Rogers, in *World's Great Men of Color*, described him as "the foremost Afro-American intellect of his time" and the leader with the sanest program. A. Philip Randolph referred to him as "the father of Harlem Radicalism."

As a political activist Harrison emphasized the need for working-class people to develop class consciousness; for Black people to develop race consciousness, self-reliance, and self-respect; and for all those he reached to develop modern, scientific, critical, and independent thought as a means toward liberation. He opposed white supremacy, capitalism, and imperialism and maintained that white supremacy was central to capitalist rule in the United States, that racism and racist practices were not in white workers' class interests, and that "Negroes" must not wait on white Americans while struggling to shape their future.

Harrison played significant roles in the development of the largest class-radical movement (socialism) and the largest race-radical movement (the "New Negro"/Garvey movement) in United States history until that time. He served as the foremost Black organizer, agitator, and theoretician in the Socialist Party of New York; as the founder and leading figure of the militant, World War I-era "New Negro" movement; and as the editor of the *Negro World* and principal radical influence on the Garvey movement during its radical high point in 1920. His views on race and class profoundly influenced a generation of "New Negroes" including socialists like Randolph and Chandler Owen, future communists like Cyril Briggs and Richard B. Moore, and the race-activist Marcus Garvey.

Harrison's formative years prepared him for his later work. His first seventeen years were spent on the Caribbean island of St. Croix whose rich history of direct action, mass struggle, includes an 1848 slave-led emancipation victory, an 1878 week-long, island-wide, women-led, labor protest known as "The Great Fireburn," and a 1916 general strike (led by his schoolmate and friend, D. Hamilton Jackson). After moving to New York in 1900 Harrison was confronted with a system of racial oppression - marked by lynching, formal segregation, severe racial proscriptions, and viru-

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\$15 billion for bosses; airline workers laid-off

BY JOSHUA FREEZE

The attack of Sept. 11 will spread its effects far and wide, but no group of workers are seeing their job change to the degree of those in the aviation industry. Roughly 140,000 will be laid off. Those who are fortunate enough to still have jobs after the new year are seeing increased pressure from the airlines to accept concessions in wages, benefits and work rules. Finally, the most visible change to the public is the increased security, which many airline workers welcome, but see as inadequate, or worse ineffective, and which adds to airline workers' unpaid time at work.

The major U.S. airlines have announced layoffs in the tens of thousands over the next couple months. US Airways, the smallest of the major airlines, is sending pink slips to 11,000 workers, while American and United, the two largest, are each getting rid of 20,000 employees. This is in spite of \$15 billion in cash and loan guarantees from the U.S. government. If the airlines reduce trips and send their workforce home, and at the same time receive billions in free cash, then it can only be going to shareholders.

It is certainly not the first time the opponents of socialism for the poor have demonstrated their fervent support for socializing the losses of the rich, but it is the largest in two decades. Not since the bailout of

Chrysler in the early 1980s has there been this visible a wholesale transfer of wealth from taxpayers to business, and like the Chrysler bailout, in which the government required the United Auto Workers to accept major concessions, leading to a long wave of concessionary bargaining by U.S. unions, this one contains no requirement that the money be used to maintain good jobs, wages, benefits and conditions.

Union members accepted concessions with the faith that companies would use the money to save jobs, but that trust was violated. Chrysler, the other automakers (which also got concessions from the UAW), steel, meatpacking, trucking and many other industries received give-backs from unionists but slashed union jobs. Jane Slaughter demonstrates in *Concessions and How to Beat Them* that concessions do not save jobs. Slaughter also writes prophetically after the wave of concessionary union bargaining in the 1980s, "The precedent has been set: the minute there is the slightest downturn in the economy or when any individual employer begins to get into trouble, that will be the signal for a renewed assault on workers' pocketbooks, this time including medical and other benefits." This is precisely what the airlines are now doing.

Capitalism has changed tactics, but it has not changed its fundamental goal of extract-

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**8,500 arrested, 3,000 injured,
100,000+ harassed, nearly 20,000 fired...**

209 union workers murdered across globe

BY CURTIS VAUGHAN

The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions released its Annual Survey of Violations of Trade Union Rights in October. Canvassing 140 nations for the year 2000, the survey is quite revealing. But disturbing would be the more appropriate word, for the undeniable conclusion is that unionists and their organizations have experienced dramatically higher levels of repression.

In their press release the ICFTU notes that 209 trade unionists were assassinated or "disappeared" last year: a figure that was up 50 percent from 1999. In addition, there were about "8,500 arrested, 3,000 more injured over 100,000 harassed and nearly 20,000 dismissed because of their trade union activities." The survey is thorough in cataloguing abuse after abuse in nation after nation.

The survey is an excellent reference source, divided into sections by continents with particulars on the countries thereof in alphabetical order.

Statistics, however, should never be isolated from the milieu from which they arise. As an example, the survey points out that the rise in the murder of trade unionists is offset primarily by a single country - Columbia, where twice as many unionists (153) were killed as in the previous year. Although most of the repression has occurred in areas where there is fighting, the claim by the Columbian government that the repression is not a result of government policy or lack thereof is discredited. Fault may be found, in particular, in the policies of Plan Columbia, whose goal is the maintenance of an anti-

democratic and corrupt government under the guise of the "War on Drugs." Plan Columbia has been responsible for authoritarian policies throughout the country, a policy which is more repressive the more rural the area. This is not to forget the direct complicity on the part of U.S. companies in the repression of union activists.

The ICFTU acknowledges that globalization is in part responsible for the situation faced by unions today.

As the defenders of the globalization of capital continue to proclaim that the further integration of economies will improve the lives of the peoples of developing and advanced countries alike, this report is even more revealing. The rights of unions and workers are under full-scale attack. From legislation that ban union activities outright to various forms of harassment (even in violation of the law), unionism has been made a dangerous activity.

Also, particularly disturbing to the authors of the survey were the conditions in Guatemala, Venezuela, Costa Rica, China, South Korea, Swaziland, Zimbabwe, Belarus and the Gulf States. Legislation in the Gulf States and countries like Bhutan, Burma and Equatorial Guinea either directly prohibit union activities altogether or simply makes no provisions for them. Other countries like Cuba, Vietnam, Laos, Syria and Iraq prohibit independent union activity, leaving government-dominated trade unions to represent workers' interests.

The U.S. was also castigated in the survey. The primary concern lays in the right to

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NJ Wobs take the streets against war

BY X353571, X353511 & X353572
 In response to the tragic events of Sept. 11, Central New Jersey IWW passed a resolution condemning the Bush administration's newest war for oil. We also affirmed our support of the victims and their families by organizing relief work.

As a practical extension of this resolution, we joined with other community and progressive organizations to form the Anti-War Coalition. The Coalition is made up of 18 groups from the local New Brunswick and Rutgers University communities.

One of our first events was to organize a march and rally against the war and in support of finding a non-militaristic solution to the crisis. On Sept. 26, 80 people assembled at Cooper Green on the Rutgers Douglass campus where people spoke out against the Sept. 11th attacks, the U.S. government's planned military response, and the backlash of racism brought about by the attacks. Following the speeches, the crowd took to the streets for a march across New Brunswick to the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial on the College Avenue campus.

The New Brunswick Police Department attempted to stop the march, as we were marching without a permit and shutting down a major New Brunswick thoroughfare during evening rush hour. Marchers continued around the police cars positioned to stop us, as cries of "Whose streets? Our streets!" reverberated through the streets. Other chants heard that night included "1, 2, 3, 4 - We Don't Want Your Racist War!" and "Fight War, Not Wars!"

One of the organizers, acting as spokesperson for the march, was stopped and detained by police. He was told to expect charges in the mail (once they figured out what bogus charges they wanted to give him). Once on the other side of New

Brunswick, the speeches continued.

On October 8, the Anti-War Coalition held an emergency rally following the initiation of attacks on Afghanistan by the United States and Britain. IWW members were out flying until 2 a.m. in preparation. Other organizations covered the campus, while we thoroughly covered the residential and downtown areas of New Brunswick. Eighty to 100 people attended the rally, which was highlighted by speeches from victims of the WTC attack and their families.

Along with other members of the Anti-War Coalition (NJ), Central Jersey IWW took part in the national demonstrations against the impending war in Washington, D.C., on September 29. We took part in the militant Anti-Capitalist Convergence march, as opposed to the liberal International Action Center march to Capital Hill.

As the march progressed, police pepper sprayed and attacked several members of the march, including a fellow worker from the midwest IWW. She reported being hit on the head several times by a police baton.

The march ended up at the World Bank/IMF building, where the police corralled the 1,500-strong crowd in a park the size of two city blocks ("to calm us down"). While some groups took this opportunity to perform street theatre and play soccer in front of armored riot cops, others met to decide how to get out of this situation. The Partnership for Civil Justice and the National Lawyers Guild ultimately negotiated our "release."

A condition of this release was that the police would lead the ACC march to meet up with the liberals at the IAC march. As police led the way, construction workers were seen flashing us the peace sign and giving us the thumbs up. At this time, some people decided they did not want to go to the IAC march, and attempted to leave the march.

Police responded by pepper spraying the crowd, and grabbing individual members of the march and beating them. This included members of the Coalition. One member was beaten by police even as he fell to his knees and tried to get away. Defensive lines were formed against the police, one of which consisted almost entirely of Wobs from across the nation.

We marched with the IAC to Capital Hill, and in response to the liberal chants of peace, bloc members responded with "No War but the Class War." While many of the IAC stewards were obviously angered, rank-and-file members were seen smiling and waving.

It was great to meet Fellow Workers from across the country, and be united with them in the struggle for justice. Hope to see you on the streets again.

For more information on the Anti-War Coalition (NJ) or Central New Jersey IWW, email: antiwarcoalition@yahoo.com or cnjiww@redstormtech.net. Or check us out at www.antiwarcoalition.com.



Godfather's Pizza locks-out Wobs

In response to workers' decision to unionize with IWW IU 640 Portland and a large pending unpaid wages claim, owner Bob Hicks closed the Portland, Oregon, Godfather's Pizza franchise where the IWW members are employed. The store manager announced the closure effective the night before to workers as they showed up for shifts Oct. 13.

Workers plan to pull out all the stops to fight the closure, up to and potentially including running their own collective establishment at the same location - except this time with a product that tastes good. The union is preparing Unfair Labor Practice charges, as well as scrambling to raise hardship funds for workers. Since workers were paid minimum and just-above-minimum wage, few have any savings to tide them over. Local Wobblies have already begun raising funds - additional help may be sent to Hotel and Restaurant Workers IWW IU 640, 2138 SE Division St., Portland OR 97202.

SOUTHERN WOB FEST AUSTIN, TEXAS DECEMBER 7-9TH

For a schedule of events or more info, contact Dan Elgin
 512-467-7360 • delgin@io.com
 IWW, PO Box 650011, Austin, TX 78765

Suggested donation: \$10, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Please register by November 20th.

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Harry's Mother contract ratified

The Portland IWW has won a contract at Harry's Mother including some significant gains, especially in the form of wages for the lowest-paid workers. The agreement de-emphasizes shift differentials and adds 50 cent raises every six months for the first two and a half years with a 25 cent raise for workers who top out at two and a half years. So for workers on more than two and a half years this raise was \$2.75 an hour, or about 35 percent.

There are other improvements, including reimbursements for classes, terminations only for just cause, and all of the usual language around layoff/recall, vacation, sick days, personal days, etc. The contract reinforces the participatory tradition at Harry's Mother with lots of nonbinding consultations in which we have historically done very well. There are not many rigid work rules or binding job descriptions – although we are contesting one changed job description through extra-contractual means.

IWW workers at Street Light Youth Shelter and Porch Light Youth Shelter, who won their NLRB election a year after Harry's Mother, have not yet secured agreement. Janus Youth Services, which operates all three programs under contract with the county, has been threatening to break off negotiations. IWW supporters recently filled the administrative office during negotiations, refusing to leave until police arrived and the bargaining team consented to their departure.

Seventy-five workers at Nature's Fresh Northwest grocery have been operating very effectively as an unofficial union. They caused an all-store meeting on company time last week at which they achieved many safety improvements, contested six terminations on suspicion of marijuana use (no evidence presented), voiced opposition to the new dress code/uniform/no tattoo policy, and agitated broadly for a living wage. Over half the workers present wore IWW pins, several are participating in weekly committee meetings, and thirteen have joined so far. I hear employee reviews have been resulting in unheard of raises of as much as \$1 an hour lately – funny that.

Greenhouse Wobs refuse to quit

After The Salvation Army dumped their contract with Portland Public Schools, laid off the three teachers represented by IWW IU 650 and closed Greenhouse School for homeless kids, the Army may have expected a bit of bad press. Indeed they did see unflattering coverage in the *Oregonian*, *Willamette Week*, on Oregon Public Broadcasting, all three TV network affiliates, and National Public Radio. Even the normally apolitical *Portland Mercury* ran the headline "Salvation Army Tells Homeless Kids To Hit The Bricks."

The teachers have gone above and beyond the normal course of labor struggle however. They have continued the work of the school in the shadow of the old building and are starting their own nonprofit, Partners in Education, Artwork, and Resources. Wobblies are demanding that the Salvation Army contribute significantly toward continuing the school the Army tried to close.

"Any settlement must include meaningful funding for the new school, restoration of the Greenhouse Recreation Programs, re-investment in the Drug and Alcohol Group, and reopening of the Day Center," explained Bill Bradley, rank and file counselor and Secretary/Treasurer of the Public Service Workers IU 650 IWW, Portland.

Supporters are requested to visit the Salvation Army at any of its headquarters around the world or to call the paramilitary Christian organization toll free at 888-777-2769 to speak up for these effective and much-loved programs.

Upstate NY Wobs in free speech fight

BY SOURDOUGH SLIM

The Upstate N.Y. Regional General Membership Branch marched in their third annual Capital Labor Parade Sept. 22 in Albany. The parade, in the aftermath of the events of Sept. 11, was supposed to be a tribute to fallen workers. But it also became a flag festival of sorts – the kind of superpatriotism that should ring hollow with a militant working class.

One local reporter noticed that the IWW contingent was the only union in the lineup not sporting a red, white and blue standard. As a result, Upstate Wobs were the only union members quoted in a brief article in the *Sunday Times Union* the following day. FW Giorgio, local delegate, told the scribe that IWW members could not support ruling-class wars, adding that "we want to work for peace."

Branch members have also been involved in a free speech struggle in Schenectady, N.Y. Wobblies organized weekly peace vigils after the attacks in New York and Washington, D.C., and encountered a harassing local police presence. Cops claims the peaceful protesters – IWWs and other local activists – could not use the public sidewalk in front of the Armed Forces Recruitment Center in downtown Schenectady due to concerns for public safety. On the first occasion, police arrived as the picket was dispersing, mentioning the possibility of arrests.

Wobblies knew that tis was a bogus attempt to stifle the message. Actually, the real threat was to protesters, who regularly withstand various taunts, insults, epithets and threats. The ACLU was consulted for legal assistance and an agreement was reached between their lawyer and the Chief of Police supposedly ensuring that our right to picket would be respected.

On the second week of picketing the cops arrived within a few minutes and told



Members of the Upstate New York GMB display their banner.

us to disband our face arrest. When we produced the letter from the ACLU and their boss, the lead officer refused to accept its validity, claiming it was a "third party document." FWs Greg Giorgio and Martin Manley and some of the other picketers calmly debated the issue for 20 minutes until the "men in blue" simply refused to acknowledge the existence of the First Amendment and once again told us to get along or go to jail. FW Manley said he would gladly go to jail to defend his rights. "If he's goin', then I'm goin'," FW Giorgio chimed in.

This seemed to give the officer pause. He decided to discuss the matter with the recruitment office, as they had apparently called the cops in the first place. In a few minutes the lead cop emerged from the building and said he would make us a "deal." The terms were what we were legally entitled to in the first place. At this writing, the cops have let us go about our picket every Friday.

The Upstate N.Y. Wobs are no strangers

to free speech fights, having faced arrests earlier this year in anti-sweatshop picketing at local Wal*Mart and Target stores. The IWW here went on hiatus from these actions for several months to regroup for a major renewal of this effort on "Black Friday," Nov. 23. Organizing for the event is focused on tying in other unions, students and social justice organizations to attempt to provide more bodies than the paddy wagons can haul away. For a copy of the Upstate IWW's anti-sweatshop newsletter, *The Black Cat Moan*, write or call the branch (listed in your IW directory).

An organizing pamphlet directed to poorly paid, ill-treated building maintenance workers is in the works. A Wobbly inside the job at a state agency will plant them appropriately.

And the branch has been approached by substitute teachers from a local public school district looking for a better way to get their job done right... Stay tuned.

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 working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the earth.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or 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 the everyday struggle with capitalist, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

Join the IWW Today

The IWW is a union for all workers, a union dedicated to organizing on the job, in our industries and in our communities both to win better conditions today and to build a world without bosses, a world in which production and distribution are organized by workers ourselves to meet the needs of the entire population, not merely a handful of exploiters.

We are the Industrial Workers of the World because we organize industrially – that is to say, we organize all workers on the job into one union, rather than dividing workers by trade, so that we can pool our strength to fight the bosses together.

Since the IWW was founded in 1905, we have recognized the need to build a truly international union movement in order to confront the global power of the bosses and in order to strengthen workers' ability to stand in solidarity with our fellow workers no matter what part of the globe they happen to live on.

We are a union open to all workers, whether or not the IWW happens to have representation rights in your workplace. We organize the worker, not the job, recognizing that unionism is not about government certification or employer recognition but about workers coming together to address our common concerns. Sometimes this means striking or signing a contract. Sometimes it means refusing to work with an unsafe machine or following the bosses' orders so literally that nothing gets done. Sometimes it means agitating around particular issues or grievances in a specific workplace, or across an industry.

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Initiation is the same as one month's dues. Our dues are calculated according to your income. If your monthly income is under \$1,000, dues are \$6 a month. If your monthly income is between \$1,000 - \$2,000, dues are \$12 a month. If your monthly income is over \$2,000 a month, dues are \$18 a month.

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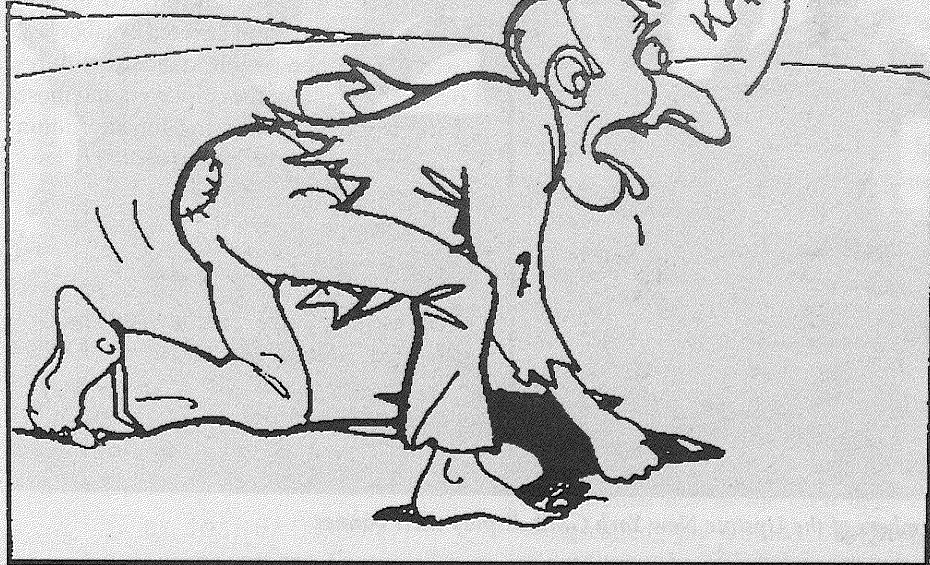
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ANDRZEJ MLECZKO

Russian workers confront capitalist nightmare

BY CURTIS VAUGHAN

I miss the old "Evil Empire." Well, I miss the trickle of news that always managed to find its way into the mainstream media with respect to any major protests organized behind the iron curtain. It was a time you could be sure of a steady dosage of reports decrying the lack of "fundamental human rights" in the Eastern bloc.

Since the demise of the Eastern bloc it has become apparent just whose fundamental rights were being denied. Under the Soviet regime protests could not occur since no sane homo sovieticus would possibly oppose a democratic workers' republic. Today, under the liberating embrace of capitalism, we find the same standard: how could there be any protests against reforms that empower the people to freely pursue the er... uh... Russian dream.

For the 145 million-odd souls living in the world's largest nation, it is a remote and distant dream. Excluding the nouveau-riche, who have to deal with the truly stressful situation of their economic position, and the 150,000 inhabitants of decimated Chechnya, most people, even those fortunate enough to term themselves a part of the Russian middle-class (a pathetic joke at that) know only the daily struggle of just getting by.

Globalization is no longer an abstract theory Russians were required to learn about from grade school under the Leninist theory of imperialism. It is a hardcore reality that they are being compelled to adjust to under programs dictated by the policies of the IMF and the World Bank.

Since the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991, there has been a concerted attempt by Russian reformers to revamp the domestic legal structure in order to meet the demands of Western markets. Such attempts in other nations in the soviet orbit proceeded at a rate of success in direct proportion to the level of popular protest. Thus, Poland, the Czech and Slovak Republics, and Eastern Germany were quick in pulling off the reforms while their citizens still believed that they would reap the benefits of Western living standards.

Given its size alone, Russia could not hope for the level of economic aid countries like Poland received. Furthermore, unlike their Eastern brethren who were trying to break away from the Russian orbit, Russians were in a completely different position.

While hoping that change would bring them Western standards of living, they did not wish to give up the rights and guarantees they had enjoyed under the Soviet era. Such amenities of the Soviet era covered almost any aspect of civil rights, including labor, housing, education, utilities, etc. — rights and guarantees that workers have fought and died for throughout world history, but which are an anathema to the Western market.

Fortunately, Russian workers have won one clear and important victory since the fall of the USSR, and that is the right to assemble

and form independent unions and parties. This has been a critical guarantee whereby Russians may finally organize and fight for their rights. This past summer, demonstrations swept across Russia, many directed against changes made to the Russian labor code and other regressive changes in civil law.

On July 5 the Russian parliament passed the new Labor Code,

which the largest trade union, the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia (FNPR) assisted in developing. This "compromise" labor code only further deteriorates workers' rights.

The FNPR is the inheritor of the official CP union organization. It has not only assisted in the regressive changes to the Labor Code, but encourages workers to support them. This policy is spelt out in issue after issue of its official organ, *Solidarity*, in which they even declare the proposed law as progressive. Of course, one may suppose this "compromise" version is better than that proposed by the government. But this, in itself, is debatable. One is only left questioning the true class alignment of the FNPR, for the new labor legislation is progressive only in so far as it meets the needs of the capitalist market.

In contrast Oleg Shein, deputy to the Russian parliament and representative of the independent union Defense of Labor submitted an alternative labor code that received wide support from other independent unions. Independent trade unions, like Defense of Labor and the Siberian Confederation of Labor (SKT) show the potential for true democratic reforms in Russia. Already this fall these and other independent unions have renewed demonstrations against changes to labor legislation.

For those interested in the political, eco-

nomical and social changes that follow out of the globalization of the world economy, a valuable lesson may be drawn from the continual changes in civil law in the former Eastern bloc. The fight against globalization needs to be united with these and other struggles throughout the world.

Disputed changes to the Russian Labor Code:

Workweek: The workweek for an individual worker may be extended from the current 40-hour week to a 56-hour week, but such extensions may not exceed 120 hours per year without a written agreement.

Overtime: Overtime is permitted on the written consent of an employee without union oversight.

Contracts: Workers may be hired on individual contracts, rather than as staff. Employers will be able to present contracts to prospective employees that require 56-hour workweeks without overtime pay. Don't sign don't work.

There are no longer any limits on probationary periods. Thus an employee could be hired under a probationary regimen indefinitely.

The right to sign a collective contract is provided only to unions that represent over 50% of the employees at a given enterprise. This requirement also applies to industry-wide agreements. The FNPR is probably the only organization that could be party to such agreements.

Striking: Strikes may be prohibited even if there is immediate risk of injury from hazardous conditions or non-payment of wages.

Termination: Under current law employers cannot terminate workers without union consent. Now the union's opinion need only be considered. This can easily lead to arbitrary firings and the dismissal of union activists.

Remuneration: Amazingly, 20% of all wages may be paid in kind!

Employer discretion: The employer may establish procedures for bonuses and incentives, wage scales, shift transfers, vacations, compensation for working during a vacation, work norms, etc., without obtaining prior agreement from the union.

Workers with families: The 1999 Labor Code was the first to introduce measures for people with families such as the right to an additional 14 days of annual unpaid holiday time. The latest government draft, however, would remove such privileges.

Rest: There is no longer to be any minimum lunch break period. Working during weekends and holidays is no longer prohibited.

Privacy: A completely new section to the Labor Code permits employers to maintain personal data on employees. Furthermore, third parties have the right to obtain such data under the Labor Code. If an employee does not permit such an outside party to gain access to such information, then legal action may be applied.

Discrimination: This is the first labor code in Russia that includes language prohibiting discrimination based on sex, race, nationality, age, religion, etc. However, such guarantees were always provided by civil law.

Bosses form union center

Another assault was mounted by former apparatchiks turned capitalist this past summer when they established a new all-Russian trade union organization, the Association of Trade Union Organizations of Workers of Pan-National and Transnational Enterprises. The viability of a workers' organization formed by our class enemy is immediately questionable — but maybe it's just me.

The stated purpose of the organization is to combine those unions organized at key industrial enterprises through Russia, which are essential to the domestic economy.

The founders of this organization are the presidents of the corporate trade union organization for Lukoil and Yukos (two major oil-producing and processing companies), Apatit (a major chemical company), and Electrosila. Interestingly enough, the conservative union FNPR was not invited to the founding meeting.

Since its founding the association has been active in pressuring the genuine workers' unions in these key industries to join the Association. Unions in enterprises in which these monopoly organizations hold controlling shares have also reported being pressured into joining the Association.

As an all-Russian association, the Association will by law acquire a seat in the Russian Tripartite Commission, which is convened to resolve labor-related disputes. The only other unions with seats are the FNPR, the All-Russian Confederation of Labor, the Confederation of Labor of Russia and the Congress of Russian Trade Unions.

Hunger strike in Siberia

A series of labor actions began across Siberia Oct. 10, in protest of the new Labor Code. Pickets and brief work stoppages are taking place in several Siberian towns.

Air dispatchers are taking the most drastic action. The Airline Dispatchers Trade Union of Omsk, member of the syndicalist Siberian Confederation of Labor (SKT), initiated a hunger strike in its workplaces. Similar actions will be taken by air dispatchers in other Russian towns.

State officials have refused to increase the air dispatchers salaries since 1998, despite dramatic inflation. The hunger strike tactic was chosen because dispatchers' strikes are illegal. After two to three days on hunger strike, doctors will not be able to certify them as able to work, and thus air traffic in Russia will be stopped. Such actions have been employed before by the union.

Repression in Belarus

The situation for workers in Belarus is considerably worse than that in Russia. Belarussian President Lukashenko's dictatorial regime has been covered in the Western press. Not reported, however, was the establishment of state control over unions not much different than that of the Soviet era.

On January 1, 2000, a new Labor Code was enacted which practically outlawed strikes. During that year, the government escalated its interference in union affairs, compelling Belarussian unions to submit an official complaint to the International Labor Organization against the Belarus government for violations of the ILO Convention.

In November We Remember Sam Dolgoff
IWW member & organizer - Co-founder of Anarcho-Syndicalist Review

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Right to work (for less) is not OK

BY HARRY KELBER, LABOR TALK

Oklahoma became the 22nd state to enact an anti-union "right-to-work" law when 54 percent of voters approved Question 695 on Sept. 25. The state constitution has now been amended so that unions cannot negotiate contracts that require workers to pay dues or an agency service fee as a condition of employment.

Proponents of the measure trotted out all their familiar arguments about "economic development" and "personal freedom." The business interests that financed the campaign said Oklahoma will be better able to compete with neighboring Arkansas, Kansas and Texas — each of which is already a "right-to-work" state — when union power is restricted and wages and benefits drop accordingly.

Working people, in turn, were told they could still get the benefits of a union contract without paying dues or an agency fee. Under federal law, called "the right of fair representation," unions are required to service nonunion employees at workplaces where they have a contract.

Oklahoma Gov. Frank Keating, a Republican who backed the anti-union amendment from the moment he took office in 1995, is ecstatic: "This is affirmation of Oklahoma's greatness, Oklahoma's willingness to change, to become a renaissance state! This is the first step in the liberation of the Oklahoma economy. It's a statement for prosperity and growth," he exulted.

Oklahoma unions represent only about 8 percent of the state's work force, considerably less than the 13.5 percent national average. State AFL-CIO President Jim Curry tried to put the best face on a major defeat. "We got over 46 percent of the vote. Over 350,000 Oklahomans believed our message," he said. "We have to back up and regroup. We built some fabulous coalitions — teachers, firefighters, legal scholars, professors. We registered over 30,000 new union members over the summer."

"Right-to-work" laws that effectively ban

Dunkin' Donuts workers in fifth month of strike

Drivers and warehouse workers at Dunkin' Donuts' Mid-Atlantic Distribution Center in Logan, New Jersey, have been on strike since May 30, after workers became fed up with years of harassment, unfair firings, and being shorted on their pay checks.

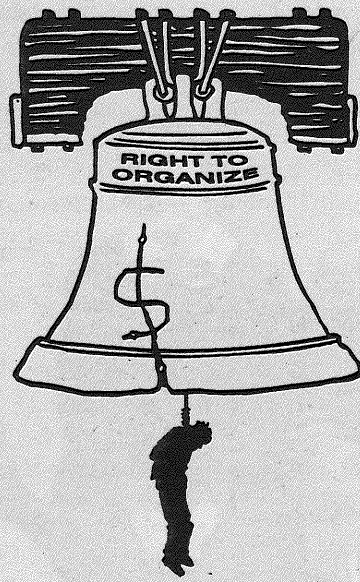
The distribution center, which is operated by franchise owners, provides supplies to 1,400 doughnut shops in eight states, including New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware. The 80 striking workers have been replaced by 90 scabs, and Dunkin' has refused to negotiate.

Last year, a National Labor Relations Board administrative law judge ruled that the center must halt unfair practices, rehire several employees, bargain with the union, and provide back pay. The company appealed the decision and has ignored a January U.S. District Court injunction requiring the company to stop unfair labor practices until the labor board could hear the appeal.

Dunkin' Donuts outlets are not unionized, and picketing has generally been restricted to the distribution center. As a result few customers are aware of the strike, which has thus far had little impact.

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HOLLOW RING

free collective bargaining exist in nearly every Southern state. That explains why unions have had so little success in organizing the South, which has become a haven for companies seeking lower wage standards and a "union-free environment." Other "right-to-work" states are Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah and Wyoming.

What unions call "right-to-work-for-less" laws are based on Section 14(b) of the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947, which prohibited the closed shop, under which union membership was a condition of employment where a collective bargaining agreement is in force. The federal law still permits "agency shops" where workers who don't want to join a union pay a fee in lieu of dues for services they receive under a contract. But more than 20 states have taken their anti-labor bias a giant step further by banning even the agency shop.

While AFL-CIO state federations have fought off many attempts to enact anti-labor

legislation, they have never managed to repeal — or even attempt to repeal — "right-to-work" statutes in any state. In fact, organized labor, which in 1948-'49 called Taft-Hartley a "slave labor act," hasn't seriously challenged its anti-union provisions for half a century.

From its founding in 1954, the National Right-to-Work Committee, generously financed by employer organizations, has placed unions on the defensive by cleverly appropriating a vaguely appealing but misleading slogan to mask its union-busting motives. Until now, its most recent triumph was the 1986 vote that made Idaho a "right-to-work" state.

Labor's defeat in Oklahoma raises an important question: Why must the AFL-CIO play defense, simply reacting to whatever moves the "right-to-work" strategists make? Can't the federation mount an aggressive campaign to repeal "right-to-work" in at least one of those 22 states?

Kelber's weekly column can be viewed at www.laboreducator.org

California garbage workers strike

Southern California sanitation workers struck Oct. 1, after rejecting a proposed contract by overwhelming margins (189 to 8 in one unit). The strikers, represented by Teamsters Local 396, have been abandoned by their union. IBT 396 Secretary-Treasurer Danny Bruno was quick to undercut the strike, telling reporters, "It's the best deal anybody has received in this industry down here."

Workers rebelled after 10 years of sweetheart contracts which failed to keep wages up with inflation and forced workers to put in long hours at low pay. While the proposed contract would have immediately raised wages by \$1 an hour, to \$13.90, and ultimately by 33.5 percent over five years, workers say they need twice that to begin recovering from the last ten years of concessions.

Faced with the union's reluctance to organize a fight, workers at two waste haulers voted to accept the agreement. (Private companies collect municipal garbage throughout the region under contract, paying franchise fees to local governments.)

But nearly 1,000 workers at Waste Management, CR&R, Rainbow Disposal and Taormina Industries overwhelmingly voted to reject the pact, and began organizing rank-and-file meetings to build an effective strike.

Although opposed to the strike, IBT 396 says it will support its members and predicts that mountains of uncollected garbage will quickly force the companies back to the table. It remains to be seen whether the union will seek to bring disgruntled workers into the talks, so that an agreement can be negotiated that responds to their needs.

Boycott Salvation Army's Kettle Drive

Union members are being urged to boycott the Salvation Army's holiday kettle drive. The dispute centers on the Army's treatment of 50 unionized workers at two Minneapolis detox centers. A year after a bitter contract struggle, the Salvation Army brass has announced plans to shut down its alcohol and drug treatment services, throwing the workers out of a job.

The workers work at the Army's Harbor Lights Center and a larger treatment center owned by Hennepin County which the Army has operated under contract for six years. Rather than continue to negotiate with its workers, the Army has notified the county that it will leave the program at the end of this year.

Detox center employees won union representation in February 2000, winning their first contract after workers voted to strike.



Britain's McLabour Party

As part of the continuing corporate takeover of Britain's Labour Party, Prime Minister Tony Blair agreed to attend a £15,000 reception at the party's annual conference paid for by the burger chain McDonald's. McDonald's agreed to sponsor the food and drink for 450 guests at a high-profile event celebrating Labour's 100th conference only after receiving assurances that the prime minister would attend. However, Blair declined a request to be photographed wearing a McDonald's hat.

World's bosses kill 209 unionists

continued from page 1

organize and strike, which, as the survey notes, is not adequately protected by law. Even in those situations covered by labor law, there is a definite double standard with respect to the rights of the employers and those of the workers. Distressing for any union activist in these United States are the following figures:

At least one in ten union supporters campaigning to form a union is illegally fired. For every 30 people who vote for a union in elections in any one year, one will be illegally fired. At least one worker will be illegally fired in over 30 percent of all union-organizing campaigns....

And if you had any thought about redressing such injustices, well, think again:

The National Labor Relations Board is estimated to have a backlog of almost 25,000 cases involving unfair labor practices committed by employers.

For those workers out there still unconvinced as to the privileged working environment we Americans enjoy, the U.S. is even cited for "extreme exploitation." Forget about the sweatshops we've heard of in California and New York, in the survey you will find out about working conditions on the Northern Mariana Islands, a U.S. Commonwealth. Again the garment industry is the guilty party. Not being subject to any duties or quotas, and having control over local wage and immigration laws, they garment industry has essentially introduced "a system of indentured servitude."

Local authorities permit foreign-owned companies to recruit thousands of foreign workers, mainly young women from Thailand, China, the Philippines and Bangladesh. The workers are recruited by private agencies who demand exorbitant fees from these workers. Fees are either paid in advance or are deducted from pay in an arrangement that requires the workers to remain in the employ of the same manufacturer who in turn has a relationship with the recruiting agency.

In addition to the abuse of fee-charging, these workers are routinely required to sign employment contracts agreeing to refrain from asking for wage increases, seeking other work or joining a union. Workers are informed that contract violations will result in dismissal as well as deportation and that the workers concerned must pay the travel expenses to return to their home country.

All unionists should read the section covering the U.S., as it reads like a bosses' manual on tactics used to prevent, dissuade, restrict and circumvent any form or aspect of union activity. It is, in essence, a useful guide for foreseeing actions the bosses will take so we can better forewarn our fellow workers and prepare them.

Many workers can not afford rent

The average U.S. worker must earn at least \$11.28 an hour to afford the rent on a modest one-bedroom apartment, or \$13.87 an hour for two bedrooms, according to the annual "Out of Reach" report by the National Low Income Housing Coalition

That's less than the \$16.97-an-hour median paycheck in 2000, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. But it is far more than the minimum wage, set by federal law at \$5.15 an hour but slightly higher in 10 states and the District of Columbia. Last year, 2.7 million Americans were paid the minimum wage.

A minimum-wage worker in some parts of Missouri, Tennessee, Oklahoma and Arkansas would come closest to affording a one-bedroom unit. In Arkansas, the worker would need to earn just \$6.99 an hour. However, average wages are much lower in those parts of the country.

IN NOVEMBER
WE REMEMBER
**The Ludlow
Massacre**
April 20, 1914
IU330 Colorado
zclane@fortlewis.edu

Hubert Harrison and the IWW-Type Unionism

continued from page 1

lent white supremacy – that was unlike anything known on St. Croix. In his first decade in New York he worked numerous jobs before becoming a postal worker and he developed an “agnostic” “philosophy-of-life” which stressed rationalism, modern science, and evolution and placed humanity at the center of its world view. He also joined with other working class Black New Yorkers in creating a vibrant intellectual life through participation in worker study groups, church lyceums, and public forums.

From 1911 to 1914 Harrison was America's leading Black Socialist – a prominent party speaker and campaigner (especially in the 1912 presidential campaign of Eugene V. Debs), an articulate and popular critic of capitalism, the leading Black Socialist organizer in New York, and the initiator of the Colored Socialist Club – an unprecedented effort by U.S. socialists at organizing African Americans.

In his writings he made major theoretical contributions on the subject of “The Negro and Socialism” by advocating that true democracy and equality for African Americans implied a revolution “startling to even think of” and by urging that socialists develop a special appeal to and for African Americans, affirm the duty of all socialists to oppose race prejudice, and recognize that the race problem had socio-historical [not biological] causes. As Socialists debated revolutionary vs. evolutionary socialism and industrial vs. craft unionism, Harrison proposed a new, “crucial test” for U.S. socialists – “to champion” the cause of the “Negro.” His words anticipated a similar comment by W.E.B. Du Bois a year later.

During his years in the Socialist Party Harrison was drawn toward the policies and practices of the militant and egalitarian Industrial Workers of the World whom he considered to be practitioners of the true unionism. He argued for direct action and an IWW-type, point-of-production, organizing, even in the South, and he praised the work of the IWW-affiliated Brotherhood of Timber Workers in Louisiana. To those Socialists who concentrated on electoral politics he stressed that “even the voteless proletariat” can help “toward the final abolition of the capitalist system” because they possess “labor power – which they can be taught to withhold” and they can organize themselves “at the point of production” and “work to shorten the hours of labor, to raise wages, . . . [and] to enforce laws for the protection of labor.” He added that the Western Federation of Min-



This photograph of Hubert Harrison, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, and “Big Bill” Haywood was probably taken when Harrison spoke to the striking Paterson workers (April 17 and May 19, 1913) or when he spoke at a major rally of the Paterson Defense Committee in New York (February 4, 1913). For many years printed versions of this photo (including those in early versions of Flynn's autobiography) mis-identified Harrison as Ben Fletcher.

ers, an IWW union, had done this and successfully won the eight-hour workday “without the aid of the legislatures or the courts.” Such an approach required “a progressive control of the tools of production and a progressive expropriation of the capitalist class” and in such work African Americans could help. Industrial unionism beckoned to African Americans and Harrison urged that the program of the Socialist Party in the South should “be based upon this fact.”

In 1913 Harrison was a featured speaker (along with “Big Bill” Haywood, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Carlo Tresca and Patrick Quinlan), and the only Black speaker, at the historic Paterson silk strike. From 1912 to 1914 he spoke repeatedly on behalf of the IWW, publicly defended Haywood against attack by the right wing of the Socialist Party on the issue of “sabotage,” defended the 1886 Chicago Haymarket Martyrs and the McNamara Brothers in California, and joined with IWW activists in defending the free speech rights of the jailed activist and sabotage defender Frederick Sumner Boyd in New Jersey. He urged that “we Socialists must go to the workers to hear what we must do. The revolution is not coming from above, remember, but from below, working its way up from the depths.”

Harrison's efforts at reaching Socialist Party leaders were to little avail. Socialist Party theory and practice including segre-

gated locals in the South, the failure to route the 1912 presidential candidate (Debs) in the South, racist positions on Asian immigration at the 1912 national convention, and failure to firmly support the Colored Socialist Club led Harrison to conclude that Socialist Party leaders, like organized labor, put the white “Race first and class after.”

In response, Harrison turned to concentrated work in the Black community. In 1917, as the “Great War” raged abroad, along with race riots, lynchings, segregation, discrimination, and white-supremacist ideology at home, Harrison founded the Liberty League and *The Voice*, the first organization and the first newspaper of the “New Negro” movement. The League's program emphasized internationalism, political independence, and class and race consciousness and called for full equality, federal anti-lynching legislation, enforcement of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments, labor organizing, support of socialist and anti-imperialist causes, and armed self-defense in the face of racist attacks. As his work developed he repeatedly emphasized that the key to the class question in the U.S. was to break down of white racial solidarity and the system of racial oppression.

While serving as the leader of the “New Negro” movement, Harrison maintained his support for an IWW-type unionism. In 1917, after American Federation of Labor President

Samuel Gompers defended white attacks on the Black community of East St. Louis, Illinois, Harrison took Gompers and the AFL to task. He pointed out that there were two types of unionism – the exclusionary and often segregatory, craft-based unionism of the AFL, and the all-inclusive, industrial or multi-craft unionism of the IWW.

Harrison argued that the segregatory unions stood in the way of working class advancement and must go. They would have to leave the way clear for the “20th century type of unionism” which held that to “leave a single worker out” was “to leave something for the boss to use against us.” He called for “the I. W. W. type of unionism” and urged workers to “organize in One Big Union of all the working-class.”

Jeffrey B. Perry is a postal worker and the treasurer of Local 300 of the National Postal Mail Handlers Union. He is also the editor of *A Hubert Harrison Reader* (Wesleyan University Press, 2001 – available from the IWW Literature Dept. for \$25) and author of the forthcoming biography *Hubert Harrison, “The Father of Harlem Radicalism”* (Louisiana State University Press).

Two kinds of unionism

There are two kinds of labor unionism: the A.F. of L. kind and the other kind. So far the Negro has been taught to think that all unionism was like the unionism of the American Federation of Labor, and because of this ignorance, his attitude toward organized labor has been that of the scab. For this no member of the A.F. of L. can blame the Negro. The policy of that organization toward the Negro has been damnable. It has kept him out of work and out of the unions as long as it could; and when it could no longer do this it has taken him in, tricked him, and discriminated against him. . . .

Labor unions were created by white working men that they might bring the pressure of many to bear upon the greedy employer and make him give higher wages and better living conditions to the laborer. When they, in turn, become so greedy that they keep out the majority of working people, by high dues and initiation fees, they no longer represent the interests of the laboring class. They stand in the way of this class's advancement – and they must go. They must leave the way clear for the 20th century type of unionism which says: “To leave a single worker out is to leave something for the boss to use against us. Therefore we must organize in One Big Union of all the working class.”

This is the type of unionism which organized, in 1911, 18,000 white and 14,000 black timber workers in Louisiana. This is the IWW type of unionism, and the employers use their newspapers to make the public believe that it stands for anarchy, violence, law-breaking and atheism, because they know that if it succeeds it will break them.

This type of unionism wants Negroes – not because its promoters love Negroes, but because they realize that they cannot win if any of the working class is left out; and after winning they cannot go back on them because they could be used as scabs to break the unions. . . .

The writer has been a member of a party which stood for the rights of labor and the principle of Industrial Unionism (the 20th century kind). He understands the labor conditions of the country and desires to see the working man win out. But . . . he refuses to put ahead of his race's rights a collection of diddling jackasses which can publicly palliate such atrocities as that of East St. Louis and publicly assume, as Gompers did, responsibility for it. Therefore he issues the advice to the workers of his race to “can the A.F. of L.” Since the A.F. of L. chooses to put Race before Class, let us return the compliment.

— Hubert Harrison, “The Negro and the Labor Unions,” *The Voice*, August 1917.

17 Wobblies arrested, interned in Ottawa

1918: History of Resistance

BY S. HOLYCK HUNCHUCK
AND PETER MOORE

On May Day 1918, 18 men identified by the local newspaper *Ottawa Citizen* as members of the “notorious IWW” were arrested during a meeting at 268 Rochester St., meeting hall of Nove Zhyttia, the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party of Canada. The arrested men included travelling lumberjack Petro Haideychuk, brewer Nicholas Mucciy, shoemaker Paul Shawliak, labourer Yuri Skypnychuk, and Toronto-based IWW organizer Stefan Waskan. Their ages ranged from 18 to 53.

The IWW in Ottawa agitated against child labour, Canada's wartime ally the Russian Czar, and the war; demanded bread or work in street demonstrations; and advocated public works programs and the end of exploitative immigration policies in the predominantly francophone and anglophone Canadian capital.

The arrests were part of systematic surveillance and harassment of radicals across Canada by federal and local authorities during the First World War (1914-1918).

Canada passed Orders-in-Council that targeted Enemy Aliens, especially those from the Austro-Hungarian Empire. This Empire included a fifth of today's Ukraine. The Orders were in effect decrees that bypassed Canada's elected officials, granting police extraordinary powers of seizure, destruction of property, detention, forced relocation, internment and deportation. The government interned about 8,000 people during World War One, two-thirds of whom were Ukrainian immigrants.

During the raid, police confiscated the branch's library, files, musical instruments, theatrical costumes and even sheet music, which probably were destroyed. The arrested men, all immigrants, were sent to an internment camp in Kapuskasing in northern Ontario. It was a remote forced labour camp with the worst reputation among the 24 camps. Tasks included draining swamps, building roads, and logging in the Canadian winter. Private and government corporations enlisted this slave labour for their own profit. Internment “was easy in Ottawa, pretty bloody hard in Kapuskasing,” said Canadian

historian Desmond Morton. Stefan Waskan was the only man arrested who escaped the internment camp, because he was a Canadian citizen and British subject.

Orders-in-Council had stripped immigrants naturalized after 1902 of their citizenship, making them vulnerable to harassment, deportation and internment. On Sept. 24, 1918, months after the Ottawa raid, the Canadian government banned the Industrial Workers of the World. Thirteen other primarily ethnic radical organizations were also made illegal. Maximum sentence for IWW membership or affiliation with banned organizations was five years.

World War I ended Nov. 11, 1918, but the Kapuskasing prisoners were held until Oct. 2, 1919. Haideichuk, Mucciy, Shawliak and Skypnychuk returned to Ottawa and organized a branch of the Ukrainian Labour Temple Association, which affiliated with the Communist Party of Canada in 1924. There is no record of what happened to the other 13 Kapuskasing survivors. Today's Ottawa-Outaouais IWW General Membership Branch was chartered Nov. 15, 1993.

The IWW in the history books

COMPILED BY JON BEKKEN

For several years, we have published a review of recent historical writings on the IWW in our November issue. The last installment in this series appeared in 1998.

Melvyn Dubofsky's deeply flawed history of the IWW, *We Shall Be All*, has been reissued in an abridged version by the University of Illinois Press. While maintaining every chapter, the editor has pared down Dubofsky's prose to about half the length, removing some factual errors in the process (though this appears to be inadvertent). Dubofsky's book is also the subject of a symposium in *Labor History* (Joseph McCartin, et al., 40(3), 1999, pp. 345-369) which generally praises the book although Marcel Van der Linden notes some weaknesses.

Howard Kimmeldorf's *Battling for American Labor: Wobblies, Craft Workers, and the Making of the Union Movement* (University of California Press, 1999) discusses IWW organizing in New York City restaurants and on the Philadelphia waterfront, arguing that workers were attracted to the IWW — and later to a succession of AFL and independent unions — not so much by ideology as by an inchoate commitment to direct action on the job and rank-and-file control. Workers turned to the IWW, Kimmeldorf says, because its tactics suited to their needs, and later returned to the AFL when they concluded that the IWW lacked the resources necessary to enable them to survive employer and state repression.

John Silvano (*Nothing In Common: An Oral History of IWW Strikes, 1971-1992*, Cedar Publishing, 1999) briefly discusses dozens of organizing campaigns from the 1970s and 1980s and interviews participants in eight IWW strikes, documenting the union's continued commitment to organizing long after most historians wrote us off.

Henry Bengston's *On the Left in America: Memories of the Scandinavian-American Labor Movement* (Southern Illinois University Press, 1998) primarily focuses on socialist parties, but also discusses Swedish-speaking Wobblies in the Midwest. (Also see this issue's review of Joseph Sullivan's *Marxists, Militants & Macaroni: The IWW in Providence's Little Italy*.)

Several other memoirs also address the IWW. "The Memoir of Eleanor Castellan: The Years in the Pacific Northwest, 1910-1919" (*Pacific Northwest Quarterly* 91(1), 1999-2000, pp. 3-24) offers a contemporary observer's account of IWW organizing in the timber fields, the Everett Massacre and the Seattle General Strike, though it gets our name wrong. And *Labor's Heritage* (1999-2000, 10(4), pp. 26-33, 34-40) revisits the Centralia Massacre. Robert Weyeneth's "Perspectives on a Pardon, Centralia Confronts Its Past" chronicles the 1919 Centralia Massacre and the recent efforts to commemorate

the events, which included the unveiling of a mural and sparked extensive public debate.

Esther Barnett Goffinet's "My Father Eugene Barnett Deserves A Long Overdue Pardon" argues just that, citing extensive evidence as well as FW Barnett's letters in support. He spent 11 years in prison before being released as a result of a prolonged campaign by the IWW and other labor activists. Annotated excerpts from FW Barnett's memoirs have also been published (William Friedland and Archie Green, "Eugene Barnett Talks About the Centralia Conspiracy," *Columbia* 11(20), 1997, pp. 10-17).

Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz ("Growing Up Okie: An Interview with Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz," *Left History*, 1999, pp. 77-81) recounts her family's roots in the IWW and their harassment by the KKK. Nigel Sellars ("With Folded Arms? Or With Squirrel Guns? The IWW and the Green Corn Rebellion," *Chronicles of Oklahoma* 77(2), 1999, pp. 150-169) also looks at the IWW in Oklahoma, challenging the widespread misconception that the IWW was involved in the abortive Green Corn Rebellion. Much of this evidence is also reviewed in his outstanding book, *Oil, Wheat and Wobblies* (1998).

Jeff Shantz and Barry Adam ("Ecology and Class: The Green Syndicalism of IWW/Earth First Local 1," *International Journal of Sociology & Social Policy*, 1999, 19, pp. 7-8, 43-72) discuss the short-lived campaign in the northern California redwood timber fields which attempted to bring together workers and radical ecologists to pursue their mutual interests. They see this as a fruitful approach, while noting the significant barriers posed by unstable labor conditions and suppression, and what they see as an overemphasis on the local level of control.

Francis Shor ("Virile Syndicalism' in Comparative Perspective: A Gender Analysis of the IWW in the United States and Australia," *International Labor and Working-Class History*, 1999, pp. 65-77) argues that the rhetoric of direct action and sabotage represented a "virile syndicalism" in which the IWW depicted its struggle against the dehumanizing effects of capitalism in terms of defending manhood. It's an interesting analysis, even if it sometimes raises more questions than answers. In particular, it would be interesting to know how this rhetoric affected efforts to organize women workers.

Verity Burgmann also addresses the Australian IWW ("Antipodean Peculiarities: Comparing the Australian IWW with the American," *Labor History* 40(3), 1999, pp. 371-392), arguing that the principle differences were the Australians' anti-political stance and their vigorous campaign against involvement in World War I. (While the American IWW opposed the war, it did not actively interfere with U.S. involvement once war was declared; a stance that proved use-

less in deterring state repression.)

Carl Marcoux's "The Strange Little War" (*Journal of America's Military Past*, 1999, pp. 85-99) recounts the Partido Liberal Mexicano's unsuccessful 1911 efforts to organize the overthrow of the Diaz dictatorship, which included a brigade of IWW members and other international supporters.

IWW organizing among itinerant workers is discussed in Evelyne Pickett's "Hoboes

Charleston Five trial set for Nov. 12

Attorneys for the Charleston Five asked Circuit Judge Victor Raul to throw out the charges against them for lack of evidence Oct. 12. If the charges are not dismissed, their trial on felony charges ranging from assault to conspiracy and rioting is set to begin Nov. 12 in Charleston, South Carolina. Longshoremen around the world are set to shut down ports in solidarity.

The International Dockworkers Solidarity Conference held July 30 - August 2 in Long Beach, California, unanimously reaffirmed their decision to join the International Day of Action on the first day of the trial.

Fearing the growing solidarity campaign, many employers and some local politicians are urging officials to reach a plea bargain or drop the charges. Many believe such action may be imminent now that South Carolina Attorney General Charlie Condon, who filed the charges as part of his campaign for governor, has withdrawn from the case.

The Charleston Five are Elijah Ford Jr., Ricky Simmons, Peter Washington Jr., Jason Edgerton, and Kenneth Jefferson. They were among those arrested Jan. 20, 2000, when hundreds of longshoremen were attacked by 600 police officers trying to prevent picketing of scab work on the Charleston docks.

Like the others arrested that night, the Five were originally held for trespassing, a misdemeanor charge that was dismissed when the men held a blood drive as a community service. But Condon intervened in the case, going to the grand jury for felony indictments denounced the five as thugs who deserve "jail, jail, and more jail."

"This is a political prosecution," said Kenneth Riley Jr., president of International Longshoremen Association Local 1422, whose head was bashed open by police that night. "These men are being used as an example to discourage the union movement and any type of union protest."

The Jan. 20 police riot was the climax of a month of labor unrest at the U.S.'s fourth-busiest port, following the Danish shipping line Nordana's decision to replace union longshoremen with non-union workers at a fourth the hourly wage.

Nordana was the first shipper to go non-union in decades, and workers began picketing each arriving Nordana ship. While picketing remained peaceful, one Nordana ship was forced to leave the port before it had been fully loaded. The Ports Authority responded by bringing in police from throughout the state; on the evening of Jan. 19 hundreds of police covered the waterfront on foot, in cars, in helicopters, and on boats.

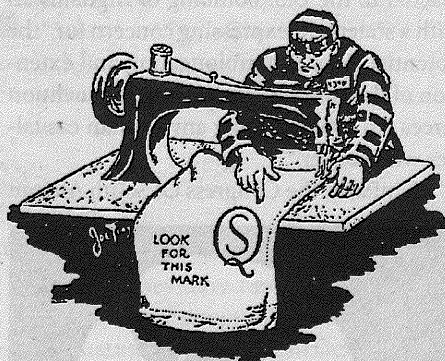
Shortly afterward, Nordana abandoned its efforts to load its ships with scab labor, after the Spanish dockworkers union Coordinadora refused to work its ships.

However, determined to send a clear message to the world that South Carolina is run by the employing class and that union resistance will not be tolerated, state officials have continued their persecution of the Charleston Five, who have lived under house arrest for the last 21 months.

While the labor movement has relied on legal motions, petitions and rallies, the employing class has used its control of the courts to wreak havoc on the lives of five of our fellow workers. It's high time we organize to use our industrial power to force an end to this abuse.

Gregory Hall's "Harvest Wobblies: The Industrial Workers of the World and Agricultural Laborers in the American West, 1910-1925" (Washington State University, 1999) would appear the most comprehensive look at the IWW's efforts to organize harvest workers to date. Harvest workers are also the subject of Theodore Grossardt's "Harvesting Hoboes: The 800-Mile Picket Line" (University of Kentucky, 1998), which examines IWW organizing in Kansas from 1914-1919.

PRISON SACKS



IF THEY ARE ON THE RANCH
STRIKE!

UNION MEN ARE
IN SAN QUENTIN
PRISON FOR FROM
ONE TO FOURTEEN
YEARS FOR BEING
LOYAL TO THE WORKING
CLASS

Across the Border: A Comparison of Itinerant Cross-Border Laborers Between Montana and Western Canada" (*Montana*, 1999, pp. 18-31) which notes the desperate conditions confronting these workers and their efforts to organize through the IWW and the One Big Union.

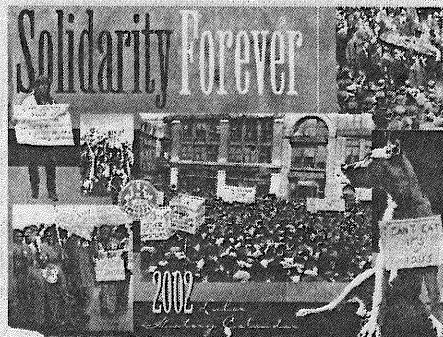
J. Peter Campbell discusses Finnish IWW timberworkers in northern Ontario ("The Cult of Spontaneity: Finnish-Canadian Bushworkers and the Industrial Workers of the World in Northern Ontario, 1919-1934," *Labor*, 1998, pp. 117-146), noting that the IWW played a major role in strikes in the 1920s and 1930s despite its small numbers. He focuses on the Finnish Wobblies' legacy of self-education and self-activity, and their role in building a working-class culture that helped sustain their struggles and their union. Peter Campbell's "East Meets Left: South Asian Militants and the Socialist Party of Canada" (*International Journal of Canadian Studies*, 1999, pp. 35-65) includes mention of immigrant workers who joined the IWW in British Columbia in the pre-war years. And Mark Leier examines the life of Robert Gosden, a Canadian worker active in the IWW and radical politics before he switched sides to become a police informer ("Portrait of a Labour Spy," *Labor*, 1998, pp. 55-84).

In a special issue on IWW history, *Anarcho-Syndicalist Review* published Steve Kellerman's "Annotated Bibliography of Books on the Industrial Workers of the World" (#27, Winter 1999, pp. 25-29), Mike Hargis' "95 Years of Revolutionary Industrial Unionism: A Chronology" (#27, pp. 20-22; #28, Spring 2000, pp. 26-30); and my "A Note from Labor History: The IWW's Emergency Program Split" (#27, pp. 23-24).

James McBride ("The Bisbee Deportation in Words and Images," *Mining History Journal*, 1999, pp. 63-76) offers an unsympathetic look at the 1917 deportation of over 1,000 striking miners. And Thomas Hemphill ("To Be Found Dead in Utah," *Journal of the West* 39(4), 2000, pp. 72-79), revisits the Joe Hill case, concluding that there is no clear evidence of a frame-up. Of course, one may not wish to pay too much credence to a historian who thinks Joe was buried in Wyoming.

Three recent doctoral dissertations also discuss the IWW, though I have not seen them. The most recent is James Sanful's "The Militant Activities of the Industrial Workers of the World (I.W.W.): A Sociological Analysis" (City University of New York, 2000).

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Unions respond to terror, war

AFL-CIO President John Sweeney was quick to offer unconditional support for the indiscriminate bombing of Afghanistan and the slaughter of countless thousands of Afghani civilians, hypocritically claiming that "his actions show the world our concern for the people in that war-torn country." Union members' dues were squandered on full-page ads in several newspapers around the country.

However, the call for more bloodshed was not universal. Several New York City labor officials and activists signed a statement calling for "justice for the dead and safety for the living. And we believe that George Bush's war is not the answer... War will inevitably harm countless innocent civilians, strengthen American alliances with brutal dictatorships and deepen global poverty."

The United Electrical workers Executive

Board issued a statement that concluded: "As we mourn and as we rage, we also declare our resistance to efforts to use this tragedy to curtail our civil liberties or to engage in military adventures that can lead only to more carnage and senseless loss of life. Our greatest memorial to our fallen brothers and sisters will be a world of peace, tolerance and understanding, underscored by the solidarity of working people."

Unions in other countries also dissented from the mounting war hysteria. The International Confederation of Free Trade Unions reacted to the U.S. bombing of Afghanistan with a statement expressing concern for "the potential risks of a prolongation and extension of the conflict" and urging the coalition forces "to avoid causing any civilian casualties whatsoever."

Similarly, the Congress Of South African

Trade Unions condemned the bombings, noting that "they add to a vicious cycle of violence" that threatens to "plunge the world in[to] an internecine spiral of violence that the world cannot afford, and ultimately undermine world peace and stability."

"At the end of the day it is the ordinary Afghan citizens... that are going to suffer. This will further worsen the social crisis that has engulfed the country for some time."

However, most U.S. unions followed the AFL-CIO in embracing warfare against our Afghani fellow workers. The International Association of Machinists issued a blood-curdling statement on their website (goiam.org) in the aftermath of the attack, which stands in stark contrast to the class-conscious editorial that led the April 1898 issue of the IAM's *Monthly Journal* as the boss press was whipping up hysteria for a war against Spain after the battleship Maine sunk:

Vengeance

...We will have our vengeance.

The terrorists and the nations who shield and support them miscalculated badly. They struck at the symbols of America's economic and military power: the World Trade Towers and the Pentagon.

They did not touch the reality of that might: the men and women across the United States and Canada whose souls were seared by these acts of war.

Today, IAM members return to work. They will be prepping the planes that can just as easily carry troops to the farthest reaches of the earth. They will be building the F-15, F-16, F-18 and F-22's that will impose a new reality on those who have dared attack us.

For it is not simply justice we seek. It is vengeance, pure and complete. [Sept. 12]

Australian unions aid Afghan refugees

While the AFL-CIO cheers the bombing of Afghani villages, Union Aid Abroad, the humanitarian arm of the Australian unions, is raising funds to aid the victims.

APHEDA - Union Aid Abroad also called on world governments to "show compassion, not just force, and [to] work to overcome poverty and injustice which is the cause of so much discontent and provides fertile soil for terrorism to flourish. APHEDA - Union Aid Abroad calls on all governments to protect human rights, including the rights of refugees, to provide more aid, to write off debt, and to make an even-handed attempt to solve two of the great problems in the Middle East - independence for the Palestinian people and an end to the sanctions against Iraq which have already caused over one million deaths." apheda@labor.net.au

Did you know...

35,615 children died of starvation Sept. 11. where: poor countries, tv programs: none, newspaper articles: none, minutes of silence: none, stock exchanges: didn't care, euro: kept its way, suspects: an international network of American-trained terrorists.

**In Fond & Loving
Memory of our Brother
and Comrade,
Roosevelt Hobbs**

**Labor activist and member of
the People's Organization for
Progress in Newark, NJ.**

**Your dedication to the struggle
for community and labor
justice will remain an
inspiration to us all.
Central New Jersey IWW
Organizing Committee
cnjiww@redstormtech.net**



The destruction of the World Trade Center with the loss of thousands of human lives is but the tragic result of living in a society where too many decisions affecting far too many are being made by far too few. Aside from chickens coming home to roost, the loss of so many lives was staggering no matter what the motivation behind the incident. To the perpetrators of such atrocities, regardless of what flag they operate under, the rest of us two-leggeds are so many cockroaches, expendable. Indeed, to our masters we are expendable, what with dominant ideologies the whole world over who vehemently oppose population control to ensure that there will be plenty more where we come from.

The media has been waxing piously indignant over this act of terrorism while saying nothing about "conventional" war. However, your scribe asks if "conventional" war is not also terrorism. People still die by the thousands while the perpetrators live into fat and sassy old age.

Years ago at one of our General Conventions, the IW issued a resolution condemning terrorism, regardless of whatever the cause of motivation. That fact that acts of terrorism victimized only the common, ordinary, innocent people while those miscreants who were the objects terrorism was aimed at are always a safe distance from such acts. The secrecy that terrorism necessitates, in which only few can participate, makes terrorism elitist, and elitism is anathema to those of us who strongly believe in organization.

During the time some years back when airplane hijacking was coming into vogue, I remember our late historian, Fellow Worker Fred Thompson, remarking that the way our present society is administered from the top down, is made to order for a ridiculous few to take over.

If the air transport industry was owned and operated by the workers themselves, there would be few if any hijackings. As is well known, the primary concern of any employer is the immediate profit margin, and if there is any concern at all for the welfare and safety of the workers such concern is at the bottom of the list of importance. This was well illustrated when the cowboy president, pimping for the airlines, fired the striking air traffic controllers who well deserved the conditions they were striking for, never mind the safety and welfare of thousands of air passengers.

However, on that fateful morning when live coverage of the disaster was being broadcast over the tube, your scribe could not help but wonder at the timely convenience. What with the rising tide against the meetings of the World Trade Organization in Seattle, and the similar protests in Washington, D.C., Montréal and Genoa, this was a convenient distraction from the manipulations of the super-rich.

Remembering Pearl Harbor, when it was later disclosed that Frankie the Rose knew ahead of time that the Japanese fleet was sailing toward Hawaii and the navy brass had their derrieres safely in Honolulu, while the enlistees at the naval base were the ones who caught the bombs. Frankie the Rose was having a hard time whipping up enthusiasm for the war among the denizens of Freedomland but the Japanese militarists had conveniently accommodated him.

One cannot help but wonder, what with the CIA, Interpol and all the capitalist watchdog agencies, how a small group of religious fanatics could pull off the job of reducing the World Trade Center to rubble while dusting the Pentagon. We know that Georgie the Bush was nowhere near the Pentagon, and we don't know if any of the big-time Pentagonifs were caught in the rubble. It has not yet been disclosed if any of the top execs were in the World Trade Center at the time, outside of office workers, janitorial staff and visiting tourists.

Knowing the machinations of those who manipulate us, I am reminded of a saying by F. Scott Fitzgerald that the poor are distinguished by their roaring resentment, and the rich by their remoteness.

According to a report by the Institute for Policy Studies and United for a Fair Economy, "If the minimum wage, which stood at \$3.80 an hour in 1990, had grown at the same rate as the pay for Chief Executive Officers over the decade, the minimum wage would now be \$25.50 an hour, rather than the current \$5.15 an hour."

The boss needs us; we don't need him.

Draftees of the world, unite; you have nothing to lose but your generals!

— C.C. Redcloud

Death cast the shadow of his dark wings over the harbor Havana; the "Maine" sank; the nation wept, and the Journal mourns for the many poor fellows who perished with the ill-fated ship. Death in this form had not presented itself to the people in many years, so that when the evil tidings of the catastrophe came it cast a calamitous gloom over the land. ...

The public was horrified because it was unused to this particular form of horror. There are other forms that are just as horrible; where a hundred lives are sacrificed for every ten that went out of existence with the "Maine," but the horror has ceased to horrify, the public has grown used to the gruesome details and looks upon them with indifference and complacency.

The carnival of carnage that takes place every day, month and year in the realm of industry; the thousands of useful lives that are annually sacrificed to the Moloch of greed; the blood tribute paid by labor to capitalism, brings forth no shout for vengeance and reparation; no tear, except from the family and friends of the victims. ...

The Journal joins in the popular sorrow for the loss of the "Maine" ... And while expressing sorrow it also expresses the hope that the day will not be far distant when it will be popularly considered that to lose life by accident in productive and distributive industry is just as noble and heroic as to lose it by accident on board a man of war. That to lose life by being drowned like a rat in a mine is just as worthy as being drowned like a rat in the hold of an ironclad. That to lose a limb by an exploding shell is no more worthy of national consideration than to lose one in a rolling mill. That to be blown up by a torpedo creates no more sorrow in the unfortunate's family than to be blown up by a boiler. That one should not be the hero of an apotheosis while the other goes to Eternity unhonored and unsung.

Chinese work overtime sewing U.S. flags

Flag factories in China are running non-stop to feed the overwhelming demand in the United States for American flags. The Shanghai Mei Li Hua Flags Co. received orders for more than 500,000 flags in the week following the terrorist attacks. The Jin Teng Flag Co. in neighboring Zhejiang province reported orders of 600,000.

Carey, former IBT head, acquitted

A New York City jury found Ron Carey innocent of all charges Oct. 12.

The former Intl. Brotherhood of Teamsters president was on trial as a result of a scheme engineered by his 1996 campaign manager and consultants in which \$885,000 was stolen from union funds and diverted to Carey's re-election campaign. Carey was charged with lying about what he knew about the plot.

Carey's chief accuser was former campaign manager Jere Nash, who cut a deal with the feds to testify against Carey. Although Nash pled guilty nearly four years ago, he has not served one day in prison.

Carey was expelled from the union by government-appointed overseers, and the scandal-plagued officialdom he had ousted were allowed to resume control over the union. Ironically a key Hoffa backer, Detroit Teamster bigwig Larry Brennan, was let off the hook by the government despite diverting \$30,000 of union funds to his election campaign.

Under government oversight, which was initially welcomed by Carey and his backers, millions of dollars of union funds have been squandered on fees to government monitors, the union's membership resumed its long-term decline (which had been briefly reversed under the reformers), and local officials are again cutting sweetheart deals with employers to line their own pockets.



\$15 bill for bosses, workers lose jobs

continued from page 1

ing the largest profit from the labor of the workers. For about twenty years, average real wages have been falling in the USA. A few years ago, the rate of this decline slowed and actually there has been a small improvement recently due in part to unions recognizing they had to fight if they were to survive at all. This was a major change for most AFL-CIO unions and it made industry leaders nervous. The last thing they want to see is an active working class.

Where workers have the power to strike or slow down on the job, business owners have not just the directly confrontational lockout, but mass layoffs. And where workers and unions have the general strike, the capitalists have recession and depression, which are essentially degrees of a general lockout. Unfortunately, the capitalists have shown a much greater willingness to use their power than unions have in modern times. Months before Sept. 11, economists noted that the world economy was slipping. However slipping isn't the right word, because it suggests there is something inevitable or natural about it. Economic downturns are not like rain. They come because of the specific decisions of the capitalist class to reduce investment, cut production and slash employment.

This recession had hit the airline industry, which saw profits decline as both business travelers and individuals were flying less. Months before Sept. 11, airlines began asking employee groups for concessions. It is important to note that the reason they had to ask at all is that the airline industry is between 85 and 90 percent unionized, probably the most heavily organized industry in the USA. Unions in the airline industry gave

Canada halts airline layoffs

Air Canada received a setback for its cost-cutting plans when the Canadian Industrial Relations Board rejected layoff notices issued this week to more than 1,000 union workers. In rejecting the layoffs, the labor board ruled that a contract guaranteeing job security until April 2004 had to be honored.

Air Canada was already having problems before the Sept. 11 attacks. It announced 4,000 layoffs in August, then added on another 5,000 and reduced its flights by 20 percent in late September due to decreased traffic and canceled flights in the aftermath of the attacks.

The board ordered the airline and union to continue negotiations on ways to reduce the work force, such as early retirement packages and reduced work weeks.

Air Canada has grounded 84 aircraft, some of them transferred to a new discount subsidiary, Tabngo airline, which the carrier intends to operate on a non-union basis.

concessions throughout the 1980s and still watched companies go under. Thousands and thousands of their colleagues lose their jobs at Pan Am, Eastern, Braniff and others in spite of concessions. In the mid- to late-1990s, airline unions began fighting to regain some of the lost ground. The companies were making large profits and workers figured it was payback time. Management of course didn't feel that way, but unions made significant gains and some got not only significant improvements in wages and retirement, but some also achieved strong job protection clauses that prohibited layoffs except under specific conditions.

These contracts were signed during a boom economy, and as soon as it began to slump, management started whining that they needed concessions. They said employees should work faster, increase their workload, increase their health insurance contribution and in some cases actually lose pay as well. Fortunately, the unions held strong, and with few exceptions, were not willing to consider contract amendments as they had in the 1980s. Many problems are not sufficiently addressed in contracts, though. For example, some airlines are shifting from large planes to smaller regional jets. This means that pilots will get an overall cut in pay because their pay is based on the size of the plane. In addition the airlines will use fewer flight attendants on the smaller craft.

In the aftermath of Sept. 11, airline management has seized an opportunity. Previously, important figures in both political parties were publicly critical of the industry for its treatment of passengers, and there was talk of enacting regulations if airlines didn't fix the problems. But after Sept. 11, when airlines were grounded for days, there was sudden unanimity in Washington that the shareholders deserved to be saved from their fate. Profits accrue at the top, but society is expected to absorb the losses.

The industry is using the disaster to make cuts it could not have gotten away with before. The unions are timid, presumably for fear that standing up now would bring down the ire of the federal government. This is probably a safe assumption, but unlike the air traffic controllers of 1981 who were all fired by President Reagan, airline employees are private employees, and while the president can legally order workers into "cooling-off periods", if the unions would organize in an industrial fashion instead of into crafts the government would be powerless to stop them.

Needed: Industrial Unionism

Airline workers are currently divided into separate unions for pilots, flight attendants, mechanics, cleaners, reservations clerks, ticket seller, gate agents, baggage handlers, plus possible separate unions for the private suppliers like caterers, fuelers, etc. Furthermore, across the industry, there can be several different unions for each category of workers. For example, there are four significant unions for flight attendants in the US. While there is some communication be-

tween the different unions within and between companies, there seems to be little or no discussion of coordinated bargaining, much less collective action.

If there were a single union in airline or even strong cooperation between the unions in something besides lobbying, they would be able to stop these layoffs. A united call across the industry to shut it down if there were a single layoff would stop American, United, Continental, Delta, Northwest, US Airways and the others in their tracks. If there were a true commitment to solidarity, then if the unions determined that there actually was less work than the industry could support, then they would spread the work around evenly, assuring that no one lost their job, their health benefits and their paycheck.

Instead the unions are filing grievances, pleading with the company to follow the contract, if they have language preventing layoffs, or begging the company to pay a pittance of severance pay to those laid off if they don't. Either stance accepts the companies' right to set the terms of employment, to decide how many people they will hire and when they will be let go. There is no reason in an industry that is so heavily organized to ask for anything. The unions have the strength to dictate terms, if they would only choose to use it. It would require a large-scale education campaign because there is no question that many airline workers, like workers in general, are either afraid of conflict or simply accept the company's right to manage.

But times of crisis have always been the crucible for major change. If the unions in the airline industry were to stand together and issue a joint statement that there would be no layoffs and no concessions, and back it up by creating teams to educate the members about the struggle, simultaneously preparing for CHAOS actions (essentially intermittent strikes that have brought airline management down every time they have been used), then airline workers would win not only their own battle, but would demonstrate to workers everywhere what is possible through collective action.

Joshua Freeze is IWW GEB Chair and a member of the Association of Flight Attendants.

American evades contract

American Airlines has invoked an emergency clause in its union contracts that American says allows it to forgo paying severance to the 20,000 workers it is laying off.

The nation's largest airline informed employees of its decision in an e-mail shortly after Congress approved a \$15-billion federal bailout of the airline industry. American expects to receive about \$808 million in direct cash assistance as part of the package.

WTC death benefits reflect inequality

Not even death can escape the social and economic injustices practiced on poor and working people under the system we live in.

The Sept. 20 *New York Times* reported that although financial relief for survivors of those who died in the World Trade Center attack totals in the hundreds of millions of dollars, most of the funds are reserved for the families of firefighters, police and airline passengers. A federal program provides a minimum of \$151,635 to the family of each "first responder" – firefighter, police officer, or emergency medical worker – who died in the catastrophe. At the other end of the spectrum, kitchen workers at Windows on the World have \$15,000 life insurance policies, and their families' union health insurance will end in November. Service workers not represented by unions have even less.

"For two widows, Ann McCarthy and Mary Jean O'Leary, the gaps could not be more stark. The women are sisters-in-law... Their husbands worked on the floors occupied by Cantor Fitzgerald, the bond trading company in 1 World Trade Center. Mrs. McCarthy, whose husband, Robert McCarthy, worked directly for Cantor Fitzgerald, can count on insurance worth two years' salary, up to \$100,000... Cantor is providing health insurance for at least one year.

"By contrast, Mrs. O'Leary's husband, Gerald O'Leary, was a chef in the Cantor Fitzgerald corporate dining room, which was operated by Forte Food Services. Mr. O'Leary, 34, had no life insurance from the company. The only communication the O'Leary family has had from Forte has been an envelope with Mr. O'Leary's last paycheck... No note was included."

Los Angeles relief sites overwhelmed

Hundreds lined up at the first of three Los Angeles-area sites set up to provide assistance for hotel and restaurant workers hit by a wave of layoffs because of the slump in tourism. Aid volunteers were quickly overwhelmed with requests for food and financial assistance at the center, and the stock of groceries ran out in less than an hour.

More than 3,000 unionized hotel and restaurant employees in Los Angeles have lost their jobs or are working severely reduced hours since tourism collapsed last month. The overall number of affected hotel workers in the area could reach 15,000, aid workers said. Those who qualify for unemployment benefits can not afford to pay their rent on the meager benefits.

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Trains, Tramps & Traditions

Trains, Tramps, and Traditions, by The Rose Tattoo. Cookie Man Music, 2001. Available from IWW Literature Department for \$15.

BY JOSHUA FREEZE

A little over a year ago, I got a call from my branch secretary in Austin telling me that our friend and fellow worker Al Grierson had been killed in a flood. Al was a longtime musician and Wob, and was part of The Rose Tattoo, a group of old friends who, in the words of Utah Phillips, "sing old and new songs, bring forward in our lives the lore of trains and tramps and carry a Rose Tattoo." Some of the members have just issued a recording dedicated to the memory of Al and it's definitely worth a listen.

There's not a bad song on the CD, but my favorite is definitely "End of Train Device." Most Wobblies will remember watching trains at some time in their youth and

being fascinated by the caboose. It allowed the engineer to monitor air pressure and other conditions at the far end of the train. Some years ago, however, the rail companies in their endless drive for profit removed the caboose and three of the five crew members. In place of the three workers, there is now what the workers call a FRED, which we are informed has something to do with a Rear End Device. It has a red blinking light and electronically monitors the vital signs from the end. It replaced three of their fellow workers, and it doesn't pay union dues, so FRED is quite unpopular with the remaining railroad employees.

Fans of Utah Phillips will recognize a few of the songs and stories as versions of pieces he has recorded elsewhere. These include "Hood River Roll On" about one of the Hobo Grand Dukes, Hood River Blackie, and stories about Donna Devine, Slo Motion Shorty and Dawdlin' Bill.

Another one of the crew does a great song called "Jay Gould's Daughter." Jay Gould was the railroad baron who proclaimed that he could "hire half the working class to shoot the other half." The song has verses ranging from the racy innuendo to the cruel preferences of Gould's daughter about the hobos, "if they have to ride let 'em ride the rods, put their trust in the hands of God."

But the Goulds and other deserving folks get their comeuppance in the poem that follows, "Hell Bound Train," telling the colorful story of the passengers on the rails to inferno. No matter how they beg the devil to release them, he reminds them how "you've bullied the weak, you've robbed from the poor, turned the starving away from your door." The devil always gets his due.

A few tracks later we hear of the ghost of a railwayman named Kraus, killed in a mountain train wreck, telling tails of old, before an unknown war, playing a mouth harp faster than any before or since. The singer tells of his friendship with this wraith who must leave and board his train every morning, departing just before dawn.

Every song, every poem, every story is not to be missed. They remind us of the old days on the railroad and fellow workers of days gone by. Anyone interested in our side of American history, anyone who enjoys folk stories and songs, will want to give this a listen.

The IWW and the "macaroni riots"

BY STEVE KELLERMAN

Joseph W. Sullivan, **Marxists Militants & Macaroni: The IWW in Providence's Little Italy**, illustrated, 103 pages.

During the first two decades of the 20th century the IWW organized extensively among the workers of New England; the Lawrence, Mass., textile strike of 1912 being the best known and most dramatic event. Unskilled immigrant workers in the Providence, R.I., area who worked in construction, jewelry, garments, textiles and the metal trades organized against the excessively long hours and low pay they received.

The Italian immigrants centered in the Federal Hill-North End sections of Providence were particularly receptive to the IWW message and those neighborhoods witnessed repeated clashes between workers attempting to improve their conditions and police

sent to keep the workers in their place. The results of these efforts were mixed with the workers sometimes advancing their interests and other times being defeated. Many strikes occurred in the mills and shops, likewise with mixed results.

The summer of 1914 was a time of economic recession marked by widespread layoffs and resulting loss of income. Wholesale food merchants, called speculators, used the outbreak of the First World War in Europe at that time as a pretext for dramatically raising the cost of food, particularly staples such as pasta, flour, meat and sugar.

Unemployed workers in Providence were determined not to stand by idly as they and their families starved, and a series of food riots erupted in Federal Hill which continued from late August through September. The riots were marked by large-scale looting of businesses, particularly food wholesalers, pitched battles between police and area residents, wholesale arrests, and large numbers of injuries to both sides.

These events became known as the "Macaroni Riots" and are regularly commemorated each year in the Rhode Island press as a species of joke in which the contemporary public is invited to sneer at the eccentricities of the old-time immigrants. Sullivan tells us otherwise – the riots were a deadly serious response of radicalized and organized workers to the prospect of starvation. And he does a good job of it. It's well-written and its analysis of the events is sound.

This monograph was published by the Rhode Island Labor History Society and is available from the Labor Research Center, Hart House, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, R.I. 02881 for \$5 postpaid.

Latin American workers aid U.S. mariners' union

Brazilian oil workers' and seafarers' unions have launched a new Solidarity Pact with U.S. mariners who are fighting for the right to join a union. Signed in Rio de Janeiro, the pact pledges international cooperation to promote fairness, justice and a voice at work for mariners working on U.S.-flagged vessels of Trico Marine Services, Inc. Trico supplies shipping and other services to offshore oil producers.

The Pact calls on Trico customers to stop doing business with the company until it abandons its union-busting efforts. It was backed by maritime unions from all over Latin America, who resolved to "support OMU and the Bilateral Solidarity Pact by taking steps to persuade Trico Marine to end its campaign of intimidation, including any and all steps ... which would have the effect of limiting Trico's ability to expand its operations anywhere in Latin America."

The OMU is a coalition of American mariners' unions. Trico Marine operates a fleet of nearly 100 vessels worldwide in the Gulf of Mexico and the North Sea and off Brazil. Trico mariners in the North Sea and Brazil enjoy the protection of a union contract. U.S. workers are not so lucky.

One country where Trico workers have full union rights is Norway. The Norwegian oil and petrochemical workers' union NOPEF has mounted a sustained campaign to back their American colleagues' right to organize.

Independent unions in Cuba

Workers are attempting to form independent unions in Cuba. One such group is the Consejo Unitario de Trabajadores Cubanos which has a Spanish-language website at <http://webcutc.org>. They have been organizing bicycle-taxi workers and the government has been trying to bust the union by taking away their licenses.

Another group is the Movimiento Sindical Independiente de Cuba: <http://www.cubanet.org/sindical/sindical.html>

South African general strike

Workers across South Africa staged a general strike August 29-30, protesting the ANC government's plan to step up the pace of privatization. The strike was called by the Congress Of South African Trade Unions, and backed by a rival federation, the National Council of Trade Unions.

Workers in the state-owned electricity, telecommunications and armaments companies (targeted for privatization) took the lead in the strike. In Johannesburg, 20,000 demonstrators demanded the government choose between the workers who voted it into power, and the capitalists whose interests it has served ever since.

Some 7,000 workers marched in Cape Town to deliver a message to former union official turned government bureaucrat Lucky Montana. As Montana approached the stage, workers began singing a derisive freedom song of the post-apartheid era: amabhulu amnyama asenzi-worry (these black Boers are making us worried; the Boers were the white Afrikaans who led the apartheid regime from 1948 to 1994.) Workers then swarmed the city, singing the same refrain.

Many government officials are former union officials or members of the South African Communist Party, including Minister of Public Enterprises Jeff Radebe, a SACP central committee member actively pushing the government's privatization scheme.

While many workers are increasingly outraged at the government's betrayals, it is not clear that the unions have the stomach for an all-out fight against the regime. An earlier wave of general strikes against the privatization of water in 1998 was called off when the government agreed that the public sector would be the "preferred option" for municipal services. That agreement has been consistently ignored by the authorities.

Collective responsibility

South African retailer Snip Trading has fired its entire workforce because of excessive shoplifting by customers. The company holds workers personally responsible for all losses, even if they were off work at the time.

New York Univ. fires union backer

New York University has denied tenure (essentially firing him at the end of this academic year) to education professor Joel Westheimer, in apparent retaliation for his support for the right of NYU graduate assistants to unionize. Westheimer was the only non-tenured NYU faculty member to testify in support of graduate-assistant unionization at National Labor Relations Board hearings.

The principle rationale offered by NYU for the decision – inadequate scholarship – clearly has no basis. Westheimer has a substantial body of publications, including a very well received book published by the prestigious Teachers College Press. Indeed, NYU gave Westheimer annual ratings of "exceptional merit" in every review until he disagreed with the administration's anti-union position, and he won NYU's own internal award for the best research in the School of Education. Westheimer was unanimously recommended for tenure by his department's tenure and promotion committee.

N.Y.U. is the only private university in the United States to recognize a graduate-employee union to date, a decision the administration took only after spending years unsuccessfully fighting the union before the National Labor Relations Board. Union drives at several other private colleges are under way.

Westheimer's case comes soon after an incident of retaliation at the State University of New York at Buffalo, where a dean removed a tenured professor as head of the English department for refusing to discipline teaching assistants suspected of withholding undergraduates' grades as a protest against low stipends.

U of Puerto Rico strike

A strike by nonteaching staff closed the University of Puerto Rico's 11 campuses Oct. 10 and 11 when professors and students refused to cross picket lines. Administrators said they were "very willing" to return to the bargaining table. Retirement benefits were the main issue under dispute.

Spiritual bosses

Faced with soaring discontent that saw 50,000 postal workers go on wildcat strike in May, Britain's Royal Mail has embraced "spiritual values" according to an August 8 BBC report.

Rather than halt their brutal speed-ups or accord workers some level of decent treatment, management has hired Corptools, a U.S. company that promises to help employees find spiritual satisfaction in their work. As the BBC's Emma Clark put it, "The idea that touchy-feely spirituality could reform a disillusioned workforce, prone to wildcat strikes, is bound to delight the cynics." (Of course, the workforce is not at all the problem needing to be addressed, but it's called the boss press for a reason.)

Royal Mail evidently hopes to replace workers' reliance on unions with a spiritual faith in the boss. Dr. Rafael Gomez at the London School of Economics says spirituality aims to align worker and employee interests, so "obviating the route to the unions."

Corptools says its brand of spirituality is all the more essential during hard times. "Companies that downsize in a caring way come back faster than those who do not."

Meanwhile, Royal Mail management is commissioning joint reports with the Communication Workers Union, which represents most staff (though the IWW has a growing presence among UK posties), and last year forced through "The Way Forward" union-management cooperation deal, further undermining workers' conditions.

No wonder Royal Mail laments the "clear divide between managers and staff which is exacerbated by the lack of trust and respect for each other." It would be much more convenient if workers were to trust their bosses – it's always easier to devour an unsuspecting victim.

More work, less pay

Labor Notes reports that the latest NAFTA figures show that jobs in Mexican maquilas more than doubled from 1994 to 2001, from 546,433 to 1,240,840. But manufacturing wages dropped by 21 percent, even though manufacturing productivity was up 47.7%. Hard work just doesn't pay.

BOOKS FOR REBEL WORKERS

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Environmentalism for workers

The Fate of the New Carissa

by Arthur J. Miller A first-hand account of a ship explosion which filled Oregon's Coos Bay with chemicals, fuels, and filth. Also discusses the "flag of convenience" system which allows ship owners to escape safety, environmental, and labor laws. **16pp \$2**

Dangerous Premises: An Insider's View of OSHA Enforcement

by Don J. Lofgren. A former inspector for the California Occupational Safety and Health Administration tells a compelling tale of corporate disregard for worker health and safety in conversational, accessible language. In the format of eleven case studies of different kinds of worksites, Lofgren maintains a critical tone towards OSHA, a toothless law that has been worsened by politicians since its inception. Lofgren's case studies and analysis also make it clear that workers with strong and responsive union representation gain the most from OSHA, as union representatives are generally not afraid to make complaints. **244pp \$12.00**

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 \$17.00**

Labor History

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**

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**

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 everyday life and rank-and-file initiative. While this edition is somewhat less optimistic than the original, it still provides rich detail of workers' rebellions throughout American history, and abundant evidence for the proposition that workers are fully capable of making our own history, should we set our minds to the task. **\$22.00**

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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**

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The General Strike by Ralph Chaplin The classic text - a call for organization. **\$2.00**

Organizing Help

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. Shows that sitdown strikes still aren't dead and immigrant workers can be organized. **262pp \$17**

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**

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Bucky Halker: Don't Want Your Millions Includes little-known songs such as "New Made Graves of Centralia" and "Death of Mother Jones." Also features Wobbly classics "Rebel Girl" and "Dump the Bosses" and spoken word by Studs Turkel. **\$15**

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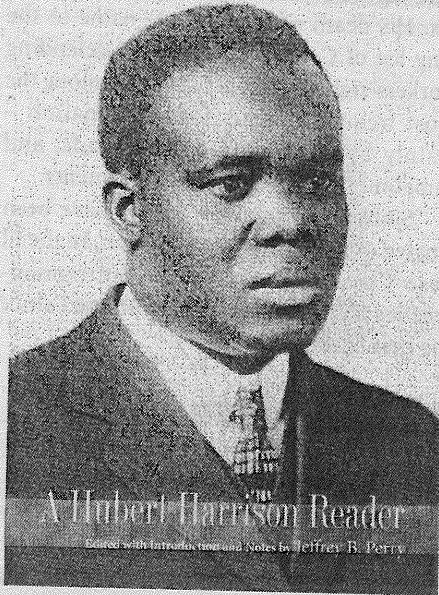
A Hubert Harrison Reader

Edited with introduction & notes by Jeffrey B. Perry

Besides being an excellent collection of nearly-forgotten works by Hubert Harrison, the overall work poses interesting questions on the concepts of multi-cultural unionism, direct action, and "Race First" organizations. This just-published book provides critical insights and counterpoints to the thinking of Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, and Marcus Garvey.

A biographical sketch of Harrison that is sure to entice you is included in this issue. (See page 1.)

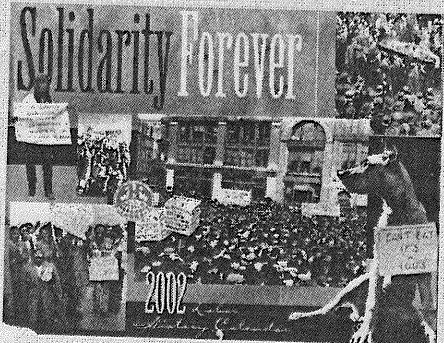
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Songs for Tramps

The Rose Tattoo: Trains Tramps & Traditions

train and hobo songs by the usual suspects: Utah Phillips, Larry Penn, Mark Suckiel, Bob & Diana Suckiel, Kuddie and Bruce Brackney. (See review.) **\$15.00**

Workers resist bosses the whole world 'round

Korean govt. jails KCTU union head

The Korean government has broken an agreement to release KCTU president Dan Byung-ho Oct. 3, bringing new charges just 100 hours before his scheduled release.

Dan was re-incarcerated August 2 for leading a KCTU strike wave in June, as a result of a government promise that serving out the remainder of his suspended sentence would end months of hostilities. The government agreed to ease up on mass arrests of KCTU activists and to abandon a prosecutorial pursuit of the KCTU leadership following a "voluntary" surrender by president Dan.

He was originally released in August 1999 as a part of a general presidential amnesty. At the time of his release, he had 2 months and 4 days of his prison sentence remaining. He was released on a "suspension" of the execution of the sentence.

The KCTU has called on workers around the world to protest the Korean government's betrayal of its agreement and the jailing of KCTU's president.

Italy: general strike

As we go to press, the independent labor federation Unicobas is preparing for an Oct. 19 general strike. Originally called to protest government austerity plans, Unicobas added anti-war demands in the wake of the allied bombing of Afghanistan.

"The general strike will serve as a warning against any temptation to bring Italy into the war," said Unicobas General Secretary Stefano d'Errico. "The horror of terrorism on the part of fundamentalist minds, which struck at thousands of innocent civilians, must not be emulated through destructive wars whose prime victims are of course the usual innocent, helpless people... On another front, the wartime Budget Bill goes completely against the interests of the workers... The allocation of funds for the renewal of state employees' contracts ... are not sufficient even to meet the demands of inflation.

"As for schools, the Government's economic manoeuvrings could honestly be described as a mockery. Instead of an adequate increase in the salaries of teachers to meet European levels, we will actually have a drop" even as working hours are increased by six hours per week and full-time teachers forced to fill in for temporary teachers. The 50,000 lost teaching jobs are to be replaced by an equivalent number of administrators, Unicobas reports.

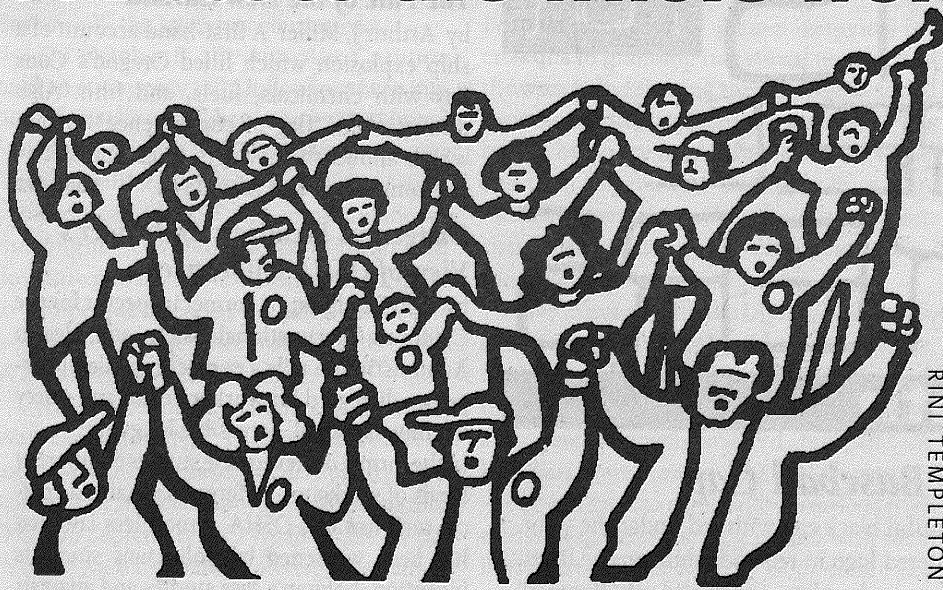
South African strike hits Mozambique union-busting

South Africa's National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa) called a solidarity strike against the Billiton metals and minerals conglomerate Oct. 4 in solidarity with workers in Mozambique. Numsa had settled its own dispute with the company in August.

Once a pillar of the apartheid economy, Gencor used its profits from South Africa's slave labor economy to purchase the European Billiton, transforming South African executives into British-based multinational executives. Billiton has since gone on a buying spree around the world.

Numsa cited the company's violation of International Labor Organization conventions protecting the right to strike after Billiton fired 700 strikers at its Mozal plant. "We have to strive for global laws and global equity," said Numsa rep. Dumisa Ntuli.

The solidarity action has a particular edge at Billiton's campaign over Mozal, especially at the Hillside smelter at Richards Bay where management was attempting to recruit scabs. "Capital has never respected borders. Now we are starting to do the same," noted one angry Hillside worker.



RINI TEMPLETON

Ghana: battle over privatization

BY E. ASIEDU-ACQUAH, ACCRA

The debate over privatization of water service to urban areas is getting more acrimonious. The government has charged that the Integrated Social Development Centre (ISODEC), which has been fighting the proposal, should be ignored because it belongs to the Coalition Against Privatisation.

The government branded CAP as "a leftist group opposed to private direct investment from Western countries... The activities of ISODEC are funded and controlled by this leftist group," the government document titled "Ghanaians should ignore ISODEC" charged. "At a time when the Government of Ghana is making every effort to attract foreign private investment into the country, the activities of ISODEC could only be described as unpatriotic and anti-development."

ISODEC argues that if water provision is handed over to a private company it would make it very difficult for the poorer segment of the population to get access to treated water, which it regards a right.

At the heart of the dispute is whether the World Bank and other donors' attempts to reform the water sector amounts to "privatisation." The government insists that the restructuring process is not privatisation but Private Sector Participation or Public-Private Partnership.

The scheme would lease Ghana Water Company Ltd assets for ten years. The government concedes that most Ghanians would be unable to afford water under private management, and has pledged to subsidize rates for five years. After that time, water users would be forced to cover full market rates.

Nigerian labor protests WTO

The Nigerian Labour Congress has threatened to thwart government plans to enter into a new World Trade Organization agreement through a series of massive protests and strikes.

NLC President Adams Oshiomhole said: "WTO ... is very useful but only for countries that are into export business. It is a club of exporting nations. Unfortunately, Nigeria like the rest of Africa has nothing really to export. It is like someone who does not drink palm-wine joining a palm-wine drinkers club. Even if they bring 10 kegs of palm-wine, it will be useless to him."

A WTO-supported influx of foreign goods is killing local industries, causing massive job losses, according to the NLC. "We are therefore saying that Nigeria has no business supporting another round of WTO because we are yet to absorb the shock arising from the first round. Therefore, it will be suicidal to go for the second round," Oshiomhole said.

While South Africa and Egypt have enjoyed marginal benefits, he said, the rest of Africa is left unprotected and doomed.

Colombian union leader murdered

Gustavo Soler, president of the El Paso section of the energy workers' union Sintramienergética, has been murdered in Colombia. His death adds one more name to the long list of Colombians slain for defending workers' rights. Labor activists are among the most frequent targets for assassination — mainly by right-wing death squads, and sometimes also by guerrilla movements.

Sintramienergética seems to have been singled out for particular attention. In the El Paso-Cesar area alone, five Sintramienergética activists have been murdered since the first of this year.

10,000 demand 'social Europe'

More than 10,000 unionists and anti-globalization activists joined demonstrations in Liege, Belgium, calling for a more "social Europe" Sept. 21 as European finance ministers began arriving for an Ecofin summit.

The European Trade Union Confederation called on EU finance ministers to protect the European social model and public services, and to fight against financial speculation. They also called for measure to prop up European economies and employment.

Euro dock strikes

Port workers staged stoppages across Europe Sept. 25, to protest EU port reform plans. While the European Union set out to restructure ports in order to break union power, the Federation of European Private Port Operators and the European Sea Port Organisation have recently joined the opposition to the plans.

Where strikes are illegal or restricted, dockworkers unions will hold safety discussions and other actions that will close ports.

The proposal would encourage shippers to demand lower prices through unsafe working conditions and the use of untrained personnel, leading to the creation of dangerous and sub-standard ports.

French strike for jobs, shorter hours

Nearly a dozen of Paris' major tourist attractions, including the Orsay Museum and the Arc de Triomphe, were closed Oct. 12 as workers struck for a fourth day over the government's enforcement of a shorter workweek. The Louvre opened its doors only in mid-afternoon, a day after workers let all visitors in for free as part of the protest.

Workers stayed away to protest the government's application of a plan to reduce the work week from 39 hours to 35 hours. Many say they cannot take the extra time that is due to them because no one has been hired to replace them. Seven unions threatened to extend the strike if talks with Culture Minister Catherine Tasca failed to open further negotiations about creating more jobs.

Solidarity wins reinstatement

After Mexmode fired workers suspected of organizing a boycott of the company cafeteria, an international campaign forced Nike to step in to resolve the dispute. Mexmode's 900 Tlixco, Mexico, workers produce Nike and Reebok sweatshirts for colleges in the United States.

Workers boycotted the plant cafeteria because they were fed up with finding worms in their salads. Several workers were fired for the boycott, and the company-recognized union, the Revolutionary Confederation of Workers and Peasants, ignored their pleas for help. So in early January Mexmode workers walked off their jobs and staged a sit-in. Police forcibly removed them from the plant.

United Students Against Sweatshops staged protests outside Nike stores across the United States in response. Officials from the Workers Rights Consortium and from Nike conducted separate investigations of conditions at Mexmode.

The cross-border campaign prompted Nike to press Mexmode to reinstate the ousted workers, create a formal grievance process, address complaints of harassment and improve cafeteria conditions.

As a result, workers at Mexmode, most of them single mothers in their 20s, have received two raises this year. The cafeteria food now seems safe for human consumption. Some employees even say it tastes good.

Child laborers have been removed from production lines. The 450 seamstresses and machine operators at Mexmode recently won the right to kick out corrupt labor leaders and form their own union.

"This fight showed that globalization has another face," said Huberto Juárez Nuñez, a labor expert at the Autonomous University of Puebla. "Companies are going to be required to do more than abide by weak regional laws. Their codes of conduct must set global standards that treat workers as world citizens and guarantee them certain levels of dignity and respect."

The changes won in this scenic city some 70 miles southeast of Mexico City have also provided help for Mexico's fledgling independent labor movement.

With an explosion in the number of foreign-owned assembly plants since the North American Free Trade Agreement went into effect seven years ago, labor organizers hope the movement at Mexmode will inspire workers' in 3,400 foreign-owned assembly plants across the country to fight against poverty wages and unsafe workplaces.

Mexmode workers, who still earn \$4.50 to \$5 a day, say conditions have improved but that they still do not make enough money to support their children, and so they are forced to rely on their parents.

After Mexmode managers revoked the former union's collective bargaining agreement in September, workers were granted the right to form an independent union. The new union has already signed up 80 percent of the plant's workers.

Global protests planned for Qatar WTO meeting

World Trade Organisation plans for a new round of trade talks in Doha, Qatar Nov. 9-13 despite growing dissension within its ranks. A European Union proposal to address environmental protection and food safety issues to the agenda has encountered widespread opposition, with many countries claiming such protections would endanger agricultural exports.

In an historic first, the union movement is planning joint action around the world Nov. 9 to protest corporate globalization. Unions are being asked to organize actions across the globe to make it clear that "our world is not for sale."