



WOBBLIES!

A GRAPHIC HISTORY OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

EDITED BY **PAUL BUHLE** AND **NICOLE SCHULMAN**

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SPAIN RODRIGUEZ ★ SABRINA JONES ★ SUE COE ★ MIKE ALEWITZ AND MANY MORE

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VERSO

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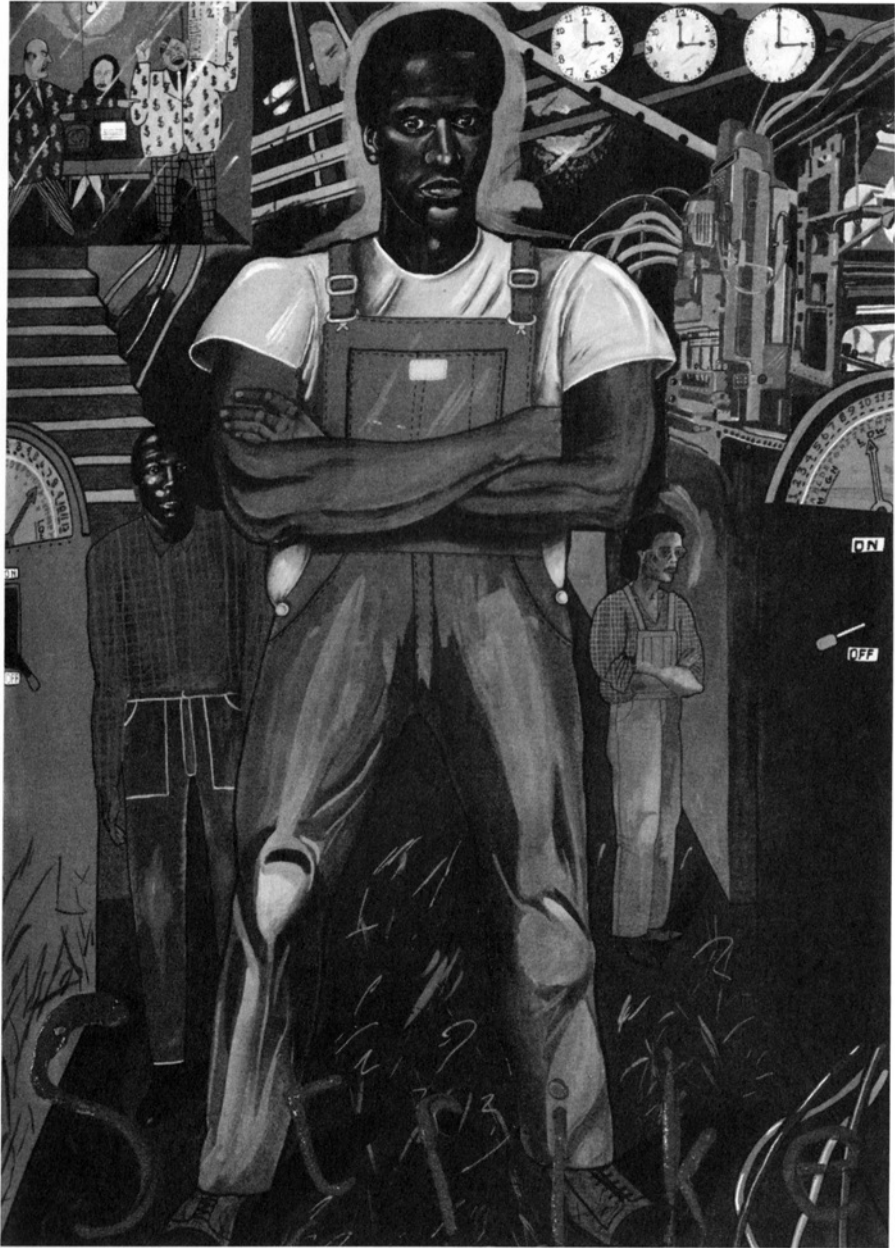
*To the Industrial Workers of the World,
Past, Present and Future—
For another Century of Rebellion!*

In 1989 I had the bright idea that a historical/graphic approach to the IWW's 2005 100th anniversary would be a unique way to tell the story. Growing up in a New York City construction-trade household, the idea of industrial unionism came to me with my mother's milk. As the biggest rebel who ever put on a pair of shoes, coming of age in the 1960s, it was inevitable that I would discover the IWW.

Dedicated to my grandfather, Peter Kucewicz, draft resister to the Czar's army, and to my father who taught me that the owning class and the working class have nothing in common.

We never forget!

GEORGE KUCEWICZ



Sue Coe

THE NEW CENTURY Sang of FREEDOM

Isadora Duncan danced its anthem. Barefoot and uncorseted, she wrought ecstatic havoc from the classical Greece of her mind to the salons of Greenwich Village.



Emma Goldman, labeled "Anarchist" on mug shots, maybe never uttered her famous quote: "If I can't dance, I don't want your revolution!" But she did declare her right to free love:

I will start a relationship when I feel the desire, and when it is over, I will end it just as quietly.



Toughened up by early years of factory work, she conceived the economics of birth control.

Despising marriage and other slaveries, Isadora danced free for Russia's revolutionary workers and children.

Margaret Sanger followed Emma's lead, and was jailed for her "obscene" pamphlets on contraception.

Ladylike Mrs. Sanger took lover after lover, and urged her dotting husband to do likewise.





Mockingly nicknamed
"The Ashcan School,"

artists like
John Sloan
painted truth
and beauty
from tenement
stoop to
rooftop.



You think WE'RE bad?

The Masses' pages
pulsed with their
rebellious line.



They imported maverik modernists
from Europe for the Armory Show.



"The City of Ambition"
(so-called in Steiglitz's photo)
absorbed the impact
of Parisian Cubism:

Dada darling
Marcel Duchamp
(A.K.A. Rrose Selavy,)



whose mechanistic
magnet for outrage:
"Nude Descending
a Staircase"

was ridiculed as
"an explosion in
a shingle factory"



by a hostile
critic who recognized
its radical intent.

The neo-primitive mask of
Picasso's Gertrude Stein,
ex-patriate den mother
of the avant garde,



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INTRODUCTION

The Industrial Workers of the World—according to its members and devotees the “Greatest Thing On Earth,” but according to employers and labor’s conservatives a menace to society—is exactly a century old in 2005. How could a movement that in its best years averaged a hundred thousand members have brought together, for a time, the poorest and most downtrodden working people from every race and group, and written some of the most moving and funniest songs mocking the rich exploiters and their willing slaves? Why would American poets, novelists, and radicals from John Dos Passos and Gary Snyder to Noam Chomsky (whose father was a Wobbly) continue to invoke “the Wobblies” when the memory of most unions is utterly gone from personal or family recollection? These are good questions, all right. The legends of the Wobbly are not so different, in some ways, from the legends of other bigger-than-life characters, like that of Johnny Appleseed (the real-life John

INTRODUCTION

Chapman, who walked the frontier barefoot, preaching peace and planting apple seeds), or John Henry (the folk-mythical African-American who beat the steam engine and died in the process), or Paul Bunyon (the bigger-than-life logger, invented for advertising purposes by a timber company) among others. But the Wobs are very different in other ways.

The Wobbly, male or female, Asian or Occidental, black, brown, red or white, was only an ordinary human being in physique. He or she was different above all because of a “message” that was explained, preached, and sung around the camp fires of “bindle stiffs” (agricultural workers carrying bags or “bindles”) and “timber wolves” (lumber workers); at the “mess” or commissary of hard-rock miners and seamen; on the streets of mill villages but also in the social halls of Finnish-American, Hungarian or Russian immigrants; across the borders in Canada and Mexico by men and women who moved from one job to another; and, for a while, even in the parlors of Greenwich Village. Their story was collaborative, collective, not reliant on any one hero or heroine—as heroic (or tragic) as individual Wobblies’ lives might be.

The Wobblies were also unique in creating the real-life legend of “hobohemia,” a word that does not even exist among today’s homeless, rootless, impoverished wanderers. Try to imagine a “hobo university” (in Chicago), or hobo travel etiquette (in order to ride in a boxcar across large regions of the Plains States, you needed to show your IWW red card), or Chicago’s “Bughouse Square” with its free-speech zone for anyone willing to stand up on a soapbox and face an audience demanding a lively, convincing presentation. These are images from a lost age; or are they?

This book looks at the Wobblies in many different ways. But perhaps the most important of these is the vision of plain folk running society for their own benefit—without bosses, without politicians, without a coercive State, Army, Navy, Air Force or Marines. But also without hatred and suspicion of “foreigners,” or the frequently all-encompassing guilt that because we are rich, someone wants to take our riches

away from us. The belief in freedom and internationalism makes the Wobblies just about the most American ideal possible, and got them arrested and sent to prison for long sentences during the First World War—by an acclaimed liberal Democratic administration. Not really because they told anyone to resist that pointless and brutal war, but because their ideas, their very existence, represented a threat to the big men who wanted war.

That way of looking at freedom makes the IWW seem like a lot more than a labor organization, or bigger than all the other labor organizations combined. It looks, for instance, like the grassroots of the ecological/environmental movement. It looks like the Mexicans and Americans who welcomed the Zapatistas taking back the land that had been stolen from their people. It looks like every antiwar movement. It even looks a little like the world John Lennon summed up in the song “Imagine”: no distant god, no country, just us humans, all of us, and our world.

It also looks—a lot more than anyone would have suspected, thirty or forty years ago—like the submerged and rapidly submerging America of today. The world of the Wobs was made up of immigrant workers without steady employment, health plans, social security or drug benefits (like the future that Republicans and many a Democrat envision), without any responsibility on the part of the filthy rich for the growing class of poor—so much like the society around us today. The world of the Wobblies was one realized in its best moments by solidarity across race, ethnic, gender and nationality lines. The Wobbly world and promise was wrecked, finally, by the eager collaboration of corporate business and the military, liberals and conservatives, all of them committed firmly to Empire. Will the same thing or something like it happen, as the empire slides into crisis again? Only time will tell. But what the Wobs did was to hold up an alternative, the alternative we need now more than ever.

WHY “WOBBLIES”?

One of the most interesting and never-to-be-resolved questions about the IWW is how they acquired their moniker. We know that it took hold popularly in 1914, with the first line of a song, “I knew he was a Wobbly by the button that he wore.” IWW members ever after repeated what little they had heard, or they invented new bits of folklore that might explain how a word that had meant to quiver or tremble became a term for a romantic rebel, male or female.

During the Wheatland, California strike of 6000 impoverished hop pickers in 1913, a strike leader (Herman “Hook Nose” Suhr, soon to be arrested and indicted) sent out a telegram saying “Send all speakers and wobblies possible.” In the subsequent trial of Suhr and fellow organizer Richard “Blackie” Ford, a defense attorney asked an IWW publicist what it meant and was told that “Wobbly” was used “generally in the working class to designate IWW.” Subsequent publicity prompted the song “Overalls and Snuff,”

by an anonymous lyricist, identifying the Wobbly as an old-time hop picker with "his blankets on his back." The 1914 edition of the *Little Red Song Book* carried the lyrics. During the next harvest season, in 1915, IWW poet-songster Richard Brazier used the word "Wob" to describe the old-timer, and in 1915, poet Ralph Chaplin announced in "Harvest Song": "The earth is on the button that we wobblies wear/We'll turn the sab cat loose or get our share," effectively combining various symbols.

But where did the word actually come from? Was it that "Eye-Double-You-Double-You," once coined, had a nice ring to it; or could it have derived from the wobbling walk of Wobbly hobos with too much to drink (or just workers on the job with too much to carry on their backs)? Or, more indirectly, from erotic references especially rich in African-American musical slang ("Wobble It a Little, Daddy," by Lillian Glinn, or another phrase, "You wiggle and you wobble, you move it around"), a possibility furthered by the conservatives' description of radical socialists as acting like uncivilized Africans? Or could it possibly have derived from international sources, traveling Australian workers (the IWW was especially popular in Australia) who were called "wallabies," thus translated to "wobbly"? Or is the answer perhaps in the all-time favorite anecdote, the tale of the Chinese cook in a railroad building camp in Oregon around 1912 who had trouble pronouncing "double you" and whose usage was taken up in friendly fashion rather than racist derision?

Whatever its origin, it was forever destined to be a comical word reflecting the IWW outlook on life. Wobblies weren't ashamed of being "wobbly," whether it was used as complaint against them being vulgar (or somehow connected with African-American culture) or unmacho, or anything else. Wobblies most loved, after the *Communist Manifesto*, the booklet by Marx's son-in-law Paul Lafargue: *The Right To Be Lazy*. It notably insisted that the true happiness of pre-civilization had been in leisure, a leisure destined to return when capitalism and class society had vanished once again. There would be plenty of time to wobble then.



ONE

EARLY DAYS

No one can say exactly where the inspiration for the Industrial Workers of the World came from. The origins are too numerous both in the US and abroad, and over the twenty or forty years prior to 1905 and the consolidation of industrialization (with immigrants making up most of the workers in the new US factories). But the idea of “Solidarity” is so old and so basic that it was known centuries or even millennia earlier. The vision of the romantic rebel or footloose hobo wanderer was a little more recent, dating popularly to the eighteenth or nineteenth century, the response of a free spirit to a society that seemed ever more complex and restrictive.

A considerable number of Wobblies were at least part Indian, and decades after the near-collapse of the IWW, the “old Wobblies” on ships or in lumber camps were often the same men. One of the chief inspirations of socialism’s “Founding Fathers,” Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels, in their later years, was the American anthropologist

WOBBLIES!

Lewis Henry Morgan. After intensive ethnographic investigations, Morgan claimed to have discovered among Indians the original “communistic” society of extended families and tribes sharing their possessions instead of accumulating private property, and living in nature as harmoniously as they could. The vision of what was called the “Golden Day”—primitive communism before the rise of ruling classes, established churches, armies, and empires—was also widespread among European working classes by time of the rise of modern industrialism. The medieval revolt of European villagers and peasants against Church and Crown created communistic societies of sharing that lasted for weeks or months before being drowned in an ocean of blood by invading soldiers.

These movements left behind memories that fed the dreamers, artists, poets, and philosophers alike, for many generations to come. The mystic Belgian painter Hieronymus Bosch drew murals of a utopian society of (naked) people living in nature with each other and the animals until the armies and priests set upon them. The shoemaker-philosopher Jakob Boehme later described the tree of life that had fed all freely until the merchant had taken over the tree. William Blake, the great British poet-engraver of the 1790s–1810s, pointed to “Satan’s Dark Mills” as the plague of modern exploitation, and the return of freedom as the realization of all human (and divine) dreams. In the US, utopians like the Shakers had founded cooperative villages, living without property or harm to nature (also without sex), in hopes of setting an example. New settlements sprung up at the end of the nineteenth century, mostly in response to the utopian novel by newspaperman Edward Bellamy, *Looking Backward* (1888), one of the best-selling books of the century.

But there were other sources less literary and less distant. After the Civil War, massive industry grew up faster than anyone could have imagined, with previously unthinkable wealth accruing to the bankers but with millions of desperately poor working people, employed at low wages or unemployed in the frequent economic

recessions. The first nationwide railroad strike took place in 1877, shutting down lines across the whole Eastern United States; troops fired on strikers and rioters who opened freight cars for food. The city of St. Louis was controlled, for a week, by socialists who kept the strike going and who themselves organized deliveries of needed food and public services. It was the first time that virtually a whole US city went on strike and began to reorganize its social relations from the inside.

The earliest mass movement for an eight-hour workday, during 1885–86, highlighted the different roles of two kinds of labor movements. The American Federation of Labor, founded in 1883, sought to organize skilled workers (almost entirely white and male) only, for their self-protection and advancement. It charged high “initiation” fees for new members as a way to limit membership, and frequently invited only the sons or other relatives of existing members to join organized trades. The Knights of Labor, founded in 1869 as a secret society, invited all (except Chinese) to join, enrolled thousands of African-American workers and in some places a majority of women workers of an industry, and promised to roll back the “wage system” in favor of some more cooperative social order.

The radical challenge to society, culminating in strikes across the nation on May Day, 1886, ended in tragedy. In Chicago, following days of police brutality towards strikers, a rally in the city’s Haymarket district heard its last speaker and proceeded to disperse when a bomb was thrown at police. Eight well-known anarchists were arrested and put on trial, convicted for “conspiracy”—not because any proof could be offered of their involvement in the bombing but because of their revolutionary ideas. Police swept through the headquarters of socialist groups (mostly German-Americans) across the country, broke up social halls, destroyed the equipment of socialistic newspapers, and initiated the first “Red Scare,” more than thirty years before Bolsheviks took power in Russia. The Knights of Labor were destroyed, while the rival AFL survived.

WOBBLIES!

In the years between the railroad strike and the 1886 repression, the Chicago anarchists (they called themselves "Social Revolutionists") were probably the most Wobbly-like of any American labor organization. They held giant parades and picnics with red flags and dance music in the warm weather, and mocked the rich people in giant demonstrations at Thanksgiving. They prepared themselves, in marching societies, to fight the ruling class with weapons if necessary. They also opened revolutionary schools for children, read (and wrote) poetry, created their own theater of radical plays, and published vivid newspapers with lots of illustrations. Some say that after the strike wave was crushed, their hope died and many committed suicide. This last detail cannot be confirmed but has a ring of truth.

The 1890s saw the worst depression in American history. Millions went hungry, and tens of thousands living in miserable tenements, their resistance weakened, were stricken with tuberculosis. Alcoholism soared. With so many workers desperate for jobs, employers drastically reduced wages and sought to wipe out the existing unions. Violent battles broke out, like that involving the highly skilled steelworkers of Homestead, Pennsylvania, who fought a small war with the Carnegie corporation. (Anarchist Alexander Berkman, Emma Goldman's lover, attempted, without success, to assassinate Henry Clay Frick, the Chairman of Carnegie Steel.) But the two most important labor battles of the time made the birth of the IWW both more possible, and more necessary.

The first, and largest, single show of solidarity in American labor to that point was the Pullman Strike. Its champion, and everyone's favorite radical until his death in 1926, was Eugene Victor Debs, a leader of the highly-restricted Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen, from Terra Haute, Indiana. Named for European radical novelists Eugene Sue and Victor Hugo, young Gene Debs was a Democrat and a promising personality in the AFL. After seeing his union lose strike after strike, he led the formation of a new, all-inclusive body, the American Railway Union. Not long

after its founding, it was faced with a dilemma: to support the builders of the ostentatious Pullman Cars, made in a factory town just outside Chicago, or to ignore the plight of these factory workers, and lose the vision of solidarity. Debs chose strike, and railway lines closed again, almost entirely west of the Mississippi. Unlike 1877, this was a peaceful strike, but also unlike 1877, the President declared a national emergency and sent in federal troops. Debs, arrested and sent to the Woodstock, Illinois jail, was said to have read the *Communist Manifesto* in his cell and become a lifelong socialist. He was also a revered working-class leader.

The second event was actually a series of strikes by the hard-rock miners of the West. The Western Federation of Miners, tough men who worked underground, risking their lives daily, learned quickly that their employers intended to have no unions at all. Armed battles broke out in the 1890s, with carbines, dynamite, and plenty of fighting, and with the law almost entirely on the side of the mine owners. The miners also learned that the American Federation of Labor, whose leaders had ridiculed Eugene Debs' railwaymen for abandoning the craft lines of organization, had no interest in defending the miners. What Wobblies would call the "American Separation of Labor" insisted upon what was called "craft autonomy" in which negotiations were entirely separate for each type of job, and workers in one part of a business had no reason to strike with workers in another part of the business. Something better was needed. The "Continental Congress of the Working Class" is how William "Big Bill" Haywood described the meeting in Chicago, June, 1905, with hundreds of delegates and some of the biggest names in American radicalism on hand. It was that, but it might also be described as the something more that was needed. Just prior to the convention, socialist editor Daniel DeLeon had articulated the vision of a stage in human evolution, going beyond the political State to a future global commonwealth of cooperative labor. Drawing upon Lewis Henry Morgan's studies of American Indians, DeLeon declared that collective, cooperative societies

WOBBLIES!

had been the basis of civilization; out of their break-up, fostered by the rise in productive possibilities (better tools, trade, and so on) arose the monarchy, the military, and the oppression of ordinary people. After many centuries (and peasant revolts), an industrial working class emerged. In the industrially advanced United States, the working class had been prepared ready to assume control of society and to replace “politics” and the “State” with a government of direct rule. As Marx had pointed out about the Paris Commune (and Lenin would repeat for the Soviets), the existing government apparatus could not be infiltrated and taken over piecemeal; it had to be dissolved and replaced by a truly democratic, modern form of government.

At the convention, held in Brand's Hall in Chicago's north side opening on June 27, 1905, the one-eyed William D. “Big Bill” Haywood called the meeting to order. Within the next few days, ordinary delegates expressed fundamental, practical ideas about the labor movement, emphasizing that labor needed solidarity in practice not in words. The American Federation of Labor's craft unionism was not only out of date (organized for an earlier period of industrial labor) but ineffective, exclusionary and unfair to the masses of industrial workers. As usual, a Wob song (called “The General Strike”) explained the logic best:

“Now we have no fight with the members of the old AF of L
But we ask you use your reason for the facts we have to tell
Your craft is but protection for a form of property
And your skill is the property you're losing, don't you see?
Improvements on machinery take tools and trade away
And you'll be among the common slaves some fateful day
And the things of which we're telling we're mighty sure about
O, what's the use to strike when you can't win out?”

This was a somewhat oversimplified view, as it turned out: Craft unions persisted, usually because their members became supervisory. They were the “aristocrats of labor” and their exclusionary union structures remained paramount until the rise of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) in the 1930s, and broadly influential long afterward—most often as a conservative and frequently racist force allied with labor’s avid Cold Warriors. (The thuggish George Meany, a plumber and first president of the AFL-CIO, was himself the perfect example of unionism gone rotten.) But the general idea was true in the main, and true even more so as a revolutionary, emancipatory doctrine still unrealized today. Industrial unions were to be the building block for the future cooperative society. By joining an industrial union, workers prepared themselves to take over society directly. Working people who understood their own power had the capacity to act upon their fundamental right to expropriate and share with other workers across the world everything that they collectively produced.

For the IWW, then, the familiar problem of the socialist movement being notoriously small in the US could be solved in a new way. “Educating” workers into becoming socialists, through newspapers, speeches and election campaigns, was too passive and not very successful. Workers needed to educate themselves, in and through their own actions and self-organization. At the founding convention, among seventy delegates nominally representing 50,000 members, two of the delegates, from the Western Federation of Labor and the amorphous American Labor Union, actually represented 40,000 of those members. Contrary to hopes that craft unionists could convert their structures into industrial unions, few craft union locals were represented as such, and many delegates actually represented only themselves. The high points were, then, the statement of principles beginning: “The working class and the employing class have nothing in common,” and the memorable soliloquies on the floor of the convention. Thus Lucy Parsons, already renowned for her

WOBBLIES!

defense of her husband after the Haymarket Incident in 1886, and a “personality” as an African-American revolutionary in Chicago, famously spoke for the most lowly women driven to prostitution, but also spoke of workers’ capacity, arguing: “My conception of the strike of the future is not to strike and go out and starve, but to strike and remain in and take possession of the necessary property of production.” In this way, the veteran of nineteenth-century class, race, and gender struggles predicted the sit-down strike of the future, first with the factory and then, in later generations, in the student takeover of classrooms and even presidential offices, to protest the brutal war on Vietnam.

1905 THE AGE OF INDUSTRY IS UPON US.
CONCRETE AND SMOKE ARE IN FULL BLOOM.

UNRESTRAINED PURSUIT OF PROFIT HAS
BROUGHT INCREDIBLE WEALTH TO A FEW-
AND CONDITIONS OF DESPERATION TO MILLIONS.

RIGHT HERE IN CHICAGO UPTON SINCLAIR
IS ABOUT TO PUBLISH **THE JUNGLE**, A GLIMPSE
INTO THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE WHOSE TOIL
SUSTAINS THIS MODERN INDUSTRIAL WORLD.
IT WILL APPALL READERS THE WORLD OVER.

IN DEFENSE AGAINST SUCH OPPRESSION, FROM THE FACTORIES
OF CHICAGO TO THE MINES OF UTAH, FROM THE FIELDS OF
CALIFORNIA TO THE MILLS OF MAINE, WORKERS
ARE UNIONIZING IN INCREASING NUMBERS.

THE LARGEST UNION ORGANIZATION IN THE US
IS THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR.



THE AFL IS DIVIDED INTO CRAFT UNIONS, TO COMMAND
GREATER RESPECT AT THE BARGAINING TABLE THESE UNIONS
ARE COMPOSED ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY OF SKILLED WHITE MALE AMERICAN CITIZENS.

SUCH UNION "HIGH" STANDARDS EXCLUDE VAST MULTITUDES OF THE MOST HAP-
LESS WORKERS IN THIS AGE OF UNSKILLED LABOR, MORE WOMEN IN THE WORKFORCE,
AND MASS IMMIGRATION.



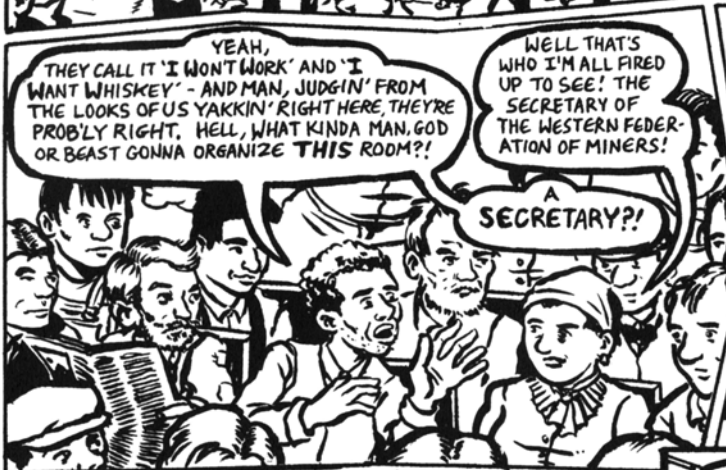
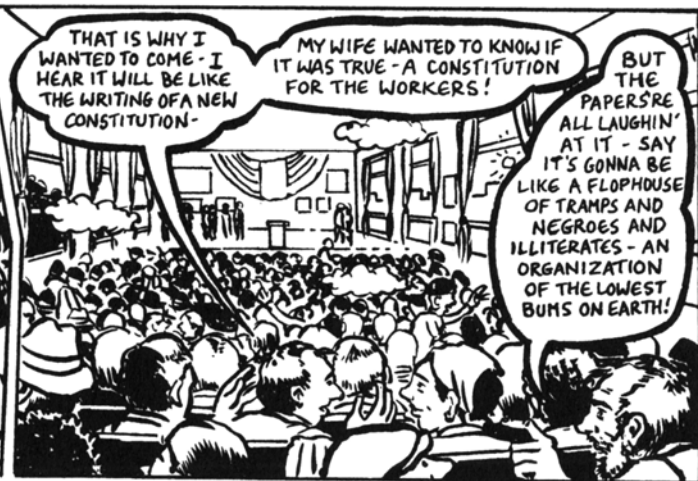
OF 28 MILLION
WORKERS IN THE US, ONLY 1 IN 14 IS IN A UNION; OF WOMEN WORKERS ONLY 1 IN 100.

AND SO TODAY, TUESDAY JUNE 27TH, ON CHICAGO'S
NORTH SIDE, ABOUT 200 OF THE MOST IMPORTANT
FORWARD THINKING LABOR LEADERS AND HUMANITARIANS
IN THE NATION HAVE GATHERED AT BRAND'S HALL
TO FORM

**A NEW
KIND OF
UNION**

JEFFREY
LEWIS
2004







THERE ARE ORGANIZATIONS AFFILIATED WITH THE AFL WHICH PROHIBIT THE INITIATION OF A COLORED MAN; WHICH PROHIBIT FOREIGNERS.



WHAT WE WANT TO ESTABLISH IS A LABOR ORGANIZATION THAT WILL OPEN WIDE ITS DOORS TO EVERY MAN THAT EARNS HIS LIVING EITHER BY HIS BRAIN OR HIS MUSCLE.



THIS ORGANIZATION WILL BE FORMED, BASED, AND FOUNDED ON THE CLASS STRUGGLE-



HAVING IN VIEW NO COMPROMISE AND NO SURRENDER, AND BUT ONE PURPOSE AND THAT IS TO BRING THE WORKERS INTO THE POSSESSION OF THE FULL VALUE OF THE PRODUCT OF THEIR TOIL!



OVER THE FOLLOWING TEN HOT SUMMER DAYS, 112 OF AMERICA'S MOST FAMED STRIKE LEADERS, RADICALS, LABOR HEROES AND HEROINES TAKE THE FLOOR TO DEBATE AND DISCUSS THE WRITING OF A CONSTITUTION, THE NATURE OF THE INTENDED ORGANIZATION, THE FORM ITS ACTIONS SHOULD TAKE.

AMERICA HAS NEVER SEEN SUCH A GATHERING OF MILITANTS AND REVOLUTIONARIES!



PAT O'NEIL, PAST CHARTER MEMBER OF CHINA'S FIRST SAILORS' UNION, WITH OVER 50 YEARS OF LABOR MOVEMENT BATTLES UNDER HIS BELT FROM ARKANSAS TO HONG KONG...

...WE SEE THE UNITED MINE WORKERS' UNION GO ON STRIKE, AND UNION RAILROAD MEN HAUL SCAB MINERS IN AND HAUL SCAB COAL OUT!

BY THE GODS, WOULDN'T THAT MAKE A CALF LEAVE ITS MOTHER!?



IF A MAN USED HIS HAND WITH EACH FINGER STICKING OUT BY ITSELF WOULD IT BE OF MUCH BENEFIT TO HIM?

LABOR TODAY HAS THE BLACKSMITH FINGER, THE CARPENTER FINGER, THE MINER FINGER, THE RAILROAD FINGER...



NOW THEN, INSTEAD OF HAVING THIS HAND DISTORTED AND PARALYZED IN ITS TRADE AUTONOMY, I WANT IT SO THAT I CAN BRING THOSE FINGERS UP AND CLOSE THEM INTO A GRIP, AND MAKE THE HAND A WEAPON OF OFFENSE AND OF DEFENSE...



EUGENE V. DEBS, BELOVED HUMANITARIAN WRITER, LEADER AND FIERY ORATOR, PIONEERING INDUSTRIAL LABOR ORGANIZER AND SOCIALIST PARTY CANDIDATE FOR THE US PRESIDENCY:

THE TRADES UNION MOVEMENT IS TODAY UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE CAPITALIST CLASS.

THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR HAS NUMBERS, BUT THE CAPITALIST CLASS DO NOT FEAR THE AFL.



THE OLD FORM OF PURE AND SIMPLE UNIONISM HAS LONG SINCE OUTGROWN ITS USEFULNESS!

WE ARE HERE TO-DAY FOR THE PURPOSE OF UNITING THE WORKING CLASS.

WE KNOW THAT WITHOUT SOLIDARITY NOTHING IS POSSIBLE, THAT WITH IT NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE.



AND SO WE MUST DISPEL THE PETTY PREJUDICES BORN OF THE DIFFERENCES OF THE PAST, AND I BELIEVE THAT IF WE GET TOGETHER IN THE TRUE WORKING CLASS SPIRIT, MOST OF THESE DIFFERENCES WILL DISAPPEAR.

DANIEL DE LEON, THE "ARISTOCRAT IN RAGS", WHO AT COLUMBIA BECAME THE FIRST US PROFESSOR TO TEACH ANTI-IMPERIALISM; A FIERCELY IDEOLOGICAL SOCIALIST LEADER AND EDITOR OF SOCIALIST PAPER "THE PEOPLE" HE HAS OFTEN BEEN AT ODDS WITH DEBS, BUT SHARING STAGE TIME TODAY EACH SPEAKS IN RECONCILIATION WITH THE OTHER TOWARDS THE COMMON GOAL...



DURING MY WHOLE ACTIVITY IN THE LABOR MOVEMENT I HAVE HAD BUT ONE FOE - AND I THINK THAT MY WORST ENEMY WILL NOT DENY MY STATEMENT - AND THAT FOE IS THE CAPITALIST CLASS.

I CAN IMAGINE NOTHING MORE WEAK, MORE PITTABLE, THAN TO ASPIRE AT AN IDEAL THAT IS UNREALIZABLE. I HAVE OVERHAULED MY POSITION AGAIN AND AGAIN ANSWERING THIS QUESTION: "THIS PROBLEM THAT YOU HAVE UNDERTAKEN, IS IT A PROBLEM THAT IS SOLVABLE?"

AND I HAVE CONCLUDED THAT IT IS.



THE CAPITALIST CLASS MAY MONKEY WITH THE BALLOT ALL THEY LIKE, BUT A MAN CAN MONKEY WITH A THERMOMETER WITHOUT EVER CHANGING THE TEMPERATURE...

LUCY PARSONS, UNDETERABLE WRITER, PUBLISHER AND ORATOR FOR JUSTICE AND EQUALITY; THE ONLY WOMAN OF COLOR AT THE CONVENTION.

WE, THE WOMEN OF THIS COUNTRY, HAVE NO BALLOT, AND YOU MEN HAVE MADE SUCH A MESS OF IT IN REPRESENTING US THAT WE HAVE NOT MUCH CONFIDENCE IN ASKING YOU.



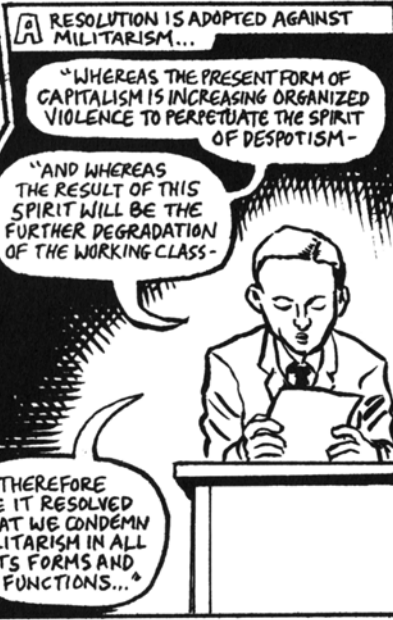
WOMEN ARE THE SLAVES OF SLAVES, EXPLOITED MORE RUTHLESSLY THAN MEN, AND IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU MEN SHOULD DO IN THE FUTURE IT IS TO ORGANIZE THE WOMEN.

WHEN YOU GO OUT OF THIS HALL, THERE COMES SOLID WORK. ORGANIZED CAPITAL HAS MANY WEAPONS TO FIGHT US.

IT HAS MONEY, LEGISLATIVE TOOLS, ITS JUDICIARY, ITS ARMY AND NAVY, ITS GUNS, ITS ARMORIES, AND FINALLY IT HAS THE GALLOWES.



WE CALL OURSELVES REVOLUTIONISTS. DO YOU KNOW WHAT THE CAPITALISTS MEAN TO DO TO YOU REVOLUTIONISTS?



THE RAPID GATHERING OF WEALTH AND THE CENTERING OF THE MANAGEMENT OF INDUSTRIES INTO FEWER AND FEWER HANDS MAKE THE TRADES UNION UNABLE TO COPE WITH THE EVER-GROWING POWER OF THE EMPLOYING CLASS, BECAUSE THE TRADES UNIONS FOSTER A STATE OF THINGS 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. THE TRADES UNIONS AID THE EMPLOYING CLASS TO MISLEAD THE WORKERS INTO THE BELIEF THAT THE WORKING CLASS HAVE INTERESTS IN COMMON WITH THEIR EMPLOYERS.

THESE SAD CONDITIONS CAN BE CHANGED AND THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING CLASS UPHELD ONLY BY AN ORGANIZATION FORMED IN SUCH A WAY THAT ALL ITS MEMBERS IN ANY ONE INDUSTRY, OR IN ALL INDUSTRIES, IF NECESSARY, CEASE WORK WHENEVER A STRIKE OR LOCKOUT IS ON IN ANY DEPARTMENT THEREOF, THUS MAKING AN INJURY TO ONE AN INJURY TO ALL.

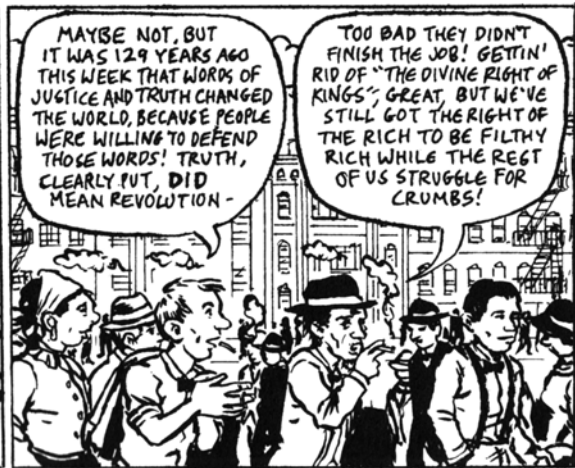




THIS IS BIG. I CAN FEEL IT. NO MATTER WHAT THE PAPERS SAY.

TO HEAR SUCH SPEECHES FILLS ME WITH COURAGE AND HOPE ALMOST TO TREMBLING -

SPEECHES AND WORDS AIN'T PUTIN' MEAT ON THE STOVE OR SENDIN' MY KIDS TO A DOCTOR - THE RICH AIN'T NEVER IN HISTORY GIVEN UP BEING RICH 'CAUSE OF ANYBODY'S WORDS, Y'KNOW?



MAYBE NOT, BUT IT WAS 129 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK THAT WORDS OF JUSTICE AND TRUTH CHANGED THE WORLD, BECAUSE PEOPLE WERE WILLING TO DEFEND THOSE WORDS! TRUTH, CLEARLY PUT, DID MEAN REVOLUTION -

TOO BAD THEY DIDN'T FINISH THE JOB! GETTIN' RID OF "THE DIVINE RIGHT OF KINGS"; GREAT, BUT WE'VE STILL GOT THE RIGHT OF THE RICH TO BE FILTHY RICH WHILE THE REST OF US STRUGGLE FOR CRUMBS!



I MEAN, LOOK AT THE LABORER TODAY WHO DON'T KNOW HOW HE'S GONNA SURVIVE WHEN HE GETS OLD, OR SICK, AND STILL HE SAYS "MY BOSS IS JUST A MAN LIKE ME, DOIN' HIS BEST IN THIS WORLD..."

HEY, MAYBE THAT P'TICULAR BOSS ISN'T A CRUEL MAN; BUT JUST TELL THAT LABORER WHAT FATHER HAGERTY SAYS...



...ABOUT THE POOR FELLA BEIN' TORMENTED BY FLEAS - SCRATCHIN' LIKE HECK...



...HE PICKS ONE OF 'EM OFF AND LOOKS AT IT...



...AN' HE PUTS IT BACK!!

HIS PAL WATCHIN' SAYS "WHY THE HELL DIDN'T YOU KILL IT ??!"



AND THE FELLA SAYS -

"THAT WASN'T THE ONE THAT WAS BITIN' ME!"



IT'S A WHOLE BLOOD-SUCKING SYSTEM - THE MORE FOLKS ARE EDUCATED TO THE WHOLE PICTURE, THE SOONER WE'LL BE ORGANIZED TO CHANGE IT.

JULY 8TH, 1905 - THE RATIFICATION MEETING CLOSES WITH THREE HEARTY CHEERS FOR INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM - FOR THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD.

MOTHER

WRITTEN by TRINA ROBBINS

PRESENT AT THE FOUNDING OF THE I.W.W.: MARY HARRIS AKA MOTHER JONES AKA THE MOST DANGEROUS WOMAN IN AMERICA (THAT'S WHAT THE BOSSES CALLED HER)



JONES

ART by FLY

MOTHER JONES DID NOT SPEAK, ALTHOUGH DELEGATES CALLED FOR HER TO SPEAK. THE CHAIRMAN SAID "MOTHER JONES SEEMS TO THINK THE DELEGATION DOES NOT WANT TO HEAR HER TONIGHT"

- WHY THIS RETICENCE? MOTHER JONES WAS NO SHRINKING VIOLET. MAYBE SHE JUST PURSUED INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM ON HER OWN PATH.



NO WORK TODAY!!

STAY HOME TODAY!

WHEN THE WOMEN WERE ARRESTED FOR DISTURBING THE PEACE MOTHER JONES TOLD THEM TO SING ALL NIGHT

SOMETIMES SHE ORGANIZED THE MINER'S WIVES INTO FORMIDABLE ARMIES.

THERE'LL BE PIIIE\$ IN THE SKYYYY WHEN YOU DIIIE !!

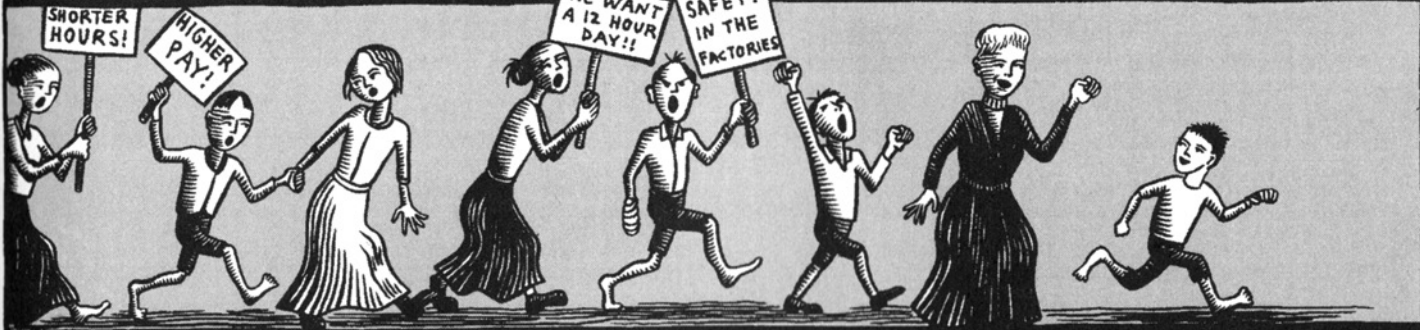
THAT NOISE! MAKE THEM STOP!

BUT THEY'RE SINGING TO THEIR BABIES!



THE WOMEN WERE RELEASED IN THE MORNING.

IN 1903, HOPING TO IMPROVE CHILD LABOR LAWS, SHE ORGANIZED A MARCH OF CHILDREN FACTORY WORKERS, FROM PHILADELPHIA TO NEW YORK. SHE WAS 73 YEARS OLD



MANY KIDS HAD LOST FINGER, EVEN HANDS, IN THE DANGEROUS MACHINERY AT THE MILLS.
THEIR GOAL WAS PRESIDENT TEDDY ROOSEVELT'S SUMMER HOME IN LONG ISLAND.



THE PRESIDENT WAS NOT AT HOME.

THIS FORMIDABLE OLD LADY LIVED TO BE 100. SHE WAS BURIED IN THE UNITED MINE WORKERS UNION CEMETARY IN ILLINOIS WITH HER "BOYS."



LIKE JOE HILL, HER SPIRIT IS PRESENT AT EVERY STRIKE. SHE USED TO SAY, "PRAY FOR THE DEAD, BUT FIGHT LIKE HELL FOR THE LIVING"



WILLIAM
"BIG BILL"
HAYWOOD

"BIG BILL" HAYWOOD 1869-1928

WESTERN FED.
OF MINERS

Big Bill was born in Salt Lake City. He began as a miners' helper and rose to leadership in the Western Federation of Miners in Silver City, Nevada. As a keynote speaker for the IWW, he vehemently rejected the idea of peace between labor and capital. He was often picked out for persecution by the bosses and government.

MINING IS ONE OF THE MOST DANGEROUS JOBS IN THE WORLD

IN THE EARLY 1800'S
MINING WAS A SLAVE'S JOB



CONSTANT
CAVE-INS
KILLED
MINERS



MINE OWNERS
REACTED...



SLAVES
ARE TOO
EXPENSIVE
TO LOSE
IN MINES

THE
SLAVE
OWNERS HAD THE
MOST POWERFUL
LOBBY IN WASHINGTON
POLITICS.



IRELAND WAS IN
THE MIDST OF THE
FAMINE.



THE SLAVE
LOBBY
PUSHED FOR
LARGE SCALE
IRISH
IMMIGRATION
FOR MINING



WHEN A MINE
COLLAPSES
WE CAN GET
LOTS MORE
FREE IRISH.



PAY'EM
A DOLLAR
A DAY AND
THEY HAVE
TO BUY THEIR
OWN FOOD,
CLOTHES, &
HOUSING.
IT COSTS
US ALMOST
NOTHING!

ART AND
WRITING BY
TOM KEOUGH

MINERS OFTEN WORKED
AT PIECE RATE.



I FILLED
10 CARS
OF ORE
TODAY



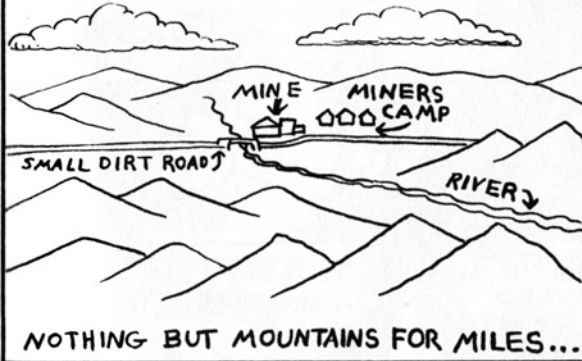
I SAY
IT WAS
7!



'N I SAY IT WAS
7!



MINES ARE LOCATED IN MOUNTAINS, OFTEN FAR FROM THE NEAREST CITIES OR TOWNS.



NOTHING BUT MOUNTAINS FOR MILES...

MINERS NEED TO LIVE NEAR THE MINES. THE ONLY PEOPLE WITH MONEY TO BUILD HOUSES OR STORES NEARBY ARE THE WEALTHY MINE OWNERS.



FOOD, CLOTHING AND RENT OFTEN COST MORE THAN MINERS GOT PAID. THE MORE THEY WORKED THE DEEPER IN DEBT THEY GOT.



IT WAS GENERALLY ONLY THE RICH MINE OWNERS WHO HAD MONEY TO PAY LOCAL JUDGES, SHERIFFS, GUARDS, JAILERS, & POLITICIANS



AIR PRESSURE AND POISON GASES MADE MEN SICK OR DEAD.



BY THE LATE 1800'S MINES HAD THOUSANDS OF CHILD LABORERS

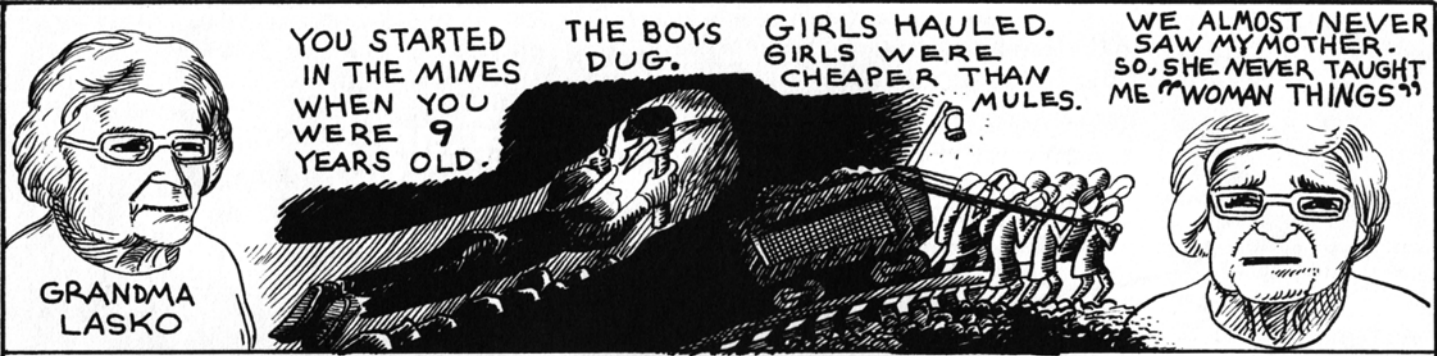


"IN KENSINGTON, PA 1903 75,000 COAL MINERS WENT ON STRIKE. OVER 10,000 WERE LESS THAN TWELVE YEARS OLD. EVERYDAY LITTLE CHILDREN CAME TO UNION HEADQUARTERS. SOME WITH THEIR HANDS OFF. SOME WITH THE THUMB MISSING, FINGERS OFF..." MOTHER JONES



MY GRANDMOTHER, HER DAD AND HER 14 BROTHERS AND SISTERS WERE COAL MINERS IN PENNSYLVANIA. HER MOM WAS A MAID FOR THE BOSS.





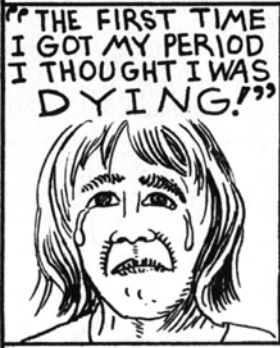
YOU STARTED
IN THE MINES
WHEN YOU
WERE 9
YEARS OLD.

THE BOYS
DUG.

GIRLS HAULED.
GIRLS WERE
CHEAPER THAN
MULES.

WE ALMOST NEVER
SAW MY MOTHER.
SO, SHE NEVER TAUGHT
ME "WOMAN THINGS"

GRANDMA
LASKO



"THE FIRST TIME
I GOT MY PERIOD
I THOUGHT I WAS
DYING!"

"WE USED TO
SEE PEOPLE
COME OUT OF
THE MINES WITH
BLOOD COMING
OUT OF EVERY
SINGLE OPENING
ON THEIR
BODIES!
IT HAPPENED
A LOT."



"THEY'D ALWAYS
BLEED TO
DEATH."



THAT DAY I WAS TOO AFRAID
TO BE AFRAID OF THE GUARDS

I RAN HOME
TO DIE IN MY BED."



IN THE 1800'S IN
THE U.S. THERE
WERE THOUSANDS
OF ATTEMPTS TO
START AND KEEP
UNIONS.



THEY
USUALLY
FAILED.



FEW WERE AS
DESPERATE OR
SERIOUS AS THE
MINERS.
MINERS HAD
MORE TO LOSE.



AND NOWHERE ELSE
TO TURN.

WHAT WILL
YOU DO IF
WE LOSE
OUR JOBS?

I CAN GET
A JOB OVER
IN BROOKLYN

NEW YORK CITY
BAKERS
ON STRIKE



ONLY WHEN MINERS
ORGANIZED AND FOUGHT
BACK DID THEY GET ANY
SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS
OR ANY RELIEF FROM
CONSTANT HUNGER.

IN THE 1800'S, THE MOST SUCCESSFUL UNION IN THE U.S. WAS THE MOLLY MAGUIRES - MINERS IN PENNSYLVANIA. THEY FOUGHT FIERCELY, UNTIL SPIES FROM THE PINKERTON DETECTIVE AGENCY INFILTRATED THE HIGHEST RANKS OF THE UNION AND HELPED THE GOVERNMENT EXECUTE THEM.



MOLLY
LEADER
BLACK
JACK
KEHOE

MCPARLAND
REPORTEDLY
BOASTED OF
COMMITTING
MURDERS
AND OTHER
CRIMES
TO BLAME ON
THE MOLLIES



JAMES MCPARLAND
PINKERTON DETECTIVE

EVEN
OTHER
PINKS
FEARED
MCPARLAND'S
TEMPER



ON ONE DAY
10 WERE HUNG
TOGETHER.
THE PINKS GREW
TO BE A HUGE
UNION BUSTING
BUSINESS

IDAHO
1892

THIS WAS A HUGE BLOODY STRIKE, BUT THE WELL ORGANIZED MINERS BEAT BACK THE OWNERS' HIRING THUGS.



THE OWNERS GOT PRESIDENT HARRISON TO SEND IN THE ARMY TO BREAK THE STRIKE



THIS CAUSED THE STRIKE TO FAIL.

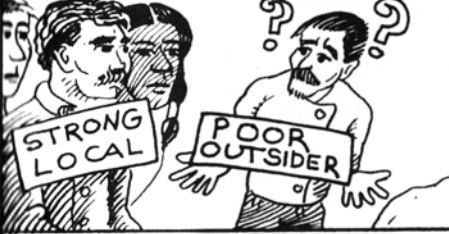


THE MINERS MET TO ORGANIZE BETTER. THEY FORMED THE WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS



THE MOST AGGRESSIVE LABOR BODY IN THE U.S.

THE WFM KNEW THEY MUST BE STRONG LOCALLY BUT THEY COULD NOT WIN THEIR STRUGGLE WITHOUT THE SUPPORT OF THE OTHER POOR DESPERATE FOLKS IN THE AREA OR COUNTRY



SCAB? JOIN THE ARMY? I'VE GOT 12 STARVING KIDS.



WE NEED ONE BIG UNION. WE NEED TO STICK TOGETHER



1896 THE WFM JOINED THE AFL. THEY SOON LEFT BECAUSE THE AFL WOULD NOT LET MOST WORKERS JOIN - NOT THE UNSKILLED OR NON-WHITE PEOPLE.



THE AFL WANTED THE "ELITE OF LABOR" - SKILLED CRAFTSMEN WITH HARD TO FIND SKILLS, MEN WHO COULDN'T EASILY BE REPLACED.



THE POOR WILL TAKE ALMOST ANY JOB AT ANY WAGE



THE WFM TRIED TO START ANOTHER BIG UNION: THE WESTERN LABOR UNION, COVERING THE PACIFIC U.S. AND CANADA.

IT FAILED. THEY THEN TRIED TO BUILD A U.S. OPTION TO THE AFL, THE AMERICAN LABOR UNION. IT ALSO FAILED.



1899 A MAJOR WFM STRIKE
AT THE BUNKER HILL CO., IDAHO



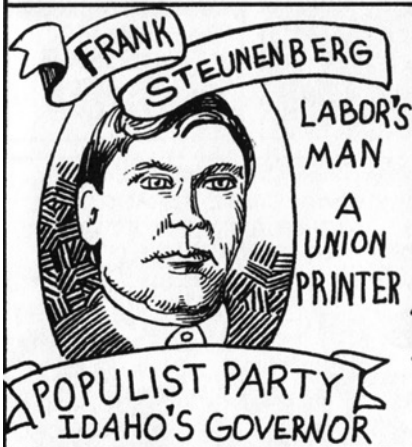
MINERS HAD ALWAYS
BEEN GIVEN DYNAMITE
TO BLAST ORE FROM
ROCK



THE MINERS WERE
ALWAYS HUNGRY,
HURT, OPPRESSED.



A \$250,000
BUNKER HILL MILL
WAS DYNAMITED.



THE GOVERNOR
BEGGED
PRES. MCKINLEY



TO SEND TROOPS
TO BREAK
THE STRIKE.

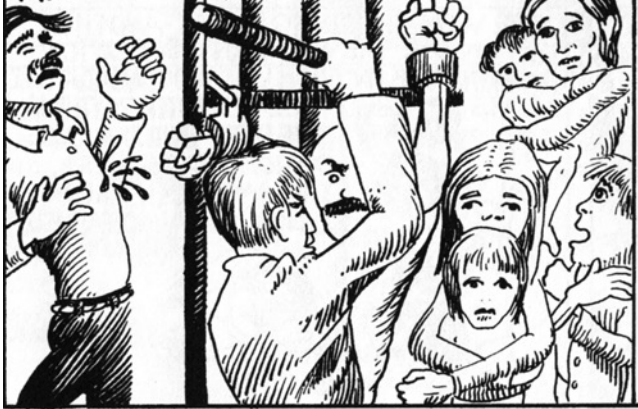
BECAUSE THE WFM OPPOSED
BIGOTRY, MCKINLEY ORDERED
BLACK TROOPS AGAINST THE WFM.



MINERS
WERE
KILLED

HUNDREDS
JAILED
& BEATEN

FAMILIES
SUFFERED



STEUNENBERG MYSTERIOUSLY
GOT VERY WEALTHY. HE RETIRED
EARLY AND LIVED ON HIS HUGE
SHEEP RANCH...



UNTIL DEC. 30 1905



STEUNENBERG
WAS DYNAMITED
BY A BOOBY TRAP
ON HIS RANCH

IN THE U.S. MINES THERE WERE 2 BIG UNION ORGANIZATIONS THE WFM LED BY MEN LIKE BIG BILL HAYWOOD AND THE UNITED MINE WORKERS LED BY JOHN MITCHELL, ONE OF THE VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE AFL. MITCHELL STROVE TO BE A "CONSERVATIVE UNIONIST"

HE OPPOSED MOST STRIKES.

WE WORK FOR THE COMMON INTEREST OF CAPITAL AND LABOR.

HE ENJOYED SOCIALIZING WITH POWERFUL POLITICIANS AND BUSINESSMEN: TEDDY ROOSEVELT, ANDREW CARNEGIE ETC.

HAYWOOD'S DAD DIED WHEN HAYWOOD WAS 3. AT AGE NINE HE BECAME A MINER. HE LOST ONE EYE HIS FIRST YEAR. BECAUSE HE WAS A CHILD LABORER HE HAD NO FORMAL SCHOOLING.



A
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MOTHER JONES BEGGED MITCHELL TELL T.R. TO GO TO HELL!



MITCHELL BECAME A VERY WEALTHY MAN. AFTER SETTLING ONE PENNSYLVANIA STRIKE HE RECEIVED A DIAMOND RING WORTH \$1,000 FROM A MINE OWNER.



THE HIGHEST PAID UMW COAL MINERS, THE WHITE MEN, MADE \$340 - \$350 PER YEAR!



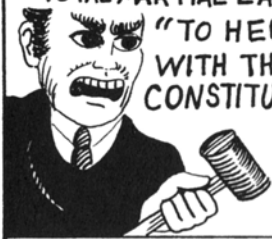
1903 LONG VIOLENT WFM STRIKES IN COLORADO

THE TOP JUDGE OF COLORADO DECLARED "TOTAL MARTIAL LAW"

MINERS WERE DRAGGED FROM BED BEATEN, JAILED OR KILLED

THEIR VERY YOUNG US SOLDIERS BROKE INTO STORES AND INTO KIDS WERE BEATEN THE HOMES OF MINERS TO DESTROY FOOD AND JAILED TOO. TO FORCE HUNGER ON THE FAMILIES

"TO HELL WITH THE CONSTITUTION"



THE STRIKERS STAYED UNITED



BUT JOHN MITCHELL SHIPPED AFL MEMBERS TO WORK THE MINES AS SCABS.



THE WFM RESPONDED BY CALLING FOR BUILDING ONE BIG UNION TO JOIN THE ENTIRE WORKING CLASS TO OPPOSE THE EMPLOYERS CLASS AND "LABOR FAKERS" SUCH AS THE A.F.L.



WE TRIED TO DO THIS OURSELVES AND FAILED. WE NEED TO WORK WITH THE BEST OF LABORERS' LEADERS

JAN. 2 1905 IN A SECRET CHICAGO MEETING, 32 DELEGATES REPRESENTING 100,000 WORKERS MET TO BUILD THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD.

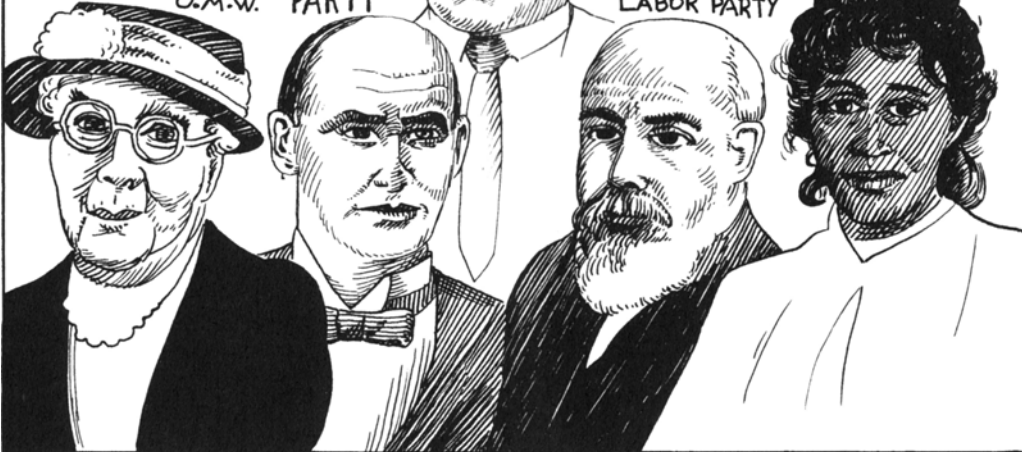
HAYWOOD WAS ELECTED CHAIR.

MOTHER JONES
LONG TIME UNION ORGANIZER

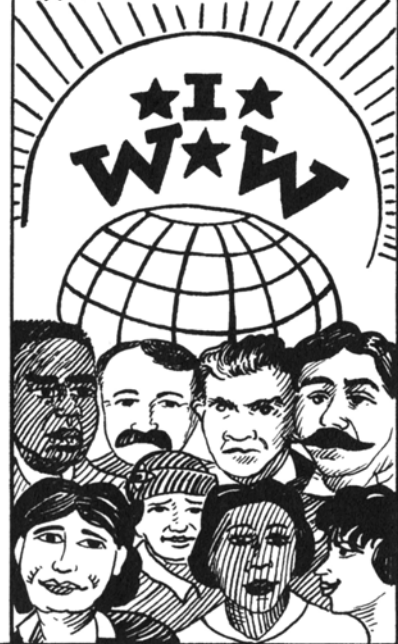
GENE DEBS
SOCIALIST U.M.W. PARTY

DANIEL DE LEON
HEAD OF SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

LUCY PARSONS
ANARCHIST LABOR ORGANIZER AND WIDOW OF A HAYMARKET MARTYR



THE FOUNDING CONVENTION WAS HELD IN JUNE.



JANUARY 1906, THE PINKERTONS WHO HAD INFILTRATED THE MOLLY MCGUIRES, SET OUT TO FIND THE ASSASSIN OF EX-GOVERNOR STEUNENBERG, IN ORDER TO GET A \$15,000 REWARD



THE PINKS CAPTURED AND INTERROGATED A UNION MAN HARRY ORCHARD.



ORCHARD CONFESSED TO 26 MURDERS. HE CLAIMED THAT 3 W.F.M. LEADERS ASKED HIM TO KILL STEUNENBERG. HE NAMED HAYWOOD, CHARLES MOYER AND GEORGE PETTIBONE.

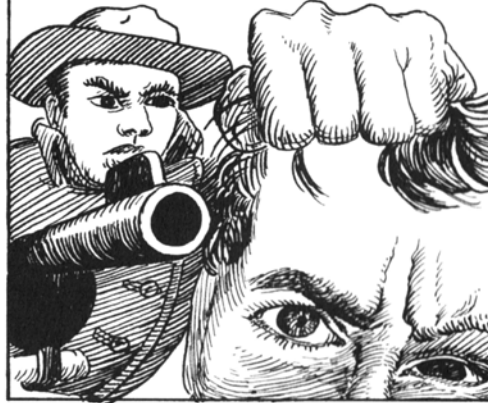


IDAHO GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TRAVELED TO THE GOVERNOR OF COLORADO TO ASK FOR EXTRADITION



BUT COLORADO DID NOT GRANT EXTRADITION.

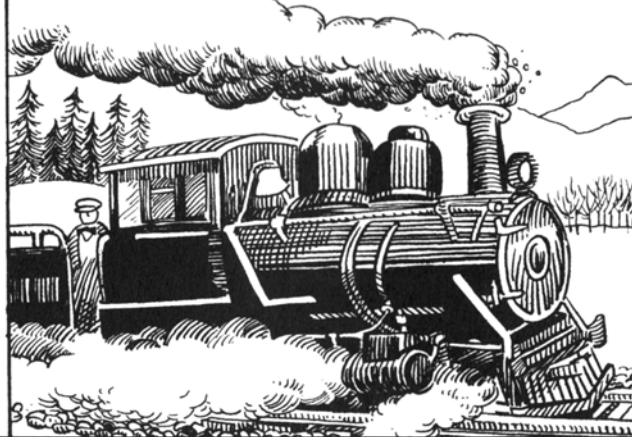
FEB. 17, IDAHO OFFICIALS BROKE INTO THE HOME OF PETTIBONE AND INTO BILL HAYWOOD'S BOARDINGHOUSE ROOM AND KIDNAPPED THEM AT GUN POINT.



MOYER WAS KIDNAPPED AT A TRAIN STATION



THEY WERE RUSHED TO IDAHO IN A SPECIAL TRAIN.



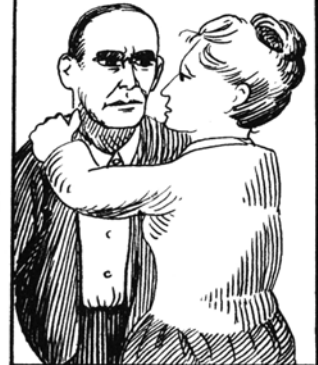
THEY STAYED IN PRISON 18 MONTHS AWAITING WHAT DEBS CALLED "THE GREATEST LEGAL BATTLE IN AMERICAN HISTORY"



DEBS CALLED FOR A JOHN BROWN STYLE ARMED RAID TO FREE THEM FROM PRISON!



HIS WIFE TALKED HIM OUT OF IT.



LABOR AND SOCIALIST NEWSPAPERS POINTED OUT...



THAT STEUNENBERG HAD MADE ENEMIES WITH SOME VERY VIOLENT CAPITALISTS. SOME HAD BEEN ON TRIAL FOR LAND FRAUD AND VERY VIOLENT CRIMES.



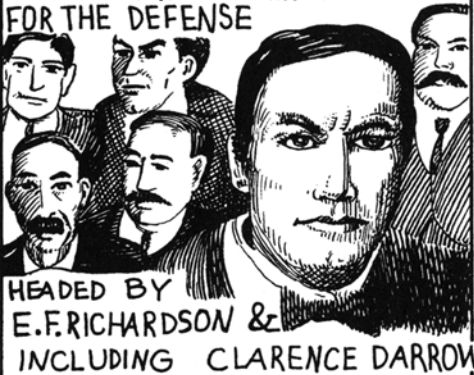
THE CASE MADE HEADLINES IN THE U.S., CANADA AND EUROPE



LABOR RAISED \$250,000 FOR THE DEFENSE FUND.



THE BEST LEGAL TEAM IN THE COUNTRY WAS HIRED FOR THE DEFENSE



HEADED BY E.F. RICHARDSON & INCLUDING CLARENCE DARROW

THERE WAS AN UPROAR OVER THE FACT THAT THE MEN HAD BEEN KIDNAPPED. AN APPLICATION WAS MADE TO THE U.S. SUPREME COURT FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS. IT WAS DENIED 8 TO 1. JUSTICE MCKENNA DISSIDENTED.



PRES. ROOSEVELT CALLED THE 3 PRISONERS "UNDESIRABLE CITIZENS". SOON TENS OF THOUSANDS OF BUTTONS WERE SOLD AS FUND RAISERS.



HAYWOOD TRIAL SET FOR MAY 9!

IT LOOKED HOPELESS - UNTIL THE FIRST WEEK OF MAY, EVERYONE WAS SURPRISED TO SEE THE GIANT TURNOUT AT MAY DAY MARCHES - EVERYWHERE BIGGER THAN EVER EXPECTED. MARCHES CONTINUED EACH DAY AFTER, IN SUPPORT OF "OUR 3 BROTHERS IN IDAHO" - US EMBASSIES WERE THREATENED AROUND THE GLOBE.



MAY 4 EVENING, AND FOR MOST OF THE NIGHT...

100,000 PEOPLE BLOCKED FIFTH AVE, NEW YORK CITY.



WHILE 2 BLOCKS AWAY 100,000 TOOK LEX. AVE



LEXINGTON AVENUE WAS LIT UP BY ROMAN CANDLES AND "GREEK FIRE"

DEBS PROPOSED



LET EVERY WORKINGMAN WHO HAS A HEART IN HIS BREAST MAKE A MIGHTY OATH THAT NOT A WHEEL SHALL TURN IN THIS COUNTRY FROM OCEAN TO OCEAN UNTIL THE VERDICT IS SET ASIDE. LET US SHOW THE WORLD THAT THE WORKINGMEN OF AMERICA ARE NOT SO... DEVOID OF THE RED BLOOD OF COURAGE, THAT THEY WILL ALLOW ONE OF THEIR COMRADES TO SUFFER DEATH AT THE HANDS OF THEIR ENEMIES. HURRAH FOR THE GREAT NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE!

SUDDENLY THE FORCES CALLING FOR CONVICTIONS BACKED DOWN!



BOTH SIDES RECOGNIZED A U.S. GENERAL STRIKE AS A REAL POSSIBILITY

THE TRIAL WAS MORE FAIR THAN EXPECTED.



RICHARDSON MADE A 9 HOUR STATEMENT. DARROW SPOKE 11 HRS



BIG BILL IS FREE!



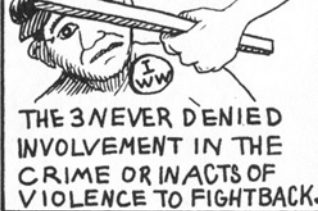
IN MINING AREAS "PERHAPS TONS OF DYNAMITE WERE EXPLODED IN CELEBRATION"



SOON MOYER AND
PETTIBONE WERE
FREE!



THE NEWS COVERAGE OF
THE CASE HAD EXPOSED
THE BRUTALITY OF MINE
OWNERS AND SHOWED
THAT VIOLENT REACTIONS
FROM MINERS WERE
UNDERSTANDABLE



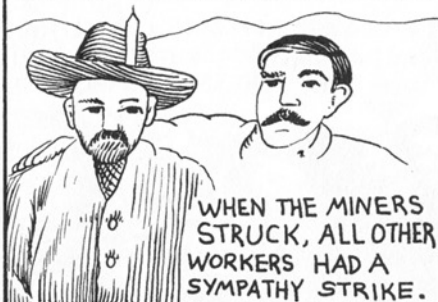
THE 3 NEVER DENIED
INVOLVEMENT IN THE
CRIME OR IN ACTS OF
VIOLENCE TO FIGHTBACK.

THROUGHOUT THE TRIAL
UNIONS GREW. THE IWW
GAINED OVER 10,000
NEW MEMBERS.



SMARTER AND STRONGER
IWW ORGANIZING BEGAN

IN GOLDFIELD NEVADA 1907
THE IWW ORGANIZED MINERS
AND ALL OCCUPATIONS IN TOWN.



WHEN THE MINERS
STROCK, ALL OTHER
WORKERS HAD A
SYMPATHY STRIKE.

WOBS WIN
STRIKE!



TOWN MINIMUM
WAGE LAW
\$4.50 PER DAY!
8 HOUR DAY!
for ALL
JOBS IN TOWN

IWW ORGANIZER
VINCENT ST. JOHN

THE UNION WON
JOB CONTROL.
THE IWW SECRETARY
POSTED WAGE SCALE
AND HOURS, AND IT



WAS
LAW!

THE EMPLOYERS WERE FORCED TO
COME TO SEE THE UNION COMMITTEES
NO COMMITTEES WERE EVER
SENT TO EMPLOYERS.



IWW
WEEKLY LISTING

BILL RYAN
JOHN M...
MATT...
CAR...
BILL...
JOHN...
M...

THE MINEOWNER'S THUGS
JUMPED ST. JOHN, LEAVING
HIM TO DIE. HE NEVER
FULLY RECOVERED.



DEC. 6 1907
361 COAL
MINERS
KILLED



MONOGAH
WEST
VIRGINIA

NOV. 1909
259
MINERS
KILLED



CHERRY
ILL.

THE IWW
GREW IN
MINES



JAN-DEC. 1910
323 KILLED IN
COLORADO MINES



SEPT. 1913, LUDLOW COLO.
9,000 MINERS STRIKE
AT ROCKEFELLER'S
MINES. EVICTED FROM
COMPANY TOWNS, THEY
LIVED IN TENTS IN A
BITTER WINTER.
ROCKEFELLER HIRED
GUNMEN TO SHOOT AT
MINERS CONTINUOUSLY.
THEY BOUGHT A GUN
THAT SHOT 400 ROUNDS
A MIN. APRIL 20 1914-
FAMILY MEMBERS AND
MINERS ARE SHOT
BOMBED AND BURIED ALIVE.

LUDLOW MASSACRE



AS WORLD WAR I HEATED UP, DEMAND FOR COAL, COPPER, IRON WENT UP, PRICES SKYROCKETED. MORE JOBS, BUT LOW WAGES. 1916 MINNESOTA, 7,000 MINERS STRIKE IN THE MESABI IRON RANGE. THE IWW SENT IN ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, CARLO TRESCA, JOE ETTER, FRANK LITTLE AND OTHERS. THEY ORGANIZED THE ENTIRE 70 MILE RANGE ON STRIKE.



THEY WERE ON STRIKE AGAINST JOHN MITCHELL'S GOOD FRIEND ANDREW CARNEGIE.

STRIKER JOHN ALAR WAS SHOT BY A SHERIFF



AT THE FUNERAL, AN "IWW" PHOTOGRAPHER ARRIVED. HE WAS LATER REVEALED AS A SPY.

EVIDENCE



WITH NO WARRANT, COPS ENTERED A HOME OF 4 UNARMED MINERS AND BEAT MRS. MASONOVICH UNCONSCIOUS.



THE 4 MEN INSIDE RUSHED THE COPS



A COP AND A MAN OUTSIDE WERE SHOT DEAD.



IT WAS COMMON IN STRIKES FOR ORGANIZERS TO BE JAILED FOR MURDER, "INCITING" OR AS "ACCESORIES"



AND MRS. MASONOVICH AND HER BABY WERE IN JAIL FOR MURDER.



MALE ORGANIZERS WERE THEN DEPORTED OUT OF THE STATE.



MARY VORSE WAS SENT IN. WOMEN VOLUNTEERS ALSO WORKED VIGOROUSLY

MEANWHILE AT THE IWW HEADQUARTERS IN CHICAGO...

VINCENT ST. JOHN MANAGED THE OFFICE AFTER BEING CRIPPLED IN NEVADA. HE HAD BEEN SHOT IN BOTH HANDS. HE HAD TO RETIRE, BUT HE KNEW MORE THAN ANYONE ABOUT THE IWW.



HAYWOOD THEN RAN THE OFFICE. THE IWW HAD BIG PROBLEMS FROM BEING DECENTRALIZED. HAYWOOD SET OUT TO CENTRALIZE THINGS. THE CHANGES CAUSED CONFUSION, HURT FEELINGS AND AN EASIER TARGET FOR THE FEDS.



THE CHANGES MADE IT DIFFICULT FOR THE STRIKE SUPPORT



TREMENDOUS WORK WAS DONE TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE STRIKE AND THE PRISONERS.



THE COLD HUNGRY MINERS VOTED TO GO BACK TO WORK



THE STATE OFFERED A HORRIFYING CHOICE FOR THE PRISONERS "BECAUSE THE STRIKE ENDED" IF 3 OF THE 4 MINERS PLED GUILTY TO MANSLAUGHTER, THEY WOULD BE OUT IN 3 YEARS AND ALL OTHERS WOULD BE FREE IMMEDIATELY.



FREEDOM DID COME 3 YEARS LATER.



IWW STRIKES IN THE NEARBY CAYUNA AND VERMILION RANGES WON A 10% RAISE IMMEDIATELY AND AN 8 HOUR DAY TO START THE NEXT MAY FIRST!



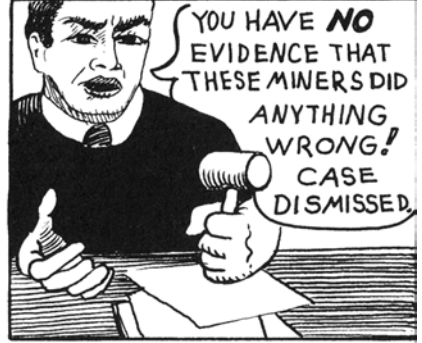
MEANWHILE IN DOZENS OF MINES IN PENNSYLVANIA, THE IWW ORGANIZED LOCALS AND WENT OUT ON STRIKE. THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE CONSTABULARY HAD A 50 YEAR REPUTATION AS THE MOST ANTI-UNION POLICE FORCE IN THE U.S. THEY WERE CALLED "THE COSSACKS"



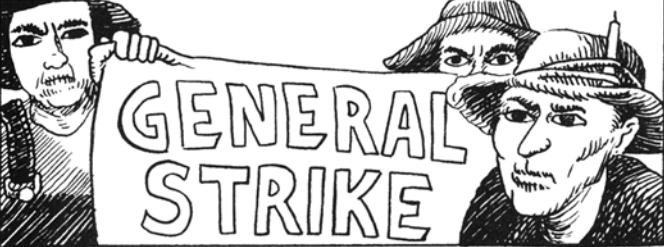
THEY RAIDED A MEETING OF 250 PEOPLE AND JAILED THEM ALL



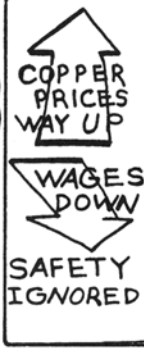
4 MONTHS OF NO INCOME FOR THEIR FAMILIES



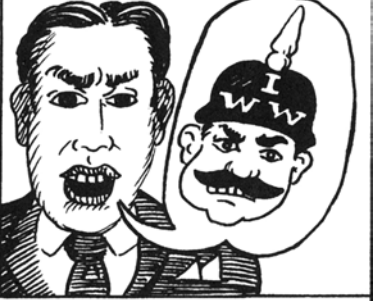
MEANWHILE IN ARIZONA'S MINING DISTRICT THE IWW ORGANIZING LED TO A JUNE & JULY GENERAL STRIKE. SEVERAL AFL UNIONS JOINED.



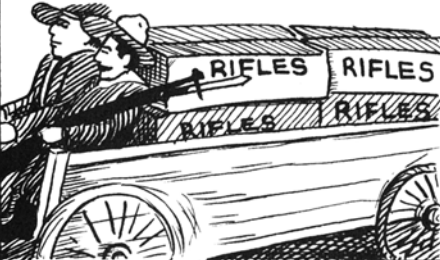
GOMPERS OPPOSED THIS NO STRIKES UNTIL THE WAR ENDS!



THE STRIKE WAS DECLARED "PRO GERMAN"



IN SPITE OF WAR RESTRICTIONS THE OWNERS STOCKPILED ARMS AND AMMUNITION.



EVERY MAN IN GLOBE AND MIAMI, ARIZ. WAS FORCED TO JOIN A "LOYALTY LEAGUE" OR BE PUNISHED AS "PRO IWW."



DAYS LATER, 67 WOBBLIES WERE GRABBED AND SHIPPED IN CATTLE CARS TO CALIFORNIA.



JULY 11, 1917
BISBEE, ARIZONA



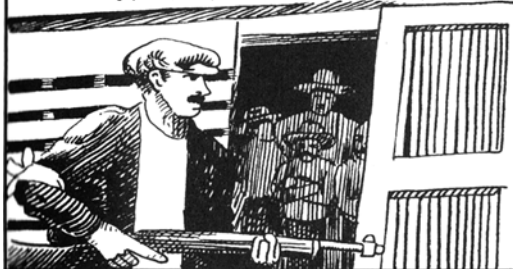
THE BISBEE LIBERTY LEAGUE
CAPTURED 1,186 MINERS
JULY 11-12.



THEY WERE BROUGHT TO A BALL PARK AND TOLD TO
RETURN TO WORK OR FACE DEPORTATION.



THEY WERE PUT INTO 27 CATTLE CARS
AND SENT TO HERMANAS, NEW MEXICO



IN THE INTENSE HEAT
THEY WERE WITHOUT
FOOD FOR OVER 2 DAYS.



THEY WERE MET BY FEDERAL AUTHORITIES
AND MARCHED TO COLUMBUS, NEW MEXICO.



THEY WERE CAGED IN
AN OUTDOOR PEN
UNTIL SEPTEMBER.



MOST RETURNED TO
BISBEE, MANY WERE
ARRESTED IMMEDIATELY



A PRESIDENTIAL MEDIATION
COMMISSION WAS SENT
TO SETTLE THE STRIKE
AND INVESTIGATE
THE DEPORTATIONS.



THIS STRIKE WAS
NEITHER PRO GERMAN
NOR SEDITIONARY,
BUT SINCE IWW'S
ARE DISLOYAL
TO THE WAR EFFORT,
IWW MEMBERS
WILL BE EXCLUDED
FROM THE
SETTLEMENT.



1918

COPPER MINES ARE
"WAR PREMISES".
TROOPS WILL BE
SENT TO ARREST
ANYONE ASSEMBLING
NEAR THESE
"WAR PREMISES".



IN BISBEE, TROOPS
STAYED UNTIL 1920,
2 YEARS AFTER THE
WAR. THE MINE
OWNERS GAVE THEM
HOUSING AND DAILY
REPORTS FROM
PRIVATE DETECTIVES

JUNE 12, 1917, 2400 FEET BELOW GROUND IN AN ANACONDA COMPANY MINE IN BUTTE MONTANA-164 MINERS KILLED IN A FIRE.



THE 1400 MINERS AT THE MINE WENT OUT ON STRIKE

IF ANACONDA OBEYED THE STATE SAFETY LAWS THOSE MEN WOULD BE ALIVE.



THE MEN IN THE FIRE HAD BEEN TRAPPED IN A TUNNEL SEALED BY CONCRETE WHERE A STEEL DOOR WAS LEGALLY REQUIRED.



THE MEN WRECKED THEIR HANDS TRYING TO CLAW THROUGH A WALL

THE IWW STARTED A LOCAL



MARTIAL LAW WAS DECLARED. US TROOPS WERE SENT IN. WOBS WERE AGAIN CALLED PRO GERMAN.



THE STRIKERS HELD TOGETHER STRONGLY. THEY WANTED SAFETY, HIGHER WAGES AND



A CHANGE IN THE HIRING SYSTEM CALLED THE "RUSTLING CARD SYSTEM" WHICH WAS A SYSTEM OF BACKGROUND CHECKS & BLACK-LISTING. IF A MINER QUIT A JOB THE BACKGROUND CHECK BEGAN AGAIN. THIS TOOK SEVERAL WEEKS. THIS WAS DONE TO PREVENT MINERS FROM QUITTING BECAUSE OF BAD WORK CONDITIONS. THE MINERS COULD NOT AFFORD SEVERAL WEEKS OF NO PAY.

NO MINE EXCEPT THE ELM ORLU COMPANY WOULD HIRE ANYONE WITHOUT AN APPROVED RUSTLING CARD.

THE RUSTLING CARD IS COMPLETELY UN-AMERICAN!



ELM ORLU PRESIDENT

AUG. 1, IWW ORGANIZER FRANK LITTLE WAS DRAGGED FROM BED



LITTLE'S FUNERAL WAS ONE OF THE LARGEST THE STATE HAD EVER SEEN. ONE PAPER REPORTED 2,514 IN THE FUNERAL PARADE WHILE THOUSANDS LINED THE ROAD.



DEC. - THE STRIKE ENDED WHEN THE WORKERS WON A SMALL RAISE.



BUT THE ARMY STAYED UNTIL 1921

SOON AFTERWARDS...
MINE OWNER
W. A. CLARK:

"I DON'T
BELIEVE IN
LYNCHING OR
VIOLENCE, UNLESS
IT IS ABSOLUTELY
NECESSARY."



U.S. ATTORNEY WHEELER
AND A SPECIAL AGENT OF
THE BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
REPORTED PUBLICLY,



ANACONDA
HAS HIRED
COMPANY
PROVOCATEURS...

..TO INFILTRATE THE IWW AND MAKE SPEECHES
THAT ARE SEDITIOUS AND DISLOYAL-TO GET THE
ARMY TO ATTACK THE IWW.



HEY!
SOLDIER BOYS
US WOBBLIES
ARE OUT
TO GET
YOU!

WATCH YER
BACK!
☉ ✖ ☆!

9 MONTHS LATER.
SEPT. 13, 1918 THE
IWW GOES ON STRIKE
AGAINST ANACONDA.



THE ARMY, LOCAL POLICE & PRIVATE
DETECTIVES...



SEIZED UNION HALLS... A LOCAL NEWSPAPER ...

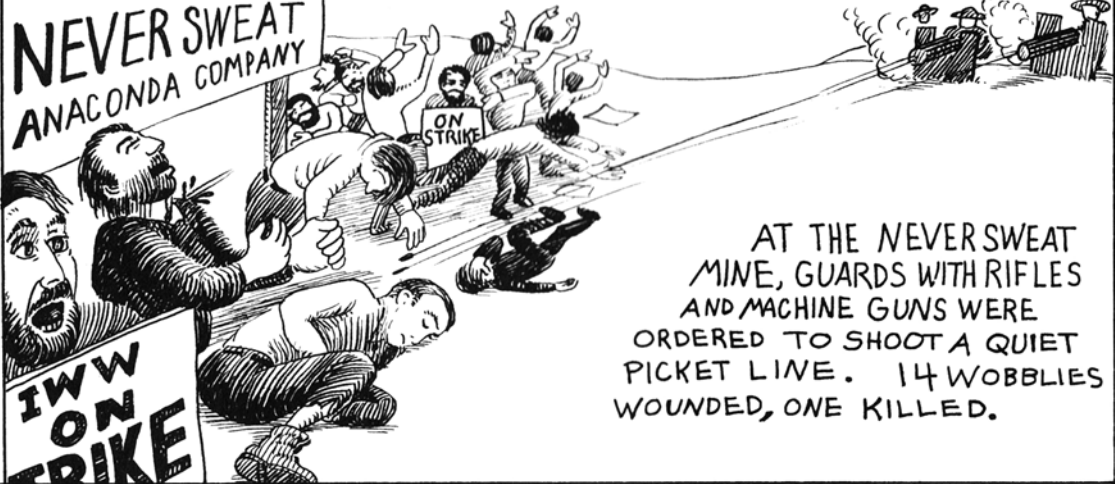


CONFISCATE
ALL RECORDS!

AND JAILED 144 MINERS.



THE STRIKE ENDED IN APRIL 1920 WITH "THE MURDER OF ANACONDA HILL!"



AT THE NEVERSWEAT
MINE, GUARDS WITH RIFLES
AND MACHINE GUNS WERE
ORDERED TO SHOOT A QUIET
PICKET LINE. 14 WOBBLIES
WOUNDED, ONE KILLED.

THE GOVERNMENT, BUSINESSMEN AND PINKERTONS WORKED HARD TO CRUSH THE IWW.

THE IWW WORKED HARD TO ORGANIZE MINERS.



WITH MANY WOBBS IN PRISON, CRIPPLED, BLACKLISTED, EVICTED, OR KILLED, IT WAS HARDER.



MANY WOBBS, INCLUDING THE GREAT MINE ORGANIZER HAYWOOD, WERE CHARGED WITH OVER 100 CRIMES PER PERSON. HAYWOOD AND OTHERS ESCAPED TO THE SOVIET UNION



OCT. 18, 1927, THE IWW IN COLORADO ORGANIZED A STRIKE AT EVERY COAL MINE IN THE STATE!



NOV. 21, IWW PICKETING MINERS WERE MASSACRED IN COLUMBINE COLORADO.



AFL UNIONS SUCH AS THE UMW WERE SEEN BY BUSINESSMEN AS BETTER THAN THE MILITANT I.W.W.

I W W E "OVER-THROW CAPITALISM"

THE AFL JUST WANTS A BIGGER PIECE OF THE PIE



EMPLOYERS PREFERRED THE "CONSERVATIVE" UNIONS OF THE AFL

I HOPE THE UMW STILL WORKS LIKE MITCHELL DID.



WE CAN CONTROL THIS UNION!



PINKERTONS HAD MORE WORK THAN THEY COULD HANDLE. IN THE 1920'S OVER 200 MORE LABOR SPY AGENCIES OPENED.

WE CAN CONTROL THIS UNION!



MANY DEDICATED WORKING CLASS MILITANTS ACCEPTED THE GROWING COMMUNIST PARTY'S IDEA OF BUILDING THE BEST UNION BY WORKING WITHIN THE AFL. AFTER GAINING AUTHORITY, THEY COULD LEAD THE AFL TO A BETTER POLITICAL AGENDA.



ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN



WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

BORE FROM WITHIN

MINERS DON'T NEED 2 UNIONS. THEY SHOULD ALL BE UMW.

JOIN THE AFL. WE CAN CONTROL THIS UNION!

THE GOVERNMENT WORKED TO CONTROL THE AFL WITH LAWS FIRST AND ARMED FORCE "IF NEEDED!"



WE CAN CONTROL THIS UNION!

WE CAN CONTROL THIS GOVERNMENT



LUCY PARSONS

(1853 - 1942)

WRITTEN BY PAUL BUHLE

ART BY  FLY

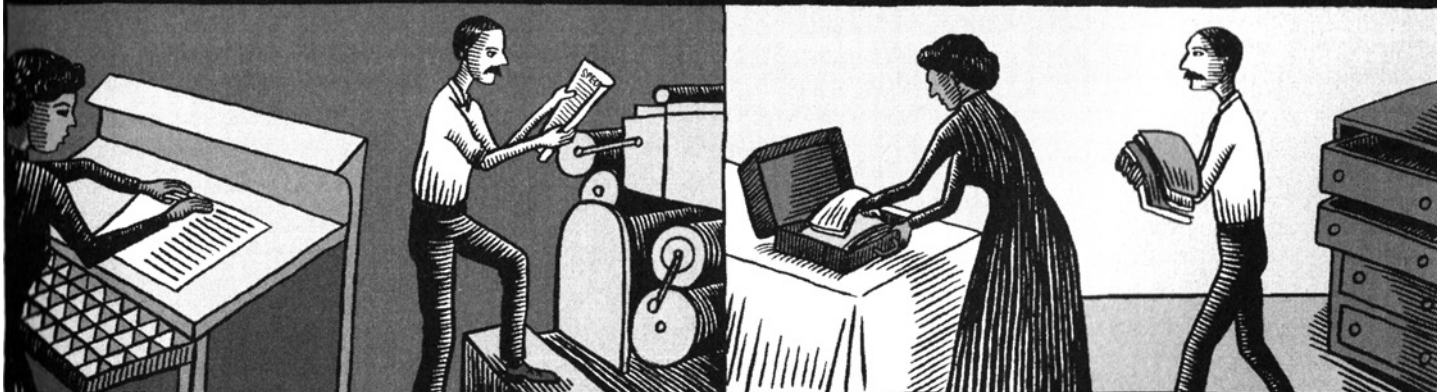


DESCRIBED IN A NOVEL (HOWARD FAST, THE AMERICAN 1946) AS 'WILD AND DARK AND BEAUTIFUL, LIKE THOSE ROSES ONE FINDS GROWING IN THE WOODS, ALONE AND SPLENDID.' LUCY PARSONS WAS ACTIVE IN EVERY MAJOR LABOR DEFENSE CAUSE FOR MORE THAN A HALF CENTURY AFTER THE EARLY 1880'S.

LUCY GAITHINGS WAS ANYTHING BUT ALONE IN HER YOUNG DAYS, WITH MEXICAN, INDIAN, AND AFRICAN AMERICAN ROOTS - POSSIBLY A FORMER SLAVE - SHE MET FORMER CONFEDERATE SOLDIER FROM ALABAMA, ALBERT PARSONS, A PRINTER FIVE YEARS OLDER THAN HER, AROUND 1870.

TOGETHER THEY PUBLISHED THE WACO SPECTATOR, DEFENDING RADICAL RECONSTRUCTION AND DEMANDING RIGHTS FOR ALL CITIZENS. ALBERT CALLED HIS MOVEMENT A 'LABOR PARTY' FOR NONWHITES.

VIGILANTE VIOLENCE AND TERROR PROMPT THE COUPLE, MARRIED IN 1872, TO LEAVE FOR CHICAGO THE NEXT YEAR. THEY HAVE HEARD OF A LARGE WORKING CLASS RADICAL MOVEMENT IN THE MIDWEST METROPOLIS, SAFER FROM PRIVATE - AND GOVERNMENT - SPONSORED TERRORISM



THE FIRST NATION-WIDE STRIKE WAS THE "UPRISING OF 1877", DURING THE WORST DEPRESSION TO THAT DATE, WITH TENS OF THOUSANDS OF WORKERS STRIKING RAILROAD COMPANIES AND OTHER INDUSTRIES. ALBERT, BLACKLISTED AS A PRINTER, HAD BECOME AN ACTIVE SOCIALIST. THE BLOODY SUPPRESSION OF THE STRIKE SCATTERED THE SOCIALISTS AND MADE A DEEP IMPRESSION UPON HIM.

BECOMING LEADING FIGURES OF THE NEW ANARCHIST MOVEMENT IN CHICAGO, MOSTLY MADE UP OF IMMIGRANT GERMANS & BOHEMIANS, THE PARSONS WERE THE MOVEMENT'S "AMERICAN" FACE, WITH THE MOST IMPORTANT ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PAPER IN THE U.S.

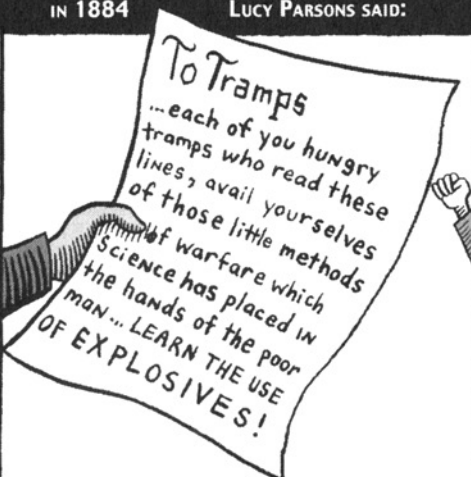


LUCY PARSONS ADDRESSING ANARCHIST PICNICKERS.
(FROM SCHAACK)



IN 1884

LUCY PARSONS SAID:

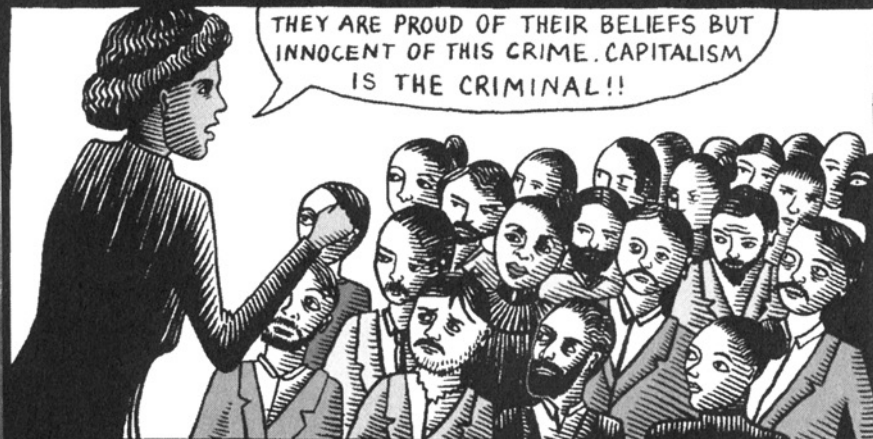


LUCY CONCENTRATED HER EFFORT ON SEAMSTRESSES, ONE OF THE WORST PAID OF JOBS FOR WOMEN, AND ON WRITING FOR THE ALARM.



3 DAYS AFTER THE MARCH AND THE EXPLOSION AT HAYMARKET SQUARE, ALBERT AND 7 OTHER ANARCHISTS WERE ARRESTED AND CHARGED WITH RESPONSIBILITY BECAUSE OF THEIR WRITINGS AND SPEECHES, NOT BECAUSE ANY WERE DIRECTLY IMPLICATED IN THE BOMB-THROWING.

LUCY DELIVERED 43 SPEECHES IN 17 STATES BEFORE THE EXECUTION OF ALBERT AND HIS COMRADES.



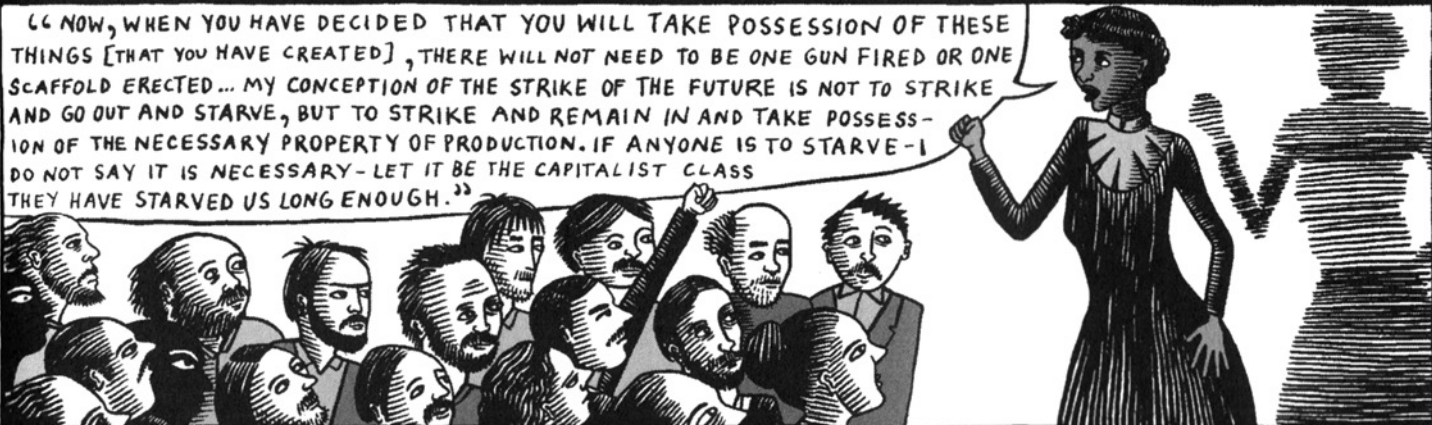
LUCY WOULD RIGOROUSLY DOCUMENT THE LIVES AND THE PERSECUTION OF THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS FOR THE REST OF HER LIFE. IN 1909, SHE HERSELF PUBLISHED FAMOUS SPEECHES OF THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS, PERSONALLY DISTRIBUTING COPIES TO LABOR UNION LOCAL BRANCHES, SELLING MORE THAN TEN THOUSAND.

EDITOR OF ANARCHIST NEWSPAPER ENTITLED FREEDOM (1891-92) SHE DEVOTED HERSELF TO THE DEFENSE OF RACIST LYNCHINGS AND PEONAGE OF AFRICAN AMERICANS, LUCY STRUGGLED TO BROADEN HER CAUSE, ALWAYS REMAINING LOYAL TO THE IDEAS OF ANARCHISM.



LUCY PREDICTS THE SIT-DOWN STRIKE THAT WAS TO REVOLUTIONIZE LABOR BY BRINGING ABOUT INDUSTRIAL UNIONS IN THE 1930'S.

“NOW, WHEN YOU HAVE DECIDED THAT YOU WILL TAKE POSSESSION OF THESE THINGS [THAT YOU HAVE CREATED], THERE WILL NOT NEED TO BE ONE GUN FIRED OR ONE SCAFFOLD ERECTED... MY CONCEPTION OF THE STRIKE OF THE FUTURE IS NOT TO STRIKE AND GO OUT AND STARVE, BUT TO STRIKE AND REMAIN IN AND TAKE POSSESSION OF THE NECESSARY PROPERTY OF PRODUCTION. IF ANYONE IS TO STARVE- I DO NOT SAY IT IS NECESSARY- LET IT BE THE CAPITALIST CLASS THEY HAVE STARVED US LONG ENOUGH.”



IN 1905-06, ONE OF THE FEW NEWSPAPERS SUPPORTING THE WOBBLIES WAS PUBLISHED BY LUCY IN CHICAGO, AND FOR WHICH SHE WROTE A SERIES ON FAMOUS RADICAL WOMEN.



ALWAYS A DEFENDER OF LABOR'S POLITICAL PRISONERS, LUCY JOINED THE NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR DEFENSE IN 1929, AND CONTINUED TO TOUR, RAISING MONEY FOR VICTIMS. IN 1941, ONE LAST TIME, SHE ADDRESSED STRIKERS AT THE INTERNATIONAL HARVESTER PLANT IN CHICAGO, FORMERLY THE MCCORMICK REAPER PLANT WHERE THE STRIKE LEADING TO THE HAYMARKET TRAGEDY HAD BEGUN.



LUCY RE-EMERGED INTO NOTORIETY BY LEADING A DEMONSTRATION OF THE HOMELESS. IN CHICAGO, THE NEXT YEAR, SHE MARCHED AT THE HEAD OF A PARADE OF THE UNEMPLOYED AND HOMELESS. WHEN SHE WAS JAILED, FAMED SETTLEMENT WORKER, FOUNDER OF CHICAGO'S HULL HOUSE, JANE ADDAMS, BAILED LUCY OUT.



LUCY DIED IN A FIRE AT HER HOME IN MARCH 1942; CHICAGO POLICE, HER ENEMIES FOR MORE THAN HALF A CENTURY, STOLE ALL OF HER PERSONAL PAPERS AND BOOKS.





SOLIDARITY FOREVER Ralph Chaplin

When the union's inspiration through the workers' blood shall run,
There can be no power greater anywhere beneath the sun.
Yet what force on earth is weaker than the feeble strength of one?
But the union makes us strong. (chorus)

Solidarity forever!
Solidarity forever!
Solidarity forever!

Is there aught we hold in common with the greedy parasite
Who would lash us into serfdom and would crush us with his might?
Is there anything left to us but to organize and fight?
For the union makes us strong. (chorus)

It is we who plowed the prairies; built the cities where they trade;
Dug the mines and built the workshops; endless miles of railroad laid.
Now we stand outcast and starving, 'midst the wonders we have made;
But the union makes us strong. (chorus)

All the world that's owned by idle drones is ours and ours alone.
We have laid the wide foundations; built it skyward stone by stone.
It is ours, not to slave in, but to master and to own,
While the union makes us strong. (chorus)

They have taken untold millions that they never toiled to earn,
But without our brain and muscle not a single wheel can turn.
We can break their haughty power; gain our freedom when we learn
That the union makes us strong. (chorus)

In our hands is placed a power greater than their hoarded gold;
Greater than the might of armies, magnified a thousand-fold.
We can bring to birth a new world from the ashes of the old.
For the union makes us strong. (chorus)

"I OBJECT TO ANARCHISM IN THIS BOXCAR"

MR. BLOCK, ERNEST RIEBE, AND THE PROBLEM OF SLAVES WHO THINK IN TERMS OF THEIR MASTERS

"MR. BLOCK" WAS A CARTOON CHARACTER WHO APPEARED REGULARLY IN A SERIES OF IWW PERIODICALS...



IF THE IWW WASN'T SO GOD-DARNED RADICAL PERHAPS MAYBE I WOULD JOIN AS SOON AS I GOT DOWN BELOW

...AND THE SUBJECT OF A SATIRICAL SONG BY JOE HILL (BASED ON THE COMIC)

THE MONEY KINGS IN CUBA BLEW UP THE GUNBOAT MAINE BUT BLOCK GOT AWFUL ANGRY AND BLAMED IT ALL ON SPAIN



THAT'S TELLIN', 'EM, JOE

THE "MR. BLOCK" COMIC WAS CREATED BY A GERMAN IMMIGRANT, ERNEST RIEBE.

GUTEN TAG



(WE DON'T KNOW WHAT RIEBE LOOKED LIKE, BUT SINCE CARTOONISTS OFTEN BASE THEIR CHARACTERS ON THEMSELVES, LET'S ASSUME HE LOOKED A LOT LIKE MR. BLOCK.)

SOMEWHERE ALONG THE LINE, RIEBE WAS BIT BY THE REVOLUTIONARY BUG...

USE SABOTAGE!

DON'T SUBMIT!

THE EXPLOITERS HAVE NO RELIGION!

MAKE A NOISE!



...AND IMMEDIATELY HAD A PROBLEM: HOW TO OPEN THE EYES OF HIS CONSERVATIVE, TIMID AND OPPORTUNISTIC "FELLOW SLAVES"

I WILL INVEST THIS & MAKE A FORTUNE

IF I SHOW THE BOSS I AM LOYAL I'LL GET A NICE PRESENT

WE WILL HAVE TO JOIN A RESPECTABLE CHURCH.

DON'T LISTEN TO AGITATORS


EVERYBODY CAN BE SUCCESSFUL IF HE ONLY MAKES UP HIS MIND



STARTING IN NOVEMBER 1912 "MR. BLOCK" DID THE JOB BY ACTING OUT EVERY ILLUSION, ALIBI & PANACEA AVAILABLE TO THE NONREVOLUTIONARY WORKER AND, CONSEQUENTLY, GETTING HIS BUTT KICKED.

BUNCHA BLOCKHEADS

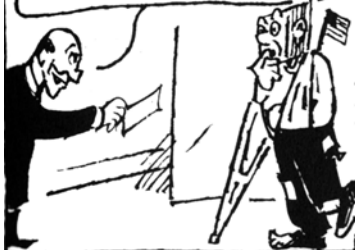
EXCUSE ME, MR. BOB



SOME OF MR. B.'S ILLUSIONS:

CAPITALIST JUSTICE

100 DOLLARS DAMAGES.
MY FEE IS 95. THAT
LEAVES YOU 5, MR. BLOCK.



LAND OF OPPORTUNITY

HIGH WAGE STORIES ARE
PUBLISHED TO SWAMP THE
LABOR MARKET OF THE
WEST IN ORDER TO
REDUCE WAGES.

I AM A
PATRIOT AND
I OBJECT TO
ANARCHISM IN
THIS BOXCAR.



UPWARD MOBILITY

NICE
DAY

I HOPE THESE PEOPLE
UNDERSTAND THAT I
DON'T BELONG TO THEIR
CLASS ANYMORE.

TRASH



"UPLIFT"

WE CAN'T
EAT
THIS.



CRAFT UNIONISM AND SOCIAL DEMOCRACY

I AM GOING TO JOIN SO I
CAN SCAB WITHOUT
GETTING MY BLOCK BUSTED

WORKINGMEN
VOTE THE SOCIALIST
TICKET & BETTER
YOUR CONDITION

IT'S EASY.
JUST
DROP
A SLIP
OF
PAPER.



EARLY BLOCK COMICS EXPRESSED PARTICULAR CONTEMPT
FOR THE IWW'S RIVALS IN THE UNION & LEFT MOVEMENTS.

FACTIONALISM

IN ONE SEQUENCE, RIEBE HAD MR.
BLOCK ACTUALLY JOIN THE IWW, BUT AS A POLICE SPY,
CHARGED WITH SOWING
DISSENSION.

BRING IT IN -
I'LL PRINT IT.



NICK THORPELSON *Smart Block*

WAR FEVER

WAS THE GRAND ILLUSION THAT
MOST INHIBITED MR. BLOCK'S
CLASS CONSCIOUSNESS.



IN THE FALL OF 1914, A FLURRY OF DRAWINGS BY RIEBE
BITTERLY ATTACKED THE BLOOD LUST, PROFITEERING,
HYPOCRISY AND CRUELTY OF WAR.

WAR FEVER AND ACCOMPANYING ANTI-RADICAL
HYSTERIA MAY HAVE TEMPORARILY FORECLOSED
RIEBE'S DREAM OF A BROAD-BASED REVOLUTIONARY
UNIONISM -



-BUT THE REBEL CARTOONISTS OF TODAY-RIEBE'S
HEIRS-CAN STILL PROFIT FROM RIEBE'S
EXAMPLE OF FEARLESS SUBVERSIVE HUMOR.



TWO

LAWRENCE AND PATERSON

Even before its famous founding convention, the movement that would become the IWW was attacked as no American labor movement had been attacked at once by the tabloid press, Democratic and Republican politicians, and most especially by the leaders of the American Federation of Labor. The paid propagandists of AFL president Samuel Gompers, some of them former socialists (and some of them still in the Socialist Party), went after the Wobs with a fury. Unionists were informed that no competition would be accepted, strikes would be broken with the help of AFL-led scabs, and employers would be pressured to refuse contracts to Wobblies. A combination of internal disputes and the recession of 1906–7 caused the IWW to lose large sections of its initial membership. The Western Federation of Miners' departure was an especially bitter blow, followed by the expulsion of Daniel DeLeon and his following in the Socialist Labor Party (who formed their own small rival

organization, known as the "Detroit IWW" for its home office). Still, the IWW survived, led scattered strikes, conducted a vigorous propaganda campaign for industrial unionism, and invented or reinvented the "sit-down" strike of workers occupying the plant rather than leaving it to the care of the owners. The early Wobblies were above all famous for their Westerners: the part-Indians and the Yankees, sons and daughters of pony-express drivers, and gold prospectors whose families had kept going West but never escaped poverty. But even in these early years many of them were fresh from Europe or were the children of immigrants, radicalized on the other side of the ocean or in their first years of American life. They stayed and stayed in the IWW when native-born "Americans" mostly came and left, published magazines and newspapers that lasted decades, and kept the Wobbly spirit alive for later generations.

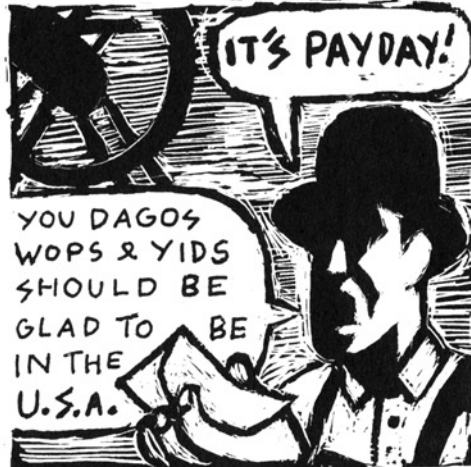
The steadiest single group was the Finns. In their homeland, they had been forced in schools to speak Swedish and to turn over half their farm production to the Lutheran church; they staged a massive political strike in 1905 and became the third nation to win the vote for women. Traveling to the US, several hundred thousand concentrated in the "Copper Country" of the northern Midwest, on the coast of Oregon, and a few other places across the country. The non-religious Finnish-Americans, nearly half the population, cultivated their native language and distinctive culture with social halls that put on plays, concerts, political events and economic cooperatives with nearly everyone of all ages taking some part of the fun and the work.

Italian-Americans were not nearly as steady members, but supplied most of the anarchists to the Wobblies. *Il Proletario* (The Worker), the leading weekly paper of the radicals, was the official publication of the Italian Socialist Federation of North America (FSI), loosely affiliated with the IWW, with tens of thousands of readers across the Eastern seaboard and especially among the strikers in Lawrence and

Paterson, along with their supporters. “Free Thought” coffee houses in big cities, especially New York and San Francisco, offered *Il Proletario* to customers. Back in Italy, demonstrations and fund-raising events supported the strikes and strikers in the US. Russians, Hungarians, Croatians, Greeks, Cubans, Mexicans, and other immigrants, like Italians more influenced by anarchism than most American-born Wobblies, also formed their own small Wobbly-friendly propaganda groups and published newspapers and pamphlets.

Strikes by mostly immigrant workers returned the Wobblies from a threatened obscurity during 1906–9 into the center of the picture, not only for the labor movement but for American society at large. At McKees’ Rocks, Pennsylvania, in 1909, a Wobbly-led strike brought together mostly Slavic immigrants in ways that thrilled socialists and chilled their enemies. Something was in the air, as the Socialist vote moved toward an apex in 1912 with dozens of communities electing radical working-class candidates to office, and hundreds of local gatherings of immigrants creating their own institutions around the funeral parlor and recreational center, confident that the future would bring a cooperative prospect.

Then came the strikes in Lawrence, Massachusetts, in 1912 and Paterson, New Jersey, in 1913, events with repercussions not only in the US but far beyond. Waves of labor activity among the unskilled (but not only the unskilled) in Britain, the future Irish Republic, Germany, France, and Italy, and even distant Australia, picked up Wobbly slogans and tactics, buoyed by hopes of a global democratic transformation.








A POSTER, BACK
IN ITALY, SAID
"NO ONE GOES
HUNGRY IN
LAWRENCE".
WE CAME
RIGHT AWAY.

THEY PROMISED \$14
A WEEK. MY FATHER
NEVER GOT \$9. THEY
PAY ME \$6.

WE THOUGHT WE
WERE RICH UNTIL WE
FOUND OUT
WHAT THINGS
COST HERE.

WE WERE BETTER OFF
IN POLAND.

LAWRENCE



THE TEXTILE COMPANIES OWNED THIS TOWN.




OFTEN THEY OWNED THE HOMES OF THE WORKERS.



MEN, WOMEN AND CHILDREN WORKED IN

THE MILLS.



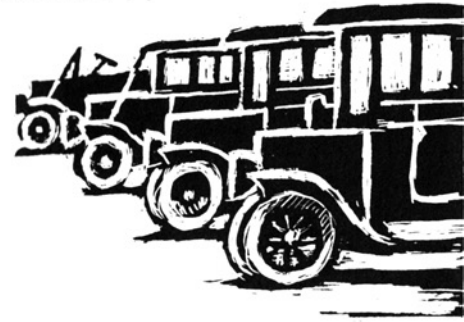
IN A CITY THAT MADE CLOTH,

WORKERS FROZE



FOR LACK OF WARM COATS.

WHILE A MILL OWNER MIGHT POSSESS MORE CARS THAN HE COULD COUNT.



THEY DAMMED THE
MERRIMACK TO
POWER THE
MILLS.

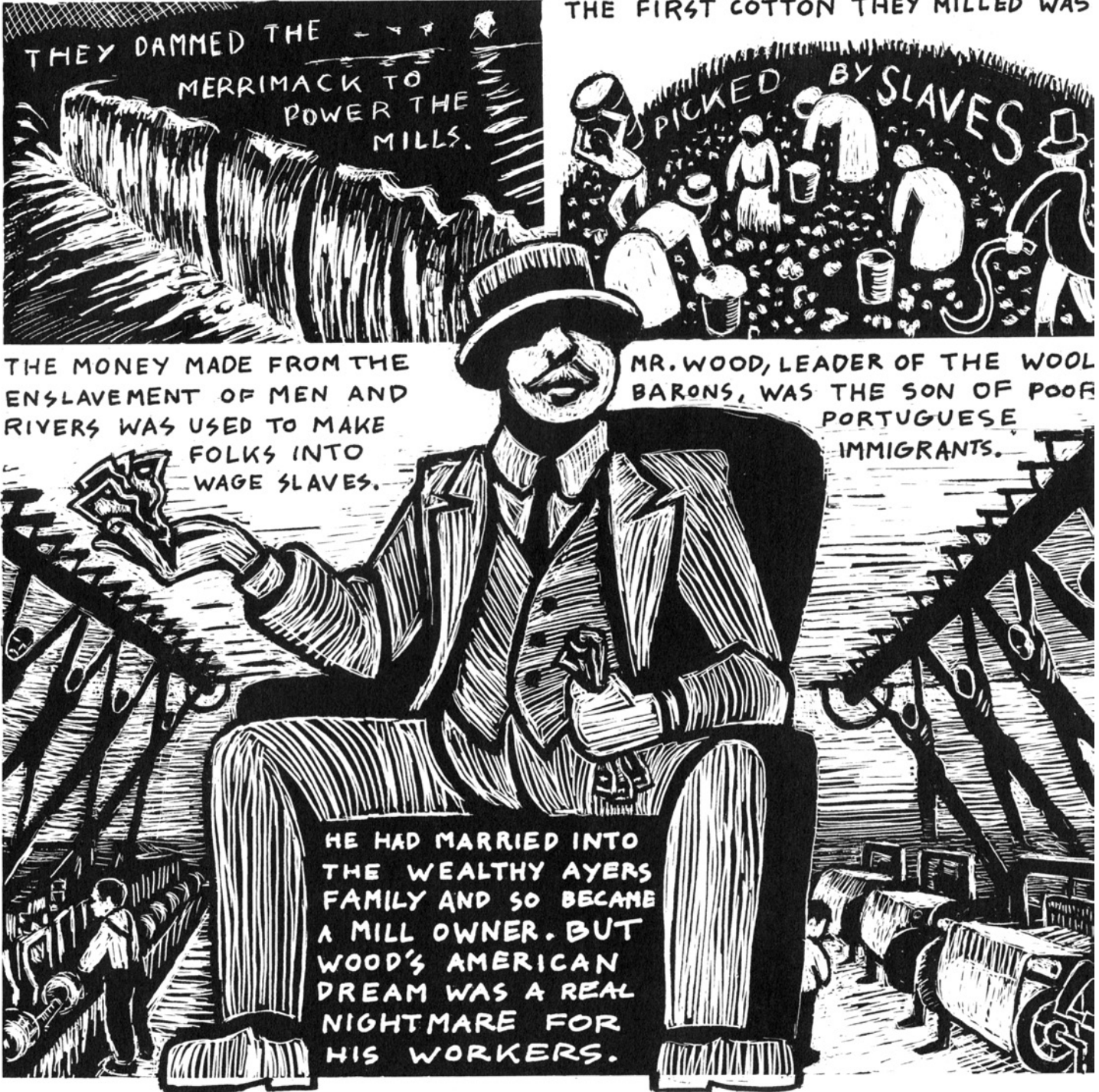
THE FIRST COTTON THEY MILLED WAS

PICKED BY SLAVES

THE MONEY MADE FROM THE
ENSLAVEMENT OF MEN AND
RIVERS WAS USED TO MAKE
FOLKS INTO
WAGE SLAVES.

MR. WOOD, LEADER OF THE WOOL
BARONS, WAS THE SON OF POOR
PORTUGUESE
IMMIGRANTS.

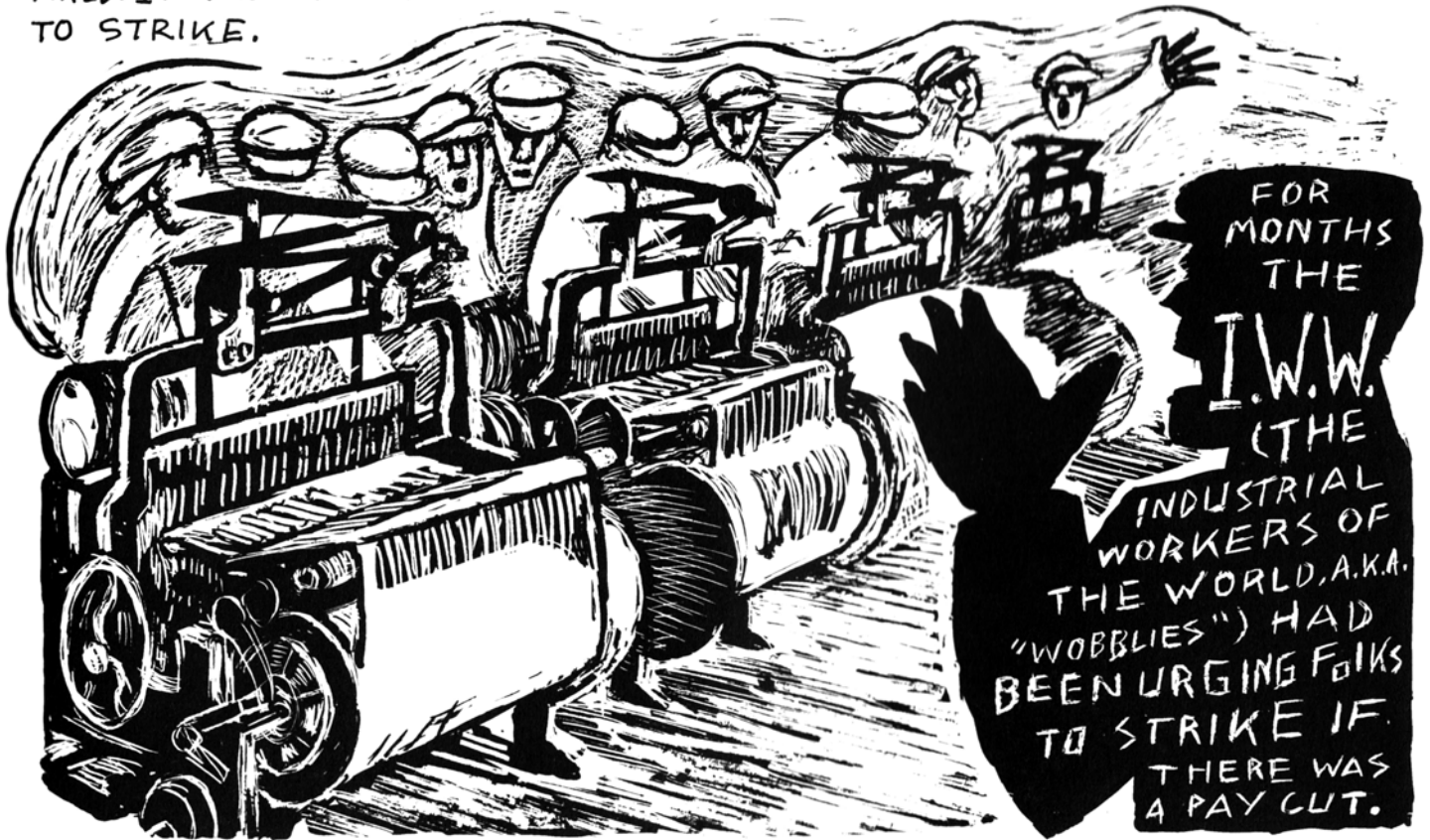
HE HAD MARRIED INTO
THE WEALTHY AYERS
FAMILY AND SO BECAME
A MILL OWNER. BUT
WOOD'S AMERICAN
DREAM WAS A REAL
NIGHTMARE FOR
HIS WORKERS.





AND WHERE WERE THE DEMOCRATS IN ALL THIS? CONGRESS HAD ENACTED A TARIFF ON FOREIGN FABRICS TO PROTECT MILL OWNERS FROM BRITISH COMPETITION. CONGRESS ALSO SET A LIMIT ON THE NUMBER OF HOURS A PERSON COULD WORK. FACED WITH MANDATORY LIMITS ON HOURS, MILL OWNERS TRIED TO GET

WORKERS TO DO MORE WORK IN LESS TIME BY PAYING THEM LESS! THEY TRIED TO PAY 49 CENTS PER CUT INSTEAD OF 79 CENTS, FORCING A MAN TO OPERATE MANY LOOMS AT THE SAME TIME AND WORK FASTER TO BRING HOME LESS PAY. THOSE WHO COULD NOT KEEP UP THE PACE WERE FIRED. IT WAS THIS REDUCTION IN PAY THAT HAD CONVINCED THE WORKERS TO STRIKE.



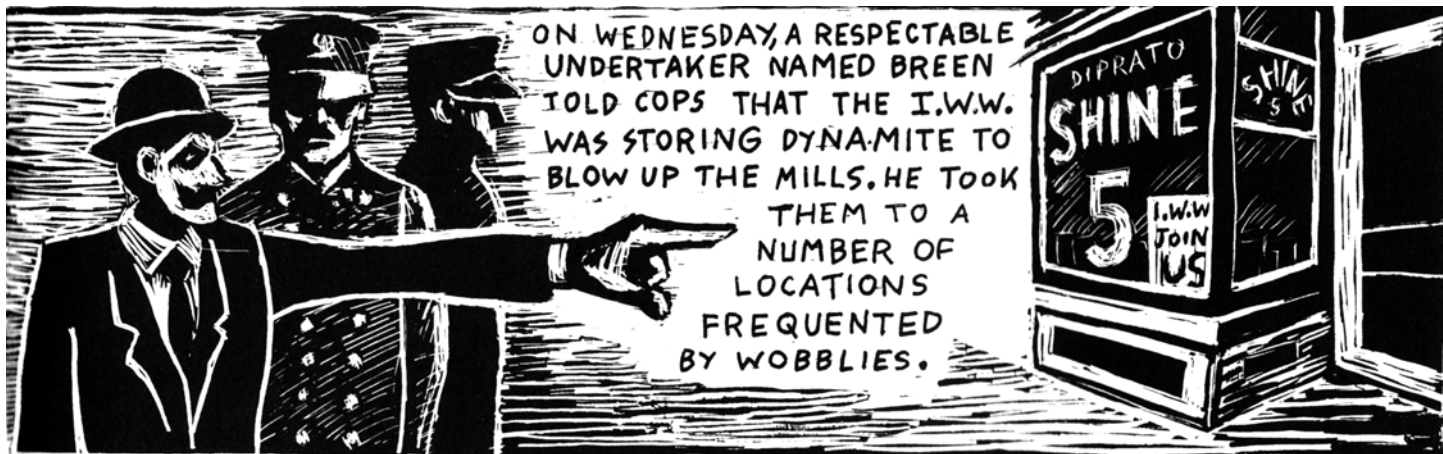
FOR MONTHS THE I.W.W. (THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD, A.K.A. "WOBBLES") HAD BEEN URGING FOLKS TO STRIKE IF THERE WAS A PAY CUT.

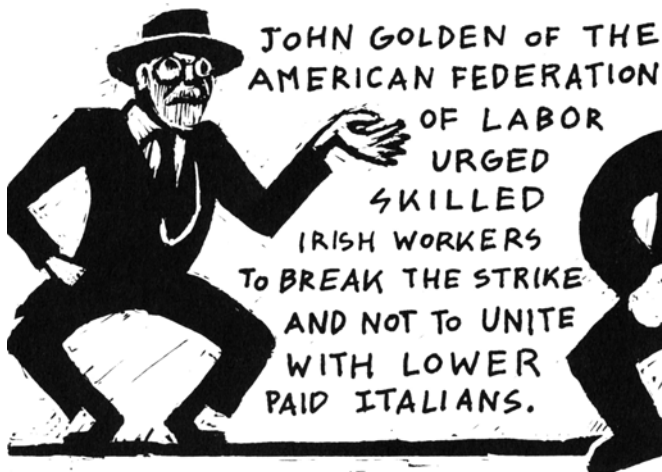
THE I.W.W. SENT FOR ITALIAN
POET ARTURO
GIOVANNETTI AND
ACTIVIST
JOSEPH
ETTOR
TO LEAD
THE
STRIKE.



IN THE 1ST DAYS OF THE STRIKE
CROWDS OF SINGING STRIKERS
BLOCKED BRIDGES, STOPPING NON-
STRIKERS FROM GETTING TO WORK.







JOHN GOLDEN OF THE
 AMERICAN FEDERATION
 OF LABOR
 URGED
 SKILLED
 IRISH WORKERS
 TO BREAK THE STRIKE
 AND NOT TO UNITE
 WITH LOWER
 PAID ITALIANS.



FATHER O'MALLEY TOLD
 WORKERS
 TO STAY
 AWAY FROM
 THE "GODLESS"
 I.W.W. BUT
 NOBODY WAS
 LISTENING
 TO GOLDEN
 AND O'MALLEY.



FOLKS LISTENED TO BIG BILL HAYWOOD!



WORKING PEOPLE! YOU
 ARE THE ONES WHO BUILD
 AMERICA! BUT THEY TREAT YOU
 LIKE DOGS, CALL YOU DAGOS,
 POLLACKS, KIKES & WORSE!



THE FINGERS
 ARE SEPARATE,
 WEAK! BUT
 NOW...

TOGETHER! LIKE YOU!



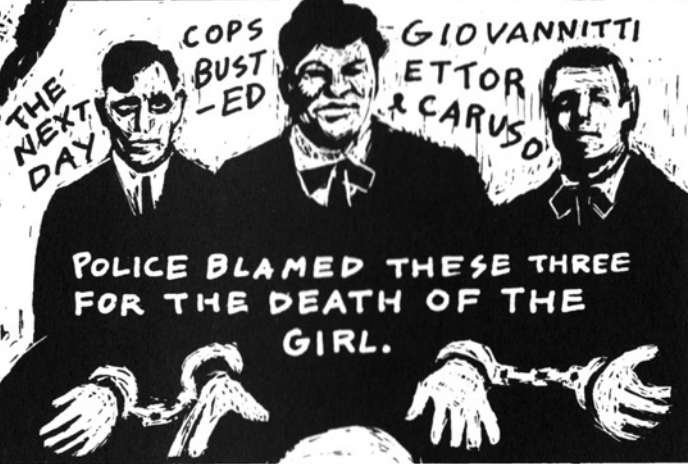
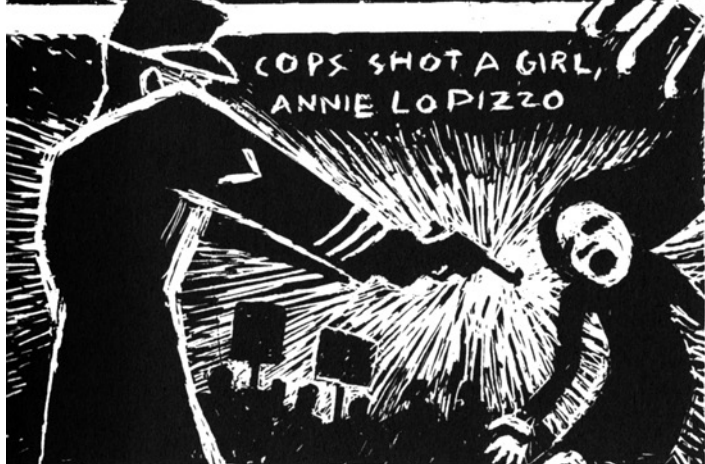
**IN A
 REAL
 UNION.**



AT A
MEETING
THAT
NIGHT

THE TROLLEY
WAS SMASHED
BY AGENTS OF
THE BOSSES!

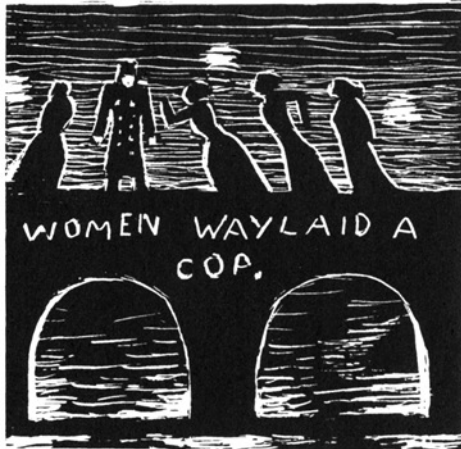
VIOLENCE WON'T
HELP. IF THERE
IS VIOLENCE,
THE BLOOD OF
THE WORKERS
WILL BE SHED.



WITH THEIR LEADERS IN JAIL,



THE WORKERS WERE LEADING THEMSELVES, PARTICULARLY THE WOMEN.



WOMEN WAYLAID A COP.



THEY ALMOST

THREW HIM IN THE RIVER.

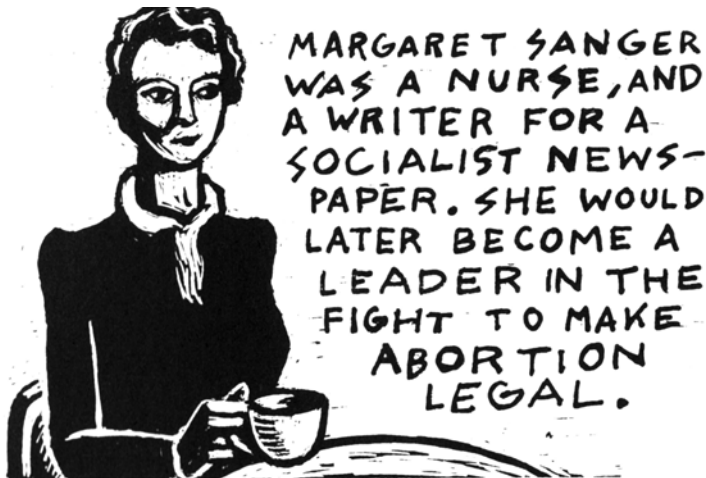


OTHER POLICEMEN

SAVED HIM.



SUCH WERE THE WOMEN OF LAWRENCE.



SANGER
DISCOVERED
THAT ALL
OF THESE
STRIKER
CHILDREN
WERE
SUFFERING
FROM MAL-
NUTRITION



THE NEXT GROUP
OF CHILDREN
WHO TRIED TO
LEAVE LAWRENCE,
WERE MET BY COPS,



FINALLY, THE CHILDREN WERE ALLOWED TO SPEAK TO CONGRESS.



BOSSSES FORGED HER BIRTH CERTIFICATE



TO SAY SHE WAS OLD ENOUGH TO WORK.

A MACHINE PULLED HER SCALP OFF!



THE COMPANY PAID HER MEDICAL BILLS BUT PROVIDED NO SICK-LEAVE.



SHE HAD TO GO RIGHT BACK TO WORK.



THEIR
DEMANDS
HAD
BEEN
MET.

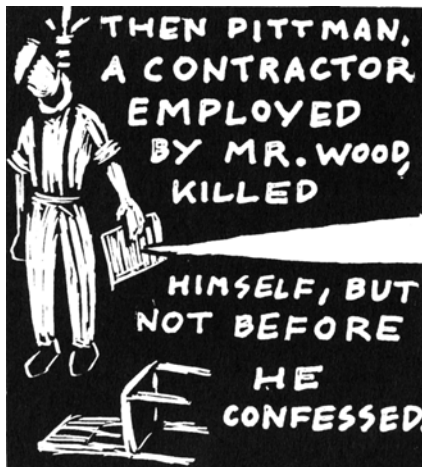
THEY VOTED
TO END
THE STRIKE.

THE
WOB'S
HAD
WON!

BUT ETTOR, GIOVANETTI & CARUSO WERE STILL IN JAIL, AWAITING TRIAL.
AROUND THE WORLD, WORKERS WENT ON STRIKE IN SOLIDARITY WITH THEM.
IN PRISON, GIOVANNITI WROTE AN EPIC POEM. IN THIS POEM:



THE FORCES OF "LIFE & LABOR" WERE
SWIRLING AROUND OUTSIDE THE COURTHOUSE.
INSIDE WAS ONLY DEATH. THE ONLY LIVING
THINGS IN COURT WERE THE THREE
DEFENDANTS.



THEN PITTMAN,
A CONTRACTOR
EMPLOYED
BY MR. WOOD,
KILLED

HIMSELF, BUT
NOT BEFORE
HE
CONFESSED.

CONFESSED, THAT HE
HAD PAID BREEN TO
PLANT THE
DYNAMITE,



ON BEHALF
OF MR.
WOOD.



WOOD WAS ARRESTED, AND WHILE
HE WAS NEVER CONVICTED, THE
SPECTACLE OF A MILLIONAIRE
IN HANDCUFFS, CHANGED THE
PUBLIC PERCEPTION OF THE
WOBBLY CASE.


ETTOR, GIOVANNITTI AND
CARUSO WERE SOON FOUND
NOT GUILTY!!



WE OWE OUR LIVES TO THE WORKING CLASS
OF AMERICA AND THE WORLD!



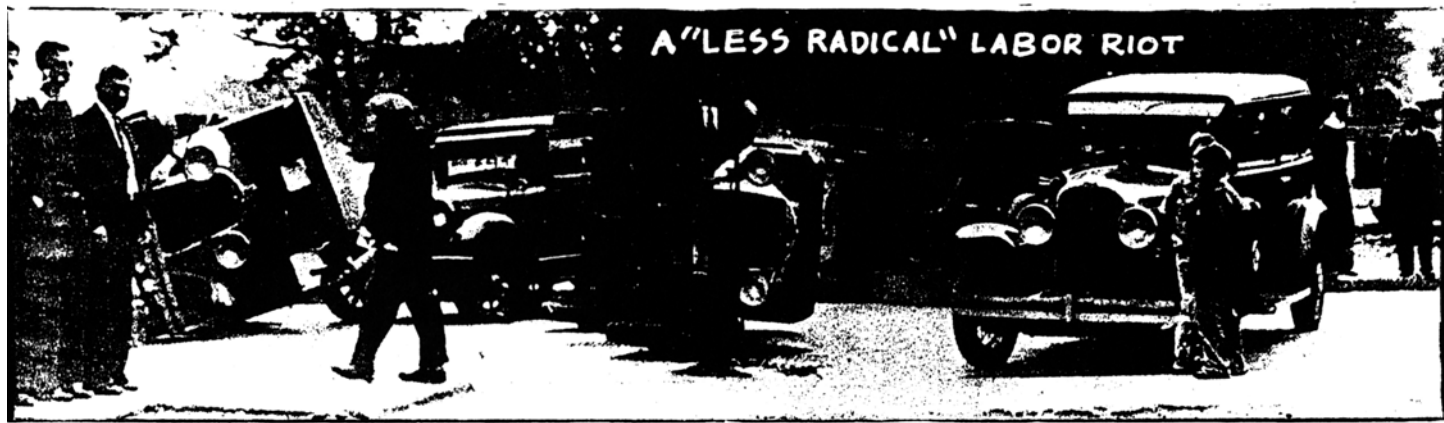
**EPILOGUE: THE
I.W.W. NEVER BUILT
A PERMANENT
ORGANIZATION IN
LAWRENCE.**



AFTER THEIR MOMENT OF
REVOLT, PEOPLE SEEMED RE-
PENTANT. FATHER O'MALLEY
ORGANIZED A "GOD AND
COUNTRY" PARADE. MILL
OWNERS GAVE WORKERS
FREE AMERICAN FLAGS.
FROM THE START, THESE
IMMIGRANTS WANTED THE
SECURITY WHICH THEY

ASSOCIATED WITH BEING "AMERICAN".
THEY HAD FOLLOWED THAT FLAG OUT OF
THE MILLS, THEN THEY FOLLOWED IT BACK
TO WORK. EVENTUALLY THEY WOULD
FOLLOW THE AMERICAN FLAG INTO THE
BLOODY TRENCHES OF THE
FIRST WORLD WAR.

WORKERS JOINED "LESS RADICAL" UNIONS. THESE UNIONS DID NOT OPPOSE THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM, BUT DID FIGHT FOR THE WORKERS. THERE WERE STRIKES IN THE 1930s & 40s, OFTEN LEADING TO "LABOR RIOTS" AND SO THE WORKERS WON SOME IMPROVEMENT IN THEIR CONDITIONS. BUT THIS WAS ONLY TEMPORARY.



A "LESS RADICAL" LABOR RIOT

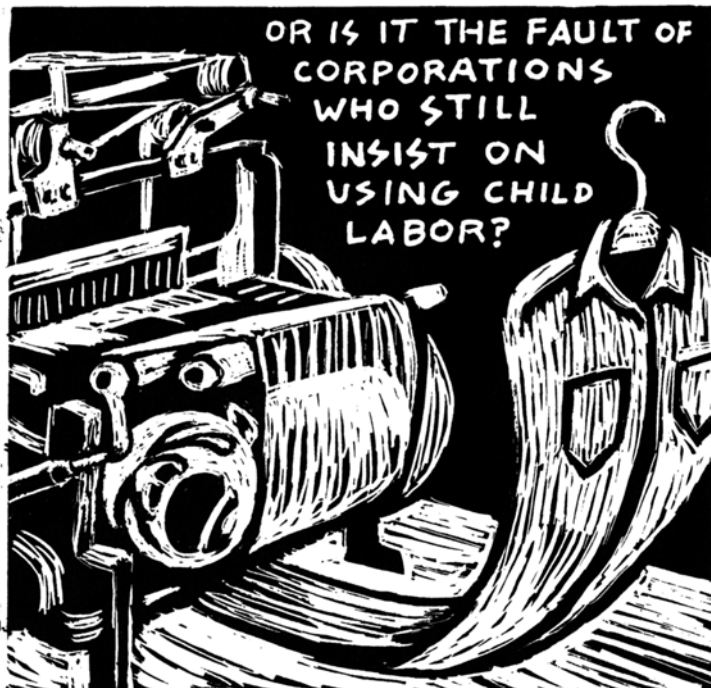
COMPANIES MOVED AWAY. FIRST DOWN SOUTH, THEN TO 3RD WORLD COUNTRIES WHERE THEY COULD RESUME THEIR OLD HABITS, CHILD LABOR, LOW PAY, UNSAFE CONDITIONS.



THEY CALL THIS

GLOBALIZATION. AND THEY SAY UNIONS RUINED INDUSTRY IN LAWRENCE.

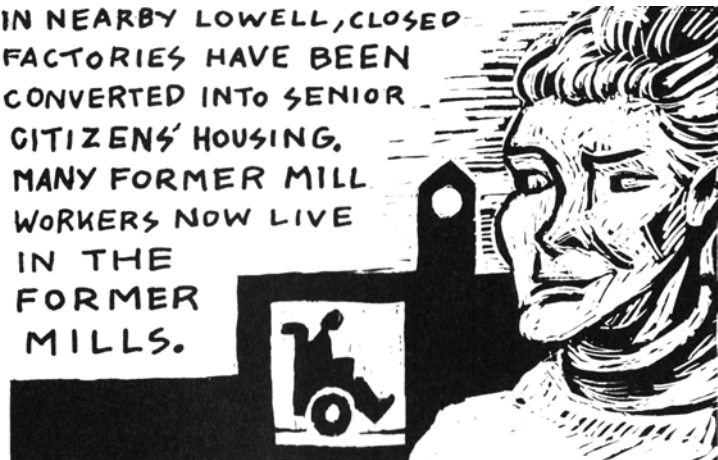
OR IS IT THE FAULT OF CORPORATIONS WHO STILL INSIST ON USING CHILD LABOR?





THE MILLS ARE SILENT.

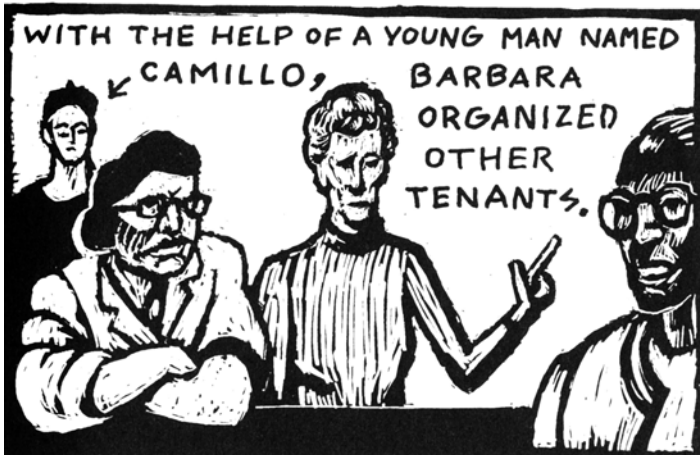
IN NEARBY LOWELL, CLOSED FACTORIES HAVE BEEN CONVERTED INTO SENIOR CITIZENS' HOUSING. MANY FORMER MILL WORKERS NOW LIVE IN THE FORMER MILLS.



AS A CHILD, BARBARA WORKED IN THE MILLS. SHE STILL REMEMBERS BEING SEXUALLY HARASSED BY MILL MANAGERS. HER SON DIED IN VIET NAM. A FEW YEARS AGO SHE FOUND OUT ABOUT THE "LOWELL PLAN". IT'S A SCHEME TO.....



WE ARE PEOPLE WHO'VE PAID OUR DUES! YOU CAN'T TREAT US THIS WAY.



WITH THE HELP OF A YOUNG MAN NAMED CAMILLO, BARBARA ORGANIZED OTHER TENANTS.



THEY WENT TO WASHINGTON TO PROTEST AGAINST THE LOWELL PLAN.





TOP
COP,
TIMONEY

CAMILLO WAS ACCUSED OF TRYING TO KILL A COP. HE IS NOW ON TRIAL. HE FACES UP TO 25 YEARS IN PRISON IF CONVICTED. ONCE AGAIN THE DEAD TRY TO IMPRISON THE LIVING. ONCE AGAIN THE FORCES OF "LIFE AND LABOR" SWIRL THROUGH THE STREET. THE "BREAD AND ROSES" STRIKE OF 1912 WAS JUST ONE ROUND IN A LONG FIGHT. THAT FIGHT IS NOT OVER.

NO
NO
NO

DIE
NO

TO LIVE AND DYE IN PATERSON...

I WORK IN
A DYE HOUSE.

THIS DYE HOUSE
IN PATERSON, NJ.

STORY AND ART BY
RYAN INZANA

IT'S MIDNIGHT NOW,
AND I JUST STARTED
MY SECOND SHIFT.

LOUIS FRANKE

AS THEY SAY,
IT'S A LIVING...

...BUT NOT MUCH
OF ONE.

I WAS MOVED FROM A SILK MILL TO THE DYE HOUSE. NOBODY WANTS THE DYE JOBS, THE PAY IS ROTTEN AND THE CONDITIONS ARE HORRIBLE.

THE FOREMAN TOLD ME I SHOULD BE LUCKY TO HAVE A JOB AT ALL.

I'M LUCKY, I GUESS.

MY HAND'S BEEN STAINED RED FROM THE DYE CHEMICALS, BUT I DON'T COMPLAIN.

LOT'S OF KIDS WORK HERE IN THE DYE HOUSE. THEY'RE 14 GOING ON 30.

AT LEAST THEY GOT A JOB.

WE ALL JUST KEEP WORK'N. NO MATTER HOW BAD IT IS HERE, IT BEATS LIVI'N IN A GUTTER.

I WATCH ALL THESE RICH FOLK STRUTT'N AROUND IN THE SILK I PROBABLY DYED. THEY DON'T KNOW THAT THEIR FANCY SHIRTS AND DRESSES ARE READY TO CRUMBLE AWAY, DUE TO THE CHEMICALS WE DIP THE SILK IN.

THE OWNER GATHERED EVERYONE IN THE DYE HOUSE TO TELL'EM NOT TO STRIKE TODAY.

THE WEAVERS AT THE DOHERTY PLANT HAVE ALL WALKED, OUR UNION GUYS ARE TELL'N US DYERS WE SHOULD JOIN'EM.

INSUBORDINATION WILL NOT BE TOLERATED AT THIS DYE HOUSE!

LE PAROLE CONTANO MENO DEI FATTI/
DAL DIRE AL FARE C'è ~~PIÙ~~ PIÙ
DI MEZZO IL MARE!

DO YOU HEAR HOW HE SPEAK TO US?
WE GONNA STRIKE!

CARLO,
WE CAN'T STRIKE!
THE FOREMAN WILL
FIRE US ALL!

GIAN, WE HAVE NO CHOICE!

I CAN BARELY FEED MY FAMILY ON THIS MONEY!

CARLO WAS RIGHT.
BUT I DIDN'T KNOW IF THE STRIKE WOULD WORK.
THE DYE JOB IS ALL I GOT, WHAT WOULD I DO IF I WAS FIRED?

'COURSE, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOIN' ON IN THE SILK MILLS. THE OWNER REPLACED THE 2 LOOM MACHINES WITH 4 LOOM MACHINES. IT WAS SUPPOSE 'TA BE **REAL** ADVANCED. BUT THE WORKERS OVER THERE NOW HAD TWICE THE WORK AT THE SAME PAY.

THERE WERE ALL SORTS O' PROBLEMS AT THE SILK MILLS, WOMEN GOT THEIR PAY DOCKED, THE FOREMEN GOT KICKBACKS. EVEN THE SILK WAS GETT'N WEIGHED WRONG SO THEY COULD TURN A BIGGER PROFIT.

ALL THIS LIE'N AND CHEAT'N WAS MAKIN' THE OWNERS RICH.

IT DIDN'T MATTER HOW HARD WE BROKE OUR BACKS...

...ALL WE GOT WERE CRUMBS FROM THEIR FEAST.

GIAN, CHE COSA L'INFERNO VOI STA FACENDO?


WORK, JUST LIKE YOU SHOULD BE DOING.

BUT WE ARE ON STRIKE!

I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR YOUR JOKES, CARLO.

THIS IS NO JOKE, GIAN!

COME WITH ME, I'LL SHOW YOU!



THERE WAS A SEA OF
PEOPLE OUTSIDE.

IT LOOKED LIKE ALL OF
PATERSON HAD TURNED OUT.

THEY COULDN'T FIRE ALL
OF US. FOR ONCE IN MY LIFE,
I THOUGHT THAT THINGS
MIGHT BE BETTER.

GIAN!
LOOK, WHAT
DID I TELL YA!

THE BOSSES
COULDN'T IGNORE
ALL THIS.

WE HAD ENOUGH PEOPLE TO SHUT DOWN
THE WHOLE PATERSON SILK INDUSTRY.

L'OH IL
MIO DIO!

ONE THING WAS FOR SURE, WE COULDN'T GO BACK
TO THE WAY THINGS WERE EVER AGAIN.

1,000 RED CARNATIONS



THE PAGEANT OF THE
PATERSON STRIKE

NEW YORK
1913

BY SABRINA JONES

IN 1911

JOHN REED

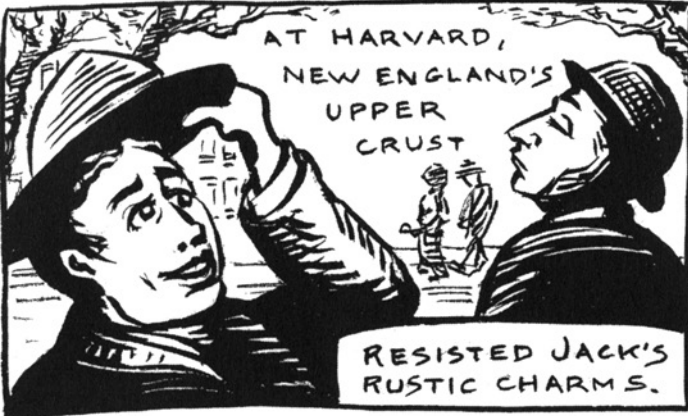
MOVED TO WASHINGTON SQUARE, IN THE HEART OF NEW YORK'S GREENWICH VILLAGE.



NEW YORK WAS AN ENCHANTED CITY FOR ME.

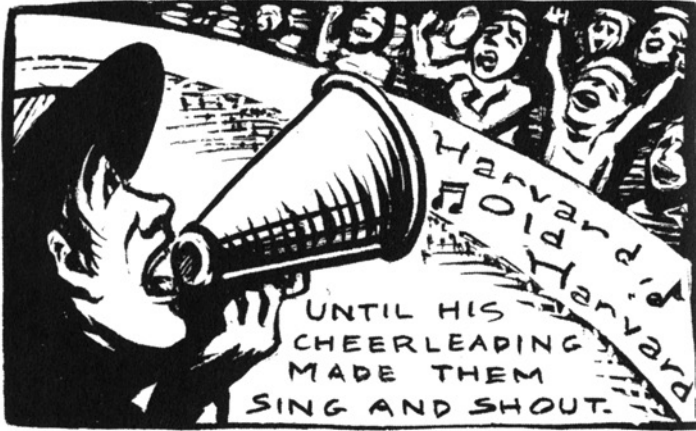


HE WAS BORN TO A MANSION ON A HILL OVER PORTLAND, OREGON, A TOWN NEWLY CARVED OUT OF THE WILDERNESS.



AT HARVARD, NEW ENGLAND'S UPPER CRUST

RESISTED JACK'S RUSTIC CHARMS.



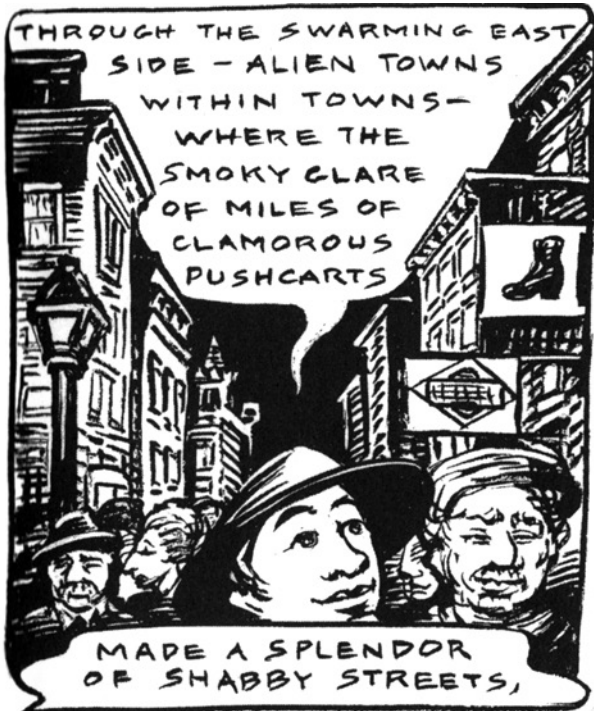
UNTIL HIS CHEERLEADING MADE THEM SING AND SHOUT.



REED'S FIRST JOB AS A REPORTER FOR THE MUCKRAKING "AMERICAN" MAGAZINE THRUST HIM INTO THE CITY'S UNDERBELLY.



"I WANDERED FROM THE SOARING IMPERIAL TOWERS TO THE DOCKS..."



IN 1912 Mabel Dodge

LEFT HER ITALIAN
VILLA AND MOVED TO
GREENWICH VILLAGE



AMERICA IS ALL
MACHINERY AND MONEY-
MAKING AND FACTORIES.

IT IS UGLY, UGLY, UGLY!

NOT CONTENT
TO DECORATE
HER PALACE,



SHE HAD HOPED
TO DRESS UP ALL
FLORENCE IN A
RENAISSANCE PAGEANT

IT WILL BE A
REVIVAL OF
ART AND BEAUTY.

GERTRUDE STEIN
OBSERVED THE
NOCTURNAL TRAFFIC
TO HER HOSTESSES
BEDROOM AND WROTE:

"There is no Adulteration"
There



FROM
NEW YORK,
DODGE URGED
STEIN TO SEND HER
MOST SCANDALOUS
MASTERPIECES



WE'RE GOING TO
DYNAMITE
NEW YORK!

INTERNATIONAL MODERN ART

CRITICS
RAGED AT THE
ARMORY SHOW

"A NEWS...
"THEY WANT TO
DESTROY NOT
ONLY ART,
BUT SOCIETY!"



AND DODGE
PROUDLY
DISTRIBUTED
HER

Portrait
by
Stein

ON WEDNESDAY EVENINGS,
DODGE PRESIDED, SPHINX-LIKE,
OVER HER SALON AT 23
FIFTH AVENUE.



THE STARTLINGLY WHITE
WALLS WERE IDEAL FOR

SHOWING MODERN PAINTINGS,
BUT INSTEAD OF ART,



I COLLECTED PEOPLE.

Socialists

ANARCHISTS

Suffragists

POETS



LAWYERS, ARTISTS, MURDERERS, AND JUST PLAIN MEN

BY ALL ACCOUNTS,
MABEL DODGE
HAD NEITHER
WIT NOR BEAUTY,
AND YET,



THE INTELLIGENT
SILENCE OF HER
"PERFECT MASK" MADE
PEOPLE SUDDENLY
MORE FLUENT.

ONE SPRING NIGHT, IN 1913, FRIENDS BROUGHT DODGE TO MEET

BIG BILL HAYWOOD

HE'S LIVING WITH A SCHOOLTEACHER



WOMEN CAN'T RESIST HIM.

THE SILK WORKERS OF PATERSON ARE HUNGRY. ONLY OUTSIDE SOLIDARITY CAN SAVE THEIR STRIKE.



CAN'T YOU GET THIS STORY IN THE PAPERS?

NOT A WORD!



IF ONLY NEW YORKERS COULD SEE:



THE DRAMA OF MODESTINO'S MURDER, AND HIS COFFIN,



WHERE EACH MOURNER DROPPED A RED FLOWER, UNTIL IT LOOKED LIKE A MOUND OF BLOOD.

WHY NOT BRING IT TO NY & SHOW THEM: HAVE THE STRIKERS THEMSELVES ACT IT OUT IN A PAGEANT?



WHERE?

MADISON SQUARE GARDEN?

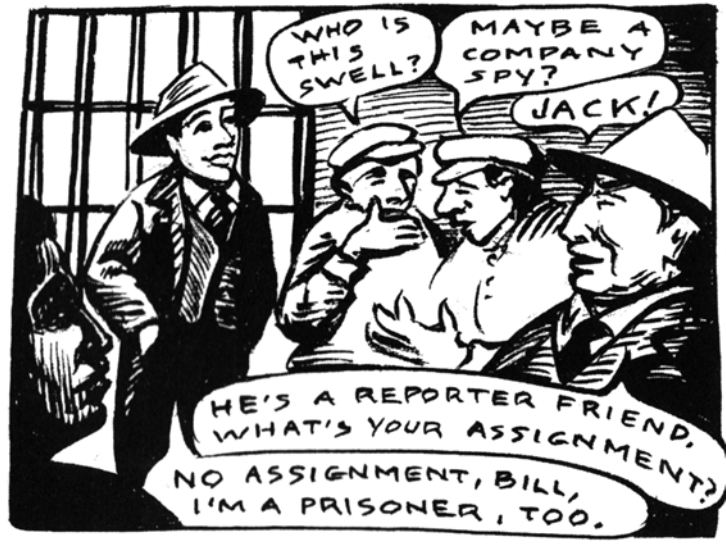
I'LL DO IT!



I'M JACK REED I CAN ORGANIZE IT.



I'LL SEE YOU WHEN I GET BACK FROM PATERSON





AT \$1,000 WE CAN ONLY RENT THE GARDEN FOR ONE NIGHT



WE'LL HAVE TO FEED 1,000 STRIKER/PERFORMERS WHEN THEY ARRIVE.

REED'S HARVARD PAL ROBERT EDMOND JONES DESIGNED THE POSTER, SET & MODERN STAGING TO BLUR THE LINE BETWEEN PLAYERS & AUDIENCE.



WHAT EXACTLY DOES A SILK MILL LOOK LIKE?



DODGE LENT A ROOM TO THE FUTURE RADICALIZER OF THEATER DESIGN.

JOHN SLOAN, "ASHCAN" ARTIST & "MASSES" ILLUSTRATOR, LED THE PAINTERS OF A 200-FOOT BACK-DROP OF THE SILK MILLS.



HIS WIFE DOLLY, DREADED FUND-RAISER OF MANY CAUSES, JOINED

THE PAGEANT COMMITTEE AT THE HOME OF MARGARET SANGER, THE PIONEERING BIRTH CONTROL ADVOCATE.

THE SHOW WILL LOSE MONEY!

WE SHOULD CANCEL IT!

WE CAN'T CRUSH THE STRIKERS' HOPES, EVEN IF IT DOES LOSE MONEY, THE PUBLICITY WILL ATTRACT DONATIONS

CONSIDER MY LOAN A GIFT, MINE, TOO!

FROM THE NEW YORK SILK WORKERS: HERE'S \$600 SO THE SHOW CAN GO ON

JUNE 7, 1913



THOUSANDS OF STRIKERS RODE THE FERRY FROM NEW JERSEY TO NYC.



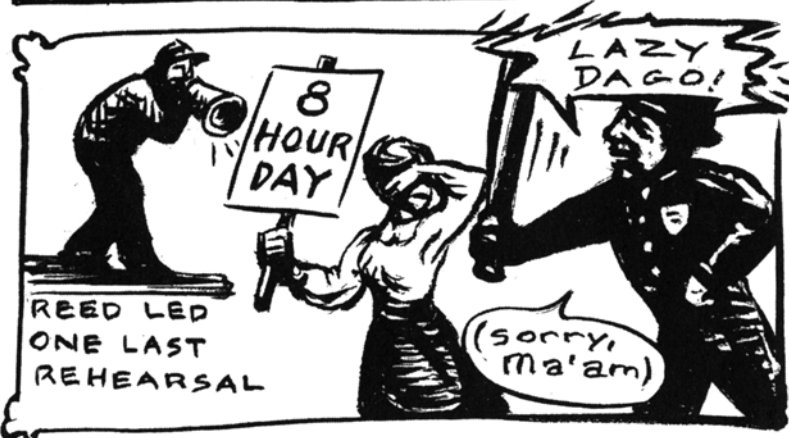
THE SINGING BEGAN ON THE MARCH TO THE THEATER.

ARISE, YE PRISONERS OF Starvation



AT LAST: MADISON SQUARE GARDEN - LIKE A RENAISSANCE PALACE.

TOPPED BY THE 2ND TALLEST TOWER IN THE CITY.



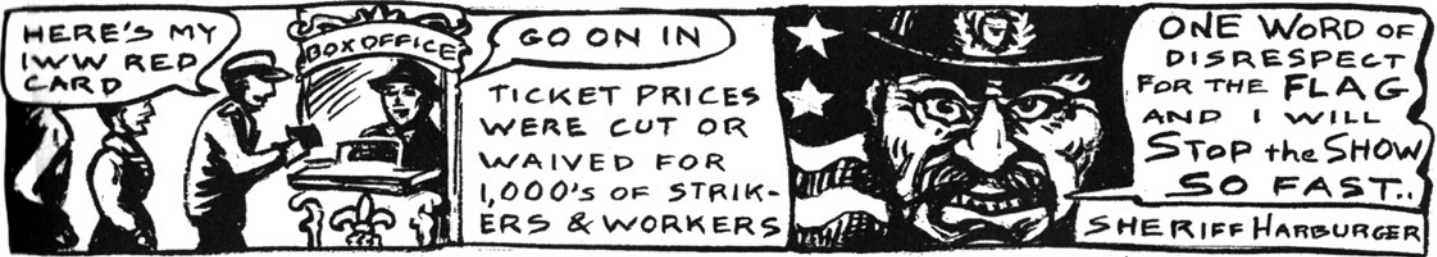
REED LED ONE LAST REHEARSAL

LAZY DAGO!

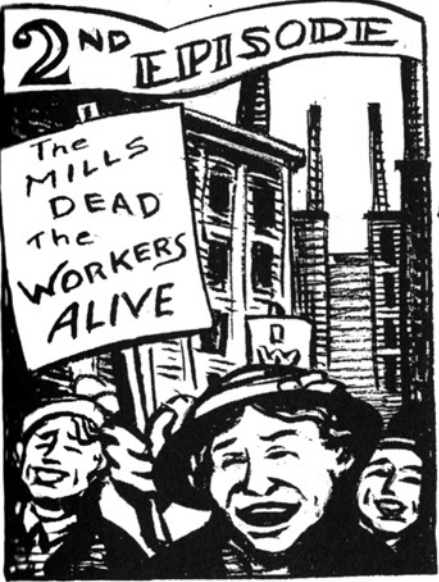
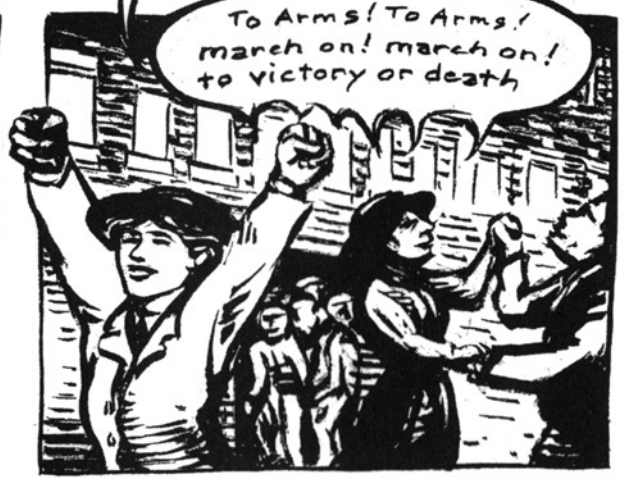
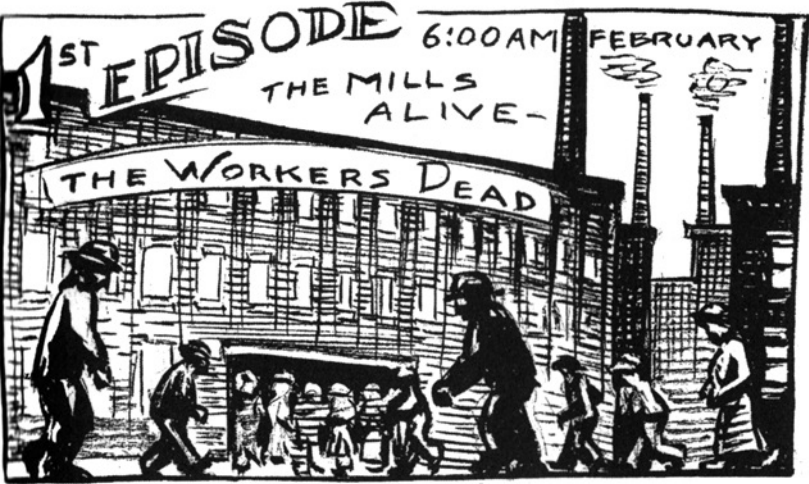
(sorry, ma'am)



AS TENS OF THOUSANDS LINED UP, 10-FOOT TALL LETTERS IN RED LIGHTS GLOWED FROM THE TOWER.



THE PAGEANT OF THE PATERSON STRIKE!



3RD EPISODE The FUNERAL of MODESTINO



HIS "COFFIN" WAS CARRIED UP THE CENTER AISLE, THROUGH THE WEeping AUDIENCE



A CRIMSON MOUND GREW AS A THOUSAND MOURNERS FILED PAST,



EACH ONE DROPPING

A RED FLOWER.



MODESTINO'S WIDOW BECAME HYSTERICAL.



CARLO TRESCA REPEATED HIS FIERY GRAVESIDE SPEECH:

Sangue Per Sangue

DO NOT FORGET THE TOILERS FROM ITALY, for BLOOD YOU MUST TAKE BLOOD

4TH EPISODE MASS MEETING AT HALEDON, N.J.

STRIKE COMPOSERS SANG THEIR SONGS IN ITALIAN & GERMAN

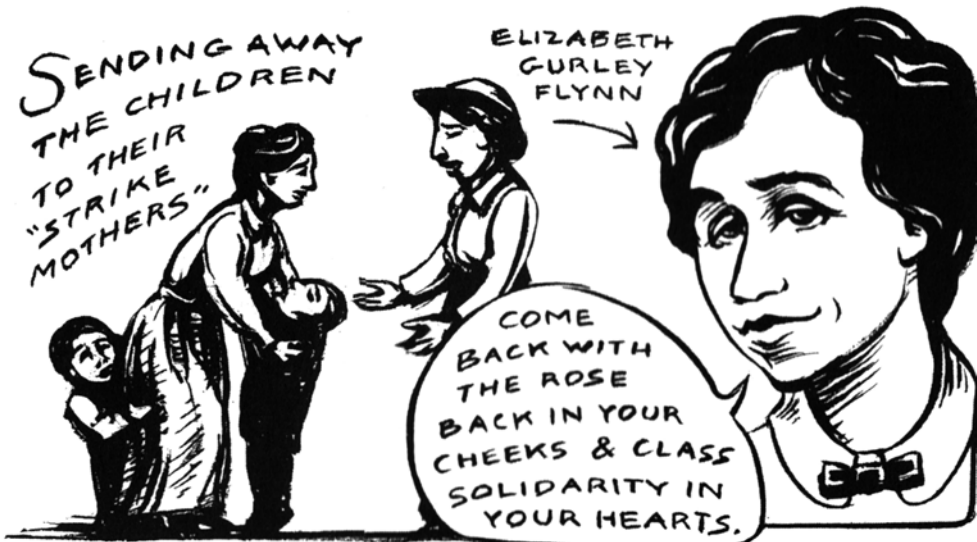


THE AUDIENCE WAS INVITED TO JOIN IN THE "INTERNATIONAL," THE "MARSEILLAISE" & "THE RED FLAG."

5TH EPISODE MAYDAY



SENDING AWAY THE CHILDREN TO THEIR "STRIKE MOTHERS"



ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN

COME BACK WITH THE ROSE BACK IN YOUR CHEEKS & CLASS SOLIDARITY IN YOUR HEARTS.

6TH EPISODE STRIKE MEETING

STRIKERS TURNED THEIR BACKS TO INCLUDE THE PUBLIC IN THEIR VOTE



ALL IN FAVOR OF THE 8-HOUR DAY

HELP US PUT THE BOSSES TO WORK!

Big Bill

AUDIENCE AND PLAYERS SANG A FINAL CHORUS OF THE MARSEILLAISE



PRO & CON, THERE WAS A LOT OF PRESS:

"TRULY AN ARTISTIC ACHIEVEMENT..."

"A VIVID NEW SENSE OF THE REALITY OF THE SILK STRIKE & OF INDUSTRIAL CONFLICT."

—New York Times—
A DESTRUCTIVE ORGANIZATION STIMULATING MAD PASSION AGAINST LAW AND ORDER—

A PROMULGATING A GOSPEL OF DISCONTENT.

Dodge wrote:
I have never felt such a high, pulsing vibration in any gathering before or since.

A FEW DAYS LATER, SHE BOARDED THE OCEAN LINER "AMERIKA" AND SAILED FOR EUROPE -

WITH JOHN REED AND ROBERT EDMOND JONES, TO SPEND THE SUMMER AT VILLA CURONIA.

PATERSON: THAT'S ALL THE MONEY FROM THE SHOW?

WE KNEW THE EXPENSES WOULD OUTSTRIP EARNINGS

LOOK AT ALL THE GOOD PUBLICITY WE GOT.

THAT SOON CHANGED

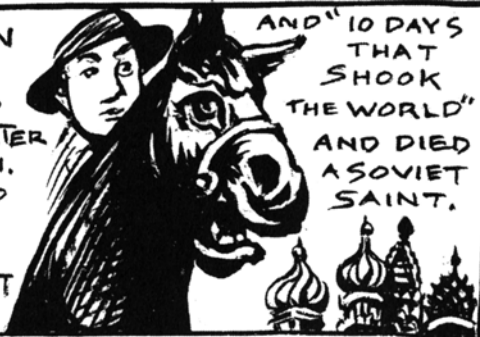
IWW FUND-RAISER A FLOP

PAGEANT ORGANIZERS FLED WITH PROFITS

ENOUGH ABOUT THE BIG SHOW! THE FIRST SCABS GOT IN WHILE OUR STRONGEST PICKETERS WERE AT REHEARSALS!



PATERSON
CHANGED
JOHN REED
FROM REPORTER
TO PARTISAN.
HE GALLOPED
OFF TO
WRITE
"INSURGENT
MEXICO,"



AND "10 DAYS
THAT
SHOOK
THE WORLD"
AND DIED
A SOVIET
SAINT.

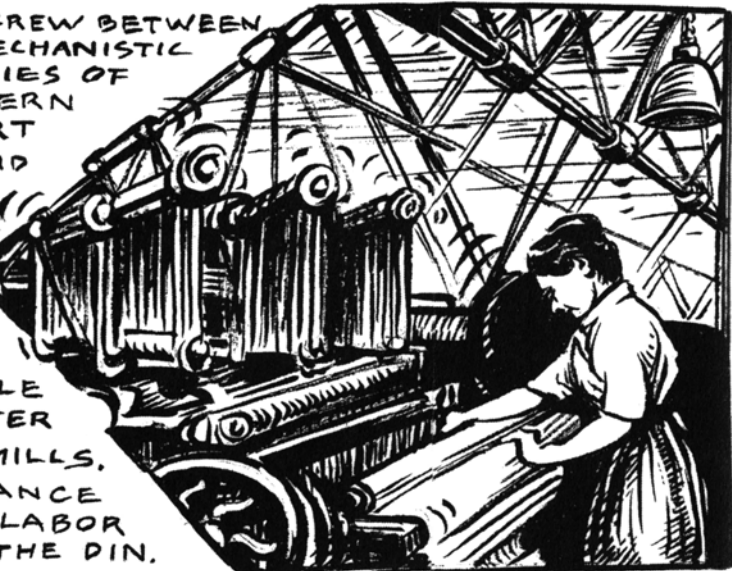
AFTER SUPPORTING
"THE MASSES" AND
UNEMPLOYMENT
STRUGGLES,
MABEL DODGE
MOVED TO
TAOS, AND
ESTABLISHED
THE



ARTS COLONY
THAT LURED
D.H. LAWRENCE
& GEORGIA
O'KEEFE TO
NEW MEXICO.



A DISTANCE GREW BETWEEN
THE MECHANISTIC
WHIMSIES OF
MODERN
ART
AND



THE
RUMBLE
& CLATTER
OF THE MILLS.
THE ALLIANCE
OF ART & LABOR
FADED IN THE DIN.

along
with THE SPIRIT
OF 1913,
DIZZING OF
CHANGE
and
SHATTERING
BARRIERS
OF CLASS
AND ETHNICITY

PATERSON ECHOES IN
EVERY MOCK COFFIN
CARRIED IN PROTEST



IN EVERY THEATRICAL
DEMONSTRATION THAT

DIVERTS THE
MASS MEDIA
FOR ITS
OWN
CAUSE.





Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

ELIZABETH GURLEY — BORN 1890 IN CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE. HER ANCESTORS WERE IRISH "IMMIGRANTS AND REVOLUTIONISTS" HER FAMILY AND NEIGHBORS WERE WORKING POOR STONE CUTTERS AND MINERS. AS KIDS THEY HEARD FIRST HAND ABOUT THE MOLLY MAGUIRES AND THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS. HER PARENTS WERE OUT-SPOKEN SOCIALIST THINKERS.

WORDS IN "QUOTES" ARE E.G.FLYNN'S

WHEN SHE WAS 10 HER FAMILY MOVED TO A COLD WATER FLAT ON EAST 133RD STREET IN THE BRONX. THEY'D WALK OVER THE 125TH STREET BRIDGE TO THE LIBRARY AND "READ EVERYTHING"



"IDEAS WERE OUR MEAT AND DRINK AND SOMETIMES A SUBSTITUTE FOR BOTH."

AS A YOUNG GIRL SHE OFTEN WENT TO PUBLIC EVENTS AND SOCIALIST MEETINGS. "PARENTS TOOK THE CHILDREN ALONG." THERE WERE NO BABY SITTERS IN THOSE DAYS."



IN 1906 ELIZABETH WAS ASKED BY THE HARLEM SOCIALIST CLUB TO GIVE A SPEECH.

"WHAT WILL SOCIALISM DO FOR WOMEN?"



WROTE IT HERSELF.

SHE WAS 15 YRS OLD.

"I HAD STUDIED TWO BOOKS WHICH HELPED CATAPULT ME INTO SOCIALIST ACTIVITIES: VINDICATION OF

SOCIALISM IN OUR TIME
LABOR IS ENTITLED TO
EVERYTHING
PRODUCES



THE RIGHTS OF WOMEN
BY MARY WOLLSTONECRAFT
AND WOMEN & SOCIALISM BY

AUGUST BEBEL"
ELIZABETH RECEIVED INVITATIONS TO SPEAK FROM BOSTON TO NEWARK.

"THAT YEAR I BEGAN TO SPEAK ON THE STREETS - I TOOK TO IT LIKE A DUCK TO WATER"

BY NOW ELIZABETH AND HER FATHER HAD JOINED THE I.W.W. LOCAL 179



"THE I.W.W. WAS A MILITANT FIGHTING WORKING CLASS UNION - THE EMPLOYING CLASS RECOGNIZED THIS AND GAVE BATTLE FROM IT'S BIRTH."

HER 1ST SPEECH FOR THE I.W.W. TOOK PLACE IN SCHENECTADY, N.Y. AT A PROTEST OF THE ARREST OF HAYWOOD, PETTIBONE, AND MOYER.

AND SHE GOT ARRESTED... DEFENDING FREE SPEECH AT A RALLY ON 38th+ BROADWAY



AN EAST SIDE JOAN OF ARC

AUTHOR/JOURNALIST THEODORE DREISER CALLED HER

THE RICH AND FAMOUS DAVID BALASCO WANTED HER TO ACT IN A "LABOR PLAY" HER REPLY "INDEED NOT!"



YOUNG ELIZABETH HAD VERY LITTLE USE FOR ADULATION. SUMMER-1907 - HER FIRST STRIKE PARTICIPATION WAS WITH THE HUNGARIAN TUBE MILL WORKERS IN BRIDGEPORT. SHE STAYED IN THE STRIKERS HOMES - ORGANIZING, PICKETING AND CARING FOR THE STRIKING COMMUNITY



IN 1907 - WHILE STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL - ELIZABETH TRAVELS ALONE TO ATTEND THE I.W.W. CONVENTION IN CHICAGO.



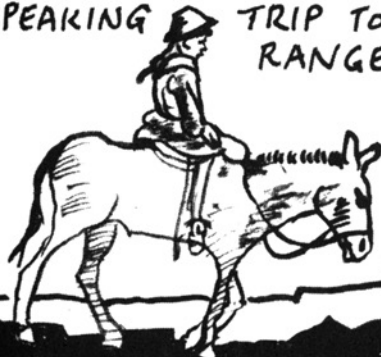
Lucy Parsons



AS A DELEGATE FROM I.W.W. LOCAL 179 SHE MET LUCY PARSONS. - "I REMEMBER MRS. PARSONS SPEAKING WARMLY TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE - WARNING OF THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE STRUGGLE AHEAD THAT COULD LEAD TO JAIL AND DEATH BEFORE VICTORY."

DURING THE CONVENTION SHE MET AN I.W.W. ORGANIZER FROM MINNESOTA - JACK JONES

"HE URGED ME TO COME ON A SPEAKING TRIP TO THE MESABI RANGE - OUT WEST."



"I NEEDED LITTLE PERSUASION"

IN 1908 SHE MARRIED JACK JONES.

AND STARTED A PERIOD OF TRAVELING IN THE WEST SPEAKING TO I.W.W. MINERS AND LUMBER MILL WORKERS.

FOR THE I.W.W. PUBLIC SPEAKING BECAME A SERIOUS BATTLE

TO DISCOURAGE STRIKING MINERS THE TOWN OF MISSOULA, MONTANA PASSED A LAW MAKING "STREET SPEAKING" A CRIME. I.W.W. IGNORED THE ORDER.

STRIKERS TOOK TO THE STREETS

FREE SPEECH IN THE STREETS!

SPEAKERS FILLED UP THE JAILS



ELIZABETH PARTICIPATED IN 26 FREE SPEECH BATTLES DURING 1906-1916

1910 - BY NOW ELIZABETH WAS A REGULAR I.W.W. "JAWSMITH" SPEAKING OUT, ORGANIZING AND GETTING ARRESTED.

SHE HAD A BABY - A SON NAMED FRED - HER HUSBAND, JACK, WANTED AN END TO HER TRAVELING - WANTED HER TO SETTLE DOWN IN BUTTE, MONTANA

"HIS ATTITUDE WAS UNDOUBTABLY A NORMAL ONE, BUT I WOULD HAVE NONE OF IT"



FRED STAYED WITH ELIZABETH'S MOTHER.

JACK LEFT.

"I HAVE HAD HEART-ACHES AND EMOTIONAL CONFLICTS ALONG THE WAY. IT WAS NOT EASY IN 1910."



TEN THOUSAND TEXTILE WORKERS ON STRIKE!

1912 LAWRENCE STRIKE

WHEN I.W.W. LEADERS ETTOR AND GIOVANNITTI WERE ARRESTED BILL HAYWOOD AND ELIZABETH FLYNN STEPPED IN TO HELP ORGANIZE THE STRIKE



EMMA GOLDMAN :

"ELIZABETH'S YOUTH, CHARM AND ELOQUENCE EASILY WON EVERYONE'S HEART. THE NAMES OF THE TWO AND THEIR REPUTATION GAINED COUNTRY WIDE SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKE."

THE LAWRENCE STRIKE BECAME BRUTAL. POLICE VIOLENCE AND HUNGER FORCED THE STRIKERS TO SEND THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF STATE.



POLICE ATTACKED A SECOND GROUP AS THEY WAITED FOR A TRAIN. CHILDREN AND THEIR MOTHERS WERE BADLY BEATEN AND PUT UNDER ARREST.

ELIZABETH WAS IN CHARGE OF THE EVALUATION. MORE THAN 100 CHILDREN WERE SHIPPED OUT.

THE LAWRENCE STRIKERS CONTINUED TO HOLD OUT AND EVENTUALLY WON.



1913 PATERSON STRIKE

OVER 1000 SILK WORKERS WERE ARRESTED - PUBLIC MEETING AND SPEAKING WERE FORBIDDEN.

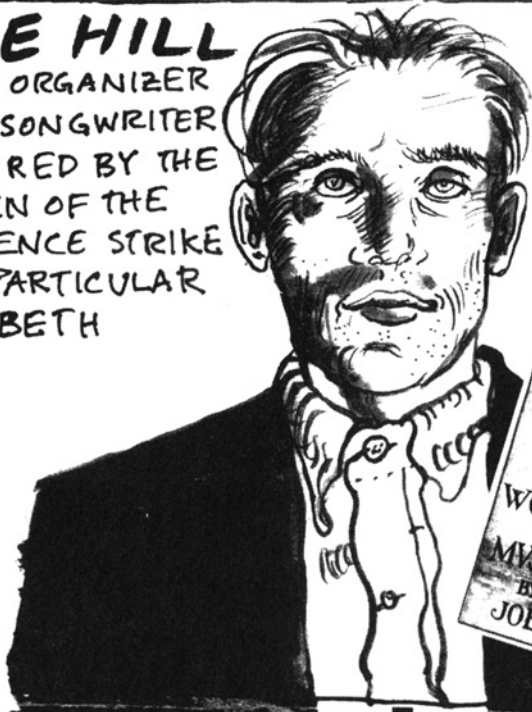
IN HALEDON, N.J. ELIZABETH KEPT THE STRIKE ALIVE WITH DAILY MASS MEETINGS AND SPEECHES THAT ATTRACTED THOUSANDS OF TRADE UNIONISTS FAMILIES AND STUDENTS.



ON MAY DAY OF THAT YEAR ELIZABETH MET CARLO TRESKA WHO WOULD BECOME HER "... BELOVED COMRADE AND FRIEND"

JOE HILL

I.W.W ORGANIZER
AND SONGWRITER
INSPIRED BY THE
WOMEN OF THE
LAWRENCE STRIKE
- IN PARTICULAR
ELIZABETH



WROTE THE SONG REBEL GIRL
FOR HER



There are women of
Many descriptions
In this queer world
As everyone knows
Some are living in
Beautiful mansions
And are wearing the
Finest of clothes
There are blue-blooded
Queens and princesses
Who have charms made
Of diamonds and pearl
But the only and
Thoroughbred lady
Is the Rebel Girl

1914 - JOE HILL WAS FRAMED
FOR THE MURDER OF A SALT
LAKE CITY MAN. ELIZABETH
VISITED HIM IN PRISON
AND WORKED FOR A PARDON
BUT HILL WAS EXECUTED
NOVEMBER 19, 1915.



A FEW HOURS BEFORE HE DIED JOE
WROTE A LETTER TO ELIZABETH:

Dear Friend Gurley,
... a few more lines
because you have been
more to me than a Fellow
Worker. You have been
an inspiration. Rebel
Girls they are needed
and needed badly...
Goodbye to all...

Joe Hill

IT'S ALL OURS!

CNC 1974



WITH THE

GENERAL STRIKE

FOR INDUSTRIAL FREEDOM



CARLO
TRESCA

LAWRENCE ★ ★

★ ★ PATERSON

MESABI RANGE ★ ★

*Born in Italy, Carlo Tresca came to the U.S. in 1904. He quickly jumped into organizing and edited a number of Italian language IWW newspapers, including *Il Matello* ("The Hammer") from 1917 until his death in 1943. Tresca played pivotal roles in IWW strikes in Lawrence, MA, Paterson, NJ and the Mesabi Range, MN.*





THREE

WOBBLIES FAR AND WIDE

After the Paterson disappointment, enemies of the IWW called the organization beaten. It wasn't true, by a long shot. The Wobblies' free-speech fights combined daring with a keen strategic sensibility. But their mobilization of migratory workers offered the best hopes for a large, sustained labor organization. The Agricultural Workers Organization (AWO) planted itself in the work-life culture of the mostly white, male, mobile harvest and threshing workers of the Plains states. Like the Wobs in the mines and timber-mills, they epitomized the Western (and "American") spirit of the organization. Notoriously rebellious and restless, their effective control of box-car riding ("show your red card") was legendary. The Wheatland "riot" and the organizing around it illustrated how effective the Wobs could become under the right circumstances.

The larger AWO also grew strong in the face of repression, peaking in 1918, for a seemingly unlikely reason. Wartime created a labor shortage: it was easier to quit

or get fired and move on, because more jobs were available everywhere. Not that AWO organizers succeeded everywhere they tried. Conflicts based on racial differences of many (not all) California farms were difficult to overcome (although they tried); repression during wartime meant suppression of newspapers, arrests of organizers, and threats of vigilante violence. In the longer run, the mechanization of farming would dramatically reduce the numbers of agricultural workers.

Wobblies also learned that organizing in fields was more complicated than in factories. They could not rely on family or ethnic ties, and so had to rely on job actions, slowdowns, and brief strikes in order to attract members. Thus in April, 1915, Frank Little called a conference to organize hobos, creating a "job delegate" system within the IWW, with Wobs setting wage and hour demands beforehand, selecting an individual or a committee to negotiate with a farmer, and then all the Wobs ratifying the agreement. This way, the AWO grew quickly and successfully. Dues were a \$2 initiation, then 50 cents per month. By 1915, many had won immediate Wob goals—the ten-hour day, a \$3 minimum wage, overtime, good board, clean beds—realizable because war raised the price of wheat. Thus, Wobs would arrive outside town, establish a jungle near a stream, then call a meeting and elect committees to keep the camp clean. A "Spud and Gump Brigade" foraged or begged for food and did the cooking, while some got jobs in town to build up a common fund. This was the IWW world in miniature, a workers' society run by itself, although organizing it and keeping it going sometimes distracted from actual organizing in the fields.

IWW strike leadership would naturally be blamed for causing deaths and injuries handed out by police and private thugs. Huge defense fights exposed terrible conditions, while leaders were handed long sentences. The IWW's reputation spread. Japanese and Chinese workers had their own labor organizations that worked with the IWW, although not usually affiliating directly. The Fresno branch chartered the

Japanese Labor League in 1908 with a thousand members. Mexicans formed their own Wobbly locals (especially San Diego and LA) and published Wobbly pamphlets, leaflets and papers in Spanish. All this activity was unknown and indeed unwanted within the mainstream AFL.

For a historic moment, in 1918, the AWO opened new offices in Minneapolis and Chicago, bought new printing plants, and planned a bright future. Wobblies declared the Russian “Soviets” (literally, “workers’ councils”) to be mirrors of their own activity. Then came the Red Scares of 1919–21 in the US, followed by the crushing of a vast and powerful Italian working-class uprising and other bitter disappointments.



FREE SPEECH FIGHTS

The IWW conducted some thirty free-speech fights in the decade after 1907, with a great deal of courage but also dramatic flair, and not a little poetry. Even the local repression, driving Wobblies by the hundreds into jail, was often a victory, for very much like the civil rights movement fifty years later, it brought a sense of solidarity marked by singing and good cheer. Only the conspiracies of Woodrow Wilson's federal government bent on war and successful empire-building brought an end, leaving the next generations up to the present to fight for the right to assemble peaceably under constitutional protections.

The prince of the free-speech fight, the very reason for its being, was the soapboxer. Named for the soapboxes that street speakers would stand on in the pre-1920 era, providing a free public entertainment and education to a cash-poor crowd, radical soapboxers often earned their way by selling nickel pamphlets, promoting

them (usually including the *Communist Manifesto*) as gateways to wisdom. Wobblies, lacking resources, unable to get their newspapers distributed on (most) newsstands, had no choice. But they liked it, too, because of the direct connection with the workers and the idlers on the streets, from big cities to farming centers, lumber- and mining-towns. The soapbox was their prop, the street their theater, their physical presence, torso in motion, along with the voice, their performance. The voice was especially important, of course. Many of the rousing Wobbly anthems were composed to reach workers through a dose of humor, making fun of the bosses or the preachers, often adopting the language of the Salvation Army in particular to mangle the original intent and put across the logic of the class struggle. The first of the free-speech fights to gain national publicity was held in Missoula, Montana, in 1909. The *Industrial Worker* beseeched its readers in September 1909: "Quit your job. Go to Missoula. Fight with Lumber Jacks for Free Speech!" and taunted gently: "Are you afraid? Do you love the police? Have you been robbed, skinned, grafted on? If so, go to Missoula, and defy the police, the courts and the people who live off the wages of prostitution."

In Spokane, where migratory workers came to winter after a hard season of lumbering or the mines, where flea-bag hotels and bars snapped up their meager savings, the IWW came to town to drive out the "sharks," the agents who charged steep fees for jobs in the woods and mines. Here, in the spring of 1909, the Wobs set up downtown headquarters with a meeting hall, reading room, even a cigar store and hospital plan, and enrolled 1500 new members. The employers struck back, arresting all Wobs who began to speak and locking them up in overcrowded cells with nothing but bread and water. Singing, and holding daily business meetings, they kept up spirits. By the fall, police treatment became considerably more brutal, as authorities closed the Wobbly hall and arrested anyone who peddled a Wobbly paper. Hundreds more came to Spokane in response, the most famous of them the

“Rebel Girl,” Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, arriving seven months pregnant and quickly charged with “conspiracy.” Soon, the struggle had worn out the authorities’ determination and legal budget. City government conceded the right for indoor meetings, sale of literature, and opening the streets to speakers in the near future. The next stop was Fresno, California, near where Wobs were successfully organizing Chicano railroad workers and farmhands. By September, 1910, Wobs flooded the jails, challenging the legal system and prompting a redneck mob to beat the agitators brutally and burn down the makeshift Wobbly tent camp set up outside the city boundaries. Frank Little himself led the fight, which continued with ferocity in city jails. The Wobs had at least gained national publicity with their courage, their humor, their singing and shouting for freedom.

Middle-class San Diego looked like an easier target in some ways because it had a long-standing free-speech zone, and the Wobblies had not been perceived as a threat in organizing the small-scale working class heavily reliant on tourism. Horror awaited.

The Free Speech Fights

Susan Simensky Bietila



NEARER MY JOB TO THEE BY JOE HILL

NEARER MY JOB TO THEE,
NEARER WITH GLEE,
THREE PLUNKS FOR THE OFFICE FEE,
BUT MY FARE IS FREE.

MY TRAIN IS RUNNING FAST.
I'VE GOT A JOB AT LAST,
NEARER MY JOB TO THEE,
NEARER TO THEE.



ARRIVED WHERE MY JOB SHOULD BE,
NOTHING IN SIGHT I SEE,
NOTHING BUT SAND, BY GEE,
JOB WENT UP A TREE.
NO PLACE TO EAT OR SLEEP,
SNAKES IN THE SAGEBRUSH CREEP,
NERO A SAINT WOULD BE,
SHARK, COMPARED TO THEE.

NEARER TO TOWN EACH DAY
(HIKED ALL THE WAY),
NEARER THAT AGENCY,
WHERE I PAID MY FEE,
AND WHEN THAT SHARK I SEE
YOU'LL BET YOUR BOOTS THAT HE
NEARER HIS GOD SHALL BE,
LEAVE THAT TO ME.



REMEMBER BY HARRISON GEORGE

WE SPEAK TO YOU FROM JAIL TODAY
TWO HUNDRED UNION MEN,
WE'RE HERE BECAUSE THE BOSSES LAWS
BRING SLAVERY AGAIN.

WE'RE HERE FROM MINE AND MILL AND RAIL
WE'RE HERE FROM OFF THE SEA,
FROM COAST TO COAST WE MAKE THE BOAST
OF SOLIDARITY.

WE LAUGH AND SING, WE HAVE NO FEAR
OUR HEARTS ARE ALWAYS LIGHT,
WE KNOW THAT EVERY WOBBLY TRUE
WILL CARRY ON THE FIGHT...



SOLIDARITY
FOOTLOOSE
REBELS
COME AT ONCE
TO DEFEND THE
BILL OF RIGHTS.
FILL THE
JAILS



LOOKS LIKE
MORE OF THEM
RABBLE
ROUSERS
HEADING
INTO TOWN.
WE BETTER
PUT THEM
BEHIND BARS!

BUT THEY
AIN'T BROKE
NO LAWS YET!

AND WE
AIN'T GONNA
LET THEM!





WE'RE BOUND FOR SAN DIEGO

IN THAT TOWN OF SAN DIEGO WHEN THE WORKERS TRY TO TALK, THE COPS WILL SMASH THEM WITH A SAY & TELL 'EM "TAKE A WALK." THEY THROW THEM IN THE BULL PEN, & THEY FEED THEM ROTTEN BEANS, & THEY CALL THAT "LAW & ORDER" IN THAT CITY, SO IT SEEMS. THEY'RE CLUBBING FELLOW WORKING MEN WHO DARE THEIR THOUGHTS EXPRESS; & IF OLD OTIS HAS HIS WAY, THERE'S SURE TO BE A MESS, SO SWELL THIS ARMY, WORKING MEN, & SHOW THEM WHAT WE'LL DO WHEN ALL THE SONS OF TOIL UNITE IN ONE BIG UNION TRUE...



GIVE THEM A "FREE SPEECH ZONE"
OUT NEAR THE RAILROAD YARDS,
BUT GET THEM OUT OF THE
MIDDLE OF THE BUSINESS DISTRICT!



OUT THERE IN SAN DIEGO
WHERE THE WESTERN BREAKERS BEAT
THEY'RE JAILING MEN AND WOMEN
FOR SPEAKING IN THE STREET.

THERE IS ONE THING I CAN TELL YOU
AND IT MAKES THE BOSSES SORE,
AS FAST AS THEY CAN PINCH US
WE CAN ALWAYS GET SOME MORE.



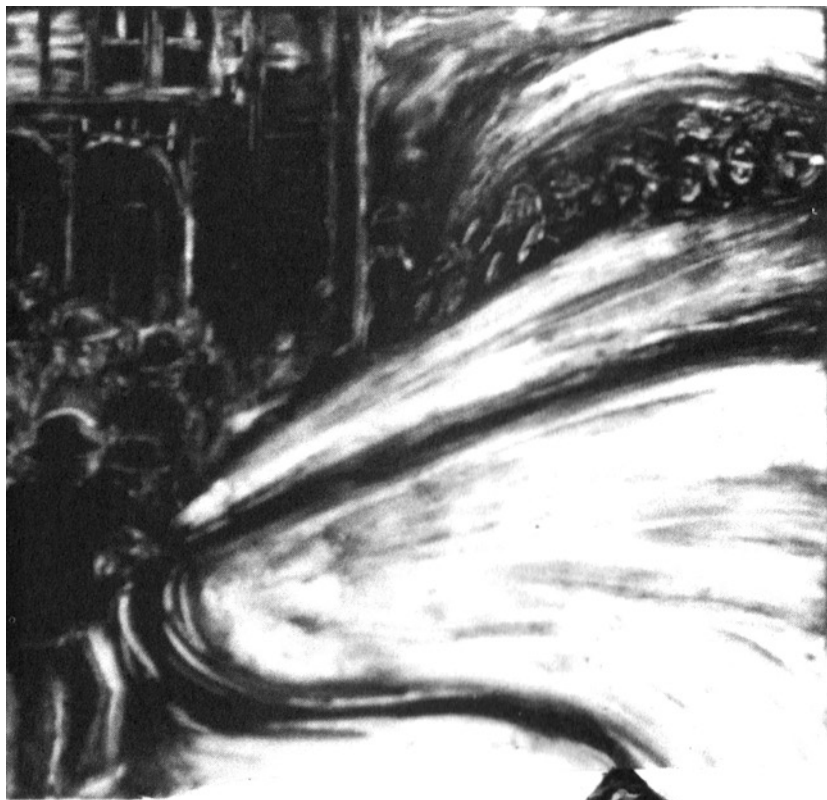
WE'LL END ALL THIS
IN AN HOUR! WE'VE
GOT THE NOD TO
DEAL WITH THESE
AGITATORS PRIVATELY.
THE POLICE WILL BE
GLAD TO LOOK
THE OTHER WAY.

THERE'S LIKELY TO BE
A PROFITABLE FUTURE
IN SUCH HANDWORK.

PASSER BY: "JUDGE, CAN'T YOU
DO SOMETHING TO PREVENT THE
BEATING OF INNOCENT MEN?"

JUDGE: "PREVENT? HELL!
THERE AIN'T NO USE IN
THREATENING THOSE FELLAS
WITH KINDNESS. THE ONLY
THING TO DO IS TO CLUB THEM
DOWN, BEAT THEM UP AND
DRIVE THE GODDAMN SONS
OF BITCHES INTO THE RIVER
AND DROWN THEM ALONG
WITH THE SOCIALISTS."



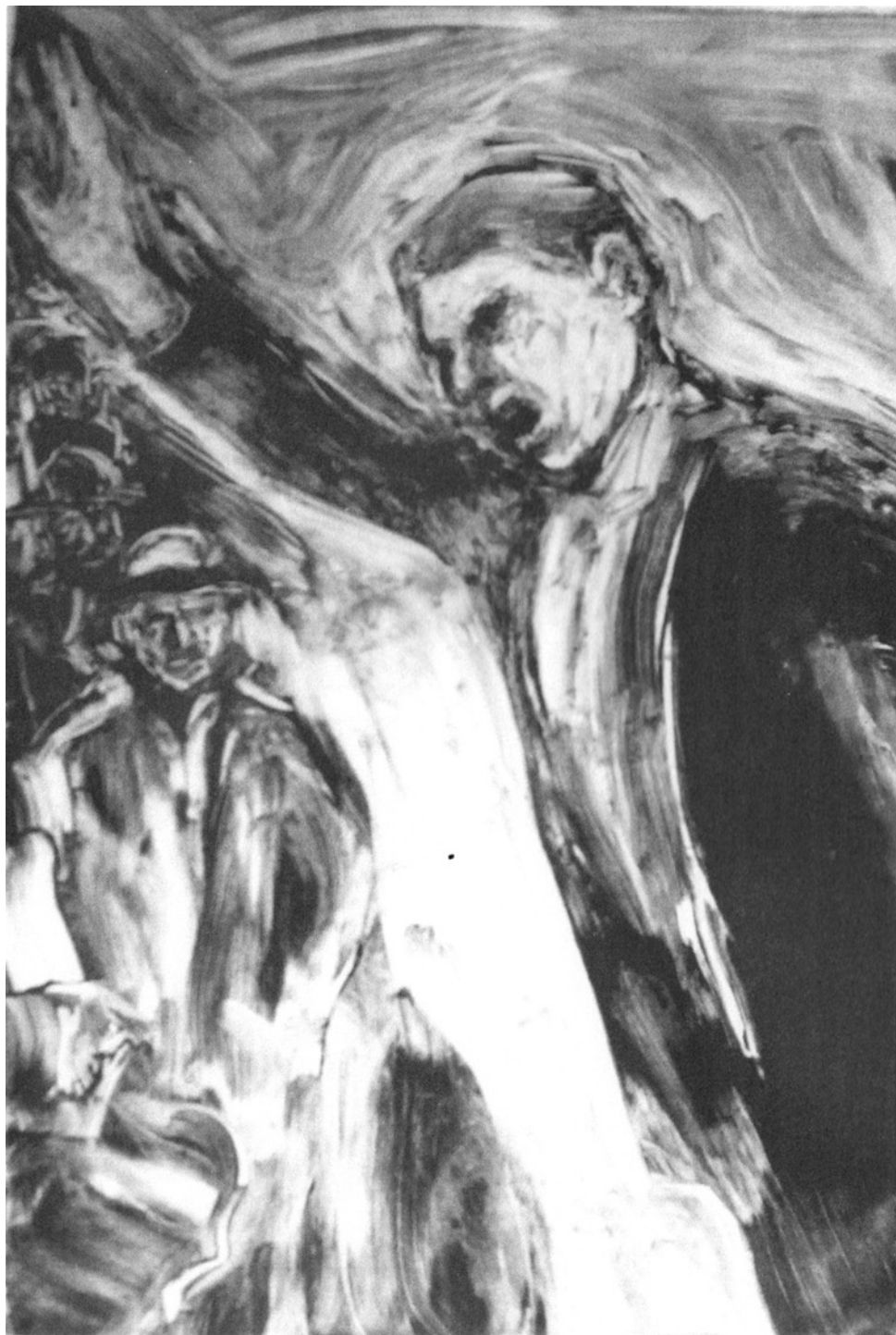




THE JAILS WERE FULL
THE SCHOOLHOUSE TOO
FILTHY ROOMS AND MOLDY FOOD
BUT THE COST JUST GREW AND GREW.

THE CHEER OF ROWDY WOBBLIES
WORE THE JAILORS THIN
SO THE PRISONERS WERE FREED,
LABOR SHARKS CHASED OUT,
AND SOAPBOX SPEAKING RULED IN.

BEWARE HOW HAPPY ENDINGS GO
A VICTORY WAS WON THAT DAY.
BUT THE SAME EXACT INJUSTICES
RING ALL TOO TRUE TODAY.



FROM THE
COMMONWEALTH
OF TOIL
BY RALPH CHAPLIN

THEY HAVE LAID OUR LIVES
OUT FOR US
TO THE UTTER END
OF TIME.
SHALL WE STAGGER ON
BENEATH THEIR HEAVY LOAD?

SHALL WE LET THEM
LIVE FOREVER IN THEIR
GILDED HALLS OF CRIME
WITH OUR CHILDREN
DOOMED TO TOIL
BENEATH THEIR GOAD?

WHEN OUR CAUSE IS
ALL TRIUMPHANT
AND WE CLAIM
OUR MOTHER EARTH,
AND THE NIGHTMARE
OF THE PRESENT
FADES AWAY,

WE SHALL LIVE WITH
LOVE & LAUGHTER,
WE WHO ARE NOW
LITTLE WORTH,
& WE'LL NOT REGRET
THE PRICE WE HAVE
TO PAY.



AT 15, SHE FLED HER RUSSIAN JEWISH FAMILY TO ESCAPE A FORCED MARRIAGE

TWO YEARS LATER, INSPIRED BY THE HAYMARKET HEROS, SHE & HER SOUL MATE SASHA BERKMAN SET UP AN ANARCHIST COMMUNE



TO DEDICATE MYSELF TO THE MEMORY OF MY MARTYRED COMRADES!

★ MARRIAGE PREPARES THE WOMAN FOR THE LIFE OF... A DEPENDENT, HELPLESS SERVANT

★ ALL WORDS ARE EMMA'S OWN

RED
EMMA GOLDMAN
1869 ~ 1940



WITH \$5.00 & HER SEWING MACHINE

© SHARON RUDAHL 2004



SASHA IS GIVING HIS LIFE AND YOU SHRINK AT GIVING YOUR BODY, MISERABLE COWARD...

CARNEGIE STEEL CHAIRMAN FRICK LIVED, BUT SASHA WAS SENTENCED TO 22 YEARS. BRANDED DEMONIC RED EMMA, RAIDED, ARRESTED, OVER-WORKED & OFTEN ILL, SHE TOURED THE COUNTRY RAISING SUPPORT FOR EVERY RADICAL CAUSE

REMEMBER HOME STEAD!



THOSE IN POWER NEVER LEARN... PERSECUTION IS THE LEAVEN OF REVOLUTION!

GARMENT WORKER, ICE CREAM VENDOR, NURSE, MASSEUSE, ORATOR... EMMA ONCE EVEN DOLLED HERSELF UP & WALKED 42nd ST, TRYING TO FUND AN ATTACK ON STRIKEBREAKER H. C. FRICK

IN 1901, EMMA HAD A TOOTH
KNOCKED OUT BY THE POLICE,
BECAUSE PRESIDENT MCKINLEY'S
ASSASSIN HAD HEARD HER LECTURE



CZOLGOSZ WAS ONE OF
THOSE DOWNTRODDEN MEN WHO
RESOLVE TO STRIKE A BLOW
FOR THEIR FELLOW MEN... BUT IF
HE WAS INSPIRED BY ME, HE TOOK
THE WRONG WAY OF SHOWING IT.

SYNDICALISM ~ AIMS TO
LIBERATE LABOR FROM
EVERY INSTITUTION ~ THAT
HAS NOT AS ITS OBJECT
THE BENEFIT OF ALL HUMANITY



AS AN ANARCHIST, EMMA
DISTRUSTED UNIONS. BUT
SHE WAS CONVINCED THE IWW
SERVED THE WORKERS.

HER MAGAZINE MOTHER EARTH
(1906-17) WAS THE VOICE OF WOB
"HOBOHEMIA", EAGERLY READ BY
SELF-TAUGHT IMMIGRANTS

EMMA SEZ ~
"EUROPE CAN BOAST OF A
BOLD ART & LITERATURE
WHICH DELVE DEEPLY
INTO THE SOCIAL &
SEXUAL PROBLEMS
OF OUR TIME"



LET'S GO SEE THAT FREE
LOVE PLAY AT THE
LITTLE THEATRE !!

EMMA'S FREE SPEECH LEAGUE, FORERUNNER
OF THE ACLU, DEFENDED PERSECUTED
WOB SPEAKERS



I BELIEVE THAT
FREE SPEECH MEANS
I MAY SAY AND WRITE
WHAT I PLEASE.

SAN DIEGO ~ MAY, 1912

EMMA AND HER KING OF THE
HOBOS LOVER BEN SHOW UP TO
SUPPORT LOCAL WOB'S AGAINST
MURDEROUS VIGILANTES.



IWW'S WERE FORCED TO KNEEL,
KISS THE FLAG, BELABORED WITH
CLUBS AND BLACKJACKS ...

AFTER EMMA & BEN REITMAN LED A FUNERAL MARCH,
OFFICIALS SEIZED AND SEPARATED THEM, SHE
WAS HELD INCOMMUNICADO IN THE U.S. GRANT HOTEL



I CHARGE ALL
OF YOU MEN HERE
WITH BEING IN LEAGUE
WITH THE VIGILANTES!

KIDNAPPERS DROVE BEN OUT TO DESERTED
COUNTRY. THERE HE WAS TORTURED, SEXUALLY
ABUSED, AND BRANDED ON HIS BUTTOCKS.



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DR. REITMAN IS BOARDING A TRAIN TO LA ~ HIS FRIENDS SHOULD BRING A STRETCHER...

IS HE ALIVE?!



OH, MOMMY, I'M WITH YOU AT LAST. TAKE ME AWAY, TAKE ME HOME...

AS REPORTED BY EMMA

UNDAUNTED, EMMA PRESSED THE FREE SPEECH FIGHT

IN A REPUBLIC, THERE ARE MANY WAYS THE STRONG, THE CUNNING, THE RICH CAN SEIZE POWER AND HOLD IT



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DURING WWI, SHE SET UP NO CONSCRIPTION LEAGUES, & ORGANIZED ANTI-WAR RALLIES. IN 1919, SHE WAS CONVICTED OF ANTI-DRAFT CONSPIRACY, & DEPORTED TO NEWLY RED RUSSIA



THE TRIUMPH OF THE STATE MEANT THE DEFEAT OF THE REVOLUTION

I CONSIDER IT AN HONOUR TO BE THE FIRST POLITICAL AGITATOR TO BE DEPORTED FROM THE UNITED STATES...

SHE WAS SOON ELOQUENTLY DISILLUSIONED WITH SOVIET-STYLE COMMUNISM...

IN 1940, AFTER MORE THAN A HALF CENTURY OF FEARLESS TROUBLE MAKING, EMMA DIED IN CANADA. SHE WAS ON TOUR RAISING MONEY & ARMS...

REVOLUTION IS BUT THOUGHT CARRIED INTO ACTION...



EMMA RESTS NEAR THE GRAVES OF THE HAYMARKET MARTYRS

PURITANISM... FORCES THE WOMAN TO BEAR CHILDREN IRRESPECTIVE OF WEAKENED PHYSICAL CONDITION OR ECONOMIC INABILITY...

ON IWW SUPPORTED TOURS, SHE COURTED ARREST BY GIVING OUT BIRTH CONTROL ADVICE

THE FASCIST DANGER HAD TO BE MET ALMOST WITH BARE HANDS

IN EUROPEAN EXILE, SHE OPPOSED HITLER TWO YEARS BEFORE HIS RISE TO POWER. AT AGE 67, SHE RUSHED TO THE BARRICADES OF THE SPANISH ANARCHISTS...



Bindle Stiffs got their name because they carried all their worldly goods rolled up in a blanket and slung by a cord around their shoulders from job to job.



Every city in the West developed a stiff town, a number of streets or blocks that were used as recruiting centers for temporary labor.



Workers often had to pay fees to rapacious employment agencies, ranging from one to three dollars for a job. The wholesale firing of men by foremen, the arduous nature of the work, and the temporary nature of the employment kept the bindle stiff in constant motion around these job sharks.



There were cheap hotels, bars and dumps on the drag in this part of town, plenty of places to blow your stake, or what little money you had. But hanging around too long got the attention of the bull and he would give you the horns.



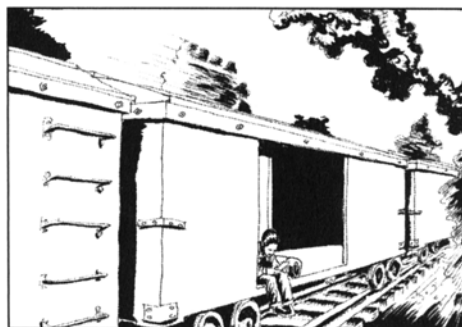
The jungle was a meeting place, usually near a railroad division point, occupied by hoboes and stiffs for preparing food and sleeping. Itinerant workers found acceptance here.



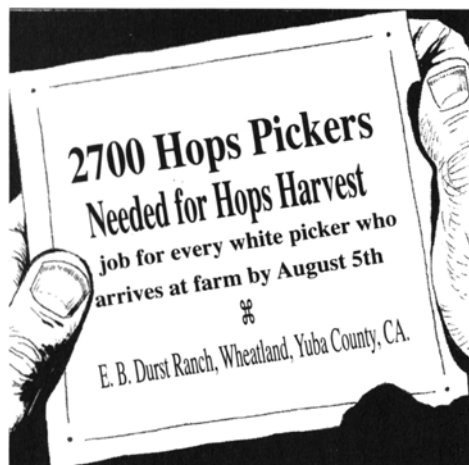
An enlightened Wobbly would often strike up a song from the Little Red Songbook to help get your spirits up and keep you going.



Jungles were a great place to get news. Many of the stiffs were Wobblies or had been in the past. The IWW was the only organization that lifted the lives of these workers to a significant position in society.



Migratory workers hopped trains to follow the harvest and get from job to job. Your red IWW membership card was your ticket to the rails at times.



2700 Hops Pickers
Needed for Hops Harvest
job for every white picker who
arrives at farm by August 5th
E. B. Durst Ranch, Wheatland, Yuba County, CA.



E.B. Durst Ranch was the largest single employer of migratory labor in the state of California. Ralph Durst's ranch was in Wheatland, a short distance south from Marysville.



2,800 multiracial workers arrived to find only 1,500 job openings. Durst had deliberately advertised for twice the number of workers he needed. Living conditions were inadequate for even half their number.



When the workers arrived they discovered a tent and campsite space rented for seventy-five cents a week, but there were too few tents even at that high price.



Durst sold food to workers at a grocery store on his property and refused to allow anyone else to deliver groceries to the ranch. A long walk to town was the only way to buy food for less.



Durst provided only nine crudely built toilets for all the workers. Since the toilets were also the only public trash receptacles, they soon swarmed with maggots and blue flies.



The campsite drinking water was inadequate and dangerous. Wells on the property were dry, full of stagnant water or too close to garbage and toilets areas. Diseases spread among the workers, including typhoid, dysentery, and malaria.



Durst offered the going rate at the time of \$1 for a hundred weight bag of picked hops. The hops were excessively cleaned before inspection and weighed with no workers present at the time of weighing. Durst withheld 10 cents per hundred pounds until the end of the harvest as a way to coerce workers to stay until the end.



Workers, on average, ended up with less than \$1.50 for a twelve-hour day. Twelve-hour workdays were standard at most hop ranches, but a standard day's pay at other ranches was \$3 dollars.



Workers that wanted water would have to walk a good distance away from the field, because Durst did not cart water to the field. He did offer lemonade at 5 cents a glass to those workers worried about losing work time and money in the field where temperatures reached 110 degrees on some days.



At most hops ranches men with high poles brought down the tall vines so that women and children could gather the flowers. In Durst's fields there were no high pole men.



The high pole man traditionally helped throw the sacks of hops into the wagons. Without them women and children lifted 80-100 lb hopsacks into the wagons.



By three days into the harvest the conditions were unbearable. The workers began to voice their discontent. Out of the 2,800 workers only about one hundred were current or past IWW members. About thirty of them formed an IWW local, to protest the living and working conditions on the ranch.



In a mass meeting on July 29th the workers chose a committee to voice their demands. They elected Richard "Blackie" Ford as chief spokesman and Herman Suhr as the committee secretary.



Durst caught wind of these events through informants he had in the camp. He invited the workers, on the afternoon of August 3rd to step forward and discuss their complaints. The workers demanded that Durst give them a flat rate of \$1.25 per hundred pounds of picked hops, drinking water brought to the fields, inspection of the picked hops by the workers themselves, high-pole men, separate toilets for women, improvements of camp toilets, and lemonade made from real lemons and not powdered citric acid.



Durst agreed only to improve toilets, provide water in the fields, and add one worker to the inspection team.



The committee warned Durst that they would go on strike if their conditions were not fully met. Durst broke off negotiations by slapping Ford with his glove and fired him and all the workers on the committee. He told them to pick up their pay and get off his property



Ford and the committee refused to leave. They had already paid for their accommodations for the week. Durst asked the deputy sheriff Daken to arrest Ford. Workers intervened on Ford's behalf when Daken did not produce a warrant.



Later that day another mass meeting was held on the hill, at the worker's camp. The Wobblies urged their fellow workers to go on strike to force Durst to address their grievances.



During his speech Ford lifted a sick child above the crowd. "It is not so much for ourselves we are fighting as that this little baby may never see the conditions which now exist on this ranch!"



When asked if they would strike, a majority raised their hands. Ford handed the child back to it's mother when he saw two cars approaching the gathering.



Ford begins to lead the workers in the singing of Joe Hill's song; "Mr. Block."



Eleven men arrived in the two cars to arrest Ford and break up the gathering. They were the District Attorney of Yuba county Edward Manwell, who was also Durst's lawyer, Marysville Sheriff Voss, Deputy Sheriffs Daken, Anderson, and Reardon as well as six other deputies. A number of them had been drinking according to some witnesses.



"Please give me your attention, I'll introduce to you. A man that is a credit to "Our Red, White and Blue;" His head is made of lumber, and as solid as a rock; He is a common worker and his name is Mr. Block. And Block thinks he may be President some day."



Oh, Mr. Block you were born by mistake,
You take the cake,
You make me ache.
Tie a rock on your block and then jump in the lake, Kindly do that for liberty's sake.



Yes, Mr. Block is lucky; He found a job by gee! The shark got seven dollars, for job and fare and fee. They shipped him to the desert and dumped him with his truck, But when he tried to find his job he sure was out of luck. He shouted, "That's too raw, I'll fix them with the law."



Oh, Mr. Block you were born by mistake,
You take the cake,
You make me ache.
Tie a rock on your block and then jump in the lake, Kindly do that for liberty's sake.



Block hiked back to the city, but wasn't doing well. He said, "I'll join the union- the great A.F. of L." He got a job the next morning, got fired that night, He said, "I'll see Sam Gompers and he'll fix that Foreman right." Sam Gompers said, "You see, You've got our sympathy."

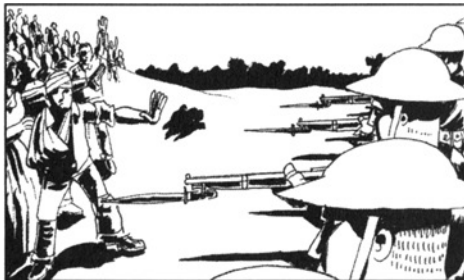


Oh, Mr. Block you were born by mistake,
 You take the cake,
 You make me ache.
 Tie a rock on your block and then jump in
 the lake, Kindly do that for liberty's sake.



Poor Block, he died one evening, I'm very
 glad to State; He climbed the golden ladder
 up to the pearly Gate. He said, "Oh, Mr. Peter,
 one word I'd like to tell, I'd like to meet the
 Asterbilts and John D. Rocke-fell."
 Old Pete said, "Is that so?
 You'll meet them down below."





Fearing more disturbances Governor Hiram Johnson dispatched five companies of the National Guard to Wheatland. Soldiers and law enforcement arrested approximately one hundred workers who remained at camp.



The Marysville coroner's inquest concluded that the IWW strike leadership had caused a riot that led to the death of District Attorney Manwell and Deputy Eugene Reardon.



An extensive manhunt ensued throughout California and the neighboring states to arrest Wobblies involved in the Wheatland affair. Warrants were issued for the arrest of Ford and Suhr for murder.



Burns detectives- a private detective agency known for its antiradical and antilabor tendencies- arrested a number of workers. The law enforcement officers used John Doe warrants, a civil rights abuse that allowed the officers to write in the arrested person's name after the arrest.



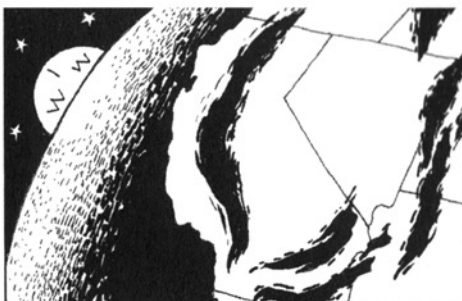
In an effort to gain information from the arrested men, Burns men resorted to beating, starving, bribery and kidnapping. Some were kept incommunicado for weeks. One IWW prisoner committed suicide in prison; another went insane from police brutality. Suhr himself was tortured into a confession he recanted later.



Eight months later a trial began. Ford and Suhr were charged with leading a strike that lead to violence. They were convicted of second degree murder. The judge was a lifelong friend of Manwell. Eight of twelve jurors were farmers who knew the deputies. After deliberating one day, they found Ford and Suhr guilty. Both received life sentences.



During the trial, the brutal handling of those under arrest came to light. The trial also revealed the outrageous nature of the hop camp conditions, stirring public condemnation of Durst's behavior, and heightened public interest and concern over the plight of migrant agricultural workers.



The year after the trial IWW membership in California rose to five thousand, with a total of 40 IWW locals. Organizers and soap boxers agitated throughout the state. The IWW blanketed California with stickers and circulars urging a boycott of the hop fields until Ford and Suhr were released, and living and working conditions improved.



Hundreds of thousands of industrial workers left jobless by the 1914 financial depression hopped freight trains in hope of finding work in the harvest fields. American radicalism in the form of the IWW spread rapidly among them. The IWW's Agricultural Worker's Union grew to 70,000 members within three years. It was the first union to organize and negotiate successfully higher wage scales for harvest workers. Farmers learned the meaning of sabotage, strikes for better wages and working conditions. They responded with vigilante mobs, driving agitators and workers from town at gunpoint. Class warfare had broken out in the most "American" sections of rural America. The IWW was determined to build a new world in place of the old, a better one.



THE TIMBERBEAST'S LAMENT

unsigned IWW poem—source unknown

I'm on the boat for the camp
With a sick and aching head;
I've blowed another winter's stake,
And got the jims instead.

It seems I'll never learn the truth
That's written plain as day,
It's the only time they welcome you
Is when you make it pay.

And it's "blanket-stiff" and "jungle-hound",
And "pitch him out the door",
But it's "Howdy, Jack, old-timer,"
When you've got the price for more.

Oh, tonight the boat is rocky,
And I ain't got a bunk,
Not a rare of cheering likker,
Just a turkey full of junk,

All I call my life's possessions,
Is just what I carry 'round,
For I've blowed the rest on skid-roads,
Of a hundred gyppo towns.

And it's "lumberjack" and "timber-beast",
And "Give these Bums a ride",
But it's "Have one on the house, old boy,"
If you're stepping with the tide.

And the chokers will be heavy,
Just as heavy, just as cold.
When the hooker gives the high-ball,
And we start to dig for gold.

And I'll cuss the siren skid-road,
With its blatant, drunken tune,
But then, of course, I'll up and make
Another trip next June.

LOS HERMANOS MAGONI



"THE HUMAN HERD, UNCONSCIOUS OF ITS RIGHT TO LIFE, ... BENDS ITS BACK TO DEVELOP BY ITS TOIL FOR OTHERS THIS EARTH, WHICH NATURE HAS PLACED AT ITS OWN SERVICE!"



WITH THESE STIRRING WORDS, THE MAGON BROTHERS ATTACKED THE SLAVE-LIKE CONDITIONS OF THE MEXICAN LABORING CLASSES.

IN 1906 THEY WERE THE FIRST TO CALL FOR THE OVERTHROW OF THE DIAZ DICTATORSHIP, IN THEIR NEWSPAPER "REGENERACION."



THE CANADIAN AUTHORITIES HAVE ORDERED OUR NEWSPAPER CLOSED DOWN.

DIAZ'S INFLUENCE REACHES US EVEN HERE.

THEY WERE SOON FORCED TO FLEE TO THE UNITED STATES, THEN TO CANADA. BUT EVEN THERE THEY WERE NOT SAFE FROM THE LONG ARM OF THE DIAZ DICTATORSHIP.

ON NOVEMBER 20, 1911 THE MEXICAN PEOPLE ROSE UP AGAINST THE "EMPIRE OF SERVILITY."



SEIZING THE OPPORTUNITY, MAGONISTAS WITH AMERICAN SUPPORTERS FROM THE I.W.W. LAUNCHED AN INVASION FROM SAN DIEGO.



THE MAGONISTAS QUICKLY SWEEPED THROUGH TIAJUANA INTO BAJA CALIFORNIA.

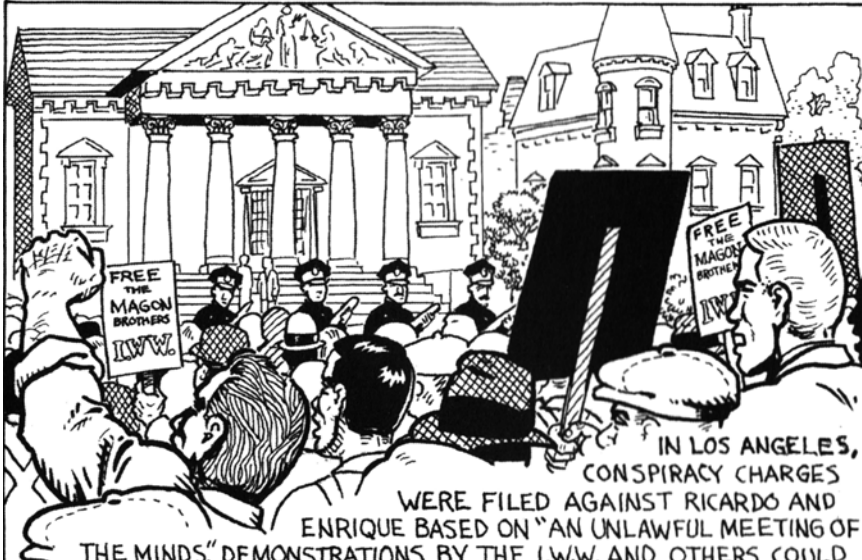
BUT SOON REPORTS BEGAN TO FILTER BACK OF TENSIONS AND EVEN VIOLENCE BETWEEN THE INSURGENTS.



MONEY WAS COLLECTED FOR ARMS AND AMMUNITION THAT SEEMED TO SELDOM MATERIALIZE. THE INSURGENTS LIVED OFF THE LAND, COLLECTING TAXES FROM LOCAL LANDHOLDERS AND EVEN SELLING SPENT CARTRIDGE CASINGS AND PICTURE POSTCARDS OF REVOLUTIONARIES TO TOURISTS. IN DESPERATION, SOME LEADERS OPENED UP NEGOTIATIONS WITH BUSINESS OPERATORS TO OPEN UP A "GAMBLING REPUBLIC." WHEN THIS WAS PUT TO A VOTE AMONG THE RANK AND FILE, IT WAS OVERWHELMINGLY REJECTED. BUT THIS WAS USED TO PORTRAY THE INSURRECTION AS AN AMERICAN ATTEMPT TO ANNEX BAJA CALIFORNIA.



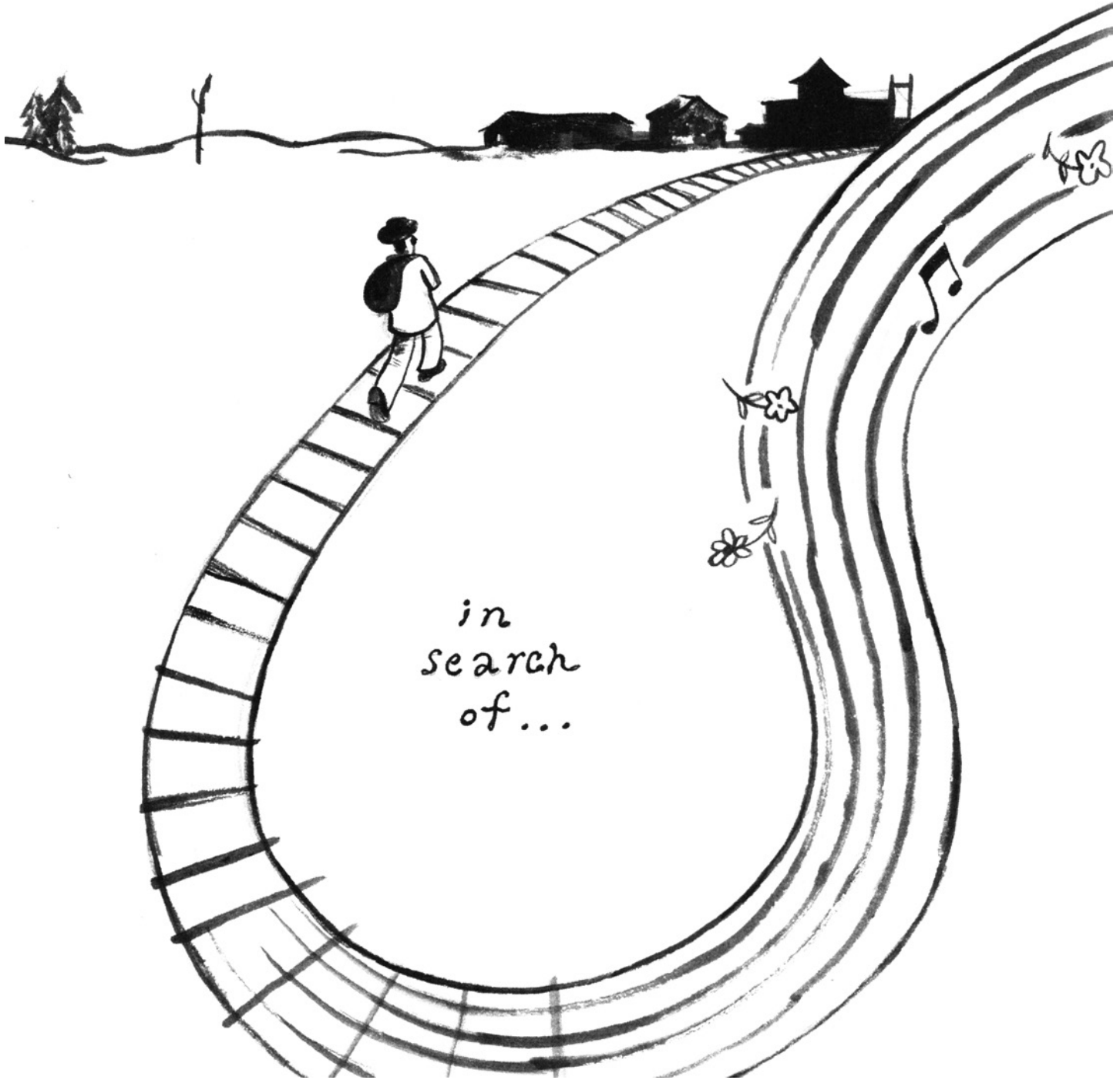
WEAKENED BY THESE FACTORS THE REVOLUTIONARIES COULD NOT RESIST THE ONSLAUGHT OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT. THE AMERICANS WENT BACK ACROSS THE BORDER THE MEXICANS FADED INTO THE HILLS.



IN LOS ANGELES, CONSPIRACY CHARGES WERE FILED AGAINST RICARDO AND ENRIQUE BASED ON "AN UNLAWFUL MEETING OF THE MINDS." DEMONSTRATIONS BY THE I.W.W. AND OTHERS COULD NOT KEEP THE BROTHERS FROM SERVING 18 MONTHS IN JAIL. THEN IN AUGUST 1918, ENRIQUE AND RICARDO WERE SENT TO PRISON FOR POLITICAL ARTICLES IN "REGENERACION" THAT WERE DEEMED OBSCENE. THE GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO GIVE RICARDO MEDICINE FOR HIS DIABETES MADE IT A DEATH SENTENCE. ON NOVEMBER 22, 1922 HE WAS FOUND DEAD IN HIS CELL.



HE WAS RETURNED TO HIS HOMETLAND. IN MEXICO CITY, HIS CASKET WAS GREETED BY HUGE CROWDS; THERE HE JOINED THE PANTHEON OF REVOLUTIONARY HEROES.



*in
search
of...*

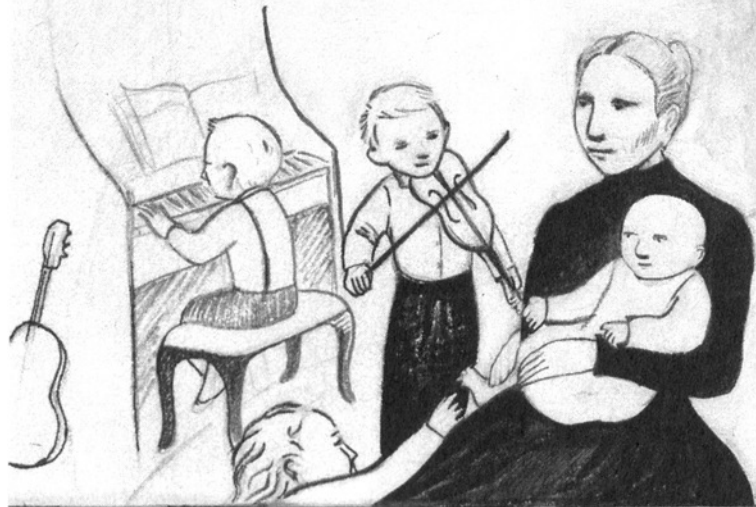


and art by Lisa DiPetto 2004

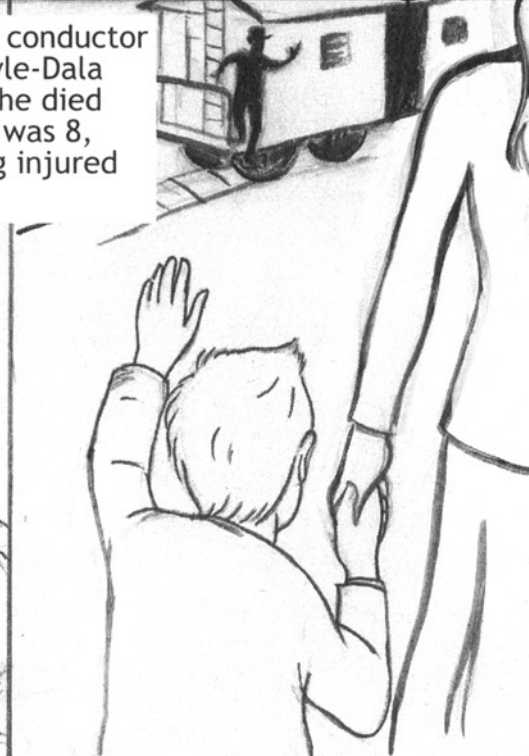
There are few verifiable facts about the life of Joe Hill other than his birth, death, and the voice his songs gave to the IWW and the labor movement for generations to come. He survives as folk tales and legends do - in stories, recollections, and in his songs.

Joel Emmanuel Haggelund was born on October 7, 1879 in Gavle, Sweden. He was one of 8 children - only 6 would survive childhood.

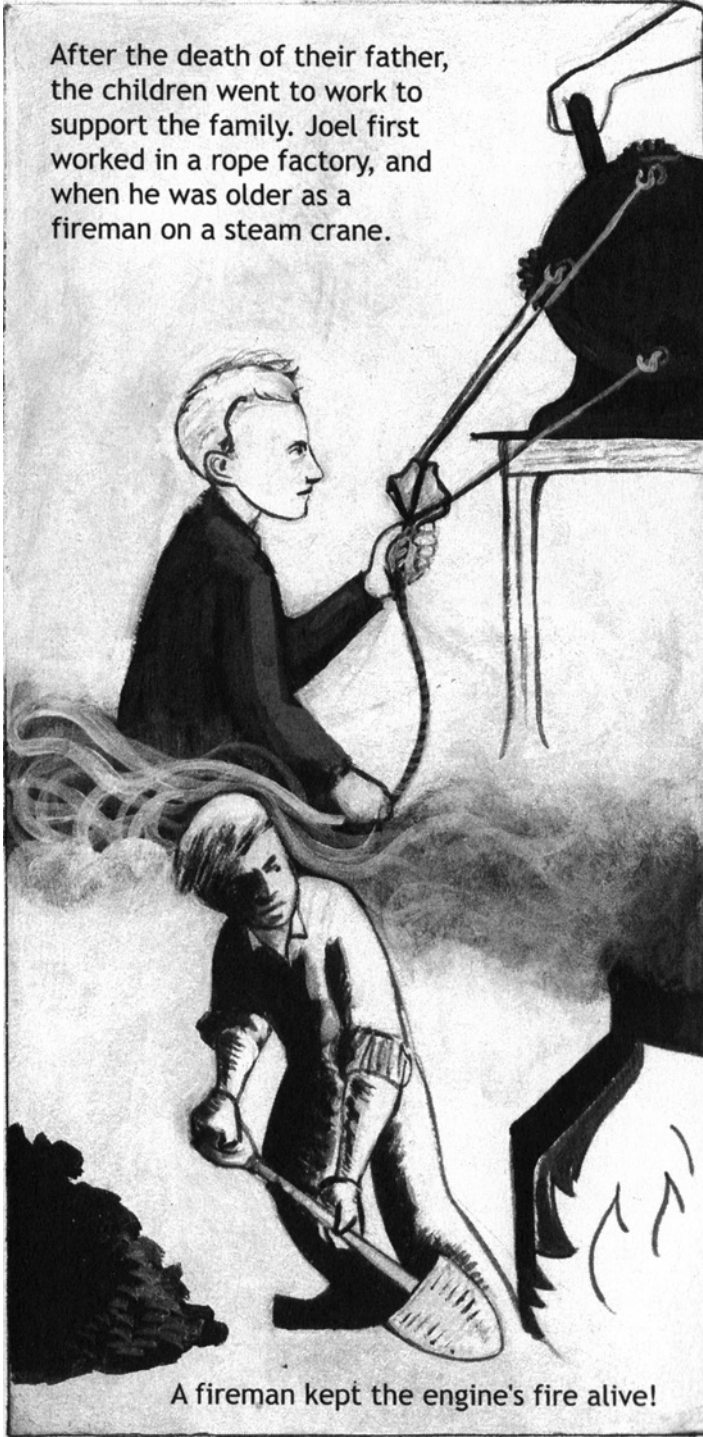
The Haggelunds were a poor but musically and artistically rich family. Margareta and Olaf Haggelund sang with their children and taught them to play the organ that Olaf built, as well as many other instruments. Joel's favorite was the violin.



Olaf was a conductor on the Gavle-Dala Railroad - he died when Joel was 8, after being injured at work.



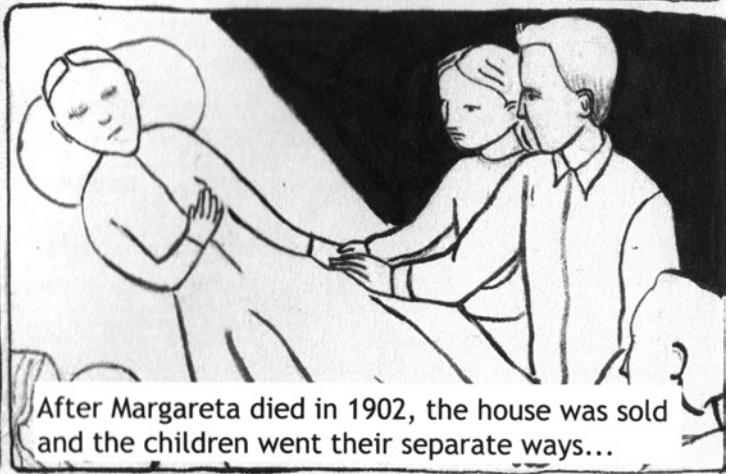
After the death of their father, the children went to work to support the family. Joel first worked in a rope factory, and when he was older as a fireman on a steam crane.



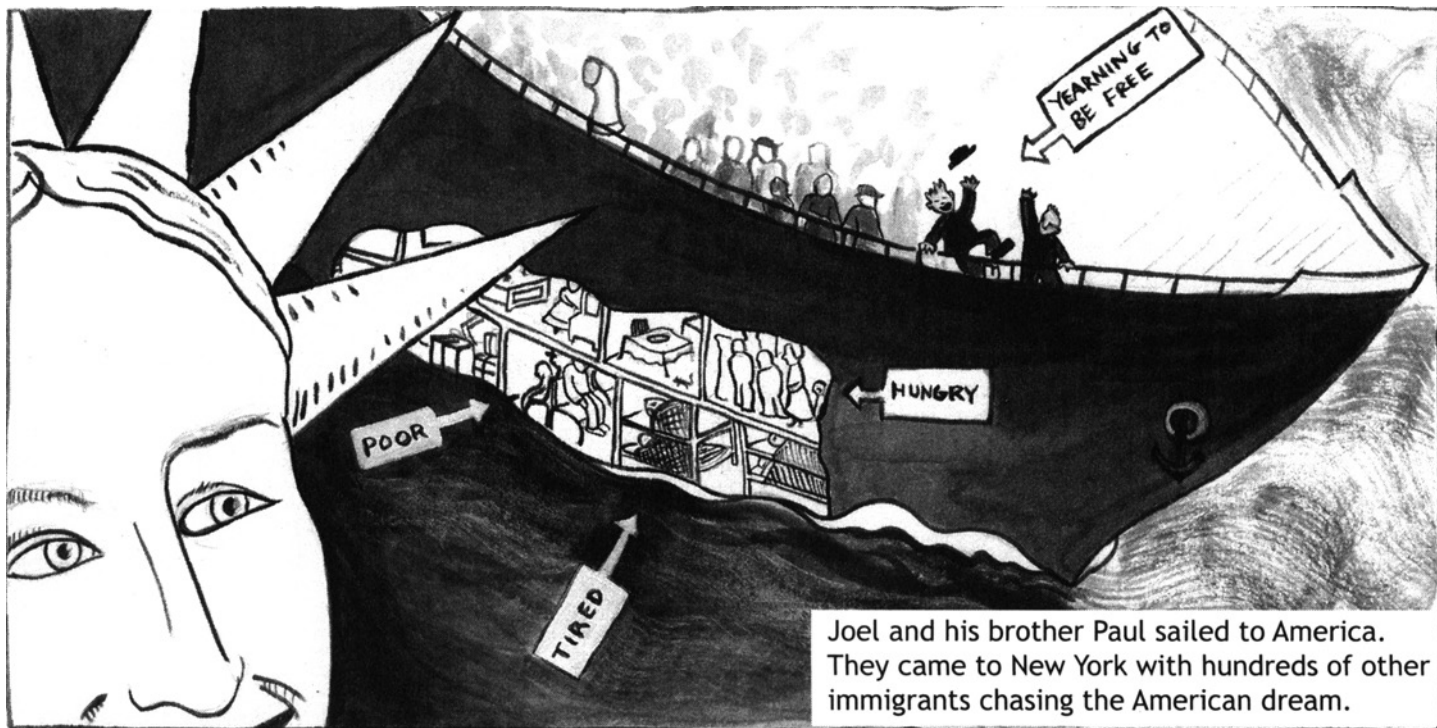
A fireman kept the engine's fire alive!



In his teens he was diagnosed with skin and joint tuberculosis. The treatment of massive doses of x - rays and many skin grafts left him with scars on his face and neck.



After Margareta died in 1902, the house was sold and the children went their separate ways...



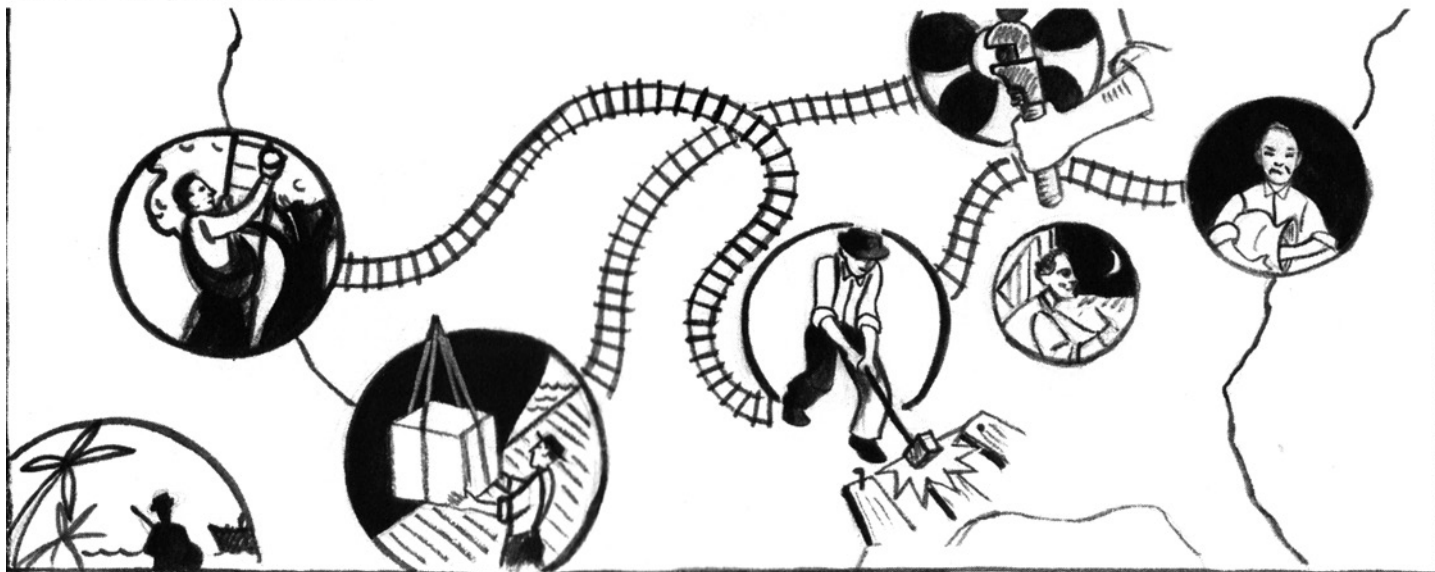
Joel and his brother Paul sailed to America. They came to New York with hundreds of other immigrants chasing the American dream.

Their first experiences here were anything but a dream - in Paul's words they "lived like dogs". Joel worked as a porter, played piano, and cleaned spittoons on the Bowery.



Soon after, they split up. Joel set out to work his way across the country.

He traveled across America doing all kinds of jobs: mechanic, longshoreman, machinist, logger - he mastered as many trades as musical instruments. He also stayed up late writing what he called "scribbles" - poems, songs, and cartoons



He saw the country from an open boxcar - Joel was a gifted trainhopper, which was a potentially deadly way to travel. He was a gentleman hobo who caught trains in a blue serge suit, white shirt, tie, and his famous hat. He was known to all as a kind and generous man, and a little shy.



Not much is known of his life in America prior to 1910. He was definitely in San Francisco in 1906 - he sent an eyewitness account of the great Earthquake to his hometown newspaper in Gavle.



Around 1908, Joel Haggelund became Josef Hillstrom, shortened to Joe Hill.



Some say it was to escape the law, others say it was because he was blacklisted after organizing other workers in a Chicago machine shop.

In 1910, disillusioned with long hour, low paying, dangerous jobs and angered at the treatment he and his fellow workers endured, he joined the IWW while working the docks in San Pedro, California. He used his gift as a songwriter to unify this diverse group that was also known as the "Wobblies". His presence was reported at strikes everywhere from Canada to Hawaii, and at the famous Free Speech fights of the IWW. He was even said to have fought in the Mexican Revolution.



His songs caught on with the Wobs; he wrote parodies of idealistic hymns and popular songs of the day. They were an effective way for a group of people who very often did not speak the same language (the IWW had a large immigrant population) to speak with one voice:

"A pamphlet is read once and thrown out -"

A SONG LIVES
IN THE HEART!

Said Joe...

"Long Haired Preachers", also known as "Pie in the Sky", was one of his most popular, about religion's misguided solutions to poverty and unemployment.



In "Tramp", God and the Devil alike reject a hobo who finally had the good fortune to die.



"Casey Jones the Union Scab" is the story of a strikebreaking engineer who gets rerouted to hell...



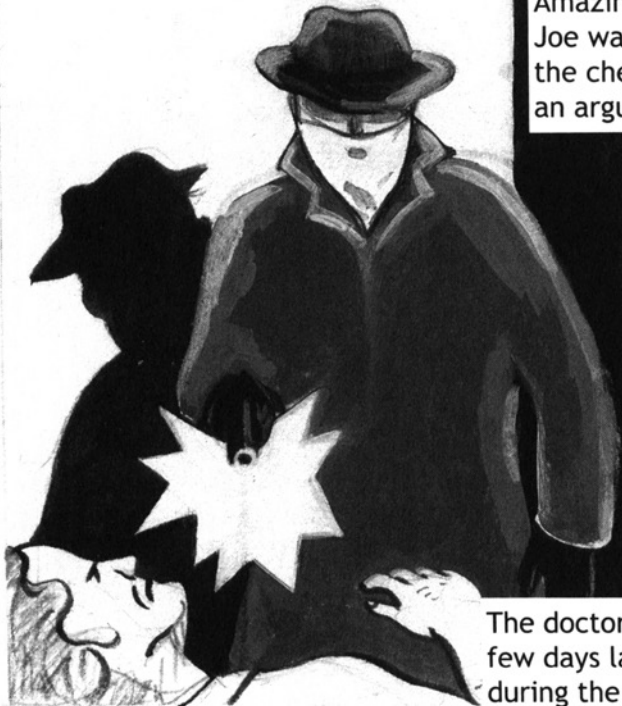


Joe eventually found himself in Utah. It was here that being in the wrong place at the wrong time would cost him his life.

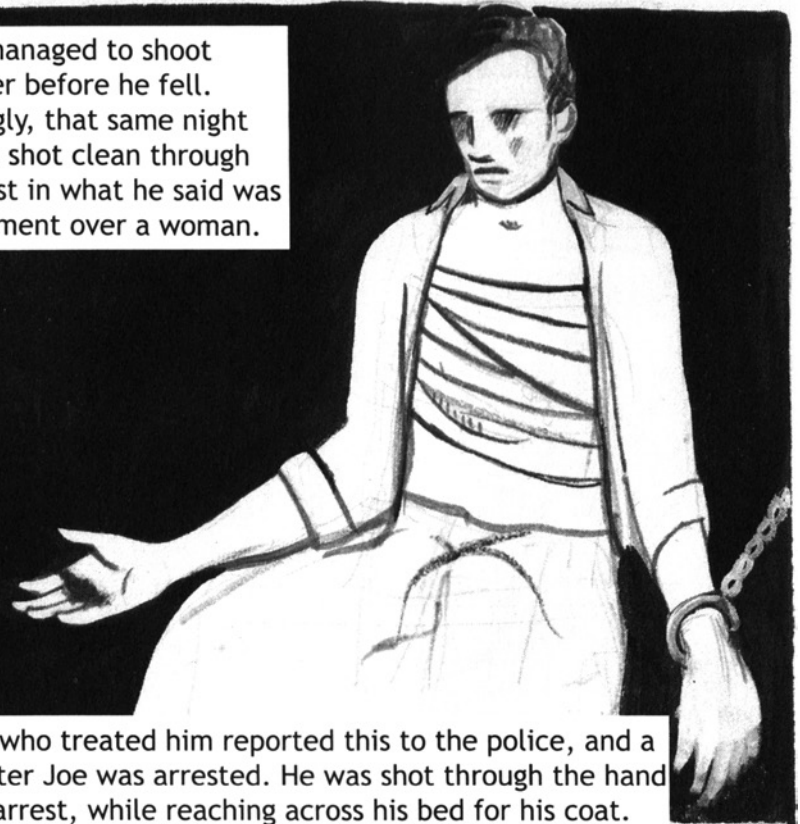
On January 10, 1914, John Morrison, a local grocer, and his son Arling were gunned down by two men as they were closing up for the night.

Police originally thought it a revenge crime, for nothing was stolen, and one of the men declared :

"We've got you now!"



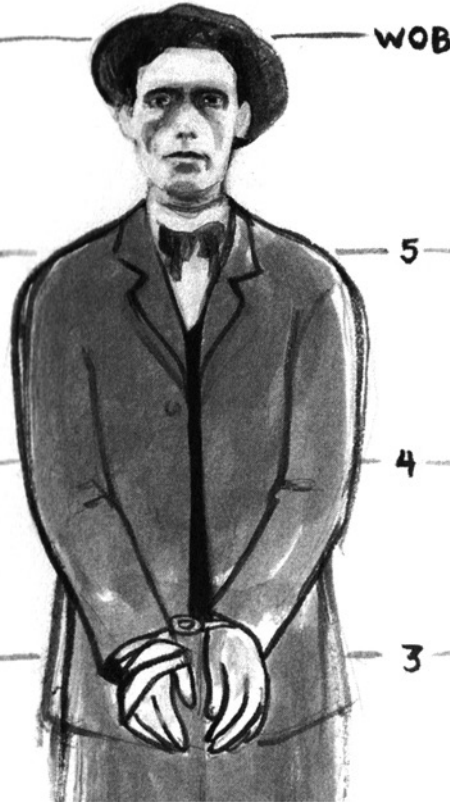
Arling managed to shoot the killer before he fell. Amazingly, that same night Joe was shot clean through the chest in what he said was an argument over a woman.



The doctor who treated him reported this to the police, and a few days later Joe was arrested. He was shot through the hand during the arrest, while reaching across his bed for his coat.

There were other suspects - John Morrison was once a policeman, and had recently said to his wife that he feared retribution from two men he sent to prison some years earlier. These men were never found. There was also another man that Morrison jailed - recently released and seen in the area the night of the murder. The police first thought Joe was this man when they arrested him.

The prosecuting attorney said that he would rely on circumstantial evidence. Indeed, there was no motive, no murder weapon, and the best any witness could say was that Joe resembled the killer in height and build, or in general appearance. No one positively identified him.



The climate in Salt Lake City, Utah for a man like Joe Hill - an immigrant, hobo, transient worker, and especially a Wobbly - was not friendly. He was considered an enemy of the companies whose wealth was created by the mining industry that thrived in Utah. He was described in court as a parasite and an undesirable, and presented to the jury as a hardened criminal, when in reality he had only been arrested once for vagrancy. But the biggest obstacle for the defense was his refusal to provide the details of his alibi. He did not want the reputation of the woman to suffer, and remained silent. He was found guilty of murder and sentenced to death.

There was international protest of his sentence. Wobbly Elizabeth Gurley -Flynn corresponded with Joe constantly, and was a fierce advocate for his freedom. Over ten thousand letters from across the country poured into Utah Governor William Spry's office. President Wilson, Helen Keller, and Swedish Minister Ekengren all pleaded for Joe's life, but were rejected.

Joe wrote out his last will in his prison cell:

my Last Will

My Will is easy to decide
For there is nothing to divide
My Kin don't need to fuss and moan
"Moss does not cling to rolling stone
My body? - Oh! - If I could choose
I would to ashes it reduce
And let the merry breezes blow
My dust to where some flowers grow

Perhaps some fading flower then
Would come to life and bloom again

This is my Last and Final Will. -
Good Luck to All of you

Joe Hill



At dawn on November 19, 1915, Joe Hill was put before a firing squad in the yard of the Utah State Prison, blindfolded with a paper heart pinned to his chest. His last word was a shout:

"FIRE!"

Joe took care to ask Wobbly leader Big Bill Haywood to take him out of Utah to be cremated: "I don't want to be caught dead in Utah." he wrote to Haywood...30,000 people attended his funeral in Chicago. The streets and rooftops were crowded with mourners. Eulogies for this "Citizen of the World" were read in nine languages, and his songs were sung until dark.



Joe's ashes were put into hundreds of envelopes and scattered in each of the United States (except Utah) and in countries all over the world, except for one envelope. It was confiscated by a postmaster and kept in the national archives of the Post Office. It was found in 1988 - the ashes were returned to the IWW, but the Post Office kept the envelope.

Joe Hill's childhood home in Sweden is now a museum - The Joe Hill House. There is also a garden, and a monument to Joe not far from the house. Despite 2 bombings by local fascists and having it's windows smashed out, it's still standing. After 100 years, Joe Hill is still pissing off the right (wing) people!



Today Salt Lake City is home to the Joe Hill House of Hospitality. The State of Utah now says that under their present law, Joe Hill would never have been executed on the evidence presented at his trial.

JOE HILL

GÅVLE, SVERIGE
7 OKTOBER 1879
SALT LAKE CITY, USA
19 NOVEMBER 1915
UNION ORGANIZER
LABOR AGITATOR
CARTOONIST. POET
MUSICIAN. COMPOSER
ITINERANT WORKER
ARBETARSÅNGAREN

MURDERED BY THE
JUDICIARY IN
COLLUSION
WITH THE MINE
OWNERS WHO WISHED
TO SILENCE HIS SONGS
BUT THE SONGS ARE
STILL BEING SUNG!
INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD
CHARGE KILNIE

HO! HO!
HO! HO!
HO! HO!
HO! HO!
HO! HO!

IF WE WORKERS TAKE A NOTION
WE CAN STOP ALL SPEEDING TRAINS
EVERY SHIP UPON THE OCEAN
WE CAN TIE WITH MIGHTY CHAINS
EVERY WHEEL IN THE CREATION
EVERY MINE AND EVERY MILL
FLEETS AND ARMIES
OF ALL NATIONS
WILL AT OUR COMMAND
**STAND
STILL**

SÖRJ EJ, ORGANISERA



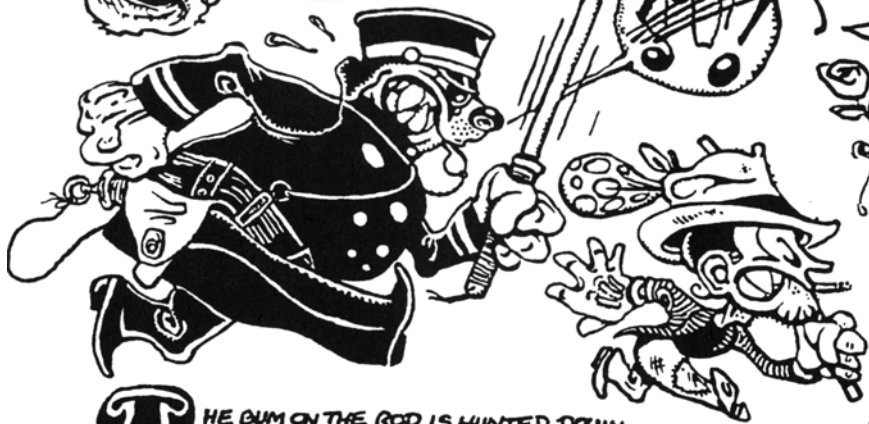
WHEN UNABLE TO GET INSIDE OR ATOP A COXCAR, TRAMPS HAD TO "RIDE THE RODS." THE RODS ARE THOSE STRUTS THAT SUPPORT THE CAR'S UNDERCARRIAGE. ITS A DANGEROUS WAY TO TRAVEL. YOU COULD EASILY FALL



OFF & UNDER THE WHEELS. TO PREVENT THIS GRISLY END, SOME TIED THEMSELVES TO THE RODS WITH A BELT OR PIECE OF ROPE. BEAR THIS GRIM HOBO FACTOID IN MIND AS YOU READ ABOUT...



ANONYMOUS SONG 1ST PUBLISHED IN GEORGE MILBURN'S HOBO'S WORKBOOK NEW YORK, 1930 ART BY JEROME NEUKIRCH © '03



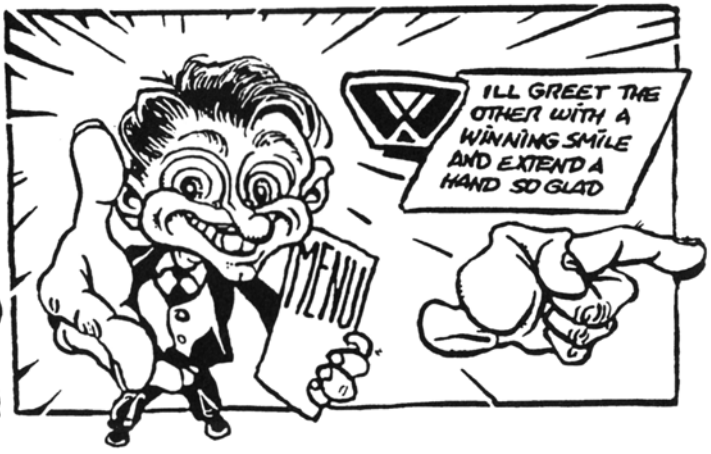
THE BUM ON THE ROD IS HUNTED DOWN AS THE ENEMY OF ALL MANKIND...



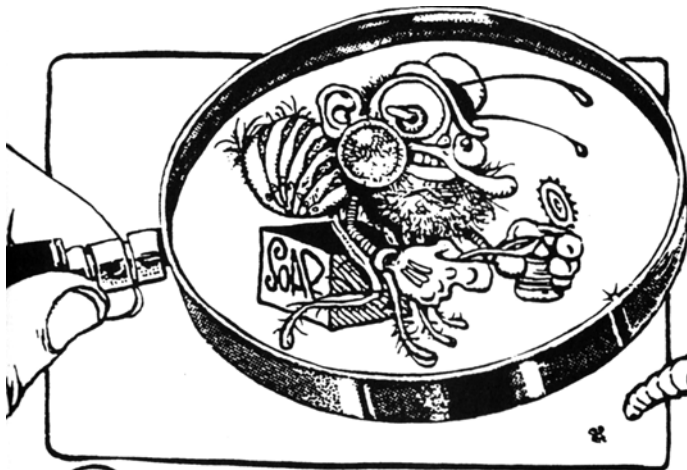
THE OTHER IS DRIVEN AROUND TO HIS CLUB AND FETED, WINED AND DINED.



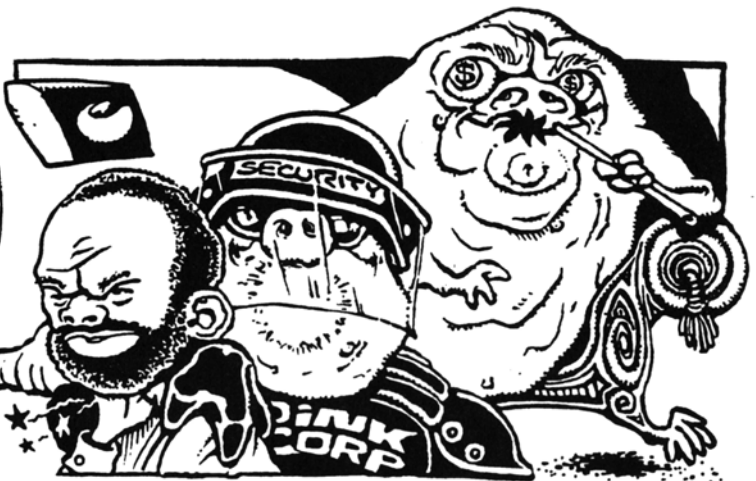
AND THEY WHO CURSE THE BUM ON THE RODS AS THE ESSENCE OF ALL THAT'S BAD...



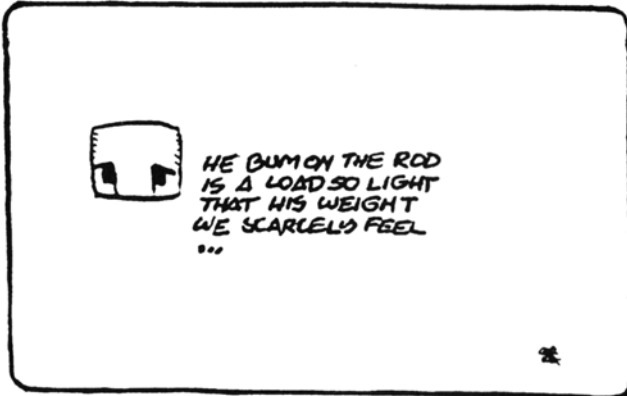
W ILL GREET THE OTHER WITH A WINNING SMILE AND EXTEND A HAND SO GLAD



T HE BUM ON THE RODS IS A SOCIAL FLEA WHO GETS AN OCCASIONAL BITE...



U HE BUM ON THE PLUSH IS A SOCIAL LEECH BLOOD SUCKING DAY AND NIGHT!



HE BUM ON THE ROD IS A LOAD SO LIGHT THAT HIS WEIGHT WE SCARLETS FEEL ...



U T IT TAKES THE LABOR OF DOZENS OF MEN TO FURNISH THE OTHER A MEAL!

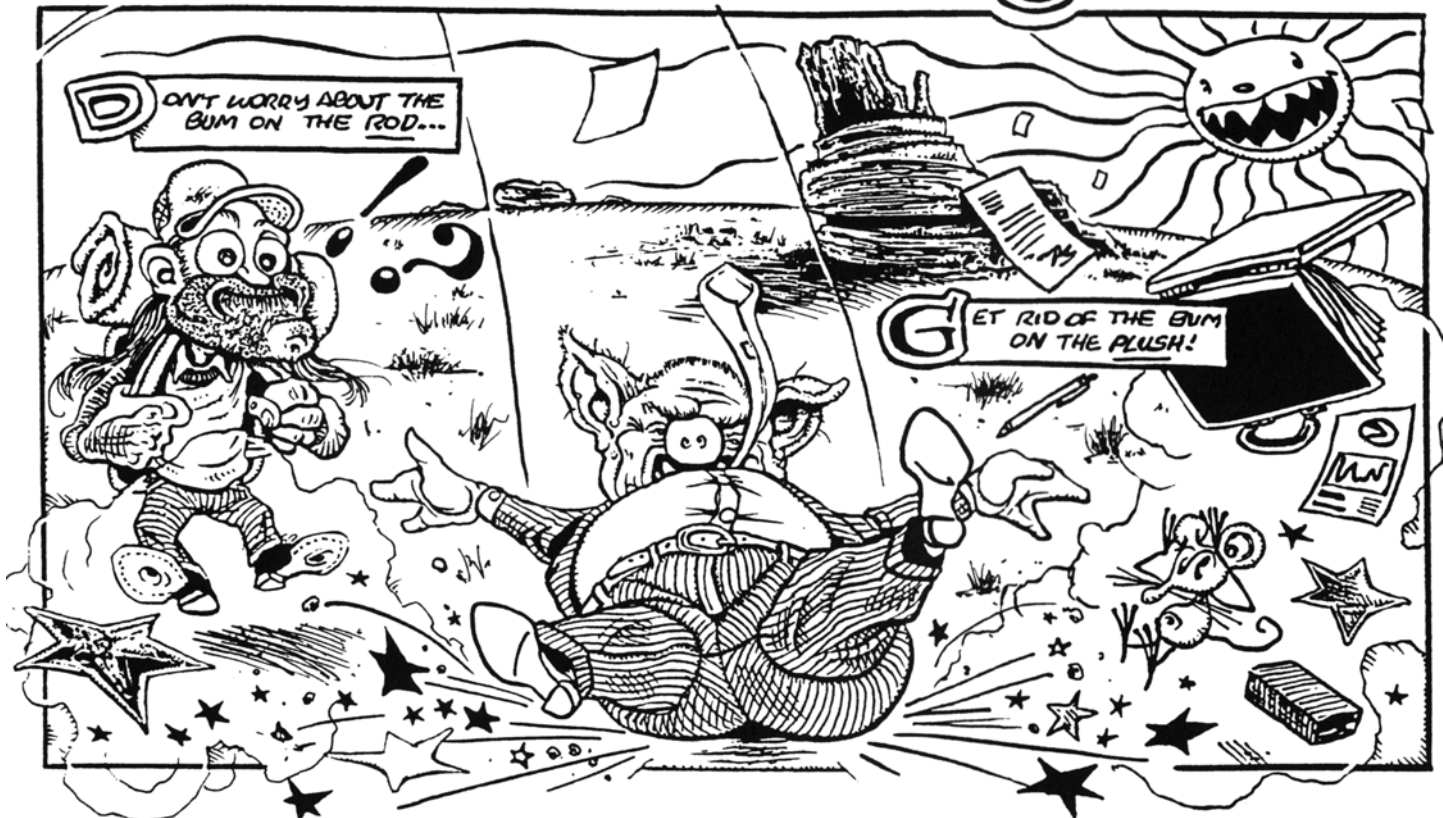
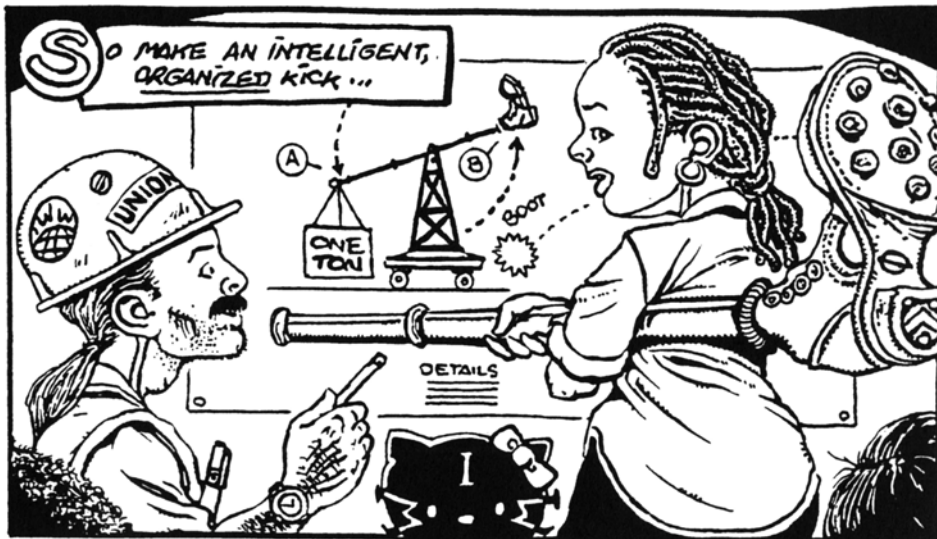


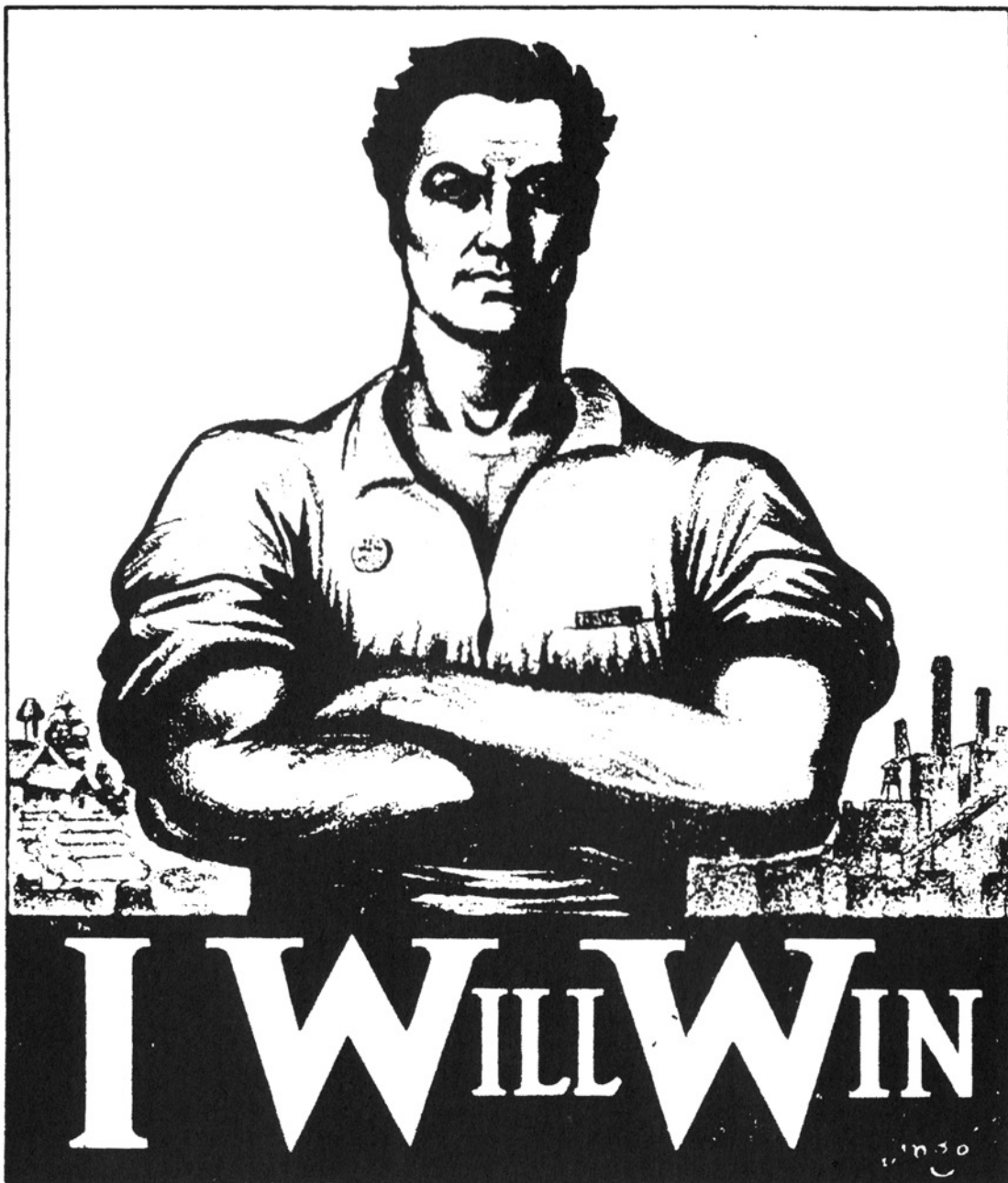
A S LONG AS WE SANCTION THE BUM ON THE PLUSH, THE OTHER WILL ALWAYS BE THERE...

We regret to inform you that you are getting canned. Get out now.



B UTRID OURSELVES OF THE BUM ON THE PLUSH AND THE OTHER WILL DISAPPEAR ...





I WILL WIN

1950



FOUR

REPRESSION, MARTYRDOM, GENERAL STRIKES

The Brotherhood of Timber Workers (BTW) might be taken, as well as any, as the bright promise of the IWW crushed underfoot. It was extraordinary as an interracial union in the South, made up mostly of lumberjacks and sawmill workers in the Louisiana/Texas Piney Woods region being logged out by the big companies. Legendary southern-born poet and agitator-editor Covington Hall quickly transformed the rudimentary and mostly secret BTW into a Wobbly movement. Officially adopting the principles of the IWW, the BTW invited full membership rights to women and nonwhites (including a scattering of Mexicans and Indians), and set out to organize the mill towns one by one. During a series of strikes in 1912–13, it expanded to as many as 20,000 members; then strikebreakers, official and private police rushed in to crush the organization. Violent strikes led to an intensive legal-defense campaign for Wobs framed and put on trial. The BTW struggled on for years but never recovered.

The railroading of Wobbly leaders into federal prisons for long sentences on a variety of charges, the sudden growth of the AFL and independent unions, sometimes recruiting former Wobblies as organizers, combined with the appeal of the new American Communist movement, proved all too daunting. Prosecutorial charges of "criminal syndicalism" mystified later generations of radicals (as well as civil libertarians) and were scarcely understood among most of the defendants. During the McCarthy Era decades later, communists (by their nature wholly opposed to Wobbly or anarchist doctrines) were still being arrested on such creaky statutes. Actress Lucille Ball, facing a House Un-American Activities Committee investigating her past sympathies with communists, was thus quizzed on criminal syndicalism and could honestly respond that she had never heard of it. "Syndicalism," a term popular in France and Italy, and also among some activists in Britain, Germany, and elsewhere, had always been closer to doctrinaire anarchism than the IWW, and sometimes linked to individual acts of violence (rather than a mostly passive sabotage, "accidental" malfunctioning of machines, or just a waitress talking against the food of the restaurant). Those calling themselves syndicalists in the US were mostly competitors to the IWW, urging affiliation of radicals with the mainstream AFL, "boring from within" to achieve their aims by winning over craft-union members. The charge, however, was never intended by prosecutors to be precise in any case. Like the insistence that Wobblies rather than scabs, cops, and assorted thugs had started rough stuff on and around the picket line, "criminal syndicalism" was a convenient label.

The Espionage Acts offered another legalization of outright repression. Enacted in 1917, the Selective Service Act necessarily offered a virtually open definition of what might be deemed to constitute espionage, inasmuch as socialists and Wobblies had no more sympathy for the German Kaiser than the British King or other symbolic nationalisms in the the First World War. The laws governing the naturalization of the foreign-born, altered after the assassination of President McKinley (by a native-born

anarchist, son of an immigrant), began to be applied against Wobbly-noncitizens seeking citizenship as early as 1912, soon making it all but impossible for sworn members to naturalize. Meanwhile, Congress and the President (for the moment in a liberal, civil-libertarian mood) debated the merits of further repressive legislation against those who damaged or endangered property. By 1918, federal troops broke up Wobbly picket lines in Arizona by declaring the production of copper to be a "war utility," making those hindering production thus liable to prosecution under the new Sabotage Act. The US State Department and Bureau of Immigration had also set themselves upon yet another distinct rationale of repression. By the time the US had entered the war, immigration officials had been given far more latitude in deciding who to deport and under what conditions. The Immigration Act of 1918 was designed specifically to remove from radical aliens any rights of Constitutional protection. For the first time in US history, guilt of association or belief became a deportable offense. Even before the law was enacted, the Bureau began to plan the deportation of Wobblies by its own standards, in ways eerily familiar to today's civil libertarians: membership, sympathy, financial support or even implied agreement with IWW aims could be used. Faced with initial defeats in the courts, the Bureau secretly devised new standards, and these would be upheld. Any alien known to support the IWW, a perfectly legal organization, could nevertheless be held and deported. The Labor Department, the Attorney General, and the highest circles around the President could join with company officials, sheriff's agents, and paid thugs to attack Wobs most anywhere, but especially in the northwest, where so many loggers swore loyalty to the movement. The foreign-born would not even be allowed legal counsel, setting a further precedent for future methods of illegal repression.

During the uprisings of 1919, amid massive May Day parades, a General Strike in Seattle, and solidarity actions to prevent war goods being shipped to counter-

revolutionary forces in embattled Russia, it nevertheless seemed for an extended moment that persecution only deepened the class struggle. Then it was over. Within a year, the young Communist movement had nearly destroyed itself (with considerable help from police agents), along with the Socialist Party, in a round of wild factionalism, seeking the perfect revolutionary formula while real radicals faced immediate problems.

black wobblies

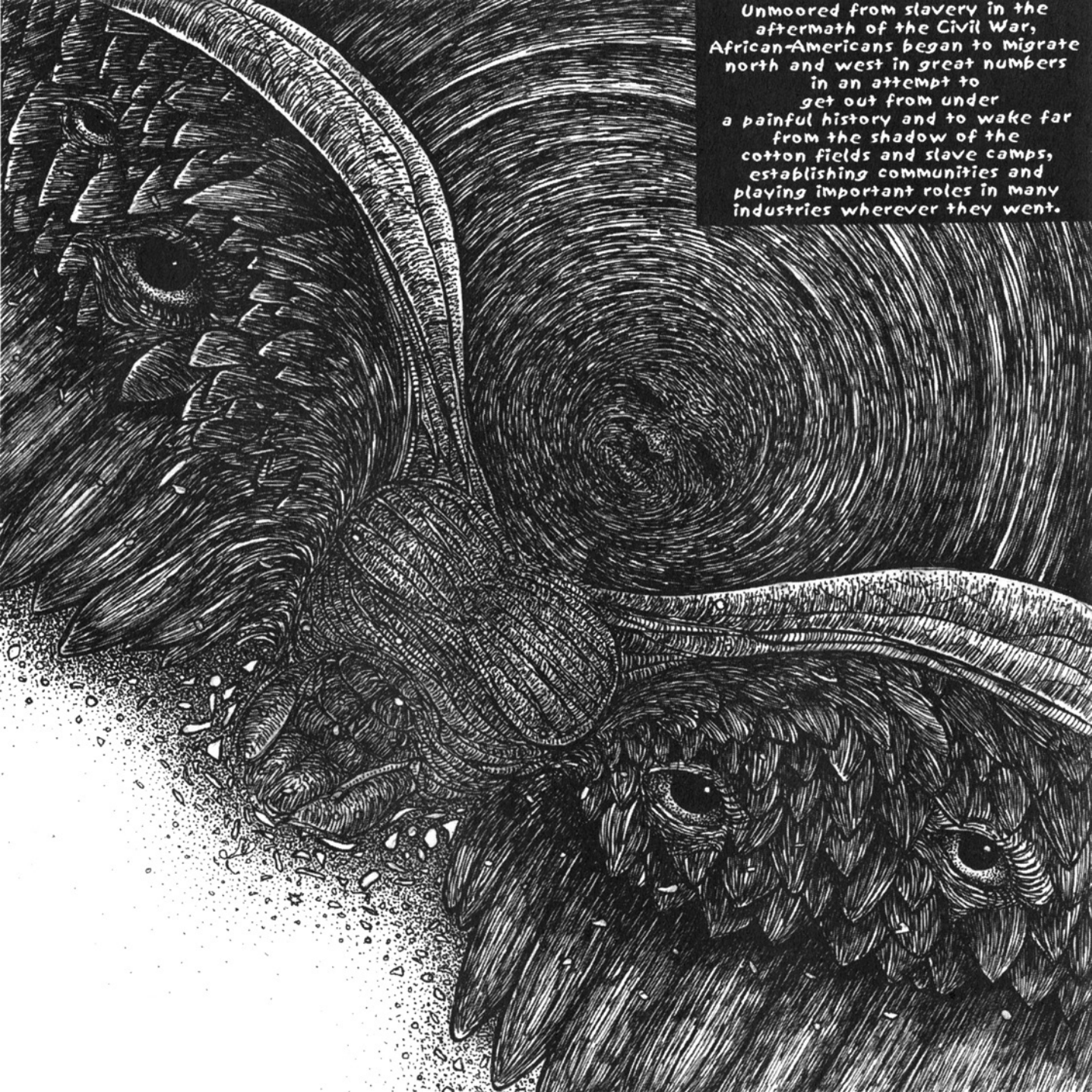


the practical appeal of One Big Union

By the early 20th Century industrial capitalism was firmly established in the U.S. The vast plains, textile plants, steel foundries and lumber camps churned out everything from ears of corn to silk doilies and pig iron and relied on a labor force that was mobile pliable and cheap.

written by tauno biltsted

illustrated by mac mcgill

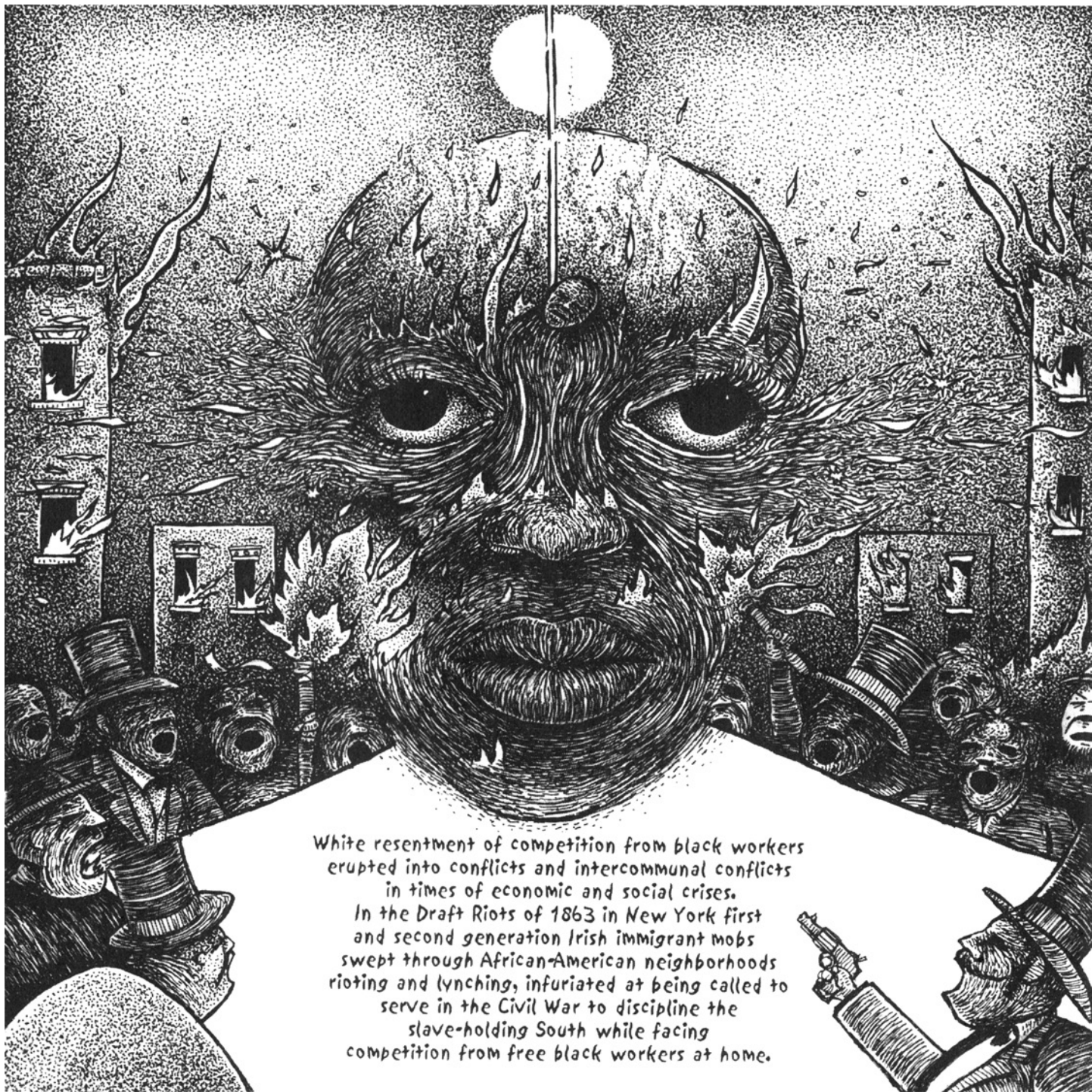


Unmoored from slavery in the aftermath of the Civil War, African-Americans began to migrate north and west in great numbers in an attempt to get out from under a painful history and to wake far from the shadow of the cotton fields and slave camps, establishing communities and playing important roles in many industries wherever they went.

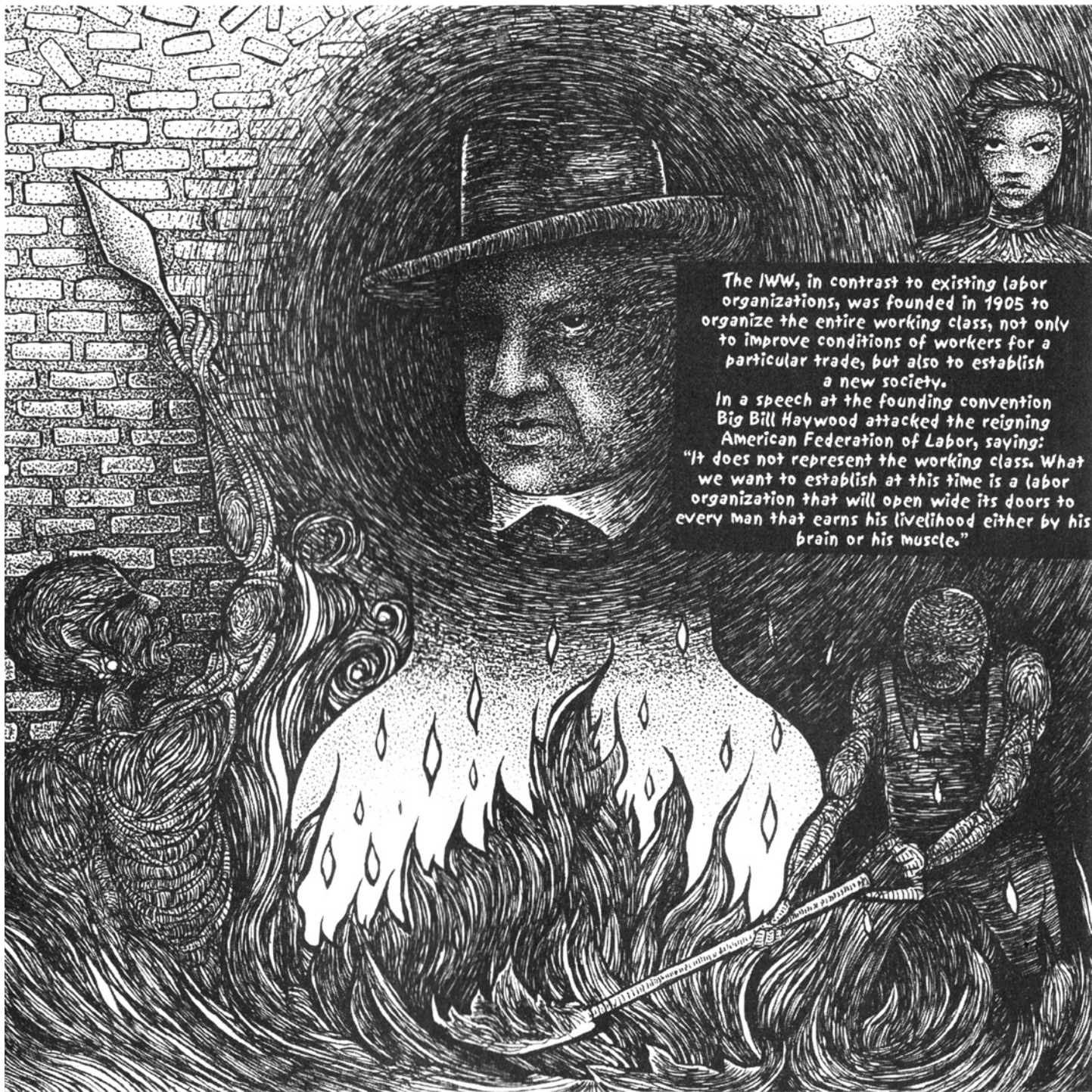


(Frederick Douglass, eminent black abolitionist and former slave)....
"The hostility between the whites and blacks is easily explained.
It has its root and sap in the relation of slavery that was incited
on both sides by the cunning of the slave masters. Those masters
secured their ascendancy over the poor whites and the blacks by
putting enmity between them.

They divided both to conquer each..."



White resentment of competition from black workers erupted into conflicts and intercommunal conflicts in times of economic and social crises. In the Draft Riots of 1863 in New York first and second generation Irish immigrant mobs swept through African-American neighborhoods rioting and lynching, infuriated at being called to serve in the Civil War to discipline the slave-holding South while facing competition from free black workers at home.



The IWW, in contrast to existing labor organizations, was founded in 1905 to organize the entire working class, not only to improve conditions of workers for a particular trade, but also to establish a new society.

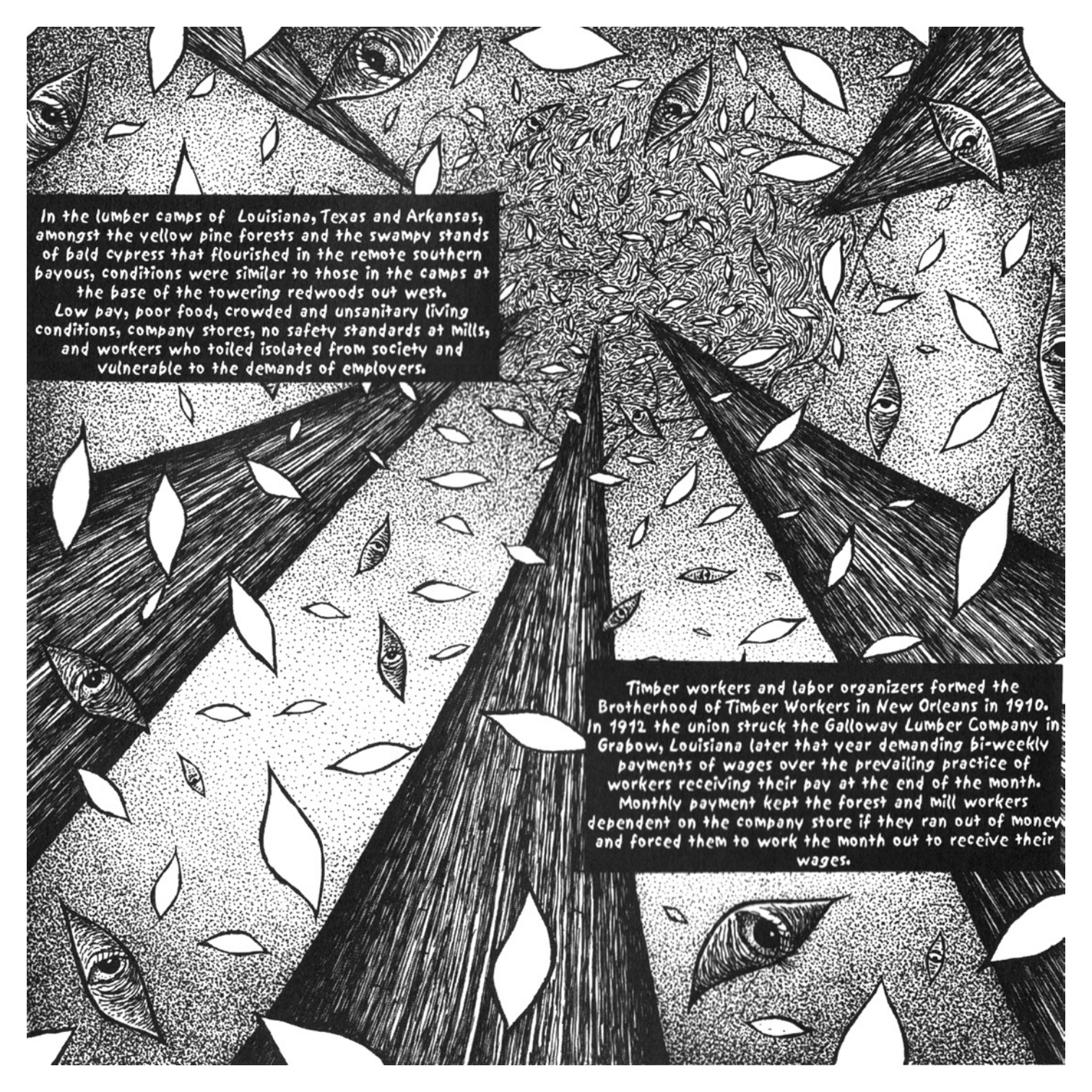
In a speech at the founding convention Big Bill Haywood attacked the reigning American Federation of Labor, saying: "It does not represent the working class. What we want to establish at this time is a labor organization that will open wide its doors to every man that earns his livelihood either by his brain or his muscle."

*"Colored Workers of America, Why You Should
Join the I.W.W..."
As Abraham Lincoln has said,*

*"The strongest bond that should bind man to
man in human society is that between the
working people of all races and all nations."*

When the IWW through this form of INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM has become powerful enough, it will institute an INDUSTRIAL COMMONWEALTH; it will end slavery and oppression forever and in its place will be a world where there will be no poverty and want among those who feed and clothe and house the world; a world where the words 'master' and 'slave' shall be forgotten; a world where peace and happiness shall reign and where the children of men shall live as brothers in a world-wide INDUSTRIAL DEMOCRACY..."







In the lumber camps of Louisiana, Texas and Arkansas, amongst the yellow pine forests and the swampy stands of bald cypress that flourished in the remote southern bayous, conditions were similar to those in the camps at the base of the towering redwoods out west.

Low pay, poor food, crowded and unsanitary living conditions, company stores, no safety standards at mills, and workers who toiled isolated from society and vulnerable to the demands of employers.


Timber workers and labor organizers formed the Brotherhood of Timber Workers in New Orleans in 1910. In 1912 the union struck the Galloway Lumber Company in Grabow, Louisiana later that year demanding bi-weekly payments of wages over the prevailing practice of workers receiving their pay at the end of the month. Monthly payment kept the forest and mill workers dependent on the company store if they ran out of money and forced them to work the month out to receive their wages.



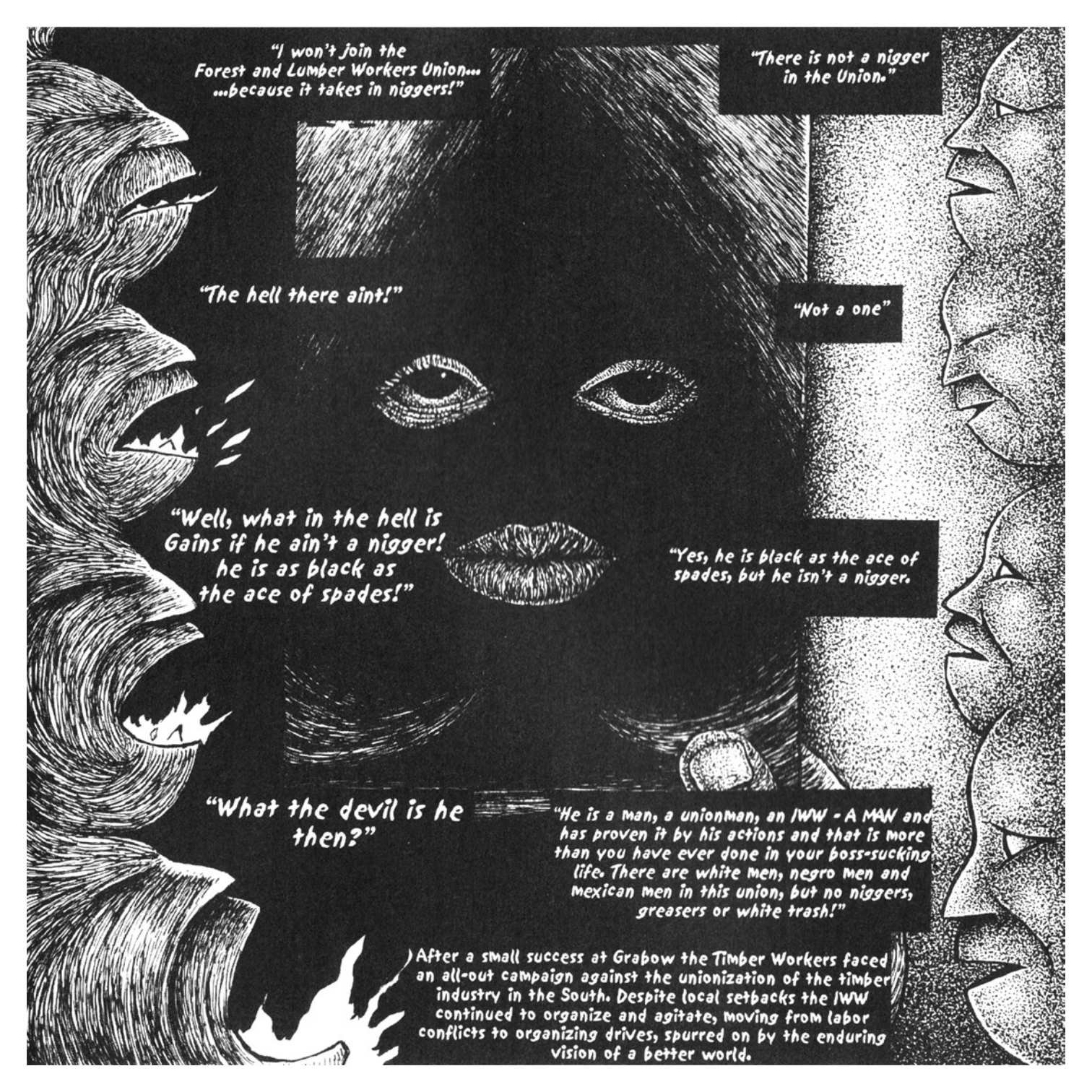
In response the Southern Lumber Operators Association closed mills across Louisiana, forcing the industry to a standstill. Sheriffs prohibited multi-racial meetings, workers were driven out of camps, racial appeals were made to separate white and black workers....



...employers used intimidation and violence and still the union stood, white and black members in solidarity.



Scabs were brought in from across the state with assurances of protection and guaranteed wages and they were housed in a compound at one of the mills. The night of their arrival a bomb exploded killing none but sparking a frenzied repression of the strikers. Hound dogs used to track the perpetrator ran to the manager of the mill's house and the explosives he kept in his garage. A black union member, Isaac Gains, was arrested for placing the bomb and he denied his involvement for three months under threat of being prosecuted and sentenced to death...
...absent of a confession.



"I won't join the
Forest and Lumber Workers Union...
...because it takes in niggers!"

"There is not a nigger
in the Union."

"The hell there aint!"

"Not a one"

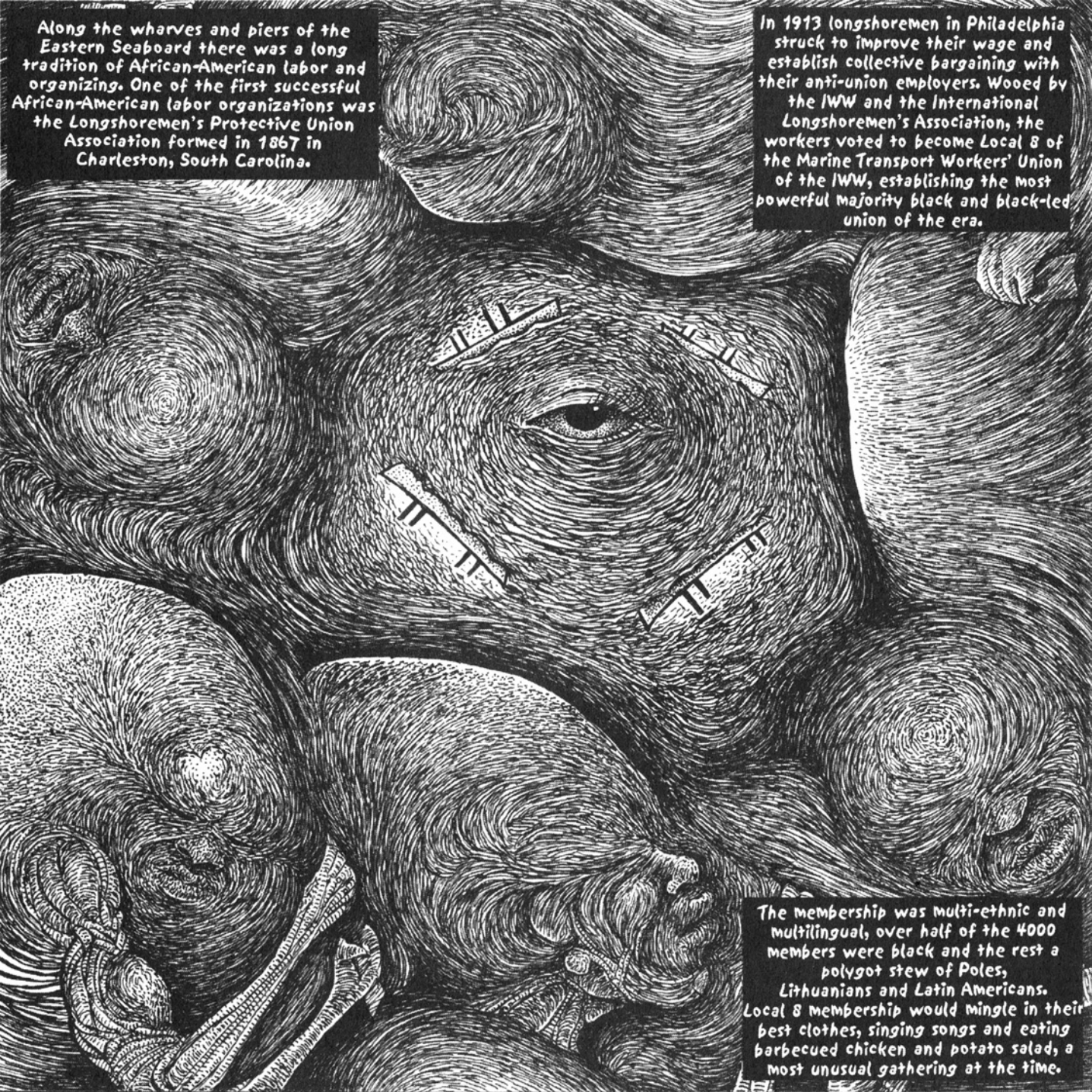
"Well, what in the hell is
Gains if he ain't a nigger!
he is as black as
the ace of spades!"

"Yes, he is black as the ace of
spades, but he isn't a nigger."

"What the devil is he
then?"

"He is a man, a unionman, an IWW - A MAN and
has proven it by his actions and that is more
than you have ever done in your boss-sucking
life. There are white men, negro men and
Mexican men in this union, but no niggers,
greasers or white trash!"

After a small success at Grabow the Timber Workers faced
an all-out campaign against the unionization of the timber
industry in the South. Despite local setbacks the IWW
continued to organize and agitate, moving from labor
conflicts to organizing drives, spurred on by the enduring
vision of a better world.



Along the wharves and piers of the Eastern Seaboard there was a long tradition of African-American labor and organizing. One of the first successful African-American labor organizations was the Longshoremen's Protective Union Association formed in 1867 in Charleston, South Carolina.

In 1913 longshoremen in Philadelphia struck to improve their wage and establish collective bargaining with their anti-union employers. Wooed by the IWW and the International Longshoremen's Association, the workers voted to become Local 8 of the Marine Transport Workers' Union of the IWW, establishing the most powerful majority black and black-led union of the era.

The membership was multi-ethnic and multilingual, over half of the 4000 members were black and the rest a polygot stew of Poles, Lithuanians and Latin Americans. Local 8 membership would mingle in their best clothes, singing songs and eating barbecued chicken and potato salad, a most unusual gathering at the time.



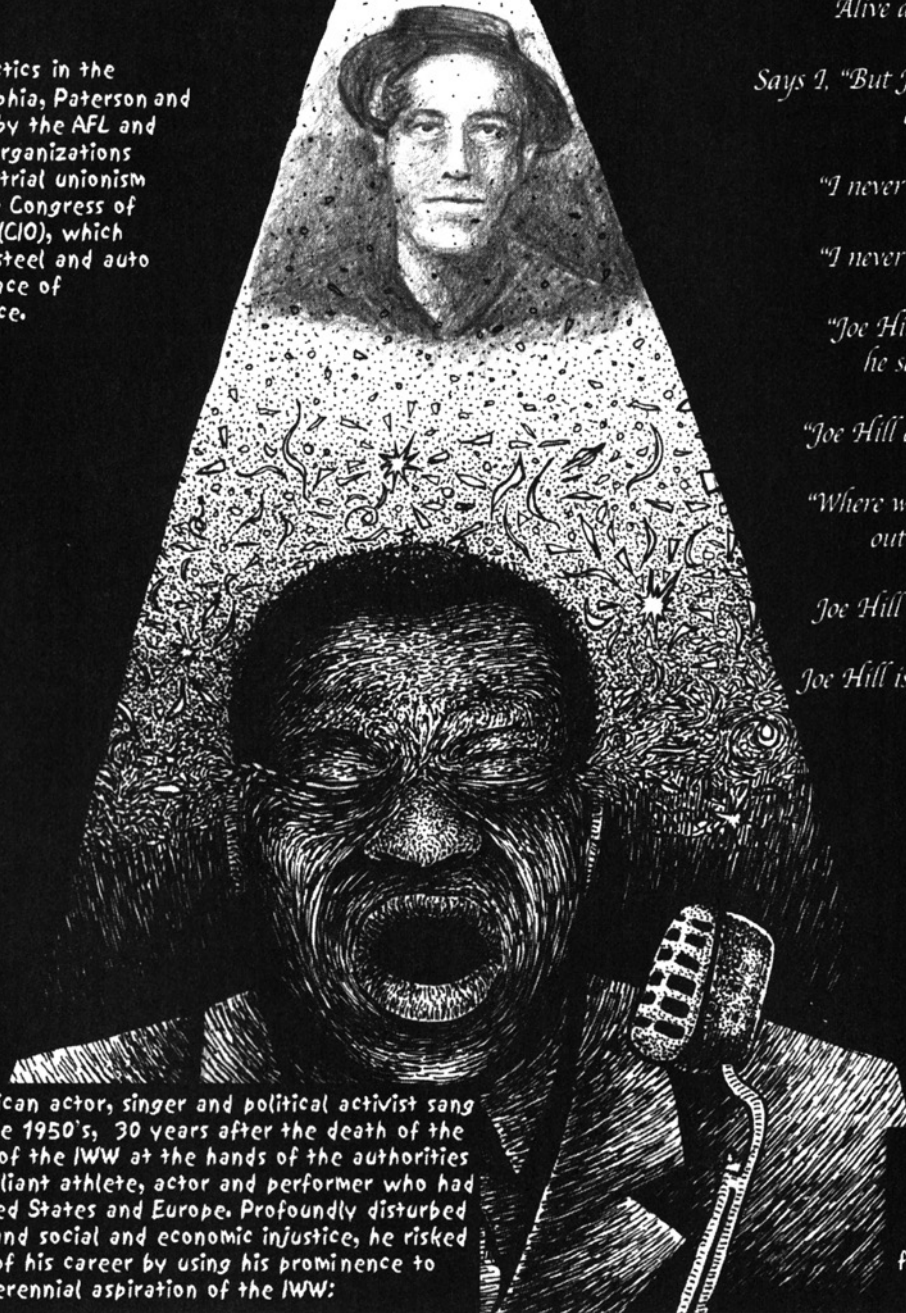
Ben Fletcher was born in Philadelphia in 1890. He had a open and generous face and the few surviving pictures of him invariably show a warm smile. Little is known of his life prior to 1911 when he first became known as a dockworker and local organizer for the IWW. When Local 8 was formed he became part of the leadership of the union, a prominent African-American who staunchly advocated working-class solidarity over ethnic and racial rivalry.

A local African Methodist minister remarked 'the IWW at least protects the colored man, which is more than I can say for the laws of this country.'

Ben Fletcher's arrest in 1918, as part of a mass arrest of the IWW leadership on charges of encouraging draft resistance, conducting illegal strikes and violating the Espionage Act of 1917, was a blow to the membership of Local 8. He was the only black face amongst the sea of 101 defendants who faced serious charges in the Chicago courts. After a trial that was the biggest mass trial in US history, the Judge handed down harsh sentences ranging from 10 to 25 years to life. With a bitter joke Fletcher remarked to his co-defendants...

..."Judge Landis is using poor English today. His sentences are too long."

The IWW pioneered tactics in the labor struggles of Philadelphia, Paterson and Lawrence that were used by the AFL and other mainstream labor organizations and the approach of industrial unionism was later adopted by the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO), which effectively organized the steel and auto industries in the face of mighty resistance.



Paul Robeson, African-American actor, singer and political activist sang the Ballad of Joe Hill in the 1950's, 30 years after the death of the revolutionary troubadour of the IWW at the hands of the authorities of Utah. Robeson was a brilliant athlete, actor and performer who had critical success in the United States and Europe. Profoundly disturbed by the realities of racism and social and economic injustice, he risked blacklist and the death of his career by using his prominence to promote the perennial aspiration of the IWW:

*I dreamed I saw Joe Hill
last night,*

Alive as you or me

*Says I, "But Joe, you're ten years
dead,"*

"I never died," says he

"I never died," says he

*"Joe Hill ain't dead,"
he says to me,*

"Joe Hill ain't never died.

*"Where working men are
out on strike*

Joe Hill is at their side

Joe Hill is at their side...."

*the dream of
a better world,*

*free of exploitation
and racism.*



“I STAND FOR THE SOLIDARITY OF LABOR”

-Frank H. Little

Frank Little was one of the most outspoken and respected organizers of The Industrial Workers of the World, known for his “candor, courage and unfailing good humor.” (R, Chaplin)

Born in 1879 to a Quaker father and Cherokee mother, Frank often joked that he was the only “real American” and a real “red” to boot.

His fellow workers said he was 1/2 White, 1/2 Indian and all Wobbly.

Frank became a hard rock miner when he was 21 and joined the Western Federation of Miners.

He soon became an organizer.

It’s likely that it was while working in the mines, Frank lost one of his eyes.

When the WFM helped found the IWW, Frank joined the One Big Union and spent the next 12 years organizing all his fellow workers: lumberjacks, farm laborers, dock workers and of course, his fellow miners.



Frank Little distinguished himself as one of the leaders of The Free Speech Fights. The Wobblies challenged ordinances in cities that banned public speaking and assembly, packing the jails and battling with the local police. Frank was on the front lines.

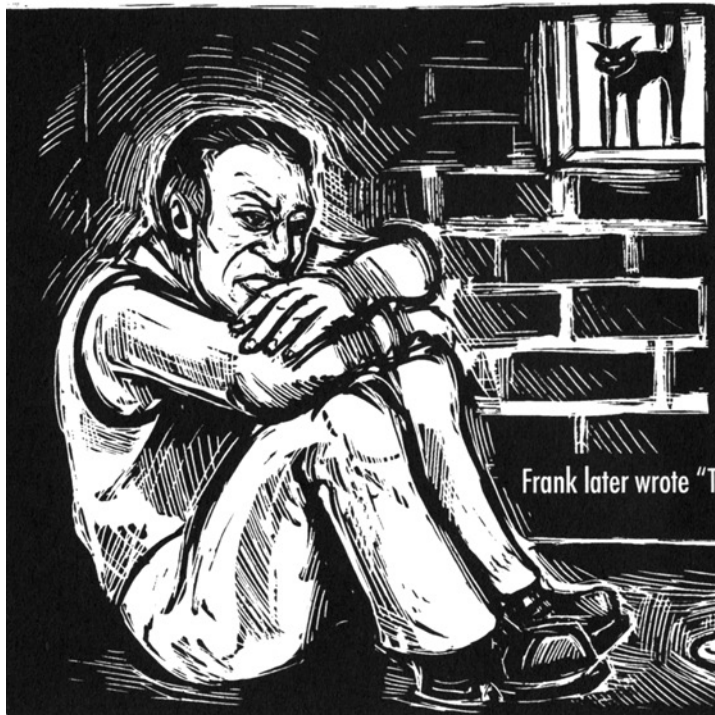
In 1909 Frank read from the Declaration on Independence on the snow swept streets of Spokane, WA. He was dragged away by the cops and sentenced to 30 days on the rock-pile. Frank was arrested repeatedly in Missoula, Denver and Fresno.



YOUR JAILS AND
DUNGEONS HOLD NO
TERROR FOR ME!



In Fresno,
he was sentenced to
solitary confinement
for 28 days and
fed only
bread and water.



Frank later wrote "The best method of repealing a bad law is to make the officials enforce it"

All these battles were successful,
but a great many Wobblies were killed
or injured, and Frank's health was
destroyed by the harsh conditions in jail.
Frank knew that free speech wasn't free.



Frank became known as one of the IWW's most fearless activists, and was elected to the General Executive Board in 1914. He also became the prime target of company violence.

Frank was kidnapped repeatedly- as he was during the Dock Worker's Strike in Duluth MN in 1913. He was held in an abandoned farmhouse for days before being rescued by his fellow workers. He gave a speech that same day.

In 1916, while Frank was in Michigan raising funds for striking ore miners on the Mesabi Range, he was abducted by company thugs and lawmen, taken to jail, beaten and threatened with lynching. When he refused to reveal the names of the strike leaders, he was beaten unconscious and left in a ditch with a noose around his neck 35 miles from town.

But Frank's spirit would not be broken.



The greatest battle of Frank's life was his opposition to World War 1, and all the war profiteering and exploitation that came with it.

By 1916 there were nearly 10 million casualties in the trenches of Europe, and American Industry was ready to join in the bloodshed.

He wrote Bill Haywood: "What in Hell are we going to do? Lay down like a pack of curs and let them force us to war? I for one say no! If we fight we fight for freedom. Now is the time to take a stand!"

WAR WILL MEAN THE
END OF FREE SPEECH,
FREE PRESS, FREE ASSEMBLY
AND EVERYTHING WE
EVER FOUGHT FOR!
I'LL TAKE THE
FIRING SQUAD FIRST!

The IWW had been adamantly opposed to war since the beginning, but with the climate of fanatical patriotism sweeping the nation, open opposition to the draft was a risk many in the union did not want to take.

SOME OF THESE
2 EYED BASTARDS
WANT TO RUN THE SHOW!

An emergency session of the General Executive Board was called in July of 1917 to decide the IWW's stand on the draft. Frank Little was now chairman of the board. He arrived on crutches, his ankle broken in Arizona while trying to organize the striking miners of Bisbee. He had an untreated double rupture from being jumped on by a gunman in El Paso. Combined with his rheumatism, Frank was in a lot of pain.

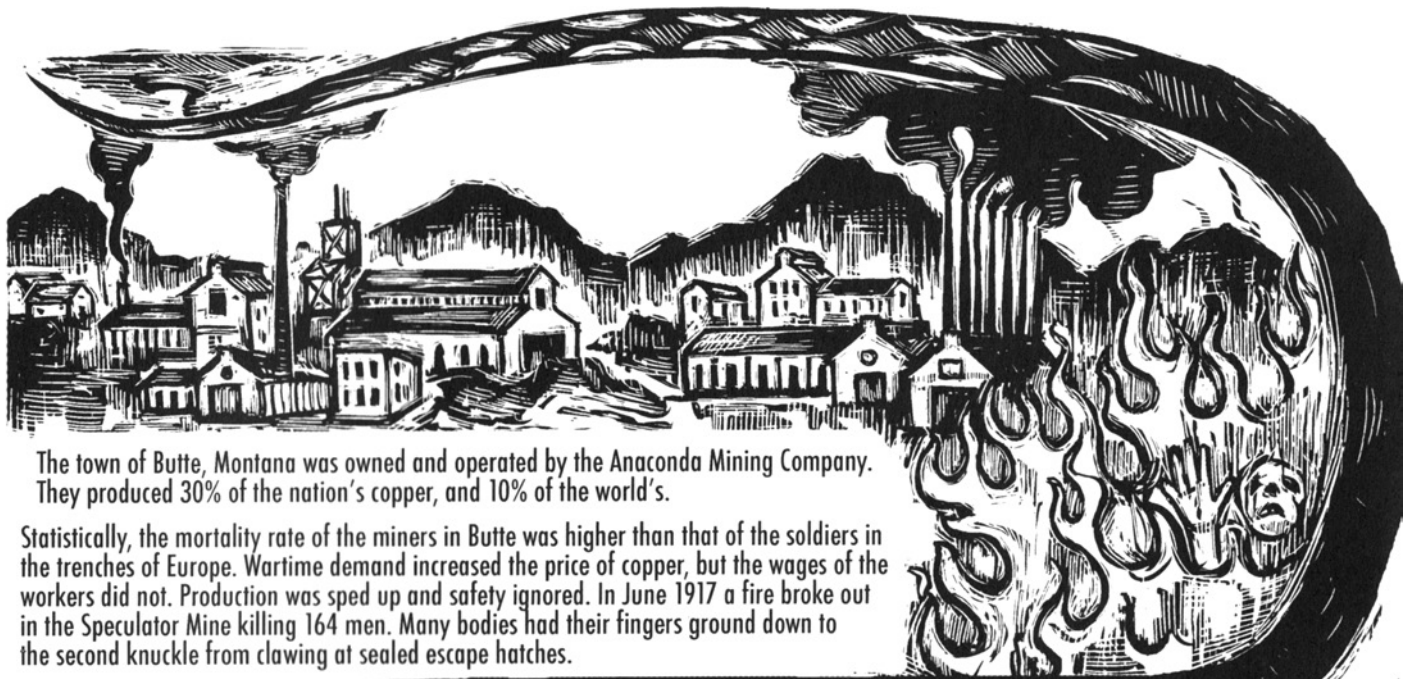
The board argued for three days,
but Frank refused to compromise his stand on the war.



No resolution was passed, and Frank volunteered
for the most difficult and dangerous assignment of his life.

A FINE SPECIMEN
THE IWW IS SENDING
TO THAT TOUGH TOWN...
ONE LEG, ONE EYE,
TWO CRUTCHES-AND NO BRAINS!

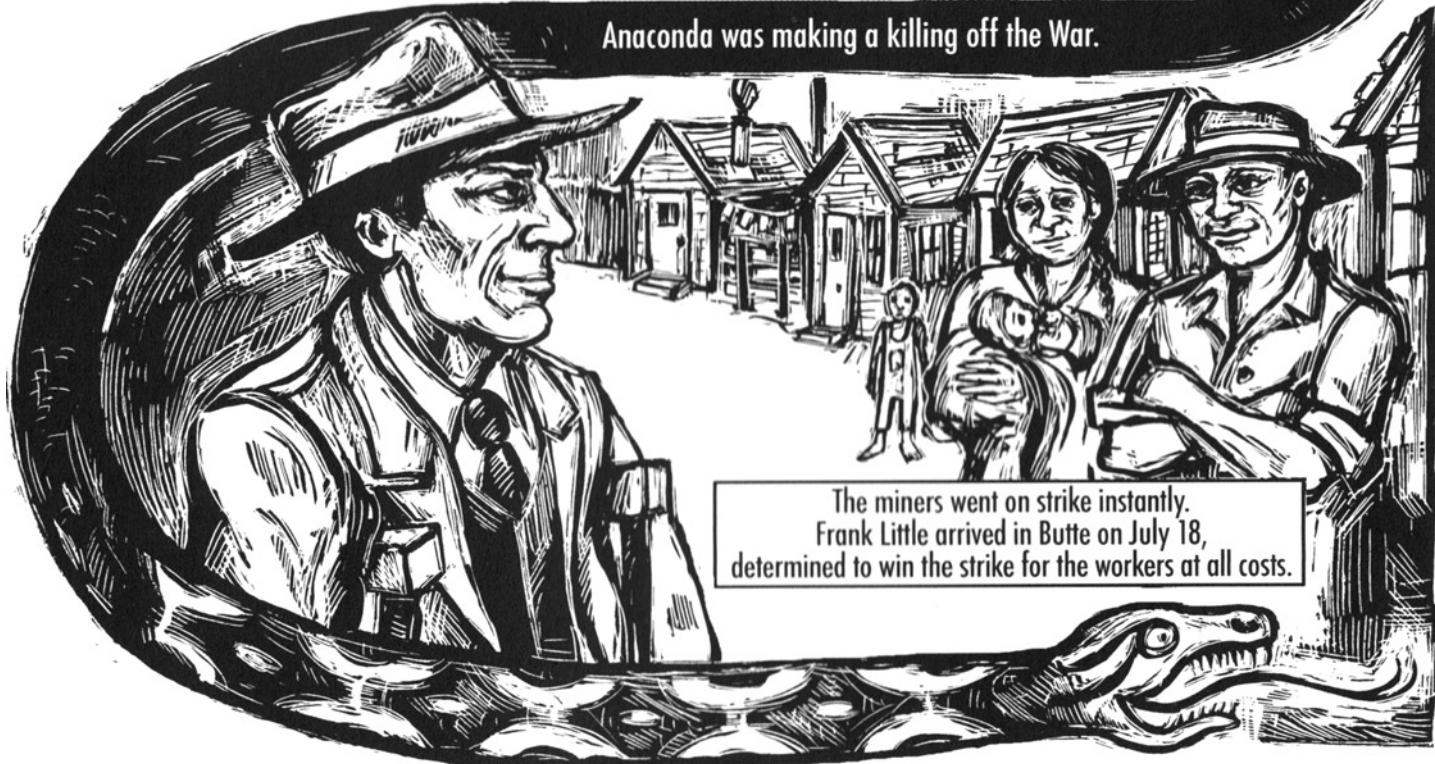




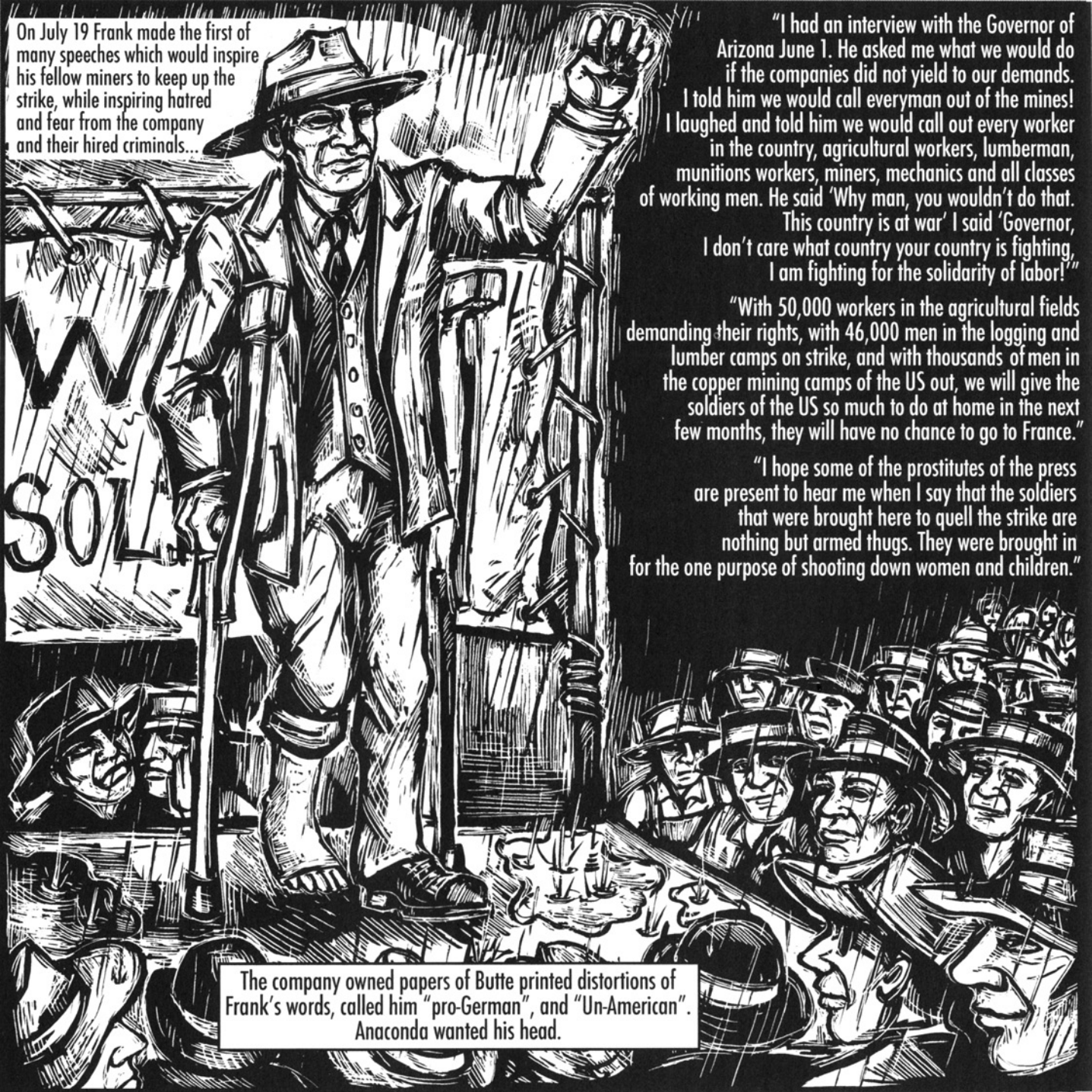
The town of Butte, Montana was owned and operated by the Anaconda Mining Company. They produced 30% of the nation's copper, and 10% of the world's.

Statistically, the mortality rate of the miners in Butte was higher than that of the soldiers in the trenches of Europe. Wartime demand increased the price of copper, but the wages of the workers did not. Production was sped up and safety ignored. In June 1917 a fire broke out in the Speculator Mine killing 164 men. Many bodies had their fingers ground down to the second knuckle from clawing at sealed escape hatches.

Anaconda was making a killing off the War.



The miners went on strike instantly. Frank Little arrived in Butte on July 18, determined to win the strike for the workers at all costs.



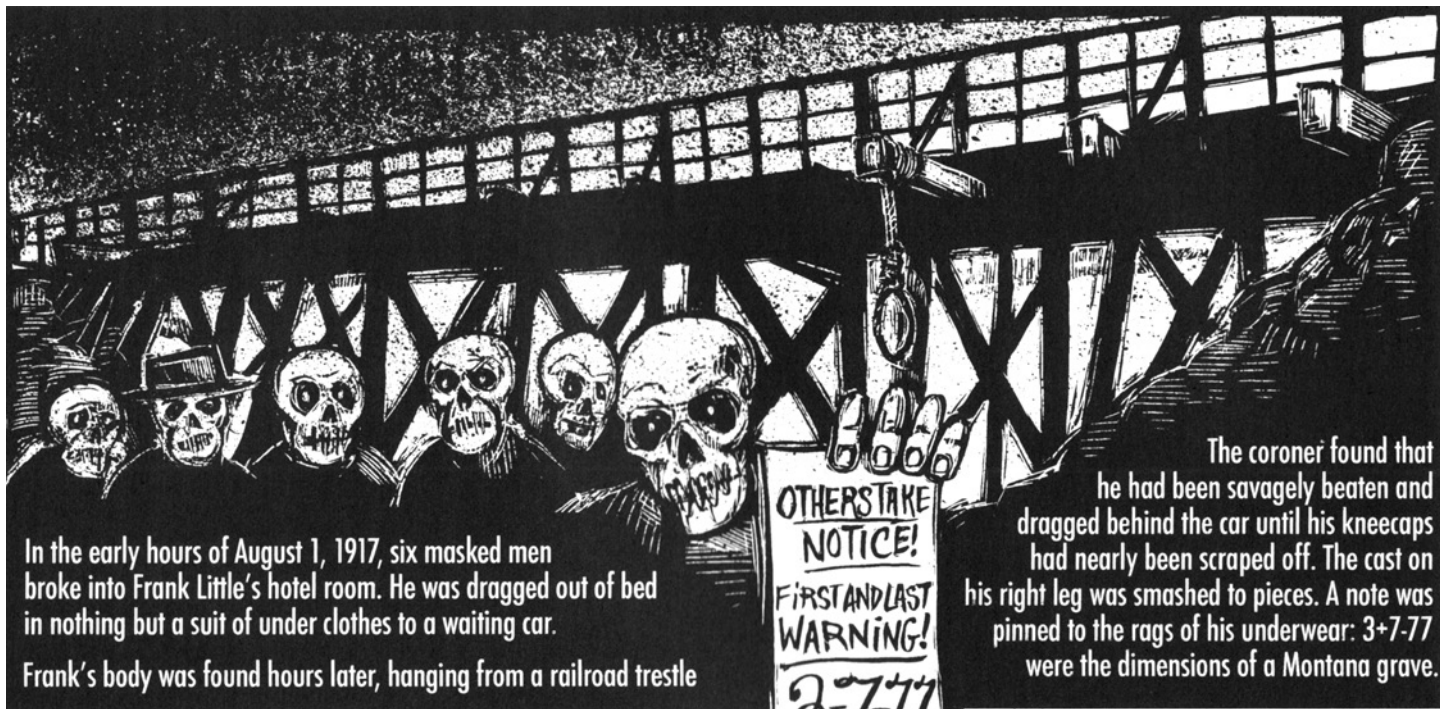
On July 19 Frank made the first of many speeches which would inspire his fellow miners to keep up the strike, while inspiring hatred and fear from the company and their hired criminals...

"I had an interview with the Governor of Arizona June 1. He asked me what we would do if the companies did not yield to our demands. I told him we would call everyman out of the mines! I laughed and told him we would call out every worker in the country, agricultural workers, lumberman, munitions workers, miners, mechanics and all classes of working men. He said 'Why man, you wouldn't do that. This country is at war' I said 'Governor, I don't care what country your country is fighting, I am fighting for the solidarity of labor!'"

"With 50,000 workers in the agricultural fields demanding their rights, with 46,000 men in the logging and lumber camps on strike, and with thousands of men in the copper mining camps of the US out, we will give the soldiers of the US so much to do at home in the next few months, they will have no chance to go to France."

"I hope some of the prostitutes of the press are present to hear me when I say that the soldiers that were brought here to quell the strike are nothing but armed thugs. They were brought in for the one purpose of shooting down women and children."

The company owned papers of Butte printed distortions of Frank's words, called him "pro-German", and "Un-American".
Anaconda wanted his head.



In the early hours of August 1, 1917, six masked men broke into Frank Little's hotel room. He was dragged out of bed in nothing but a suit of under clothes to a waiting car.

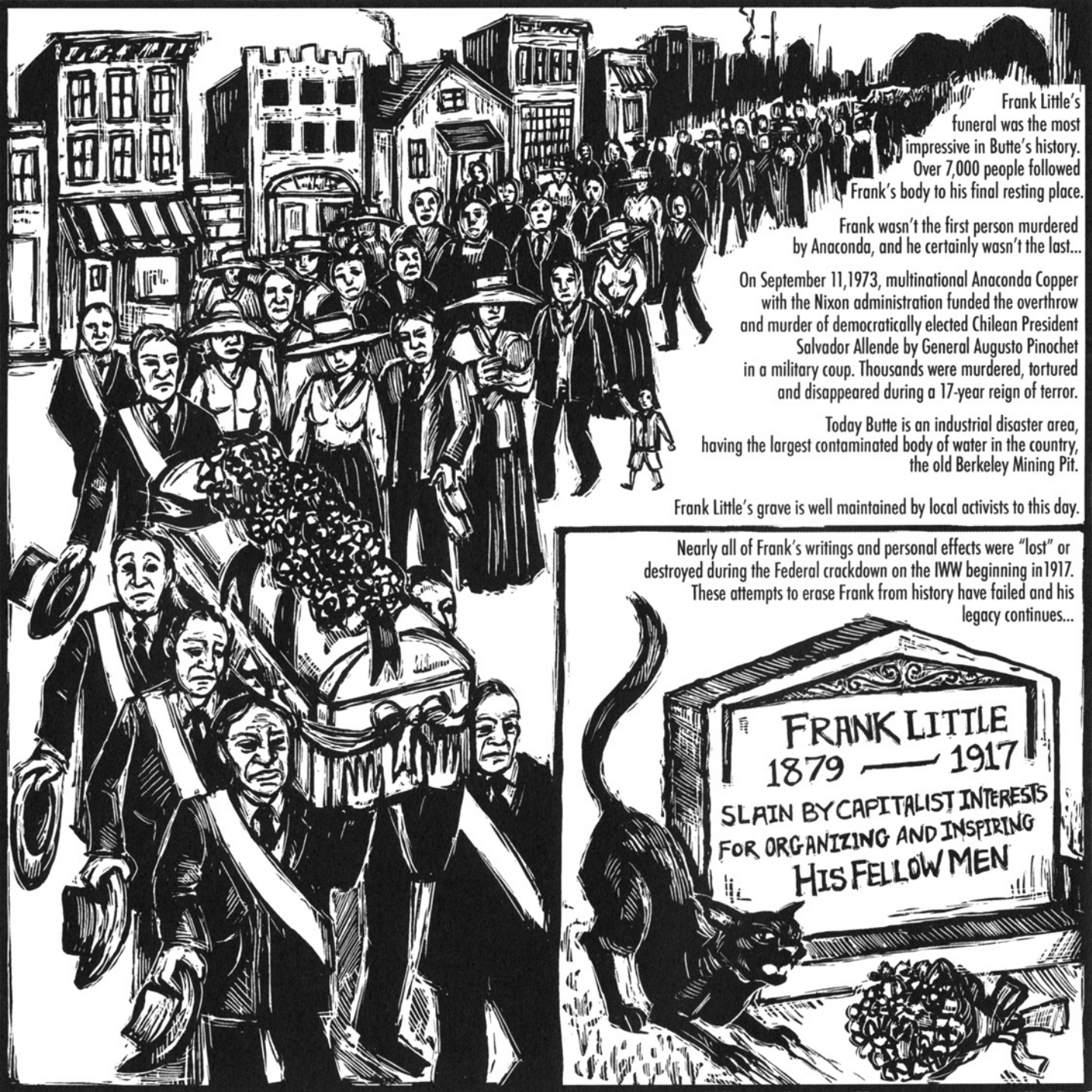
Frank's body was found hours later, hanging from a railroad trestle

The coroner found that he had been savagely beaten and dragged behind the car until his kneecaps had nearly been scraped off. The cast on his right leg was smashed to pieces. A note was pinned to the rags of his underwear: 3-7-77 were the dimensions of a Montana grave.

The Strike Bulletin said that "Every man, woman and child in this country knows that company agents perpetrated this foulest of all crimes!" but no one was ever brought to justice for Frank Little's brutal murder.

It was rumored that the Pinkerton Detective Agency or the members of the Butte police were responsible. It was also rumored that Frank's fellow miners got a little vigilante justice of their own against his killers...





Frank Little's funeral was the most impressive in Butte's history. Over 7,000 people followed Frank's body to his final resting place.

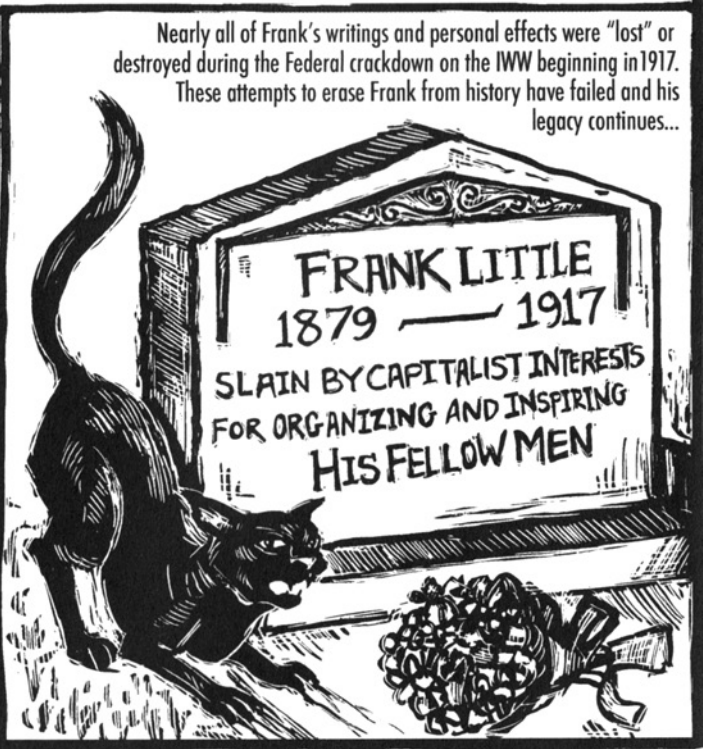
Frank wasn't the first person murdered by Anaconda, and he certainly wasn't the last...

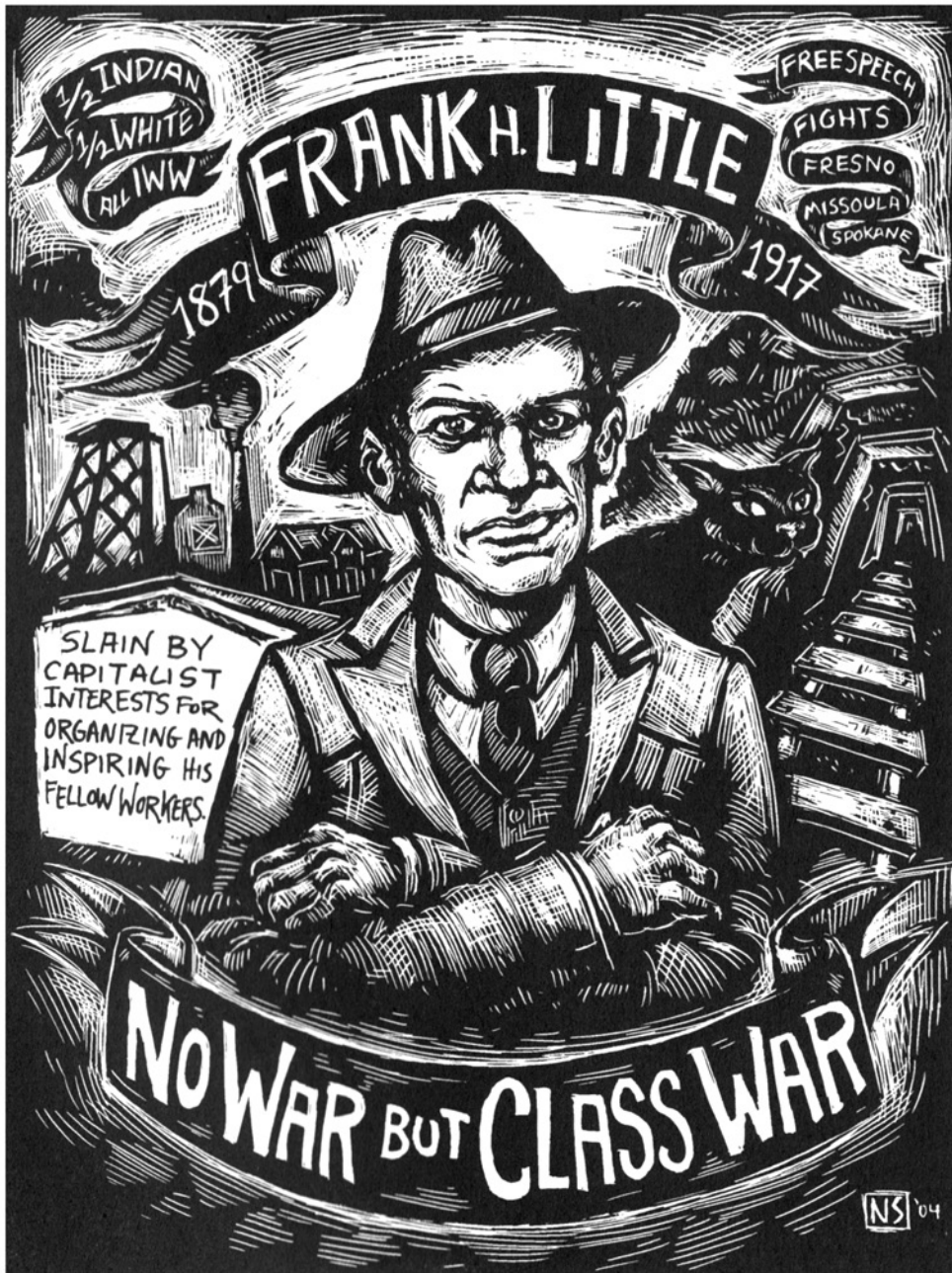
On September 11, 1973, multinational Anaconda Copper with the Nixon administration funded the overthrow and murder of democratically elected Chilean President Salvador Allende by General Augusto Pinochet in a military coup. Thousands were murdered, tortured and disappeared during a 17-year reign of terror.

Today Butte is an industrial disaster area, having the largest contaminated body of water in the country, the old Berkeley Mining Pit.

Frank Little's grave is well maintained by local activists to this day.

Nearly all of Frank's writings and personal effects were "lost" or destroyed during the Federal crackdown on the IWW beginning in 1917. These attempts to erase Frank from history have failed and his legacy continues...





INDIAN
1/2 WHITE
ALL IWW

FRANK A. LITTLE

FREESPEECH
FIGHTS
FRESNO
MISSOULA
SPOKANE

1879

1917

SLAIN BY
CAPITALIST
INTERESTS FOR
ORGANIZING AND
INSPIRING HIS
FELLOW WORKERS

NO WAR BUT CLASS WAR

NS '04



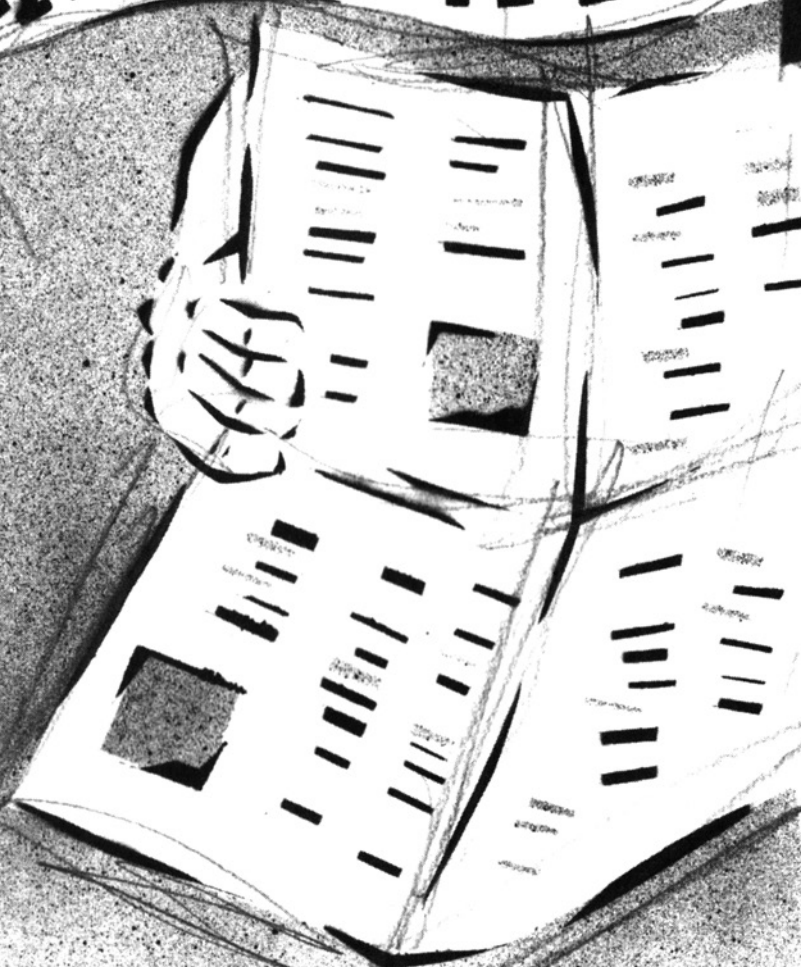
RALPH
CHAPLIN

SOLIDARITY

Ralph Chaplin was one of the most multi-talented Wobblies. He was an accomplished journalist, songwriter, poet, and artist. Chaplin joined the IWW in 1913 and two years later wrote the IWW anthem, "Solidarity Forever."

In 1917, as the editor of the IWW paper "Solidarity," he faced massive repression. He was charged under the Espionage Act and spent the next six years in and out of prison.

RALPH CHAPLIN



"The General Executive Board of the I.W.W. in session assembled, reaffirm with unfaltering determination the un-alterable opposition of the Industrial Workers of the World and its membership to all wars, and the participation therein of the membership of the Industrial Workers of the World."

"In this mad chaos of bloodshed and slaughter that has engulfed the world, all the rights we have fought so long and bitterly to retain and enlarge, are in danger of being crushed and suppressed by the ruthless powers of Capitalism, therefore it behooves the membership of the I.W.W. to lock well to their rights, and to battle for their principles with intensified vigor and courage.

We must not allow the masters of industry, under the cloak of 'military expediency' or the subtle and hypocritical lie of this being a 'War for Democracy' to destroy every vestige of our organization, to stifle the voice of the workers, to crush the working-class press, by abrogating the rights of Free Speech, Free Press and Free Assemblage, as they are now doing on every hand, these tyrannical acts and usurpation of power, we cannot and shall not tolerate without protest and resistance by all methods within our power, we must let these tyrants understand that they cannot fool us with their 'War for Democracy' lies, by destroying Democracy here."

"We wish to serve notice on our Capitalist masters, that we are just as bitterly opposed to their wars of commercialism, today, as we ever were, and our refusal to endorse or participate in their wars is just as firm to day, as it ever was, and that we will resent with all power at our command any attempt upon their part, to compel us — the disinherited, to participate in a war, that can only bring in its wake death and untold misery, privation and suffering to millions of workers, and only serve to further rivet the chains of slavery on our necks, and render still more secure the power of the few to control the destinies of the many."

-Excerpts from the 1916

Statement of the General Executive Board of the I.W.W. on War.

Last night I dreamt I was Ralph Chaplin;
cartoonist, poet and editor of the Wobbly magazine...

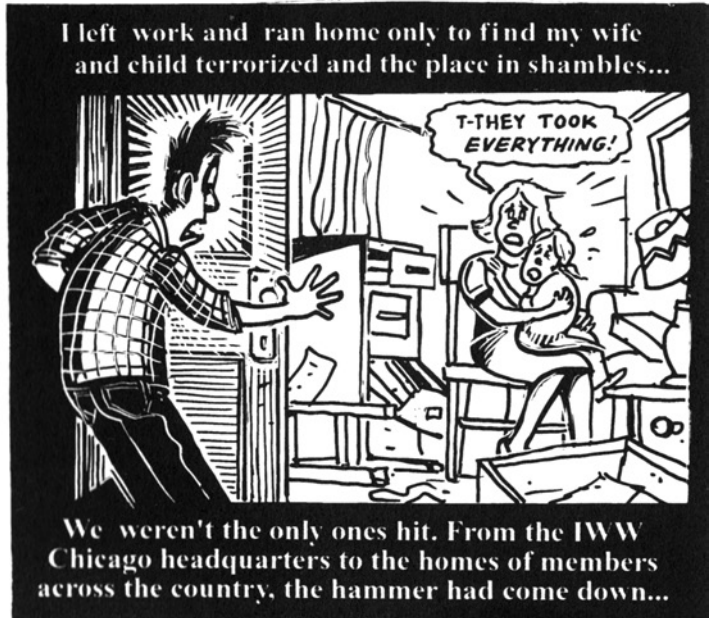
SOLIDARITY



The Feds grabbed pamphlets, stickers, posters, drawings and anything else they considered evidence of anti-war activities...



I left work and ran home only to find my wife and child terrorized and the place in shambles...



We weren't the only ones hit. From the IWW Chicago headquarters to the homes of members across the country, the hammer had come down...

A few weeks later, on September 26th, charges against IWW members were announced.

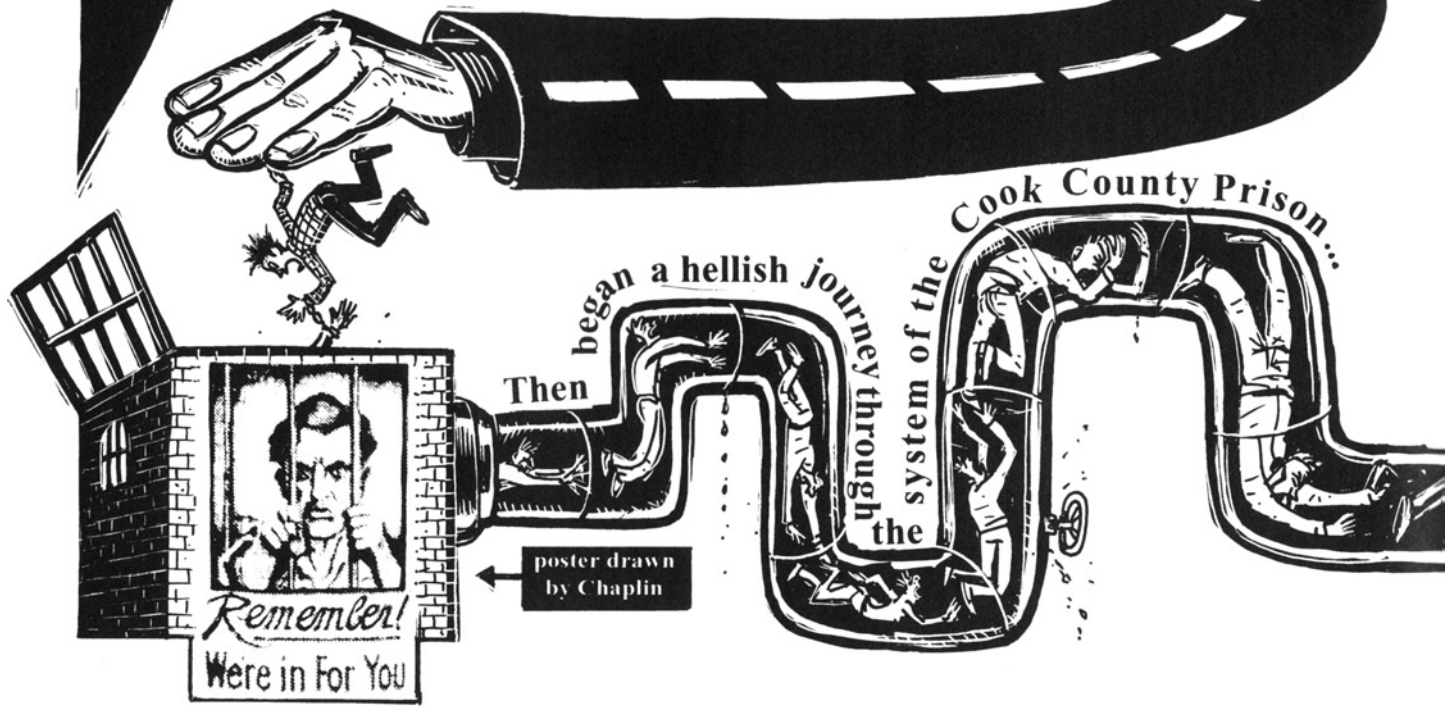
You could cut the tension with a knife as we waited at Wobbly headquarters for the federal agents to come for us...

There was a screech of brakes and my heart leapt into my throat as the deputy marshals burst in...

They handcuffed us in pairs and to provide a photo-op for the newspapers, we were driven to jail by debutantes!*

George Andreytchine

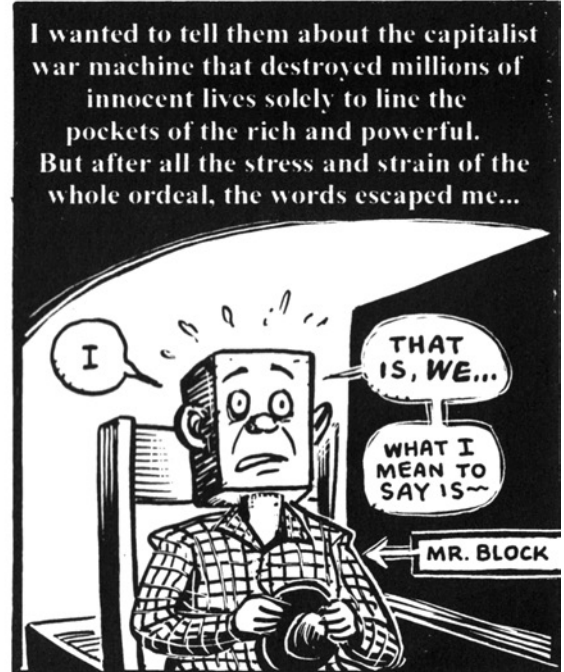
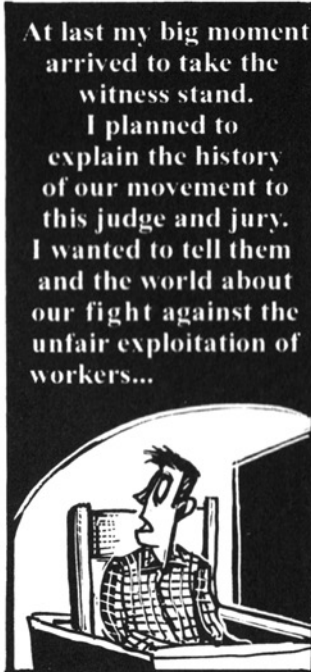
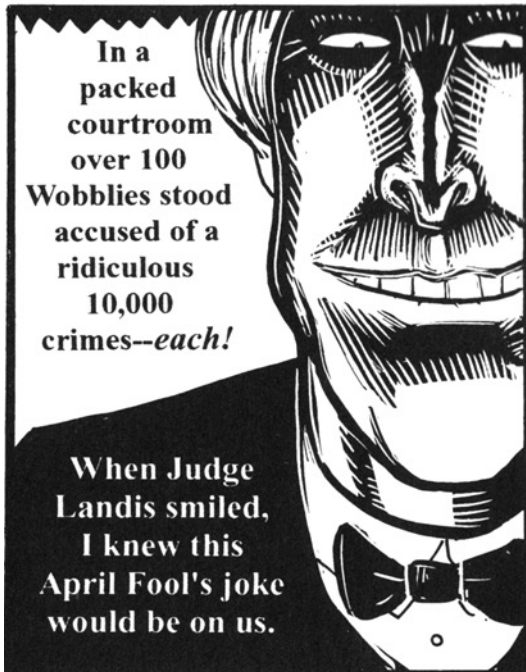
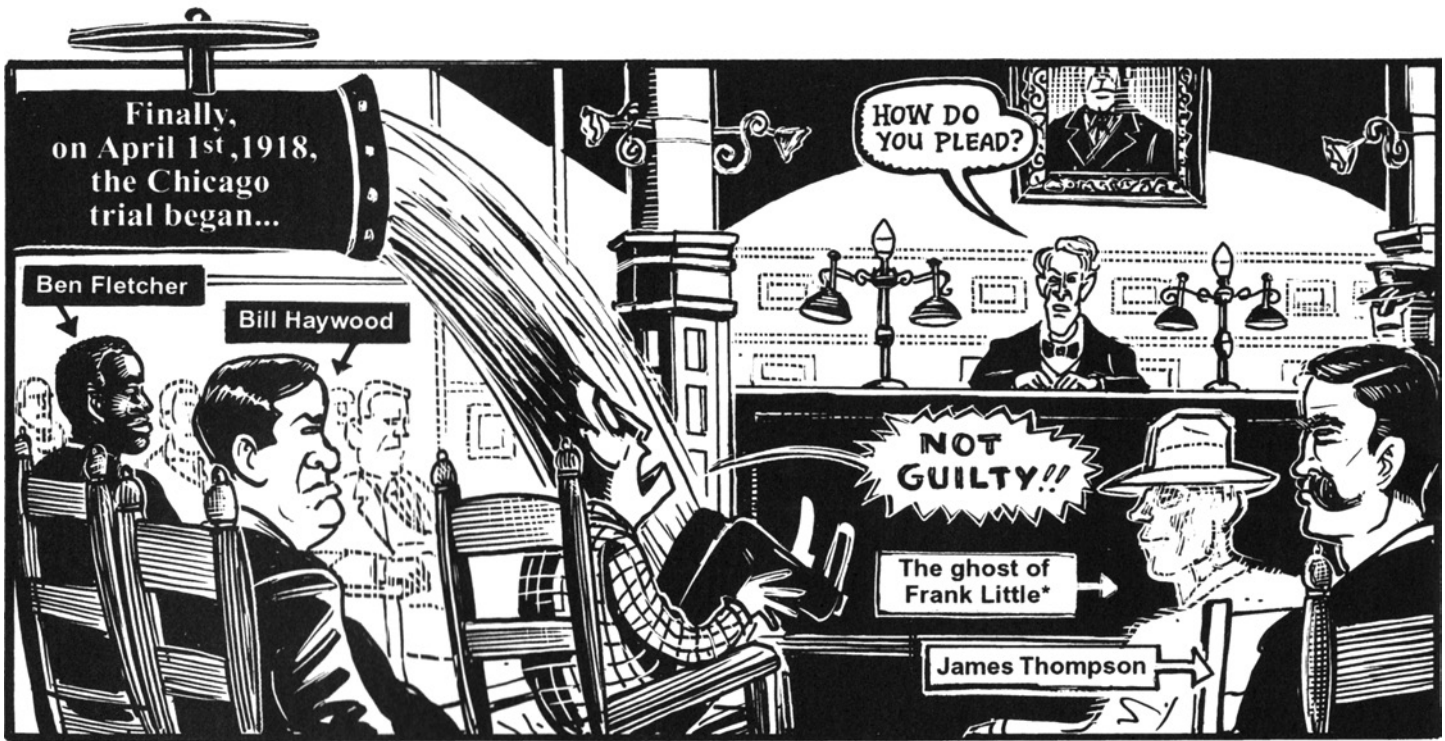
*I didn't dream this fact up!



Remember!
Were in For You

poster drawn by Chaplin

Then began a hellish journey through the system of the Cook County Prison...



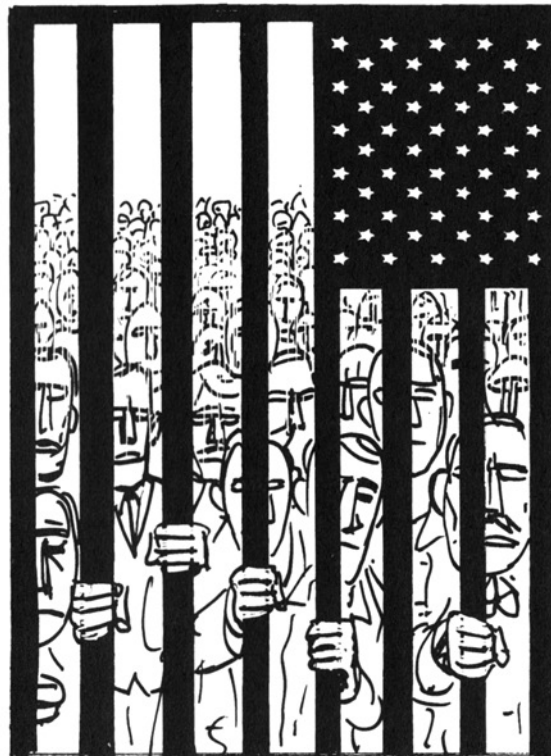
After five months of testimonies, scores of witnesses, hundreds of exhibits and nearly forty thousand type-written records, the jury needed just one hour to return their verdict...



And on my 31st birthday,
the judge handed down
the sentences...



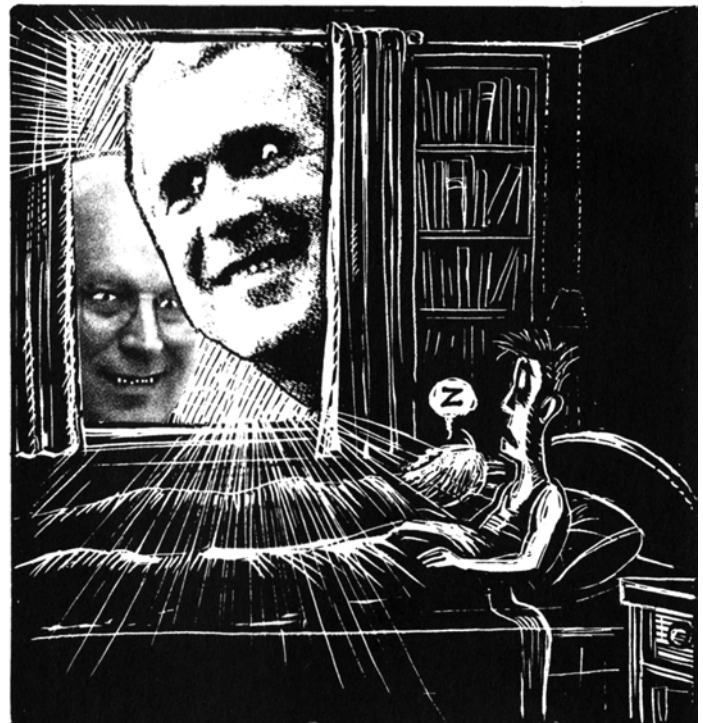
All across the nation,
hundreds of IWW members
were similarly prosecuted
for voicing opposition
to war...



Just before they led
me off in handcuffs,
words finally
came to me...

**I AM PROUD
TO HAVE CLIMBED
HIGH ENOUGH
FOR LIGHTENING
TO STRIKE
ME!!**







Mourn Not The Dead

" Mourn not the dead in that cool earth lie
Dust unto dust
The calm, sweet earth that mothers all who die
As all men must:

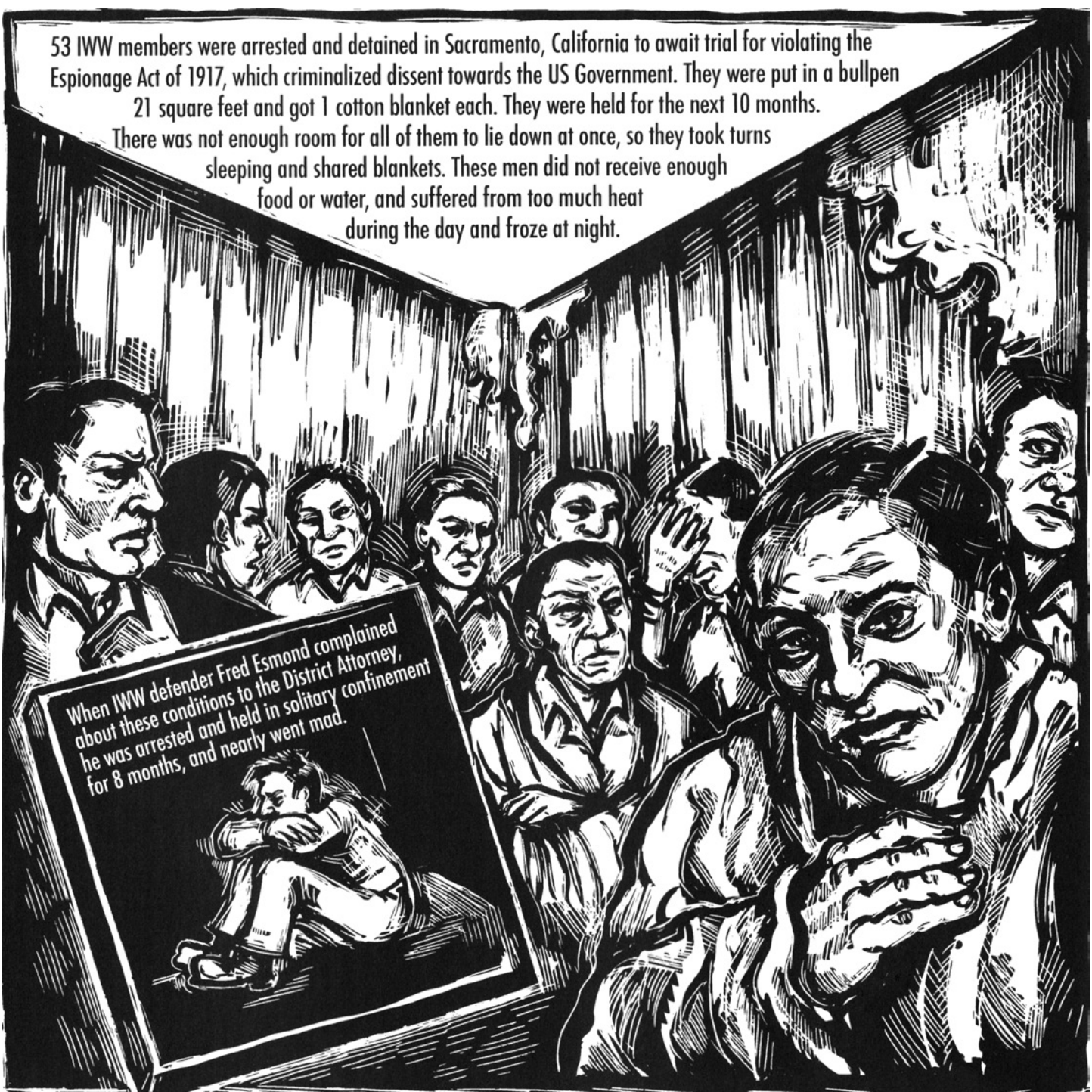
Mourn not your captive comrades who must dwell
Too strong to strive
Each in his steel-bound coffin of a cell,
Buried alive;

But rather mourn the apathetic throng
The cowed and meek
Who see the world's great anguish
and its wrong
And dare not speak!"

- Ralph Chaplin,
1917

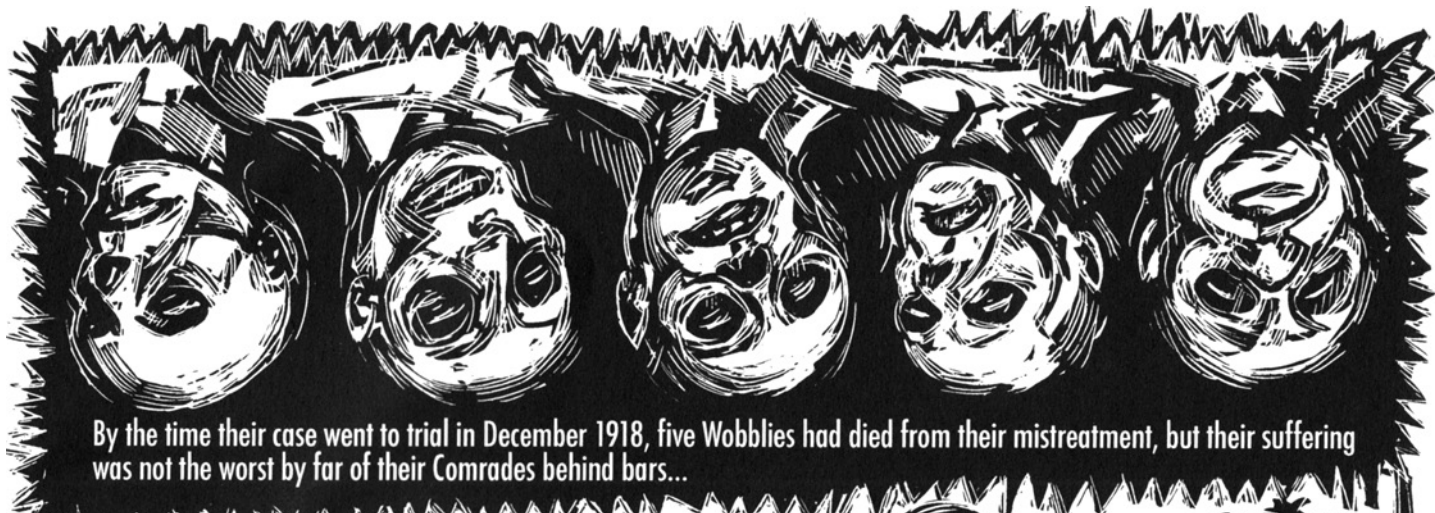
53 IWW members were arrested and detained in Sacramento, California to await trial for violating the Espionage Act of 1917, which criminalized dissent towards the US Government. They were put in a bullpen 21 square feet and got 1 cotton blanket each. They were held for the next 10 months.

There was not enough room for all of them to lie down at once, so they took turns sleeping and shared blankets. These men did not receive enough food or water, and suffered from too much heat during the day and froze at night.

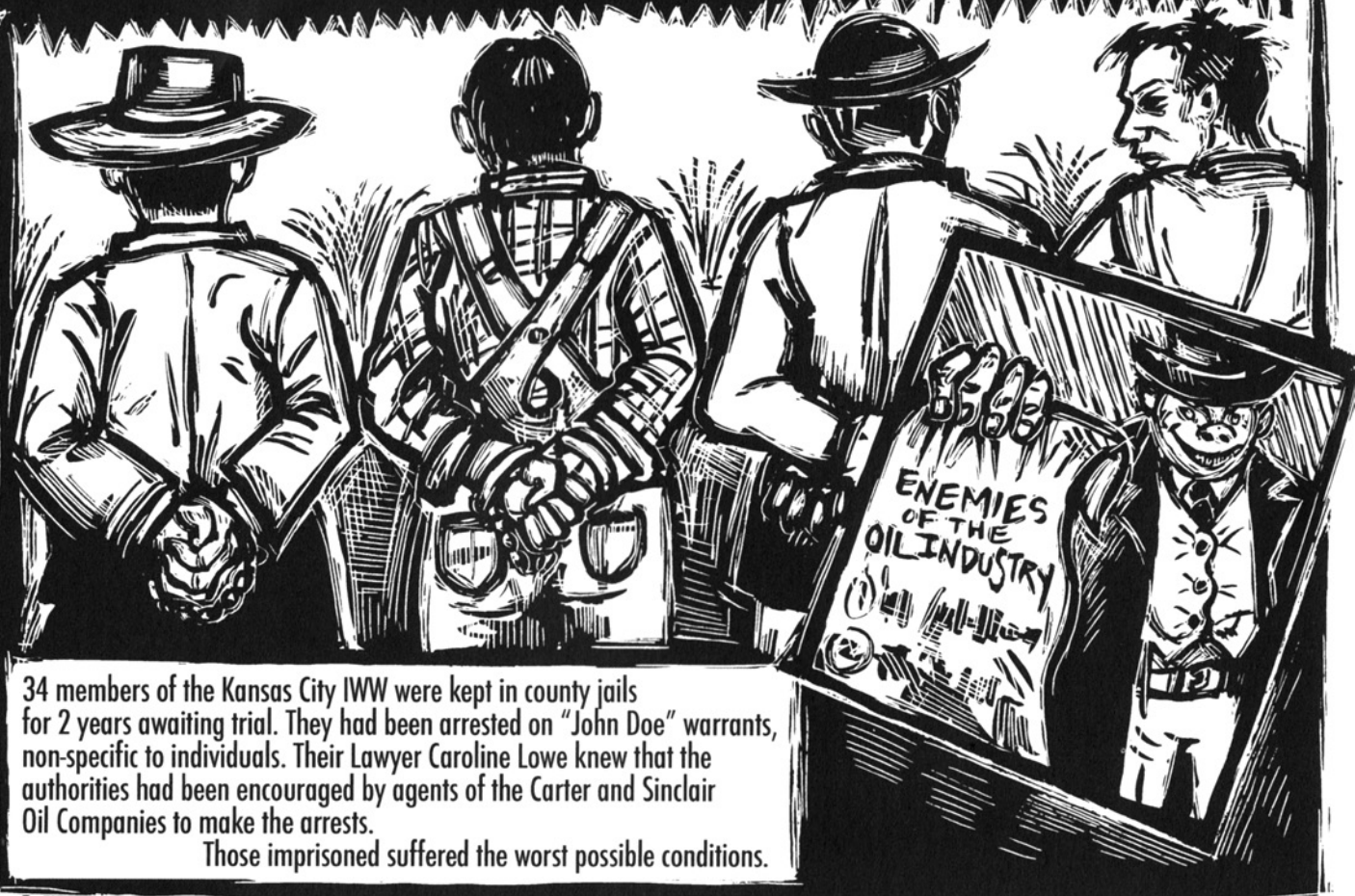


When IWW defender Fred Esmond complained about these conditions to the District Attorney, he was arrested and held in solitary confinement for 8 months, and nearly went mad.





By the time their case went to trial in December 1918, five Wobblies had died from their mistreatment, but their suffering was not the worst by far of their Comrades behind bars...



34 members of the Kansas City IWW were kept in county jails for 2 years awaiting trial. They had been arrested on "John Doe" warrants, non-specific to individuals. Their Lawyer Caroline Lowe knew that the authorities had been encouraged by agents of the Carter and Sinclair Oil Companies to make the arrests.

Those imprisoned suffered the worst possible conditions.

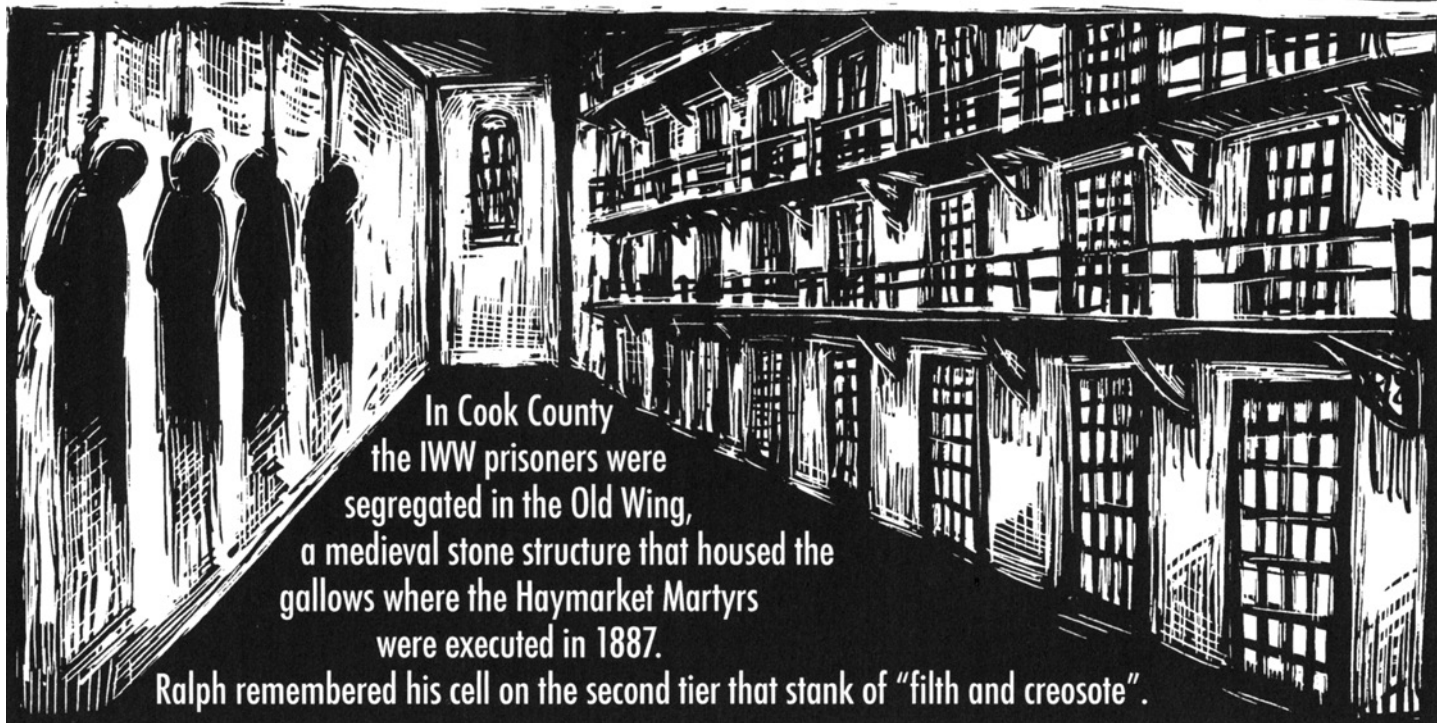


10 IWW's were locked inside
"a pie cut revolving drum" without windows.
For punishment they were put in a
pitch-black room in the basement
of the jail without food or bedding.
They were beaten and left
bleeding by the guards.
Most became ill.
Many died of tuberculosis.
Many more went insane.

As was the fate of hundreds of IWW men and women,
who were imprisoned for "Criminal Syndicalism" and their open opposition
to the war that began all wars, World War 1.

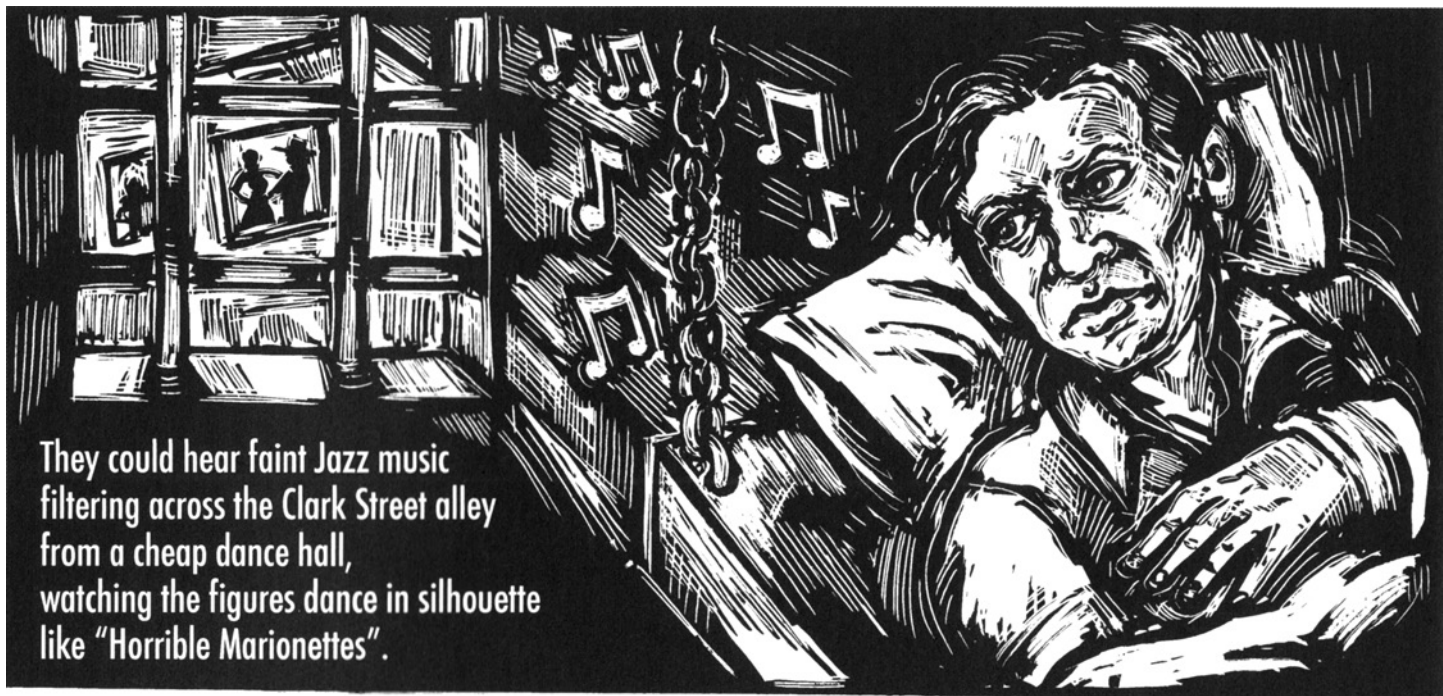


The Wobblies of Chicago, most from General Headquarters, spent close to a year in Cook County Prison awaiting their long and theatrical trial. Artist Ralph Chaplin recalled his years of imprisonment most vividly...

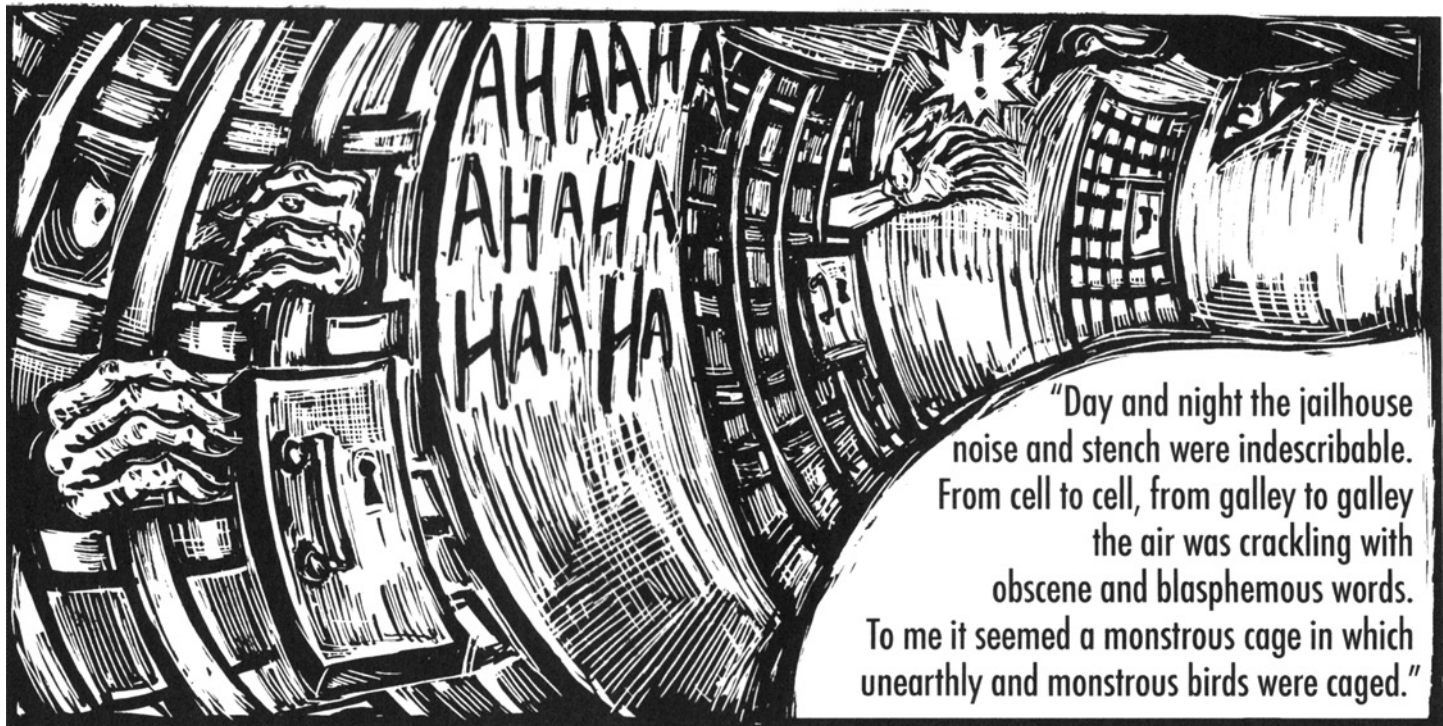


In Cook County
the IWW prisoners were
segregated in the Old Wing,
a medieval stone structure that housed the
gallows where the Haymarket Martyrs
were executed in 1887.

Ralph remembered his cell on the second tier that stank of "filth and creosote".

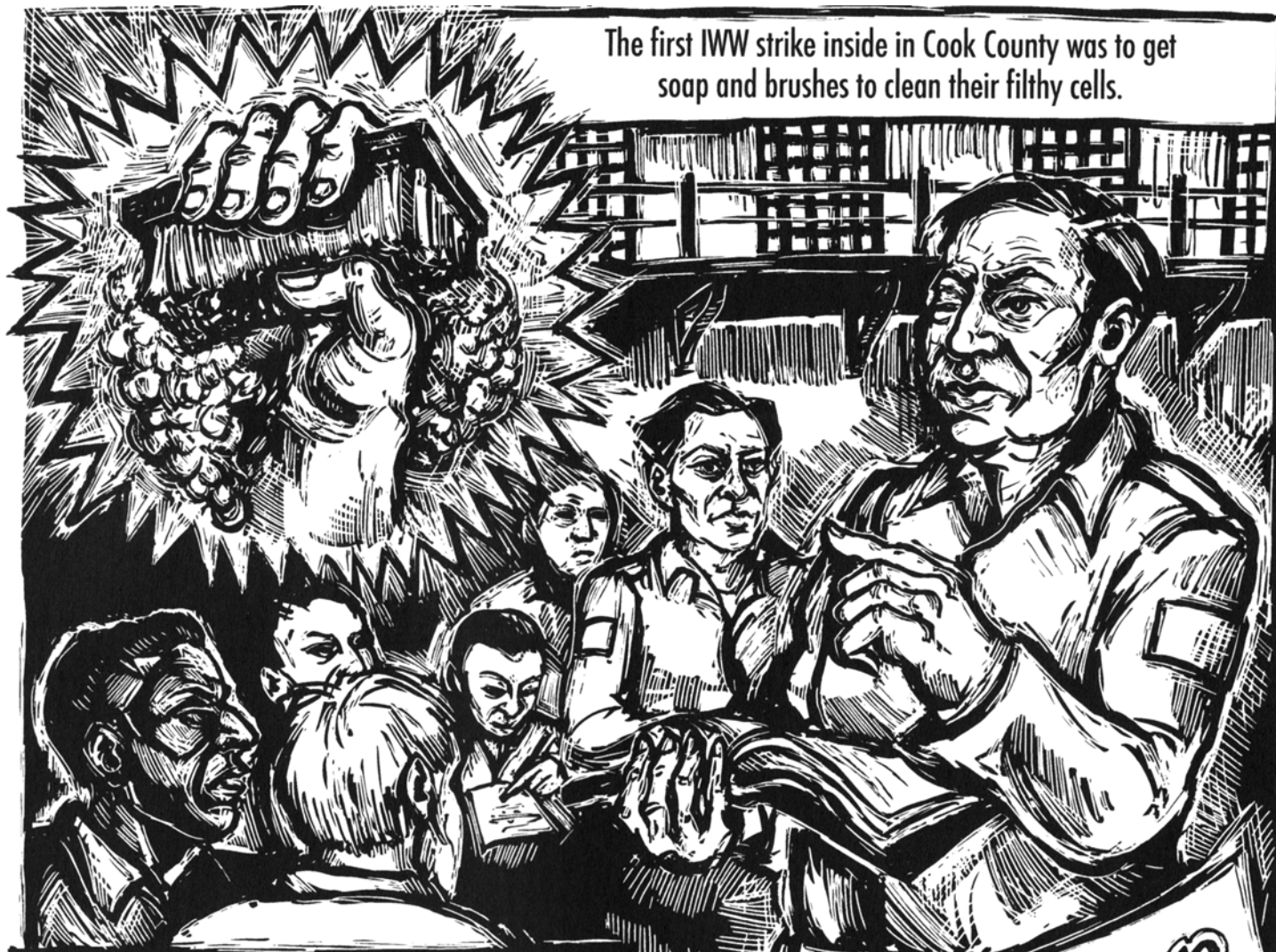


They could hear faint Jazz music filtering across the Clark Street alley from a cheap dance hall, watching the figures dance in silhouette like "Horrible Marionettes".



"Day and night the jailhouse noise and stench were indescribable. From cell to cell, from galley to galley the air was crackling with obscene and blasphemous words. To me it seemed a monstrous cage in which unearthly and monstrous birds were caged."

The first IWW strike inside in Cook County was to get soap and brushes to clean their filthy cells.

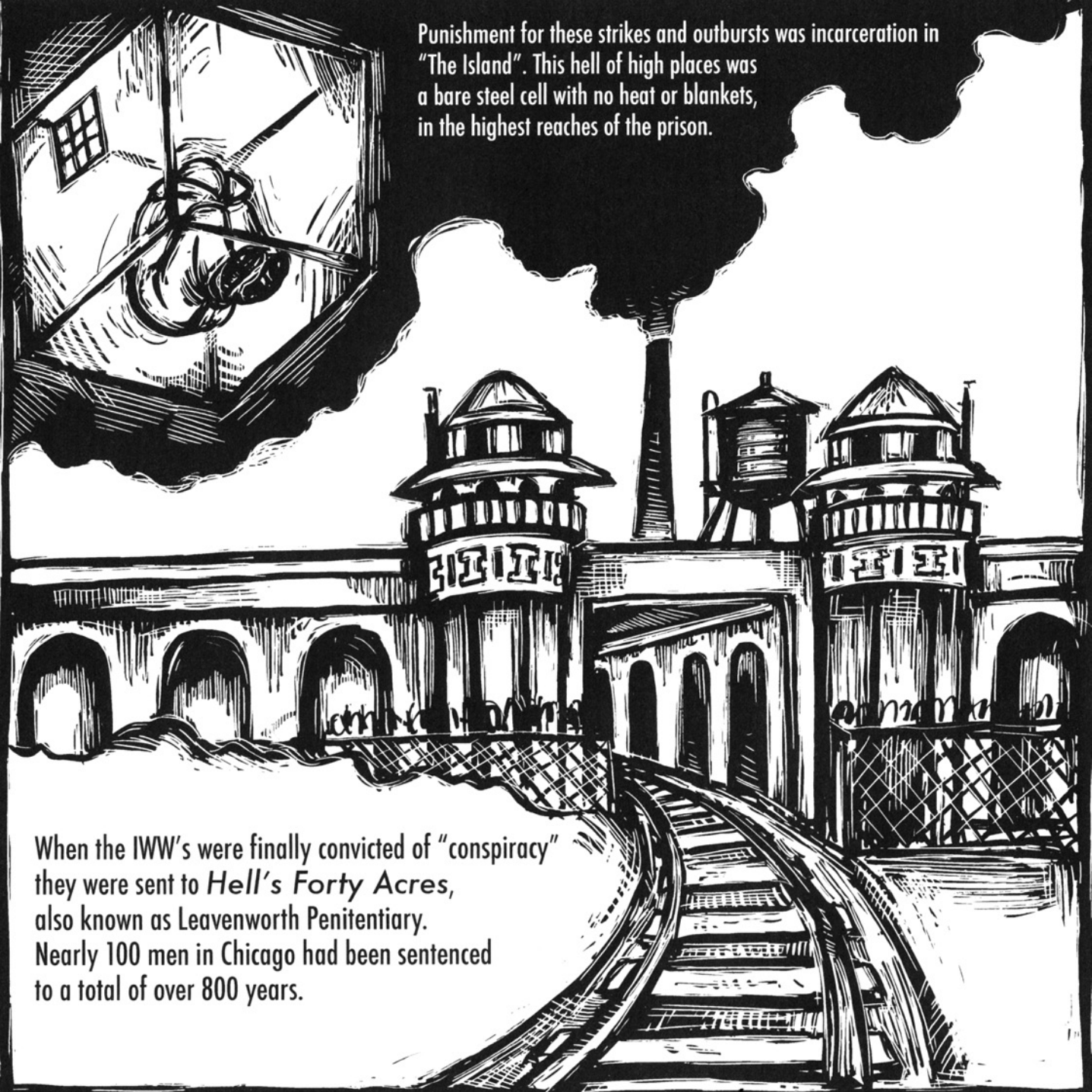


The IWW remained organized and active. They held educational meetings every weekday, and "entertainments" every Sunday. The daily "Industrial Congress" became a college of radicalism with a faculty of "loggers, miners, agricultural workers, maritime and rail workers". Their weekly entertainments came with a pencil-drawn program, which evolved into a zine called "The Can Opener". They kept their spirits high in the face of imminent persecution, and the ever-present gallows.

The **Can Opener**
Priceless 
Office
Publication
Cell 354

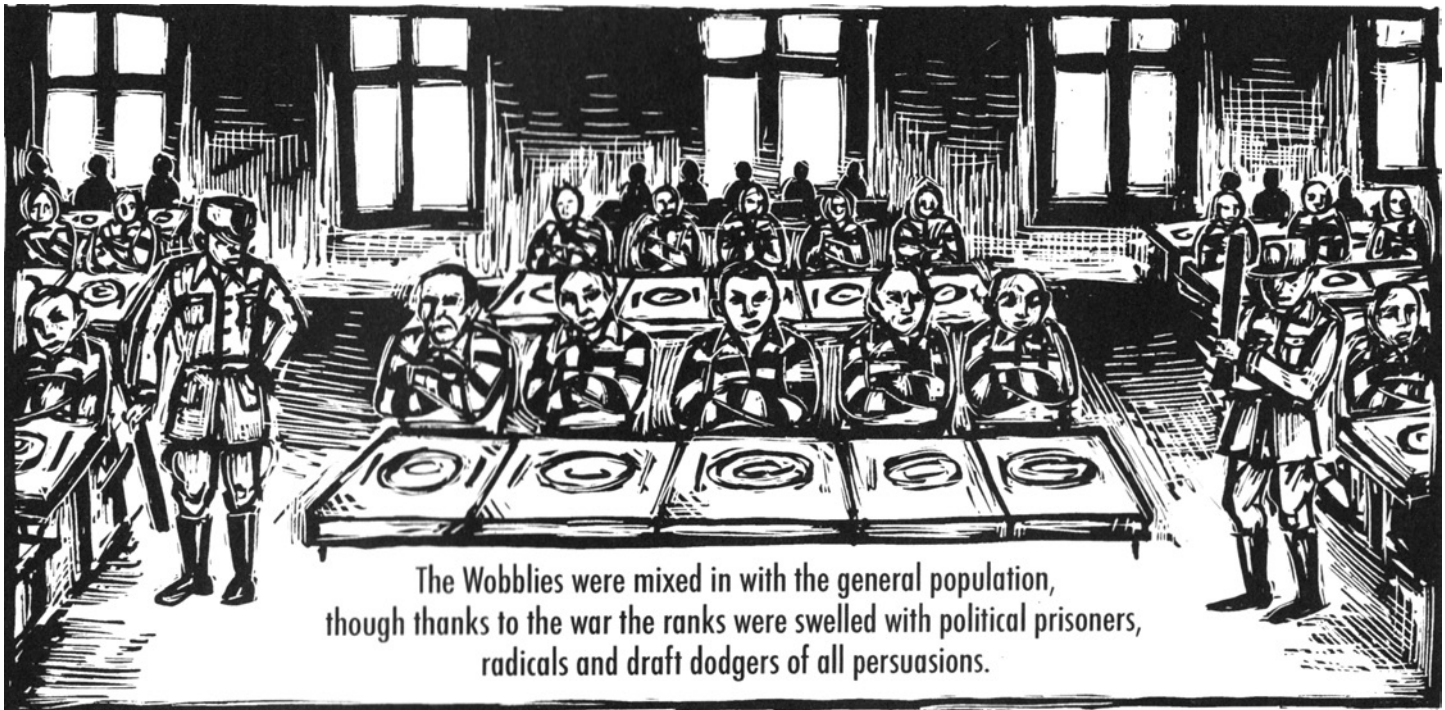
In the Old Wing of Cook County, those condemned to death were hung on Fridays. The Wobblies did what they did best to protest these state sponsored murders...



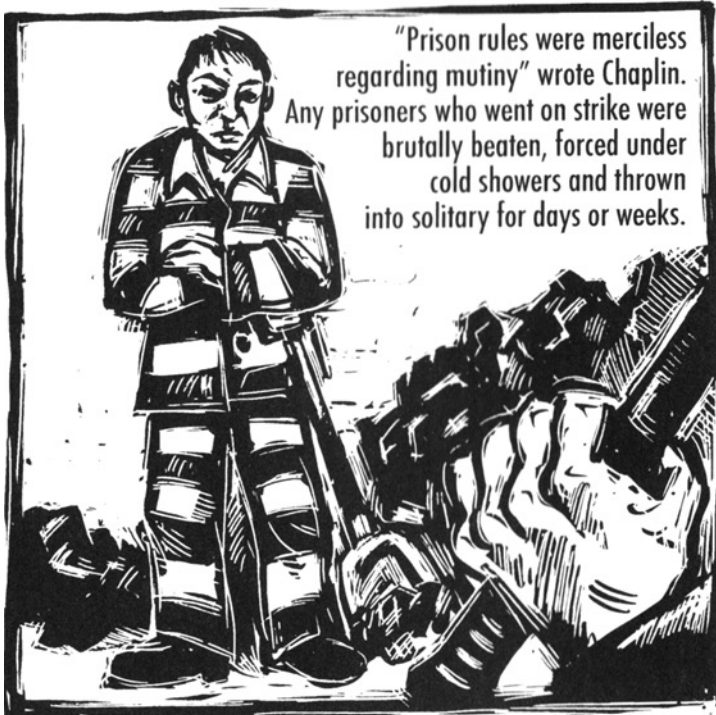


Punishment for these strikes and outbursts was incarceration in "The Island". This hell of high places was a bare steel cell with no heat or blankets, in the highest reaches of the prison.

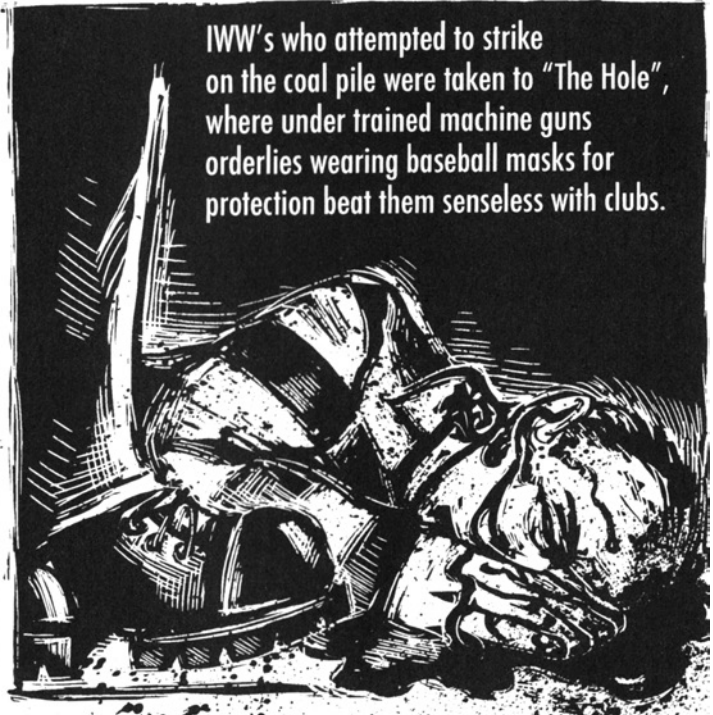
When the IWW's were finally convicted of "conspiracy" they were sent to *Hell's Forty Acres*, also known as Leavenworth Penitentiary. Nearly 100 men in Chicago had been sentenced to a total of over 800 years.



The Wobblies were mixed in with the general population, though thanks to the war the ranks were swelled with political prisoners, radicals and draft dodgers of all persuasions.



"Prison rules were merciless regarding mutiny" wrote Chaplin. Any prisoners who went on strike were brutally beaten, forced under cold showers and thrown into solitary for days or weeks.



IWW's who attempted to strike on the coal pile were taken to "The Hole", where under trained machine guns orderlies wearing baseball masks for protection beat them senseless with clubs.

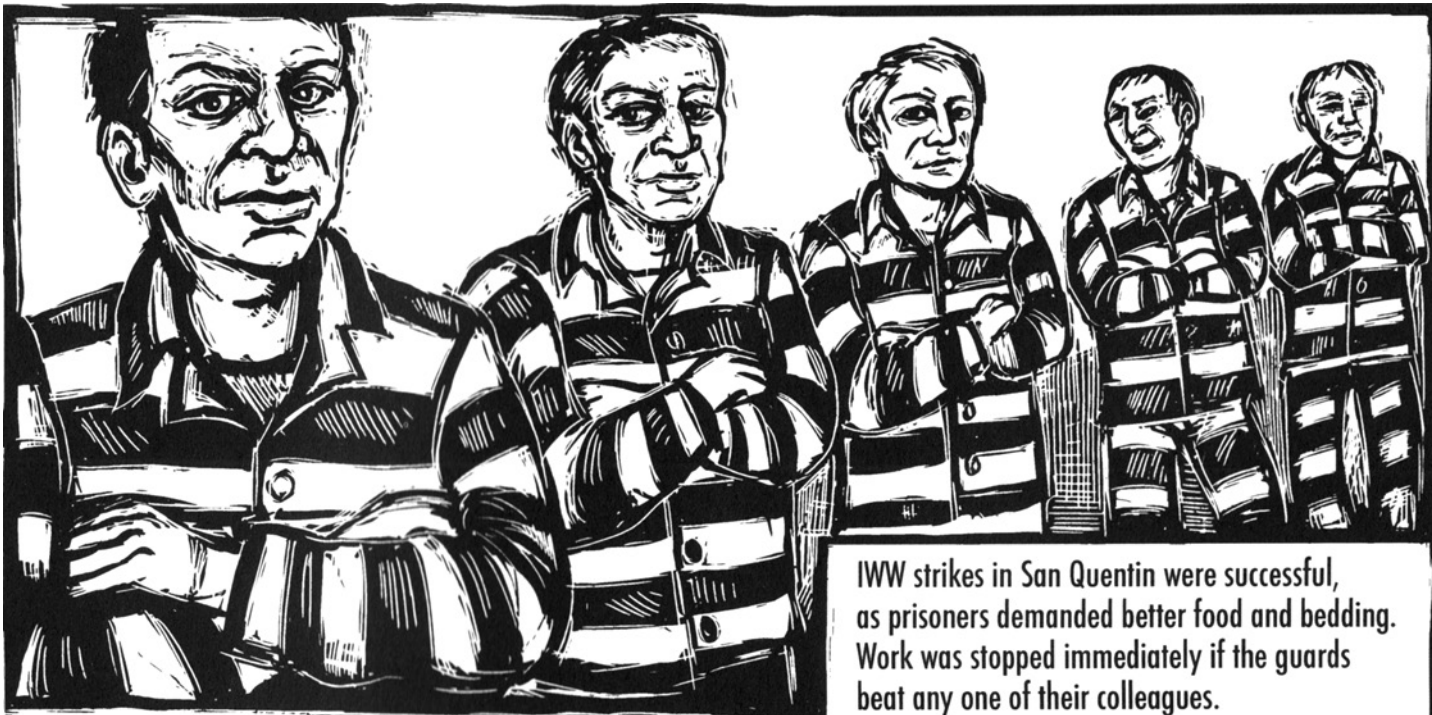


They had to stand on their toes to keep the cuffs from cutting into the flesh of their wrists. When they grew too tired to do this, "their fingers would swell, turn blue and crack open and blood would trickle down the upraised arms". From information leaked by the IWW prisoners and their defense committees, the new organization, the ACLU began to fight for reforms inside US prisons.

Chaplin witnessed the torture of Mennonite conscientious objectors. A dozen of them refused to work because their beards were cut off and were not permitted to remove the buttons from their clothes, as their religious beliefs required.

They were handcuffed to the bars of cell block B for more than two weeks.





IWW strikes in San Quentin were successful, as prisoners demanded better food and bedding. Work was stopped immediately if the guards beat any one of their colleagues.



But the IWW was in trouble on the outside. Money spent for the defense of the Wobbly prisoners was bankrupting the organization. Internal strife over continuing the campaign, as well as ideology, tore at the fabric of the Union.

Several prominent IWW's were convinced to escape to the Soviet Union when they were released from Leavenworth on bail. They were promised that the bond money would be repaid to the IWW by the new Communist government. Bill Haywood was one of the nine who accepted their offer.

The others returned to Hell's Forty Acres when the Supreme Court refused to hear their case. The lost \$80,000 in bail was never reimbursed by the Soviets. But the drive for amnesty continued. Public opinion turned in favor of the political prisoners who were still being held even though the war was over, and most German prisoners of war had already been released.

A "Children's Crusade" of the Wobblies' sons and daughters toured the nation and held vigils outside the prisons where their fathers were held.



Strikes and boycotts of prison made goods added momentum. A general strike by 3,000 workers in San Pedro shut down the city. Again, free speech fighters packed the jails. Upton Sinclair read from the Declaration of Independence and was arrested.



The Joint Amnesty Committee was formed in November 1921 by labor and religious organizations to appeal to President Harding. After much pressure, Harding allowed prisoners to apply for individual pardons- which again caused controversy and anger within the IWW. 52 prisoners at Leavenworth signed the following petition:

"We are not criminals and are not in prison because we committed crimes...we know that we are now in prison solely for exercising the Constitutional Right to Free Speech. If it is a crime to exercise the right for which our fathers laid down their lives, then we have no apology to offer."



Finally, by Christmas of 1923, amnesty had been granted to all IWW prisoners. They returned to a Union torn in half by the years of strife, betrayal and the rise of the Communist Party in the US.



CLASS WAR IN CENTRALIA



I'm Ray Becker, one of the eight Wobblies imprisoned as a consequence of the tragedy that occurred in Centralia, Washington on November 11, 1919. I spent more time in jail than any of my comrades. I was released in 1939, all of the other fellows got out in 1933 or before. I didn't want parole, I wanted a complete pardon. I knew that I was innocent. I didn't kill anybody. I fired my revolver twice towards the gang of vigilantes who had just broken into the IWW hall, but I didn't hit anyone. I had armed myself in the mistaken belief that I could help avert the destruction of the central Wobbly office.

I was born in Chicago in 1893, my dad was a minister and enrolled me in a seminary when I was seventeen. After less than a year, I hopped a freight out to Washington and started in the logging camps. It was not much of a life: the work was brutal and conditions bad, but I joined the IWW early on, and the camaraderie that I found helped me understand the life of hypocrisy I had left behind.

Demand for lumber increased dramatically with the onset of the war in Europe in 1914. The timber trusts were making huge profits by selling to both the Allies and the Germans. Production increased but wages did



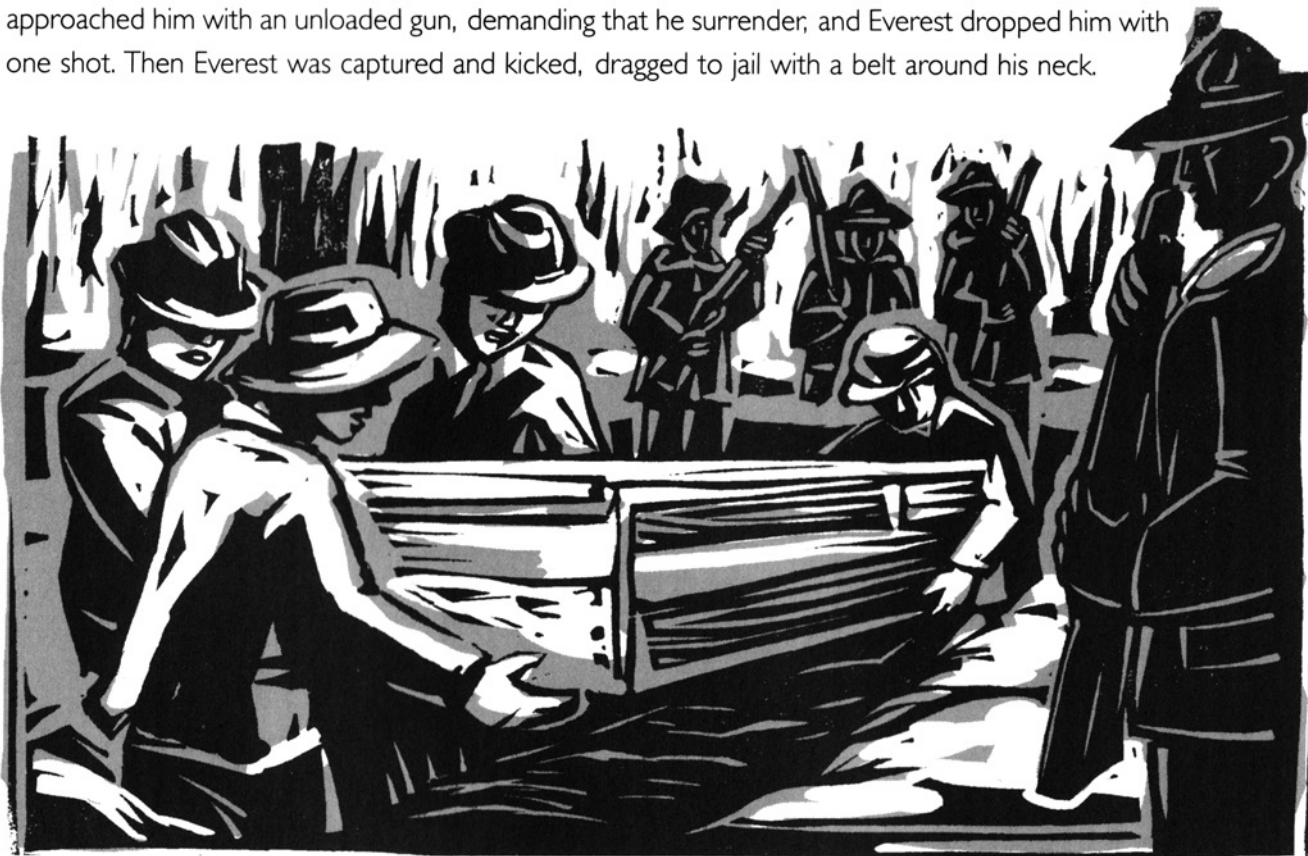
not. We organized to better our conditions, but what made bosses hate us was our opposition to war and especially our opposition to conscription. I was drafted in 1917 and refused to register. I went to jail, and managed to escape for nearly a year until the police caught up to me in Spokane. I spent the rest of the war in prison, then went back to work in the timber stands of the Cascade Mountains. I ran into a couple of Wobs in 1919 who had just hopped a freight car from Centralia, and told me about the threat of a raid upon the Wobbly hall during the upcoming Armistice Day parade. I went right on down.

The previous IWW office in Centralia had been raided after a Red Cross Day Parade in 1918, and the Wobs were not going to give up their new hall without a fight. Besides, Wobblies were being arrested and their meeting places broken up across the country: it was a fight for free speech and the right to organize, as the European war ended and the class war bubbled up at home.

There were 300 men in the Centralia post of the American Legion, and the Chief of Police flatly refused to do anything about the threats. We knew that our only chance of defending the hall was by arms. I spent the

night in the Wob hall, and met everyone who was going to be arrested or murdered. Wesley Everest had been arrested in Marshfield, near Coos Bay in Oregon, in 1915, dragged out of jail by vigilantes, made to kneel and kiss the flag, beaten and abused. He would never back down while he had a gun in his hand.

The shooting started after the American Legion companies had marched past the Wob hall, leaving only Legionnaires and Wobs on the scene. I fired my pistol twice and was captured without a struggle. Everest ran into a pair of Legionnaires as he fled, and shot them both, then ran to the river, which was too swollen with rain for him to swim, and hid behind a stump on the bank. The nephew of the biggest mill owner in Centralia approached him with an unloaded gun, demanding that he surrender, and Everest dropped him with one shot. Then Everest was captured and kicked, dragged to jail with a belt around his neck.

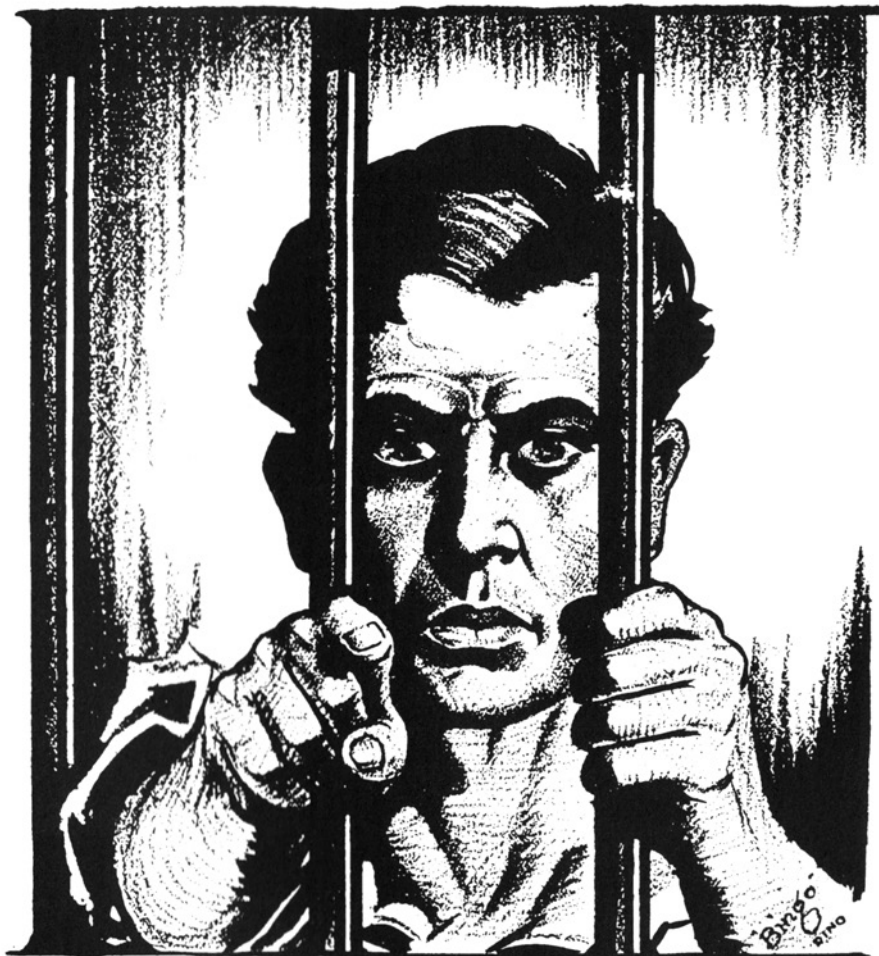


Everest was kidnapped alone from the cell of the jail; they castrated him, lynched him from a bridge over the Chehalis River and shot his body full of holes. A National Guard unit came in from Tacoma to bring order. A milkman cut Everest's body from the bridge crossbar that his noose had been thrown over and left his bullet-riddled corpse in the mud on the banks of the Chehalis River all day. His body was thrown on the floor between our jail cells and left there through the night of the 12th until the morning of the 13th, when the National Guard escorted us to a vacant lot to bury the body of our comrade in an unmarked grave. Wobs were rounded up by the dozens, anyone holding a Red Card. With Martial Law in the district, the outcome of the trial was inevitable. Myself and seven others were convicted of second-degree murder, and although the jury specifically asked for the most lenient sentence, the judge disregarded the request and sentenced all to 25–40 years.

Lawyer Elmer Smith devoted the rest of his life to the Centralia prisoners, but without success in gaining justice. I refused parole and remained in prison until 1939, when my remaining sentence was commuted, just two days after famed labor martyr Tom Mooney was released in San Francisco. A new war had started in Europe, and the war profiteers had lost interest in the victims of a long past, little understood, and furiously controversial class war in western Washington.

Arthur Fonseca

FELLOW WORKERS:



Remember!

WE ARE IN HERE FOR YOU; YOU ARE OUT THERE FOR US



FIVE

BEYOND MARTYRDOM

Official Wobbly historians have been at pains to demonstrate that the IWW did not die from the persecutions and the continuing Red Scare. Indeed, the Wobs' propaganda apparatus took on a new life during the 1920s, nearly a thousand oil workers were added to still more thousands of harvest workers holding steady, miners in the Canadian west drew close to the IWW, and above all the mostly African-American Marine Transport Workers (MTW) sank roots seaward from its Philadelphia base.

But a calamitous split in the IWW developed over a concatenation of internal issues, including centralization of the organizational leadership. Although factions of coal miners in Colorado and Illinois showed sympathy for the IWW later in the decade, and a ghost version of the Wobs continued in Canada (mostly under a different name and sometime rival: the One Big

Union), the movement had definitely retreated into an educational / agitational framework.

In this form it continued, notably in the distant North Country of the Midwest. One group of Finnish-born radicals had left the Socialist Party and joined the Wobblies in 1914, publishing *Industrialistii* (1915–75), with more than 20,000 readers at its height. The same group took over the Finnish-led Work People's College, a labor school that taught radical ideas and skills, and kept it going for more than thirty years. Considerable numbers of these Wobblies actually went over to the Communist Party during the 1920s but many came back to Wobbly ideas after disillusionment with Moscow. Their dues and their loyalty did much to help the IWW keep going through lean times.


Not so far from the North Country was Chicago and what locals called Hobohemia. The Hobo College, the Dil Pickle, the weekly speak-outs in Bughouse Square and other activities showed a kind of radicalism that elsewhere could be found mostly on the fringes of the Communist movement, in mostly constricted form or in groups so obscure to the outside world so as to escape notice (like the Detroit-based Bulgarian Left comic theater). Other playful elements, like the Modikot puppet theater of communist-leaning Yiddishist speakers and the stirrings of folk music around the likes of Woody Guthrie, made a comeback for left-wing popular culture. By the later 1930s and 1940s, there were big audiences for left-wing performers. But the revolutionary temperament had meanwhile damped down: radicals and their friends expected less in a world suffering from the threat of fascism and from the grim collectivism of Stalin.

It might almost be said that the IWW was surviving mainly in memory, as in the memories of older workers influencing the young in the wave of 1934 general strikes, the brief flourishing of assorted independent radical unions, the sit-down strikes of the next few years, and the early, vital era of the Congress of Industrial

Organizations. But that would not be entirely true due to one extraordinary development: the Mexican peasant uprising of Tarascans under Primo Tapia. Such events illustrated the continuing link of peasants and workers mostly ignored by Marxists, at their peril, and also a spirit of anarchism that had not been vanquished and would be seen more vividly again.







THE NOBLE
TRADITION OF
ENSLAVEMENT:
FIRST CAME THE
CONQUISTADORES

THEN THE SPANISH
LANDLORDS.

ALL EAGER
TO ROB US AND
LEAVE US HUNGRY,
WITHOUT LAND,
TRADITIONS, OR
ENOUGH TO GET
BY ON.



THE GOVERNMENT GAVE
OUR LAND TO RICH MEN
WITH SPANISH BACKGROUNDS.
THEY DRAINED THE
MARSHES AND
USED THE RICH
SOIL BENEATH
TO GROW THEIR
CASH CROPS.

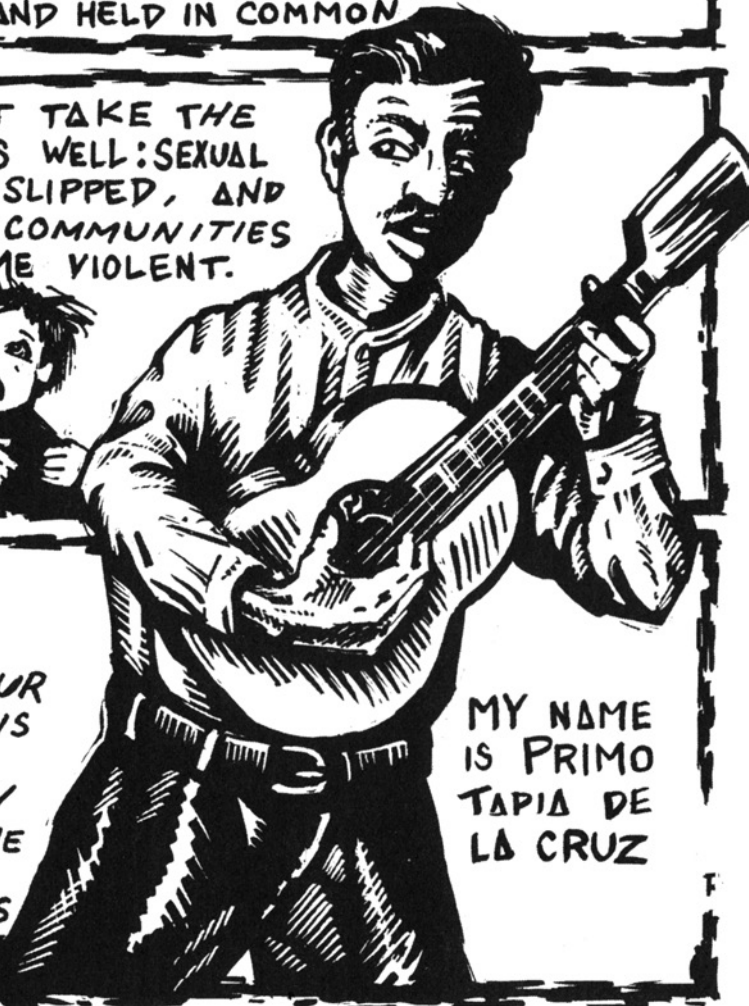
WE TARASCANS, STILL ATTACHED TO OUR
PRINCIPLES OF LAND HELD IN COMMON



DID NOT TAKE THE
CHANGES WELL: SEXUAL
MORES SLIPPED, AND
QUIET COMMUNITIES
BECAME VIOLENT.



OUR
LAND IS
BEING
RAPED IN
THE NAME
OF
PROGRESS



MY NAME
IS PRIMO
TAPIA DE
LA CRUZ



I WAS BORN IN
NARANJA, MEXICO
IN 1885. THROUGHOUT
MY YOUTH, I DREAMED
OF GIVING THE LAND BACK
TO MY PEOPLE. I PICKED
UP THE GUITAR AND
BEGAN SINGING SONGS OF
FREEDOM.

BORED WITH RURAL LIFE
AND FRUSTRATED WITH THE DOMINANT
AND OPPRESSIVE ROLE OF THE CATHOLIC
CHURCH, I LEFT NARANJA WHEN
I TURNED TWENTY-TWO. I TOLD
NOONE I WAS LEAVING. THEY
TOOK ME FOR DEAD. AS I RODE
ON IN THE DARK, I WAS HAUNTED
BY VISIONS OF MY OWN DEATH.



I DRIFTED TO
LOS ANGELES

WHERE I WAS
TAKEN IN BY LOS
ANGELES INCARNATE

THE FLORES
MAGÓN
BROTHERS



WHO TAUGHT ME AGRARIAN
ANARCHISM, ENGLISH,

AND HOW WE MUST



FIGHT...



FOR A REVOLUTION FROM
BELOW IN MEXICO.



BUT BEFORE I COULD FIGHT

I NEEDED TO SWEAT



AND UNDERSTAND
WHAT
WORK
MEANT.

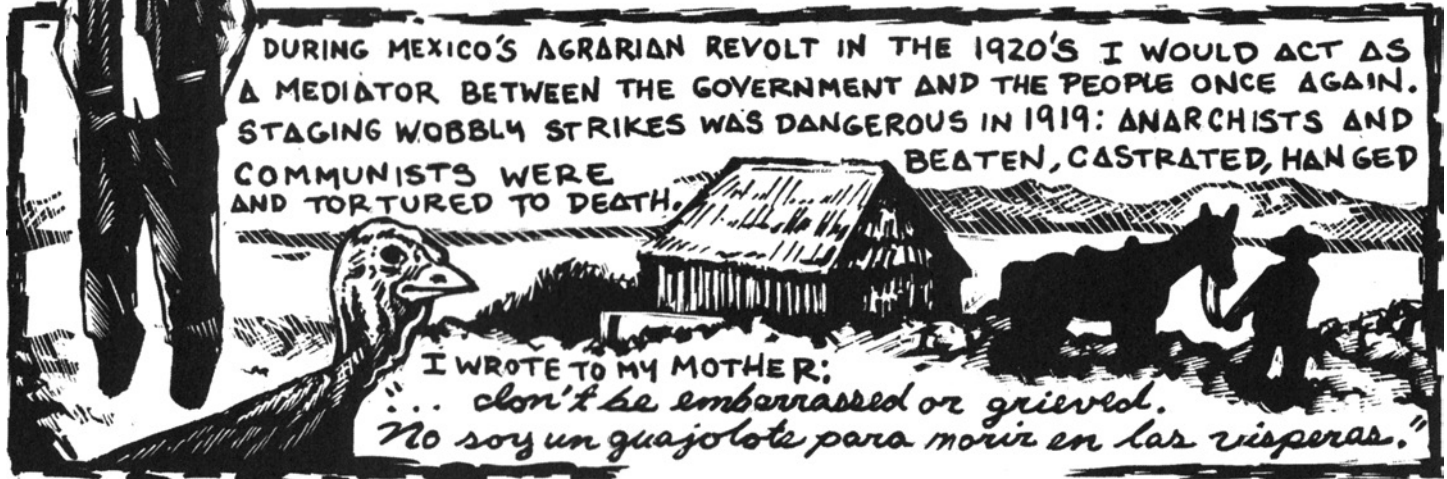
I
JOINED
THE
I.W.W.



THE WOBBLIES
AND I
SHARED A
SET OF
DREAMS:

ANARCHISM,
INDEPENDENCE,
EQUALITY
AND
WORKERS'
RIGHTS

I CAME INTO
CONTACT WITH
MANY FELLOW
NARANJEROS AND
FORGED MY FUTURE
REVOLUTIONARY
CORE.





IN 1920 I RETURNED TO NARANJA. ALTHOUGH I FELT DIFFERENT AND LOOKED DIFFERENT THE TARASCANS CALLED ME 'ONE OF THEM.' AND WHEN I TALKED, MY PEOPLE LISTENED.

IT WAS TIME TO WIN BACK OUR LANDS. ONLY ONCE AGRARIAN REFORM HAD BEEN REALIZED COULD WE CONTEMPLATE



OTHER MUCH-NEEDED REFORMS



POLITICAL



SOCIAL AND



EDUCATIONAL

BETWEEN 1920 AND 1922
LANDLORDS PASSED PHONY
LAND REFORMS THAT
FURTHER IMPOVERISHED
US.

I ORGANIZED GROUPS OF
LOYAL FAMILY MEMBERS
AND AGRARIANS TO DENOUNCE
THE PHONY REFORMS. MOST
OF MY FOLLOWERS CAME
FROM IMPOVERISHED
FAMILIES THAT I
HAD GROWN UP
WITH.

OUR STRATEGY?
TO TURN THE SYSTEMS OF
POWER, SOCIETAL AND
GOVERNMENTAL, AGAINST
THEMSELVES.

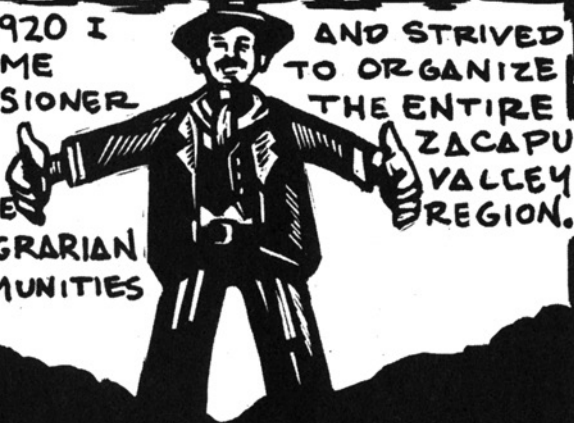


WE WERE FIGHTING
A BATTLE AGAINST
THE LANDOWNERS AND THE
GOVERNMENT TO EMANCIPATE
THE BODIES AND MINDS OF
MEXICO'S POOR - BY ANY
MEANS NECESSARY.

THE GREEDY
AGRARIANS
WILL BE
PUNISHED

THE
CHURCH USED
THE PEOPLE'S
FAITH
AGAINST
THEM

IN 1920 I
BECAME
COMMISSIONER
OF
THE
LEAGUE
OF AGRARIAN
COMMUNITIES



AND STRIVED
TO ORGANIZE
THE ENTIRE
ZACAPU
VALLEY
REGION.

WE CONTINUED BUILDING STRENGTH
LOCALLY. I HELPED THE WOMEN ORGANIZE
AND THE FEMININE LEAGUE WAS FORMED



THE WOBBLIES HAD TAUGHT ME THAT
ORGANIZING MUST CUT ACROSS ALL BOUNDARIES.



THE CONSTITUTIONALIST PRESIDENT CARRANZA
WHO ESTABLISHED A BASIS FOR LAND REFORM
WAS ASSASSINATED BY THREE GENERALS
WHO IMMEDIATELY BEGAN FIGHTING AMONG
THEMSELVES. THE BLOODY FACTIONALISM
IN MEXICO CITY
SPREAD INTO OUR
STATE.



THE BETRAYALS I WAS FORCED TO MAKE FOR OUR
LAND LEFT ME WITH MANY ENEMIES.
AFTER 5 YEARS OF BLOODSHED
GENERAL CALLES PREVAILED.



LEGISLATION WAS
PASSED THAT RETURNED A
SIZEABLE PORTION OF BLACK
SOIL TO OUR PEOPLE.





FIRST

HARVEST

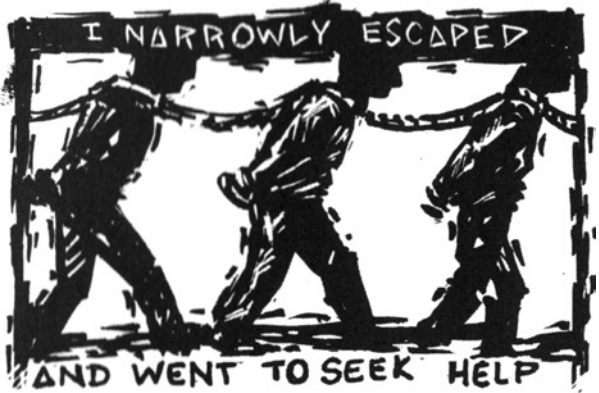
IN THE MIDST OF OUR
CELEBRATIONS, UP RODE
OVER A HUNDRED THUGS AND
SOLDIERS FROM THE HACIENDA



BITTER
FROM THEIR
LOSSES



THEY
THREATENED
US.



I NARROWLY ESCAPED

AND WENT TO SEEK HELP



THE AGRARIANS
WERE BEATEN
AND JAILED



UNABLE TO TOLERATE THE HUMILIATION

THE WOMEN ATTACKED THE THUGS WHO WERE STEALING THE CORN AND FREED THE MEN.



THE WOMEN FOUGHT WITH STONES

THROUGH MY CLEVER USE OF STATE APPARATUS



I WAS ABLE TO GET AN ORDER TO HAVE THE STOLEN CORN RETURNED

36 WAGON LOADS WERE BROUGHT BACK FROM CANTABRIA



A YEAR'S SUPPLY OF CORN WAS GIVEN TO

EACH FAMILY

IN NARANJA.



ON APRIL 26TH 1926



I WAS CAPTURED BY SOLDIERS DISGUISED AS PEASANTS.

THEY LED ME INTO THE MOUNTAINS.

MY BARE FEET BLED.

NIGHT FELL.

THE EXECUTION BEGAN IN THE STILLNESS OF THE SIERRA NIGHT.



TWO DAYS LATER SEVEN ZACAPU VILLAGERS
WENT TO THE MOUNTAINS AND
BROUGHT MY MUTILATED
BODY DOWN INTO THE
VALLEY.

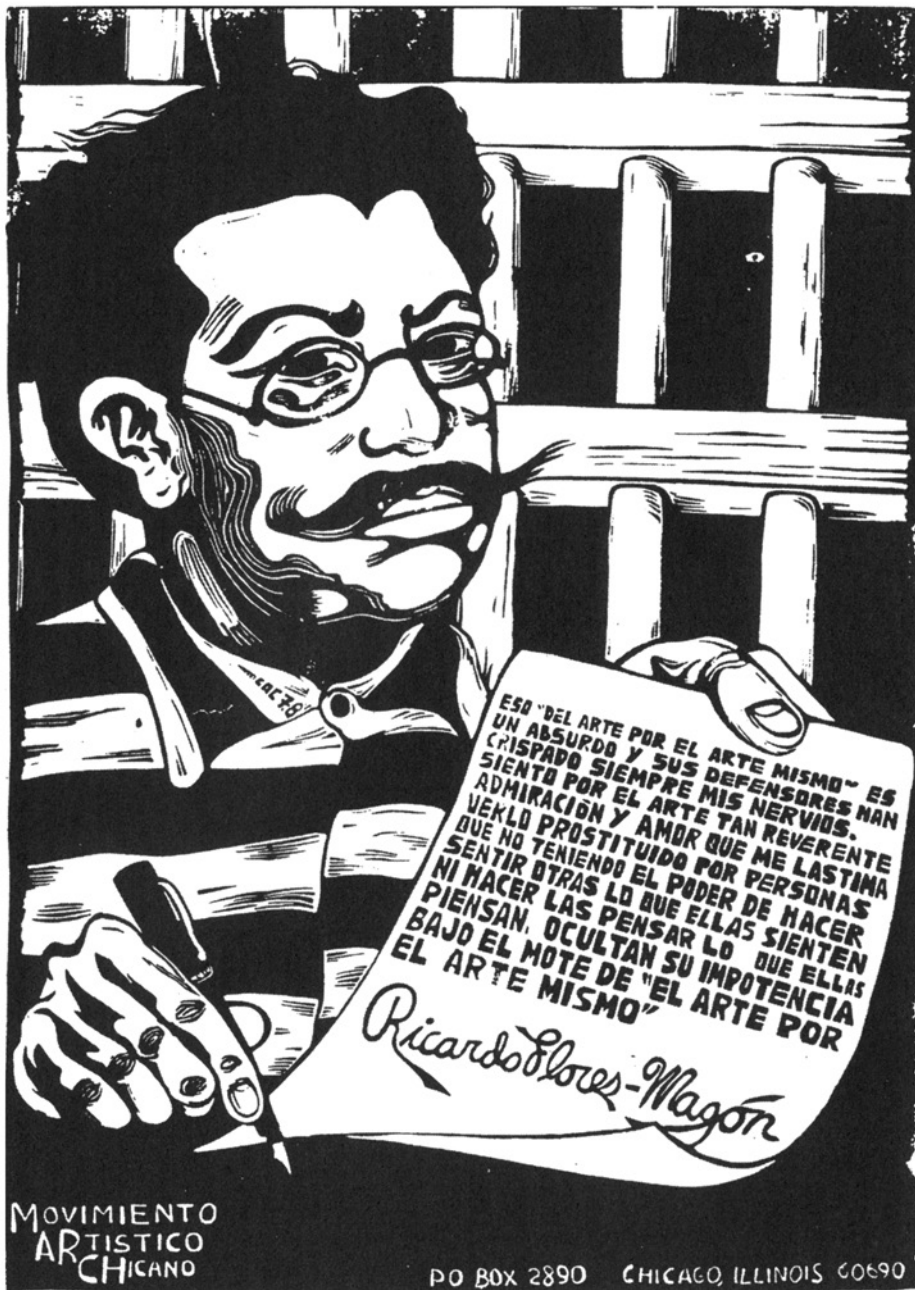


NARANJEROS
INITIATED THE
PRIMO TOPIA
FESTIVAL

IT BECAME A TIME FOR
PEOPLE TO COME
TOGETHER AND
CELEBRATE THEIR
VICTORIES

AND TO
ORGANIZE THE
BATTLES LEFT
TO FIGHT.

THE END THE BEGINNING



ESO "DEL ARTE POR EL ARTE MISMO" ES
UN ABSURDO Y SUS DEFENSORES HAN
CRISPADO SIEMPRE MIS NERVIOS.
SIEMPRE POR EL ARTE TAN REVERENTE
ADMIRACIÓN Y AMOR QUE ME LASTIMA
VERLO PROSTITUIDO POR PERSONAS
QUE NO TENIENDO EL PODER DE HACER
SENTIR OTRAS LO QUE ELLAS SIENTEN
NI HACER LAS PENSAR LO QUE ELLAS
PIENSAN, OCULTAN SU IMPOTENCIA
BAJO EL MOTE DE "EL ARTE POR
EL ARTE MISMO"

Ricardo Flores-Wagon

MOVIMIENTO
ARTISTICO
CHICANO

PO BOX 2890 CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60690

WHEREVER YOU FIND
INJUSTICE, THE
PROPER FORM OF
POLITENESS IS ATTACK.

T-BONE
SLIM



KONO PCKI
1992

FOR THE KERR CO.

TOM SCRIBNER: THE OLD WOBBLY OF SANTA CRUZ



Tom Scribner was born in 1899 in Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the Copper Country, the grandson of a Civil War veteran. Selling magazines to loggers as a boy, he was asked to get them copies of socialist and Wobbly publications. In 1914, he joined the IWW, while working as a "swamper" in the woods for Weyerhaeuser.

Seventy years later writing a never-published autobiography, he remembered his branch successfully demanding blankets, clean sheets and showers, then finally the eight-hour day. By the 1920s, the Wobblies all but gone, Tom hit the skidroad, continuing on to odd jobs during the Depression, settling (sometimes) in Eureka, California, editing and writing frequently for the Wobblyesque *Lumberjack News* from Eureka in the late 1950s and early 1960s, his articles sometimes reprinted in the anarchist *Vanguard*, of New York.

For a while in between he had been a Communist, but eventually left the Party, dissatisfied. From 1949 he was on his own.

Publishing *The Ripsaw News* from Davenport, an industrial village near Santa Cruz, California, devoted to producing concrete, he was on the way to finding his final home: on the main street in Santa Cruz, playing the musical saw, getting tips from tourists and locals, talking Wobbly philosophy with anyone interested. He lived in a downtown hotel in Santa Cruz from 1968

onward, and only a block away, and there he could be found most any day, until his death

in 1982. A statue faithful to Tom remains, where he played and talked, in front of the town's leading independent bookstore. He can be seen as a talking head in the film, *Wobblies*.

THEY COLLEGE OF COMPLEXES

STORY © HARVEY • PEKAR ART © JEROME • X350474



LIM BRUNDOAGE WAS PERHAPS ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING BOMEINIANS TO EMERGE IN THE TWENTIETH CENTURY, THOUGH, CONSIDERING HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS AMONG THE LEAST UNDERSTOOD OR APPRECIATED.



* ACTUAL INVITATION CARD

△ S FOUNDER & MANAGER (HE CALLED HIMSELF THE "JAWITOR") OF CHICAGO'S COLLEGE OF COMPLEXES (1951-1961) BRUNDOAGE OWNED A BAR THAT WAS ALSO ONE OF THE BASTIONS OF FREE SPEECH IN THIS NATION. HE WAS A GREAT ENCOURAGER OF EDUCATION (SELF & OTHERWISE) AND A FACILITATOR OF IDEA EXCHANGING.



B BRUNDAGE (1903-1990) WAS BORN IN AN INSANE ASYLUM IN IDAHO WHERE HIS PARENTS WORKED HIS FATHER WAS A SOCIALIST & SOMETIME NEWSPAPERMAN. SLIM LEFT SCHOOL AND HOME AND WENT HOBOING AT FOURTEEN: RIDING FRIEGHT CARS, LIVING IN HOBO JUNGLES, AND SOMETIMES JAILED AS A VAGRANT,

AT SIXTEEN, BRUNDAGE JOINED THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD (I.W.W.) OR "WOBBLES" POSSIBLY THE MOST FEARED MEMBERS OF THE WORKING CLASS BY "AVERAGE" AMERICANS,



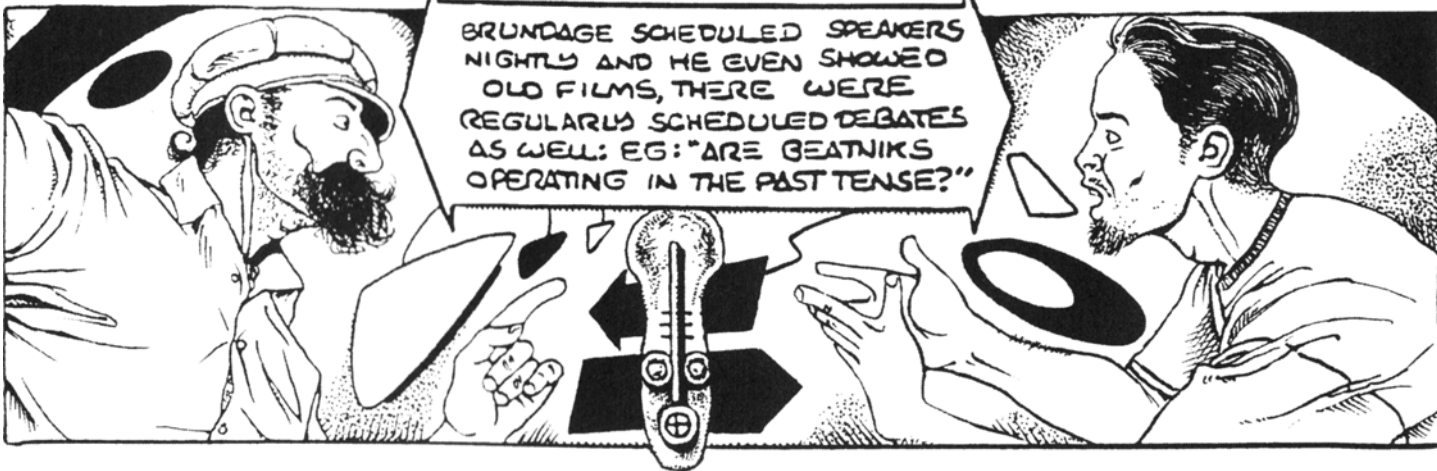
IN 1922, BRUNDAGE WOUND UP IN CHICAGO WHERE HE LIVED UNTIL 1975 AND EARNED HIS LIVING AS A HOUSE PAINTER. HE READ VORACIOUSLY AND HUNG OUT WITH OTHER ANARCHISTS, SOCIALISTS & COMMUNISTS AT WORKING CLASS INTELLECTUALS MEETING PLACES LIKE THE BUG CLUB, BUGHOUSE SQUARE AND THE DILL PICKLE CLUB WHERE HE SPOKE, SOMETIMES TO LARGE, SOMETIMES UNRULY AUDIENCES.



IN 1935, HE BECAME THE
MANAGER OF CHICAGO'S
HOBO COLLEGE, NOW
CALLED THE KNOWLEDGE
BOX. HE CONTINUED TO
BE INVOLVED IN PAINTER
UNION ACTIVITIES AND
CO-FOUNDED THE COUNCIL
FOR UNION DEMOCRACY
IN 1943, AN INTRA-UNION
REFORM ORGANIZATION



WHEN BRUNDAGE OPENED HIS
COLLEGE OF COMPLEXES, HE
OPENED IT TO EVERYONE: =
BLACKS, FEMINISTS, BEATNIKS
ANARCHISTS, ORTHODOX AND
UNORTHODOX MARXISTS ...
THE I.W.W. HAD A MORE
OPEN WAY OF DEALING WITH
THINGS THAN THE REGULAR
COMMUNIST PARTY - AND
THAT'S THE WAY BRUNDAGE
LIKED IT. ANYONE COULD
SPEAK ABOUT ANYTHING.



BRUNDAGE SCHEDULED SPEAKERS
NIGHTLY AND HE EVEN SHOWED
OLD FILMS, THERE WERE
REGULARLY SCHEDULED DEBATES
AS WELL. EG: "ARE BEATNIKS
OPERATING IN THE PAST TENSE?"



IN 1959, THE COLLEGE SPOOFED THE MISS AMERICA CONTESTS WITH ITS OWN "MISS BEATNIK" CONTEST WHICH PROVED TO BE QUITE A POPULAR EVENT.

BEARDING THE LIONS

These Two Beats The Men to Beat

Kennedy and Nixon may not realize it, but they will have the beatnik slate to contend with in November.

Bill Smith and Joffre Stewart—the beats' choices for President and Vice-President—have set up campaign headquarters in a saloon at 515 N. Clark.

"We're campaigning in the

became fashionable — were nominated last week by 135 delegates to the national convention of the Beatnik Consensus party, held in a Greenwich Village (New York)

DURING THE 1960 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS BRUNDAGE CREATED THE BEATNIK PARTY AND AT A 1960 CONVENTION IN NEW YORK CITY CHOSE BOTH ANTI-PRESIDENTIAL & ANTI-VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES.

CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, JULY 27, 1960



THE PARTY'S PLATFORM WAS INFLUENCED BY ANARCHISM: IT CALLED FOR THE ABOLITION OF MONEY, GOVERNMENT AND WORK, REPEAL OF THE FEDERAL NARCOTICS ACT AND EXHORTED PEOPLE NOT TO VOTE.



IN 1959-1960 THE COLLEGE WAS AT THE PEAK OF ITS PUBLICITY. BRUNDAGE STARTED ANOTHER BRANCH OF THE COLLEGE IN NEW YORK & TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO OPEN ONE IN SAN FRANCISCO.

BUT THE COLLEGE APPEARED TO BE TOO THREATENING, APPARENTLY, FOR SOME GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND IT WAS ABRUPTLY SHUTDOWN IN THE SPRING OF 1961 FOR OWING A TON OF MONEY IN BACK TAXES, THIS, DESPITE THE FACT THAT BRUNDAGE HAD ALWAYS BEEN ASSURED BY AN IRS OFFICIAL THAT THE COLLEGE'S TAXES WERE PAID.



BRUNDAGE



IT'S QUITE POSSIBLE THAT SOME GROUP OF PEOPLE IN THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT VIEWED BRUNDAGE AS A THREAT TO NATIONAL SECURITY BECAUSE OF HIS CONNECTIONS WITH BEATNIKS, REDS, & ANARCHISTS, CERTAINLY THE NATIONAL PARANOIA WAS RUNNING HIGH ENOUGH FOR THIS, SENATOR MCCARTHY HAD BEEN AT THE HEIGHT OF HIS POWERS JUST A FEW YEARS BEFORE.



IN FROM BUGHOUSE SQUARE TO THE BEAT GENERATION

EDITOR FRANKLIN ROSE MONT HAS COLLECTED SOME OF THE WRITINGS OF BRUNDAGE WHO WAS AN ASPIRING PLAYWRIGHT AND NOVELIST, HE DOES NOT HAVE A HIGH FALUTIN' STYLE BUT HIS SENSE OF HUMOR IS EVERYWHERE EVIDENT AS IS HIS GENUINE HUMANITARIANISM. READERS WHO ARE INTERESTED IN RADICAL POLITICS IN THE U.S.A. FROM 1910-1970 WILL DEFINITELY FIND MUCH OF INTEREST IN BRUNDAGE'S WRITING.

WOBBLIES IN THE '60s

THE "REBEL WORKER" GROUP IN CHICAGO

NEARLY SIXTY YEARS AFTER OUR FOUNDING CONVENTION WE WUZ MAKIN' HEADLINES AGAIN!



KONO
PACKI
©2004

Student Power Upheld
by Old Leftist Union

MAP FARM DRIVE
Wobblies Here
Try Comeback

The Wobblies Return;
Local Unit Seeks Farm Unions

Pickers' Strike
Continues With
Tension Build-up

Wobbly battle continues

I W W Branch Pickets Travel
Bureau In Support Of
Spanish Strikers

Farm Strikers

BLACK FLAGS IN CHICAGO

WRITTEN BY FRANKLIN ROSEMONT
ILLUSTRATED BY MIKE KONOPACKI

IN 1960, THE UNION'S PAID-UP MEMBERS NUMBERED LESS THAN 100.

BUT THE GOOD NEWS IS A BUNCH OF YOUNG FOLKS JOINED AND TRIPLED THE MEMBERSHIP!



THE CORE OF THIS GROUP WERE THE YOUTHFUL INSURGENTS AROUND A NEW CHICAGO IWW BRANCH MIMED'D MAGAZINE!

The Rebel Worker

Published sporadically by the Chicago IWW Branch of the "Industrial Workers of the World."



"I'm organized, are you?"

IT WAS EDITED BY WOBBS IN THEIR EARLY 20'S, BUT OLD-TIMERS FRED THOMPSON, THE IWW'S OWN HISTORIAN, AND JACK SHERIDAN, ITS TOP SOAPBOXER, ALSO TOOK PART. BEAMED AT THE YOUNG, OLDSTERS LIKED IT TOO!

THE **REBEL WORKER** IS NOT ONLY DAMN GOOD, IT'S EXCELLENT!"



*GUY B. ASKEW (SKIDROAD SLIM) JOINED THE IWW IN 1917.

THE **REBEL WORKER** RAN ARTICLES ON YOUTH REVOLT, ROCK 'N' ROLL, FREE JAZZ, URBAN INSURRECTION, HUMOR, THE CRITIQUE OF WORK & DAILY LIFE AND ALSO REVIVED INTEREST IN THE NEGLECTED WORKS OF THE PAST.

THE MAGAZINE INTRODUCED U.S. READERS TO A BROAD RANGE OF REVOLUTIONARY THEORY, INCLUDING THE WORK OF CORNELIUS CASTORIADIS (PAUL CARDAN), C.L.R. JAMES AND MANY LITTLE-KNOWN MARXISTS, ANARCHISTS, SYNDICALISTS AND SURREALISTS!

HEY, THIS ONE DATES FROM 1883 AND IT'S STILL REALLY COOL!

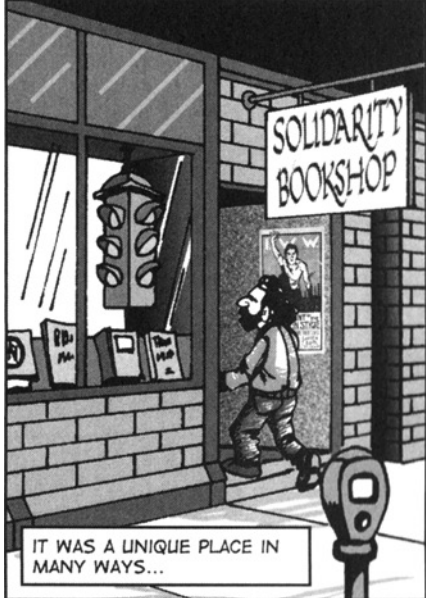


IT SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN THE FIRST IN THE U.S. TO PROMOTE THE SITUATIONISTS.

YEAH, BUT SOMEHOW IT OVERLOOKED THE SOMNAMBULISTS AND THE VENTRILOQUISTS!



THE **REBEL WORKER** GROUP ALSO OPENED THE STOREFRONT **SOLIDARITY BOOKSHOP** A FEW BLOCKS FROM THE CHICAGO WOBBLY HALL.



IT WAS A UNIQUE PLACE IN MANY WAYS...



Lucy E. Parsons

LIKE WOW! A CANOE ON THE CEILING!

YEAH, AND A 1956 ZUNDAPP MOTORCYCLE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE FLOOR!

MOST OF ITS LARGE STOCK OF USED BOOKS CAME FROM THE IWW **WORK PEOPLE'S COLLEGE** IN DULUTH, CHICAGO'S IWW LIBRARY, PLUS SEVERAL ITALIAN & SPANISH LANGUAGE ANARCHIST GROUPS.

SOLIDARITY ALSO SOLD USED COMICS. AT LEAST ONE YOUNG COLLECTOR LATER PAID HIS COLLEGE TUITION WITH MONEY HE MADE SELLING COMICS HE BOUGHT AT **SOLIDARITY**.



SOLIDARITY'S SPECIALTY, HOWEVER, WAS CONTEMPORARY REVOLUTIONARY LITERATURE FROM ALL OVER...



AN FBI REPORT FOUND **SOLIDARITY** CHIEFLY NOTABLE FOR ITS "CONSTANT COMINGS AND GOINGS OF YOUNG PEOPLE OF ALL SEXES AND RACES, AT ALL HOURS OF THE DAY AND NIGHT."

THE **REBEL WORKER** GROUP WAS CLOSE TO THE REVOLUTIONARY YOUTH MOVEMENT ZENKAKUREN IN JAPAN, THE DUTCH PROVOS, LONDON SOLIDARITY, AND THE SURREALISTS IN PARIS AND PRAGUE. ALTHOUGH THE **REBEL WORKER** MAGAZINE'S PRINT RUN NEVER EXCEEDED 2,000, LETTERS POURED IN...



LETTERS FROM TOKYO, PARIS, WALES, ITALY...

AND ONE FROM THE LANDLORD, RAISING THE RENT.

IN THE BEST WOB TRADITION, THE **RW** GROUP WAS DEVOTED NOT ONLY TO REVOLUTIONARY THEORY BUT ALSO TO **REVOLUTIONARY ACTION!**



THEY WERE ACTIVE IN ALL SOCIAL MOVEMENTS OF THE TIME. **RW** CONTINGENTS ON CIVIL RIGHTS AND ANTI-WAR DEMOS WERE AMONG THE LARGEST AND MOST YOUTHFUL.

2-4-6-8,
LET THE STATE DISINTEGRATE!



AS ALL WOBBS KNOW, WHAT IS MOST URGENT IS REVOLUTIONARY ACTIVITY AT THE POINT OF PRODUCTION!

HERE TOO THE **RW** GROUP MADE ITS MARK IN THE THEN ALMOST-WHOLLY UNORGANIZED AREA OF MIGRATORY FARM LABOR!



2

AT HARVEST TIME 1964, SEVERAL **RW** WOBBS HEADED FOR THE MICHIGAN BLUEBERRY FIELDS TO LOOK THINGS OVER...



50 CENTS AN HOUR?! THESE WAGES STINK!

SO DOES THE AIR AROUND HERE! THESE FARMS REEK OF PESTICIDE!

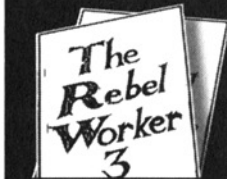
THE WORKERS THEY MET WERE BITTER AND RIPE FOR ORGANIZING. PICKERS ON ONE FARM WENT ON STRIKE!



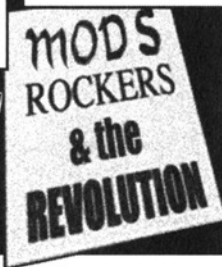
THE **FIRST IWW STRIKE IN DECADES** MADE FRONT-PAGE NEWS IN THE LOCAL DAILY FOR OVER A WEEK!



MEANWHILE, BACK IN CHICAGO, **REBEL WORKER** AGITATION CONTINUED. **PAMPHLETS MULTIPLIED!**



HUNDREDS OF COPIES OF **REBEL WORKER** PAMPHLET NO. 1 - MODS, ROCKERS & THE REVOLUTION - WERE SOLD AT A ROLLING STONES CONCERT.



"I agree very much with your ideas about revolting & the way society is pushing us around... It's about time we did something about it! I could write forever about the youth revolt!"

-From a 14 year old Rolling Stones fan
Rebel worker #7, 1967.

A LEAFLET AIMED AT SCHOOL DROPOUTS (JOIN THE IWW & FIGHT FOR REVOLUTION) ANGERED THE BOARD OF EDUCATION, CHICAGO'S DAILIES, AND WILLIAM F. BUCKLEY'S RIGHT-WING **NATIONAL REVIEW**.

SOLIDARITY BOOKSHOP BECAME A NOON-HOUR HANGOUT FOR HIGH SCHOOLERS.



EVEN GRADE-SCHOOLERS MADE USE OF SOLIDARITY! A WHOLE GROUP CAME IN TO MAKE SIGNS & MIMEO A LEAFLET THEY WROTE FOR THEIR OWN ANTI-WAR DEMO.



THE **REBEL WORKER** GROUP WAS ACTIVE IN MANY WORK-PLACES: RESTAURANTS, OFFICES, CONSTRUCTION, ETC. IT HAD A STRONG NUCLEUS, MOSTLY YOUNG AFRICAN-AMERICAN WOMEN, AT THE MAIN POST OFFICE, WHERE THE LOCKER-ROOMS WERE PASTERED WITH WOB STICKERS.



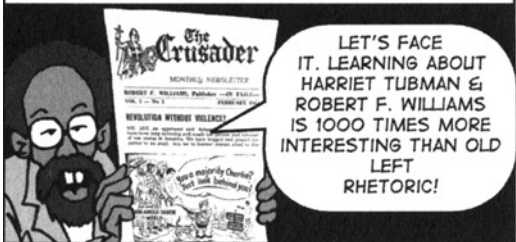
SOME OF THE GROUP WERE STUDENTS AT ROOSEVELT UNIVERSITY, THEN A WORKING CLASS COMMUTER SCHOOL.



THE R.U. WOBBLIES MET DAILY IN THE SCHOOL CAFETERIA - A MAJOR LEFT MEETING PLACE IN CHICAGO ALL THROUGH THE 60'S!



A COUPLE DOZEN LEFT GROUPS HELD FORTH THERE, AT DIFFERENT TABLES. THE GROUP THE WOBBS WERE CLOSEST TO WAS JOHN BRACEY'S **BLACK HISTORY CLUB!**



ON THE CULTURAL FRONT, THE R.U. WOBBS & BLACK NATIONALIST FRIENDS ALSO FORMED THE **ANTI-POETRY CLUB**. THIS TOO MADE THE DAILY PAPERS.



WHEN AUTHOR **NELSON ALGREN** READ ABOUT IT, HE PHONED R.U. AND SAID:



TWO ANTI-POETRY CLUB WOBBS WERE WELCOMED INTO THE SURREALIST MOVEMENT BY ANDRE BRETON IN PARIS! CLUB MEMBER **SCOTT SPENCER**, BECAME FAMOUS AS THE AUTHOR OF **MEN IN BLACK!**

AT R.U., THE "OLD LEFT" (OR SQUARE LEFT, AS WOBBS CALLED THEM) DIDN'T CARE FOR WOBBLIES OR THE ANTI-POETRY CLUB.



WHO ARE THESE GLUYS?

DON'T YOU KNOW? THEY'RE THE LEFT WING OF THE BEAT GENERATION.

AS IT HAPPENED, ANARCHOPACIFIST POET **JOFFRE STEWART** - ONE OF MANY SPEAKERS SPONSORED BY THE R.U. WOBBS - HAD RUN FOR ANTI VICE-PRESIDENT ON THE **BEATNIK PARTY** IN 1960! DURING HIS TALK AT R.U. STEWART BURNED 3 SMALL FLAGS - THE U.N., U.S.S.R., AND U.S.A.

AND SO, THE R.U. WOBBS BECAME THE FIRST GROUP EXPELLED IN THE SCHOOL'S HISTORY!

IT'S AGAINST THE LAW TO BURN THE FLAG, AND BESIDES, THE IWW IS ON THE GOVERNMENT'S **SUBVERSIVE LIST!**



A LIVELY FREE -SPEECH FIGHT ENSUED. **AGAIN** THE IWW MADE HEADLINES.



R.U. STUDENT GROUPS AND FACULTY OPPOSED THE BAN.

FAMED SOCIAL CRITIC **PAUL GOODMAN** JOINED THE FRAY!

"Roosevelt has been exceptionally lucky to have a discussion group so profoundly relevant, at present, as the wobblies. Most other college political clubs, from right to left, are superficial by comparison. So in terms of education, it would be a pity if the club were not reinstated. In terms of student freedom to learn, it would be intolerable."*

IN SHORT ORDER, THE R.U. WOBBLIES WERE REINSTATED! SOLIDARITY AND DIRECT ACTION DID THE TRICK! ANOTHER IWW VICTORY!



A NEW YORK S.D.S. BULLETIN RELAYED THE NEWS TO STUDENTS NATIONWIDE.

AND THEN CAME BERKELEY!

A FEW MONTHS AFTER THE R.U. WOB VICTORY, 20,000 UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA STUDENTS (JOINED BY YOUNG AND OLD WOBBS) WENT ON STRIKE AS THE **FREE SPEECH MOVEMENT!**



IN NO TIME, THE NEW LEFT TOOK UP **STUDENT SYNDICALISM** AND OTHER IWW IDEAS. **THE LITTLE RED SONG BOOK** BECAME AN SDS FAVORITE.



STUDENT STRIKES BORROWED FREELY FROM THE WOBBLY TRADITION. MANY STUDENTS TOOK OUT RED CARDS!



THE LAST AND **BIGGEST** ISSUE OF **REBEL WORKER** (NO. 7) APPEARED IN JANUARY OF 1967.



(RW COVERS BY TOR FAEGRE)

THE GROUP DISSOLVED IN FALL OF 1968. MOST OF ITS MEMBERS ARE STILL AROUND, STILL ACTIVE, STILL UPHOLDING THE IDEALS OF THE IWW AND THE **REBEL WORKER!**

Don't mourn, ORGANIZE.
JOE HILL
WAS HERE.
JOIN the IWW.

THE STRUGGLE CONTINUES!



SIX

THE IWW LIVES!

A remarkable sight appeared around 1966: IWW buttons on the lapels of the organizers in the fast-rising student radical movement, Students for a Democratic Society. Only a few years earlier, SDS had been the child of a campus social-democratic movement, the Student League for Industrial Democracy. In a famous conference of 1962 at Port Huron, Michigan, an SDS statement (drafted by Tom Hayden and others influenced, some said, by the ideas of Pan-African giant C.L.R. James as well as radical sociologist C. Wright Mills, among others) sounded less like Old Left Marxism and more like Wob doctrine. It urged “participatory democracy,” not as proletarian as IWW ideas, to be sure, but as a movement from below rather than above, relying upon ordinary people rather than experts, however liberal or left-wing.

Over the next few years, IWW offices were confounded by thousands of inquiries, requests by unemployed youngsters to join (but without a branch or the prospect of

organizing one), and renewed interest in the monthly tabloid, the *Industrial Worker*. Lamentably, the interest flagged with the crisis of the New Left and the takeover of SDS by one Maoist faction after another. A great opportunity had been lost as the revolutionary spirit of the time passed, and the remnants of the New Left and women's (also gay and lesbian) liberation movements, along with the Black (and Brown and Red and Yellow) Power movement, turned to reformism and mainly cultural pursuits.

But here and there fascinating local developments reminded observers that the IWW was very much alive. During the early 1960s, as recorded below, the Wobs took life on the Roosevelt College campus of Chicago, and among migrant workers northward. During the 1980s and early 1990s, Wobs could be found among youngsters, mainly, striving to save the mighty redwoods of California through an alliance with timber workers.

At the turn of the new century and after, Wob membership drifted up and down, scatterings of new locals (especially in counter-culture towns) were formed or disappeared, and a few, like the one in Portland, Oregon, seemed to set down firm roots. A successful employees' May 2004 vote and precarious victory (by IWW IU/660) at a Starbucks in mid-Manhattan—immediately appealed by the corporate giant—proved once again that Wobblies had a role where the mainstream labor movement had given up trying.

The Starbucks event, and IWW success among resentful, often part-time workers in low-paid sectors with few if any benefits, suggested the prospect that loomed ahead. The globalism that had been the very heart of the Wob understanding became increasingly real in daily life. Workers of many countries now had no choice. They were being forced into solidarity with each other for dignity and survival, even if the official labor leaders maintained an outdated and conservative approach to the rapidly changing world economy. Antiglobalization demonstrations from Seattle to Manhattan to Latin America, Europe, and Asia, often brought out Wobbly signs, for the best possible reasons. Perhaps, after a century, the organic basis for IWW-envisioned success had finally arrived. At any rate, given the accelerating attack of corporations upon the planet and all living creatures, it was getting close to now or never.

WHAT TIME IS IT?



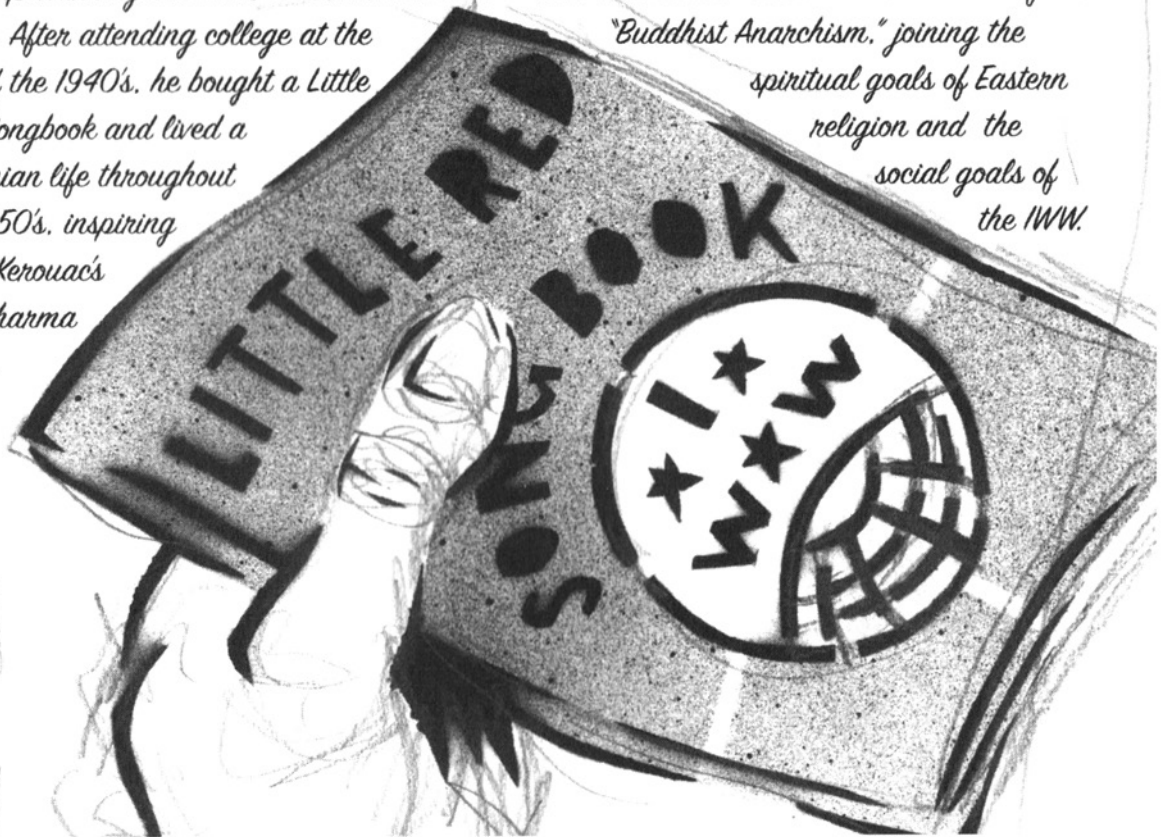


GARY
SNYDER

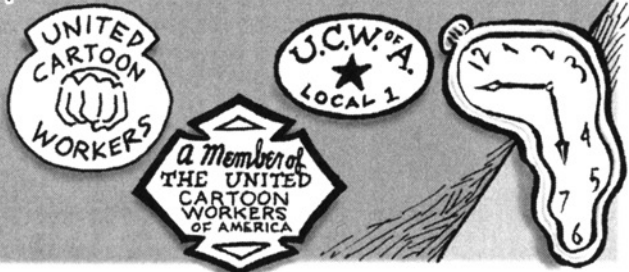
GARY SNYDER

Gary Snyder, the grandson of Henry Snyder, a soapboxer on Seattle's Skid Row, grew up learning Joe Hill, the IWW, and Karl Marx. After attending college at the end of the 1940's, he bought a Little Red Songbook and lived a bohemian life throughout the 1950's, inspiring Jack Kerouac's The Dharma Bums.

Snyder joined the short-lived IWW Poets Union and acquired a red card he has carried ever since. In 1961 he wrote a manifesto, "Buddhist Anarchism," joining the spiritual goals of Eastern religion and the social goals of the IWW.



TIME TO dis[^]ORGANIZE



THE SHORT & SORRY SAGA OF THE UCWA

THIS WAS SOMEWHAT LIKE TRYING TO
HERD CATS ...

I DON'T TRUST
UNIONS! I DON'T
WANT ANYONE
TELLING ME
WHAT TO DO!

WHO SAID
ANYTHING
ABOUT THAT?
HOW ABOUT
THE IWW?

LATER
DIED OF
ALCOHOLISM

SUBVERT

SAN FRANCISCO, 1971 — IN THE EYE OF
THE UNDERGROUND COMIX HURRICANE,
CARTOONISTS MET UP TO ORGANIZE A
UNION & DEFEND THEIR CREATIVE RIGHTS.

...AND ALWAYS BE SURE
TO PUT "©" ON YOUR
ARTWORK!

SEMI-FAMOUS
DOPE LAWYER



WAS AN **IWW** ORGANIZER EVER
ACTUALLY CONTACTED? DID ONE COME
TO THE SECOND MEETING? THIS
REMAINS UNCLEAR...

WELL, LET'S AT LEAST
BUY OUR ART SUPPLIES
IN BULK!

YOU CAN
USE MY
RESALE
NUMBER!

YEAH!

AND WE
CAN PUT THE
UNION LOGO
ON OUR COVERS!

COMIX PUBLISHER
(CLASS ENEMY)
PRESENT AT
THE MEETING



THE UNITED CARTOON WORKERS HAD THREE MORE MEETINGS SPREAD OVER THE NEXT COUPLE OF YEARS...

HERE'S THE BULK BRISTOL BOARDS I BOUGHT!

WHAT?? THIS STUFF'S LIKE SHIRT CARDBOARD!!



AT THE FINAL MEETING IN 1974, COMIX PUBLISHING WAS IMPLODING AND THE CARTOONISTS WERE WORRIED...

IF THE PUBLISHERS RAISE THE COVER PRICE, THEN THEY SHOULD RAISE OUR ROYALTIES!

JAY, YOU DRAFT A LETTER ABOUT THIS TO THE PUBLISHERS!

YEAH, OKAY...



THE PUBLISHERS KEPT THE ROYALTIES AT 10% (NOT BAD, ACTUALLY), AND RAISED COVER PRICES, BUT CUT THE SIZE OF THE PRINT RUNS...

HEY! I'M STILL ONLY GETTING \$25 A PAGE!*

IT'S A SHRINKING MARKET, KIDDO!

STILL IN BUSINESS



*THE PAGE RATE FOR THIS STRIP, 30 YEARS LATER!

SO ENDS THE SAGA OF THE UCWA, THE IWW UNION LOCAL THAT NEVER QUITE HAPPENED...

THAT'S OKAY. I NOTICE THAT "THE REVOLUTION" NEVER QUITE HAPPENED, EITHER!

YEAH, AND NEITHER DID OUR RETIREMENT PLANS!

BECAME A FREEMASON

DRINKS 12 CUPS OF COFFEE A DAY



"FOR SPAIN"

©2004 Jay Kinney

MERDE!

The TRUE Tall Tale of UTAH PHILLIPS Folk Legend...



...AND 21ST Century Wobbly

JEFFREY LEWIS '04

ORIGINALLY THE WOBBLIES DIDN'T HAVE ANY BOOKS TO LEARN FROM, AND NO MENTORS. NOBODY HAD DONE THAT SORT OF THING BEFORE. YOU LEARNED TO ORGANIZE ON THE JOB - EVERY PERSON AN ORGANIZER, THAT'S THE IDEA. NO TOP-HEAVY LEADERSHIP.



SPREAD THE TOOLS WORKERS NEED TO BECOME SELF-ORGANIZING, WHICH IS THE BEST KIND, YOU KNOW?

SINGING WAS ALWAYS A BIG PART OF THOSE OCCASIONS.

THE SONGS WERE SIMPLE:

ARE YOU POOR, FORLORN AND HUNGRY?
ARE THERE LOTS OF THINGS YOU LACK?
IS YOUR LIFE MADE UP OF MISERY?



THEN...
DUMP THE BOSSES OFF YOUR BACK!*

*"DUMP THE BOSSES OFF YOUR BACK" BY JOHN BRILL, 1916

IN THE 60s PROTEST MUSIC BECAME INTROVERTED - VERY POETIC, BUT HARDER TO UNDERSTAND. THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE BETWEEN "HOW MANY MILES MUST A WHITE DOVE SAIL, BEFORE IT CAN REST IN THE SAND" AND "DUMP THE BOSSES OFF YOUR BACK"!!



BECAUSE WE ORGANIZED, WE BROKE THE BACKS OF THE SWEATSHOPS IN THIS COUNTRY. THE 8-HOUR DAY, MINE SAFETY LAWS, CHILD LABOR LAWS; THEY WERE NOT BENEFICIAL GIFTS FROM AN ENLIGHTENED MANAGEMENT, SEE - THEY WERE FOUGHT FOR. KIDS OUGHT TO KNOW THAT.



WORKING WITH ANI DIFRANCO HAS GIVEN ME ACCESS TO A YOUNG, INTELLIGENT AUDIENCE, AND THEY ARE READY.

THE MOST RADICAL IDEA IN THE WORLD IS THE LONG MEMORY. THE OLD-TIMERS, THEY HAVE THAT CONTINUITY, THEY HAVE THAT LONG MEMORY, AND WE'VE GOT TO TAP IT. NOT JUST FOR NOSTALGIC REASONS, BUT FOR HARD AND PRACTICAL REASONS.



I SING THESE SONGS, I TELL THESE STORIES FOR A DAMN GOOD REASON - BECAUSE THEY GIVE ME A HISTORY OF OUR PEOPLE THAT I NEVER GOT IN SCHOOL, SEE?

IT'S A HEROIC, PASSIONATE, BEAUTIFUL, RICHER AND MORE USEFUL HISTORY THAN WHAT KIDS GET TAUGHT. I NEVER GOT THAT HISTORY UNTIL I TALKED TO PEOPLE WHO LIVED IT. THAT IS ONE OF THE MISSIONS OF MY LIFE - TO MAKE SURE KIDS KNOW THESE THINGS.

BUT I'M NOT READY TO PASS THE TORCH; I'M NOT DONE WITH IT, AND YOU'LL HAVE TO GO THROUGH ME TO GET IT! THE WORLD DOES NOT BELONG TO THE YOUNG. I WAS HERE FIRST. BUT HERE'S AN IDEA - I'LL CARRY THE TORCH, YOU CARRY ME.



WHO BOMBED JUDI BARI?

BY KEVIN PYLE

On May 24th, 1990 Earth First! activists Judi Bari and Darryl Cherney were on their way to perform at "Redwood Summer," an activist event. At 11:15am a bomb exploded under the driver's seat of Bari's car.



"I could feel the life force draining from me, and I knew I was dying."

Oakland Police Sgt. Sitterund arrived at the scene at 12:20. He later testified that F.B.I. agents were already there and that "they said that these were the type of individuals who would be involved in transporting explosives."



Darryl suffered minor injuries, but Judi's pelvis was shattered and her lower back crushed, leaving her permanently paralyzed. Three hours after the explosion they were arrested for transporting explosives.

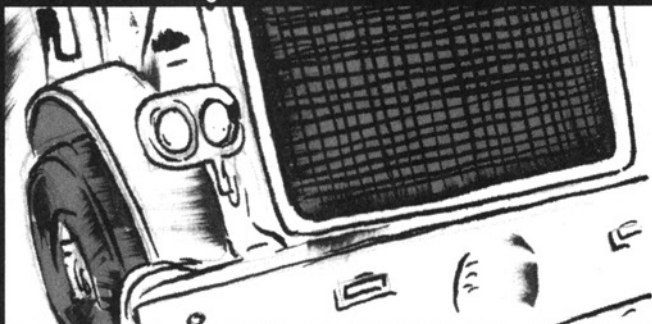
Since 1988 Judi had been the contact person for Earth First! in Mendocino County, establishing herself as an effective and inspirational activist.



In 1989 Judi joined an effort to support sawmill workers exposed to PCBs. She helped organize them into Local #1 of the IWW and win their case in U.S. Labor Court.



In August of 1989 Judi's car was rammed from behind by a logging truck she had helped blockade less than 24 hours earlier. No investigation followed.



She pushed for Earth First! to embrace non-violent direct action and to renounce the use of tree-spiking or any other tactic that could lead to injuries to timber and mill workers.



She wrote an article for the Industrial Worker advocating Wobbly organizing among timber workers and began speaking publicly about the link between unsustainable overcutting and worker layoffs.



In the month prior to the bombing fake press releases falsely linking Earth First! to terrorism began surfacing in Mendocino. Judi received numerous death threats. image from letter received by Judi



Judi became worried for her and her daughters' safety and tried numerous times to get the local police involved.

Within minutes of the explosion 15 agents of the FBI Terrorist squad arrived including Special Agent Frank Doyle, a 20 yr. veteran bomb expert. He immediately concluded that the bomb had been in the back seat and was knowingly being transported by Judi and Darryl.

He said if I turned up dead then they'd investigate.

You brought it on yourself Judi

Marilyn Butcher, County Board of Supervisor

We need some room here!

"Earth First! leaders hurt in a pipe bomb explosion yesterday have no one but themselves to blame for their injuries."

"I don't know what they're cookin over there. Doesn't smell like food. Maybe PCP?"

"No additional explosives were found."

KWSE

The FBI leaked the "terrorist" charge to the media and staged a series of raids for the television cameras.

One was a warrantless raid on "Seeds of Peace" house, a group that cooks meals for mass non-violent actions.

The bomb squad exploded a "suspicious" box of Darryll Cherney's cassette tapes found in a search of his van.

The FBI attempted to link Judi and Darryl to a bomb exploded at the Cloverdale Sawmill two weeks before. The FBI crime lab in Washington was able to show that the two bombs were made with the same material but none of that matched the materials seized from Judi and Darryl's homes.

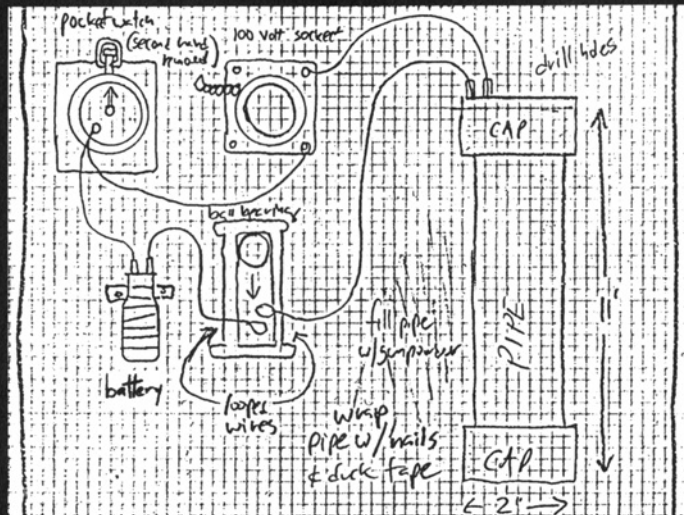


FBI Special Agent David Williams in Washington considered the bomb in Judi's car complex and well-crafted and concluded that it had clearly been placed under the front seat, not in the back as Agent Doyle had claimed.



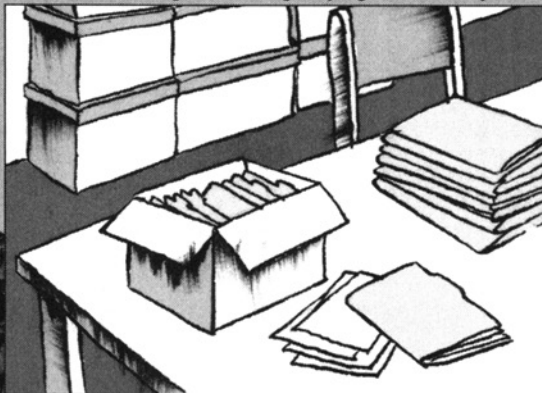
SA Williams also said the recovered materials obviously indicated a booby trap device triggered by the motion of the car. This was noted and later crossed out on Judi's original arrest warrant.

In the eight weeks following the bombing the Oakland DA attempted to bring charges against Judi and Darryl three times. Each time they were turned away by the court for lack of evidence. After the third denial the charges were dropped.



In 1991 Judi and Darryl filed a federal civil rights lawsuit. The suit charged that Judi and Darryl were falsely arrested by the Oakland Police at the "illegal, politically-motivated instigation of the FBI." Judi said, "We're not suing them for failing to catch the real bombers, we're suing them for not even looking for the real bombers."

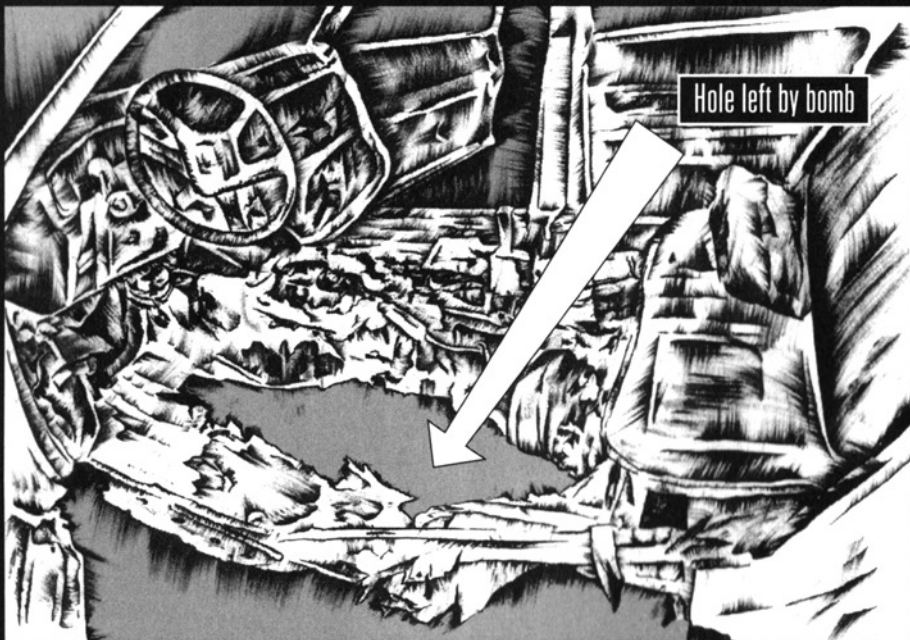
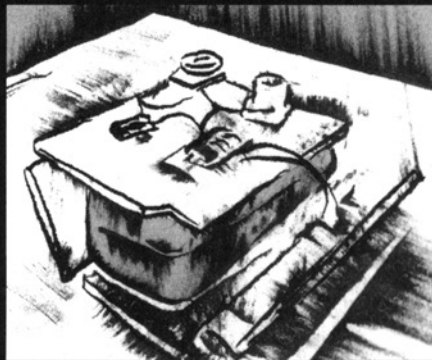
In 1994, during deposition of witnesses, it was discovered that the FBI had conducted a Bomb Investigators training course at the College of the Redwoods in Eureka four weeks before the bombing. It was taught by Agent Frank Doyle.



As part of the training they blew up several cars at a Louisiana-Pacific logging site. Oakland Police Sgt. Hanson testified that they created virtually the same crime scene he arrived at four weeks later.

The course also focused on incendiary bombs like the one used in the Cloverdale Sawmill bombing, which occurred two weeks after the training. The FBI has claimed to have lost the roster of students attending the course.

The lawsuit also forced public release of the photos of Judi's car which clearly showed that the bomb exploded directly under the driver's seat. Richard Held, the FBI Special Agent in charge of the San Francisco office at the time of the bombing, resigned soon thereafter.



Held had headed FBI operations to disrupt the Black Panther Party (BPP) and American Indian Movement (AIM) under the FBI code name COINTELPRO in the '60s and '70s. It was these operations that resulted in the imprisonment of BPP leader Geronimo Ji Jaga (Pratt) and AIM activist Leonard Peltier.



Though partially paralyzed and in constant pain, Judi continued to organize non-violent direct action against logging interests. "They bombed the wrong end of me."

On March 2, 1997 Judi Bari died of breast cancer. A few weeks before her death she said, "I want justice. I want my family and the world to know who bombed me."

Seven days later over 1,000 people gathered in Judi's hometown of Willits to celebrate her life. As the sun set a procession led by a bagpiper and band of drummers marched through the streets.



In May of 2002, 12 years after the bombing, Darryl Cherney and Judi's estate were awarded 4.4 million dollars for the violation of their First and Fourth Amendment rights.

In November, 2003 Arcata, CA declared Judi's birthday, Nov. 7th, Judi Bari Day. Oakland chose May 24th, the day of the bombing, as its annual Judi Bari Day.

"This system cannot be stopped by force. It is violent and ruthless beyond the capacity of any people's resistance movement. The only way I can even imagine stopping it is through massive non-cooperation."



JUDI BARI 1949-1997

"A revolutionary ecology movement must also organize among poor and working people. For it is the working people who have their hands on the machinery. And only by stopping the machinery of destruction can we ever hope to stop this madness."

WOBBLY WILDCAT 2001

IN THE MORNING ON APRIL 29, 2001, WE HAD A MEETING AT OUR UNION HALL TO VOTE ON A NEW CONTRACT WITH THE COMPANY THAT OWNED THE SHIPYARD WHERE WE WORKED. THE CONTRACT STUNK AND WE WERE FURIOUS. WE VOTED 4 TO 1 TO STRIKE.



THAT AFTERNOON I GOT A PHONE CALL FROM A UNION OFFICIAL.



YOU NEED TO GO AND FUCK YOURSELF.

SOME BUDDIES OF MINE FROM THE LOCAL IWW BRANCH CAME TO VISIT THAT EVENING AND WE TALKED ABOUT THE SITUATION.

WHEN ALL BUT TWENTY GUYS HAD LEFT, THE UNION PRESIDENT TOLD EVERYBODY HE ISN'T GONNA SANCTION THE STRIKE, BUT WE VOTED ON A FINAL OFFER FROM THE COMPANY! HE'S GOT TO SANCTION IT.

EVERYONE WAS NERVOUS ABOUT WHATEVER "DISCIPLINE" MIGHT MEAN BUT WHAT SCARED MY FRIENDS MOST OF ALL WAS WHEN I TOLD THEM I'D PICK THEM UP AT 5:30 AM.



WHAT'RE YOU GONNA DO?

I'M GONNA STRIKE ANYWAY!
FUCK THEM.

WE'RE GOING WITH YOU.



WE ARRIVED AT GATE 8 BEFORE 6 AM. WE'D DIDN'T HAVE ENOUGH POSTER BOARD SO I PICKED SOME OUT OF THE DUMPSTER. OUR SIGNS COULDN'T SAY "STRIKE" SINCE IT WASN'T A LEGAL STRIKE. SO WE WROTE "WE VOTED!" AND MY SIGN SAID "OUR CONTRACT SUCKS!" ON THE BACK I WROTE "SO DOES ZUCKERMAN!" SO MY UNION BROTHERS AND SISTERS COULD READ THAT FROM BEHIND ME.



MY WIFE WAITED IN THE CAR WITH A CAMERA IN CASE WE WERE "DISCIPLINED."



I STEPPED ONTO THE ROAD AND WAVED AT THE ONCOMING TRAFFIC.

PEOPLE BEGAN TO HONK THEIR HORNS AND A FEW FOLKS STARTED WAVING BACK. IN THE PARKING LOTS BEHIND ME, THE FIRST SHIFT FOLKS WERE PARKING THEIR CARS AND WAITING.



A CROWD BEGAN TO FORM.



OUR SHIFT BEGAN AT 7 AM AND WHEN THAT TIME CAME AND NO ONE ENTERED THE SHIPYARD AT THAT GATE, THE MOOD SHIFTED. A FELLOW CAME UP TO ME AND ASKED WHERE I GOT MY SIGN.



HE GOT A PIECE OF CARDBOARD AND I HANDED HIM A MARKER. SOON OTHERS WERE JOINING US.

BY 9 AM WE HAD VERY ANGRY PICKET LINE AND I WENT HOME TO SLEEP. I HADN'T BEEN ABLE TO SLEEP THE NIGHT BEFORE.



I WORKED AT THE SHIPYARD BECAUSE I HAVE A FAMILY AND NEEDED INSURANCE. MOST JOBS AROUND HERE DON'T PROVIDE INSURANCE.

IT WAS THE MOST DANGEROUS JOB I'D EVER WORKED.

THEY WORKED US IN THE RAIN EVEN THOUGH WE WERE USING HIGH VOLTAGE ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT AND WORKING ON SHEET STEEL. A COUPLE OF MONTHS AFTER I'D STARTED I WALKED OUT OF THE RAIN AND OTHER GUYS DECIDED TO DO THE SAME. A FOREMAN SINGLED ME OUT AND TRIED TO MAKE ME GO BACK TO WORK BUT I WOULDN'T AND WE STAYED OUT.

SOON AFTER A MAN WAS KILLED ON THE JOB AND I WAS PROMOTED.

HOW YOU DOIN'? I'M WILLIAM AND THIS IS MY BUDDY, BOB.

I TOLD LOPP THAT I DIDN'T HATE PEOPLE BECAUSE OF THEIR SKIN COLOR. I HAD A LOT OF HATE IN ME BUT FOR OTHER REASONS. LOPP AND I GOT ALONG BECAUSE WE HAD TO.

I WORKED AS A WELDER FOR AN OLD STEELFITTER NAMED LOPP.

HEY, LOPP! TERRY!
HOW YOU DOIN'??

THAT FAT NIGGER.

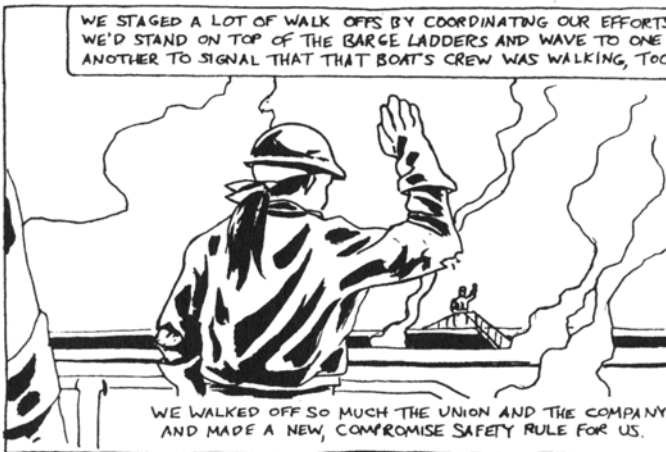
HE'S JUST SAYING "HI!"

WAIT 'TIL YOU HEAR IT A HUNDRED TIMES BEFORE LUNCH.

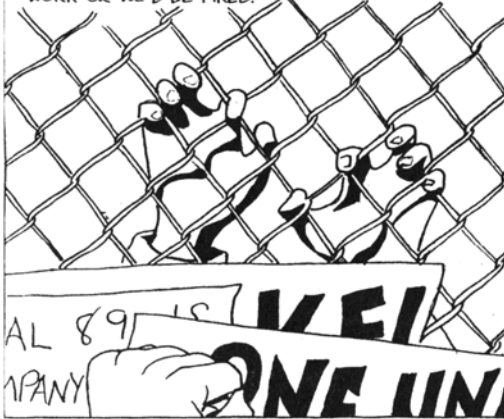
WE STAGED A LOT OF WALK OFFS BY COORDINATING OUR EFFORTS WE'D STAND ON TOP OF THE BARGE LADDERS AND WAVE TO ONE ANOTHER TO SIGNAL THAT THAT BOAT'S CREW WAS WALKING, TOO.

WE WALKED OFF SO MUCH THE UNION AND THE COMPANY AND MADE A NEW, COMPROMISE SAFETY RULE FOR US.

AFTER THAT, OTHER PASSED OFF GUYS SOUGHT ME OUT, WE HAD AN OFFICIAL UNION BUT THEY DIDN'T HELP US AT ALL, IN FACT, THEY HUNG OUT WITH THE COMPANY AND APPARENTLY GOT KICK BACKS FROM THEM. WE FORMED A SMALL WOBBLY GROUP, HAD MEETINGS, AND PUT TOGETHER A NEWSLETTER. IN THE LETTER WE TALKED ABOUT HOW DANGEROUS OUR JOBS WERE, HOW THE COMPANY DIDN'T PAY A LOT OF MEDICAL BILLS GUARANTEED BY OUR INSURANCE, HOW LOW OUR WAGES WERE.



WHEN I WOKE UP THAT AFTERNOON, A FULL BLOWN WILDCAT WAS ON. THE PICKET LINE HAD GROWN AND GUYS WHO HAD GONE TO WORK THAT MORNING AT A DIFFERENT GATE, AND DIDN'T KNOW WE HAD A PICKET LINE GOING, WERE SHAKING THE FENCE DEMANDING TO BE LET LOOSE. AT LUNCH THE ENTIRE SHIPYARD WENT TO THE UNION TO GET OUR STRIKE SANCTIONED, BUT THE UNION PRESIDENT SAID HIS HANDS WERE TIED AND TOLD FOLKS TO GET BACK TO WORK OR WE'D BE FIRED.



LATER IN THE MORNING AFTER IT WAS CLEAR NO ONE WAS CROSSING THE LINE A GROUP OF GUYS ARRIVED WITH BANJOES, GUITARS, AND HARMONICAS. THE BANJO PLAYER WAS BOB. WILLIAM CARRIED HIS AMP FOR HIM



THAT AFTERNOON, I BEGAN SENDING OUT NEWS OF THE WILDCAT ON THE INTERNET. I POSTED THE PHONE NUMBERS TO THE COMPANY PRESIDENT AND THE UNION PRESIDENT.



THE NEXT MORNING WAS TENSE. I WAS AT THE MAIN GATE, GATE 5, WITH A LOT OF MY OTHER FELLOW WORKERS ACROSS THE STREET, A COUPLE OF HUNDRED OTHER GUYS STOOD AROUND, SHUFFLING. WE DIDN'T KNOW WHAT WAS GOING TO HAPPEN.



YOU GUYS ARE DOING A GREAT JOB! I'D JOIN YOU BUT I ONLY GOT ABOUT A MONTH BEFORE I RETIRE YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN? I'LL JUST BE THE ENTERTAINMENT FOR THIS THING.



AT EVERY GATE INTO THE SHIPYARD, FOLKS SET UP CAMP. SOME BROUGHT LAWN CHAIRS AND FOLDING TABLES. SOMEONE SET UP HIS BARBEQUE GRILL. THERE WERE A COUPLE OF TENTS. ONE OLDTIMER UNLOADED A RECLINER.



THE NIGHTS WERE FILLED WITH CARD GAMES AND EATING, MUSIC AND DRINKING. WE TALKED ABOUT WORK WITH FOLKS WE'D BARELY SEEN WHO WORKED ACROSS THE SHIPYARD OR ON OTHER SHIFTS. THE WHOLE MILE AND AN EIGHTH IN FRONT OF THE SHIPYARD TURNED INTO A CAMP.



PEOPLE BEGAN SHOWING UP WITH COOLERS FULL OF FOOD AND DRINKS. BOXES OF CANNED GOODS APPEARED EVERYWHERE.



A TRUCK DRIVER WITH A LOAD OF COKES DUMPED SOME OF THEM OUT FOR US. A TEAMSTER WITH A LOAD OF WELDING RODS REFUSED TO ENTER THE SHIPYARD.



THE HONKS AND SHOUTS FROM CARS AND TRUCKS DRIVING PAST THE SHIPYARD WERE CONSTANT. SOME OF THE NOISE CAME FROM COPS AND SHERIFF'S DEPUTIES.



THE COMPANY PRESIDENT CALLED THE MAYOR'S OFFICE TO PROTEST THE BEHAVIOR OF THE COPS.



ALL ALONG THE LINE, WE BEGAN TO REFER TO ONE ANOTHER AS "BROTHER" AND "SISTER."

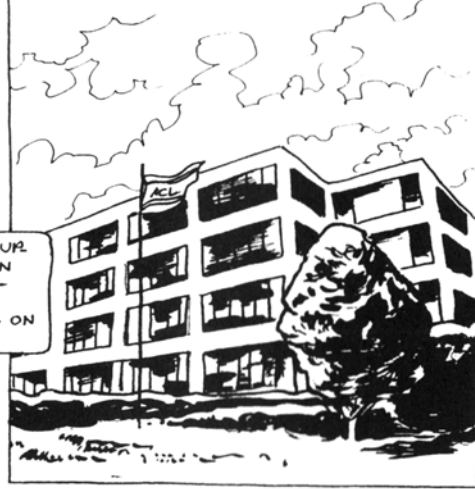


THE KENTUCKY DERBY WAS COMING UP AND BIGWIGS FROM THE SHIPYARD COMPANY'S PARENT COMPANY'S PARENT COMPANY, COTICORP, FLEW IN TO SEE IT.



THE COMPANY AND THE UNION WERE VERY UP SET. THEY HAD JUST SIGNED A MULTI-MILLION DOLLAR CONTRACT FOR A SERIES OF OCEAN-GOING BARGES AND THE BIGWIGS THOUGHT THEY WERE GOING TO SEE WORK BEGINNING ON THEM.

THE BUILDING THAT HOUSED THE SHIPYARD COMPANY'S PARENT COMPANY SAT JUST UP THE ROAD FROM THE FAR END OF THE SHIPYARD'S LAST GATE.



IN THE MIDDLE OF THE WEEK SOME OF VISITING BIGWIGS WERE ON TOP OF THAT BUILDING WATCHING THE STEAMBOAT RACES THAT WERE PART OF DERBY.



BOB SUGGESTED WE SERENADE THEM.



THE NEXT MORNING WE PRINTED UP A RESPONSE LETTER TO HIM AND DISTRIBUTED IT ALONG THE LINE. WE TRIED TO EXPLAIN WHY HE HAD NO CLUE AND TOLD HIM WE HADN'T DONE ANYTHING TO HIM YET. WE'D JUST STOPPED WORKING.

THE COMPANY PRESIDENT SENT US LETTERS IN THE MAIL TELLING US TO RETURN TO WORK AND HINTING THREATS.



THE SAME DAY WE RECEIVED A LETTER FROM THE UNION PRESIDENT ORDERING US TO RETURN TO WORK.

ALL WEEK I BEGAN MY DAY WALKING THE LINE AT GATE 5. MANY OF THE FOLKS THERE WERE FROM OUR IWW BRANCH AND WE REMINISCED ABOUT SHUTTING DOWN THE SHIPYARD IN JANUARY, 2009, OF GETTING BUDDIES' JOBS BACK, OF FIGHTING TO KEEP OUR BREAKS DURING THE WINTER.



WE YELLED AT LYTLE AND THREW CHAIRS IN THE UNION HALL. SOME UNION SECURITY GUYS BROUGHT A BALLOT BOX OUT AND SEVERAL OF US TURNED IT OVER IN FRONT OF THEM.



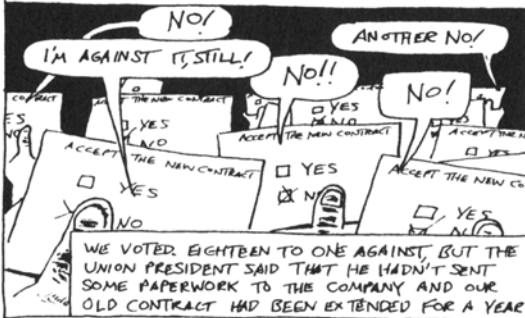
WE DECIDED TO RETURN TO WORK THE NEXT WEEK AND FIGHT THEM ON THE JOB. NO ONE LOST HIS OR HER JOB BECAUSE OF THE WILDCAT.



A UNION BIGWIG, WALT LYTLE, CAME INTO TOWN ON SATURDAY AND ORDERED US BACK TO WORK. HE SAID WE WERE GOING TO VOTE ON THE CONTRACT AGAIN.



OUR BALLOTS WERE SUPPOSED TO BE SECRET BUT WE HELD THEM UP AND CALLED THEM OUT.



WE VOTED EIGHTEEN TO ONE AGAINST, BUT THE UNION PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE HADN'T SENT SOME PAPERWORK TO THE COMPANY AND OUR OLD CONTRACT HAD BEEN EXTENDED FOR A YEAR.

BACK AT WORK, IT WAS LIKE A CHURCH. WE TOOK CARE OF ONE ANOTHER. I REMEMBER A GUY TOOK A WELDING LINE FROM A WOMAN AND A GROUP OF US SURROUNDED HIM AND DEMANDED HE GIVE IT BACK.



SEVERAL WEEKS AFTER THE END OF THE WILDCAT, THE COMPANY BEGAN SHIFTING OUR HOURS AND SHUFFLING PEOPLE TO DIFFERENT AREAS.

I WAS MOVED TO THE APE SHOP, THE MOST REMOTE WORK AREA IN THE YARD.



DID Y'ALL HEAR ABOUT THAT GUY OVER ON LINE ONE?

WHAT ABOUT HIM?

HE RETIRED AND THEN DIED TWO DAYS LATER. SOME STEELFITTER, I THINK.



THAT AFTERNOON, I RAN ACROSS THE SHIPYARD BEFORE THE WHISTLE BLEW AT THE END OF SHIFT.



I GUESS YOU HEARD WHAT HAPPENED TO BOB? THEY GAVE ME HIS JOB.



ME AND HIM WAS BUDDIES. I'M LOST WITHOUT HIM.

HE BEGAN TO SOB AND I PUT MY HAND ON HIS SHOULDER.



I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY.



"OUR D"

WOBBLY ORIGINALS

Joe Hill, *Industrial Worker*, April 4, 1913



242 4-1913

CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEE:—LIFE? LIBERTY? AND THE PURSUIT OF—A JOB!

Ralph Chaplin, *Solidarity*, June 16, 1917



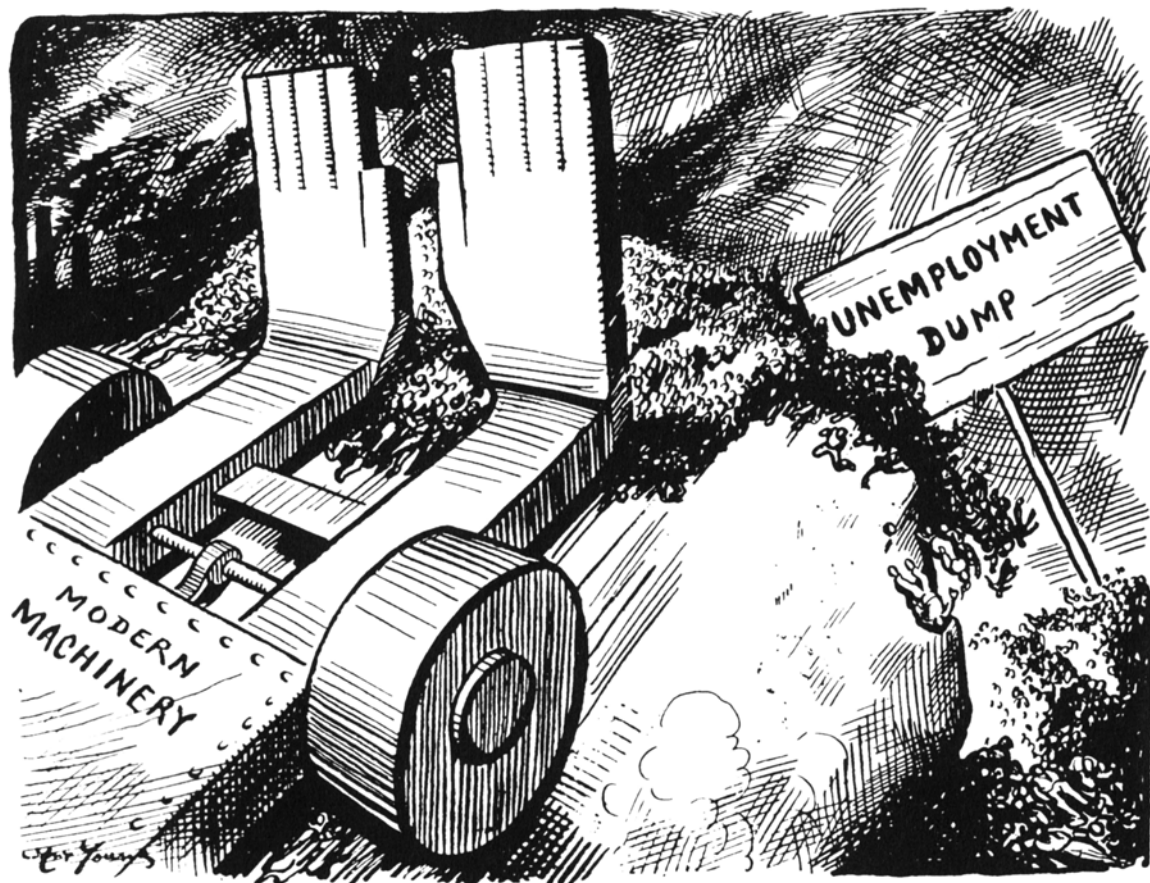
WILL HE CONTINUE, OR WILL HE BUCK?

BIG STRIKE IN BUTTE, MONTANA

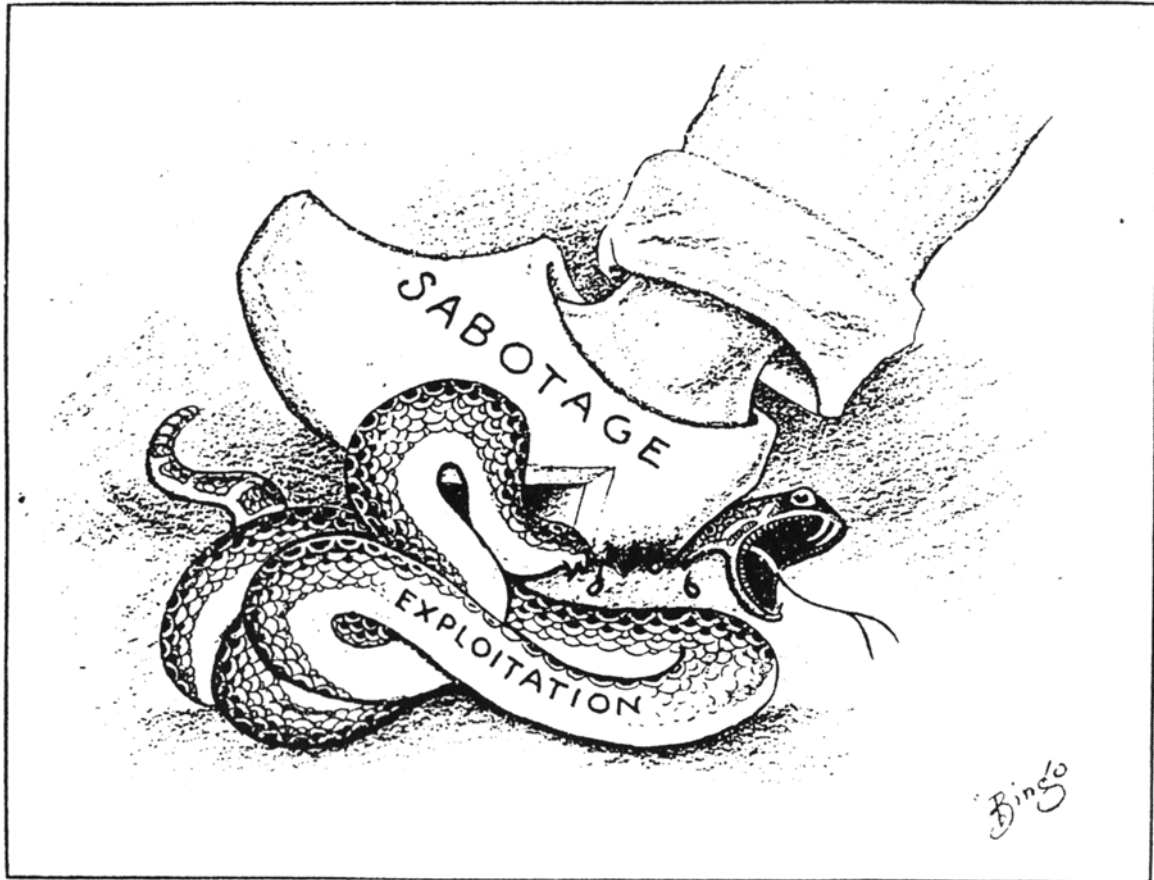


BIG BUSINESS (to Labor, generously): "My good fellow, you'll be well paid for your patriotic action in 'tending this glorious plant; you shall have all the fruit above the ground—I'll take **ONLY** the roots!"





Sabotage, Ralph Chaplin, *Solidarity*, April 7, 1917



DON'T WEAR SABOTS; IT HURTS THE SNAKE

Thief!

THIEF!



*'The worst thief is he
who steals the playtime
of children.*

WDHAYWOOD.

JOIN THE I W W AND HELP PUT THE THIEVES TO WORK

FOR INFORMATION ADDRESS I W W 430 W MADISON ST CHICAGO ILL. U S A

Una Gran Union, From IWW foreign language pamphlet



UNA GRAN UNION

DE LOS

Trabajadores Industriales Del Mundo

CON EL PLANO INDUSTRIAL



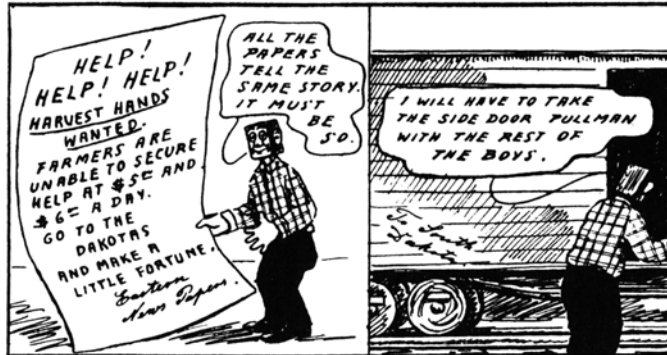
Publicado por SOLIDARIDAD, Organó de los

TRABAJADORES INDUSTRIALES DEL MUNDO

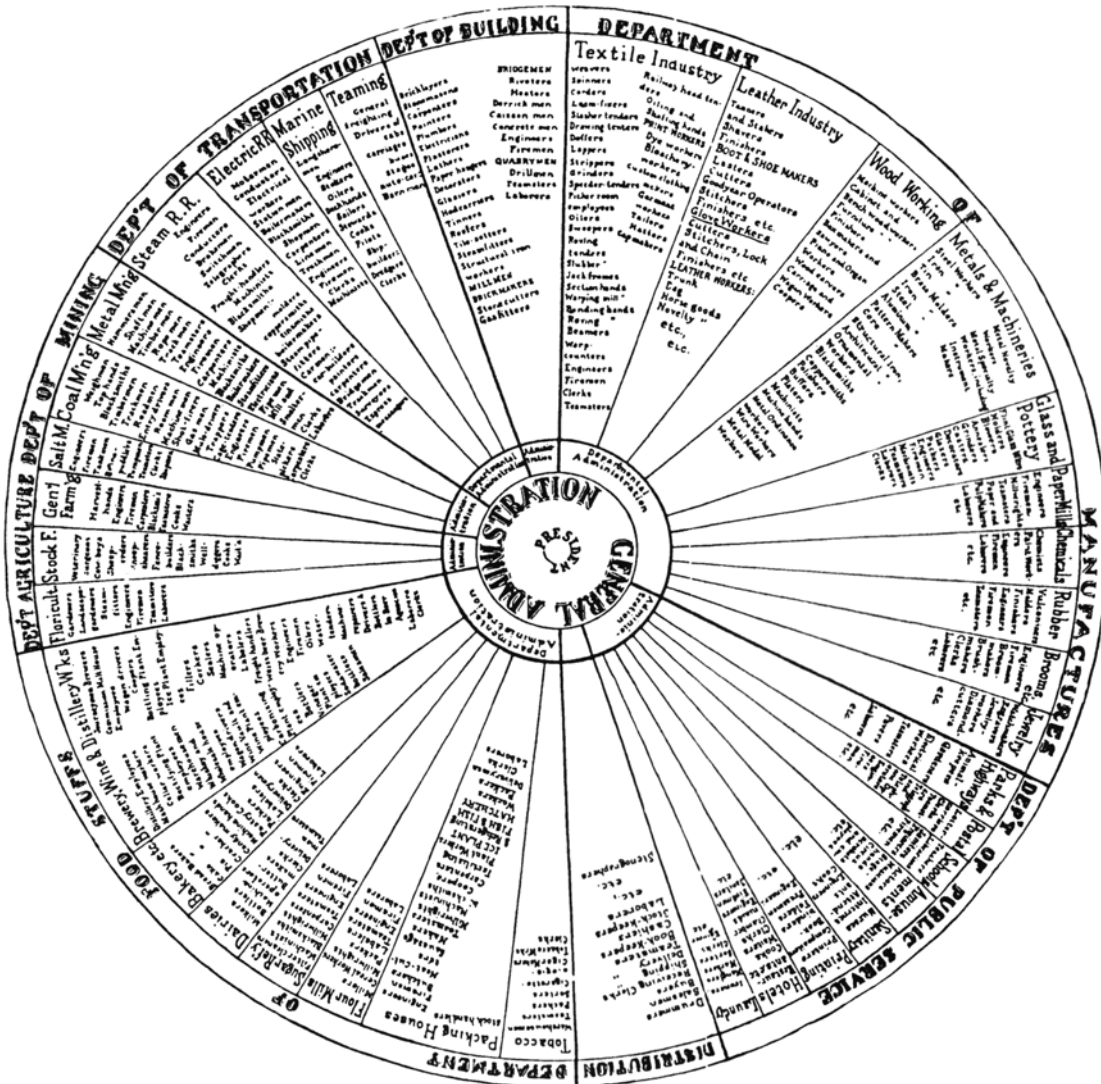
3333 West Belmont Avenue, Chicago, Illinois

Mr. Block

He Goes Harvesting



Wheel of Fortune, Father Thomas J. Hagerty, 1905



Thos. J. Hagerty

BIOGRAPHIES

Mike Alewitz is America's leading labor muralist, co-author of *Insurgent Images: the Agitprop Murals of Mike Alewitz*, and former chair of the Arts division of the Labor Party. He currently teaches mural-making at Central Connecticut State University.

Susan Simensky Bietila is a Wisconsin based artist/activist who grew up in Brooklyn, NY. She has continued to draw inspiration from the Wobblies since she first learned their history during the free-speech fight at Brooklyn College in 1965. Her first political artwork was published in the late 1960s in the *National Guardian* and in the second-wave feminist underground newspaper, the *RAT*. She is co-curator of "Drawing Resistance," a d.i.y. traveling art show, a group show of contemporary political art which has been touring North America since September 2001.

Her drawings, prints, and photographs have appeared recently in the New York storyboard magazine, *World War 3 Illustrated* and in other radical publications in the US and Canada.

Tauno Biltsted lives on the LES of Manhattan with his daughter, girlfriend and two cats. He and Mac McGill have fruitfully collaborated for ten years for *World War 3 Illustrated* and other publications. Tauno has been a squatter and community activist for all of his adult life and tries to bring an engaged sensibility to all of his work.

Clay Butler is the creator of the political comic strip "Sidewalk Bubblegum" and owner and director of www.claytowne.com Graphic and Web Design.

Christopher Cardinale earned a BFA with honors in 1996 from the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque. He then moved to Mexico City, where he immersed himself in the murals of the Mexican masters and worked with local political collectives. Cardinale has created large-scale murals, both individually and in collaboration with other artists, and had a number of one- and two-person shows in Mexico, New Mexico, Italy, Greece, and New York, where he has lived since 2001. In 2002, he was a resident at the Blue Mountain Center in the Adirondacks. Currently, he is co-editing the upcoming issue of *World War 3 Illustrated*, to which he has frequently contributed, with Seth Tobocman and Sabrina Jones. Cardinale's work has appeared in the *New York Times*, *Time* magazine and *New York Press*.

Giuliana Chamedes is a graduate of Brown and Cambridge universities and is studying for a PhD at Columbia in Law and History.

Sue Coe is an artist and activist, born in Tamworth, England in 1951. She studied at the Royal College of Art and has lived in the US since 1971. Sue's work has explored factory farming, meat-packing, apartheid, AIDS, and the horrors of war. Her many publications and prints are available on www.graphicwitness.org.

Carlos Cortez, born in 1923, is a longtime member, the son of a Mexican Wobbly father and German-American socialist mother. Cartoonist/poet Carlos Cortez (born 1923) is a longtime member of the IWW and has served as editor of the *Industrial Worker*. Well known for his linocut posters of IWWs Lucy Parsons, Joe Hill, Ben Fletcher, and others, he is also the author of three books of poems and editor of *Viva Posada! A Salute to the Great Printmaker of the Mexican Revolution* (2002). For many years he has been President of the Charles H. Kerr publishing co-op in Chicago.

Lisa DiPetto was born on Long Island and raised by a series of compassionate television sets, the losses of which she endured with rock-like stoicism. Sixties cartoons, advertising, and game shows were hardwired into her soul. Fortunately not too much of this reflects in her work. She is currently writing and illustrating several children's books. This is her first comic, but won't be her last.

Fly has been squatting in the Lower East Side of Manhattan since 1990, where she paints and draws comics and illustrations and sometimes paints murals. Her work has been published by: NY Press, *Juxtapoz*, *The Comics Journal*, *Village Voice*, *San Francisco Bay Guardian*, *Raygun*, *The Bradleys* (Fantagraphics), *World War 3 Illustrated*, *Punk*, *Maximumrocknroll*, and many more. Fly has self-published numerous comics and zines; a collection of these entitled *CHRON!!C!RIOTS!PA!SM!* was published in 1998 by Autonomedia. Her latest book *PEOPs*—a collection of almost 200 portraits of people and their stories—was released in July 2003 by Soft Skull/Shortwave.

Arthur Fonseca is an anarchist and activist who resides on the East side of the San Francisco Bay. He has been working since the mid '90s to preserve People's Park from the encroachments of the University of California at Berkeley's development schemes.

Roy Germon is an illustrator and painter living in Maine. A portfolio and contact info can be found at www.roygermon.com.

Ryan Inzana is an illustrator and cartoonist from Brooklyn, New York. His work can be seen in the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Nation*, the *Progressive*, and numerous other publications. Ryan's comic work can be found in the pages of *World War 3 Illustrated*, *New York Waste*, online in *Slate Magazine*, and in his latest graphic novel, *Johnny Jihad*. He is currently at work on an autobiographical graphic-novel series entitled *God-less America*.

Sabrina Jones is a native of Philadelphia, and has studied painting at the Pratt Institute and illustration at the School of Visual Arts. She created her first comics for *World War 3 Illustrated* and went on to edit many issues, as well as co-founding "Girlltalk," an anthology of Women's autobiographical comics. Her comics and illustrations have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Bust*, *Citylimits*, *RealGirl*, *Legal Action Comics*, *Tikkun* and *InxArt*. She is included in the books, *The Great Women Cartoonists*, *From Girls to Grrrlz*, *Rare Books*, *WW3 Confrontational Comics*, *Angry Graphics*, and *Your House Is Mine*. Her work has traveled in the exhibit "She Draws Comics," from Vienna's Secession Gallery to San Francisco's Cartoon Art Museum. Sabrina also paints scenery for theater, film, and TV, as a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829. See more of her work at www.sabrinaland.com.

Tom Keough has been an artist all his life, trying to use his talents to do some good in this world. Tom says: "The *Industrial Worker* is my favorite newspaper. It has news you won't see in other papers." Tom's paintings and illustrations have been shown at the Museum of Modern Art, the United Nations offices, in union newsletters, and used by organizations such as the National Council of Churches and the War Resisters League.

Jay Kinney was a member of the first wave of underground cartoonists, with his first comic strip appearing in *Bijou Funnies #1* in 1968. He co-founded the romance-comic parody, *Young Lust*, with Bill Griffith in 1970, created *Cover-up Lowdown* with Paul Mavrides in 1976, and founded *Anarchy Comics* in 1978. He was publisher and editor in chief of *Gnosis Magazine* (1985–99) and has co-authored (with Richard Smoley) *Hidden Wisdom: A Guide to the Western Inner Traditions* (1999) and edited *The Inner West: An Introduction to the Hidden Wisdom of the West* (2004). He resides in San Francisco with his wife, Dixie, and their two cats. His "Clinic of Cultural Collision" can be found at www.jaykinney.com.

Mike Konopacki is a labor cartoonist from Madison, Wisconsin. In 1983 he and Gary Huck, cartoonist for the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE), created Huck/Konopacki Labor Cartoons. Mike is author, along with Huck, of five collections of labor cartoons, their latest being "Two-headed Space Alien Shrinks Labor Movement." Along with writer Alec Dubro, Mike has produced labor comics for the APWU, CWA, Jobs With Justice, and Amnesty International USA. In 1995 Konopacki and Dubro created the thirty-two page full-color comic *The World Bank: A Tale of Power, Plunder, and Resistance*. It was translated into eleven languages worldwide. Huck and Konopacki's labor cartoons can be seen on the web at www.solidarity.com/hkcartoons.

Peter Kuper co-founded the political zine *World War 3 Illustrated* in 1979 and remains on its editorial board to this day. Peter Kuper's illustrations and comics appear regularly in *Time*, the *New York Times*, and *MAD*, where he illustrates SPY vs. SPY every month. His recent books include adaptations of Franz Kafka's "The Metamorphosis" and Upton Sinclair's "The Jungle," and *Sticks and Stones*, a wordless graphic novel about the rise and fall of empires. More of his work can be seen at www.peterkuper.com.

Barbara Laurence is Managing Editor of CAPITALISM/NATURE/SOCIALISM, and is Director of the non-profit Center for Political Ecology, in Santa Cruz, CA.

Jeffrey Lewis was born on roughly the same day that *Giant Size X-Men #1* came out in November 1975. Raised by loving beatnik parents on New York's Lower East Side, and educated by the public school system, he is no longer in mint condition but has nevertheless accrued slightly in value. Currently he has a body that resides in Brooklyn when not on tour; a couple of albums of songs released on the Rough Trade label, and comics in various publications floating around the margins of western civilization. www.TheJeffreyLewisSite.com

Josh MacPhee is an artist based in Chicago, IL whose work often revolves around themes of radical politics and public space. He published his first book, *Stencil Pirates: A Global Survey of Street Stenciling*, in 2004 with Soft Skull Press. He also organizes the Celebrate People's History Poster Series and runs a small radical art distro at www.justseeds.org.

Mac McGill is a frequent contributor to *Tikkun* magazine and *World War 3 Illustrated*. His work has also been published by Seven Stories Press, Four Walls and Eight

Windows, the *Guardian Radical Newsweekly*, *The Shadow*, *Arthur* magazine and numerous other publications. Mac has exhibited his artwork and performed slideshow presentations of his work at: Babel Festival (Athens, Greece), Underground Festival (Milano, Italy), BD Amadora (Amadora, Portugal), Forte Presentino (Roma, Italy), Theater for the New City (New York City) and ABCnoRIO (New York City). He lives and works in the Lower East Side of New York City. He is a longtime squatter and activist and works at a homeless shelter for youth.

Dylan Miner is a doctoral candidate in the department of Art and Art History at the University of New Mexico. His academic writing focuses on the intersections between Chicana/o and Metis artistic production and anarchist praxis. He has published articles on Carlos Cortez Koyokuikatl, Diego Rivera, and the culture of Chicana/o anarchists in Michigan. His artwork has been shown in the United States, Canada and Mexico. He is a member of the Education Workers Industrial Union 620 and the Woodland Metis Tribe of Ontario.

Jerome Neukirch (a.k.a. Jerome x350474) is a persnickety perfectionist and a hopeless procrastinator. He has never turned in anything on time—including this bio. When not trying to draw, Jerome is an unimportant functionary in academia. He has been a Wob since 1999. He lives in Louisville, Kentucky with his two adoring cats who support his work and took a sustained interest in this project.

Harvey Pekar is the star persona of the film and autobiographical comic-book series *American Splendor*. He has been writing since 1957, with several collections of his works currently in print.

Kevin Pyle has done illustrations for the *New York Times*, the *New Yorker*, the *Progressive*, and the *Village Voice*, as well as numerous other publications. His docucomic, *Lab U.S.A.*—illuminated documents (Autonomea)—received a silver medal from the Society of Illustrators. *Lab U.S.A.* is a history, in comic-book form, of medicine and science in the service of racist and political imperatives. He also produces installations and performances based on the text that have appeared at MassMOCA, the Brooklyn Museum of Art and numerous other art/performance venues. He is a longtime contributor/co-editor of *World War 3 Illustrated*, America's longest-running radical comic book.

Trina Robbins is founder of *It Ain't Me Babe*, the first of the Women's Liberation comics, and has written a number of books about women and comic art. She lives in San Francisco.

Spain Rodriguez was one of the founders of Underground Comix, most notably with his figure "Trashman of the Sixth International." His collection *MY TRUE STORY* is his true story, from the streets of Buffalo to San Francisco; many of his strips have offered intense historical views of revolutionary struggles.

Franklin Rosemont edited *The Rebel Worker* (1964–67). His latest book is a surrealist study, *An Open Entrance to the Shut Palace of Wrong Numbers* (2003). His books on the IWW include *Juice Is Stranger Than Friction: Selected Writings of T-Bone Slim* (1992) and *Joe Hill: The IWW and the Making of a Revolutionary Working-class Counterculture* (2003), both from Charles H. Kerr.

Sharon Rudahl was born in 1947 near Washington DC. She marched with Martin Luther King and graduated from Cooper Union in 1967. Sharon learned to draw

comics during the Vietnam War and has been widely published in underground newspapers and magazines, as well as in Marvel Comics. Her art has been most recently exhibited in The Secession Art Gallery in Vienna. Sharon now lives in Hollywood with her husband, a professional chess player, and she has two sons. Her hobbies include civil disobedience and studying Mandarin.

Terry Tapp joined the IWW in 1998 after reading about them in a newspaper. He had been treated like hell at job after job, and the unions he talked to didn't seem to give a damn. He grew up in Kentucky among poor, working people who had a lot of talent and too many dreams for their lot. He has those dreams, too, and has managed to poke his head above constant work and frustration. Terry paints, draws, and writes comics and stories, and tattoo. His life is dedicated to his art and to giving the talent and dreams of other working people a chance to live. If there's an opportunity to raise hell, he takes it.

Nick Thorkelson years ago drew "The Earth Belongs to the People" and "The Underhanded History of the USA." Not so long ago he had a regular cartoon on local politics in the *Boston Globe*. His comics and cartoons have also appeared in *Itchy Planet*, *The Somerville Community News*, the *Progressive*, *Radical America*, *Dollars & Sense*, and *The Free Comix*, and publications of Greenpeace and Work Rights Press. His "Comic Strip of Neoliberalism" appears irregularly in *Dollars & Sense*, and can also be viewed online at www.nickthorkelson.com.

Seth Tobocman has been doing political comics since 1979 when he started the magazine *World War 3 Illustrated* with Peter Kuper. He has worked with a number of radical movements both as an artist and as an activist, including the movement to free South Africa, the Lower East Side Squatters Movement, as well as the

Anti-Globalization movement and the current antiwar movement. He has published three books of his comics: *You Don't Have to Fuck People Over to Survive* (1989), *War in the Neighborhood* (1999) and *Portraits of Israelis and Palestinians* (2003).

Susan Willmarth was born and raised in Albuquerque, NM and graduated from Parson's School of Design. She has worked for Push Pin Studios and *New York Magazine*. Sue has illustrated and designed books for Writer's and Reader's Publishers including "Black History for Beginners" and "McLuhan For Beginners". She currently illustrates for *World War 3 Illustrated* and keeps a day job at St. Marks Books in NYC.

Jordan Worley was born in Austin, Texas on August 8, 1973. He grew up in New York (Enwood, Yonkers, Brooklyn.) His work has been published in *World War 3 Illustrated*, and he has worked as co-editor on several issues of the magazine. Jordan has always drawn pictures to express himself and the world around him, and will continue to do so.

