

SABOTAGE

Sabotage means to push back, pull out or break off the fangs of Capitalism
W.D. Haywood

JOIN the I.W.W. NOW

I.W.W. WHAT WE STAND FOR

MORE WAGES
SHORTER HOURS
SOLIDARITY
GOOD PAY OR BUM WORK
THINK IT OVER, JOIN THE ONE BIG UNION

A CARTOON HISTORY

OF THE IWW

(1905-1924)

BEWARE
GOOD PAY - BUM WORK
I.W.W.

ONE BIG UNION
WE NEVER FORGET
SABOTAGE

WORKERS:

SLOW DOWN
The job you are may be your own
I.W.W.

AUTO-WORKERS

4 HOUR DAY
DAY WEEK

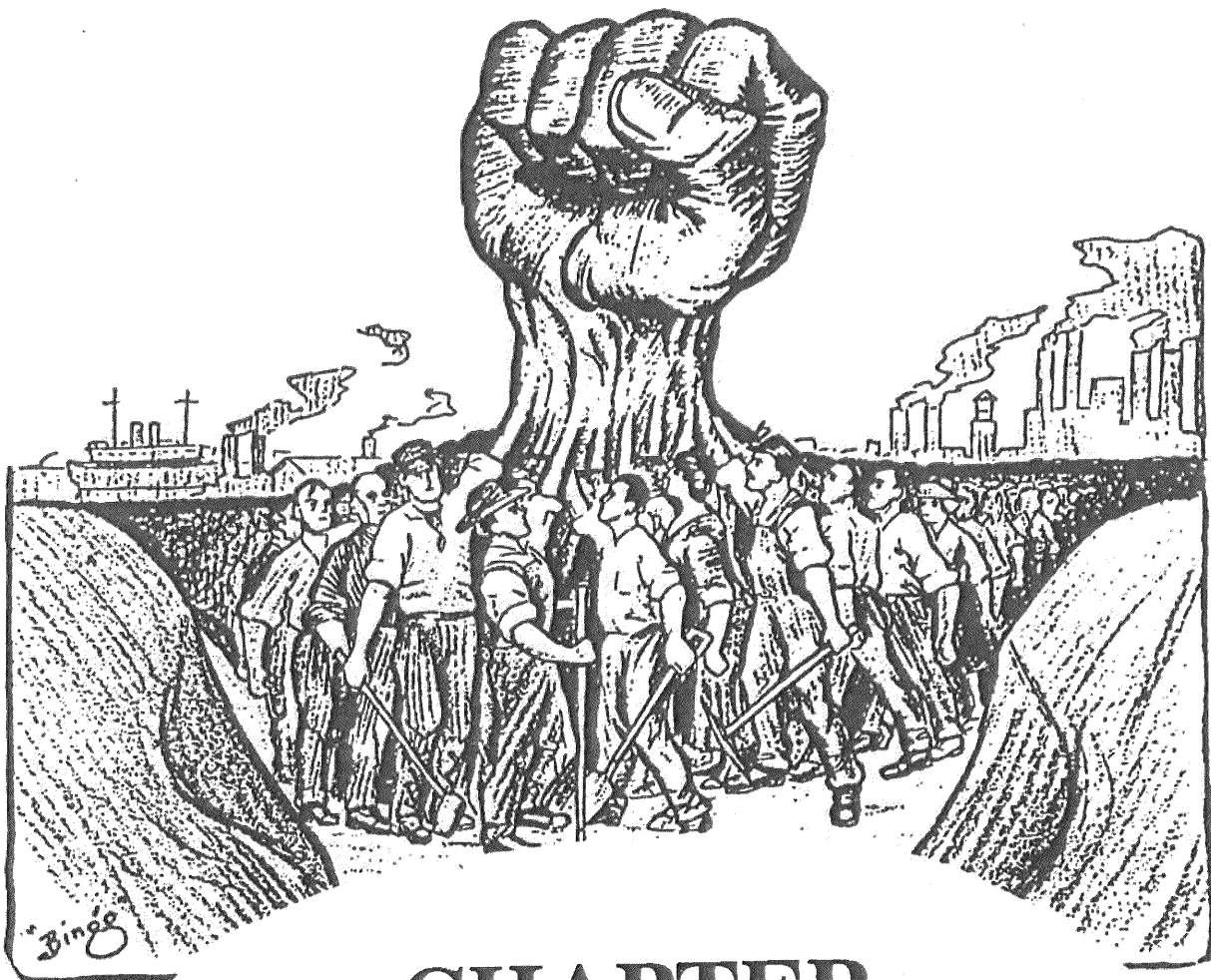
José Curbelo

Organize in the I.W.W.

**A Cartoon History
of the IWW
(1905-1924)**

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Printed in Minneapolis, Minnesota
Second Printing
March 1993

Done as a project for U.S. History 11



CHAPTER

ONE

GETTING STARTED

(1904-1908)

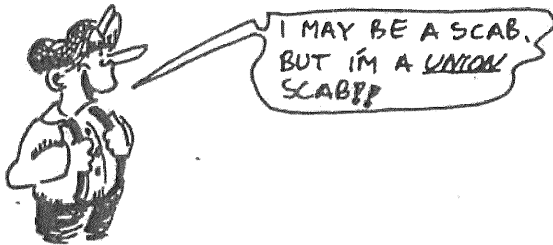
2 AT THE TURN OF THE CENTURY THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT HAD GOTTEN INTO FULL SWING, BUT SOME PEOPLE DIDN'T QUITE FANCY THE WAY IT WAS SWINGING...

THEY AGREED

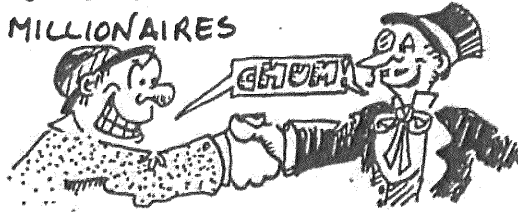
▫ THERE WAS TOO MUCH SQUABBLING BETWEEN UNIONS OVER WHO CONTROLLED WHAT PROFESSION



▫ TOO MUCH SCABBING OF ONE UNION ON THE OTHER



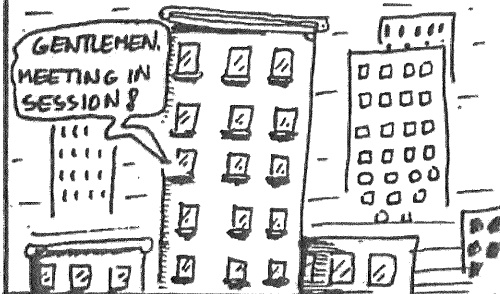
▫ TOO MANY LABOR LEADERS HOBNOBBING WITH UPPER-CLASS MILLIONAIRES



▫ AND TOO LITTLE EDUCATION OF THE WORKERS

... **THEN** IN 1904 SOME PEOPLE DECIDED IT WAS TIME FOR A **CHANGE**.

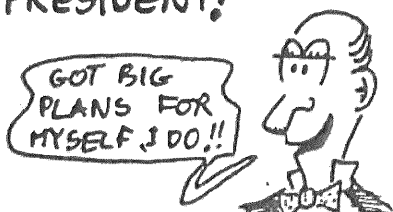
NOVEMBER 1904, CHICAGO
EIGHT MEN MET TO DISCUSS THE BUILDING OF A NEW LABOR MOVEMENT.



AMONG THESE MEN WERE REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED BREWERY WORKERS, THE UNITED BROTHERHOOD OF RAIL ROAD EMPLOYEES, AND THE AMERICAN LABOR UNION, FOUNDED BY THE RADICAL WESTERN FEDERATION OF MINERS. ALL HAD BEEN THROWN OUT OR CONFLICTED WITH THE GIANT TRADE UNION, THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR (AFL).



ALSO PRESENT WAS EUGENE V. DEBS A RAILROAD ORGANIZER, AND LATER THE SOCIALIST CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT!



THE GROUP VOTED TO CALL ANOTHER MEETING IN JANUARY OF 1905.



AT THE JANUARY CONFERENCE THE 23 IN ATTENDANCE ISSUED A MANIFESTO CALLING FOR THE INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATION OF THE WORKING CLASS, BEGINNING WITH A CONVENTION IN JUNE.



SO THEN ON JUNE 27, 1905
SUPPORTERS FROM ALL OVER
ATTENDED THIS **INDUSTRIAL
UNION CONGRESS**



"BIG BILL" HAYWOOD

-ONE-EYED LEADER IN THE WFM

THIS IS THE
CONTINENTAL CONGRESS
OF THE WORKING
CLASS!!

THE CONVENTION
WROTE A PREAMBLE
DENOUNCING THE
TRADE UNIONISM OF
THE AFL, AND
THE CAPITALIST
SYSTEM. IT
BEGAN:

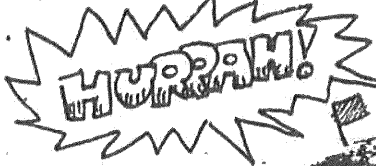


"The working class and the
employing class have nothing
in common. ...Between these
two classes a struggle must go on
until the workers of the world
organize ...By organizing industria
we are forming the structure of
a new society within the shell
of the old."

AS THE CONVENTION
CLOSED, A NEW MOVEMENT
WAS BORN, ONE THAT
STROVE FOR WORKER
SOLIDARITY, AND THE
EMANCIPATION OF
THE WORKING
CLASS. IT WAS
CALLED...

THE I.W.W.

(INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD)



THE REACTION TO THE
NEW MOVEMENT WAS
MIXED AMONG LABOR
FORCES

"THE MOUNTAIN
LABORED AND
BROUGHT FORTH
A MOUSE, AND A
VERY SILLY, LITTLE
MOUSE AT THAT!"

SAM GOMERS
AFL LEADER



MEANWHILE, THE LEFT
WING OF THE
SOCIALIST PARTY
APPLAUDED THE IWW
AS A STEP IN THE
RIGHT DIRECTION.

OR RATHER, A STEP
IN THE LEFT
DIRECTION



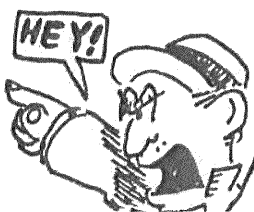
THE SOCIALIST RIG
HOWEVER CONDEMN
IT AS DIVIDING T
LABOR MOVEMENT

SO VERY
DIVISIVE

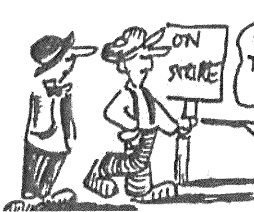
HEAR
HEAR



MANY OF THE FOUNDING UNIONS WERE
IN INDUSTRIES TRADITIONALLY HELD
BY THE AFL, SUCH AS BREWERS,
MINERS AND TEXTILE WORKERS.



THESE NEW INROADS IN THE AFL
WERE OFTEN DETRIMENTAL, SPARKIN
RIVALRIES AMONG WORKERS THAT
OFTEN COST THE STRIKE



SIGH SOME
THINGS NEVER
CHANGE



4 EARLY ON, THE IWW SERVED
MAINLY AS A PROPAGANDA
GROUP PROMOTING THE IDEA OF
INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM

THAT IS THE UNION OF ALL
WORKERS IN AN INDUSTRY
REGARDLESS OF SKILL



AS OPPOSED
TO THE SEP-
ARATION OF TRADES
IN THE AFL



BUT ITS LEADERSHIP OF THE FIRST YEAR
AIMED TO STRAY THE IWW FROM ITS MORE
REVOLUTIONARY IDEAS. CHARLES SHERMAN
WAS ELECTED PRESIDENT AT THE FIRST CONVENTION
BECAUSE HE STOOD NOWHERE.



HE DID NOT BELIEVE IN
IWW PRINCIPLES

- TRIED TO FORM THE IWW
INTO ANOTHER AFL
- RAN A BUTTON/BANNER
COMPANY THAT CHEATED
THE IWW IN COSTS

THIS BAD LEADERSHIP IS WHAT
BROUGHT ON THE IWW'S **FIRST
SPLIT** AT THE SECOND CONVENTION

THE IWW WAS ALREADY SPLIT INTO
TWO FACTIONS: THOSE FOLLOWING
SHERMAN, AND THOSE WITH A
VINCENT ST. JOHN, AN EDITOR, TRAUTMAN,
AND SOCIALIST DANIEL DELEON



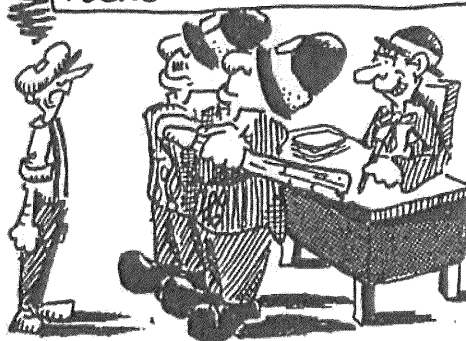
FIRST, IT WAS VOTED
THAT THE OFFICE OF
PRESIDENT BE ABOLISHED
AND REPLACED WITH
CHAIRMAN

ST. JOHN WAS
ELECTED CHAIRMAN

SHERMAN DENOUNCED
HIS OUSTER AS A
DELEON-SLIPK PLOT!

* SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY

SHERMAN REFUSED TO LEAVE
THE IWW OFFICES AND POSTED
POLICE GUARDS



BLOCKED FROM THE
MATERIALS OF THE OFFICES
ST. JOHN FOUND IT HARD
TO LEAD WITH ONLY SEVEN
CENTS



FINALLY A COURT ORDER GOT
SHERMAN OUT AND THE CON-
SERVATIVE ELEMENT WAS GONE
FOREVER FROM THE IWW
AS HE LEFT, SHERMAN
RAILED THE CONVENTION AS
"BEGGARS" AND THE "COFFEE
AND DOUGHNUT BRIGADE"
AND STAYOUT!!



DESPITE ITS UNCERTAIN START THE IWW
WERE HEARTENED TO SEE THE TRIUMPH OF
INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM IN RUSSIA, WHERE
IN 1905 A GENERAL STRIKE OF UNSKILLED

A PERFECT EXAMPLE OF AN INDUSTRIAL
UNION WAS INVOLVED IN ONE OF THE
IWW'S EARLIER STRUGGLES. IT WAS
THE LOCAL 77, COMPOSED OF PRACTICALLY
ALL THE TRADES OF GOLDFIELD, NEVADA.



AFTER THE IWW WON SEVERAL EARLY STRIKES IN 1906, THE BUSINESS-OWNERS DECIDED THAT IT HAD TO GO...

JOIN US UP BROTHER!

AS IF I HAD A CHOICE!

AGITATORS!

THE AFL WAS CALLED IN TO ATTRACT WORKERS FROM THE IWW (AT TIMES, WITH SAWED-OFF SHOTGUNS...)

WHEN THAT DIDN'T WORK THE MINES LOCKED OUT ALL IWWs INCLUDING THE MINERS OF THE LOCAL 220 OF THE WFM

WORK??
DEED-HA HA
HA HA HA HA
HA HA HA HA

GOLDFIELD MINING CO.

MINE OWNERS ENCOURAGED WORKERS TO BREAK AWAY FROM THE I.W.W. KNOWING THAT THE NOW-CONSERVATIVE WFM BROKE TIES WITH THE IWW, UPSET OVER THE HARSH FIRST SPLIT

HI-HO, HI-HO...

DESPITE THE LOSS OF GOLDFIELD, THE IWW PROVED THAT IT WAS NOT DEAD AFTER THE SPLIT. THEY MANAGED TO ORGANIZE AN ENTIRE TOWN!

SO THE MINERS OF LOCAL 220 SPLIT WITH THE IWW AND LOCAL 77 AND WERE RE-HIRED

EH, WHO NEEDS YOU?!

DO WE LOOK DEAD??

OTHER ORGANIZATION THAT THE IWW TOOK PART IN WAS THE PUBLICATION OF FOREIGN LANGUAGE NEWS PAPERS AND ORGANIZING OF PEOPLE CALLED "AN UNDESIRABLE CLASS OF IMMIGRANTS" BY THE AFL. AS IN PATERSON, NEW JERSEY WERE 1,000 TEXTILE WORKERS COMPOSED MAINLY OF HUNGARIANS AND ITALIANS WERE BROUGHT AS A LOCAL INTO THE IWW

HUNKS!! DAGOS!!
POLAKS, JAPS,
CHINEE, GUINERS,
SPICS, WETBACKS

DON'T LISTEN TO HIMPPHON!

BUT IN OCTOBER, 1907, THE N.Y. STOCK MARKET **CRASHED!**
BOOM!

DUE TO LACK OF FUNDS, ALL IWW PUBLICATIONS AND STRIKES WERE POSTPONED AND ORGANIZATION LOST MOMENTUM...

IWW OFFICES

AFTER THE REVOLUTION, WE WON'T NEED MONEY...

HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS OF WORKERS WERE LEFT UNEMPLOYED. THE IWW LED MARCHES OF THESE LABORERS TO CITY HALLS TO DEMAND WORK FROM THE GOVERNMENT

OUT OF THESE HARD TIMES CAME SONGS WRITTEN ABOUT WORKER SOLIDARITY, THE IWW, AND "HOBOS" (UNEMPLOYED WORKERS) FOR EXAMPLE: "HALLELUJAH, I'M A BUM..."

♪ HALLELUJAH I'M A BUM ♪
♪ HALLELUJAH, BUM AGAIN ♪
HALLELUJAH GIVE USA HAND-OUT.
♪ AND REVIVE US AGAIN ♪

DESPITE THE SPLIT OF 1906, AND THE BREAK WITH THE WFM, AND THE HARD ECONOMIC TIMES, AND A MEMBERSHIP LESS THAN 6000, COMBOS WARNED UNION LEADERS OF THE IWW, NOT TO BE FOOLED BY REPORTS THAT IT WAS "DEAD AND BURIED"



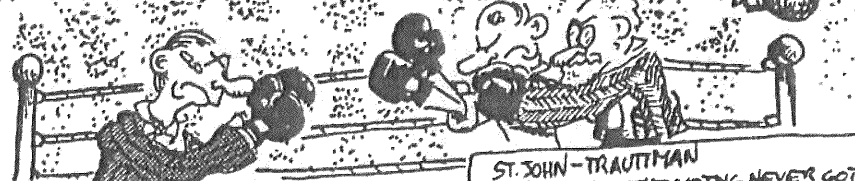
MANY WOBBLES* COULD IN FACT NOT VOTE, WHETHER THEY BE WOMEN OR MAINLY MIGRANT WORKERS, AND THE FOREIGN-BORN, AS THE MIGRANT WORKER HAD NO FIXED HOME



* NAME FOR IWW MEMBERS

AS THE CONVENTION ASSEMBLED, OUT OF OREGON CAME 19 NO- NONSENSE MEN AND WOMEN-VOTING MEMBERS- WHO WERE DEEMED THE "IWW RED OVERALLS BRIGADE". THEY IMMEDIATELY SIDED WITH ST. JOHN AND TRAUTMAN.

SOON, THE FOURTH CONVENTION OF DOB BROUGHT UP A CONFLICT THAT SURFACED AS EARLY AS THE FOUNDING CONVENTION, THIS TIME BETWEEN TRAUTMAN-ST. JOHN AND DELEON.



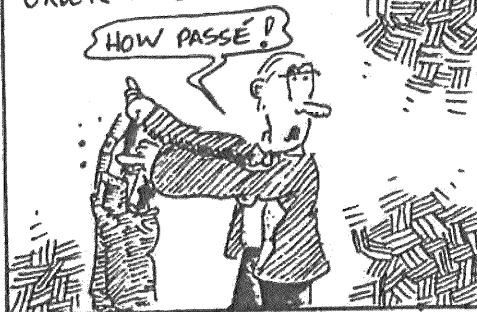
DELEON □ ADVOCATING THE SOCIALIST PARTY
□ SUPPORTED WINNING STRUGGLE BY VOTING

II SSUE:

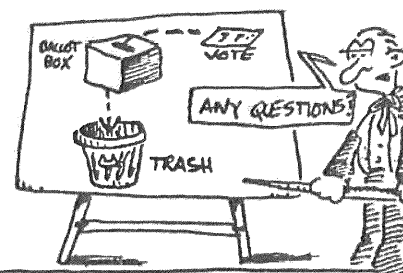
POLITICAL ACTION

ST. JOHN-TRAUTMAN
□ BELIEVED THAT VOTING NEVER GOT THE WORKER ANYWHERE
□ VOTING IS A CAPITALIST TOOL
□ ANARCHO-SYNDICALIST

THE DELEONITES LOOKED DOWN ON THESE NON-VOTING MEMBERS, DERIDING THEM AS THE "NOBLE AND ANCIENT ORDER OF OVERALLS-WEARERS"



TRAUTMAN AND ST. JOHN TOOK A MORE SYNDICALIST* STAND, BELIEVING THAT TRYING TO WIN GOVT. OFFICES WAS DIVERTING WORKERS' ATTENTION FROM STRIKES AND ORGANIZING



* A TYPE OF UNIONISM THAT TRIED TO CREATE A SOCIETY WHO'S UNIT IS THE WORKERS UNION

SO, IT WAS VOTED, WITH THE OREGON CONTINGENT, THAT DELEON BE OUSTED FROM HIS SEAT ON THE BOARD



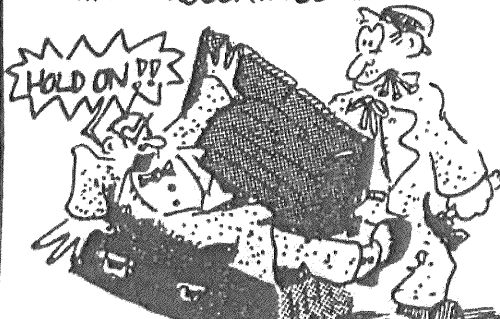
HE AND HIS FOLLOWERS THEN LEFT THE MAIN CHICAGO IWW TO FORM ONE OF HIS OWN IN DETROIT



ONE OF THE RESULTS OF THIS SPLIT WAS THAT THE IWW BECAME INCREASINGLY LINKED TO THE WEST (MINERS, LOGGERS, ETC.)

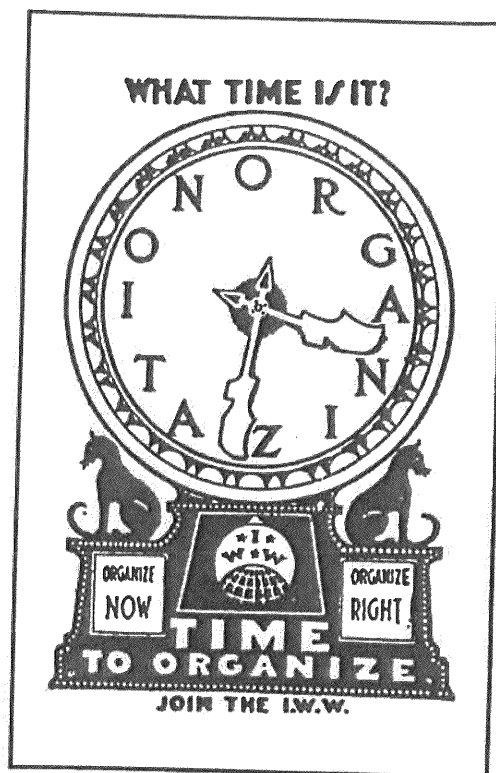


LEFT WITH ONLY 3700 MEMBERS THE IWW WAS AGAIN PROCLAIMED DEAD.



BEFORE WE GO ANY FURTHER WERE FIRST GOING TO DEAL WITH JUST WHAT THESE "WOBBLES" BELIEVED IN, IN

CHAPTER 2



CHAPTER TWO

CULTURE AND TACTICS

ALTHOUGH THE IWW ENCOMPASSED MANY DIFFERENT OPINIONS AND SCHOOLS OF THOUGHT, THERE WERE CERTAIN IDEAS AND GOALS STRESSED IN WOBBLY ORGANIZING

□ FIRST AND FOREMOST, THEY BELIEVED IN THE SOLIDARITY OF THE WORKING CLASS



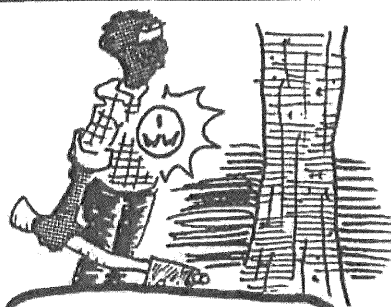
WITH REVOLUTIONARY INDUSTRIAL UNIONISM ALL WORKERS WOULD UNITE IN...

The One Big Union

WITH THIS ONE BIG UNION OR O.B.U., THE CLASS STRUGGLE WOULD COME TO AN END!!

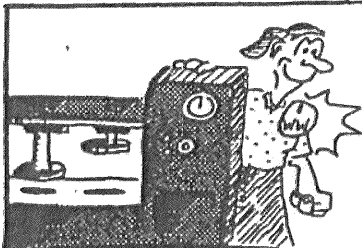
WHEN THE IWW SAID "ALL WORKERS" THEY DIDN'T MEAN ALL "WHITE" WORKERS, AS THE AFL DID, BUT WORKERS OF ALL COLORS.

WHAT DIFFERENCE DOES SOMEONE'S COLOR MAKE? THIS IS A BLACK AND WHITE STRIP!!



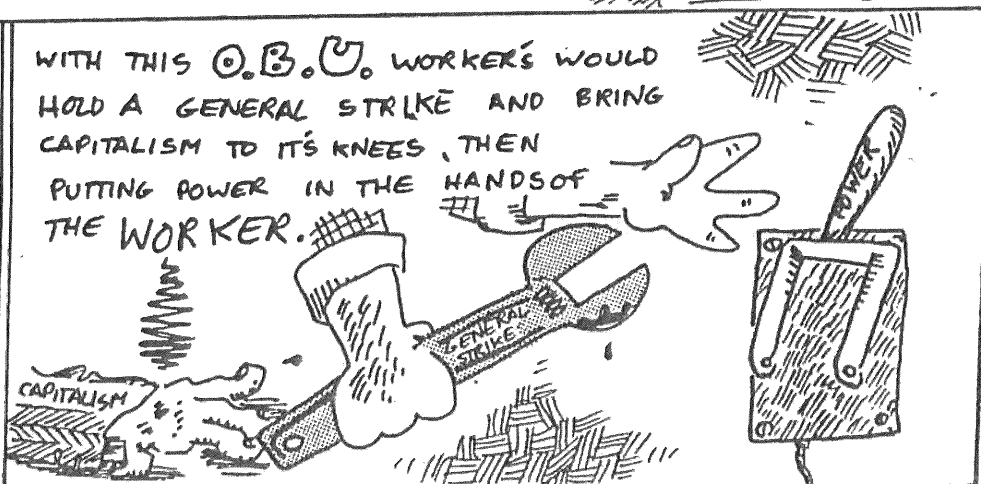
THEY ORGANIZED BLACK LUMBER SACKS IN THE SOUTH

AND DIDN'T BUY INTO THE "YELLOW PERIL" THEORY OF ASIANS OVERRUNNING AMERICA THAT OTHER LABOR UNIONS BELIEVED



WOMEN, ALSO, HAD AN ESTABLISHED PRESENCE IN THE IWW

WITH THIS O.B.U. WORKERS WOULD HOLD A GENERAL STRIKE AND BRING CAPITALISM TO ITS KNEES, THEN PUTTING POWER IN THE HANDS OF THE WORKER.



AFTER THE STRIKE A NEW SOCIETY WOULD ARISE, RULED BY WORKER'S UNIONS, IN WHICH ALL WOULD BE A "USEFUL PRODUCER" AND A MEMBER OF THE O.B.U. IT WAS A CONTESTED SUBJECT. BUT PEOPLE AGREED-

ANYTHING'S BETTER THAN CAPITALISM!!



SOCIALIST WRITER, EDWARD BELLAMY WROTE OF SUCH A SOCIETY IN THE YEAR 2000, VISITED BY A 20TH CENTURY MAN FROZEN IN TIME, IN HIS WIDELY READ BOOK: "LOOKING BACK"

OF COURSE, WE HAVE INDOOR BATHROOMS, BAR-BARIAN!!



THIS GOAL IS USUALLY CONSIDERED A FORM OF SYNDICALISM, WHICH ADVOCATED A NEW SOCIETY THROUGH DIRECT ACTION NOT VOTING

STICKEM WITH A PUNCH, NOT A VOTE!!



THE IWW JUSTIFIED ITS NON-POLITICAL STAND BY CLAIMING THAT POLITICAL ISSUES DIVIDED ITS MEMBERS AND THAT "LABOR LEGISLATION" ACCOMPLISHED NOTHING. THIS CONFLICTED WITH THE SOCIALIST STAND

HI, I'M AN ORTHODOX ANARCHO-TROTSKY-IST

DEMOCRAT, MYSELF.



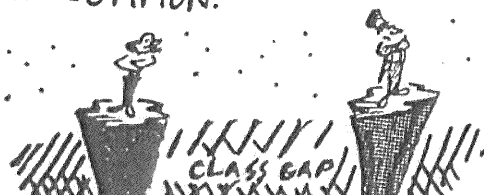
ONE RESULT OF NON-PARTISANSHIP WAS THAT THE IWW CONTAINED MANY POLITICAL POINTS-OF-VIEW, BUT ULTIMATELY DOOMED ITS CHANCES FOR SURVIVAL

CLASS STRUGGLE

OF THE CLASS STRUGGLE THE IWW ACCEPTED MARX'S THEORIES THAT CAPITALISTS ARE NOTHING BUT PARASITES FEEDING OFF THE WORKERS



THEY SAW THAT THE CAPITALIST AND WORKING CLASSES, HAD NOTHING IN COMMON.



AND THAT THE COURTS, ARMY AND MILITIAS WERE CAPITALIST CREATIONS TO PROTECT THEIR WEALTH

10 THE IWW MADE IT THEIR DUTY TO EDUCATE WORKERS OF THEIR SITUATION AND THIS CLASS STRUGGLE, AND TO SET "BLOCKHEADS" WORKERS WHO STILL BELIEVED IN THE CAPITALIST SYSTEM, ON THE RIGHT PATH.

Mr. Block

by Ernest Riebel

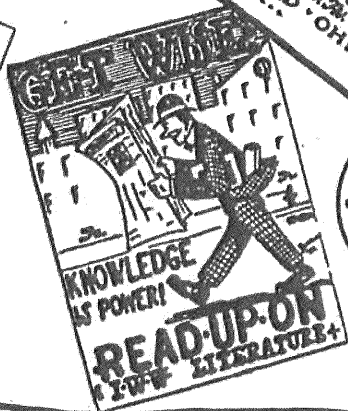
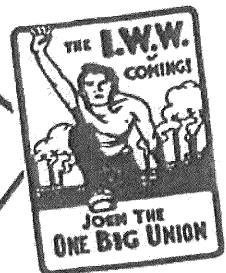
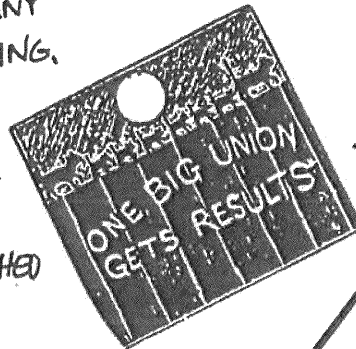


WOBBLES WERE VERY WELL-EDUCATED ON THESE ISSUES. MIGRANT WORKERS OFTEN SPENDING NON-ACTIVE WINTERS IN IWW LIBRARIES.

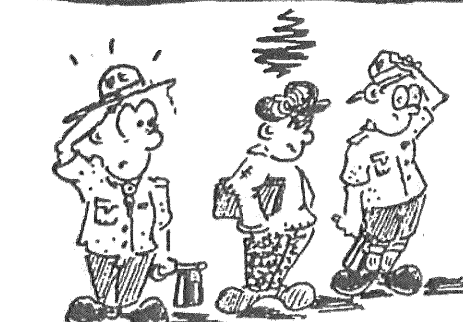
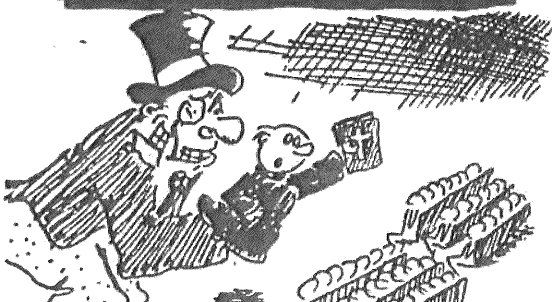
THE IWW REGARDED ITSELF AS A "MILITANT MINORITY" TO INSPIRE AND EDUCATE THE MASSES



THE IWW HAD MANY MEANS OF EDUCATING, FROM LIBRARIES IN WOBBLY HALLS, TO CARTOONS AND STICKERS, ALSO NEWS-PAPERS WERE PUBLISHED IN 13 DIFFERENT LANGUAGES



ON Religion THE IWW SAW THE CHURCH ESTABLISHMENT AS A TOOL OF THE EXPLOITING CLASS



WOBBLES REFUSED TO HONOR THE FLAG AS LONG AS IT STOOD AS A SYMBOL OF CAPITALIST OPPRESSION, AND BASHED THE BOY SCOUTS AS FILLING THE "CHILDREN OF THE WORKERS WITH CAPITALIST RUBBISH"

SAID ONE MIGRANT WORKER:

You ask me why the IWW is not patriotic to the United States. If you were a bum without a blanket, if you had left your wife and kids when you went West,... if you slept in a lousy, sour bunkhouse,... if every person representing law and order and the nation, beat you up, and railroaded you to jail, and the good Christian people cheered and told them to go to it, how the HELL do you expect me to be PATRIOTIC ?!

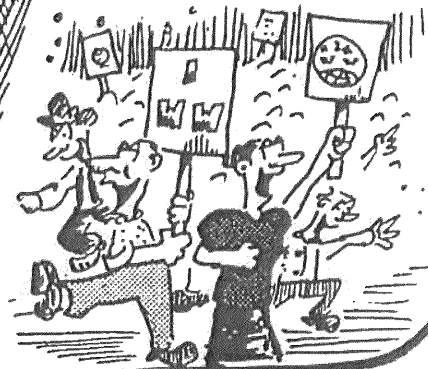
A POPULAR PHRASE AMONG WOBBLES WAS "DIRECT ACTION", AN UNCLEAR IDEA, BUT DEFINED AS "DEALING DIRECTLY WITH YOUR BOSS THROUGH YOUR LABOR UNION, AND NOT GOING THROUGH THE COURTS OR LEGISLATURE"



DURING STRIKES, THE IWW USED MASS PICKETS AND PARADES THROUGH TOWN

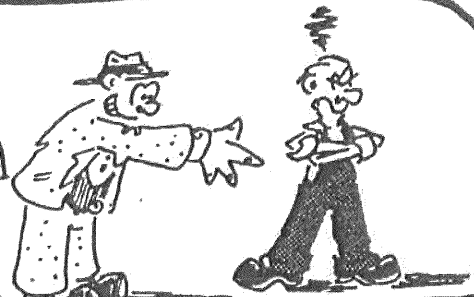


ONE FORM OF DIRECT ACTION WAS THE STRIKE AT WHICH WOBBLES WERE PARTICULARLY INVENTIVE.



THE HELP OF LABOR SYMPATHIZERS WAS TAKEN, AND SOUP KITCHENS WERE SET UP

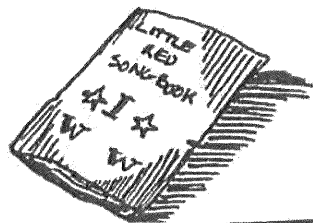
AFTER THE STRIKE WAS OVER, THE WORKERS KEPT ON ORGANIZING INSTEAD OF DISBANDING



UNLIKE OTHER UNIONS THE IWW CONDEMNED CONTRACTS WITH THE BOSS AS A "UN-HOLY ALLIANCE"

AT THESE STRIKES AND IN ALL OTHER WOBBLY EVENTS, MANY SONGS WERE SUNG, WRITTEN BY WOBBLY SONGWRITERS. THEY PROVED TO BE EFFECTIVE ORGANIZING TOOLS.

THESE SONGS WERE FIRST COMPILED IN 1909 IN THE "LITTLE RED SONGBOOK"



IT WAS SAID THAT SONGS WERE MORE EFFECTIVE TO GET TO THE WORKER, "WHILE THE INTELLECTUALS WERE LEFT IN THE HALLS, CHEWING ON VOLUMES OF KARL MARX"

THE MOST FAMOUS WOBBLY SONGWRITER WAS JOE HILL, A SWEDEN, WHO WROTE DOZENS OF WITTY SONGS THAT ARE STILL SUNG TODAY. HE WAS EXECUTED IN UTAH ON TROMPED-UP CHARGES OF MURDER



JOE HILL (1887-1915)

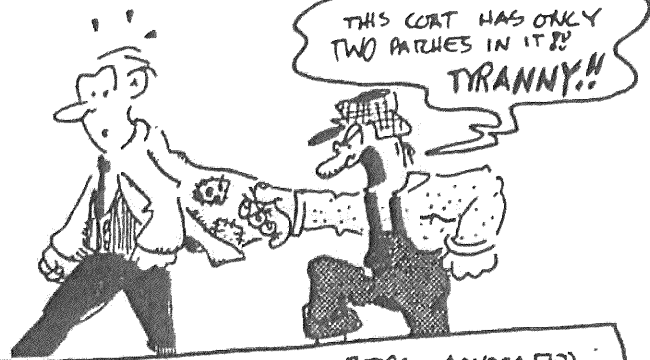
"Joe writes songs that sing, that lilt and laugh... He has crystallized the organization's spirit into imperishable forms, songs of the people-folk songs" - E. G. Flynn

WITH THESE INFLUENTIAL, AND OFTEN HILARIOUS SONGS THE IWW BECAME THE ONLY REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT NOTED FOR ITS SENSE OF HUMOR



¹² LEADERSHIP

ALTHOUGH THE IWW HAD SOME PROMINENT SPEAKERS AND ORGANIZERS, ITS 1905 MANIFESTO SAID THAT "ALL POWER SHOULD REST IN COLLECTIVE MEMBERSHIP". W.D. HAYWOOD COINED THE PHRASE "WE ARE ALL LEADERS".

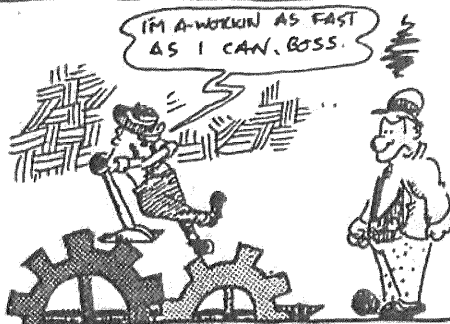


PACIFIC COAST MEMBERS ADVOCATED THIS DECENTRALIZATION TO THE POINT OF PROPOSING TO ABOLISH CONVENTIONS AND BASHED LEADERS FOR OWNING THEIR OWN HOMES, WEARING RINGS, ETC.



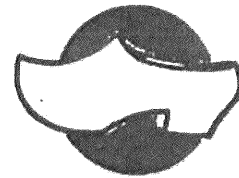
ONE ASPECT OF IWW DOCTRINE PARTICULARLY SCARED THE BOURGEOIS PUBLIC, THAT OF...

SABOTAGE

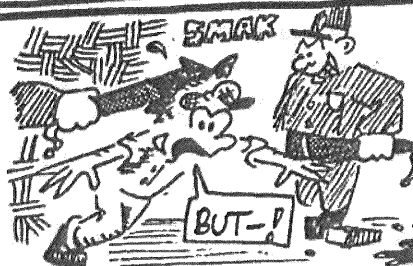


SABOTAGE IN THE IWW WAS NOT THE DYNAMITE AND EXPLOSIVES BELIEVED BY THE PUBLIC, BUT RATHER THE SLOWING DOWN ON THE JOB, AND GUMMING UP OF MACHINERY...

THIS WAS A TACTIC TAKEN FROM THE FRENCH SYNDICALIST. "SABOT" IN FRENCH, MEANING THE WOODEN SHOE KICKED, BY THE WORKER INTO THE MACHINERY



AN EFFECTIVE, YET PASSIVE METHOD, THE PUBLIC TOOK ADVOCATION OF SUCH A PRINCIPLE AS SABOTAGE, AS ADVOCATION OF EXPLOSIVES AND VIOLENCE



THE IWW DENOUNCED VIOLENCE AND TOLD WOBBLIES TO "AVOID AS FAR AS POSSIBLE THE USE OF VIOLENCE"

VINCENT ST. JOHN CLARIFIED: "I DON'T MEAN TO SAY THAT WE ADVOCATE VIOLENCE, BUT WE WON'T TELL OUR MEMBERS TO ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE SHOT DOWN AND BEATEN UP LIKE CATTLE!"



DESPITE DENOUNCING THE GUN ALONG WITH THE BALLOT, AND ADVOCATING NON-VIOLENCE, THE PUBLIC STILL SAW THE IWW AS BOMB-THROWING ANARCHISTS!



IN CHAPTER 3

WE SEE JUST WHO THESE IWW'S WERE AND WHAT THEY DID!

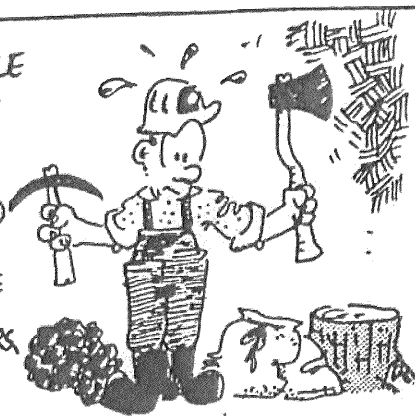


CHAPTER THREE

COMPOSITION AND ORGANIZATION

ONE OF THE REMARKABLE ASPECTS OF THE IWW WAS THE VARIETY OF INDUSTRIES REPRESENTED BY ITS MEMBERS, BUT THE MOST FAMOUS WERE THE MIGRATORY WORKERS COMMONLY KNOWN AS

HOBOS



THESE HOBOS OR "STIFFS" WORKED SEASONALLY IN MILLS, LUMBER, MINING, ETC. MOVING FROM JOB TO JOB

IGNORED, AND TREATED AS UNRULY RUFF-RAFF BY THE A.C., THE HARD-WORKING STIFFS WERE GLORIFIED BY THE IWW, BY THIS IT WAS SAID:

JESUS CHRIST WAS A HOBO!!



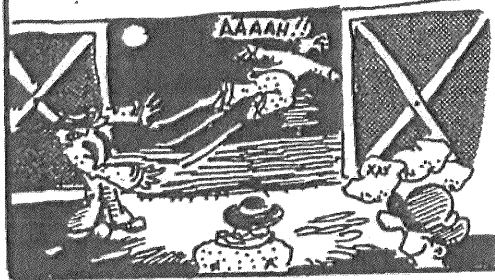
ONE OF THE MOST EXPLOITED WORKERS MANY HOBOS JOINED THE IWW. AS THEY RODE THE RAILS TO THEIR WORK, THOSE WHO WEREN'T WOBBLES WERE THROWN OFF THE TRAIN



AND IN THE CAMPS, OR "JUNGLES", WHERE STIFFS LIVED, THE IWW ORGANIZED TO KEEP IT GOING

CREATING FOOD, SALVAGE AND BUDGET COMMITTEES, THE IWW KEPT OUT CRIME AND KEPT THE STIFFS ORGANIZED

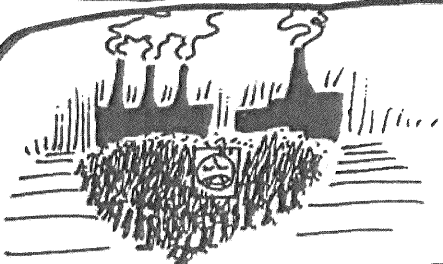
ALLRIGHT NOW, WHAT'S OUR FINANCIAL SITUATION?



ANOTHER SIDE OF THE IWW WAS THE "HOME GUARD", OR WORKERS WHO STAYED IN ONE PLACE, ONE INDUSTRY INCLUDED IN THESE WAS TEXTILES.



THE TEXTILE WORKFORCE CONTAINED MOSTLY WOMEN AND MANY IMMIGRANTS. THE CONDITIONS WERE SO BAD IN THE FACTORIES THAT 1/3 OF WORKERS DIED BEFORE AGE 26.



BY 1908, 5000 TEXTILE WORKERS WERE ORGANIZED INTO THE IWW

ELIZABETH GURLEY FLYNN, AN IWW SPEAKER, WHO BEGAN HER SPEAKING CAREER AT AGE 16, WAS IN ATTENDANCE AT WOBBLY PICNICS AND RALLIES WHERE SPEAKERS OF ALL LANGUAGES ASSEMBLED. ONE OF THEIR LIMITED-ENGLISH SHOUTS WENT...

DO YOU LIKE MR. BOSS?!

NO, NO, NO!

DO YOU LIKE MS. FLYNN?!

YES, YES, YES!

THE IWW! HURRAY! HURRAY!

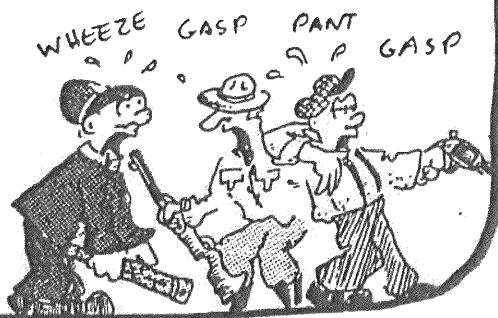


ONE OF THE BIGGEST IWW TEXTILE STRIKES TOOK PLACE IN LAWRENCE, MASS. IN 1912 WHERE MUCH OF THE WORKERS WERE HUNGARIAN AND ITALIAN

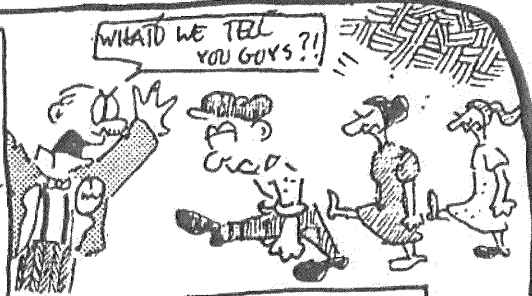


A GIANT PICKET LINE WAS FORMED AROUND THE CITY'S ENTIRE MILL DISTRICT

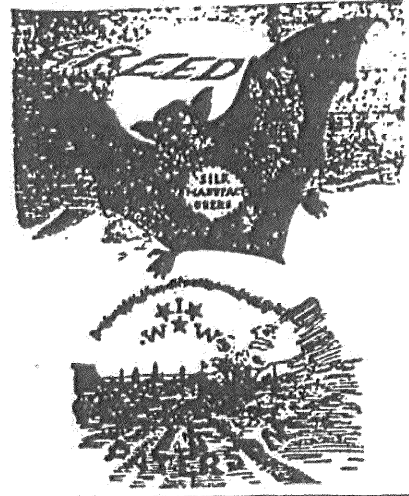
AND DESPITE COMPANY MURDERS, POLICE BEATINGS, AND MARTIAL LAW, THE STRIKE PULLED THROUGH.



DESPITE THE SUCCESS IN LAWRENCE THE PATERSON, NJ STRIKE OF 1913 WOULD SIGNAL THE DECLINE OF THE IWW IN TEXTILES



THE WORKERS DID NOT HEED IWW ADVICE, AND THE MILL OWNERS PROVED TO BE TOO STRONG, AND THE STRIKE BROKE



PERHAPS THE WORST LIVING CONDITIONS OF ANY WORKER AT THE TIME WERE THOSE OF THE TIMBER WORKER. FED BAD FOOD, AND FORCED TO SLEEP IN CROWDED BUNKHOUSES THEY MADE IDEAL IWW AGITATORS



CONSIDERED "UNORGANIZABLE SCUM" BY THE AFL, LUMBERSACKS IN THE IWW NUMBERED UP TO 20,000 BY 1919

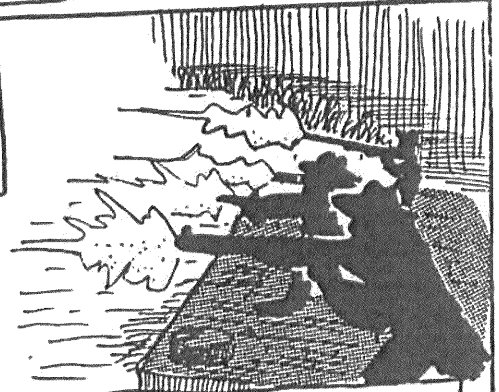
IT WAS AMONG THESE WORKERS THAT ONE OF THE BLOODIEST INCIDENTS IN IWW HISTORY TOOK PLACE:

THE EVERETT MASSACRE

IT ALL STARTED DURING AN IWW STRIKE IN EVERETT, WASH., IN 1916.

THE CITY INSTATED LAWS PROHIBITING FREE SPEECH AND HUNDREDS OF WOBBLIES CAME STREAMING IN TO FIGHT THEM. ENFORCING THESE LAWS WAS THE THUG SHERIFF McRAE.

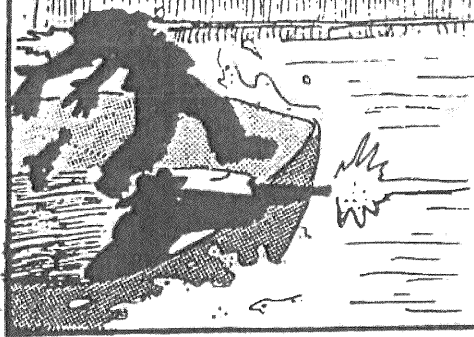
ONE NIGHT A FERRY OF 250 WOBBLIES WAS MET ON SHORE BY A DRUNKEN McRAE WITH ARMED DEPUTIES



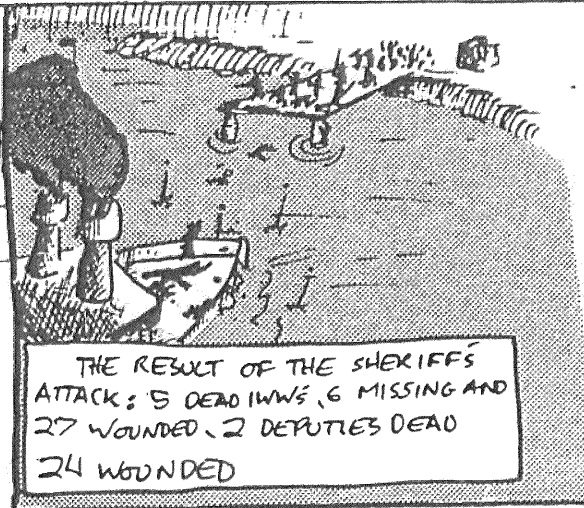
AS THE BOAT DOCKED THE SHERIFF AND HIS MEN OPENED FIRE.



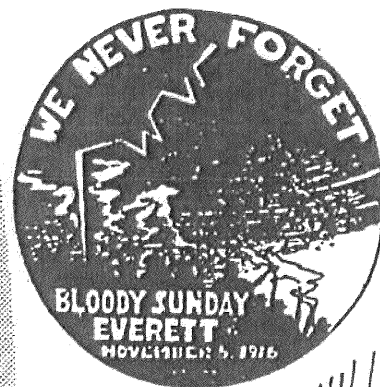
DEFENDING THEMSELVES
WOBBLES FIRED SHOTS
ON TO THE SHORE.



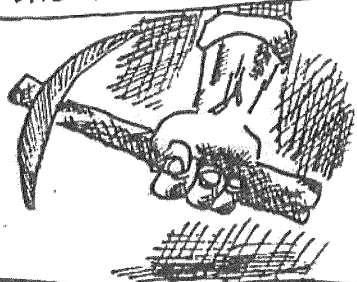
THE RESULT OF THE SHERIFFS
ATTACK: 5 DEAD IWW'S, 6 MISSING AND
27 WOUNDED, 2 DEPUTIES DEAD
24 WOUNDED



FOR THIS MONSTROSITY,
THE IWW WAS PUT
ON TRIAL...



WITH THE WFM AS ONE
OF THE FOUNDING UNIONS,
THE INDUSTRY OF MINING
WAS A MAIN SECTION
OF THE IWW.

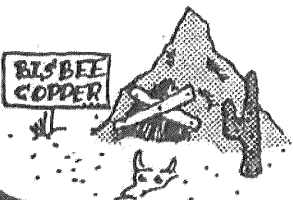


WITH MUCH IWW INFLUENCE
IN THE WFM, DESPITE THE
SPLIT, EACH IWW YEAR BROUGHT
A STRIKE IN MINING.

DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR
THE IWW WAS SEEN LOCAL
"LOYALTY LEAGUES" AS "ANTI-
AMERICAN" AND "PRO-
GERMAN", THIS BROUGHT
ON A NASTY LITTLE EVENT
IN HISTORY:

THE BISBEE DEPORTATIONS

DURING THE BIG COPPER
STRIKE OF 1917, MANY
IWW'S LIVED AND WERE
STRIKING IN THE TOWN
OF BISBEE, ARIZONA.



ONE DAY 2000 ARMED
VIGILANTES WENT DOOR-TO-
DOOR AND TOOK ANY IWW
OR STRIKER

1200 STRIKERS WERE
HERDED INTO THE LOCAL
BALLPARK AND GUARDED
WITH MACHINE GUNS



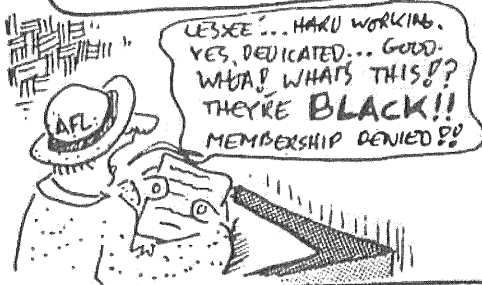
THEY WERE THEN FORCED
TO BOARD TRAINS, AND TAKEN
OUT TO THE BLISTERING
DESERT OF NEW MEXICO,
WITH NO FOOD OR WATER



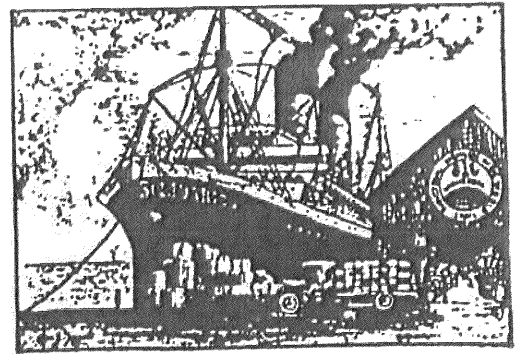
THE IWW'S ORGANIZING IN THE MARITIME INDUSTRY

WAS A PRIME EXAMPLE OF WOBBLES
EQUAL AND VIGILANT ORGANIZING,
REGARDLESS OF RACE.

THE IWW HAD MANY BLACKS AND SPANISH-SPEAKERS IN ITS RANKS. THEY WERE, OF COURSE, DENIED AFL MEMBERSHIP.

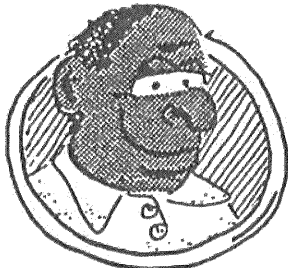


THE IWW ORGANIZED THEM INTO THEIR "MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS INDUSTRIAL UNION"



Join The

MarineTransport Workers Industrial Union No.510



BEN FLETCHER

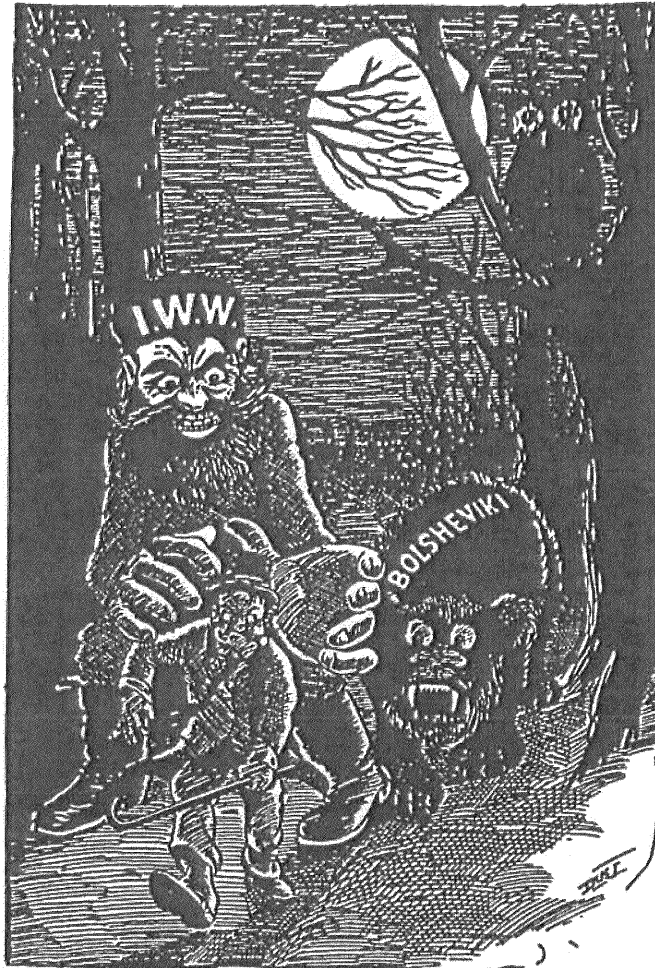
BEN FLETCHER, THE MOST IMPORTANT BLACK WOBBLY ORGANIZER, GOT THE PHILADELPHIA DOCKS "WOBBLIZED"

THE IWW TRIED ITS HARDEST TO ASSURE RACIAL EQUALITY AMONG THESE DOCK WORKERS, ALTERNATING LOCAL LEADERSHIP, MONTHLY, FROM BLACK AND WHITE



THE M.T.W.I.U. WITHDREW FROM THE IWW DURING THE SCHISMS OF 1923-24. THOSE THAT SIGNALLED THE DECLINE OF THE WOBBLIES, OF WHICH I WILL SPEAK OF IN:

CHAPTER. FOUR



By the cartoonist of "The Daily Worker".
ONE MISCONCEPTION OF THE I. W. W.

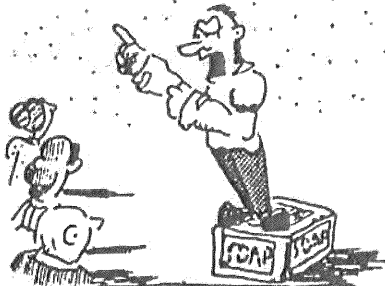
CHAPTER

FOUR

REPRESSION AND DECLINE

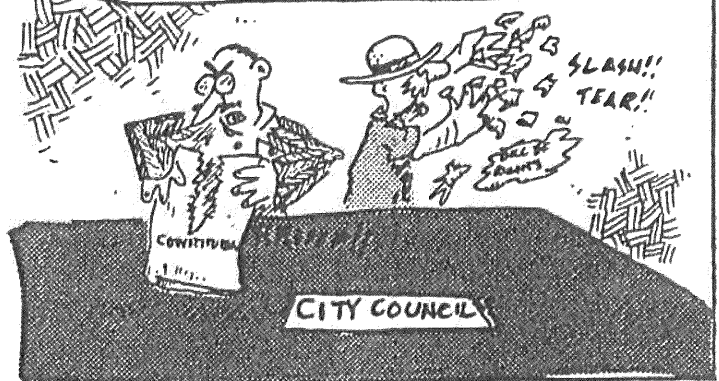
EVER SINCE THE BIRTH OF THE IWW, IT HAD SUFFERED MUCH REPRESSION FROM CAPITALIST FORCES.

ONE EXAMPLE:



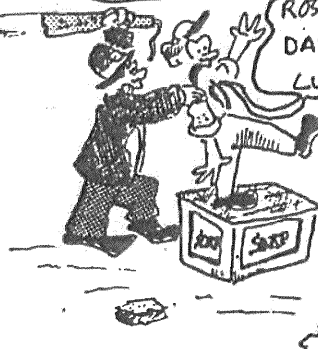
WOBBLES HAD A KNACK FOR ORATORY, GETTING THEIR MESSAGE ACROSS BY "SOAP BOXING"

CITIES WOULD PASS ORDINANCES THAT LIMITED FREE SPEECH, IN ORDER TO SILENCE THE IWW.



THE POLICE WOULD BEAT DOWN AND ARREST ANYONE WHO STEPPED UPON THE SOAP BOX.

ROSEBUD IS A SLED! DARTH VADER IS LUKE'S - ORK!



"MOVE YER BUTT"

"OW SCUSE ME"

"PARDON ME"

IN RESPONSE TO SUCH LAWS THE IWW WOULD CALL IN ALL LOCAL WOBBLES TO BREAK THEM

AS MORE WOBBLES WERE ARRESTED, THE SAILS WERE FILLED TO THE BRIM



AS THE PRISON SITUATION WORSEMED, THE CITY WOULD BE FORCED TO REPEAL THE LAWS. THESE WERE KNOWN AS "FREE SPEECH FIGHTS" AND OCCUPIED THE IWW'S TIME IN THE 1910'S



WORSE AND MORE OF IT

FOR YEARS LOCAL POLICE AND VIGILANTES HAD WAGED A WAR ON WOBBLES, WITH HANGINGS, BEATINGS, AND MURDERS.



DURING THE FIRST WORLD WAR, NATIONAL CHAUVINISM, AND RELENTLESS GOVT. PROPAGANDA TAUGHT THE PUBLIC TO HATE RADICALS, COMMUNISTS, GERMANS, ETC.

BUT IT WAS DURING

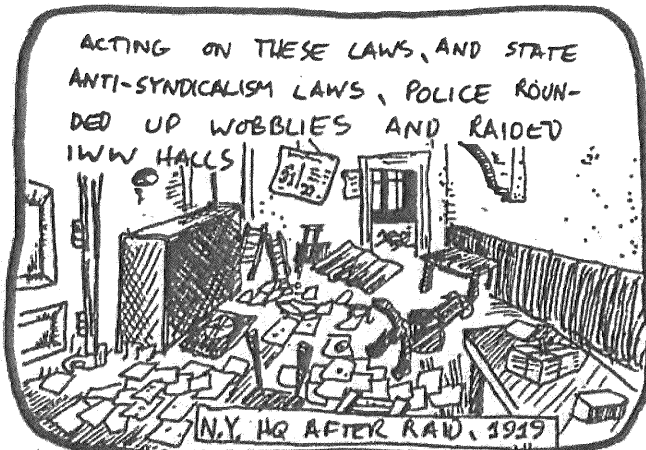
WORLD WAR I

WHERE THE SYSTEMATIC PERSECUTION OF THE IWW BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REALLY BEGAN.

WITH THIS SPIRIT, CONGRESS PASSED THE ESPIONAGE AND SEDITION ACTS, WHICH MADE ANY DISSENT WITH U.S. POLICY ILLEGAL!

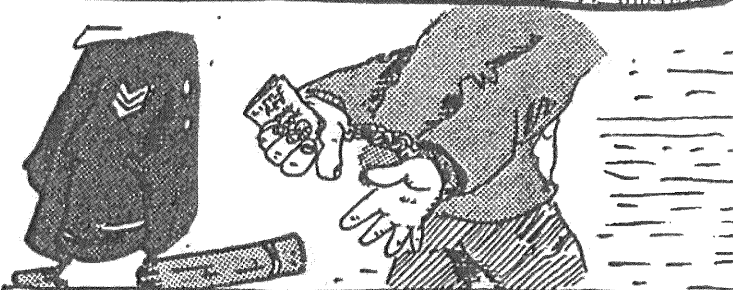


ACTING ON THESE LAWS, AND STATE ANTI-SYNDICALISM LAWS, POLICE ROUNDED UP WOBBLES AND RAIDED IWW HALLS

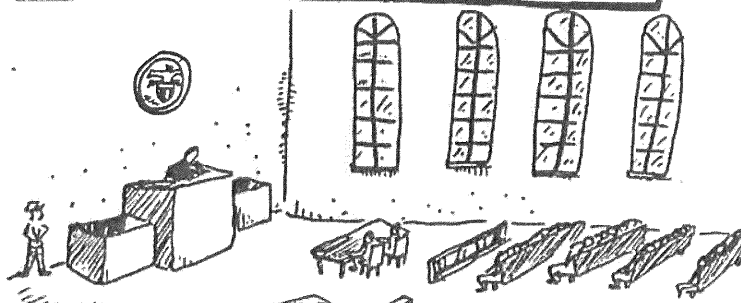


N.Y. HQ AFTER RAID, 1919

THE GOVT. TRIED ITS HARDEST TO DETER THE WOBBLES' DEFENSE, SAILING THE LAWYERS, AND DELAYING THEIR MAIL

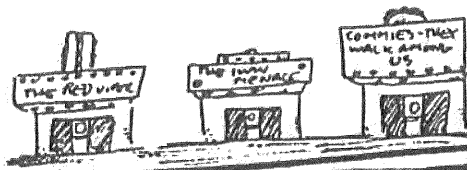


MANY OF THE IWW'S LEADERS WERE ARRESTED AND BROUGHT TO TRIAL



IN CHICAGO OVER 100 WOBBLES, INCLUDING FLETCHER AND HAYWOOD WERE PUT ON TRIAL FOR "A TREASONABLE, VICIOUS CONSPIRACY TO OPPOSE BY FORCE THE EXECUTION OF THE LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES..."

THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION HAD JUST CREATED HYSTERIA IN THE U.S., AND AS THE JUDGES DROVE HOME THEY PASSED MARQUEES READING: "THE IWW MENACE" AND "THE RED VIPER".



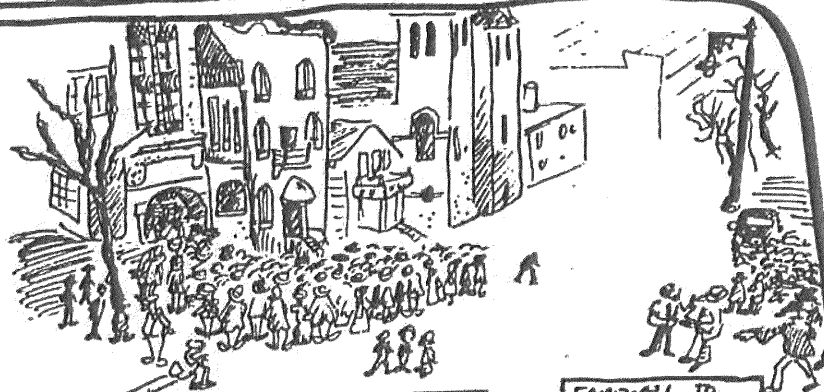
THIS BIASED JURY TOOK ONLY ONE HOUR TO DELIBERATE AND PRONOUNCE 101 CHICAGO WOBBLIES GUILTY AS CHARGED.

AS THE JUDGE READ THE PUNISHMENTS, FLETCHER WHISPERED OVER TO HAYWOOD

THE JUDGE HAS BEEN USING VERY UNGRAMMATICAL LANGUAGE.

HOW'S THAT, BEN?

HIS SENTENCES ARE MUCH TOO LONG.



MANY OF THE LEADERS WERE SENTENCED AROUND 20 YEARS IN TUGH PRISONS LIKE LEAVENWORTH.

FAREWELL TO PRISONERS, 1921

WHEN THE IMPRISONED LEADERS RETURNED TO THE IWW YEARS LATER, THEY FOUND IT IN RUINS.

OPPRESSED BY THE FEDERAL GOVT., THE IWW REVERTED TO INTERNAL BICKERING, AND AGAIN SPLITTING, LOSING MANY MEMBERS AND LOCALS IN 1924.

THOUGH IT IS STILL AROUND THE IWW LOST ITS SUPPORT, AND BECAME INCREASINGLY ANARCHISTIC.

THE IWW MAY HAVE HAD A VERY SHORT HEYDAY COMPARED TO, SAY, THE AFL, BUT ITS CULTURE: THE IDEOLOGY, THE SONGS, THE CARTOONS, AND THE WOBBLY SPIRIT HAVE SHAPED THE AMERICAN LABOR MOVEMENT, AND STILL INFLUENCES US TODAY.





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