

# INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY BULLETIN

NEWS BULLETIN OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY COMMISSION OF THE INDUSTRIAL WORKERS OF THE WORLD

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2

MAY 1ST 2010

Greetings from the International Solidarity Commission (ISC) of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) welcomes you to our monthly international newsletter.

The purpose of this newsletter is to keep our allies around the world informed of our activities, solidarity campaigns, and relevant international labour struggles. It is our hope that this newsletter will contribute to building worker-to-worker solidarity through strengthened communications and exchanges of information.

If you would like to contribute story ideas or news for the bulletin, or wish to contact the ISC, you can email [solidarity@iww.org](mailto:solidarity@iww.org).

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Saludos de la Comisión de Solidaridad Internacional (ISC) de los Trabajadores Industriales del Mundo (IWW) y bienvenidos a nuestro boletín internacional mensual.

El propósito de este boletín es mantener a nuestros aliados alrededor del mundo informados de nuestras actividades, campañas de solidaridad, y luchas obreras relevantes. Esperamos que este boletín contribuya a construir solidaridad entre trabajadores reforzando las comunicaciones e intercambios de información.

Para contribuir con ideas o noticias al boletín, o para contactar a la ISC por favor escribir a [solidarity@iww.org](mailto:solidarity@iww.org). Para la versión en español, hacer clic aquí: <http://www.iww.org/es>

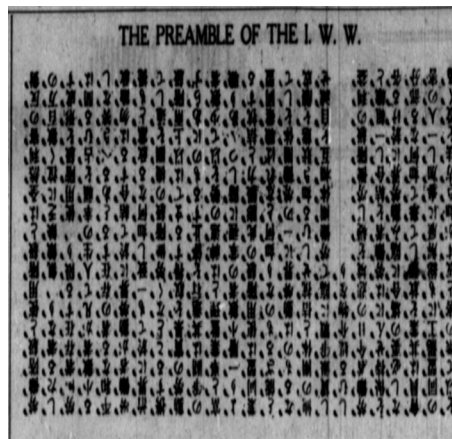
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Preamble (in Japanese)--April 29, 1909

## PREAMBLE

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

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

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

These conditions can be changed and the interest 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.

Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

## Support international solidarity!

Assessments for \$3, \$6 are available from your delegate or IWW headquarters:

PO Box  
23085, Cincinnati, OH  
45223-3085, USA.



## IWW NEWS

### Join "Defend CSAAWU Campaign" facebook page



Cape Town wobblies are helping organize a campaign to support the Commercial, Stevedoring, Agricultural and Allied Workers' Union (CSAAWU) work in organizing farm workers in the Western Cape of South Africa. CSAAWU is a socialist union that represents a left alternative to the much larger Congress of South African Trade Unions (COSATU), whose close associations with the ruling ANC have prevented COSATU from taking bolder stances against the continuing economic inequality in post-Apartheid South Africa.

The union is under attack. In the past farmers have tried to bribe them, when this did not work they threatened them with the law: CSAAWU just won a case lodged against them by farmers on charges of hate speech (the union said that white farmers are engaging in "apartheid-style management". The farmers said this was "hate speech" – an assertion that was thrown out of court) and now they have been served notice of cancellation of registration of a trade union. The "Defend CSAAWU Campaign" is only the start, so please encourage everyone you know who is on facebook to join.

Please follow the link and click "Join" and then invite your friends:

<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?v=wall...9168575760>

### Bay Area IWW Joins in March 4th Events in Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco

By X344543. Photo by Alan Benjamin & The Organizer; used by permission.

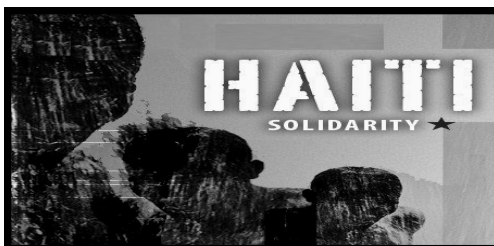
Thursday March 4th was an exciting and invigorating day of action as students and education workers from around the State of California walked out of schools and universities in protest of impending cuts to education budgets state-wide. Students and teachers protested against the cutbacks, attacks on unions, and even against the systematic privatization of public education.

On March 4th the IWW set up a literature table at Frank Ogawa Plaza just outside of city Hall in downtown Oakland, which was the gathering point for students and teachers in western Alameda County. Beginning at Noon, thousands of teachers and students began pouring into the plaza as organizers, activists, students, and teachers spoke out against the impending cuts. IWW members marched in several different contingents (and many active members of the Bay Area GMB are teachers).



Bay Area IWW buyback recyclers spoke out publicly against the cutbacks in solidarity with the students and teachers. The largest contingent to arrive in Ogawal plaza (and one of the last) was the 1,000-plus strong UC Berkeley contingent who marched over six miles from the Berkeley campus to downtown Oakland.

Some of the IWW members later took BART (public transit) across the bay to San Francisco to join in a rally at Civic  
(Continued pg. 3)



### Relief and Solidarity needed for Haiti!

On behalf of union workers in Haiti, the Industrial Workers of the World is raising funds for relief in the wake of the tragic earthquake that struck January 12th, 2010.

For More information, and to pledge a donation, visit: <http://pledgie.com/campaigns/7950>

## Bay Area IWW Joins in March 4th Events Continued

Center Plaza organized by teachers and students in the city.

Meanwhile, some of the more militant activists made a bold stand by taking over a very busy Interstate 880 and 980 freeway interchange near Oakland's Jack London Square. It's not certain whether or not any of these activists were IWW members, several of the demonstrators were arrested (and one unlucky activist was injured by a fall from the above-ground freeway overpass to the street level below)."

## Back to the Grind: SWU Southern Midwest Tour a Success

On March 19, a delegation of IWW Starbucks baristas from the Twin Cities crammed themselves into one worker's 3-cylinder Geo Metro and set off on a journey to bring the good word of solidarity unionism to baristas and workers across the lower midwest. Four days later, we returned to the Twin Cities after covering over 1,700 miles, talking to dozens of Starbucks workers about the union, and speaking to enthusiastic audiences in Kansas City, St. Louis, and Iowa City about our efforts to win decent wages, consistent scheduling, and other basic demands through workplace organizing at the world's largest coffee chain.

Our first stop was KKFI, a community radio station in Kansas City, where the Heartland Labor Forum radio show was kind enough to interview us about our organizing experiences on their show. We then made our way to the Westport Coffee House, where we held a discussion with interested community members about the issues at Starbucks, and the possibility of building a new labor movement from the ground up. We discovered that, just as in every other American city, the Kansas City working class is under attack. The Kansas City School Board recently decided to close an enormous number of schools and lay off many teachers, unionized in the American Federation of Teachers. We extend our solidarity to them and hope that workers and students can unite in defense of quality public education.

The next day, we hit the road for St. Louis, site of the first general strike in US history in 1877, as well as a giant arch, and the worker-owned and democratically-operated Black Bear Bakery. The Autonomy Alliance and local IWW members sponsored a public event at the bakery, providing us with an opportunity to share the story of our union campaign with local labor activists and workers.

After a brief night's sleep, we were off across the cornfields of Iowa, heading to Iowa City to speak at an event organized by IWW members and the Wild Rose Collective. We met many workers at the event, some with decades of experience in the struggle, others just starting out, and and discussed the possibility of stronger regional support for workplace organizing across the midwest.

Thanks to the generosity of our hosts and audience members in the cities we visited, we were able to cover almost all of our gas costs and always had a place to stay in each town we visited. Working class solidarity is alive and well in the Midwest. Because of this, even a grassroots organization of low-wage retail workers like the IWW Starbucks Workers Union can pose a threat to one of the largest corporations in the world. We find inspiration in this fact, especially after seeing first hand the devastation that the capitalist class has wrought on cities across our region in the last 30 years of deindustrialization, plus the last two years of recession.

We plan to continue visiting workers in other cities across the midwest in the coming months, hopefully laying part of the foundation of a new working class movement for control over our lives and communities across the region.



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## SOLIDARITY STATEMENTS, MOTIONS AND APPEALS

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# **M a y   D a y   S t a t e m e n t :**

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May Day, also known as International Workers Day - began after workers won a brutal struggle for the 8 hour day. Immigrant and native-born workers struggled together on the basis of their solidarity as workers, regardless of differences of language, nation, or religion. On this May Day in 2010, we stress the irrelevance of borders, and the importance of international labor solidarity, as we struggle together to create a world free of exploitation and the systemic violence that is poverty and war.

Workers slave around the globe under inhuman conditions for starvation wages. Those workers whose conditions and wages are less dire must recognize the direct and causal relationship that ties the oppression of workers abroad to the situation of workers in their own countries. The courageous workers in Bangladesh and Pakistan inspire us to deepen and strengthen our connection and our real commitment to struggling on behalf of all workers everywhere, collectively.

Workers around the world face a common enemy: an employing class that lives off our labor, and pits workers against one another in wage wars, so as to ensure their profits. The bosses' demand for "free trade," and the protectionism embraced by many trade unions in response, are flip sides of the same bitter coin. Neither "Fair Trade" nor "Buy American" are solutions which can achieve genuine worker victories anywhere.

Only the solidarity of the working class, expressed through our joint activity to support each others' struggles, offers a way forward. How else can we struggle for our collective victory, unless we struggle together collectively?

Today's bosses move their factories wherever they can pay the least and control the most. The factories migrate first, and the workers follow them when we can. North American workers, whose own improved conditions were won through bitter struggles and are now also under renewed attack, must stand in direct solidarity with workers elsewhere, to defend our common interests as a class.

We toil for the same employers, and have the same needs: not just for food and shelter, but for the good things of life and for the time in which to enjoy them. Workers create all of society's wealth, and we are entitled to the fruits of our labor. In order to achieve justice for all workers, we must accept our duties and responsibilities to stand in direct solidarity with all workers everywhere, against those who profit from our labor.

On this May Day, the Industrial Workers of the World, the National Garment Workers Federation, the Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity affirm our commitment to working over the coming years to organize in concrete ways to accomplish the real gains of worker power, and invite others to join us in our campaign to win basic human rights, including the right to organize in our workplaces and our communities, to earn a living wage, to determine our working conditions, and ultimately to enjoy the freedom and abundance that our labor and our struggles have made possible.

Signed:

Industrial Workers of the World  
National Garment Workers Federation  
Bangladesh Center for Worker Solidarity  
Home-Based Women Workers Federation of Pakistan



## SOLIDARITY STATEMENTS, MOTIONS AND APPEALS

### **Solidarity Statement with Workers in Struggle in Greece**

The International Solidarity Commission (ISC) of the Industrial Workers of the World (IWW) supports the workers in struggle in Greece and their strike actions in opposition to the threat of "austerity measures" by the Greek government, who claim those measures are needed to stop the country from bankruptcy. We are encouraged to see workers across Greece take a stand against the government's gamble with their livelihoods and exploitation of their labour. They have taken to the streets, and stopped working in a visible and powerful refusal to pay for the mess of the banks and financial speculators.



Rather than acquiesce to the official lie of a nation united in necessary sacrifice for the common good, they have exposed that the working class are not the cause of the crisis. We will not suffer for it. As the slogan goes, in Greece and elsewhere, we won't pay for their crisis! As one of the first countries threatening such wide-sweeping cuts, and in turn verging on bankruptcy in this crisis, the protests of workers in Greece are for us all.

As governments across the world respond to the current recession, a fruit of the unfettered gambling by capitalists with the wealth of the earth and the labour of workers everywhere, by further cutting into the subsistence and rights of the working class, we are glad to express our solidarity with the workers of Greece.

We are grateful to them for refusing to comply with the lie of "austerity" measures, which amount to the demand of a sacrifice by the poor for the benefit of the rich and for continuing to take a brave stand in the face of police repression.

In the hope that their struggle, which is also a struggle for workers everywhere, may continue and succeed, the IWW aim to lend our support, by action in solidarity, where it is within our grasp to do so, in our firm knowledge that 'an injury to one is an injury to all'.

In Solidarity,

The ISC of the IWW

### **Statement in Solidarity with the CNT activists at "People and Baby Company"**



The IWW stand in solidarity with the workers at Giono day care center, who are demanding that six militants fired from their jobs be rehired. The workers at Giono Daycare Center demand that their rights to affiliate with the union of their choice be respected and we join them in this demand.

The IWW is committed to a grass-roots resistance to corporate autocracy, and we will work with others to build a movement that can defeat the corporations and construct a new world based on cooperation instead of cutthroat competition.

## Statement on the Centenary of the CNT in Spain



Please accept our congratulations as you celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of your union. Since its founding, the CNT's rebellious spirit has been an inspiration to workers around the world. The CNT's heroic rising against the fascists, and the Revolution you spearheaded, continue to inspire new generations of workers everywhere, and to give concrete form to the slogan that another world is possible.

Like your union, the IWW has faced fierce repression in the struggle against an employing class whose viciousness knows no bounds. Since our founding in 1905, we, too, have faced the murder of so many of our members at the hands of the employers' thugs and their judicial hirelings; the imprisonment of thousands of our members for the "crime" of syndicalism; the routine firing and blacklisting of union activists that continues to this day. Several of our members had the honor of serving

with the CNT militia during the war against the fascists, and we have closely followed news of your struggles since the dictatorship fell. We, too, have seen organizations that claim to be unions collaborate with the employers and actively betray workers' struggles, and we also now confront an official labor relations system designed to stifle workers' struggles and to transform our unions into instruments of management.

The struggles of the last 100 years prove how dangerous our shared commitment to direct action, workers solidarity and human freedom are to those who live off our labor and dominate our world. The workers' cause knows no borders, and accepts no pacts with our exploiters.

Today, at the centenary of your founding, we reaffirm our solidarity and our commitment to continue to stand at your side in the struggle for our emancipation, for the creation of a world without bosses.

### Motion: South African Conference Endorsement

"The IWW does not endorse political parties or candidates. However, we stand in solidarity with the work the Conference of the Democratic Left is doing. Specifically, we stand in solidarity with work to aid people in undocumented settlements and CSAAWU's campaign at Ladismith Cheese. We would like to send a Cape Town representative of the IWW to your conference."



### IWW Friends of Palestinian Workers Group

Members of the IWW have formed **the IWW Friends of Palestinian Workers Group** in order to foment solidarity between IWW members and Palestinian workers.

Visit the website and get involved: <http://www.iww.org/projects/isc/palestine>

## INTERNATIONAL SYNDICALIST NEWS

### **NO TO UNION REPRESSION AGAINST THE PEOPLE & BABY CNT-f SECTION**

Following a strike aimed to obtain better working conditions and an other conception of professional practices in the childcare field, six workers of the Giono day care center (located in the 13th district of Paris, France, and managed by the People & Baby company) who had just created a union section, have been receiving a letter for their laying off. In order to justify these procedures, People & Baby's direction evokes sanitary management of the place. However, none of these employees had before that been subject to any sanction or even a remark about these questions.

Work medical administration has anyway stated that these facts that could be reproached to the employees actually concern the direction itself! On its side, work inspection administration has sent a letter to the direction, asking it to withdraw its sanctions. The parents have also brought their support to the employees, chocked that their children could have been confided to unknown persons while they were extremely satisfied with the current team and its pedagogical project.

Today, the direction confirms its will to fire most of the employees of the Giono day care center ! In front of this violent act from the management against employees, we have to act. We invite you to join the international campaign led by the CNT by sending protest emails to the direction of People & Baby.

The email address are :

[odile.broglin at people-and-baby.com](mailto:odile.broglin@people-and-baby.com)

[anne-laure.prieur at people-and-baby.com](mailto:anne-laure.prieur@people-and-baby.com)

[emmanuel.dussolier at people-and-baby.com](mailto:emmanuel.dussolier@people-and-baby.com)

And please send the mails in copy to :

[sectionpetb at cnt-f.org](mailto:sectionpetb@cnt-f.org)

[fede.sante-social at cnt-f.org](mailto:fede.sante-social@cnt-f.org)

### **Belgrade 6 goes Free, the struggle continues!**



There was a tremendous turn out of supporters for the start of the Belgrade 6 case. There was also many supporters from outside Serbia, which included many supporters from the IWA sections. All the main Serbian TV channels were also present.

Little information come from inside the courts, so it was a long day for supporters waiting outside with all sorts of conflicting rumors circulating about what was happening inside. Our concerns were only increased when several anarchist from Croatia were arrested for unfolding a banner which read ANARCHISM IS NOT TERRORISM. They now face up to a month in prison.

At 3.30pm loud clapping come from inside the court. A few minutes later supporters, who had been allowed in the court, emerged to announce that the Belgrade 6 were going to be released in effect on bail. There was plenty of confusion but it later confirmed that they were going to be released until March 23rd when they would still face terrorist charges.

But the fact that they had been released was a tremendous victory. Later in the evening the Belgrade 6 were informed that the charges of terrorism would be dropped and replaced with a lesser charge.

The fight is not over, the Belgrade 6 may still face serious charges when they return to court on the 23rd March. We must keep up the pressure on the Serbian state. But the fact that they have been released and the terrorist charges dropped is a massive victory, But the campaign must continue until all charges are dropped and the Serbian state is held accountable for actions.



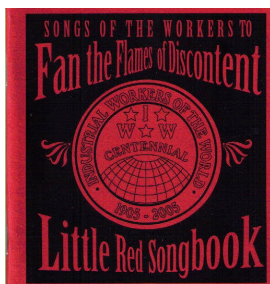
# IWW CULTURE AND HISTORY

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SOLIDARITY@IWW.ORG

AROUND THE  
WORLD ... CLASS  
STRUGGLE!

**We're on the Web!**

<http://www.iww.org/en/projects/isc>



tune by Rudolph von Leibich

## I W W S o n g s

### We Have Fed You All for a Thou- sand Years

First listed printing Industrial  
Union Bulletin 1908

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Workers of the World

We have fed you all, for a thousand years  
And you hail us still unfed,  
Though there's never a dollar of all your  
wealth  
But marks the workers dead.  
We have yielded our best to give you rest  
And you lie on crimson wool.  
Then if blood be the price of all your wealth,  
Good God! We have paid it in full.

There is never a mine blown skyward now  
But we're buried alive for you.  
There's never a wreck drifts shoreward now  
But we are its ghastly crew.  
Go reckon our dead by the forges red  
And the factories where we spin.  
If blood be the price of your cursed wealth  
Good God! We have paid it in.

We have fed you all for a thousand  
years—  
For that was our doom, you know,  
From the days when you chained us in your  
fields  
To the strike of a week ago.  
You have taken our lives, and our babies  
and wives,  
And we're told it's your legal share;  
But if blood be the price of your lawful  
wealth  
Good God! We have bought it fair.

## I W W P e o p l e

### Lala Har Dayal

Dayal, born October 4<sup>th</sup>,  
1884, was the sixth of  
seven children of Bhoti  
and Gauri Dayal  
Mathur, Reader of the  
District Court. Dayal is  
not so much a surname  
as a sub-caste designa-  
tion, within the Ka-  
yastha caste of writers.  
Being influenced by



Arya Samaj, a Hindu reform movement in India,  
He also drew inspiration from Giuseppe Mazzini,  
Karl Marx and Mikhail Bakunin. He is quoted as  
saying he was "in sequence an atheist, a revolu-  
tionary, a Buddhist, and a pacifist".

He studied at the Cambridge Mission School and  
received his bachelor's degree in Sanskrit from St.  
Stephen's College, Delhi, India and his master's  
degree from Punjab University. In a letter to *The  
Indian Sociologist*, published in 1907, he started  
to explore anarchist ideas, arguing that "our  
object is not to reform government, but to reform it  
away, leaving, if necessary only nominal traces of  
its existence."

Dayal moved to the United States in 1911, where  
he became involved in the revolutionary industrial  
unionist movement. He served as secretary of the  
San Francisco branch of the Industrial Workers of  
the World. A little over a year later, this group  
had been given 6 acres (24,000 m<sup>2</sup>) of land and  
a house in Oakland, where he founded the *Baku-  
nin Institute of California* which he described as  
"the first monastery of anarchism". The organisa-  
tion aligned itself with the *Regeneración* move-  
ment founded by the exiled Mexicans Ricardo  
and Enrique Flores Magón. He had a post as a  
lecturer in philosophy at Stanford University.  
However, he was forced to resign because of  
embarrassment about his activities in the anarchist  
movement.

In April 1914, he was arrested by the United  
States government for spreading anarchist litera-  
ture and fled to Berlin, Germany. He subse-  
quently lived for a decade in Sweden.

He died in Philadelphia in 1939. On the evening  
of his death he had given a lecture where he had  
said "I am Peace with all".



**International Solidarity Commission**

**Comisión internacional de la solidaridad**

**La Commission internationale de solidarité**

**Internationale solidarität-Kommission**

