

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common...

For 105 years, the Industrial Workers of the World have been organizing working people to improve their lives on and off the job. The IWW organizes in every industry, and there is no discrimination to membership – workers of any color, creed, orientation, language, and even current union membership are encouraged to join. The workers run this union democratically – not the lawyers, union officials, or politicians.

If you are looking to organize your workplace, if you want to reform your current union, or if you just want to support us in our historic mission to abolish wage slavery, join us.

Education • Organization • Emancipation

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Industrial Workers of the World

the
very
little red
songbook

*songs of the workers
to fan the flames
of Discontent*

Solidarity Forever

Joe Hill

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.

*Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,*

For the union makes us strong.

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

*Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
Solidarity forever,
For the union makes us strong!*

There is Power

Ralph Chaplin

Would you have freedom from wage slavery?

Then join in the grand industrial band

Would you from mis'ry and hunger be free

Then come do your share like a man

There is power, there is power in a band of working men
When they stand hand in hand
There's a pow'r, there's a pow'r that must rule in every land
One industrial union grand

Would you have mansions of gold in the sky

And live in a shack, way in the back?

Would you have wings up in Heaven to fly

And starve here with rags on your back?

Chorus

If you've had enough of the blood of the lamb

Then join in the grand industrial band

If, for a change, you'd have eggs and ham

Then come do your share like a man

Chorus

If you like sluggers to beat off your head

Then don't organize, all unions despise=

If you want nothing before you are dead

Shake hands with your boss and look wise

Chorus

Come all ye workers, from every land

Come join the grand industrial band

Then we our share of this earth shall demand

Come on, do your share like a man

Which Side Are You On?

by Blahblah

Come all of you good workers

Good news to you I'll tell

Of how that good old union

Has come in here to dwell

Which side are you on? Which side are you on?
Which side are you on? Which side are you on?

My daddy was a miner

And I'm a miner's son

And I'll stick with the union

Till every battle's won

Chorus

They say that in Dane County

There's no neutrals to be spoke

You'll either be with the unions

Or a pawn for David Koch

Chorus

Oh, workers can you stand it

Oh, tell me how you can

Will you be a lousy scab

Or will you be a man ?

Chorus

Don't scab for the bosses

Don't listen to their lies

Us poor folks haven't got a chance

Unless we organize.

Which side are you on? Which side are you on?
Which side are you on? Which side are you on?

Union Maid

Woody Guthrie

There once was a union maid, she never was afraid

Of goons and ginks and company finks

and the deputy sheriffs who made the raid

She went to the union hall when a meeting it was called

And when the Legion boys come 'round

She always stood her ground.

Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union
I'm sticking to the union, I'm sticking to the union
Oh, you can't scare me, I'm sticking to the union
I'm sticking to the union 'til the day I die!

This union maid was wise to the tricks of company spies

She couldn't be fooled by a pidgeon stool

She'd always organize the guys

She always got her way

When she struck for better pay

She'd show her card to the National Guard

And this is what she'd say

Chorus