



**LOCATION: CANTON 4TH AND REX**  
**SUMMER HOURS: SATURDAYS 4:00-5:30PM**  
**WINTER HOURS: SATURDAYS 3:00-4:30PM**

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# NEWS

VOL.3



## WHO WE ARE

We are a Pan-Left group that believes food is a right not a privilege  
We are a non-profit grass-roots organization  
We believe in solidarity not charity. We require no beliefs, backgrounds, or acceptance of any of our beliefs  
Come as you are.

Our goal is to feed hungry people. We require absolutely nothing from our friends that come to eat with us  
You will find the following at our serves:  
-Vegetarian meals  
-Beverages  
-Toiletries/medication/etc.  
-Harm reduction

# LOCAL LABOR HISTORY

by Annimosity

As we begin to see a growing resurgence of the labor movement, it is imperative to stay in touch with the rich, local history we have in Canton, Ohio for the same struggle. In 1937, US Steel ("Big Steel") signed a major collective bargaining agreement with the Steel Workers Organizing Committee (SWOC) which won workers a standardized pay scale, 8-hour work days, and time-and-a-half for overtime hours. However, comparatively smaller steel corporations categorically called "Little Steel" including Republic Steel, refused to commit to the agreement or recognize the union. On May 20th, Massillon workers were locked out of the workplace beginning a months-long, violent strike involving more than 28,000 strikers across Ohio; a struggle that resulted in the deaths of at least 16 workers, four of which were workers from Canton and Massillon. Republic Steel hired a private guard detail, colluded with officials and union-busters, stocked tear gas and submachine guns, and used these resources against their own workers. On June 30th, 1937, a Spanish immigrant living in Canton and worker for Republic Steel, Crisanto Lopez, was bludgeoned on the head to death by company guardsmen who left him for dead. The county coroner would rule his cause of death as a heart attack. Crisanto Lopez had been involved in previous collective action against workplace harassment at United Alloy Steel in Canton in 1918. Less than two weeks after Lopez's murder, police, anti-union vigilantes, and Republic Steel's private guard led a violent confrontation at the Massillon union hall. On July 11, 1937 they used tear gas and submachine guns, unloading several hundred bullets and ransacking the union hall. This attack caused the deaths of Spanish immigrant striker Fulgenico Calzada from a gunshot wound in the back of the head; Grecian immigrant striker Nicholas Vathiaz (or Vadios or Valdas) from a pelvic gunshot wound; and Hungarian

a living wage to do the work<sup>3</sup>. We can no longer afford to examine the apples without critiquing the barrels in which those apples are stored.

Who wants us to remain divided, focusing on individual actors while ignoring systemic oppression? Why, the barrel makers, of course! If we evaluate the barrel, we question the authority of the barrel makers, and their attempt to alienate us from ourselves, from each other, and from our humanity<sup>4</sup>.

I urge all of us to put aside our differences - race, gender, sexual orientation, age, ability, political affiliation, religious beliefs - and reconnect with our humanity. I am not dismissing the real effects people experience as a result of these differences, but these effects will only abate when we turn our energies toward fighting the barrel makers instead of fighting with one another.

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3 Economic Policy Institute. (2022). "American rescue, infrastructure, and inflation-reduction acts are big steps in right direction." <https://files.epi.org/uploads/255893.pdf>

4 Karl Marx. (1964). Economic and Philosophic Manuscripts of 1844. New York City: International Publishers.

# LET'S FOCUS ON THE BARREL MAKERS

by Les Greves

If you are a follower of current events, you are constantly bombarded with fear. Stories abound of terrible people doing terrible things. While the intent of this writing is not to excuse the unethical behavior of citizens, a closer examination of these predicaments may reveal a different explanation of what is really happening in our society.

Oftentimes, problems in our society are relegated to a “few bad apples.” Whether it be the “radicalized mass shooter,” the “racist cop,” or the “lazy young person,” the problems are only examined at the individual level. Society is quick to blame the individual. Although individuals may have free will, to ignore the systems under which individuals operate is giving us all an incomplete picture of the situation.

Instead of only blaming the “bad apple,” we should examine the barrel in which that apple was stored. Bad barrels foster bad apples<sup>1</sup>. The bad barrel led the mass shooter to find belonging somewhere, even if that was with a radicalized online group. The bad barrel is the militarized state (domestic police force spending in the United States is the third highest in the world behind the U.S. Military and China); young people are trained to kill “the other” overseas and then are expected to come home and easily transition to work for their local police force<sup>2</sup>. The bad barrel has permitted CEOs to be paid 399 times what their average employee makes (in 1965, it was only 20 times more); people want to work, but want

1 Phillip Zimbardo. (2008). *The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil*. New York: Random House.

2 Security Policy Reform Institute. (2020). “Beyond Repair: Dismantling the 1033 Program.” <https://www.securityreform.org/commentary/use-foreign-policy-to-demilitarize-the-police>

immigrant striker Loghin Oroz who died a week later from tear gas inhalation (the same Stark county coroner would rule his death a result of heart failure as well and not connected to the attack). These local workers, who undoubtedly struggled against not only nativist attitudes of the time but literal class warfare, deserve recognition for the price they paid for the labor struggle of the working class. The Little Steel Strike of 1937 did not immediately result in the workers achieving their demands, but it laid the foundation for the industry to immediately accept the unionization when another strike was rumored during the wartime effort several years later, fearing another protracted and costly conflict. As workers of today continue to organize and struggle for their rights, we can see the value in the words of Utah Phillips, “the long memory is the most radical idea in this country.”

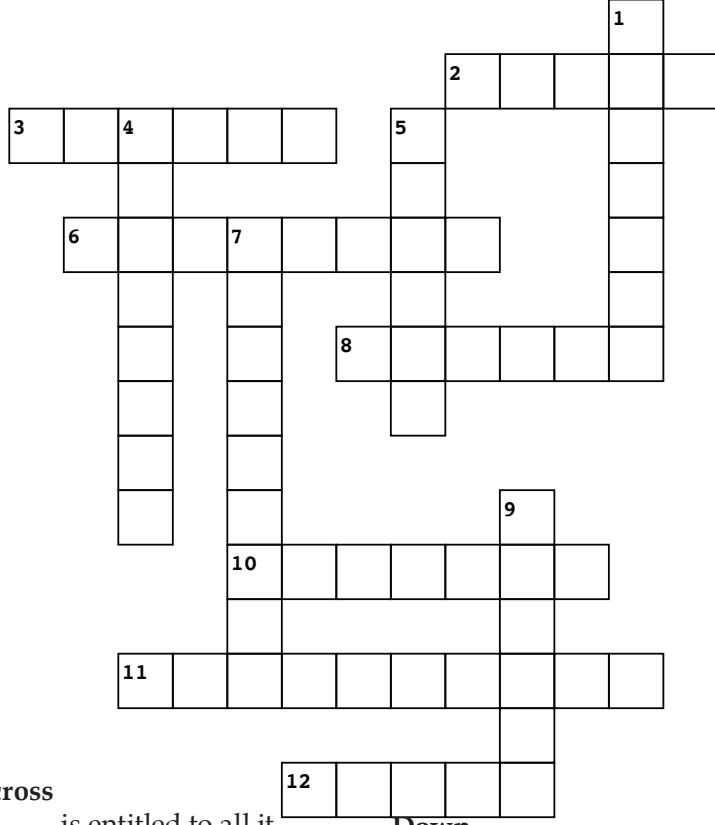
## References and Further Reading

McPherson, Donald S. “The “Little Steel” Strike of 1937 in Johnstown, Pennsylvania.” *Pennsylvania History* (1972): 219-238.

Steuben, John. *Strike Strategy*. New York: Gaer Associates, Inc, 1950.

White, Ahmed. *The Last Great Strike: Little Steel, The CIO, and The Struggle For Labor Rights in New Deal America*. University of California Press, 2016.





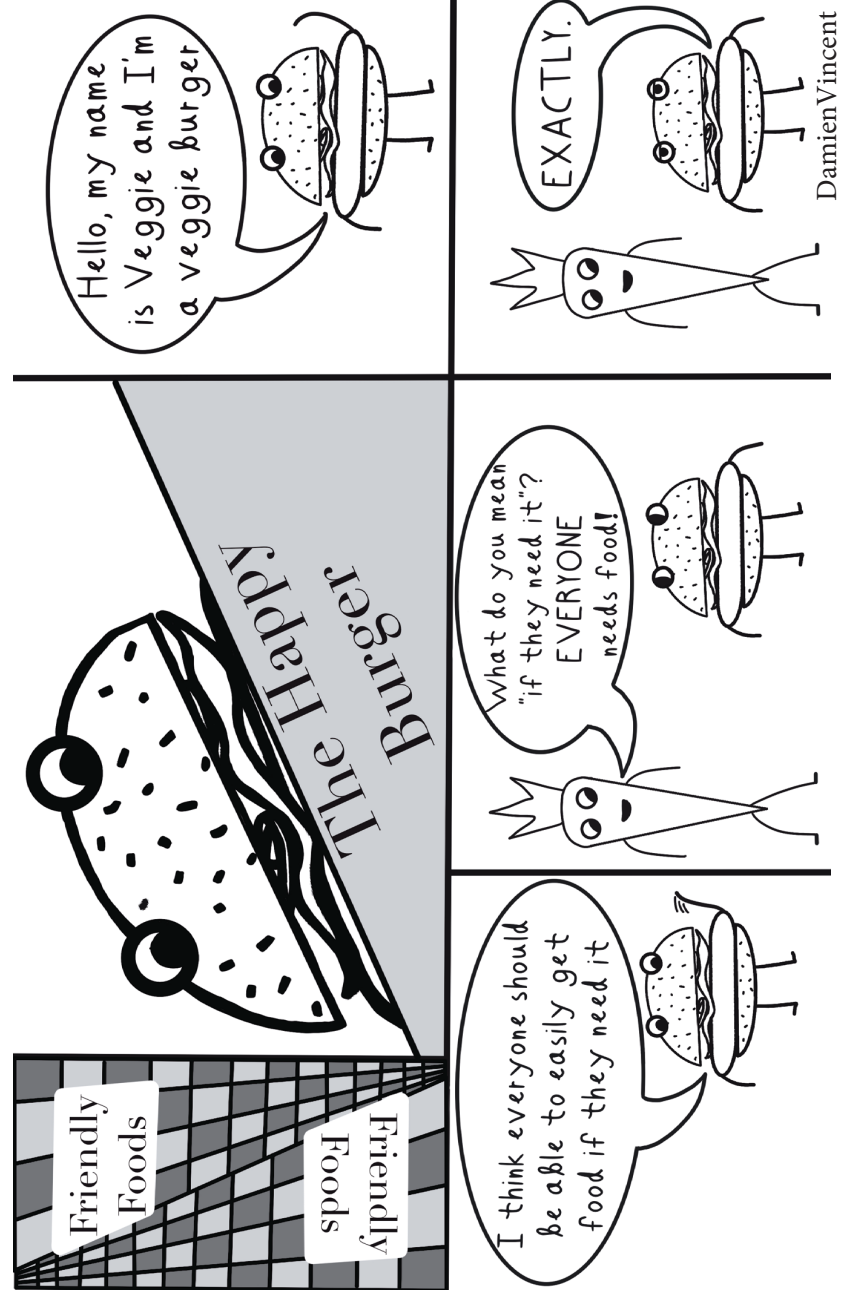
### Across

2. \_\_\_\_ is entitled to all it creates
3. a line to never cross
6. type of property still retained by the individual in socialism and communism
8. \_\_\_\_ action gets the goods
10. from each according to \_\_\_\_ to each according to need
11. mutual support among individuals with common interest
12. Workers of the world, \_\_\_\_!

### Down

1. freely given agreement
4. violation of an individual's free will with threats
5. enactment of a theory
7. name of the gay bar where 1969 riots galvanized the Gay Liberation movement
9. The Little Steel \_\_\_\_ of 1937 which took the lives of 4 Stark county strikers

ACROSS: 2. Labor; 3. Picket; 6. Personal; 8. Direct; 10. Ability; 11. Solidarity.  
DOWN: 1. Consent; 4. Coercion; 5. Praxis; 7. Stonewall; 9. Strike



Damien Vincent